



Saturday, 4:00 PM  
 Sunday, 9:30 AM  
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ Collaborative  
 Saint Ann & Saint John  
 September 7, 2025  
 Twenty-third Sunday  
 in Ordinary Time*



Sunday, 8:00 AM  
 Sunday, 11:30 AM

*Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope*

*In every age,  
 LORD, YOU HAVE  
 BEEN OUR REFUGE.*



PSALM 90



*Happy Grandparents Day!*

### **Church of Saint Ann**

**103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater  
 02379  
 508-586-4880 ( 24 hour service)**

**E-Mail: [stanns@comcast.net](mailto:stanns@comcast.net)  
 Website: [stannswb.com](http://stannswb.com)  
 Facebook: St. Ann-WB  
 (Account suspended)**

**Collaborative Office Hours are  
 9:00-3:00 M-TH**

### **Saint John the Evangelist**

**210 Central St., East Bridgewater  
 02333**

**Office – 103 N. Main Street,  
 West Bridgewater, 02379  
 508-378-4207 or 508 586-4880  
 E-MAIL: [stjohnnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnnebridge@comcast.net)  
 Website: [www.stjohnne.org](http://www.stjohnne.org)**

**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB  
 (Account suspended)**



# 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-Thursday

## EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

### **St Ann's**

Saturday 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:30 a.m. & 6:15 p.m.  
Daily Mass  
Thursday & Saturday  
9:00 a.m.

### **St John's**

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Daily Mass:  
Wednesday & Friday  
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 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 ANN'S STAFF**

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

## **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

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



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### **St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Saturday, September 6, 2025**

**4:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative**

#### **Sunday, September 7, 2025**

**9:30 - Willie DeJulio — 3rd Anniversary**

**6:15 - Lisa Maloney — Memorial**

#### **Saturday, September 13, 2025**

**4:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative**

#### **Sunday, September 14, 2025**

**9:30 - Marianne LaCroix — 2nd Anniversary**

**6:15 - Edith Cameron — Memorial**

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### **St. John is a Stewardship Parish**

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#### **Sunday, September 7, 2025**

**8:00 - Mary Hobbs — Birthday Remembrance**

**11:30 - Michael S. Bonner — 5th Anniversary**

#### **Sunday, September 14, 2025**

**8:00 - Parishioners of the T.I. C. Collaborative**

**11:30 - Parishioners of the T.I. C. Collaborative**

#### **Friday, September 19, 2025**

**9:00 - Paula Cannon — 1st Anniversary**

## **WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES**

### **MEMORIAL MASSES**

**Suggested donation \$25+**

### **HOSTS, WINE AND SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR THE**

**WEEK Suggested donation \$55**

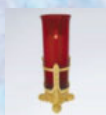
**Including a Memorial Mass, Suggested donation \$80**

### **FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK**

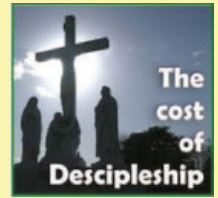
**\$85; or including the mass Suggested donation \$110**

**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,

You may have heard me compare the difference between involvement and commitment in the analogy of a plate of bacon and eggs. The chicken was involved, the pig was committed! The same is true in the realm of discipleship; when one is a disciple, one is not merely involved – one is committed!

Since becoming the “Together In Christ Collaborative” ( of St. John’s and St. Ann’s), we have really started to take a long, hard look at what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. The dedication required goes “above and beyond” what it means to simply “volunteer” for something. When one engages oneself in a life of discipleship, the commitment asked for goes beyond the task at hand; discipleship is more than “getting the job done” – it is engaging in a way of living, a way of life in which God comes first.

Jesus illustrates this point by reminding the listener that God must come first in all that we do, above even family. This can be a hard thing for many, for the commitment to family is important. It cannot be so important, however, that it supersedes the commitment to God. It is from this commitment, this relationship that all other commitments and relationships stem and flow. Jesus further makes the case for committing to discipleship by citing the example of a builder and a king going into battle. Before engaging in either pursuit, one must look at the cost (financially in the first case, availability of soldiers in the second) and ask oneself “is it worth the cost”? If one isn’t ready to “pay the price” (even to the extent of one’s own life), then one must look at whether they are ready to be called a Christian.

This is a “hard line” which Jesus is taking. This is not, as we would say in the seminary, a “warm and fuzzy Jesus”. This is a prophet who is unafraid to speak the hard truth, regardless of whether one wants to hear it or not. This is a messiah who lays out for folks what it takes to be His follower. If one is ready, however, then the rewards are amazing (one might say “out of this world”!)

May we have the courage to both hear and follow Jesus. May we come to know Jesus as Messiah and Lord, calling us to a new way of living. May we strive to follow the teachings of Jesus, and be unafraid to share them with our brothers and sisters. May we put God first in our lives and allow all other relationships be guided by that one. May we trust that God has set the path before us, and may we have the courage to walk that path in faith, hope and love.

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](mailto:Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com)

#### **Registration for Faith Formation 2025-2026**

**Classes start September 21, so please register soon!**

Registration for faith formation 2025-2026 is open. The registration form can be found on the parish websites.

##### Class Schedule:

Grades 1-5 Sundays 8:20-9:20 am St. Ann  
Grades 1-5 Mondays 4:30-5:30 pm St. Ann  
Grades 1-5 Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 pm St. John  
Grades 6-8 Sundays 5-6 pm St. Ann  
Grades 6-8 Wednesdays 4:30-5:30 pm St. John  
Grade 9 Sundays 7:15-8:15 pm St. Ann  
Grade 10 Sundays 7:15-8:15 pm St. Ann  
(Grades 9 and 10 meet every other week)

#### **Faith Formation Parent Meetings**

St. John: Mon. 9/15 7:30 pm  
St. Ann: Wed. 9/17 7:30 pm

Both meetings will take place in the main church

#### **Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries**

September 8 at 6:30 pm at St. John

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, especially those in need of service hours!

We do this most months on the 3rd Monday and we do switch off churches  
So please check the bulletin for the specific location and date.  
Join us any time.

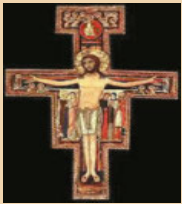
#### **Catechists Wanted!**

As we draw near to the start of a new faith formation year, catechists are wanted to teach in our program. Without this team of volunteers, it would be impossible to have a successful program. Passing on your faith is one of the most rewarding things you can do, so please consider signing up. You will be trained and provided with all the materials. Here is the list of openings at the time this was sent to the publisher. Please see the schedule at left for details of times and locations.

Grade 1 Monday  
Grade 1 Tuesday  
Grade 2 Tuesday  
Grade 3 Tuesday  
Grade 4 Tuesday  
Grade 5 Sunday  
Grade 5 Tuesday  
Grade 6 Wednesday  
Grade 7 Sunday  
Grade 8 Wednesday  
Grade 9  
Grade 10

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Matt Brady. 774-533-2002





## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

One could easily say that St. Francis, before his conversion, loved his life. Loving one's life isn't, in and of itself, a bad thing. If one is living rightly, then they would have no problem loving their life. The problem is, when St. Francis came to conversion he realized that he didn't love his life...he loved the THINGS in his life – the fame, the fortune, the trappings that came with being a knight. But he realized that those were hollow without the one thing he was missing...God.

St. Francis, at the point of his conversion, was already starting to see the emptiness of his life and how it was, as my friend from Texas would say, "all hat, no cattle". In other words, it looked wonderful (if not enviable) on the outside but was empty on the inside. In kneeling before the crucifix at San Damiano, in approaching and kissing the leper, in renouncing his worldly goods, and in taking on a life of poverty, St. Francis strove to have his exterior life match his interior conversion. In becoming "Il Poverello" (the "Little Poor One") St. Francis turned his back on the trappings of this world and embraced a new way of living and a new world view, one with its gaze fixed on heaven.

St. Francis, in taking up the "cross" of poverty, looked to unite heaven and earth. Through the simplicity of his life, St. Francis sought to emulate Christ not just in thought and word but in deed and action. May we have that same courage to "take up our cross" (which, honestly, aren't too hard to find!) and follow the Lord in this life, and be with Him in the fullness of life in the Kingdom.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## Fiscal Updates & News

St. Ann — Offertory 8-24-25	—	\$2,783
Second Collection		\$ 856
Sacramental Donations + Misc.		55
Fr John		\$ 300
Fr. Stephen		\$ 235
		<u>\$4,229</u>

Total		
St John — Offertory 8-24-25	—	\$1,984
Second Collection		\$ 389
Sacramental Donations + Misc.		\$1,078
Fr. Stephen		\$ 570
Total		<u>\$4,021</u>

Discipleship means giving yourself to God above all Others. A little bit of your time would go a long way in helping our Collaborative become vibrant again. Please consider volunteering

If you have the time or talent to help in any way, please let us know. If you have any wishes for different activities or ministries, please let us know.

If anyone in the parishes has the ability to paint the white areas, (not the steeples) of St. John's, help is truly needed.

We are hoping to form a Committee that would be on-going throughout the year with the ultimate purpose of coming up with creative ideas to help raise money for worthy projects; Like Raffles, bake sales, candy sales etc. We need helpers to brainstorm ideas and then to help occasionally with the activities. This way the burden of helping our churches, Fr. John and Fr. Stephen.

Please call the offices if you are interested in helping. Or you can reach out at mass when you see anyone of us. Bring a friend. The more the merrier.

Loving God, we thank you for the gift of our grandparents and all elderly people.

They are a source of wisdom, love, and faith for their families and communities.

Bless them with health, strength, and joy in the days you grant them.

Help them to know they are valued and cherished, even when they feel alone or weak.

Grant them courage to continue sharing their stories, their prayers, and their witness of your goodness.

Inspire us to walk beside them with patience and compassion, to learn from their example, and to care for them tenderly in their later years.

May they continue to be shining lights of hope, and may we always honor and support them.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

National Grandparents Day is always celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day. In 2025, that's Sunday, September 7! While we honor our grandparents daily, take an extra moment to appreciate all the joy and wisdom that grandparents bring to our lives.

## 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, Janet Daly, Kathy Conrad, Joan Ward-Fusco, Kenneth McLaughlin, Nancy McHugh, Jerry Paluch, Brittany Paluch, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Dan, Candice Frabetti, Patrick McCormick, Rob Levesque, Alex & Landon, Susan Coronella, Stephen D'Guisepppe, Anne Bortolotto, Cathy Hadfield, Helen Bomar, Stacy McCarthy, Mark Neumeier, Johnny MacDonald, Merilyn, John Zenus, Peg & Brendan Fitzgerald, Joseph & Anne Campbell, Ronald Menard, Kim, Claire Sullivan, Kathy Hannafin & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

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The more ads, the better the bulletin

**SAINT ANN'S ST. VINCENT de PAUL WILL BE  
HAVING ANOTHER CLOTHING AND BOOK  
DRIVE.**

**SEPTEMBER 13 & 14**

Please do not use the St Vincent de Paul Bin.  
Drop your items off on Sat-



**SAINT ANN'S ST. VINCENT DE PAUL IS  
RAISING MONEY WITH A RAFFLE FOR  
LOTTERY TICKETS.**



**DETAILS ARE IN THE PEWS  
AND AROUND THE CHURCHES.  
DRAWING SEPTEMBER 9TH**



**St Ann — ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
P O Box 474 West Bridgewater MA 02379  
To join please call — TINA ANTHONY  
508-245-5481**

Saint Vincent de Paul (St. Anns Church) is looking for members, to include a secretary. Please reach out to Tina Anthony @ 508-245-5481 for more information

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

**Next meeting: September 9 @ 6:30 p.m.**

West Bridgewater Food Pantry  
457 Rear, South Main Street, Unit #1  
West Bridgewater 02379

**WHEN: Curbside distribution the FIRST and THIRD  
Wednesday each month**

**TIME: 1:45-3:00PM or 5:30-6:00PM**

**Need: jelly, rice pilaf, pancake mix, syrup, pasta sauce,  
baked beans**

**Cash donations also accepted.**

**The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul  
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**

**September 2nd (Tuesday) & 15th**

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

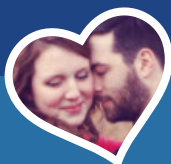
**The Pantry is a little low—needed: any food, especially  
tuna, peanut butter, soups, pasta & pasta sauce, cereal,  
toothpaste, tooth brushes, toilet paper.**

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

## Protecting God's Children Training

All collaborative volunteers and staff, regardless of role, must complete this training at least once. If you are a current volunteer and we do not have a record of you completing this training, you can expect an email from us soon. We are hosting a session at St. Ann on September 14 at 11 am with a session at St. John to be scheduled soon. Other sessions are also available at neighboring parishes. To sign up, please visit <https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/> and click on First Time Registrant. You must sign-up online in advance to attend. For questions, please call or email Matt Brady.

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