



*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
October 23, 2022*

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



**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 9-3 M-F
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

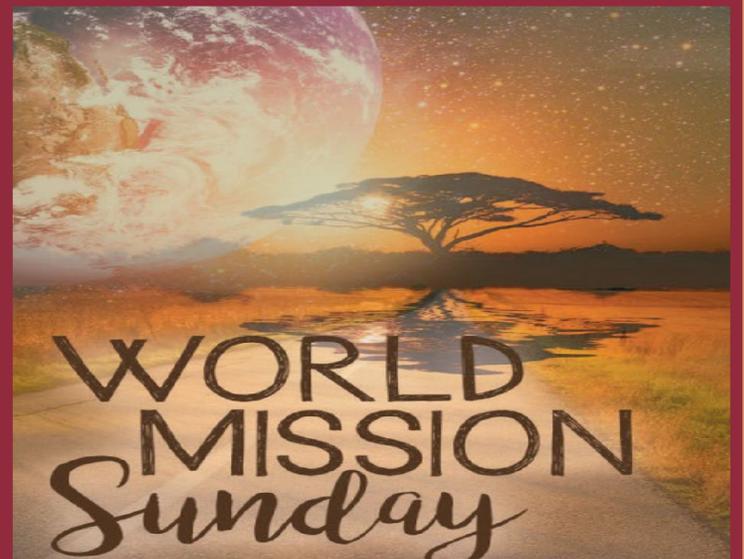
Website: www.stjohneb.org

**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring**

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.'" - Lk 18:13

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



TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Priests In Residence

Fr. Peter Francis
Fr. Michael Diochi

Permanent Deacons:

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

Christopher Connelly
cconnelly@rcab.org

The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 3PM Monday-Friday

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Daily Mass, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 a.m.
In the Church

St Ann's
Sunday: 7:30 a.m. & 11:30 &
6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass: Thurs & Sat.
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 private and 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
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
774-533-2002

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, October 23, 2022

7:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

11:30 - Anyone feeling despair

6:15 - Parishioners of Saint Ann & Saint John

Sunday, October 30, 2022

7:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

11:30 - Paul Gigliotti — 2nd Anniversary

6:15 - Parishioners of St. Ann & St. John

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, October 22, 2022

4:00 - Patricia McCarthy — 1st Anniversary

Sunday October 23, 2022

9:30 — Conrad, McHugh, Walsh, Miller Family Memorial

Saturday, October 29, 2022

4:00 — Lois DeCosta — 1st Anniversary & Bonnie DeCosta — 28th Anniversary

Sunday, October 30, 2022

9:30 - John J. McHugh, Jr. — 28th Anniversary

FLOWERS THIS WEEK ARE OFFERED
IN MEMORY OF:

THE CONRAD, MCHUGH, WALSH & MILLER FAMILY



Choir Is Back!

One who sings prays twice. If you would like to pray twice by singing in the Together in Christ Collaborative Choir, please plan to attend choir rehearsal on Thursdays at 7:00 PM at Saint John's.



Please email Rich, our music director at richcesarini@gmail.com in advance so that he will have enough copies of music for everyone.

NEEDED:

**EXTRA ORDINARY EUCHARIST
MINISTERS TO DELIVER THE EUCHARIST TO
PARISIONERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND.**

PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY IF YOU CAN ASSIST.

My Dear Friends in Christ,



Growing up in a family of five, one of the “pressing questions” we often had for my mother centered on who the favorite was. There were times, growing up, that it seemed that one of us would be favored over the others (if only for that moment) which added “fuel to the fire”, as it were. When we pushed her to answer the question, her answer was always the same: “I love you all the same...I just love you differently”. While this never seemed to satisfy me/us, I/we have come to realize what that answer meant. There were different times in our lives when we, more than the other siblings, needed her attention – and we got it, even if only for that one instance. At other times, other siblings got the attention. My mother seemed to know, instinctively, when that was.

The same can be said of our relationship with God. While it has been said that “God doesn’t play favorites”, there are times when God puts His attention towards those in need, especially those who approach with humility. This is the case with the tax collector in today’s gospel. Unlike the Pharisee, who “blows his own horn” ad nauseam, the tax collector approaches God with such humility that he can’t even bring himself to raise his eyes heavenward. All he does, in approaching the Almighty, is offer what has become known as “The Sinner’s Prayer”: “O God, be merciful to me a sinner” (Lk 18:13). This approach would be well imitated by me and you, for it is in humility that we are to reach out to God. In return, God casts His gaze on us and with the love of a parent who knows our needs (even before we do), gives us what we need to grow in faith, hope and love.

St. Paul speaks to this reality, of realizing that everything we have from God is a gift. Paul speaks in terms of being awarded a “crown of righteousness” (2 Tim 4:8) for having “kept the faith” (2 Tim 4:7). For his part, Paul allows himself to be “poured out like a libation” (2 Tim 4:6); in other words, Paul allows God to work through him to achieve the goal of spreading the gospel. Paul, through conversion, has come to see God as a “just judge” (2 Tim 4:8). He realizes that he will be judged, but it will be done so on how he has lived his life overall, not just the times before his conversion. Each one of us, for our part, must come to a point of conversion. If we are there, let us keep our hearts focused on God and Kingdom; if we are not there, let us not waste a moment to “put our house in order”.

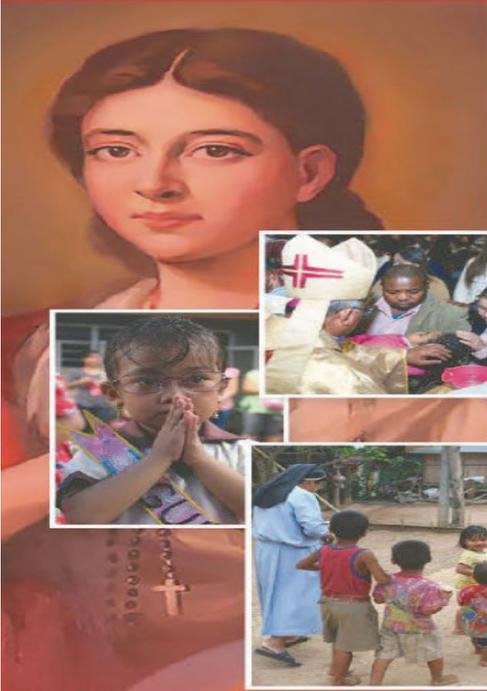
May we know God’s love for us. May we know that God is at work in our lives, bringing us to conversion and helping us to deepen our relationship with Him. May we never fail to approach God for those things we need, but let us do so with humility. May we always be open to receiving those gifts from God that help us grow in faith, hope and love.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



World Mission Sunday **2022**



Blessed Pauline Jaricot, who 200 years ago founded the first of the four Pontifical Mission Societies, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

ONE SUNDAY FOR THE WHOLE WORLD

EVERY YEAR, SOMETHING SPECIAL HAPPENS on the next-to-last Sunday of October. **WORLD MISSION SUNDAY** joins all Catholics of the world into one community of faith. At Mass that Sunday, we recommit ourselves to our common vocation, through Baptism to be missionaries, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection for the **Society for the Propagation of the Faith**.

In 1926, Pope Pius XI instituted World Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide World Mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927.

Pope Francis' message for World Mission Sunday this year reflects on the theme: "You shall be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). He reminds us that the Church is missionary in nature and that we are called at Baptism to share in this mission together. The Holy Father exclaims, "Would that all of us in the Church were what we already are by virtue of baptism: prophets, witnesses, missionaries of the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to the ends of the earth!"

On World Mission Sunday, we join our Holy Father in supporting his missions. As we pray and respond here at home, we share in those celebrations taking place in every parish and school throughout the world. Together, through our prayers and financial support, we bring the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions.

In a world where so much divides us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism, as it offers each one of us an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in more than **1,100 mission dioceses**.

WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS FOR YOUR MISSION SOLIDARITY!



The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
a Pontifical Mission Society

CORI FORMS

CORI FORMS ARE DUE OCTOBER 30TH

The Cori forms can be passed in and verified by Matt Brady or Debbie Conrad at the Rectory Office Monday—Friday between the hours of 9:00—3:00 PM. Or Fr. Paul or Rich Cesarini can verify the forms.

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE AND DON'T MAKE US CHASE THEM

All forms are due in office by October 30th.



The money for the missals has been raised.

Thank you for being so generous!!!!

THE SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK IS FOR:

WORLD MISSIONS



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

"[Saint] Francis Anthony [Fasani] considered humility the foundation of all Franciscan virtue. For, he said: "The Virgin Mary is the door to paradise. He alone who is not arrogant or puffed up is able to enter through this door, for it is a narrow and humble one." Francis Anthony indeed practiced this humility: "As superior, after he had reprimanded and corrected his confreres in the Conventual chapter, he often knelt before them with his cord around his neck, and very humbly begged their pardon if he had saddened them and had not always edified them by his manner of acting." "From the official processes of his Beatification we know that praise was a veritable torment to Blessed Francis Anthony; indeed, he showed himself happy and filled with joy when he heard unfavorable remarks about himself which the mediocre and lukewarm are accustomed to make against the fervent." Interiorly humble himself, he loved those occupations which foster humility. When he was Guardian and Minister Provincial, he served the sick and prepared the rooms for visitors. He used to sweep the church as well as the sacristy and choir; he also rang the bells and was happy in performing the duties of the simple lay brothers."

In Philippians 2: 5-11, we find a definition of humility, "Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." In his acclamation, "You are humility," St. Francis of Assisi establishes the theological foundation of minority. Francis chose humility as the chief characteristic of his brotherhood because humility characterizes the self-revelation of God: Though he [Christ Jesus] was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness (Phil 2:6-7). Francis saw with great spiritual clarity that the Feast of the Annunciation is not primarily about the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Incarnation is not primarily about Jesus, but both celebrate the humble love of God our Father: The most high Father made known from heaven through his holy angel Gabriel this Word of the Father...in the womb of the holy and glorious Virgin Mary, from whose womb he received the flesh of our humanity and frailty. (See "That excessive love: A reflection on Francis' experience of the Crucified" (2.1) by Father John Corriveau, OFM Cap. (CIOFS))

Jean Rigault, OFM, in his "Life of St. Anthony" describes the humility of the saint: "Humility, the guardian and the perfection of every virtue, so completely possessed the Man of God that even among the Friars Minor he wished to appear the most contemptible, the vilest and the lowest of all. Knowing that he who carries the treasure openly on public ways lays himself open to being robbed, he concealed with the greatest care the virtues and gifts which God has granted him. Although filled with the spirit of Wisdom, he kept his learning so completely hidden from the Friars that they could perceive no sign of it save in a few rare and very short lectures given by him. Since 'knowledge puffed up' too often, he would rather pass among men as ignorant and uncultured than be inflated with pride or carried away by vainglory. But humility is proved by humble actions; and no one should account himself humble who tries to avoid humble employments. Therefore, Blessed Anthony as the humblest of men sought out the humblest occupations." Humility is a certain knowledge where we stand, and to God we are but a speck of dust on the face of this earth.... and yet, and that's the beauty of Our Lord God ... he loves us immensely. He knows each one of us through and through. He knew us even before we were conceived by our parents, even before we were just a fleeting thought in their minds. The evil that is in the world today, the wars, the terror, that is not His doing... God wishes for us only peace and perfect joy. (See Francis of Assisi - Perfect Joy) The evil that prevails in the world today is our responsibility, it is Original Sin to which we agree again and again. The whole human race is collectively responsible for eating from the apple, for lacking the humility to recognize the Truth and the Light, Jesus Christ, as the Son of the Living God. Humility is that virtue that opposes Pride.

It is not surprising that when we search on the word "Pride," we get 254 MILLION responses. Pride is one of the seven deadly sins. The fallen angel, Lucifer, is known for his pride... so Satan is very much involved in seeding weak souls with pride. In the Name of Jesus, do not listen to the devil. It is very much OK to have self-esteem (some people call that pride, too), but know always that without God, we are nothing. With God, we are very strong and convincing, but without Him at our side, we are nothing at all. "Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine." (an old prayer). In Ecclesiastes 2:10-11, "Nothing that my eyes desired did I deny them, nor did I deprive myself of any joy, but my heart rejoiced in the fruit of all my toil. This was my share for all my toil. But when I turned to all the works that my hands had wrought, and to the toil at which I had taken such pains, behold! all was vanity and a chase after wind, with nothing gained under the sun." So don't chase after glory. If you understand humility you know that we are servants, slaves. That doesn't mean that we should be a 'doormat' as a deacon noted to me some time ago, to let everyone walk over you. If you allow that to happen, no one would listen to you. But on the other hand, Our Lord helps us to be forceful in the spoken word or in writing when we are serving Him. We are God's servant but not his slave, because He has delivered us from the slavery of sin by His Cross. Still, we have an ongoing responsibility to live each day as God's servant, in humility and obedience.

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

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, Kay Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Kathy Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Joan Thompson, Kenneth McLaughlin, Debbie & Fred Sprague, Baby Ryan, Joe Pigeon, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda, Gerry Penney. Dottie & Leo Slack & 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.



St VINCENT DE PAUL
PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095 or jchbaker@msn.com
P O Box 474
West Bridgewater MA 02379

Saint Ann's Church is continuing to collect food items for the West Bridgewater Food Pantry. Items can be left in church on the shelves to the right as you come in the front door.

**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.**

Pantry days will be the **FIRST MONDAY** of the month, except for holidays, from **3 pm to 5:30 pm.**, and the **THIRD MONDAY from 3 pm to 4:30 pm.**, except for holidays. Please check the schedule.

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
(508) 510-5274.

THE FOOD PANTRY

Monday, October 3, 2022
Monday, October 17, 2022

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

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

Thank you for your continued generosity.



BINGO IS IN FULL SWING

Thursdays — St Ann's Bingo
Doors open at 4 PM
Bingo starts 6:30 SHARP

Saturdays — Southeast Cyclone's Bingo
Doors open at 4 PM
Bingo starts at 6 PM SHARP

WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

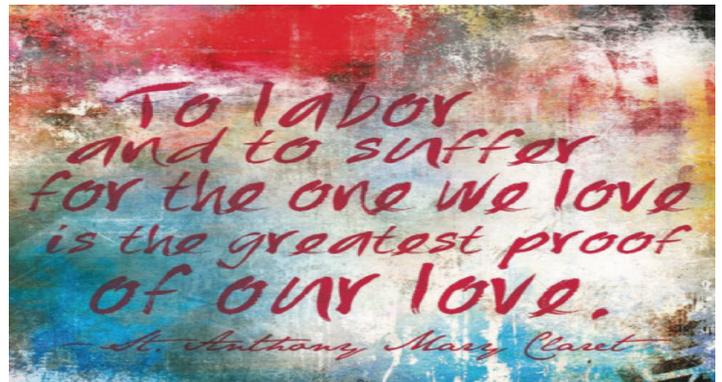


MEMORIAL MASSES
Suggested donation \$25+

**HOSTS, WINE AND SACTUARY LAMPS FOR THE
WEEK — \$30+**



**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE
WEEK**
\$75+





THE DEACON'S COLUMN

In What Do You Believe?

What does it mean to say, "I believe?" I believe in lots of things but what are the things that define me, guide me, and bind me as a human being in relationship with others?

I believe that the earth is a sphere and orbits the sun making approximately one revolution every 365 days. I believe that if you leave a cup of water outside when the outdoor temperature is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit, it will freeze. I believe that if I drop a penny and a softball at the same time from the same height, they will both fall at the same rate and land on the ground at the same time. These are scientific truths that are knowable as true through observation, testing, and analysis. Yet, there are truths that are not discovered by the application of the scientific method but only through faith.

I believe in a God who reveals Godself as a Trinity of Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I do not believe in three divine beings but a God who IS a Trinity of Persons. My belief in these things is not rooted in science or the application of the scientific method. Some truths require a different means that allows us to say, "I believe." The different means that allows us to accept certain truths beyond the reach of the scientific method is faith. Yet, there can only be one truth because God is One. Science cannot contradict God nor does the belief in God go against science. Though some propose science and faith are always at odds with each other, still others know that science and faith are two means by which we come to know truth.

Why does this matter? Though we believe in the truths that reason and science discover to be true, we place our hope in eternal life and happiness in a Trinity of Divine Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is good to know the world around us and the laws of physics that govern the natural world—the natural world doesn't "know" or "care" for us or for our well-being.

When we profess our faith and say, "I believe" we are placing our trust in God who reveals himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. By saying, "I believe" in "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church" we are placing our trust in God's promise that he has given the Church the sacramental graces that not only forgives sins but enables us to be co-heirs to eternal life.

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