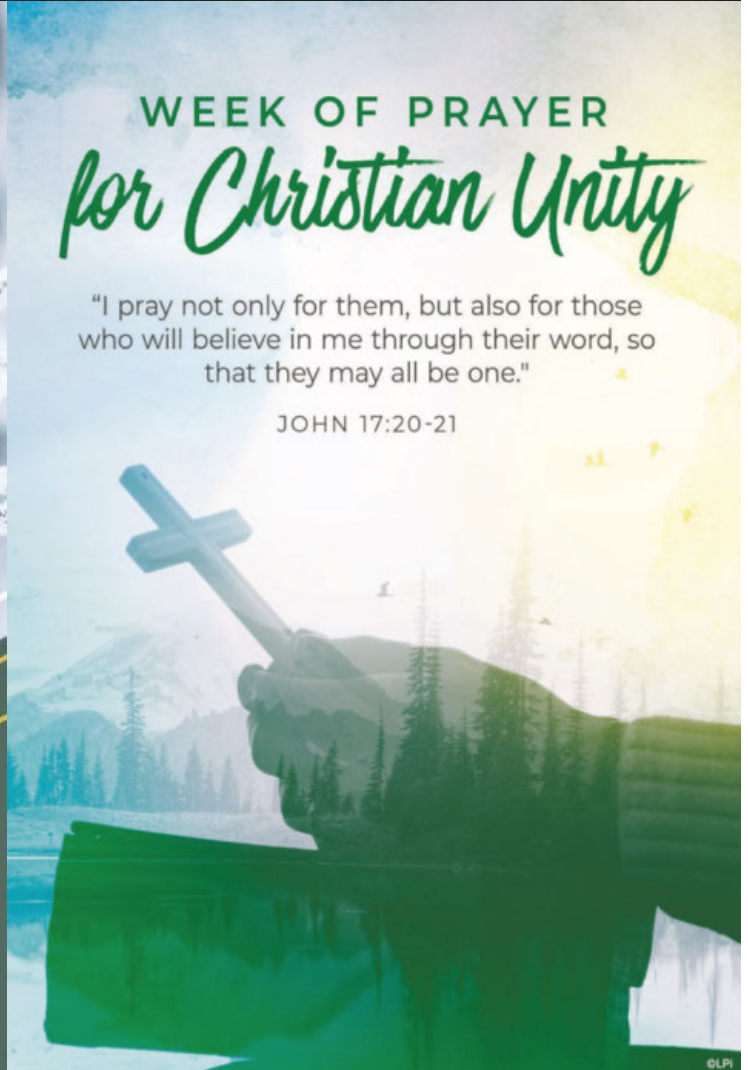




*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
January 15, 2023  
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**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 9-3 M-F**  
**For both Churches**  
**THE COLLABORATIVE OFFICE**  
**WILL BE CLOSED 1-16-23**

**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 - 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, January 15, 2023**

7:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative  
11:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative  
6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

**Sunday, January 22, 2022**

7:30 - Roy Piver & Rob Robichaud — Memorial  
11:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative  
6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

\*\*\*\*\*

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, January 14, 2023**

4:00 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

**Sunday, January 15, 2023**

9:30 - James Clancy — 11th Anniversary

**Saturday, January 21, 2022**

4:00 - Bob & Theresa Mason; John & Mary Doherty—Memorial

**Sunday January 22, 2023**

9:30 - Gene Biagi — 40th Anniversary

**VOLUNTEERS CAN MAKE A PARISH FLOURISH.**

**LET'S START THE NEW YEAR OFF WITH MORE HELP AT BOTH CHURCHES.**

**7:30 — ST ANN'S — NEEDS LECTORS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**11:30 — ST ANN'S — NEEDS EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & GREETERS**

**6:15 — ST ANN'S — NEEDS USHERS & LECTORS**

**PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY IF YOU CAN HELP!**

**"Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that."**

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

We have now moved into "Ordinary Time", named thusly due not to its routine nature but to the fact that we mark the weeks using ordinal numbers (thus, the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time). There is surely nothing routine about our life of faith or our relationship with God! While we have moved away from major celebrations and get back to our regular schedules of work, school and the like, we still make time for God in a particular way. This is done both in worship on Sundays and Holy Days as well as in our relationships with one another. In our worship and prayer, we are called to look within and see how that relationship is progressing, how it is being strengthened; we also look to see where it is stagnant and where it can be further solidified. In our everyday lives, we are called to see where God has been invited and where He has been excluded. In doing all of this, the "ordinary" nature of our lives takes on an extraordinary dimension.

In today's gospel, this is the closest the Gospel of John gets to a baptism account of Jesus. The actual event is not recorded in John's Gospel (as it is in Matthew, Mark and Luke), but the reference to it in John's account hit all the "high points": the descent of the Holy Spirit, the deepening of the nature of baptism with the inclusion of the Holy Spirit (as opposed to just water), the pronouncement of Jesus as the Lamb of God. In all of this, John's account brings baptism to the "next level". It is in this spirit that we are baptized and brought into the faith.

It is the gift of baptism which makes us sons and daughters of God and makes us brothers and sisters in the Lord. It is this "spirit of adoption" (Rom 8:15) which brings us into God's "family". This is what makes us a "family of faith", rooted in the love that we have for God and, by association, one another. It is in this spirit that we have the courage to go out into the world, proclaiming God's Kingdom to be in our midst, a Kingdom which we are called to assist in building. We do this by living the faith in word and deed. We do this by living our faith to the best of our abilities. We do this by recognizing the opportunities of discipleship which help us to actively live our faith.

May we use this "Ordinary Time" in extraordinary ways. May we have the courage to reach out to our brothers and sisters, especially the poor, the marginalized and those the world sees as "less than". May we continue to seek to strengthen our relationship with God through works of prayer, charity and love. May we know God's love and have the courage to share it with whom all we meet.

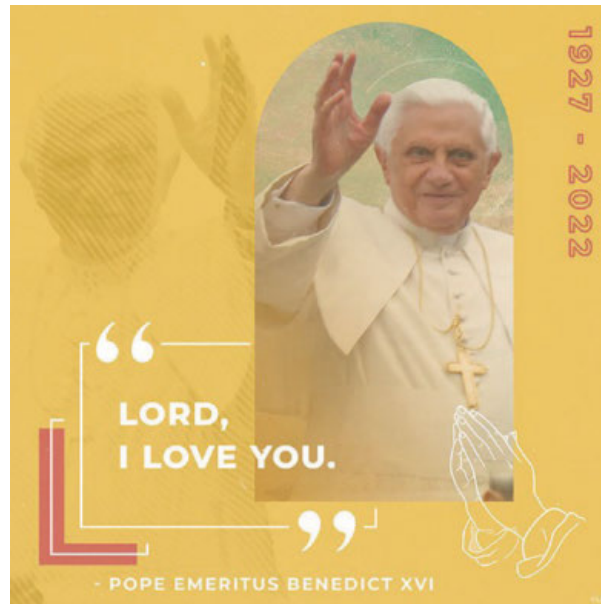
Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

We are saddened to hear about the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI on Saturday, December 31st. He died peacefully in his place of residence, the Vatican monastery, at the age of 95 and his last words, as recorded by his personal nurse, were “Lord, I love you!”

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI served as pope from April 19, 2005, until his resignation on February 28, 2013. His legacy of love, trust, and compassion will endure long into the future of our global Church.

L*Pi*



### Prayer for Pope Benedict XVI

O God, true shepherd of all the faithful, look with kindness on your servant Pope Benedict XVI, whom you set as head and shepherd of your Church.

We give you thanks for your grace at work in him as he has led us by word and example: in his teaching, in his prayer, and in his great love.

*United Catholic Bishops*

**Please visit <https://cardinalseansblog.org/> for Cardinal Sean’s pictures and reflections of Pope Benedict’s Funeral.**

A ***Holy Hour for Life, Forgiveness and Healing*** will be held on Friday, January 20, 2023 at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish (103 Center Street, Bridgewater) at 10:00 AM as part of the Archdiocesan observance of the *National Day of Prayer and Penance*. Led by Deacon Leo Donoghue, and assisted by Deacon Brendan Fitzgerald, and Deacon Christopher Connelly, we will pray together for respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death; for those who have been wounded by abortion; for those facing death; and for increased holiness in the Church. The ***Holy Hour for Life, Forgiveness and Healing*** is organized by Boston Deacons for Life in collaboration with the Office the Permanent Diaconate & the Pro Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston. Please join us, all are welcome.



## I Believe in One Lord Jesus Christ: Consubstantial with the Father

Nearly 11 years ago, the Creed that Catholics professed together at Mass changed. Instead of saying, “God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, one in being with the Father,” they proclaimed, “God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father.” Why did the English translation change, and what does consubstantial mean?

To answer the first question, we must remember that the Nicene Creed we profess in English was originally written in Greek. Those whose job it is to translate a text from one language to another will tell you that words and ideas do not always translate directly. Therefore, the translator must interpret the idea behind the words and then choose a word or multiple words to communicate the intention of the author. In one way, every translation is an interpretation. The task of all translators worth their weight in salt (how would that be translated?) is to choose words that best reflect the meaning or thought that the original author intended to convey.

The original Greek text reads, “ὁμοούσιον τῷ Πατρὶ” (homousion to Patri). The Greek word “homousia” combines the prefix “homo” meaning “same” and “ousia” meaning “nature.” The nature of a thing defines what it is. Each human being shares the same human nature—regardless of race, gender, or nationality, we are all human—we are of the same kind. By saying Jesus is, “one in being with the Father,” the translators of the Creed tried to communicate the idea that Jesus is of the same kind, or nature, as the Heavenly Father. With the new translation of the Roman Missal (Third Edition), the translators recognized that in many English-speaking nations, the word “being” is also used to speak about a specific person. Jesus is not the same “person” as the Father. He is the same God, but not the same person—the Father is the First Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Son is the Second Person, and the Holy Spirit is the Third. To better reflect the thought behind the Greek word, the translators chose to use the English version of the Latin translation, “consubstantial.” This word is a literal translation of Homousion: the prefix “con” means “same” and “substantial” comes from the word “substance” which refers to the “nature” of a thing.

By saying that Jesus is “consubstantial with,” or of the “same substance” of, the Father, Christians are confessing their belief that Jesus shares the same divine nature as the Father. Everything that God is, Jesus is because he has the fullness of the divine nature. To help illustrate this point, the Creed says, that Jesus is “God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God.” The Creed puts into words what Christians believed about Jesus from the very beginning of the foundation of the Church. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus reveals his identity as the incarnate God. Jesus does what God alone can do. Jesus has command over creation by turning water into wine and by calming the storming seas. Jesus has the power to drive out evil spirits. Jesus demonstrates his power over sickness and death by curing the sick and raising the dead. Jesus has the power, only attributable to God, to forgive sins.

It is important to understand Jesus’ true nature and relationship with the Father because it helps us to understand the life Jesus invites us to share with him. At our baptism, the very life of God that Jesus shares with the Father by nature is given to us by grace. By grace, we share in the divine life, and, like Jesus, we are sent into the world to reveal God’s love by preaching the Gospel, caring for the sick, and even by forgiving sins.



## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

As of this writing, I find myself in the midst of six funerals (and several wakes) in as many days. These funerals have run the gamut, from a 48 year old to a 95 year old, and include people of every walk of life – single, married, widowed. It’s been pretty amazing to see the variety of life experiences with these people who have I have spent this week commending to the love and mercy of our Eternal God.

Birth and death provide the bookends on our lives. Yet we live in a culture that often fails to recognize death as an integral part of life. We can become so focused on the obvious negative aspects of death—separation from loved ones, the perceived darkness of death, fear that death’s approach will be unbearably painful, fear of the unknown, and fear of the loss of self—that we fail to recognize the blessings that death may offer to us. Among these blessings are: freedom from pain, once again being in the presence of those who have gone before us, and most blessed of all—Life Everlasting. As Christians, this is our hope, our faith, our promise from our loving God. Saint Francis knew that the journey to forever could only be made with Sister Death as a companion.

In our modern era, many illnesses, injuries, and infirmities can be remedied, even cured, for a time at least. To use the physical, medical, and spiritual means that are available to us for healing is a reasonable way to preserve life, enabling us to continue our life’s work of loving God and loving others. But finally, inevitably, our human bodies will succumb to death. Many people attempt to deny this reality and look upon death as the ultimate evil. Saint Francis chose another way by embracing death as one so close to him as to be called “Sister.” Francis invites us to embrace rather than battle Sister Death, to love not to despise Sister Death, to welcome not to shun Sister Death. Saint Francis’ invitation not to live in fear of death or with hatred toward death opens our life as it did that of the saint to the joy of eternal life. Some-day Sister Death will greet us and we will go home to our God who created us, loves us, and re-deems us through Jesus our Savior.

As Francis lay dying in a small hut built for him near the chapel of San Damiano where he had heard God’s call for him to rebuild the church, he wrote The Canticle of Brother Sun, considered to be the first poem written in the Italian language and certainly one of the most profound. The poem of praise to God for all of creation concludes: “Praised be my Lord, through our sister Bodily Death, from whom no living person can escape.” May we not look to escape, but may we allow ourselves to embrace Sister Death as Francis did, with love and true joy!

Peace and All Good,

Fr. Paul, OFS

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

### Please keep the following in your prayers:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Kenneth Upham, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Diane Nicoliar, 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, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Jeannette Shalginewicz, Jack & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

*If you know that some of these people should be removed, Please call the Rectory so we can update the list.*

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.

### THE FOOD PANTRY

*Tuesday, January 2, 2023  
Monday, January 16, 2023*

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

**Thank you for your continued generosity.**

### WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES



MEMORIAL MASSES  
Suggested donation \$25+

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



FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE  
WEEK  
\$75+

### 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.



ST. 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

Due to very low funds, St. Vincent de Paul at St. Ann's is looking for donations for a calendar raffle — any gift cards (store, Amazon, restaurants or whatever you want to donate) wine baskets, movie baskets, just a few ideas, if you want to donate a monetary amount, please put it in an envelope labeled for the raffle and put it in SVdP boxes at the sides and back of St. Ann's Church. Any help you can give is extremely appreciated.

Thank you and God Bless

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.**

### Family Healing and Recovery Ministry invites you to

Join us for an evening of intercessory rosary, Holy Mass, guest speaker and fellowship.

**When:**  
First Friday of each month (starting January 6th, 2023)

**Time:**  
6:30pm (Intercessory Rosary)  
7:00pm (Mass)

**Location:**  
Saint Joseph the Worker church (Holy Apostles Parish)  
1 Maquan Street, Hanson, MA.  
[Rosary4recovery.org](http://Rosary4recovery.org)

Karen McWilliams [karen.mcwilliams@aol.com](mailto:karen.mcwilliams@aol.com)  
(603)682-7933

# MINISTRY NEWS

## January Teen Mass: 1/22

As a complement to our Family Masses, we introduced a Teen Mass last month at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann. We invite our teens to get involved as readers and gift bearers, and there is upbeat music and an inspiring, teen-related homily. This month's Teen Mass is January 22 at the 6:15 Mass. All are welcome to attend, not just teens and their families! If your child is interested in reading or bringing up the gifts, please email Matt Brady.

## January Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries THIS MONDAY

We will be making Sandwiches for Fr. Paul to give out to the homeless in Boston on his monthly volunteer date with Capuchin Mobile Ministries. This month's date is Monday 1/16 at 4 pm at St. Ann. Anyone who wishes to volunteer is welcome and can sign up by emailing Matt Brady. This counts as service hours for anyone who needs them!

## Disciples of Hospitality

Our collaborative Disciples of Hospitality play an important role in our parishes by creating opportunities for parishioners to socialize and get to know each other. As we start the new year, we are looking to work on new ways to make this happen. We will be meeting on Wednesday, January 25th at 5 pm in St. Ann's hall to share ideas and start planning. All parishioners are welcome to join us! For questions, please email or call Matt in the office.



	<p><b>G.M. Petti</b>  <b>Painting Co.</b>          Painting &amp; Wallcovering          Interior • Exterior          Gary M. Petti 508.378.3459          25 Memorial Dr., East Bridgewater  <i>Long time friend and business partner          of the St. John's Parish</i></p>	 <p><b>LET'S GROW          YOUR BUSINESS</b>          Place Your Ad Here          and Support Our Parish!</p> <p><b>CONTACT ME          Tom Blanco</b></p> <p>tblanco@4LPi.com or          (800) 477-4574 x6285</p>	<p><b>Ockers</b>          TECHNOLOGY... FOR TOMORROW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Computer &amp; A/V Solutions Provider</li> <li>- Data / Video Wiring Installation</li> <li>- Network Configuration, Installation &amp; Support</li> <li>- Security Systems</li> <li>- Public Address Systems</li> </ul> <p><b>508.586.4642</b>          830 W. Chestnut St.   Brockton  <i>St. John's Parish's Longtime Friend</i></p>
<p><b>Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!</b></p> <p>Instantly create and purchase an ad with</p> <p><b>AD CREATOR STUDIO</b></p>   <p><b>4lpi.com/adcreator</b></p>	<p><b>ADT-Monitored Home Security</b></p> <p>Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burglary</li> <li>• Fire Safety</li> <li>• Flood Detection</li> <li>• Carbon Monoxide</li> </ul> <p><b>ADT</b> Authorized Provider</p> <p><b>SafeStreets</b></p> <p><b>833-287-3502</b></p>	<p><b>E. WATSON</b>  <i>Excavating</i></p> <p><b>SEPTIC SYSTEMS • SITEWORK</b></p>  <p>Eric Watson O: 508-378-4543          East Bridgewater C: 774-259-0278  <i>Local reliable service &amp;          Friend of the St John's Parish</i></p>	

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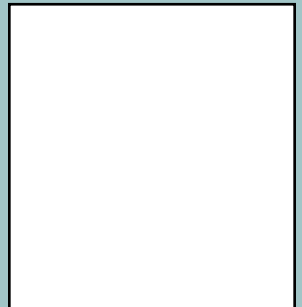


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