



Together in Christ Collaborative

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022



St. John

**Church of Saint Ann
103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater 02379**

508-586-4880

E-Mail: stanns@comcast.net

Website: stannswb.com

Facebook: St. Ann-WB

**Collaborative Office Hours are 9-4 M-Th
For both Churches**

**Saint John the Evangelist
210 Central St., East Bridgewater 02333
Office –103 N. Main Street,
West Bridgewater**

508-378-4207

E-MAIL: stjohnbridge@comcast.net

Website: www.stjohneb.org

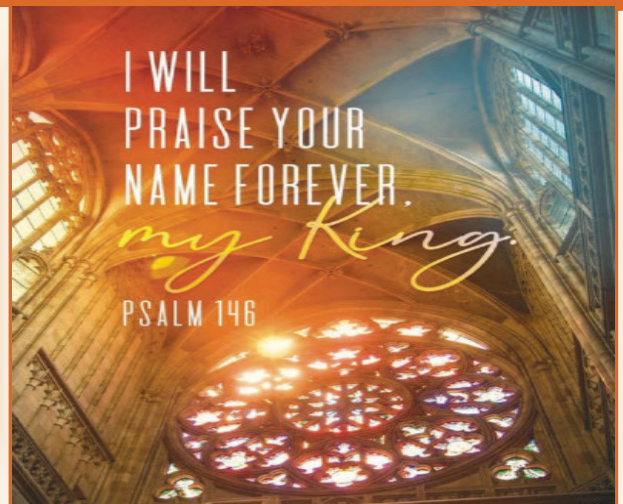
**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring**



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

[Jesus said,] "My children, I will be with you only a little while longer.
I give you a new commandment: love one another."

- Jn 13:33a, 34a



TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring

fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Priests In Residence

Fr. Peter Francis

Fr. Michael Diochi

Permanent Deacons:

Brendan Fitzgerald (Sr. Deacon)

deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Christopher Connelly

cconnelly@rcab.org

The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 4PM Monday -Thursday

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass, Wednesday & Friday

9:00 a.m.

In the Church

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. &

6:15 p.m. Life Teen Mass

w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass: Thurs & Sat.

9:00 a.m.

Holiday Schedules will vary

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and on Sundays at 1 p.m. These baptisms are private and can accommodate 30 or so people. Social distancing and masks are required.

Prep classes will take place before the Baptism.

Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

3:00—3:30 at Saint Ann's Church or

by appointment during the pandemic. Please call the Rectory Office to set up an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the Rectory 6 months prior to the intended date of marriage.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

If you are in need of the Sacrament of the Sick, please contact the Rectory to make an appointment for a visit from a Priest.

Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Arlene Stefano

stanns@comcast.net

508-586-4880

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad

stjohnebridge@comcast.net

508-378-4207

Music Minister: Erica Wasil

COLLABORATIVE STAFF

Finance & Operations Manager: TBA

Director of Music: Rich Cesarini

richcesarini@gmail.com

Assistant Music Director: Matt Cunningham

Director of Ministries: Nancy Goggin

directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

617-639-4215

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, May 14, 2022

4:00 - Parishioners of St. John and St. Ann

Sunday May 15, 2022

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:15 - Nestor Miguel Minaya Garate — 1st Ann.

Saturday, May 21, 2022

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, May 22, 2022

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann Saint John

6:15 - For the people in the Ukraine

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, May 14, 2022

5:30 - Len Shepard — 6th Anniversary

Sunday, May 15, 2022

10:30 - Joseph Cullinan — 15th Anniversary

Saturday, May 21, 2022

5:30 - Tony & Lu Cruz

Sunday, May 22, 2022

10:30 - Mark Hutchins — Memorial



My Dear Friends in Christ,

In writing this column, I recall a conversation I had with a seminary classmate of mine who is from Greece and has relatives who are shepherds. One of the interesting things he told me about the sheep is that when they have been with the shepherd for a long enough period of time, they become “attuned” to the voice of the shepherd. After a while they will not respond to another voice, not even another shepherd’s.

This is why Jesus uses the image of the sheep and the shepherd in conveying the relationship that we are to have with Him. Jesus knows us, and He knows us intimately. We, for our part, are called to know Him, to know His voice. The only way that we can do this is by “tuning out” other voices, voices which are contrary to the Lord’s. This can be a difficult, seemingly impossible thing. There are so many voices which run contrary to His that it can be hard to tell to which ones we are to listen. These “other” voices can lead us in directions which may seem, for a time, to be good places. Ultimately, however, the decisions we make and the roads we choose to walk are meant to lead us to deeper and complete relationship with and in God.

So how do we “tune out” these other voices? The first way, I believe, is to invite God into our everyday life. To make God a part of every decision, every conversation and every encounter we have with/in the world is vitally important. The next way is prayer. When we open up our mind and heart to God, God can show us amazing things! When we communicate with God, both speaking and listening, we can realize the good things God has in store for us. Finally, we need to act on that communication, practicing what we preach. In this way, we can establish, maintain and grow our relationship with God.

May we have the courage to “tune out” those voices which are not God. May we, in our decision-making and in our conversations, never be afraid to make God a part of them. May we know God, serve His people and love all who come into our midst. May we, when we hear the voice of the good shepherd (who is Christ) respond with full and open hearts. May we respond in love, willing to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters in the same way that Jesus has laid down His life.

A Blessed Easter Season to You All,

Fr. Paul

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Weekly Offertory

Monies will be reported when they are available.

ST ANN —Not Available

Online N/A

Mail \$

Mass \$

TOTAL \$

ST JOHN—Not Available

Online \$

Mail \$

Mass \$

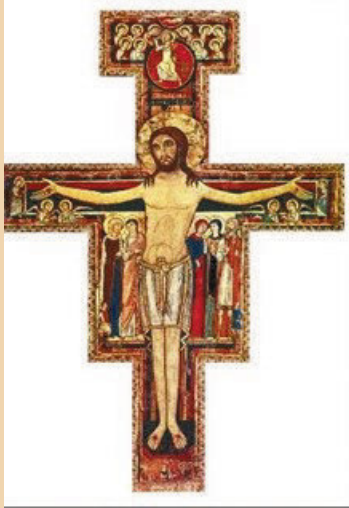
TOTAL \$



Mary you are the most faithful. You accepted all that God asked of you. So great was your willingness to follow Him and place everything in His hands.

I worry faithful Mother, about many things: my life, my family, my job, my future, the future of the country. Teach me to have faith in God. Teach me to place my trust in Him as you did, surrendering all things to His holy will.

Amen



My Franciscan Journey

My Dear Friends In Christ,

Three years ago, I along with Nancy and Kevin Smith, entered into formation in the Secular Franciscan Order. It has been an amazing journey deepening our relationship with Christ, and as our formation is complete, plans are underway for a Celebration of the Holy Eucharist and Profession to the Franciscan Secular Order.

We would love for you to join us, either in person or in prayer. For more information, or to join us, feel free to reach out to me. We are asking for an RSVP for the Brunch for planning purposes. Attending Mass does not require an RSVP.

Pax et Bonum,
Fr. Paul

Family and friends
are cordially invited to join with the
Blessed Lucius Secular Franciscan Fraternity for
The Holy Celebration of the Eucharist and
Rite of Profession to the
Franciscan Secular Order.

Reverend Paul Lawrence Ring by the grace of the
Holy Spirit will make his Profession on

Saturday, June 4th at 9:00 am
Chapel of our Savior
475 Westgate Drive, Brockton Ma

Brunch Immediately Following Mass
Please RSVP to: fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Having you join me in this celebration has special joy
because we were not able to celebrate the
25th Anniversary of my Ordination.





THE DEACON'S COLUMN

In Persona Christi

Thirty years ago, I was friendly with a priest who confessed to me that he struggled with the presence of God. In all honesty, I was troubled by the priest's "confession" to me. I recall saying to him these words, "If you have these doubts, how can you stand before God's people presiding over the Eucharist and saying the Eucharistic Prayer." I will never forget his words. He replied, "I feel if I remain in the Church and cry loud enough then God will hear me and come back." This priest was a man of great faith and served the Church faithfully and well for many years, but he also struggled (as many of us do) with the apparent silence of God especially in times of suffering and struggle. After sharing with me these thoughts, I had the occasion to participate in a Mass he celebrated as the presiding priest. As he held the bread and wine in his hands and offered the words of consecration, I heard the words of Christ say, "This is my body, and this is my blood."

As I have been reflecting on the Eucharistic Prayer for these weekly reflections on the Eucharist, I have been paying attention to the words of the priest as he holds the bread and wine in his hands and says the words of Consecration. Though I see the physical form of Fr. Paul, I hear in his words, the voice of Jesus Christ, the eternal high priest and I am reminded of a profound teaching of the Church that the priest stands "*in persona Christi*" when he celebrates the Eucharist and when he forgives sins.

This teaching of the Church states that when the priest offers the Mass and forgives sins, he is acting "in the person of Christ."

This is not a statement of the priest's virtue or state of holiness. Rather, it is a sign of God's love for the Church and his faithfulness to his promises. The sacraments are not dependent upon the character, holiness, or virtue of the presiding priests. Instead, the graces of the sacraments are guaranteed because of how Jesus has chosen to make his person present through the ministry of his priests. When our priests celebrate the Mass and forgive sins, we can be assured that it is Christ, working through the sacrament of Holy Orders, that consecrates the bread and wine into his body and blood and forgives our sins.

The sacraments are not dependent upon the holiness of the priest because they are rooted in the Holy One—Jesus Christ. This is an important truth for us to stop and consider given the tragic scandals of our time. Despite our human condition, the eternal Father has chosen to make his Son present in the Sacraments so that when we celebrate the sacrament's we receive Christ. In my many years of ministry, I have had the privilege of serving with good and holy priests who strive to reflect the holiness of Christ in the totality of their lives. Though the graces of the sacraments are not bound to the holiness of our priests, he wants them to be holy so that we might be attracted to him as the Holy One! As a deacon, I do not act "in persona Christi" but like the majority of those reading this article, I was anointed with Sacred Chrism at my baptism to be "another Christ" in the World. May the world come to know who Christ is by the ways we act in his Holy Name.

Religious Ed Schedule

May 15th

Grades 1,3,4 and 9

Grade 1: Class will meet at St John's hall at 9:25am, followed by 10:30am Mass.

Grades 3 and 4: will attend 10:30am Mass at St John's as a class. Class will follow Mass.

Grade 9: will attend 6:15pm Mass at St Ann's, followed by class until 8:30pm.

Enjoy Summer Vacation. Class will begin again in September



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You will stand with the Blessed Mother as she weeps at the feet of her crucified son and rejoice with her at his resurrection.

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You will stand with the Blessed Mother as she weeps at the feet of her crucified son and rejoice with her at his resurrection.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS AT SAINT ANN'S AND SAINT JOHN'S

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett Harry Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Kathy Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Frank McCarthy, Joan Thompson, Kenneth McLaughlin, Debbie & Fred Sprague, Baby Ryan & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL
PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095 or jchbaker@msn.com
P O Box 474
West Bridgewater MA 02379

Saint Ann's Church is continuing to collect food items for the West Bridgewater Food Pantry. Items can be left in church on the shelves to the right as you come in the front door.

**The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul
Saint John's Conference
PO Box 544
East Bridgewater MA 02333**
Call the Food Pantry Hotline for food / assistance
Hotline—508-378-3760

Summer HOURS WILL BE IN EFFECT MAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER.

Pantry days will be the **FIRST MONDAY** of the month, except for holidays, from **3 pm to 5:30 pm.**, and the **THIRD MONDAY** from **3 pm to 4:30 pm.**, except for holidays. Please check the schedule.

THE FOOD PANTRY

*Monday, May 2 — 3:00—5:30
Monday, May 16 — 3:00—4:30*

*Tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned goods, etc
are always great additions to the shelves.*

Donations are always appreciated but please call to let us know you are dropping off. **508-378-3760**

Gift cards are also a great help. \$5 — \$25 cards are easier to distribute than large sums, ie \$100

Thank you for your continued generosity.

St Ann Prayer Line:

To request prayers from members of Saint Ann's Prayer Line for yourself, another person in need, or a special intention, please call or email Linda Santry at 508-586-6535 or linda@santry.org. If you would like to join the telephone tree or e-mail distribution list, please contact Linda. We would like to expand our membership for this worthy endeavor.



Baptismal Bib

At my grandson's Baptism, the priest put a bib on the baby. I do not remember seeing this before. Why is this done? Is it something new?

Answer:

When an adult is baptized, there is a part in the ceremony when the newly baptized is vested in a white garment. It is symbolic of the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they are freed from the bonds of sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are symbolically presented so that we might better grasp and understand them.

Infants are often dressed in a baptismal dress, which is the baptismal garment. In some places, the bib is used as a kind of baptismal garment. At the place in the ceremony where the investiture takes place, the bib is used. Some are poncho-like and fit over the baby's head. Others are simply placed on the baby's chest. If the baby is dressed in a white garment, nothing else is needed. The prayer says it all: "See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity ... bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven." In baptism, we are given our purpose and goal in life as believers and this is symbolized by the white garment.

Together in Christ Volunteers Needed

The following tasks need parishioners who can volunteer their time and talents:

Thank you Mary Francis for volunteering to plant all the flowers.

Someone to empty the trash in St. John's Hall once a week.

Someone to empty the trash bin outside the St Ann's Rectory Door to the dumpster in back of Saint Ann's Parish Center until we get the trash collection back on a regular basis.

People who would like to join a Collaborative Planning Session to brainstorm ideas for the future growth of our Collaborative.

If interested in any of these position, please call the Rectory.

Rite of Profession to the
Franciscan Secular Order.

On June 4th
Fr. Paul
Will celebrate
The Holy Celebration of the Eucharist and
Rite of Profession to the
Franciscan Secular Order.

We are planning a celebration for him sometime in the near future.

Please keep an eye out for the details.

The opportunity to donate to a special fund for a gift for this occasion will also be coming.
More details to follow.

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