



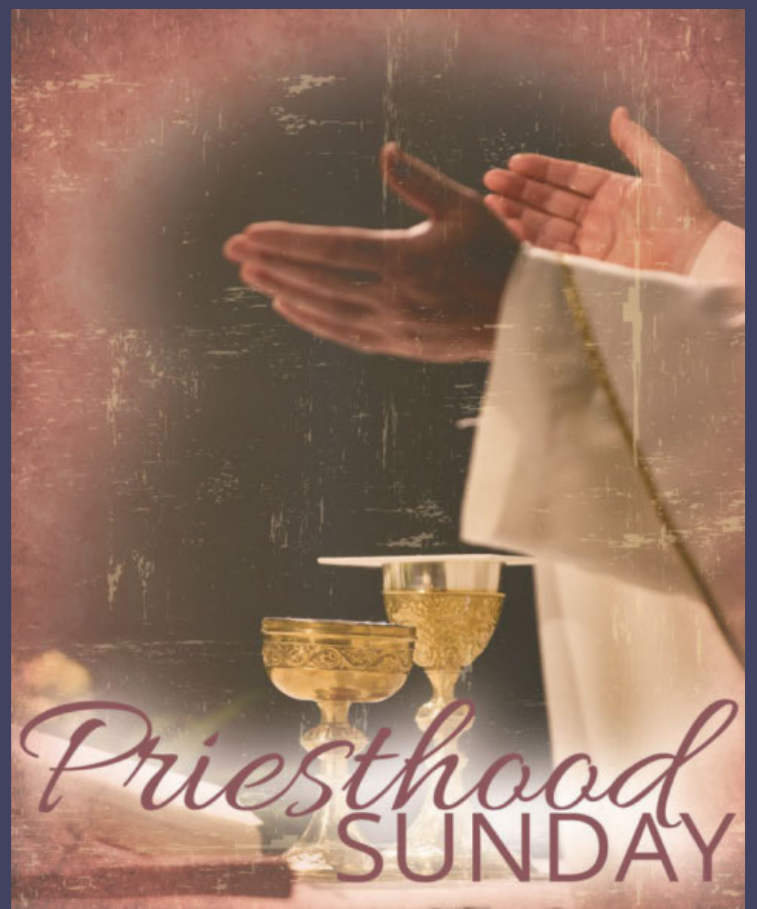
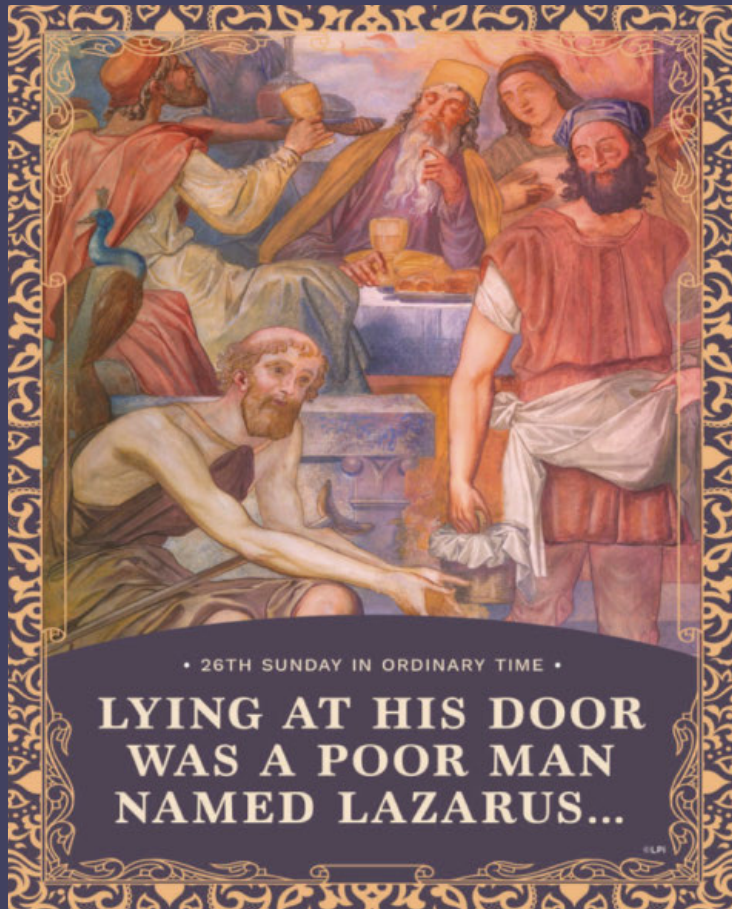
Saturday, 4:00 PM
 Sunday, 9:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 September 28, 2025
 The 26th Sunday
 In Ordinary Time*



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

Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope



Church of Saint Ann

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

**E-Mail: stanns@comcast.net
 Website: 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
 Website: www.stjohnnebridge.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

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

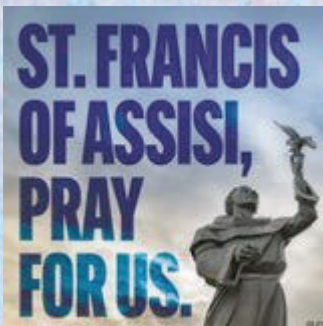
Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

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



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, September 27, 2025

4:00 - Alexis Doucette — 21st Birthday Remem.

Sunday, September 28, 2025

9:30 - Joan Mondeau — 9th Anniversary

6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

Saturday, October 4, 2025

4:00 - Brian Landolfi — Birthday Remembrance

Sunday, October 5, 2025

9:30 - James Emmons — Memorial

6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, September 28, 2025

8:00 - Lena & Leonard Shepard — Memorial

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

Sunday, October 5, 2025

8:00 - Kendra Frabetti — Birthday Remembrance

11:30 - 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
Suggested donation \$55

Including a Memorial Mass, Suggested donation \$80

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK
\$95; or including the mass Suggested donation \$120

HOSTS, WINE & SANCTUARY LAMPS,
FLOWERS \$140 including the MASS, is a
Suggested donation of \$175

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



NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

*Faith is the journey
from believing in God
to trusting God.*

My Dear Friends in Christ,

As I was reflecting on today's gospel, I couldn't help but think of "A Christmas Carol", by Charles Dickens. Truly, I was, and I'll be happy to explain why (even though Christmas is months away). In "A Christmas Carol", Scrooge is visited by the Three Ghosts (Christmas Past, Christmas Present, and Christmas Future); in today's gospel, the "rich man" featured in the parable presented by Jesus begs Abraham to call forth someone who has risen from the dead to visit his brothers so that their fate does not "mirror" his. This is where the stories "part company", for a bit. Abraham realizes that their minds won't be changed even if someone who has risen from the dead visits them. This is primarily because they (the brothers) have Moses and the prophets to "steer them in the right direction" - they shouldn't need someone to rise from the dead to "get it". We know, from the benefit of two thousand years of salvation history, that God did send someone risen from the dead (Jesus, in His post-resurrection encounters with the disciples) to help His followers "get it". Did they need this? Some did, some didn't. God realized, however, that something "big" had to happen for people to be convinced of Jesus' claim that He was the Son of God.

What does/did/will (depending on where we are on our journey of faith) it take for us to "get it"? Was reading the Old Testament, specifically the books of the prophets, enough for us? Was reading the New Testament, specifically the Gospels, enough for us? Were the resurrection (and post-resurrection) accounts enough for us? Are we *still* not convinced that God has a plan for us? Each one of us must answer these questions for ourselves, for our faith journeys are just that - ours; no one else can live them for us. We can (and should) be taught dogmas and doctrines, which provide an important "base" from which our beliefs take root and blossom into action. Eventually, however, if our faith is to be a true and lasting faith which bears fruit, we must come to believe *on our own*, putting our faith into action.

Lazarus was given a share in the Kingdom because God has a special place in His heart (the Church would call it a "preferential option") for the poor. We must have a similar place in our heart for the poor, including not only the physically poor, but the spiritually impoverished (who may actually be more prevalent in our community). The "rich man" would have had a similar place in God's Kingdom if he realized how gifted he was, and took the time to share those gifts. God has gifted us similarly. We would do well to take the time - before it is too late - to assess our own "giftedness", and share these gifts of "time, talent and treasure" with our immediate and biological family, our friends, our family in faith here in the Together In Christ Collaborative, our local communities, our nation and our world.

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

Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

October 13 at 6:30 pm at St. Ann

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 every month on the 3rd Monday so please join us any time. We do switch off churches, so check the bulletin for the location.

October Family Mass

Our first Family Mass is October 5 at the 9:30 Mass at St. Ann. Once a month we invite the children of our collaborative to be part of Mass. Fr. Paul invites them to join him around the altar for the homily and there is always snacks afterwards at the back of the church. This year we are inviting the faith formation classes to sponsor a Mass and be the readers/gift bearers and to be the ones who bring the snacks. If there is no sponsor, we will invite volunteers to be readers and gift bearers. Please contact Matt Brady with questions.

PLEASE KEEP NOVEMBER 16TH OPEN!

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE
WILL BE PRESENTING AN AFTERNOON OF
FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT

THE SINGING TROOPER AND HIS
PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED WIFE, MARY
WILL PERFORM FOR US.

IN THE AFTERNOON

DETAILS TO FOLLOW

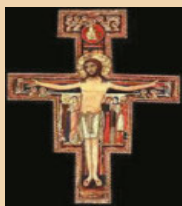


Trunk or Treat

Friday October 24th 6-7:30 pm St. John parking lot

Come Trick or Treat with us! We will have cars decorated for the occasion set up in the front parking lot ready to hand out candy and other fun Halloween treats. There will be a contest for the best decorated car.

We do need people/groups to decorate their car and hand out candy. If you would like to participate, please contact Matt Brady. There is a \$10 fee to do so - half goes to the Collaborative and half goes to the



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

On Oct. 4, Roman Catholics celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Italian deacon who brought renewal to the Church through his decision to follow Jesus' words as literally as possible. In a January 2010 general audience, Pope Benedict XVI recalled this "giant of holiness" as a "great saint and a joyful man," who taught the Church that "the secret of true happiness" is "to become saints, close to God." The future Saint Francis was born on an uncertain date in the early 1180s, one of the several children born to the wealthy merchant Pietro Bernardone and his wife Pica. He originally received the name Giovanni (or John), but became known as Francesco (or Francis) by his father's choice.

Unlike many medieval saints, St. Francis was neither studious nor pious in his youth. His father's wealth gave him access to a lively social life among the upper classes, where he was known for his flashy clothes and his readiness to burst into song. Later a patron of peacemakers, he aspired to great military feats in his youth and fought in a war with a rival Italian city-state. A period of imprisonment during that conflict turned his mind toward more serious thoughts, as did a recurring dream that suggested his true "army" was not of this world. He returned to Assisi due to illness in 1205, and there began to consider a life of voluntary poverty.

Three major incidents confirmed Francis in this path. In Assisi, he overcame his fear of disease to kiss the hand of a leper. Afterward, he made a pilgrimage to Rome, where he deposited his money at Saint Peter's tomb and exchanged clothes with a beggar. Soon after he returned home, Francis heard Christ tell him in a vision: "Go, Francis, and repair my house, which as you see is falling into ruin." Francis began to use his father's wealth to restore churches. This led to a public quarrel in which the cloth-merchant's son removed his clothing and declared that he had no father except God. He regarded himself as the husband of "Lady Poverty," and resolved to serve Christ as "a herald of the Great King."

During the year 1208, the "herald" received the inspiration that would give rise to the Franciscan movement. At Mass one morning, he heard the Gospel reading in which Christ instructed the apostles to go forth without money, shoes, or extra clothing. This way of life soon became a papally-approved rule, which would attract huge number of followers within Francis' own lifetime. Through his imitation of Christ, Francis also shared in the Lord's sufferings. He miraculously received Christ's wounds, the stigmata, in his own flesh during September of 1224. His health collapsed over the next two years, a "living sacrifice" made during two decades of missionary preaching and penance. St. Francis of Assisi died on Oct. 3, 1226. Pope Gregory IX, his friend and devotee, canonized him in 1228. May we follow your Son by walking in the footsteps of Francis of Assisi and by imitating his joyful love.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

Fiscal Updates & News

St. Ann — Offertory 8-24-25	—	\$2,293
Second Collection		\$ 669
Sacramental Donations + Misc.		\$ 175
		<u>\$3,137</u>

Total		
St John — Offertory 8-24-25	—	\$2,069
Second Collection		\$ 569
Sacramental Donations + Misc.		\$ 903
Total		<u>\$3,541</u>

Up-coming expenses: Ever Source is getting more and more expensive, so Kevin has a budget program going now and we will owe approx. \$4000 for the next bill. The missals' bill for next year is coming up for \$3200 and the Religious Education Books bill is due for \$2300.

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.

We asked; and we received. A very generous parishioner has stepped up to cover the costs of the painter to paint St. John's doors & windows with the exception of the stained glass windows because they need to be reglazed. The company we are using is Mike Connolly Painting at 508-728-2285. Thank you to Mike and to our generous Parishioners.

Please call the offices if you are interested in helping in anyway.

Is any one handy making wooden creations? We are in need of wood framed screens to put in the windows of St. John's to keep out the bees. The screens can be placed in the windows and the windows lowered to keep them in place. Please call 508-378-4207

A special thank you to Janet DiFalco and Alice Hooper for making the grounds of St. John look so pretty with the beautiful flowers they planted. What a difference!



OCTOBER 4TH

12:00 NOON

**SAINT JOHN'S
PARKING LOT**

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, Michael Pigeon & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

We use the Farley Florist in town to supply the flowers donated in a loved ones name. They have held off on increasing the charge to us for sometime now. However, they can no longer do so. They are only increasing the charge by \$10. Unfortunately, we have to pass that cost on to our parishioners. Farley's and we are very sorry for the increase but it is necessary. We hope that you will understand. If you have already paid for flowers, there is no increase.



**The winner of the
Saint Vincent de Paul
Raffle**

**CONGRATULATIONS
to
CHRIS THURSTON**

**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: October 14th @ 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

October 6 & 20

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

BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Snow Days and Second Chances

Yesterday morning, my kids were playing outside in the snow, and I decided to take advantage of the quiet house to make a few important phone calls.

Fool. I forgot Murphy's Law of Parenting, which dictates that as soon as you dial a phone number, a bomb of irritation and neediness explodes within the heart of your loudest child. Sure enough, as soon as the person on the other end of the line picked up, my son was at the back door, whimpering loudly. Horror of horrors, he had snow in his boot.

I gestured to the phone. He whimpered more loudly. I mouthed and mimed threats. He threw his boot at me. I gave him The Look. He started to scream.

Well, needless to say, the phone call didn't go well, and my son's snow day was cut short. He begged for a second chance, but I explained to him that life doesn't always give you second chances. The phone call was over. Ruined. I couldn't get it back.

But that's when I remembered that moms have a superpower: creating second chances where none had existed before. So I told him that if he could be quiet while I made the rest of my calls, he could go back outside.

My son is young right now. I give him lots of second chances because second chances help him learn. Second chances are the training wheels of life.

I dread the day when the training wheels come off, and I can't save him from his bad decisions. I think every parent does.

The parable of the rich man and Lazarus highlights a reality that we often wish to ignore: at some point, we will run out of chances, and it's not because God tires of giving them to us. It's because a truly endless supply of chances would strip us of our free will. It would deny us the right of being taken at our word — and God respects us too much to do that.

My son saved his snow day. It's a good reminder: take the second (and third and fourth) chance. Don't wait for the next one.

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