



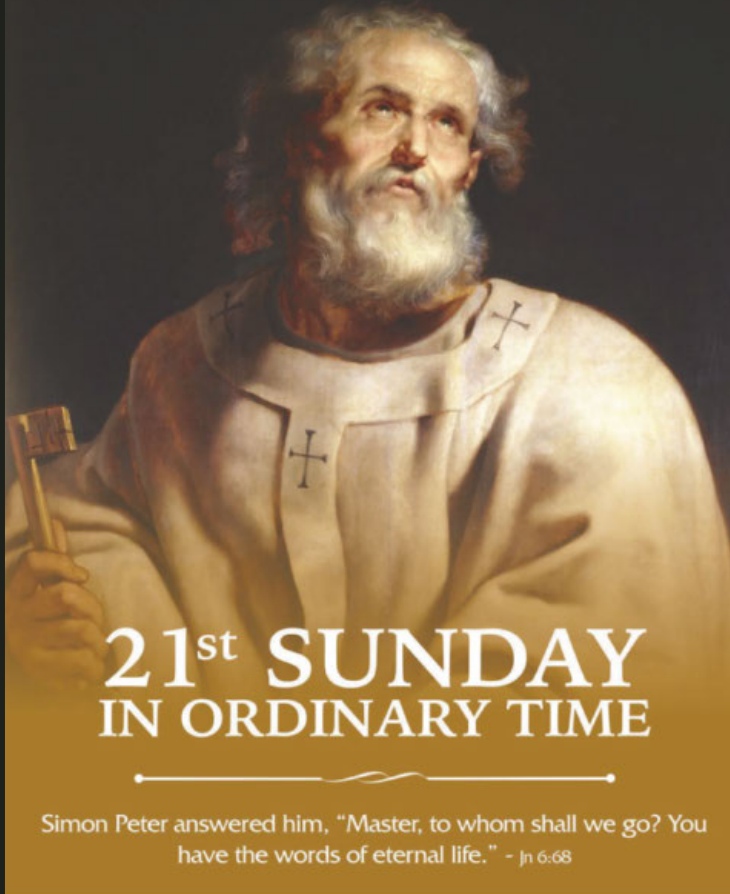
Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 August 25, 2024*

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



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



**21st SUNDAY
 IN ORDINARY TIME**

Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." - Jn 6:68

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



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." - Jn 6:67-69

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 Thursday**

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**

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

EUCHARISTIC 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
stjohnebridge@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





St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, August 25, 2024

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Rosalyn Ingoldsby — Month's Mind
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

Sunday, September 1, 2024

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, August 24, 2024

- 4:00 - Kathleen Kiley — Month's Mind

Sunday, August 25, 2024

- 9:30 - Christian D'Ottavio — Third Anniversary & Birthday Remembrance

Saturday, August 31, 2024

- 4:00 - Dennis Rando — Memorial

Sunday, September 1, 2024

- 9:30 - Jessica Thurston — Memorial

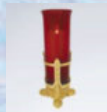
WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

MEMORIAL MASSES
Suggested donation \$25+

HOSTS, WINE AND SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR THE WEEK Suggested donation \$55
Including a Memorial Mass, Suggested donation \$80

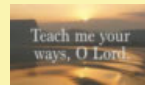
FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK \$85; or including the mass Suggested donation \$110

HOSTS, WINE & SANCTUARY LAMPS, FLOWERS \$140 including the MASS, is a Suggested donation of \$165



Payment for the above memorials would be appreciated TWO weeks in advance, separate from your offertory.

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR



My Dear Friends in Christ,

We live in a society where we have plenty of choices. Choices of employment, housing, food, or the like. Some of these are easy, simple and have little consequence and some have life-changing or life-altering consequences. In today's readings, choices are given. They are, ultimately, choices between serving God and serving one's own interest. We have the free will, a gift from God, to choose God's way or our way. We have the ability and opportunity to freely decide the path we wish to walk. Again, like some life choices, this is not an easy one, and the consequences could, literally, mean life or death.

In our first reading Joshua gathers the tribes of Israel, asking them to make a choice between the gods of the people in whose land they inhabit or the god of their ancestors. Joshua makes his choice clear in the last line of his impassioned plea: "as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Jos 24:15). The people make this same choice, acknowledging all that God has done for them in securing their freedom. This seems like an easy choice (freedom over slavery) but some, given a choice, might opt for the "security" (albeit a false sense of the same) of slavery. The Israelites, in recognizing all that God has done choose, along with Joshua, to serve the Lord.

Our second reading, which always sparks discussion if not controversy, speaks of choice as well. It is the choice between serving one's own interests and putting oneself at the service of another. St. Paul reminds us at the beginning of the passage to "be subordinate to one another out of reverence to Christ" (Eph 5:21). I dare say that the following lines of the passage don't matter, as each party (husbands and wives, in this case) is beholden to another, and we are all (no matter our state in life) beholden to Christ. This passage, which always seems to get mired in the "politics of language" needs to be seen for what it is: a uniform call to service, one to the other and all to Christ; anything less than that does it, and our baptismal call, a disservice. We are all subject to this same call.

In our gospel, Jesus starts to lose followers. They "fall away" because of the difficulty of the message at hand (the "Bread of Life discourse" continued and finished in this passage). It is hard to accept this truth of the Real Presence. There is only so much of it that can be taught and understood. At some point, one must come to believe that this *is* Jesus, truly present in Eucharist, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. It is not a "form", "symbol" or "image" of Christ – it is truly Him, alive and in our midst. This is, indeed, a hard thing to hear and accept; it is only through faith that one can come to believe that Jesus is truly and fully present in the Eucharist.

May we always make the right choices in our lives of faith. May we come to know and see Jesus for who He is: Lord and Savior, one who has come into the world and bring Eternal Life, a life only God can bring. May we share this truth and this life with all whom we meet!

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

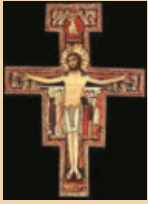
For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com



**THE MASS AND BARBEQUE
WAS
A GREAT TIME.**

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
HOSPITALITY
COMMITTEE!**

We look forward to next year.



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

In today's gospel, Jesus is confronted by the people with the accusation that His teachings are too hard: too hard to live, too hard to incorporate into daily living. When asked if they were going to leave, St. Peter says to Jesus "'Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.'" (John 6:68-69). When one looks at the "Prayer of St. Francis", while one might find it beautiful it is, at its core, a challenging way to act, speak, and live. One might have asked St. Francis "how can we live this teaching, for it is hard?" But if one is to be a person of peace, the "Prayer of St. Francis" is one which serves as a "blueprint" of peace-filled living. So, I offer it to you on this day for your prayerful reflection.

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

*For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

St Ann's is in need of some help around the church grounds. Some bushes need to be cut away from the building to avoid pests and rodents from entering the church. If you can help, please call the Rectory,

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION
WILL BE FOR
ST. BENEDICT'S SCHOOL FUND

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

QUICK FACTS



Human trafficking affects 50 million people worldwide!

Profits generated by human trafficking exceed \$150 billion a year. 72% of the women and girls being sex trafficked are of an average age of 11-13 years old.

Trafficked women and girls can be violated 15 to 24 times per day and are forced to meet a quota or face more severe beatings.

Traffickers prey on people of all ages, backgrounds, and nationalities, exploiting them for their own profit.

Short-term, 30-day shelters, and shelters with inadequate resources have a 7x higher recidivism rate.

The US ranks as one of the worst countries in the world for human trafficking, with an estimated 300,000+ incidents occurring annually.

The O'Connell House is a new safe home for women who have been trafficked and who may be pregnant and/or with a small child in the Archdiocese of Boston. This home is unique as it has a model of care called 'The Sister Care Model' whereby we have trained religious Sisters as caregivers providing a loving, nurturing presence 24/7. This model is emulated after a successful juvenile safe home, called Metanoia Manor, in Louisiana, which started the Sister Care Model and has excellent results after 7 years!

We recently opened, after completing all renovations and improvements, taking in our first resident on National Human Trafficking Day, January 12, 2024! We were blessed with Cardinal Sean O'Malley and Bishop Robert Hennessy who both came to The O'Connell House for a ribbon cutting and provided a House Blessing! (see picture above)

Check them out!

Website: <https://theoconnellhouse.org/>

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/TheOConnellHouseMA)

[TheOConnellHouseMA](https://www.facebook.com/TheOConnellHouseMA)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/oconnellhousema>

How can we help?

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, 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, Dan, Candice Frabetti, Patrick McCormick, Rob Levesque, Alex & Landon, Susan Coronella & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



Greetings of love from Uganda, Africa. To the parishioners of St. Ann and St. John's, I am happy to be back. This is a home away from home. We have done much together. Special thanks goes to our Pastor Fr. Paul L. Ring whom I have visited every year for the last 15 years. He means a lot to me, my people and my mission. We're building a boys' dormitory Estimated at \$140,000 including installation of water, and electricity and beds. We're currently fundraising for \$ 90,000 to complete this project.

How to donate? Write your check to St. John's or St. Ann and in the memo Write school/Uganda.

We shall have a second collection on the weekend of 24/25th of August for this noble cause.

Contact Fr. Stephen Lusiba on my email address: lusteve2012@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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

Tuesday, September 3, 2024
Monday, September 16, 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



The O’Connell House A Safe Place Where Victims Become Survivors



Our Mission

The mission of The O’Connell House is to provide comprehensive services for women who have been trafficked who may also be pregnant or with a young child. It is a place where dignity will be restored and healing can occur. We accomplish this by having Sister Caregivers 24/7.

Global Strategic Operatives, GSO, was initiated after a high-level meeting of leaders and stakeholders at the UN in 2018. It was decided to focus on training healthcare professionals across the globe on how to identify a victim who is being trafficked and to take appropriate action. The rationale for choosing to focus on healthcare is studies and data show that 88-92% of all survivors sought out medical care while being trafficked. If not trained, the victims fall through the cracks of the healthcare system and do not receive the help that is critically needed and remain in the ‘life’ until help is offered.

Pope Francis said that “Human Trafficking is an open wound to the Body of Christ” and “a crime against humanity.”

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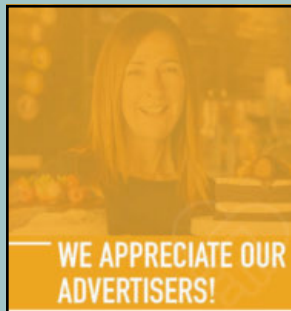
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