



Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 August 4 2024*

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time



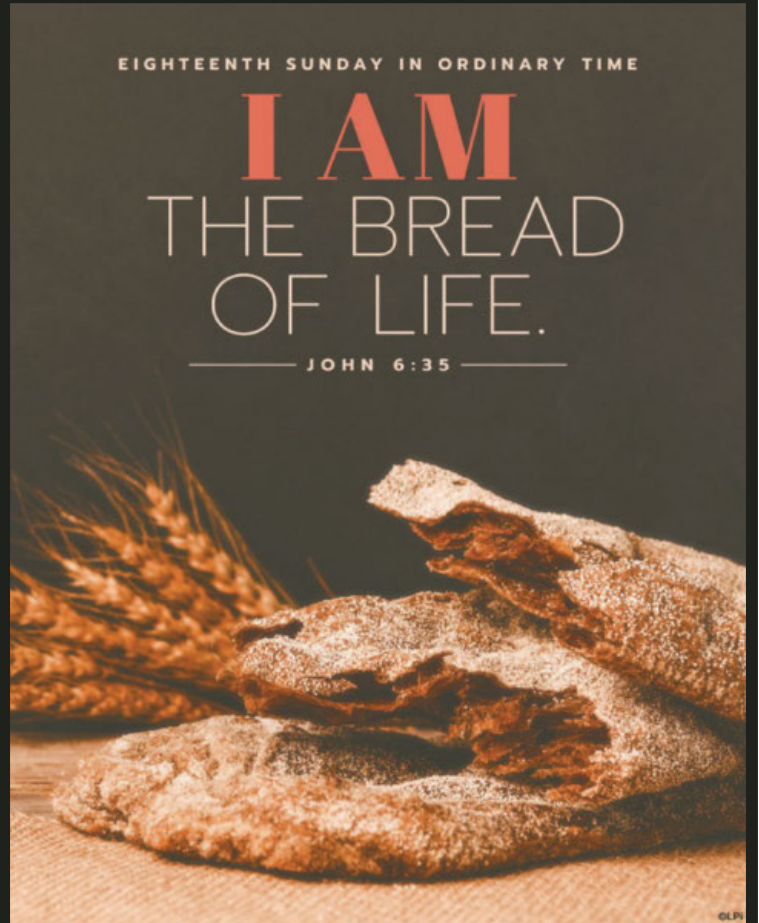
Saturday, 4:00 PM
 Sunday, 9:30 AM



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." - Jn 6:32-33

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD



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
 9:00-3:00
 Monday through Friday**

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.stjohneb.org**

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

TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

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

Priests In Residence

Fr. Peter Francis
Fr. Michael Diochi

Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connelly
cconnelly@rcab.org

The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 3PM Monday-Friday

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St Ann's

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass
Thurs & Sat.
9:00 a.m.

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Daily Mass:
Wednesday & Friday
9:00 a.m.

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Arlene Stefano
stanns@comcast.net
508-586-4880

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and on Sundays at 1:30 p.m. These baptisms are not done at the masses currently. Prep classes will take place before the Baptism. Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
3:00—3:30 at the church holding the 4 PM Mass
Or by appointment.

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 JOHN'S STAFF

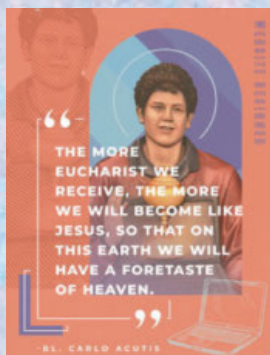
Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
stjohnnebridge@comcast.net
508-378-4207
Music Minister: Erica Vinton

COLLABORATIVE STAFF

Finance & Operations Manager: Kevin Mercier
bmanager.tic@gmail.com

Director of Music: Rich Cesarini
richcesarini@gmail.com
Assistant Music Director: Matt Cunningham

Director of Ministries: Matthew Brady
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com
774-533-2002





NOTES FROM THE PASTOR



My Dear Friends in Christ,

In most parts of the world, bread is a “staple” in one’s diet; there’s a reason that it is called “the staff of life”, for it provides one with basic sustenance and allows one to survive. There is also a comfort that comes from eating bread, probably because it is so filling and allows us to be fed in a very simple way.

This is really what is at the heart of today’s readings. Bread (manna, actually, which is bread-like in taste) plays a key part in the Israelites journey, for it sustains them on the way to the Promised Land. They had been starving to this point, not only hungry for food but for a sign that God was with them. This gift from God shows to them that God is caring for them, for the manna that they receive comes from Heaven is derived from God’s goodness to His people. It feeds them both physically and spiritually, and allows them to carry on in their journey of faith. This is what the Eucharist does for us; it’s bread-like quality might feed us physically, but more important is the way that it feeds us spiritually. The real presence of Jesus is in the Eucharist; it is not a sign or symbol which we are receiving, but the actual Body of Christ. This spiritual “feeding”, which the Israelites receive in the desert, is one we experience at the Eucharistic table.

This leads into the “culmination” of God’s plan to feed His people, found in Jesus Christ. Today’s gospel passage is taken from John’s sixth chapter, which is often referred to as the “Bread of Life Discourse”. Throughout this chapter, the gospel writer makes reference to Jesus as the “Bread of Life” (as he does in this passage today). Jesus, in this chapter, looks back at the Israelites journey in the desert led by Moses. Jesus remarks how the source of the manna was not Moses, but God the Father. In doing so, Jesus establishes the relationship He has with the Father by “linking” Himself to that event. The people ask Jesus for the bread from heaven; Jesus, for His part, declares Himself as the “Bread of Life” (Jn 6:35). In doing so, Jesus establishes both Himself as the Messiah (which “comes down from heaven and gives life to the world” (Jn 6:33)), and the giver of Eucharist, for it is in Holy Communion that we receive the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ.

May we always hunger for this Bread from Heaven. May we come to know and experience Jesus as the Bread of Life. May we trust that Jesus will always keep us fed and close to the Father. May we as a people of faith, in becoming “living tabernacles”, take the Body of Christ we have received at the Eucharistic table and share it with the world.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, August 4, 2024

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Joseph & Rita Giovanoni — Memorial
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

Sunday, August 11, 2024

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Michael Thibeault — 20th Anniversary
- Ginny Forde — 30th Anniversary
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, August 3, 2024

- 4:00 - Patrick & Ann Sullivan —
Birthday Remembrances

Sunday, August 4, 2024

- 9:30 - Marie Jackson — 6 month Anniversary

Saturday, August 10, 2024

- 4:00 - Thomas Sweeney — 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, August 11, 2024

- 9:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

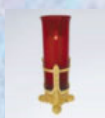
WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

MEMORIAL MASSES
Suggested donation \$25+

HOSTS, WINE AND SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR THE WEEK + the Mass = \$55

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK
\$85+ the mass = \$110

**For host, wine & sanctuary lamps, flower and the mass,
it is a cost of \$165**



The bookkeeping on payment for these memorial masses has become an issue. Therefore, we are asking that you distinguish your payment from your offertory. Please mark your payments for the memorials and send in the payment AT LEAST TWO WEEKS prior to the mass. That will give us enough time to order the flowers and pay for them BEFORE the actual mass. Thank you.

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

Registration for Faith Formation

Registration for faith formation for 2024-2025 is now open! Full details and the registration form can be found on the websites under the Faith Formation tab.

August Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

August 19 at 6:30 pm,
St. Ann Parish Center

Join us as we make sandwiches for Fr. Paul and the team from Capuchin Mobile Ministries to distribute to the homeless in Boston and Cambridge. All are welcome!

Outdoor Mass and Barbecue

Sunday, August 18th
St. John's Back Lawn
4 pm Mass* 5 pm Barbecue

This 4 pm Mass will be in lieu of the 6:15 Mass Sunday Night

Meal Cost: \$6/person, \$25 max per family
Includes Hamburger/Hot Dog, Chips, Water, Dessert, Sides

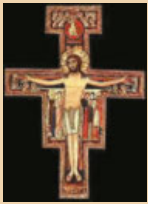
There will be lawn games and more fun!

*Please bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

Tickets will be sold the weekends of July 20/21 and July 27/28 and at the door.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 15
THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED MOTHER
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

**MASS AT ST ANN'S AT 9:00 AM
MASS AT ST JOHN'S AT 7:00 PM**



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

A while back I had lunch with Fr. Ken Cienik (SA), who is the head of the Chapel of Our Savior (run by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, thus the “SA” at the end of Fr.

Ken’s name). We were joined by a couple of other members of the household, and it was a lovely gathering. During the luncheon, Fr. Ken joked that I was already well on my way to Franciscan life before joining the Blessed Lucius Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order. I asked him what he meant and he pointed out my perpetual wearing of sandals, and my love of animals as exhibited by my “showing off” pictures of my dog, Nellie (as well as my previous dog, Oscar, who I had (or, who had me!) for 15 of his 17 years)!

When we think of Francis, we often think of animals. This is understandable because most everyone knows Francis’ love of, and concern for, animals. The story is told of Francis and his confreres going through the Spoleto Valley near the town of Bevagna. Suddenly, Francis spotted a great number of birds of all varieties – doves, crows, and others. After gathering them, he proceeded to preach the Word of God to them, which they received with rapt attention! After preaching, he gave them his blessing, and they flew off – no doubt better off for the encounter with the saint! Also, there was the encounter Francis had with the “Wolf of Gubbio”. Francis learned of a wolf so ravenous, it was not only killing and eating animals but people as well! The people tried their best to defeat the wolf, but they were no match with many losing their lives at the teeth of the wolf! Francis took pity on the people and decided to meet with the wolf, despite warnings to the contrary by the people of Gubbio. Francis, undeterred, insisted that God would take care of him. He met with the wolf, calling for it not to harm the people. In return, Francis promised that no harm would come to the wolf. Living in peace for nearly two years after, the wolf died of old age – much to the sadness of the people, who fed him during that time. Such was the power Francis had over/with animals. Thus, Francis is well-known as patron of animals and a Blessing of the Animals is traditional on or near his Feast Day (of October 3rd).

Animals are an important part of God’s creation, and Francis knew this. They offer service, companionship (accompanied by unconditional love) and, yes, food. We are called to be stewards of creation, and that extends to animals. While one can have varying opinions on the “use” of animals, there are things on which most (if not all) people can agree. Cruelty can never be part of the equation when dealing with animals; this attitude is not of God, and thus cannot be part of our spiritual makeup. When one is dealing with animals, in a service or domestic situation, one must exercise patience – even charity – towards the animal. One would do well to invoke the intercession of Saint Francis when dealing with an animal. I know there are many times when I have called upon Francis to intercede for me in dealing with Nellie (and Oscar before her). I certainly called upon the intercession of Saint Francis when Nellie had her “great adventure” around East Bridgewater when I first got her! I can remember invoking the Saint calling for him to intervene. Sure enough, through this intercession – and the good and diligent work of MANY people – Nellie was

WHILE WE KNOW THAT MANY OF OUR PARISH FAMILY ARE ON VACATION, HOWEVER OUR CHURCH FAMILY IS NOT. PLEASE REMEMBER US AS YOU HEAD OFF FOR YOUR SUMMER TRIPS WITH A FINANCIAL OFFERING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY AND HAVE A BLESSED SUMMER.

Cont’d

found a day later, a little shaken but none the worse for wear! I immediately said a Prayer of Thanksgiving to God for the help of Francis!

As we find ourselves in these summer months, let us remember to take some time for leisure, enjoying the natural beauty around us. Let us include our pets in this enjoyment, giving back to them some reward for the good things they give to us, namely companionship and love! Happy Summer, All!

Peace and All Good,

Fr. Paul, OFS

Practicing Graciousness in the Desert

Looking back over my journey of parenthood, I know there were days when I traveled the extra mile for my children. I made their toast the way they like it, let them play in the park an extra ten minutes, or let them go to the movies with their friends and I finished up the chores on my own. And then, it happened: the attitude. The request for the smallest thing from one of them is met with disdain or bewilderment.

Sometimes you can be made breathless with the ingratitude of another person who takes so much and with so little shame, only to scoff at the idea that they, too, give even the smallest amount.

But if we’re being honest with ourselves, we will admit that we do the exact same thing to God. Haven’t we all been the Israelites in the desert at one point or another? God has parted our Red Sea in some way. He’s led us out of some great trial, given us some great blessings. But then we run into a little resistance somewhere along the way and we throw up our hands. How could you do this to us, Lord? How could you ask this of us? No, I can’t go any further. No, I won’t do any more.

Persisting in the blindness to the many ways God continues to protect us is nothing short of a temper tantrum. It robs our Everyday Stewardship of its graciousness, of our ability to accept with joy the trials of life because we are also constantly aware of its blessings.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPI

18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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



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.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Denise Robichaud, Patricia Estes, William Neyman, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela McDevitt, Karen & Janet Daly, Kathy Conrad, Joan Ward-Fusco, Kenneth McLaughlin, Fred Sprague, Joe Pigeon, Nancy McHugh, Jerry Paluch, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Irene Churchill, Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Eileen Doherty, Dan, Candice Frabetti, Patrick McCormick Rob Levesque, Alex & Landon & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



MARY'S ROADIE — BOOK OVERVIEW

We all are broken, but we are loved by God.

Kevin Matthews is a radio icon and a three-time Radio Hall of Fame Nominee, soon to be officially inducted. For nearly two decades, he entertained more than ten million listeners weekly on the legendary AM 1000, Loop Radio Station in Chicago, Illinois. He traveled the world, met with the famous, had babies named after him, and set his flag on many entertainment mountains. He lived like a radio rock star.



That is until God led Kevin to a filthy dumpster where he discovered a broken statue of the Blessed Mother. Immediately, his life and world would be turned upside-down.

In 2016, Matthews penned his debut book, *Broken Mary*—an honest and hilarious confession about his struggle with multiple sclerosis and his discovery of this broken statue of the mother of Jesus. But what happened after the initial discovery of this statue he would begin to bring everywhere with him? Where would she lead him to next?

Almost a decade later, *Mary's Roadie* documents this very story.

With humor and vulnerability, Matthews recalls the extraordinary moments, the life-changing trips, and the prayers answered since that fateful day in 2011. From flying across oceans, to working with nuns, and speaking in the last place he ever expected, this story will deeply touch anyone who reads these pages. Kevin Matthews bares his love of God, his love of the Son of God, and the woman who gave birth to Jesus, our blessed Mother Mary. *Mary's Roadie* will blanket you in hope and, most of all, remind you of how loved you are by God.

ISBN: 978-1-63582-555-8

West Bridgewater Food Pantry
457 Rear, South Main Street, Unit #1
West Bridgewater

WHEN: Curbside distribution the FIRST and THIRD Wednesday each month
TIME: 1:45-3:00PM or 5:30-6:00PM
We need jelly & rice pilaf
Cash donations also accepted

St Ann — ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
P O Box 474 West Bridgewater MA 02379

To join please call — TINA ANTHONY
508-245-5481

Our Saint Vincent de Paul Society has provided support for our neighbors that find themselves in need of a little help with utility, fuel or rent bills. There are many ways we can help our neighbors; if not financially, we can help spiritually. The Society cannot help our neighbors without the generosity of our parishioners. Please consider donating by placing the donations in the SDVP boxes located at each entrance. Please make out any checks to St. Vincent de Paul Society, not St. Ann's church.

To Join or get more information on how we can help a neighbor in need, please call Tina Anthony, 508-245-5481

Next meeting: All meetings are suspended for the Summer. See you in the Fall. Enjoy!!!!

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

PANTRY HOURS WILL REMAIN THE SAME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

Our pantry is open on the First and Third Monday of each month. When pantry days fall on a major holiday, the pantry will open on the Tuesday of that week.

First Monday - 3:00 - 5:30 Third Monday - 3:00 - 4:30

Monday, August 5, 2024
Monday, August 19, 2024

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

The Pantry is a little low—needed: any food, especially tuna, peanut butter, soups, pasta & pasta sauce, cereal.

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



Golf Classic XXII
Golf with us....golf for us...

JOIN US!

Cost: \$225 single player; \$800 foursome (before 8/1); \$900 foursome (after 8/1)

Location: Thorny Lea Golf Club, Brockton, MA

Date: Monday, September 23, 2024

Join us for our annual golf tournament where each participant will have a premier golf experience at this exceptional course, including greens fees, golf cart, lunch, dinner, on-course activities, contests, goodie bags and more. Golfers will also have use of the club's locker rooms, driving range and putting green. Prizes will be awarded for contest winners and the top two teams. Dinner and awards along with an awesome silent auction will round out this amazing day of golf and fundraising for Old Colony Hospice. All proceeds benefit our hospice patients. See the day of schedule below:

- 11:00 am:** Check-in
- 11:30 am:** Lunch
- 12:00 pm:** Helicopter: Golf Ball Drop - Golf Balls from Above Raffle
- 12:30 pm:** Shotgun Start
- 5:00 pm:** Hors d'oeuvres & Cocktails/Silent Auction
- 5:30 pm:** Dinner/Awards/Auction Winners

[Register Today](#)

www.oldcolonyhospice.org/signature-events

For more information, please contact:
Anna Kelley, Events and Marketing Specialist
Phone: 781-858-9600

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