



St. John

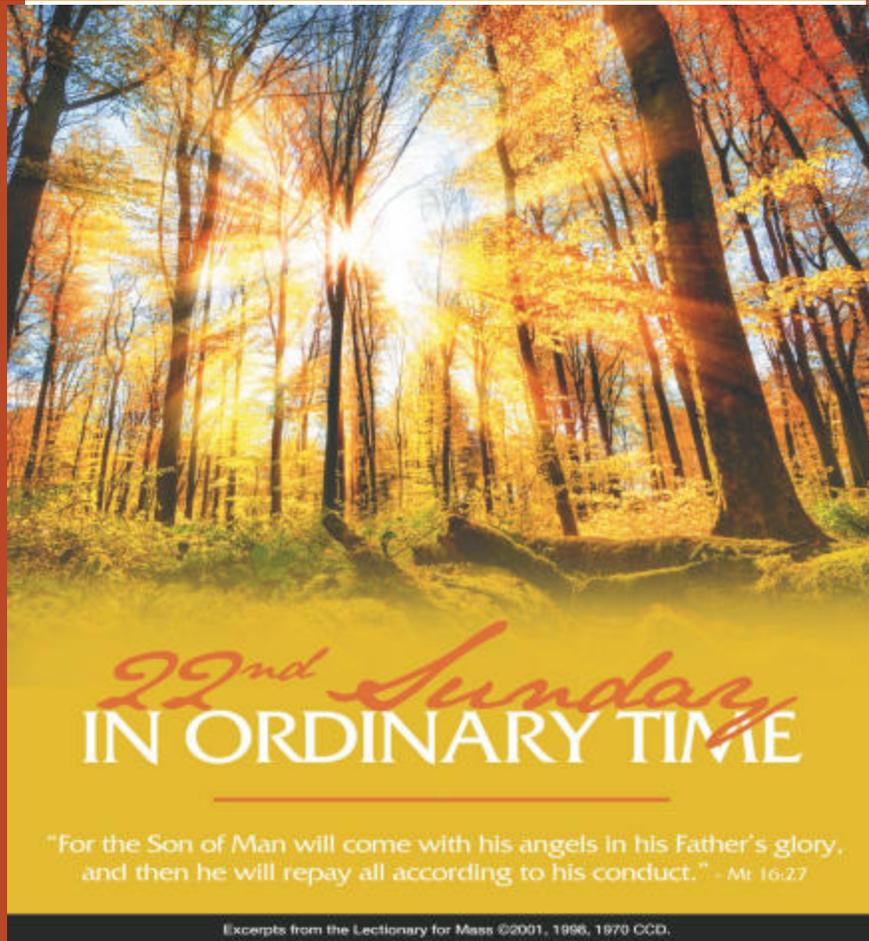
***Together in Christ
Collaborative***

August 30, 2020

***22nd Sunday
In Ordinary Time***



St Ann



**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: 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

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

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

Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connelly
cconnelly@rcab.org

Joe Hopgood
deaconjoeh@comcast.net

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.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA

Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday
9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice
In the Chapel
Divine Mercy every Thursday
After Mass.

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA

Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.
9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and on Sundays at 1 p.m. All 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

Is 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
Director of Religious Education
Charlotte Leines
stannscd@comcast.net
508-588-7140

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
stjohnnebridge@comcast.net
Director of Religious Education
Lorraine Hopgood
repstjohn@gmail.com
508-378-1521
Music Minister: Erica Wasil

COLLABORATIVE STAFF

Finance & Operations Manager: Donna Roderiques
donna.stannstjohn@gmail.com
Director of Music: Rich Cesarini
richcesarini@gmail.com
Assistant Music Director: Matt Cunningham

UPDATES FROM THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Weekend Masses are being held at both churches, please check the schedule ON PAGE 7.

All guidelines of the Archdiocese are being followed.

Baptisms are being held
on Saturday at 10 AM and 2 PM and
on Sundays at 1 PM.

Please call the Rectory Office to schedule.

Funerals are now allowed within the guidelines of the Archdiocese. Call the Rectory Office for information.

Memorial Masses can be rescheduled or scheduled within the limitations of the four masses between both churches. Call the Rectory Office to schedule.

Daily masses are continuing to be celebrated on line until further notice.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

A few years back, there was a country song put out, popularized by Kenny Chesney, called “Everybody Wants To Go To Heaven” which says that “everybody wants to go to heaven...but nobody want to go now”. It speaks to the fact that many folks want to enter into the Kingdom, but few (if anyone) want to go before they’ve lived all the life they feel that have coming. There’s only one thing wrong with that kind of thinking – it’s not up to us!

Peter speaks up in today’s gospel, voicing this kind of thinking. When he pulls Jesus aside and cautions against the kind of talk Jesus is uttering, he is thinking in human terms and loses sight of the mission of Jesus – the Kingdom. Jesus rebukes Peter (rightfully so), as the mission of Jesus is to end in His death. Jesus knows this and is not afraid to face the reality of this. Jesus realizes that He must die so that we might have life – Eternal Life. This is the “end goal” of Jesus’ mission here on earth, that we might see the Kingdom. This is the mission of each one of us as Catholic-Christians as well, that of the Kingdom.

The reality of the Christian life is that we must die to self so that Christ might live in us. This is a hard reality for many, for it goes “against the grain” of the thinking in modern society. We live in a world that seeks to preserve and prolong life, which is not a bad thing, necessarily. Another issue of recent years has been the push for assisted suicide (euphemistically called “physician-assisted death”). The problem with these ways of thinking come when it gets in the way of God’s plan for us and for the world. God’s desire is for us to have life, life eternal in the Kingdom. This isn’t possible if we strive to live forever in this present reality. We are not meant to live forever in this reality; one day, we are meant to enter into the Kingdom. As it is with Jesus, the “timeline” for this is not up to us; it is for our Heavenly Father to decide. It is God who knows “the day and the hour” of our going home to the Kingdom.

May we have the courage to give ourselves over to God’s plan. May we come to know that plan in our lives and may we strive to live that plan as best as we can. May we have the strength to unite our will over to God, not relinquishing the free will God gives us but aligning it with the plan which God has for us – life eternal in the Kingdom.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES - ENGAGE PARISHIONERS IN DAILY MASS AND PRAYER**Readings for the week of August 30, 2020**

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102 [97]/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14 [17]/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21 [12]/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [1]/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40 [39a]/Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21 [18]/Lk 6:1-5

Next Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

Observances for the week of August 30, 2020

Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday: St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Friday:

Saturday:

Next Sunday: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

How we need our Mother today!

August... the month we traditionally think of heaven.

August, 2020.

kjhermes-paulinmedia-com@getresponse-mail.com

Hmm. This year, I sometimes find myself wishing I could *escape* to heaven, at least in my imagination. It's on a lot of people's minds. Some of them wonder why "heaven" doesn't *do* something about what's been happening on earth this year. And between the Marian feasts of the Assumption (August 15) and the Queenship of Mary (August 22), the "vision" of heaven, though beautiful, seems remote from the struggles breaking our lives and hearts apart as the summer winds to a close.

The lyrics to my favorite hymn for the Feast of the Assumption paint a lovely picture of Mary in the blessed joy and glory of heaven: *Who is she ascends so far / next the heavenly King? / Round about whom angels fly / and her praises sing.*

The loving, living, giving, and suffering of her earthly life over, Mary now reigns in heaven as Queen of heaven and earth. It could almost seem a kind of well-earned eternal retirement, or a victory march, when she took her place in her coronation at the right hand of her Son. As though she lives now in some inaccessible heavenly "castle" where only royalty live!

Mary, however, as every one of her liturgical feasts reminds us, is a Mother. Still a Mother. Always a Mother. Our Mother. My Mother.

Mothers, by the beauty and grace of their sublime vocation, have an almost-superhuman willingness to sacrifice for the wellbeing of their children. Motherhood is the root and foundation of every other accomplishment and expertise a mother may bring to her role.

And how we need a Mother today! A woman who has been where we are. An exile. An immigrant. A widow. She who stood powerless but with faith beneath the cross as she watched her Son die. The woman who was the first disciple, listening to Jesus, lending her ear and then her heart to his bidding, translating it into action of love and obedient trust. We need this mother, teacher, and queen of the bewildered apostles who watched Jesus return to his Father and who, under his Mother's guidance, began to find their way into the world as his ambassadors and witnesses.

This year, let's focus on Mary who is standing next to us, each of us, the Mother we so long for. I don't know about you, but I feel my mother next to me, even though she can no longer be physically near. It's been said you never really get over the death of your mother, that you still need to feel her near.

This year we need our Mother more than ever. She does not remain in heaven, but comes into the lives of every one of us. Each of us has our own unique connection to her that grows through the years, shifting and changing, deepening and transforming.

If we feel confused, if we feel angry, if we feel lost, if our hearts are anxious, broken, or numb, she holds us in spirit as only she can, as only a Mother knows how to do.

We need our Mother this year, because so many around us need a mother.

A mother's ear.

A mother's embrace that says everything will be alright.

Con't pn page 5

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

**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

Con't from page 4

A mother's patience that loves even as it allows a person the freedom to grow.

A mother's heart that wisely offers the words, "Do whatever he tells you."

The Assumption and the Queenship of Mary invite us all, this year, to be a part of her motherly strength and loving care for the brothers and sisters of her Son.

Soul of Mary, sanctify me.
Heart of Mary, inflame me.
Hands of Mary, support me.
Feet of Mary, direct me.
Immaculate eyes of Mary, look upon me.
Lips of Mary, speak for me.
Sorrows of Mary, strengthen me.
O Mary, hear me.
In the wound of the Heart of Jesus, hide me.
Let me never be separated from thee.
From my enemy defend me.
At the hour of my death call me,
And bid me to come to thine Immaculate Heart;
That thus I may come to the Heart of Jesus,
And there with the saints praise thee
For all eternity. Amen.



Don't miss story time with Fr. Paul & Nellie Tues & Thurs at 7PM
On Facebook Book Live!



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

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)

TO ATTEND A MASS YOU MUST REGISTER THROUGH THE WEBSITES PRIOR TO THE MASS.

PLEASE TRY TO DO THIS BY FRIDAY EVENING.

MASSES ARE BEGINNING TO FILL UP AND YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET A RESERVATION.

FOR ASSISTANCE CALL LORRY @ 508-373-4152 OR CHARLOTTE @ 508-369-3196

The Food Pantry is open twice a month. — 1st Monday from 3:00-5:30 pm and the 3rd Monday from 3:00-4:30 pm.

In the months from March 1 to June 30th, the Pantry has fed more than 400 families due to the enormous generosity of the parishioners of St. John. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP.

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

The next Food Pantry will be Monday, August 31st

Cereal, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, etc. are always great.

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 Maclsaac, Diane Nicolcar, 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, Angela McDevtt & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



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.



As people begin to come back to Mass and those of us who have been attending become more relaxed after having attended Mass for a few weeks, it is important that we continue to follow the guidelines set up to ensure our safety.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDING MASS — YOU MUST REGISTER FOR MASS. USE OUR WEBSITE TO DO SO.

- * In order to limit social gathering and allow time to seat registered parishioners, those attending Mass should arrive no earlier than 30 minutes and no later than 15 minutes before the start of Mass. (Seats will then be offered to those parishioners on 'standby' who arrived without pre-registration.)
- * One entrance: Entry into church will be front right and left side doors (no entry through middle doors) at St. John's, front door at St. Ann's. PLEASE NOTE THAT IN SEATING PEOPLE (ASIDE FROM THOSE WITH PHYSICAL CHALLENGES), **DUE TO SAFETY PROTOCOLS IN PLACE, WE CANNOT GUARANTEE YOU A PARTICULAR SEAT IN THE CHURCH.**
- * All parishioners must wear masks. There are several exceptions, such as: children under the age of two, and people with underlying health conditions. The wearing of masks for children between the ages of 2-5 is based on the parents' discretion.
- * Parishioners should bring their own hand sanitizer if possible. The church will have limited supply.
- * Parishioners must maintain 6 feet of social distance between each other at all times. This does not apply to families that live in the same household.
- * Appropriate social distancing spaces will be designated on the floor/in the aisles. Ushers will provide guidance.
- * Everyone will enter church using front doors and leave church using side doors. Those closest to the front doors will leave first
- * There will be no sign of peace, offertory collection or singing during Mass. Baskets for financial contributions will be available as you leave church.
- * **Special instructions on receiving Holy Communion will be presented during each Mass. (Please be patient; wait for instructions by the ushers — everyone will be served.)**
- * To prevent close contact, the clergy will employ minimal entrancing in or recessing out of the church. **(Please wait for the Ushers to exit after the Priest and Deacon have exited.)**
- * Public gatherings before or after Mass are not permitted outside church.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE:

If you are uneasy about attending such an event, please remember that the Dispensation from Reception of Communion is still in effect. If you are in the "vulnerable/at risk" category, please remember that you need not (nor would I want you to) risk your health and well-being. It is for this reason that I will still be taping Sunday Mass (broadcast on EB-CAM and posted on Facebook/parish websites) and live-streaming Daily Mass on Facebook.

A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

O Most Blessed Virgin Mary. Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of our Son. Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in your motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the veil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of marriage and family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life.

Amen



"Trinity Catholic Academy has just a few opening in many grades from 1-8. Our Pre-School, Pre-K and K are full. We plan to open for full-time, in-person learning in September but we also have a plan in place to switch to remote learning or hybrid learning (a combination) should this become necessary. We successfully completed our curriculum remotely last year and we are ready to begin. Financial Aid is available for all families who qualify. If you would like to enroll your child please call our tuition manager, Melissa Matta at 508 583-6237 or email at mmatta@tcabrockton.org. She will take good care of you.

Great News - Worldwide Marriage Encounter has gone "Virtual"!

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring a virtual marriage experience called **Restore – Rekindle – Renew**. This Enrichment Experience will meet via Zoom for seven sessions on Monday evenings September 14 to October 26 from 7-9:30 PM.

Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or

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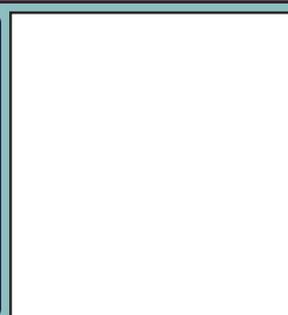
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