



*TOGETHER IN CHRIST  
COLLABORATIVE  
St. Ann & St. John*



*September 16, 2018  
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time*



*Catechetical Sunday*  
**LIVING AS MISSIONARY DISCIPLES**

*September 17*

©LPI

**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](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.stjohneb.org](http://www.stjohneb.org)  
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB

**Saint Ann**  
103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater 02379  
508-586-4880  
E-Mail: [stanns@comcast.net](mailto:stanns@comcast.net)  
Website: [stannswb.com](http://stannswb.com)  
Facebook: St. Ann-WB

# TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

## PASTORAL STAFF

### Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring  
fr\_plrstjohn@comcast.net

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

### Permanent Deacons:

Brendan Fitzgerald  
deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Joe Hopgood  
deaconjoeh@comcast.net

## 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., 4th Sunday of the Mo.

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—6:30, 2nd Sunday of the Mo.

Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.  
9:00 a.m.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the Month at St John's and the 4th Sunday of the month at St. Ann's. Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. – Other times as scheduled in the bulletin or 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.

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St John's - every Tuesday from 7-8 p.m.  
in the Church.

St. Ann's - First Friday of the month following the 9:00 a.m. Mass concluding with Benediction at 10:30 a.m.

**Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office**

## SAINT ANN'S STAFF

**Business Manager:** Jackie Buccigross  
jmbstjohn@gmail.com

**Administrative Assistant:** Arlene Stefano  
stanns@comcast.net

### Director of Religious Education

Charlotte Leines  
stannscdd@comcast.net

508-588-7140

**Director of Music:** Matthew Cunningham  
matthewcunningham@bpsma.org

## SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

**Business Manager:** Jackie Buccigross  
jmbstjohn@gmail.com

**Administrative Assistant:** Deborah Conrad  
stjohnebridge@comcast.net

### Director of Religious Education

Lorraine Hopgood  
repstjohn@gmail.com

508-378-1521

**Director of Music:** Paul Hoffman

p.hoffman@stjohneb.org

**Music Minister:** Erica Wasil

## PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

Deacon Joe Hopgood  
Paul Hoffman  
Denise Robichaud

Ben Williams  
Nancy Maloney  
Margaret Mary Williams

Jackie Buccigross

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

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### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

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Saturday, September 15, 2018

4:00 — Frederick H. Mitchell— 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, September 16, 2018

8:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

10:30 - E. Bridgewater Police

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

9:00 - Maria Chaves & Family — Memorial

Saturday, September 22, 2018

4:00 - Donald Brems — 3rd Anniversary

Sunday, September 23, 2018

8:00 - Kay Aicardi — 1st Anniversary

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Thursday, September 27, 2018

9:00 - Kathleen Ramos — 1st Anniversary

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### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

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Saturday, September 15, 2018

4:00 - Nicholas Pratt — Memorial

Sunday, September 16, 2018

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

10:30 - Souls in Purgatory

Friday, September 21, 2018

9:00 - Dorothy English — Memorial

Saturday, September 22, 2018

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, September 23, 2018

8:30 - Eugene Stull — Month's Mind

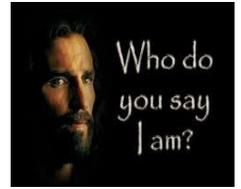
10:30 - Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

9:00 - Joan Mondeau — Memorial

Why do we celebrate Catechetical Sunday?

In 1935, the Vatican published *On the Better Care and Promotion of Catechetical Education*, a document that asks every country to acknowledge the importance of the Church's teaching ministry and to honor those who serve the Christian community as catechists. For the first few years after Catechetical Sunday was established, national catechetical congresses were held in conjunction with the celebration. Beginning in 1971, the USCCB's Department of Education began producing materials to help parishes celebrate the event at the local level. When the Committee on Catechesis, now named the Committee of Evangelization and Catechesis, was named by the Conference as a standing Committee, it continued to publish Catechetical Sunday materials each year. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated the third Sunday in September as Catechetical Sunday.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

St. Francis de Sales was once quoted as saying that “God does not give us a cross that is an ounce too heavy or an inch too long”. This thought gives rise to the notion that God does, indeed, allow for crosses in our life. What St. Francis is alluding to, however, is that they are not unbearable. We realize that when we look at the life of Christ. Christ was able to bear His cross because He knew that it must be done, not only in His life, but in ours as well.

In today's gospel, Jesus looks to His disciples to gauge how His earthly mission is going. When Jesus asks the question about who people say that He is, Jesus is not taking a “popularity poll”. Jesus doesn't really care if people *like* Him or His message, just that they're *getting it*. Jesus wants to know this so as to be able to “fine tune” His message. Jesus then turns to His disciples and asks the same question, but in a much more personal way. When Jesus inquires of the Twelve, “who do *you* say that I am?” (Mk 8:29, italics added), He wants to know if they *get* it, if they understand what He is all about. Jesus needs to know this because He will soon be entrusting His message and mission to them.

This is where we come in. Jesus, in asking the question of His mission to the Twelve, is talking to us in this gospel passage. Jesus is placing the question on our hearts this day so that we can think about where we stand in light of Jesus' mission and message. Do we know who Jesus is? Do we *get it*? This is a vitally important thing, this knowledge of who Jesus is and about what Jesus is trying to teach us.

This is also where the idea of the cross comes in for us. Each one of us has a “cross” to bear, often many of them over the course of a lifetime. They come in all shapes and sizes, unique to the person. We may have corporate experiences, but even then the cross we bear in them in ours and ours alone. We may help one another (much like Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carry His Cross), but the burden of carrying one's cross lays squarely on one's own shoulders. We do have help, though. We have the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as well as the model of Christ Himself.

May we know that the crosses we bear assist us in drawing ever closer in union to Christ. May we trust that these crosses are never “an ounce too heavy or an inch too long”. May we know that our God will be with us on this journey – through our life and into the Kingdom.

A Blessed Week to All,

Fr. Paul

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

## The Next Second Collection September 16, 2018 — Clergy Health and Retirement

Financial Blessings		St. Ann's	Budget	St John's	Budget	
SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS	8/26/18	9/2/18		8/26/18	9/2/18	
OFFERTORY	\$3,346	\$3,922	\$3,680	\$4,269	\$5,898	\$ 5,700
GRAND ANNUAL		\$15,920	\$32,000		\$26,420	\$32,000

### CLERGY HEALTH & RETIREMENT TRUST

This week's second collection supports the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. These priests have given their lives to faithfully serve Christ, the Church, and you. Please be generous to this important collection. For more information, please visit:

[www.clergyfunds.org](http://www.clergyfunds.org)

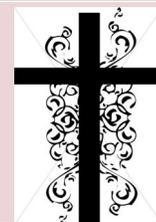
#### Prayer for Catechetical Sunday

Dear Lord Jesus,  
after you rose from the dead  
but before you ascended into heaven,  
you gathered your followers to you.  
You told them to baptize all in your name,  
and that of your Father and the Holy Spirit.  
You told them to make all nations followers of you  
and to teach them obedience to all your words.  
Most important, you said you would be with them  
always, even to the end of the world.  
As we honor our catechists today,  
give them the grace to be ministers of your word  
and your sacraments.  
Give them courage to counsel others to obedience,  
and faith to remember that you are with them always.

#### Blessing for Catechetical Leaders

Good and gracious God,  
your truth is revealed in your word,  
and your love is shown forth in your mighty acts  
as you care for your people,  
guiding them with your providential care.  
Bless those who share the story of our faith.  
May their teaching be filled  
with the power of your Spirit.  
May their lives be an example of love  
poured out in service to our brothers and sisters.  
May the students they teach be receptive  
to the knowledge they impart  
and the faith that is a gift from you.  
Make us all witnesses to the command of your Son  
to teach all nations until he comes again.

Please remember  
Saint Ann's and Saint John's  
When doing your  
Estate Planning!



#### Prayer for Peace

I think we all remember where we were on 9/11. We saw the tower fall and we saw the selfless first responders run toward the falling towers and debris without concern for their well-being, but for that of the fallen men and women. This is the model of patriotism, and why we now celebrate Patriot Day. Let us pray...

O God of selfless love,  
we are a blest people to have a god like you.  
You instill your love for us  
into the hearts of your human creatures.  
Even if those human creatures do not acknowledge you,  
your love for us still shines through.  
We ask your blessing upon all first responders today  
and ask you to protect them and their families.  
Help us love people of all nations, races, and creeds,  
which will bring about the end to wars and terrorism.  
We ask all this in your peace.  
Amen.

#### Patriot Day

Heavenly Father, Creator of All,  
You have created the  
human person as good.  
You have placed us in the  
world as one human family,  
as sisters and brothers.  
We pray today for all victims  
of violence across the world,  
for the healing of their mind and body,  
for their mourning family members,  
for the repose of their souls.  
Jesus, You have told us to  
love our enemies,  
and to pray for those  
who persecute us.  
Give us the strength and  
courage to forgive.  
Remove all lingering desire for revenge.  
Holy Spirit, reveal to us  
the mercy of God.  
Give us the gift of Your peace  
that surpasses all understanding.  
Amen.



## NEWS FROM THE PARISHES (ST. ANN'S)



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

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

### Give your children the gift of faith

#### Religious Education



**Begins at**

**Saint Ann's**

**Sunday, September 16th  
Catechetical Sunday**

**Grade K-6 — Sunday Mornings  
9:30—10:15 AM**

**Grades 7—10 — Sunday Nights  
6:30—7:30 PM**

**Mass — 2nd Sunday of the Month**

**NEED: ONE GRADE 5 TEACHER & AIDE  
ONE GRADE 6 TEACHER & AIDE**



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS®**

**MEAT RAFFLE  
SEPTEMBER 29TH AT 1 PM**



### 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.

**Saint Ann's — October 13th — 9:00—2:00**

#### ALL TOWNS WELCOME

Electronic and Appliance Recycle Day in West Bridgewater  
Location: Saint Ann's, 103 N. Main St. West Bridgewater, MA

Date: Saturday, June 30, 9am - 2 pm (Cash or personal checks accepted) (Rain or Shine).

Bring these items to the parking lot:

Computer towers, Scanners, VCR, Copiers, DVD, Stereo Equipment, Computer Tower, Lighting, Vacuum, Answering Machine, Fax, Speakers, Compact disc., Circuit Boards, Radios, Modems, Word Processor, Fans, Video equipment, Game Console, Xbox, etc., Tape Players, Typewriters (Anything with a plug and more)  
Laptops ...\$5 ea.

Dishwasher, Dryers, Stoves, Microwaves, Ex. Equipment, Lawn Mowers, Snow Blowers, Vacuum, Small Engine Items, etc...\$10 ea.

Glass Monitors, Flat Panel Monitors, etc...\$15 ea.

TV's: 15-35

Air Conditioners....\$15, Dehumidifiers, Refrigerators..\$20-\$30

Scrap/Junk Metal...\$10 car load.

Empty propane tank..\$10

Cables, Keyboards, Car Batteries, Cell Phones...No Fee

Also included: Bicycle Recycle Day, no fee.

Bring your unwanted old or new bicycle and drop it off, it will be reused again. Mountain, Road, BMX Cruiser, Old/New, Kids, etc. Our aim is to keep bikes from being thrown out when they can be reused.

(We can pick up bicycles if you cannot get them there)

Questions: Please contact Dennis Wood 508 277 7513.

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## NEWS FOR THE PARISHES (St. John)

### Please keep the following in your prayers:

Karen DeBenedictis, Carter Cullen, Theresa Capachione, Phyllis MacDonald, Ginger & John Margesion, Harry Hewins, Erica O'Sullivan, Bill O'Connell, Florence Lacey, Edie Lincoln, Danny Nichols, Kathy Turke, Christopher MacDonald, Martha Bundeff, Kim LeMoine, Christine Lombardi, Bill Estes, Rita Flaherty, Donald Rush, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Joan Fusco, Pat Zemeitus, JoAnn Micalizzi, Barbara Worswick, Kay Levoshko, Bob Hill, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Jim Cullen, Mary Jane Coakley, Grace Cosgrove, Dave Avery, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Mary Oslin, Patricia Baldassarre, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Mary Lou Boyle, Felicia Hernandez, Scott Dolan, Linda, Frank Conroy & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO CARMEN PEARSON FOR ALL HER EFFORTS TO MAKE THIS YEAR'S (AND ALL THE PAST PICNICS) A SUCCESS.

SHE BEGINS WORKING ON THIS MONTHS IN ADVANCE AND RECRUITS AN AMAZING CREW OF PEOPLE WHO CARRY OUT HER VISIONS, ENSURING WE ALL HAVE A GOOD TIME.

We are lucky to have such dedicated parishioners!

### Successful Parish Picnic

A message from Carmen Pearson-Coordinator

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped make our parish picnic a success. Donations were received from Roche Bros., Stop & Shop, Trucchi's, Lipinski Farm, Coca Cola and The Commercial Club. A special thank you to: Bill Dowling for the use of his grill and to Lisa and Jim Motos for transporting the grill, to Loretta Connelly in obtaining the coolers of ice, all the grillers, all those who helped in preparing the foods, John Tibbets for the music enjoyed by all, Charlene Tibbets who ran the 50/50 raffle, Brenda Armand for her Count-How-Many-in-the Jar Contest, and the many donations of the delicious desserts and to Kerri, Cody & Dakota

### BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

The Blood Pressure Clinic will continue this year after the 4 PM Mass on the 4th Saturday of the Month.

September 29	March 23
October 27	April 27
November 24	May 25
December 22	June 22
January 26	
February 23	

## IMPORTANT DATES

Rosary after daily Masses.

Divine Mercy every Thursday after daily mass.

Adoration — Every Tuesday—7:00—8:00 PM

### Join Our Choirs!

Welcoming new members for children's, adult and teen choirs! Weekly, seasonal, and Teen Mass opportunities. No audition required. Instrumentalists also welcome! Children must have received First Holy Communion in order to participate. Contact Paul Hoffman, Saint John's Music Director, for more information and schedule.

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

In today's Gospel Jesus says "If a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross, and follow in my steps." The cross of Jesus and the crosses of his members can evangelize us: the sick, who bear illness with courage; the grieving, who hope against hope; the dying, who clearly trust in the resurrection; the suffering of our poor brothers and sisters who are hungry and homeless, but who still trust in God's love.

Is there a neighbor or friend of yours who is in temporary need because of a loss of a job or an illness? Please leave a message for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul...we want to help!

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

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



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION  
HAS BEGUN — DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST  
MINUTE

Forms can be obtained on-line at  
[www.stjohned@comcast.net](http://www.stjohned@comcast.net)  
Or in the Religious Ed Office  
508-378-1521

Classes begin the week after Columbus Day.  
October 9—14th

**Summary of a homily given by Deacon Greg Kandra adapted by me. Deacon Brendan**

In the light of all the publicity the church leaders have received and the feelings of our Catholic faithful, it is safe to say many people are outraged. They are angry. They feel betrayed. But there is something else they feel. They feel hunger. They are hungry for justice; hungry for accountability; hungry for an explanation. Some are hungry for vengeance. Nearly all are hungry for hope. A few feel despair. Some have asked themselves why they even remain Catholic. It's a good question. How would you answer why you remain Catholic?

I am a Catholic because of Bishops like Archbishop Oscar Romero, who died while saying Mass in El Salvador. I am a Catholic because of men like Father Jacques Hamel, the elderly French priest whose throat was slit by jihadists in his village church. I am a Catholic because of priests like Father Walter Ciszek, who risked his life to say Mass in a Soviet prison with just a crumb of bread and a few drops of wine.

I am a Catholic because of sisters like Saint Teresa of Calcutta, who heard Christ calling to her among the poor, begging, "I thirst", and she could not turn them down. I am a Catholic because this church is filled with people of courage and conviction. I am a Catholic because these and so many others bear witness to the ongoing miracle of God's love and mercy – and the greatest ongoing miracle of all, the Eucharist. I am a Catholic because these words are engraved in my heart: "Do this in memory of me." And I offer my hand at every Mass as an unworthy cradle to hold the Body of Christ, and I am awed and humbled and ashamed – and I am, by the God's grace, transformed.

I am a Catholic because I believe. I believe in those words we pray together when we are at Mass- the Creed, the testament of faith countless men, women and children who have given their lives for. As we acclaim during the Rite of Baptism: "This is our faith. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus, Our Lord." I am a Catholic because I believe that we can be better than what we are – and that no priest, bishop or cardinal can take that away.

I am a Catholic because the horrible sins of a few cannot erase the generous, staggeringly beautiful love of so many. It has been this way from Day One, when Christ was executed between two criminals while those He loved abandoned him, denied him, or betrayed him. I am a Catholic because so many who love the Lord have not abandoned him or betrayed him.

Know this: Most shepherds in our Church do not run at the sign of danger. They are not disloyal or cowardly. They stay with us. They support us. They help us. And at this moment, they need us to help them. Pray for them. Walk with them. Hope with them.

We live in treacherous, traitorous times. Things may get worse before they get better. But they will get better. They will. I am reminded of the words of the psalmist. "The hand of the Lord feeds us. He answers all our needs." The One who fed the multitude on a hillside, feeds us still, here and now. The God who preserves even the smallest fragments, seeing that nothing goes to waste, will nourish us in our need. Know that. Trust that. Believe that.

Knowing that, trusting that, believing that, I cannot walk away. I am a Catholic. Despite everything; because of everything I am a Catholic. This is my faith. I am proud to profess it in Christ Jesus, my Lord.