



**Together in Christ
Collaborative**

December, 27, 2020

**The Holy Family
Of
Jesus, Mary &
Joseph**



**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 9-4 M-Th
For both Churches
Currently we are working from home.**

**Saint John the Evangelist
210 Central St., East Bridgewater 02333
Office –103 N. Main Street,
West Bridgewater**

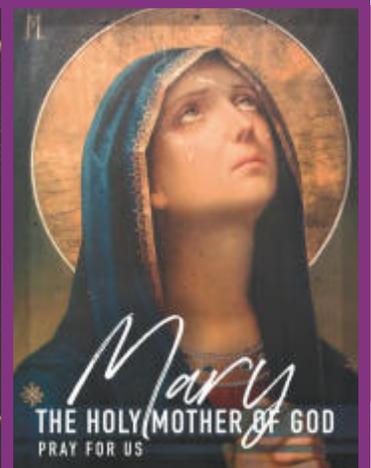
508-378-4207

**E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net
Website: www.stjohneb.org
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring**

The Holy Family

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40

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

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

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

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA

Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday
9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice
In the Chapel
Divine Mercy every Thursday
After Mass.

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and on Sundays at 1 p.m. All baptisms are private and can accommodate 30 or so people. Social distancing and masks are required. 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
stjohnnebridge@comcast.net
5085-378-4207
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: Stephanie Gaboury
directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com
508-378-1521 or 508-588-7140

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, December 26, 2020

5:30 - Patricia Robichaud — Birthday Remem.

Sunday, December 27, 2020

10:30 -- Sean Patrick Coakley — 5th Anniv.

Saturday, January 2, 2020

5:30 - Suzzane Shepard — 31st Anniversary

Sunday, January 3, 2020

10:30 - Sheila Creney — 7th Anniversary

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, December 26, 2020

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, December 27, 2020

8:30 - Christiano Victoria — Birthday Remem

Saturday, January 2, 2020

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, January 3, 2020

8:30 — Parishioners of Saint Ann

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

**Our financial situation is getting to a crisis level.
The pandemic has taken a very real toll in so many
ways.**

Weekly Offertory

Dec 2 - Dec 8, 2020

ST JOHN

Online \$1,039

Mail \$3600

Mass \$1,446

Grand Annual To Date \$8,175

ST ANN

Online N/A

Mail \$1,032

Mass \$1,207

Grand Annual To Date \$8,105

Suggested Sacramental Offerings:

Memorials Masses — \$25

Baptisms — \$50

Funerals — \$600

PLEASE HELP.

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Friends in Christ,



Robert Frost once wrote that “home is the place, that when you go there, they have to take you in”. A rather wry statement, it should “ring true” for most (if not all) of us. I know that at the end of my day, when I come home I have at least one who is happy to see me – my dog, Nellie. Nellie and I are, for all intents and purposes, family. When I had my picture taken a couple of years back for the parish website, more than one person asked if Nellie was going to be in the photo; I said, “Of course – she’s family!” This may be stretching what one thinks of as family, but when I think of the qualities which Nellie has – unconditional love, loyalty, a sense of belonging – it fits what I think of when I reflect on family life.

This day, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family (of Jesus, Mary and Joseph), a celebration of what, and who, God calls us to be. The Holy Family is for us the most perfect image we have here on earth of what it means to be a family. When one thinks of the sacrifices they made to maintain the “family unit”, it boggles the mind! They endured long journeys, unsettled accommodations and (for Mary and Joseph) the loss of an only child. I look at the families of our parish and see the struggles they endure in this day and age – an unsettled economy which threatens the livelihood of one (or both) of the adults, the assault of conflicting, often vulgar, media images on our children and the stress of balancing family life with the many commitments the world puts upon them (parents and children alike). I often wonder how the Holy Family would have handled it, and I keep coming back to one answer – trust in God. It is only through trust, born of faith that kept the Holy Family intact. The same is true for us; the main thing which will keep the “family unit” whole and undivided is faith – faith in God, faith in one another. This is certainly not an easy thing to achieve or maintain. It takes hard work, day in and day out. It takes a level of commitment that the world neither understands nor appreciates. We have “glimpses” of the family unit being honored and celebrated, but by and large the family is often held up to ridicule. Just look at how the media portrays most families – fathers are all too often portrayed as overbearing tyrants or lame simpletons, mothers are often seen as either lazy or manipulative, and children are seen as either greedy or entitled. This may happen at times but it is not (thank God) the norm, nor should it be celebrated as such.

The Feast of the Holy Family gives us a better perspective of how family life should be. It is not without challenges, as we see in the lives of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It is not without work, as we reflect upon our second reading regarding how we are to conduct our lives. And it is not without God, as we see throughout the scriptures. If we are to model ourselves after the Holy Family, let us put on our hearts all the things of which St. Paul speaks – “compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience” (Col 3:12). Let us not waste a moment to ponder, as did the Holy Family, all the good things the Lord has done for us!

A Blessed Christmas Season to One and All,

Fr. Paul

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

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, George Lepine, Joseph Rizzitano, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Dennis Green, Dana Debenedictis, Harry Evans, Jerry Paluch, Frank Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen Daly, Baby Abigail & 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

**The Food Pantry is open twice a month. —
1st Monday from 3:00-5:30 pm and the
3rd Monday from 3:00-4:30 pm.**

The Food Pantry is currently accepting donation at the bottom of the ramp. Please make sure you call to let them know you have dropped off food and that it is properly protected from the elements. Cash donations are always welcomed and can be mailed to the address above.

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

**The next Food Pantry will be
Monday, January 4, 2021**

The shelves of the Pantry are depleted and need to be restocked. Your help is needed. Cereal, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned goods, etc. are always great additions to the shelves.

THE HOLIDAYS WERE SPECIAL FOR MANY FAMILIES DUE TO YOUR GENEROSITY.

THANK YOU!

My Dear Friends in Christ,

As we move into another Christmas Season, and are fast approaching the turning of the calendar to another year (to which many are saying "Thanks Be To God!" I'm sure!), we do so with an addition to our Collaborative Staff. The position of "Director of Ministries", assumed by Stephanie Gaboury, is one which is new but has its roots in work previously done. In my time as Pastor, I have sought to create opportunities for our families to engage themselves in the life of the parishes/ collaborative. One such way, for example, was in the Parish and Youth Ministry, a ministry in which we looked to facilitate experiences which would enliven the faith of the People of God in a multi-generational way. When that Ministry was ended two and a half years ago, there was a "void" which developed and we "lost a step (or three)" in our outreach. This has become heightened in the time of pandemic, and it is one which I hope will be regained by the creation of this position and the addition of Stephanie to our Staff. Sir Isaac Newton is quoted as saying that "if I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulder of giants". It is upon the foundation laid by members of this ministry, as well as other ministries that this position will facilitate (such as Faith Formation, Liturgical Ministry (i.e., Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers), and Pastoral Ministry (i.e., Prison Ministry, Bereavement)), which the "Director of Ministries" position is rooted. I wish to express my thanks and gratitude to the many good people who have done this work of ministry, and it is my hope and prayer that we can regain (even in the time of pandemic) our sense of ministry to God's People. Our parish depends on such faithful stewards, and I believe that this position taken up by Stephanie will enliven this stewardship.

I ask your prayers for Stephanie as she begins this new venture. I ask your prayers for the People of God who will be led to minister to God's People. Finally, I pray the words of St. Augustine, who said we must "Trust the Past to God's Mercy, the Present to God's Love, and the Future to His Providence". May God Bless Us All! Finally...



A little about our new Director:

Stephanie Gaboury is a lifelong member of St. Ann's Parish and has been one of its lectors for nearly 15 years. She attended Cardinal Spellman High School followed by Bridgewater State University, and has a Master's Degree in English Education. Career-wise, she has been a Catholic educator for the last five years, teaching at Coyle and Cassidy High School and Xaverian Brothers High School. In her free time, Stephanie loves board games, painting, and spending time with her husband (Andrew) and newborn son (Henry).

Peace, Fr. Ring, Pastor

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES



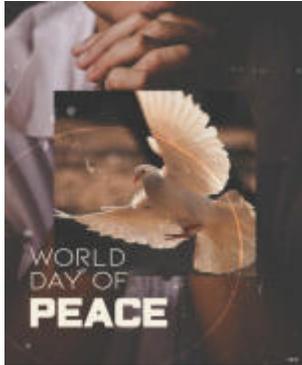
SAINT VINCENT de PAUL
PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095
or jchbaker@msn.com

New mailing address:
P O Box 474
West Bridgewater MA 02379



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.



January 1 is the World Day of Peace! Resources for 2020 World Day of Peace:

Every year on January 1, the Holy Father marks the World Day of Peace with a special message inviting all people to reflect on the important work of building peace. [This year's message](#) is the latest in a long tradition of messages for this day that began with [St. Paul VI](#) in 1967, and continued with [St. John Paul II](#), [Pope Benedict XVI](#), and [Pope Francis](#).

For an end to the violence perpetrated by harsh words, deadly weapons, or cold indifference. May our homes, our nation, and countries around the world become havens of peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the grace to see every human being as a child of God, regardless of race, language or culture, let us pray to the Lord.

For the wisdom to receive the stories and experiences of those different from ourselves and to respond with respect, let us pray to the Lord.

For the strength to teach our children how to resolve differences non-violently and respectfully, and the courage to model it in our own behavior, let us pray to the Lord.

For our faith community, that we may celebrate and welcome the diverse faces of Christ in our worship, our ministries, and our leaders, let us pray to the Lord.

For our faith community, that we may respond boldly to the Holy Spirit's call to act together to end violence and racism, let us pray to the Lord.

For healing and justice for all those who have experienced violence and racism, let us pray to the Lord.

For the protection of all police and first responders who risk their lives daily to ensure our safety; for fair and just policing that will promote peace and wellbeing in all our neighborhoods, let us pray to the Lord.

For our public officials, that they will strive to work for fair education, adequate housing, and equal opportunities for employment for all, let us pray to the Lord.

For our parish, that we may cultivate welcome, extend hospitality, and encourage the participation of people of all cultures, ethnicities and backgrounds, let us pray to the Lord.

For the courage to have difficult conversations about racism, and for a better appreciation of how our words and actions – or even our silence – can impact our communities, let us pray to the Lord.



Thank You very much to all those who assisted with the Masses for Christmas; all our Decorators, Musicians, Lectors, Ushers, Seaters, Greeters, Communions Assistants, & Cleaners.

A special thank you to Linda Santry and the Hugs Organization for thier efforts in making Christmas special for those in need.

Without your help we would not have been able to serve the Parishes during this most Sacred Celebration of our faith.

To those who have helped us since March as we have navigated through this pandemic and continue to do so, a Special Thank You.

You have been there consistently making it possible for people to be able to share the love of Christ in his home at your own risk. You are special people, the backbone of our Parishes and we are so grateful.

Thank you for your generosity, your selflessness and your loyalty to our faith community.

A special prayer for one of our most loyal ushers who left us in October to join the Holy Father in heaven, Gary Saccocia. We miss your smile, your stories and the joy you brought every Sunday when you served. May you smile down upon us and put a good word in for the rest of us. We miss you.

The Liturgical Staff and the Administrative Staff of the Together in Christ Collaborative wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May the love and joy of the season be ever present even though most families will be celebrating in very different ways this season.

Remember to keep Christ in your hearts and to ask him for help with this pandemic. Be strong. Be patient. Spread Love and Kindness and we will all get through this together with the help of God.

Love,

Fr. Paul	Deacon Brendan
Fr. Mike	Deacon Chris
Fr. Peter	Rich
Donna	Stephanie
Erica	Matt
Arlene	Debbie



Let Your Voice Be Heard – Again

“Say No to ROE”

The state legislature has extended the session until January 5th, 2021. Please remind the members of the Joint Committee on Judiciary that you oppose the expansion of abortion in Massachusetts. Please call the Committee at 617-722-2396 and let them know you are **opposed** to H3320 and S1209 – the ROE legislation. Every telephone call helps!

Remember these bills would remove:

- The requirement that young girls obtain consent before an abortion
- The requirement that efforts be made to save a living baby who survives abortion
- The requirement that late term abortions be performed in hospitals
- The bills would allow abortion on demand for all nine months of pregnancy.

For more information about how the ROE legislation would expand abortion in Massachusetts visit www.macatholic.org.



COLLABORATIVE MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 p.m. (St. Ann’s)

Saturday 5:30 p.m. (St. John’s)

Sunday 8:30 a.m. (St. Ann’s)

Sunday 10:30 a.m. (St. John’s)

TO ATTEND A MASS YOU MUST REGISTER THROUGH THE WEBSITES PRIOR TO THE MASS.

PLEASE TRY TO DO THIS SATURDAY BY 2 PM.

MASSES ARE BEGINNING TO FILL UP AND YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET A RESERVATION.

PLEASE ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE MASS TO INSURE YOUR SEATING.

FOR ASSISTANCE CALL ARLENE AT 508-586-4880 OR DEBBIE AT 508-378-4207 OR STEPHANIE AT 508-378-1521 OR 508-588-7140

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Gift of Family

What a year it has been! How will we speak of these times a decade from now? As time goes by, our impressions of this past year will certainly change. How we feel today about dealing with a killer virus and all the chaos surrounding that is still fresh for all. I would assume that most of us right now are also holding those we love a little closer and hugging them a little harder. Hopefully, even if the fears and concerns of 2020 dissipate in the future, the way we feel toward our family should never leave us.

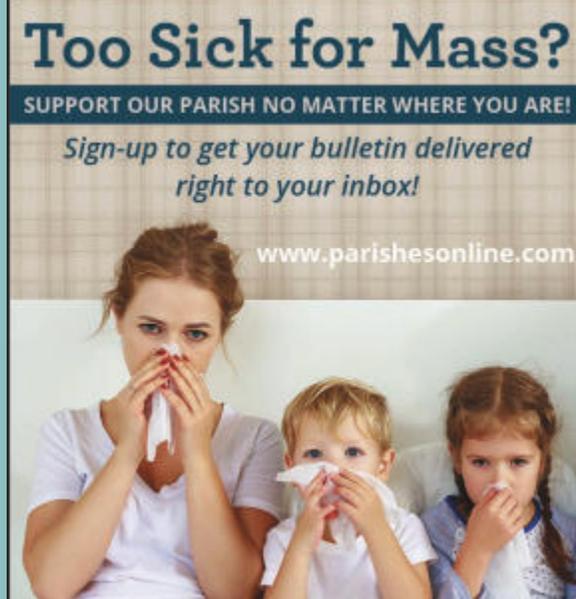
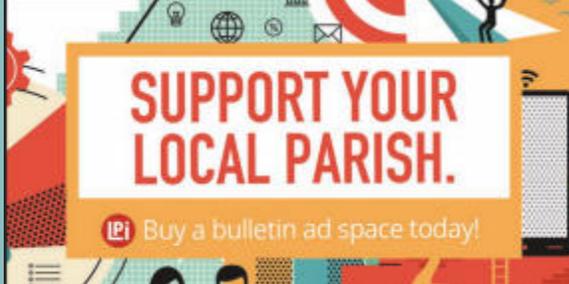
Stewardship is certainly about everything. God has given us so much, great and small, profound and common. One of the greatest gifts that all have received is family. Families take all shapes and sizes and some look very different than others. For some, family is a caretaker or temporary guardian. For others it is a friend when everyone else seems to have vanished. The bottom line is that, to quote a song from many years ago, "people need people."

When God gave the world His only Son, the Incarnation did not come on a cloud or with a flash of light. He was born into a family. Jesus understood the gift of family all his life. Do you think that if having a family wasn't important God would have still included this in the plan of salvation?

As this year draws to a close, remember your stewardship many days begins and ends with the people closest to you. Don't misuse or take for granted this precious gift. God gives us gifts on purpose, even to His only begotten Son.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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