



Saint John

&

Saint Ann



**Together in Christ
Collaborative**

July 19, 2020

**The 16th Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

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

508-378-4207

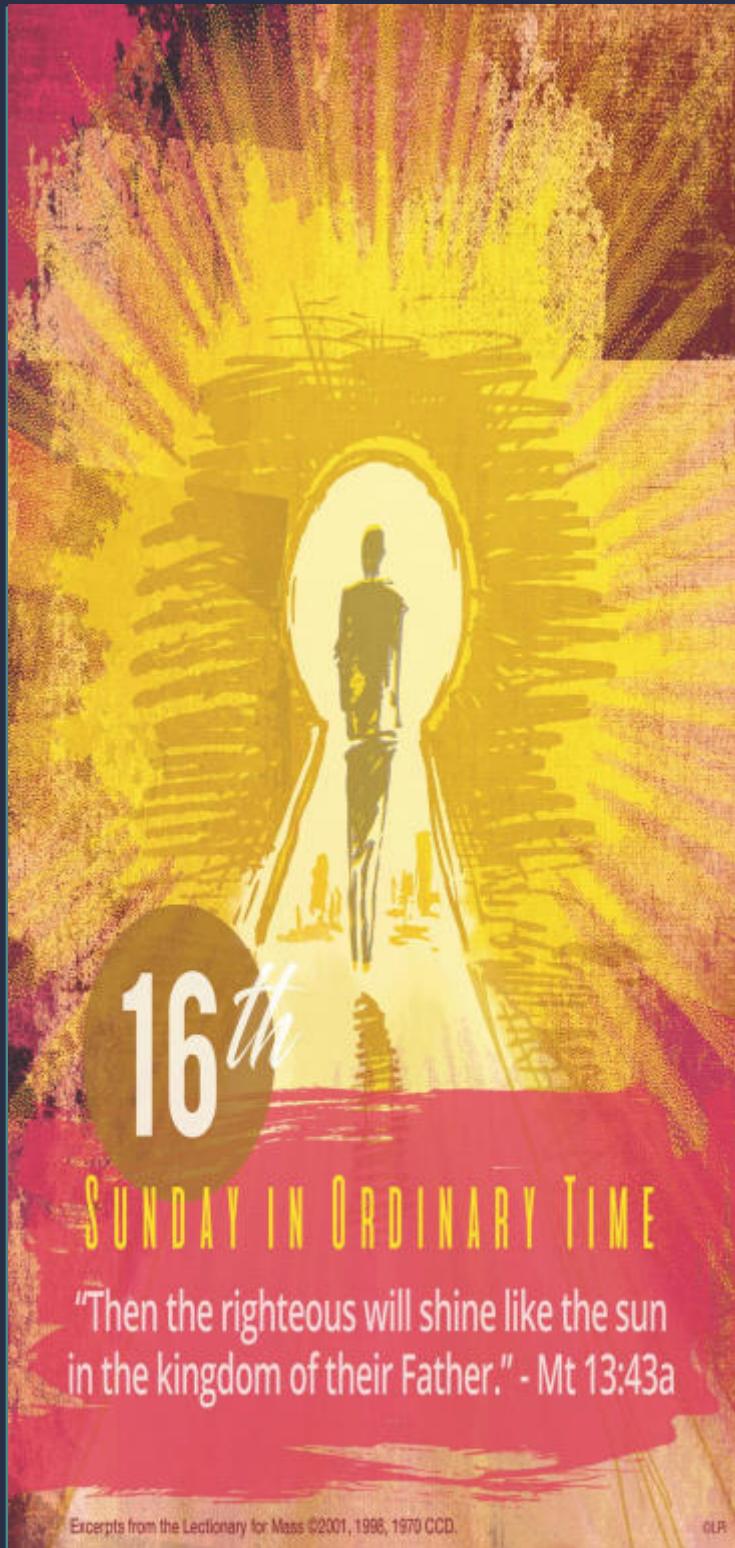
**E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net
Website: www.stjohnebridge.org
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring**

**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**



TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Brendan Fitzgerald (Sr. Deacon)
deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connolly
cconnelly@rcab.org

Joe Hopgood
deaconjoe@comcast.net

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

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Teen Mass – 6 p.m., See Schedule
Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday
9:00 a.m.
In the Chapel
Divine Mercy every Thursday
After Mass.

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Teen Mass – 6 p.m., See Schedule
Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.
9:00 a.m.

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Donna Roderiques
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Director of Religious Education
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Director of Music: Paul Hoffman
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Music Minister: Erica Wasil

PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

Deacon Joe Hopgood
Paul Hoffman
Denise Robichaud

Ben Williams
Nancy Maloney
Margaret Mary Williams

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. John and St. Ann are Stewardship Parishes

**MASSES OF INTENTION WILL BE RESCHEDULED
ONCE THE CHURCHES ARE OPENED FOR
GROUP GATHERINGS.**

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES - ENGAGE PARISHIONERS IN DAILY MASS AND PRAYER

Readings for the week of July 19, 2020

Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 [5a]/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8a]/Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11 [10a]/Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [5]/Mt 20:20-28

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 [97a]/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Observances for the week of July 19, 2020

Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr

Tuesday: St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday: St. Mary Magdalene

Thursday: St. Bridget, Religious

Friday: St. Sharbel Makhlüf, Priest

Saturday: St. James, Apostle

Next Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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COLLABORATIVE MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 p.m. (St. Ann's)

Saturday 5:30 p.m. (St. John's)

Sunday 8:30 a.m. (St. Ann's)

Sunday 10:30 a.m. (St. John's)



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Anyone who has lived a certain length of time knows that there is evil in the world. Our young people may not know this reality (which is a good thing, for sure), but (sadly) one day they will come to experience this truth. For centuries theologians, philosophers and scholars have wrestled with the question of evil, its existence and how and why it comes about in the world. I'm not sure they're any closer to figuring it out than they were when they first tackled it!

The reality of the Christian life is that, along with the good in our life, there is evil in the world. God does not cause this evil to occur (contrary to what many in the world may think), but He does allow it to exist. This is known in theological terms as "the permissive will of God", and it basically states that God allows suffering and evil in the world as part of God's "overall plan". We may *speculate* as to why this happens, but no one can say with absolute certainty why it does. As my father used to say, "God only knows, and He ain't tellin'", which I always took as a pretty direct way of saying "Don't worry about it, God will let us know when we get to Heaven". I'm sure for most of us, in fact, that may be on the top of our list of questions that we'll want to ask God if/when we get to the Kingdom. It is one of life's great mysteries, this question of evil and suffering.

In today's gospel, the disciples ask Jesus to explain the parable about "the weeds and the wheat". In doing so, they are trying to probe the mind and heart of someone who knows all and sees all. Most likely, they don't ask Jesus to explain the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, because they speak to the same point: the beginnings of the Kingdom here on earth may be small at first, but they are yielding (and will continue to yield) great results. The "weeds and the wheat" is a little trickier, because it seems that prudent thing to do would be to uproot the weeds when they grow; they are, however, "entangled" in the roots of the wheat and thus would uproot the wheat if pulled. One must allow for evil to exist, for at the harvest (read: the end of the world), the harvest master (read: God) will separate the weeds from the wheat and cast them into the furnace (read: Hell), taking the wheat with him into the barn (read: the Kingdom). This requires great patience on our part, a patience which only comes from God.

Let us pray for patient endurance, recognizing the "bigger picture" at work in the plan that God has for us all. Let us know that God, who knows and sees all, will see the good we do and reward that good. Let us pray that we may be gathered up with the wheat (i.e. the good people of God) and put into the barn (i.e. the Kingdom) where we will "shine like the sun" (Mt 13:43).

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

Journey to Peace: The Washing of the Feet

Finding humility

When we stepped through that doorway at the beginning of this retreat, we knew eventually we would come to this moment, this moment when we have to challenge what our culture tells us and follow, instead, the actions of Christ.

Our culture tells us to acquire things, to feel great about ourselves, to brag about our achievements, and to put ourselves first. Many of us would find it humiliating to wash someone's feet. Yet with Christ, humiliation turns to humility: he calls us out of self-absorption and teaches us to serve others rather than ourselves.

Part of the journey to true peace lies in devoting ourselves to our brothers and sisters, to serving our community with the same loving humility that characterized Jesus' life on earth.

Take a few moments to become aware of God's presence. Close your eyes and take a few deep breaths, remembering that in this very moment you are under the gaze of God, who knows and loves you totally.

Bring to mind some obstacle that is keeping you from true humility. It could be something from your past bothering you. It could be a problem, a task, or responsibility. It could be anything.

A reading from the Word of God:

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." (John 13:1-7 , NRSV).

Ask yourself: How do this disciples feel about what Jesus is doing? What would you feel?

Notice what arises within you. It could be a feeling, an image, a word, a memory, anything.

Slow down and wait for this feeling, image, or word to become clearer for you. Become fully aware of it and sit with it for a few moments.

Cont'd on Pg. 6

NEWS FOR THE PARISHES

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Karen Debenedictis, Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, JoAnn Micalizzi, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Karen Daly, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolai, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, Bill Frabetti, George Lepine, , Joseph Rizzitano, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Paul Currie, Dennis Green, John McCovy Murphy, Dana Debenedictis, Harry Evans, Jerry Paluch, Frank Genatossio, Kathleen Jezard Maher, Dr. Irfan Francis & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

WHILE OUR SUNDAY MASS HAS GONE 'LIVE', THE DISPENSATION FROM COMMUNION IS STILL IN EFFECT. SUNDAY/DAIY MASS IS STILL ON LINE AND CAN BE VIEWED ON:

CATHOLIC TV - CHANNEL 268 IS BROADCASTING DAILY AND SUNDAY MASS EWTN — CHANNEL 238 is also broadcasting masses.

Fr. Paul is conducting Daily Masses and a Holy Hour/ Rosary on Facebook Live.

FR. PAUL'S FACEBOOK PAGE — Paul Ring
ST JOHN'S FACEBOOK PG — St. John the Evangelist—EB

ST ANN'S FACEBOOK PAGE - St. Ann - WB

Cardinal Sean encourages Catholics to participate in the daily and Sunday Masses broadcast from the Catholic TV chapel. Channel 268 (Comcast)

Daily mass aires live at 9:30 and is rebroadcast at 7 pm and 11:30 pm.

Sunday Masses air throughout the day at 10 am, 4 pm, 7 pm and 11:30 pm.

Viewers can watch these Masses on demand at anytime at www.WatchtheMass.com

Visit <http://www.catholictv.org/>

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul
Saint John's Conference
PO Box 544
East Bridgewater MA 02333

Call the Saint Vincent DePaul HOTLINE at 508-378-3760 if you need food or other assistance.

The Food Pantry is open twice a month. — 1st Monday from 3:00-6:00 pm and the 3rd Monday from 3:00-4:30 pm.

The Pantry is working to make food available for all in need while at the same time keeping within the guidelines of the pandemic. Please contact the Pantry if you need help. The only requirement to access the Pantry is to be an East Bridgewater Resident. All religions are welcome.

The Food Pantry is currently accepting donation at the bottom of the ramp. Please make sure you call to let them know you have dropped off food and that it is properly protected from the elements. Cash donations are always welcomed and can be mailed to the address above. **Gift cards are also a great help.**

\$5—\$25 cards are easier to distribute than large sums, ie \$100

Anyone sitting at home bored who would like to help; call the hotline. The Food Pantry could use all the help it can get. Please make sure you have a mask and gloves. They will put you to work and keep you as safe as they can.

The next Food Pantry will be Monday, July 20TH

For those who would like to join the On-line Giving Program for the convenience of their Offertory:

- Go to www.stjohnsb.org
- Click on tab across the top "Giving"
- Go to "Click Here to Give Online"

We recommend setting up an account by selecting "Sign In" at the top. This way we can track donations for your tax purposes. If you prefer a one-time donation without signing in, select "Give Now."

A Special thank you to Ed Lindsey and his son-in-law Dan Hofgren for all the work they have done in the prayer garden, regrouting and spray washing the bricks and trimming the bushes around the prayer garden. Fr. Francis for the wonderful job taking care of the rose garden and vegetables, and Corey Quinlan for landscaping and mowing the grass. Fr. Harvey has also done his share to keep the grounds of St. Ann looking well. You could catch him behind the mower on several occasions.

Thank you to all of you.

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095
or jchbaker@msn.com

New mailing address:
P O Box 474
West Bridgewater MA 02379



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

Con't from page 4

Place your feelings and thoughts in a package... and hand it to Jesus.

Prayer

Lord, Jesus, I believe that you require of me a self-renunciation that possesses two characteristics: complete without reservations, continuous and constant from the first instant of conversion till the last moment of my life. In other words, my sacrifice must be a perfect sacrifice consumed by the flames of divine love. The maximum perfection of Christian virtue lies in my love and self-giving.

"Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all that I have and possess. You have given all to me. I return it, O Lord, to you. All is yours, dispose of it wholly according to your will. Give me your love and your grace, for this is sufficient for me" (Prayer of St Ignatius of Loyola).

End your time of prayer with an Our Father, entrusting all your needs and feelings to God.

Place your feelings and thoughts in a package... and hand it to Jesus.

This essential process of Jesus' hour is portrayed in the washing of the feet in a sort of prophetic and symbolic act. In it, Jesus highlights with a concrete gesture precisely what the great Christological hymn in the Letter to the Philippians describes as the content of Christ's mystery. Jesus lays down the clothes of his glory, he wraps around his waist the towel of humanity and makes himself a servant. He washes the disciples' dirty feet and thus gives them access to the divine banquet to which he invites them.

The devotional and external purifications purify man ritually but leave him as he is replaced by a new bathing: Jesus purifies us through his Word and his Love, through the gift of himself. "You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you", he was to say to his disciples in the discourse on the vine (Jn 15: 3). Over and over again he washes us with his Word

Yes, if we accept Jesus' words in an attitude of meditation, prayer and faith, they develop in us their purifying power. Day after day we are as it were covered by many forms of dirt, empty words, prejudices, reduced and altered wisdom; a multi-faceted semi-falsity or falsity constantly infiltrates deep within us. All this clouds and contaminates our souls, threatens us with an incapacity for truth and the good. If we receive Jesus' words with an attentive heart they prove to be truly cleansing, purifications of the soul, of the inner man.

The Gospel of the washing of the feet invites us to this, to allow ourselves to be washed anew by this pure water, to allow ourselves to be made capable of convivial communion with God and with our brothers and sisters. However, when Jesus was pierced by the soldier's spear, it was not only water that flowed from his side but also blood (Jn 19: 34; cf. I Jn 5: 6-8). Jesus has not only spoken; he has not left us only words. He gives us himself. He washes us with the sacred power of his Blood, that is, with his gift of himself "to the end", to the Cross. His word is more than mere speech; it is flesh and blood "for the life of the world" (Jn 6: 51). In the holy sacraments, the Lord kneels ever anew at our feet and purifies us. Let us pray to him that we may be ever more profoundly penetrated by the sacred cleansing of his love and thereby truly purified!

(Pope Benedict XVI , *Holy Thursday Homily, 2008*)

Provided by Pauline Media — Strength for the Week Summer Retreat



90-Days Now – For Your Parish is an online **supplemental** offertory giving program started by the laity to help support parishes during the pandemic.

- Phase 1 raised \$450,000 for 236 parishes.
- Phase 2 offers a match gift from a generous anonymous benefactor when the overall campaign reaches \$700,000

Should you choose to join in this effort, or give again to help reach the match, the Archdiocese has created an easy-to-use link to donate at

www.BostonCatholic.org/donate.

ALL FUNDS GO DIRECTLY TO OUR PARISH.

Thank you for your continued support. God bless!

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