



*SAINTE JOHN*

***Together in Christ  
Collaborative***

***The Second Sunday  
of Advent***

*December 5, 2021*



*SAINTE ANN*

**SECOND SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT**

**A VOICE OF ONE CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT:**

**"PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD,**

**MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.**

**EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED**

**AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW."**

—LUKE 3:4-5

**Church of 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**

**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](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)**

**Website: [www.stjohneb.org](http://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

### 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 - 4PM Monday -Thursday**

## EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

### St John's

**Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.**

**Sunday: 10:30 a.m.**

**Outdoor Mass – 6 p.m.\***

**Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday**  
**9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice**  
**In the Chapel**

### St Ann's

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.**

**Sunday: 8:30 a.m.**

**Outdoor Mass – 6 p.m.\***

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

**\*Aleternating between the two worship**  
**sites, refer to website for details.**

## 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 p.m. These baptisms are private and can accommodate 30 or so people. Social distancing and masks are required. Alternately you may opt for celebrating the Baptism at the 6 PM Outdoor Mass.

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  
508-586-4880

## SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

**Administrative Assistant:** Deborah Conrad  
stjohnebridge@comcast.net  
508-378-4207  
**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

**Director of Ministries:** Nancy Goggin  
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com  
617-639-4215

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

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### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, December 4, 2021**

**4:00—Joseph W. Guarino — 1st Anniversary**

**Sunday, December 5, 2021**

**8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann**

**6:15 - For those who have no one to pray for them**

**Saturday, December 11, 2021**

**4:00 - Christiano Victoria — 14th Anniversary**

**Sunday December 12, 2021**

**8:30 - Charles Matthews — 23rd Anniversary**

**6:15 For those who have no one to pray for them**

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### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, December 4, 2021**

**5:30 - Kathleen Climo — 11th Anniversary**

**Fred Climo — 4th Anniversary**

**Sunday, December 5, 2021**

**10:30 - Valerie Teague — 5th Anniversary**

**Saturday, December 11, 2021**

**5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John**

**Sunday, December 12, 2021**

**10:30 - Richard Murray — 1st Anniversary**

### THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

#### Weekly Offertory

**Nov 16 - Nov 22, 2021**

ST ANN		ST JOHN
Online	N/A	Online \$ 618
Mail	\$ 0	Mail \$ 650
Mass	\$ 2,108	Mass \$ 1,817
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,108</b>	<b>TOTAL \$ 3,085</b>
Restoration Fund	\$242	Restoration Fund \$30

**TOTAL RESTORATION FUND TO DATE — \$22,270**

**We are returning to the process of passing the basket during the Offertory .**

**Some people have expressed concerns as to how the money will be separated for each church.**

**If you are giving cash and you want it specified for your church, please put it in an envelope with the church name on the envelope. Otherwise money collected at a mass will be designated for that church.**

**Ex. If you attend the 8:30 at Saint Ann and do not specify that you want your offertory to go to Saint John by using an envelope for your cash, it will be counted as offertory for Saint Ann.**

**RENOVATION FUNDS WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE DOORS OF THE CHURCH UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!**

My Dear Friends in Christ,



When John the Baptist came upon the scene, he was unlike anything anyone had seen before. Yes, he spoke of repentance, as other prophets had. Yes, he spoke with authority and clarity, as other prophets had. Unlike other prophets, however, his arrival was heralded by those before him. No other prophet could lay claim to this.

When Isaiah spoke of John (without naming him), there was an immediacy to the proclamation that had never been heard of before. This is why many thought that John was “THE ONE”. By his unusual nature (wearing camel hair in the desert, feeding on locusts and wild honey), many people thought that John was the Messiah. They thought that these characteristics were surely the “hallmarks” of the Promised One of God. After all, no prophet had been spoken of before his arrival, and certainly no other prophet spoke with the level of authority with which John spoke.

Luke, however, in today’s gospel puts that notion to rest. Speaking of “a voice of one crying out in the desert: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths” (Lk 3:4, by way of Isaiah 40:3-5) Luke was obviously alluding to someone else other than John. . .and this, I’m sure, is perfectly fine with John. He knew he was just a messenger, and not The Message. John knew that his job was to lay the groundwork for one who is coming, one far greater than he.

John the Baptist’s “job” was to prepare the world for the coming of the Messiah; this is our job as well. As Catholic-Christians, we are called to let the world know that not only is the Messiah coming, but that He is already here. This is the great mystery of the Incarnation, which we will celebrate in a few short weeks. Jesus, who is to come to us as the “babe in the manger”, is already in our midst. Yes, we celebrate Christmas as the promise of God fulfilled, the “Word made flesh”. We cannot forget, however, that Jesus is in our midst, here and now. If we walk through the Advent Season thinking that we’re doing so alone, we are sadly mistaken. Our “walk of faith” towards the Kingdom can only be realized if we come to recognize the presence of Jesus in our world here and now. It is this “two-fold coming” (the coming of the Christ Child and the coming of the King of Glory) that we celebrate each and every time we gather as a family of faith, a community of believers.

May we come to celebrate Jesus when He comes to us at Christmas, but may we also celebrate His presence with us now. May we look to the Lord to lead us to deeper understanding of Him...and ourselves. May we use this Advent Season to deepen our relationship with the Lord, who calls us to share His presence with all whom we meet.

Wishing you continued Advent Blessings,

Fr. Paul



## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

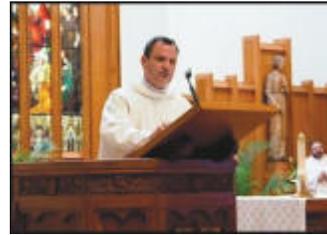
In today's gospel, our focus is on John the Baptist, the "cousin" of Jesus and the "herald" of the Messiah. At this point in the career of John, we hear how he offers a "baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (John 3:3). In doing this, John stands out and is seen as "a voice of one crying out in the desert" (John 3:4). The image that these phrases convey can be daunting, demanding, and (even) lonely ones. To make such a bold proclamation, to offer such a life-changing encounter, one must be sure in their mission and confident in their message. The thing with John the Baptist, like with most preachers, is that the message that he is conveying is not his. The message of the preacher is called to have God as its focus. This is true of John the Baptist, and it is true of St. Francis of Assisi.

When one looks at the life of St. Francis, one sees a man who is not lacking in confidence. He is bold in his actions and movements, especially before his conversion. As a soldier, Francis is seen as a "man of the world". As a young man, Francis had no lack of "social" friends (I put that in quote because I wonder how many of them stuck around when he disavowed himself of his father's riches!), and no lack of confidence. After his conversion, the hallmark of Francis' life was humility. This humility, however, was coupled with a boldness when it came to embracing things antithetical to the world, and contrary to his former way of life. He took on "Lady Poverty" as a companion in the same way he took on those around him as companions. His acceptance of this new way of living, being one with the leperous and the poor, was as bold as when he took on the life of a soldier.

John the Baptist was used by God to further His mission, the building up of the Kingdom of God. In much the same way, Francis was used by God to further that same mission. Francis was called to walk with the poor in a particular way. Francis saw the poor as "living stones", with which he could build up the Body of Christ and the Church. Francis saw Christ in the poor, and strove to be Christ for them. In recognizing Christ in all things, Francis was often (like John the Baptist) a "voice of one crying out in the desert". John the Baptist's cry was to "make straight the path" for Christ; in serving the poor and in seeing God in all created things, Francis' was called to "rebuild" the Church. May we have the courage of men like John the Baptist and Francis of Assisi. May we attune our minds, hearts, and lives to who God is calling us to be. May we know His voice, even if it means being a "voice of one crying out in the desert", knowing that we are never alone and that God is always with us.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul



## THE DEACON'S COLUMN

### *Litany to St. Joseph*

For the last six months I've shared with you many reflections on St. Joseph as we marked the "Year of St. Joseph." It has been a wonderful and blessed experience to reflect on St. Joseph and the unique relationship he was (IS) called to share. Without fear he took Mary into his home and took her Son, Jesus, as his own. As we end the Year of St. Joseph, I want to share with you the Litany of St. Joseph. My prayer is that you welcome St. Joseph into your homes and into your hearts so that you too might receive the ones he was called to care for—Mary and Jesus. Towards that end I share with you the Litany of St. Joseph.

Holy Mary, *pray for us.*  
 St. Joseph, *pray for us.*  
 Illustrious son of David, *pray for us.*  
 Light of patriarchs, *pray for us.*  
 Spouse of the Mother of God, *pray for us.*  
 Chaste guardian of the Virgin, *pray for us.*  
 Foster father of the Son of God, *pray for us.*  
 Watchful defender of Christ, *pray for us.*  
 Head of the Holy Family, *pray for us.*

Joseph most just, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most chaste, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most prudent, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most valiant, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most obedient, *pray for us.*  
 Joseph most faithful, *pray for us.*  
 Mirror of patience, *pray for us.*  
 Lover of poverty, *pray for us.*  
 Model of workmen, *pray for us.*  
 Glory of home life, *pray for us.*  
 Guardian of virgins, *pray for us.*  
 Pillar of families, *pray for us.*  
 Solace of the afflicted, *pray for us.*  
 Hope of the sick, *pray for us.*  
 Patron of the dying, *pray for us.*  
 Terror of demons, *pray for us.*  
 Protector of Holy Church, *pray for us.*

# ATTENTION ATTENTION

DECEMBER 1ST IN-PERSON DAILY MASSES WILL RESTART AT SAINT ANN'S AND SAINT JOHN'S AT 9 AM (in the church, not the Chapel)

THESE MASSES WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO BE LIVE-STREAMED

**WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY AT SAINT JOHN  
THURSDAY & SATURDAY AT SAINT ANN**

CONFESSIONS WILL BE AT SAINT ANN'S BETWEEN 3:00—3:30 OR BY APPOINTMENT WITH ONE OF THE PRIESTS AVAILABLE.

ALL ARE WELCOME.



## THE CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

SAINT ANN

SAINT JOHN

### CHRISTMAS EVE

4 PM  
6 PM  
MIDNIGHT

4 PM  
6 PM

### CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30

10:30

The Masses on Sunday, December 26th will be as Usual: Saint Ann — 8:30; Saint John — 10:30



## Let's Kick Off Christmas Fundraiser

On December 19th our Collaborative is having a "Let's Kick Off Christmas" Event for the collaborative at St. John's from 11:30-4:30.

The day will be packed with many fun-filled family activities for all ages. These events include:

Teams of Christmas Carolers that you can order to come to your house to sing for your family or you can request them to go to a friend or family members house to sing.

In addition to this there will be many activities happening back at St John's including:

- Pony rides
- Christmas Caroling Hay Rides
- Face painting
- Christmas Craft Tables
- Raffles
- Door Prizes
- Food

It promises to be a fun-filled day.

Monies raised will support our Faith Formation Program and our Collaborative Parish Center Renovation Fund. We will also make a donation to the Baker Family Scholarship Fund.

How can I help you might ask?

You may help in the following ways:

Order Christmas Carolers to come to your home or send them to a friend or family member's home as an early Christmas present.

Take an ad out in our Christmas Carol Advertisement Book.

Help sponsor the cost of the hay ride or pony rides

Rent a craft table

Come to the event and have fun!

Questions, please call  
617-639-4815



## 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, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett Harry Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Helen Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Karen Parenteau, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Claudette Rochefort, Frank McCarthy & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

### 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

**Winter dates and hours** will be in effect from **November thru April**, pantry days will be the **first Monday** of the month, except for holidays, from 1pm to 4pm., and the **3rd Saturday**, except for holidays, from 10am to 11:30 am

### THE FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW HOURS:

*Monday, December 6 — 1—4 PM*  
*Saturday, December 18 — 10—11:30 AM*

*Tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned goods, etc are always great additions to the shelves.*

As we begin Advent we are called to "wait" in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Wherever you live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

**Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul poor box will help the poor celebrate the grace of God's love this Christmas**

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 than large sums., ie \$100

**WE ARE RETURNING TO COLLECTING THE OFFERTORY BY PASSING A BASKET AS WAS DONE FOR SO MANY YEARS. THEREFORE, WE NEED USHERS TO HELP US WITH THIS TASK. PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY IF YOU CAN HELP.**

### 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](mailto: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 VINCENT de PAUL  
PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER  
@ 774-240-8095 or [jchbaker@msn.com](mailto: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.

### Christmas Sharing

**All Christmas Sharing gift tags should be in to Linda Santry by now.**

**Hurry if they are not.**

Please call or email Linda Santry:

**508-586-6535 or [linda@santry.org](mailto:linda@santry.org)**

### GIVING THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

**SAINT JOHN'S WILL BE PAIRING WITH THE HUGS ORGANIZATION IN TOWN TO PROVIDE GIFTS FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE TOWN.**



**PLEASE TAKE A TAG OFF THE TREE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH**

**GIFTS ARE FOR CHILDREN UP TO 18, UNLESS THE CHILD IS IN COLLEGE AND HAS SIBLINGS.**

**PLEASE DO NOT WRAP THE GIFT, THE FAMILIES WILL TAKE CARE OF THAT.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR TAG ON THE GIFT AND THE AMOUNT ON THE GIFT CARD. And be sure to sign up on the list!!!**

**Hello,**

**At times during the pandemic congregational singing was discouraged and congregants were ushered out of the church in a safe manner at the end of mass during the closing hymn. Now that restrictions have been lifted it is a good time to remind ourselves that a liturgy begins with the first notes of the opening song and ends with the final notes of the closing song. We ask that you stay and participate in the closing song if you know the words or stay and enjoy it if you don't know the words. The closing song is one last opportunity to sing God's praises in church before we leave to go about our week. We are thrilled to having hymn books back in the pews so everyone can read along and SING!!!**

**Thank you and God Bless.**

**-The Together in Christ Collaborative Music -Team.**



We are looking forward to the opening of grades 1 –8 on December 5th . Classes for grades 1-6 will meet at Saint John’s upper church.

Grade 1 & 2 will meet alternating weeks from 9:25—10:20 Parents are welcome to attend mass with their children either at 8:30 at Saint Ann’s or attend the 10:30 Mass at Saint John’s or any other mass that works for your family.

Grades 3 & 4 and 5 & 6 will have class at the same time on alternating weeks after the 10:30 mass in Saint john’s Church from 11:30—12:30. Ex. One week grades 3 & 4, the next week grades 5 & 6.

Grades 7 & 8 will meet alternating weeks at Saint Ann’ from 5-6pm . (one week grade 7, the next week grade 8)

We encourage 7th & 8th graders and their families to attend the 6:15 mass at Saint Ann’s, however, they may attend any mass that works for their family.



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