



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

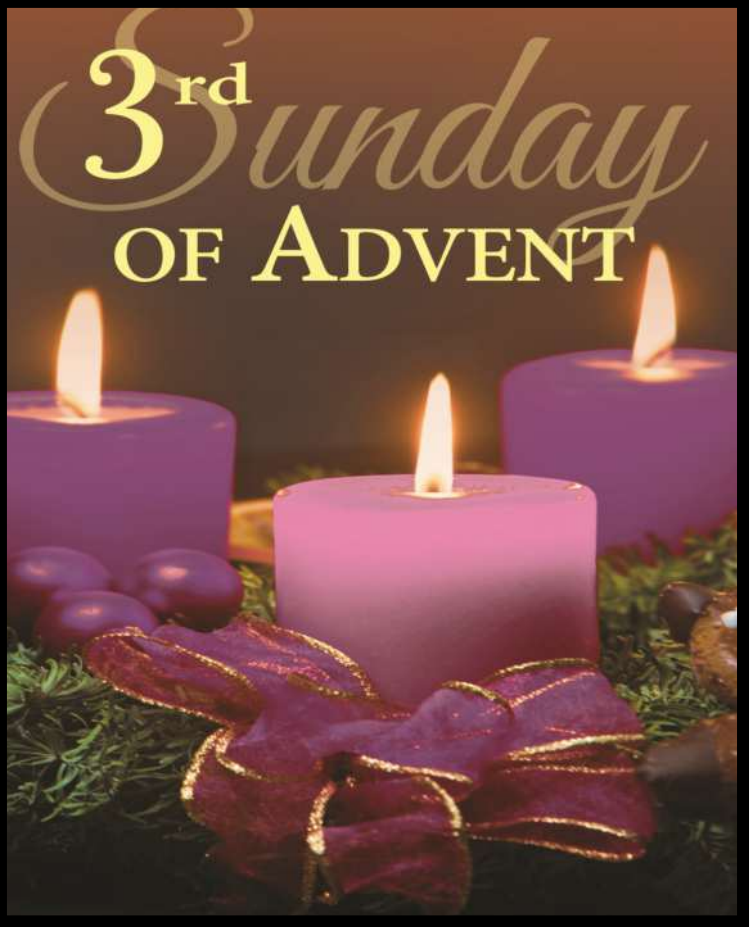
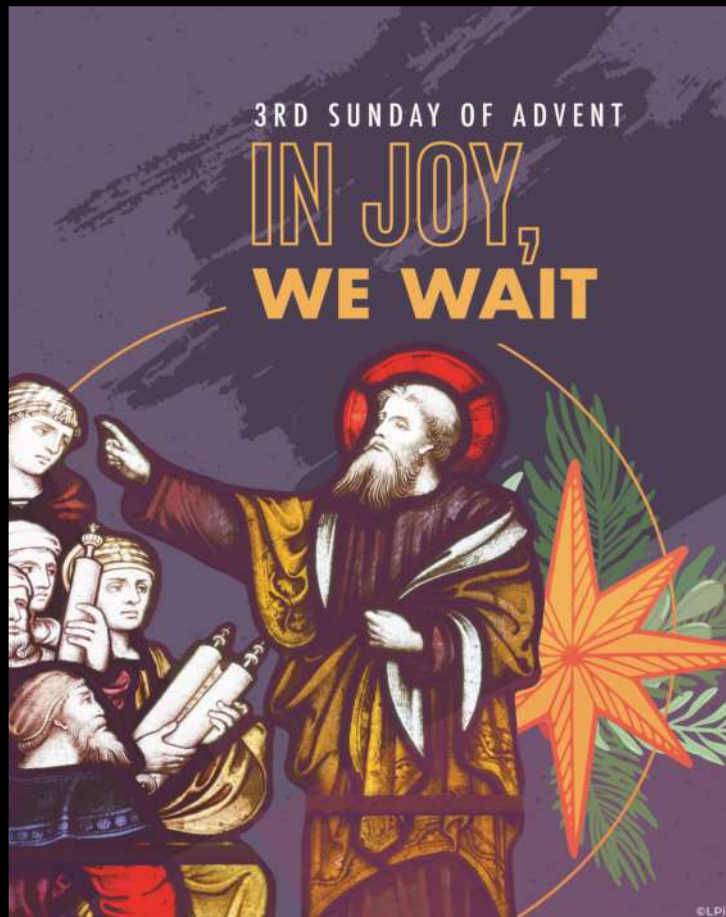
*Together in Christ Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 December 14, 2025*

Third Sunday of Advent

Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope



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



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.stjohnneb.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





St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, December 13, 2025

4:00 - Christiano Victoria — 18th Anniversary

Sunday, December 14, 2025

9:30 - David LaCourtüre, Sr. — 3rd Anniversary

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

Saturday, December 20, 2025

4:00 - Francisco & Maria Figueiredo & Family — Memorial

Sunday, December 21, 2025

9:30 - Christiano & Erminia Victoria — Birthday Remembrance

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

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, December 14, 2025

8:00 - Suzanne Shepard — Anniversary

11:30 - Richard Murray — 5th Anniversary

Sunday, December 21, 2025

8:00 - Cornelius Dahill — Birthday Remembrance

11:30 - Souls in Purgatory

*Please welcome the following children
 Into our Collaborative.*

*Jaxon James Doherty
 Luke Raymond Buckley
 Skylar Theresa Fortin
 Molly Constance Dawwer
 Lucas David Hojnowski
 Vincent Francis DePaola-Wong
 Alaina Hope Altieri*



*Pray that this is the first step in a
 wonderful journey with God.*

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Friends in Christ,



It appears, in today's gospel, that we have the beginnings of a "mutual admiration society" with John the Baptist and Jesus. John the Baptist has been imprisoned, and he had heard word of Jesus' works – preaching, teaching and healing (even raising one from the dead!). The "wheels start turning" for John, and he inquires of his disciples if this might be...the One (the

Messiah). John's disciples, in turn, are told by Jesus that John should look at all that is happening within Jesus' ministry. John, no doubt, ponders all of this and becomes more convinced that the work that he began (in proclaiming the Messiah's coming) has come to fruition. Jesus, for his part, extols the work of John, even going so far as to call him the greatest person born of woman (a rather bold statement, in light of Jesus' birth by Mary!).

Jesus and John are intrinsically linked, one to the other. We cannot speak of John without mentioning the purpose and goal of his preaching – to announce the coming of the Messiah and to get people to follow Him. In the same vein, we cannot speak of Jesus without "giving a nod" as to how his public started, namely His baptism in the Jordan by John the Baptist. In this way, and so many more (let's not forget their kinship, as evidenced by the relationship between Mary and Elizabeth), today's gospel "sets the stage" for the final weeks of Advent and our preparations being made to welcome the Christ Child into our midst.

Our role is not unlike John the Baptist. We are called, by virtue of our baptism, to proclaim Christ. We are called not only to proclaim His coming, but the fact that Kingdom of God (at the heart of which we find Jesus) is not only to come but is **ALREADY AMONG US**. Like John the Baptist, we are called to be heralds of God's Word (in Holy Scripture) and Sacrament (of Holy Eucharist). We may not be imprisoned for this proclamation, but we are nonetheless called to "die to self" so that Christ might live in us. This "white martyrdom" is something that places us squarely in the company of Christ. We are called, as Christ was, to not only *announce* the Kingdom of God but to *be* Kingdom-centered people. How do we do this? It's quite simple, really – we are to keep our focus on Jesus. When we focus on Jesus, we don't shut out the world; when we focus on Jesus, quite the contrary is true – we enter into the world with Jesus within us.

May we have the courage, like John the Baptist before us, to be heralds of God's Word. May we receive the Sacraments (especially Eucharist and Reconciliation) so as to be open, pure and ready vessels of God's grace. May we share God's grace with all whom we meet, so that they may come to know what we have come to know – that Jesus Christ has broken the chains of sin and death and won for us newness of life.

A Continued Blessed Advent to All,
 Fr. Paul

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

December Teen Mass

12/14 at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann
Our next Teen Mass is December 14.
At these Masses, we invite our teens to do a reading or bring up the gifts. Fr. Paul also tailors his homily to be relevant to their life and there is contemporary music at the Mass. If your teen is interested in bringing up the gifts or doing a reading, please

Christmas Pageant

Sunday 12/14 at 1 pm, St. Ann's Parish Center

Join us as our children share the story of Jesus' birth and we have a birthday party for him! There will be plenty of food and fun.

Please bring a non-perishable food item as a birthday present for Jesus and the Food Pantry!

Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

December 15 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!

St. John's is once again partnering with East Bridgewater HUGS to host a Giving Tree for our families in need. Please stop by the tree and **select a tag or tags, sign the sheet, shop for the gifts, and return them to any drop off location by Dec 13th.**

EBHUGS also accepts gift cards, cash, checks, venmo and paypal on the HUGS website www.ebhugs.org

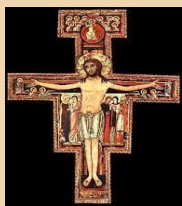


If you wish to volunteer or would like more information, please contact us at : wishes@ebhugs.org

Thank you for your support!
Happy Holidays!

Drop off locations:

Town Clerk's Office, at Town Hall, EB Public Library, Dewhurst Lumber, Paula Coffee Dance Center, Happy Frog Ink, Center at Sachem Rock, Cadence Academy, Commercial Club, Michelle's Studio of Dance, Town Tavern and Tap



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

As we move through our Advent journey, we once again encounter John the Baptist. John was one who was so powerful, so unusual, that many thought him to be the Christ, the Messiah. In today's gospel, Jesus, Himself, extols the virtues of John even going so far as to say that "among those born of women, there has been none greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11:11). Part of John's appeal was the radical nature of his message. John's prophetic voice was one that had not been heard before, even though there had been hundreds of prophets (both God-sent and self-appointed). His message was one which would pave the way for the coming of THE Messiah, THE Christ...Jesus, Himself.

Francis, of course, in coming well after Jesus, was not thought of as the "second coming". Even though Francis' message was one of "evangelical poverty", and was associated closely with the message and mission of Jesus, Francis himself was not ever put in the same category as Jesus. He could, however, some might argue, be put in the same category as John the Baptist. In many ways, Francis (like John the Baptist) could (and should) be considered a prophetic voice, a "voice proclaims in the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord" (Isaiah 40:3). Often times, Francis stood alone in his pronouncements, sometimes in opposition to his brothers but never in opposition to the Church. He was a staunch churchman, one who was a loyal son of Rome/son of God. When he strove to move the order forward into being, he often had to struggle mightily. He faced ridicule in embracing "Lady Poverty", as well as seeking to establish the Franciscan Order. He later faced the challenges of two failed pilgrimages, the Holy Land and the loss of his eyesight. Throughout his ministry, Francis fought at every turn to establish, and keep going, the Order.

Yet, in all of this, he remained faithful to the call which Christ placed on his heart. Like John the Baptist, he remained faithful to his calling to the Lord with regards to his mission for the Church. May we be like John the Baptist and St. Francis of Assisi. May we, despite roadblocks and detours, remain steady on our Advent journey and our journey to the Kingdom.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

Prayer for Advent – New Growth

Dear God,

Bring new life! Your love creates and cultivates. Bring Your power into the places I think of as "deserts" and your grace to the prayers I fear may be "deserted." You can redeem and restore, bring a new song to my heart. Amen.

©LPi

Fiscal Updates & News

St. Ann — Offertory	\$2,923
Second Collection	\$ 769
Sacramental Donations + Misc .	<u>\$9,620</u>
	\$13,312

Total	
St John — Offertory	\$1,641
Second Collection	\$ 408
Sacramental Donations + Misc .	<u>\$3,935</u>
Total	\$ 5,984

Our Autumn Fundraiser was a huge success!

**The music from Dan and Mary Clark was amazing.
Some songs brought tears to everyone's eyes.
And everyone left with a smile on their faces.**

We brought in around \$7,000 and after expenses we made around \$5,000.

**The pumpkin raffle was a big smash.
The silent auction with all the amazing things that people donated was wonderful.
And the gift bag raffle made everyone who won, very happy.**

Thank you to all who participated. We hope you had a wonderful time.

A special thank you to everyone who made this such a success:

The incredibly talented crafters for their home made items.

The household items that were a big hit, All our bakers whose tasty items filled our tummies.

The ever dedicated Hospitality Committee for all their work and donations, as well as our family members who helped out.

And last but, not least all the corporate donors in the East and West Bridgewater Communities.



It's time to think about the Christmas Flowers!

Our financial situation is such that we are only able to afford as many flowers as the donations are received. So, we ask that you send in your Christmas flower donation as

soon as you can so we can buy the flowers and be fully decorated!

We will again be posting the names of your loved ones for whom you made the donations. Remember to put the name of you loved ones on the envelopes. If you use a plain Envelope be sure to include your name and your loved ones.

Thank you for your support.

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, Marilyn, John Zenus, Peg & Brendan Fitzgerald, Joseph & Anne Campbell, Ronald Menard, Kim, Claire Sullivan, Kathy Hannafin, Sharon Carson & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

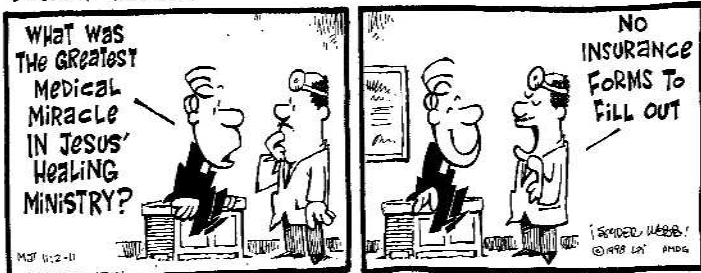
Please remember in your prayers:

*Rosemary Baggia
Francis H. Killorin, Jr.
Daniel Duggan
Ralph Auger*

*May they rest in peace, and may their
Families find comfort from their faith in
Jesus Christ.*



33 SUNDAY IN ADVENT



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

Thank you to all those who donated to our recent clothing and book drive, and our gratitude to those who continue to make monetary donations to our collection boxes at the door of the church. Without your ongoing generosity to all our fundraising efforts we would not be able to continue to assist our neighbors in their time of need.

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: January 13 @ 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: cookies, crackers, pasta, pasta sauce, canned
soup, canned vegetables, boxed stuffing
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

December 1 & 15

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, jelly, canned soups, canned
vegetables pasta & pasta sauce, non-sugar cereal, tooth-
paste, tooth brushes, toilet paper.**

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

Christmas Sharing Planning

After surveying our Christmas Sharing families, we will again be asking you for gift cards that will be distributed to the families and senior citizens. The following stores are preferred: Target, Walmart, Kohl's, Amazon. We are asking for gift cards in any amount up to \$50. This will allow us the flexibility to give an amount appropriate to the family or senior citizen. We will also need \$25 Trucchi's or Market Basket cards for families and Senior Citizens, and items for the Senior Citizens' gift bags. All gift cards should be placed in an envelope marked "Christmas Sharing" in the St. Vincent dePaul boxes at the doors of the church, or sent to Linda Santry. Checks should be made out to St. Ann's, with "Christmas Sharing" in the memo line. They must be received by December 5th, to allow the parents' time to purchase gifts before Christmas. There is a box at the rear of the church for Senior Citizens gift bag items.

This year we will also be collecting toys for the parents to choose from for their children. There will be a bin in the back of the church for you to place new toys for children aged 1 to 16. See the handout on November 8/9th for more details.

If there are any questions, please call or email Linda Santry: **508-586-6535** or linda@santry.org, or Lisa

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve:

4 PM at Saint John w/ Choir

4 PM at Saint Ann

6 PM at Saint John

Midnight at Saint Ann

Christmas Day

8:30 at Saint Ann

10:30 at Saint John



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