



Together in Christ Collaborative

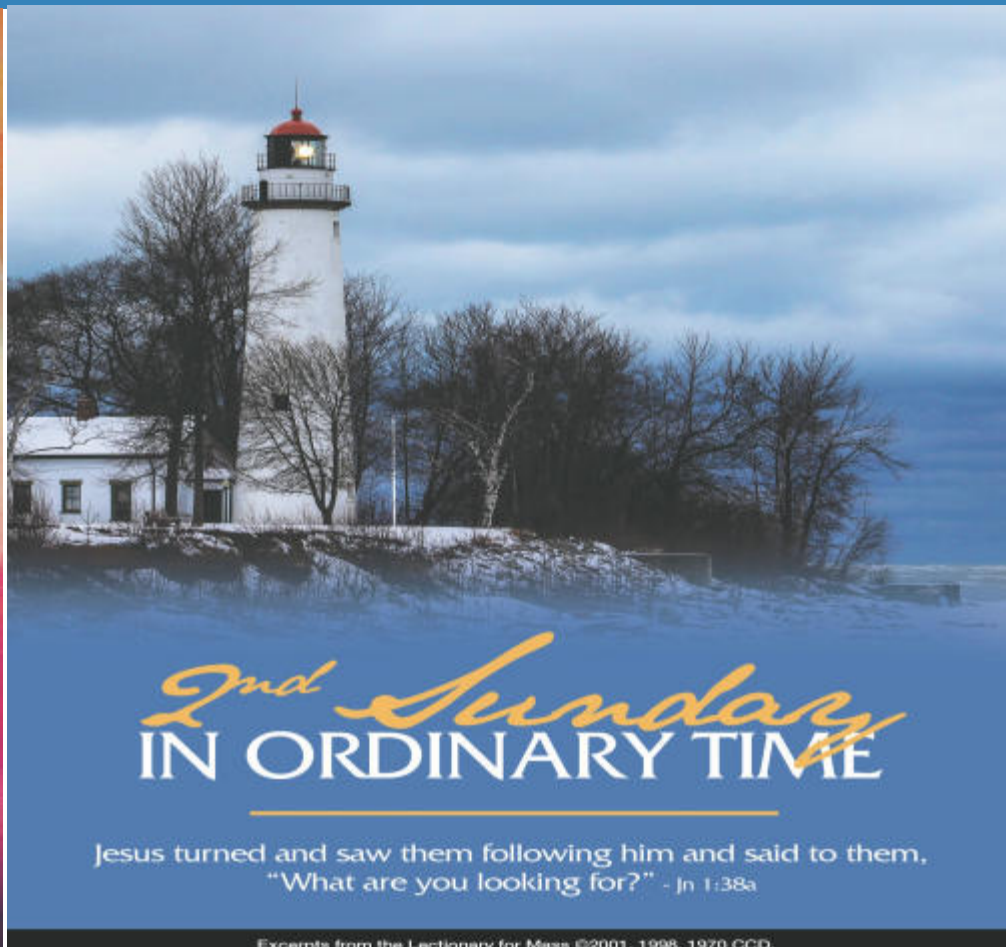
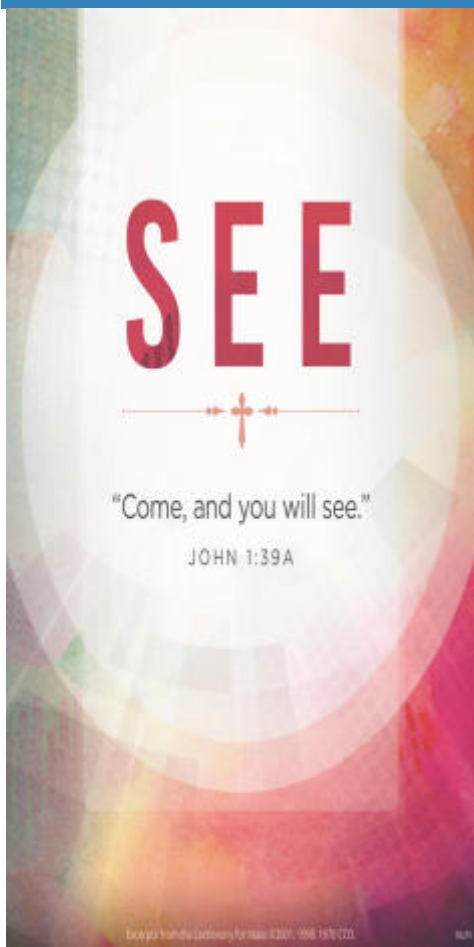
January 17, 2021

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. John the Evangelist

St Ann



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

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

**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.**

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
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: Stephanie Gaboury
directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com
508-378-1521 or 508-586-4880

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, January 16, 2020

5:30 - Carol Florio — Memorial

Sunday, January 17, 2020

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

Saturday, January 23, 2020

5:30 - Ralph Ortenzi — Memorial

Sunday, January 24, 2020

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, January 16, 2020

4:00 - John D'Arpino—2nd Anniversary

Sunday, January 17, 2020

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, January 23, 2020

4:00—Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, January 24, 2020

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann



My Dear Friends in Christ,

When I was discerning a call to priesthood, I felt a little like Samuel. In our first reading, Samuel hears his name and thinks that it is Eli who is calling him. After a few times of this happening, Eli realizes that it is God calling Samuel; Eli tells Samuel that when he hears this invitation, he is to respond “speak, for your servant is listening” (1 Sm 3:10). I say that I felt a little like Samuel because it took me a few times to realize that it was God calling me to this life. Sometimes, it takes a little while for things to “sink in”!

“Come, and you will see” (Jn 1:39). With these simple, yet profound, words, Jesus makes the invitation to two of John’s disciples (Andrew and his brother Simon (Peter)). This is after John declares Jesus to be “the Lamb of God” (Jn 1:36), the first time that Jesus is called by that title. It is an important moment of recognition, for Jesus will indeed be the “sacrificial lamb” for His followers – including you and me. We can look at this invitation as one meant for us, as well. Jesus invites to stay with Him, to abide with Him. Be careful, though, for when we accept this invitation our lives will change radically, as they did for Andrew and Simon Peter (as well as the other Apostles).

This invitation to come and follow Jesus is a wholly different way of living. It is not how the world lives, for the world lives in temporality, in a finite space; it may seem infinite (and is, in many ways), but it will pass away and be no more one day. The world in which Jesus calls us to live is rooted in the Eternal Kingdom, even as it has elements at work in this world. Jesus reminds His listener that “the Kingdom of God is at hand” (Mt 3:2) and “the Kingdom of God is in your midst” (Lk 17:21). He is telling us this so that we may be prepared to join Him in the Eternal Kingdom, for if we wait until the Second Coming from Jesus’ arrival it will be too late. We must prepare here and now for Jesus’ arrival again (at the end of time), for it will be a “one-time offer” – and won’t be made again.

May we take the opportunity today – here and now – to heed the invitation made by Jesus to “come and...see” (Jn 1:39) where He is staying. Hopefully, we won’t have to go any further than our own hearts to see this residence. May we know Jesus’ abiding peace and presence, and may we share it with all whom we meet.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

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 16 - Dec 22, 2020

ST JOHN
Online \$794
Mail \$N/A
Mass \$908

Dec 23 - Dec 29, 2020

ST JOHN
Online \$539
Mail \$8,060
Mass \$891
Christmas - C H & R \$2,556

ST ANN
Online N/A
Mail \$427
Mass \$932

ST ANN
Online N/A
Mail \$917
Mass \$770
Christmas - C H & R \$2,712

Dec 30 - Jan 5, 2021

ST JOHN
Online \$1,797
Mail \$1,570
Mass \$1,446
Grand Annual To Date \$11,435

Suggested Sacramental Offerings

Memorial Mass — \$25

ST ANN
Online N/A
Mail \$2,967
Mass \$1,377
Grand Annual To Date \$11,905

Baptisms — \$50

Funerals — \$600

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, 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

THE FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW HOURS:

*The Food Pantry is open twice a month. —
1st Monday from 1:00-4:00 PM and the
2nd or 3rd Saturday from 10:00 – 11:30 AM*

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
Saturday January 16, 2021**

**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!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Christ Is Anything but Ordinary

We're about to dive headlong into week two of Ordinary Time, and we need to admit, after the hustle and bustle of the holidays, things are indeed looking more ... ordinary, at least in our spiritual lives.

The transcendent highs of the Christmas season are flatlining a bit and the vivid imagery of the Nativity scene has faded. The solemn anticipation of the Advent season is by now a distant memory.

Are you bored yet?

Here's a secret: I think that Ordinary Time can actually be quite extraordinary, if we're really living out our baptismal call.

In today's Gospel, Jesus point-blank asks Andrew, who is following him after hearing John the Baptist's testimony: "What are you looking for?" He's asking us the same question.

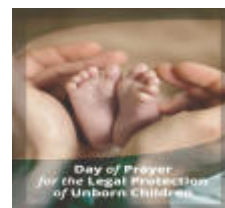
What are you looking for? Why are you following me? Is it for the Christmas cookies and the Advent carols? Is it for the King's Cake on the Epiphany? Is it for the feeling we get on Christmas when we just know God has done a wondrous thing?

None of those things are bad, but they are not what Andrew was looking for, and they were not what Christ promised him when he said, "Come, and you will see." Andrew was looking for the Messiah — the One who makes even Ordinary Time extraordinary. The One who can sanctify the longest and dullest of to-do lists, on the longest and dullest of days. The One whose peace can reign in our homes on January 25, not just December 25.

Remember what you are looking for. Come, and you will see.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
©LPi

**Friday, January 22, 2021
USA: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn
Children**



NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

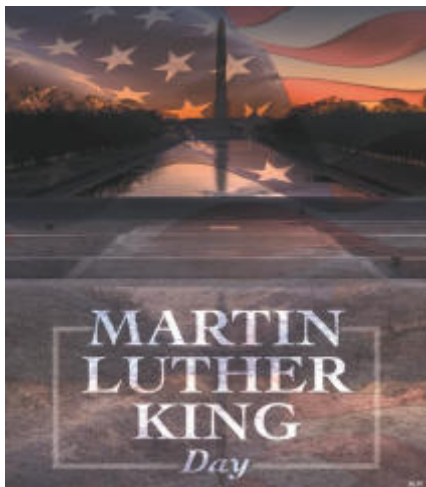
TIC Christmas Flower Donations

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The Gagnon Family	Our Loved Ones
James & Joan Holland	Our Loved Ones
Mrs. Richard Pratt	Pratt, Creedon, & Lankiewicz Families
Denise Robichaud	Robert, Patricia, Michael & nancy Robichud
Mrs. Paul Sheedy	Paul Sheedy Christopher & Lillian Hopkins

PRAY FOR OUR NATION

MONDAY, Jan. 18, 2021

A week of prayer begins for Christian Unity.



News from the Pilot

Washington D.C., Jan 4, 2021 CNA.- The word “amen” is not a gendered word and the term “a-women” is entirely made up, a professor of theology who specializes in Hebrew told CNA, after a prayer in the U.S. Congress used the fake word.

On Sunday, January 3, Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO) led the opening prayer for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Cleaver, an ordained Methodist pastor who served for 37 years as the senior pastor of St. James United Methodist Church in Kansas City, Missouri, ended his prayer asking for peace in the legislative chamber, “in the name of the monotheistic God, Brahma, and God known by many names by many different faiths. Amen and a-women.”

“Brahma” is the Hindu creator deity. There are members of the legislature who belong to Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, and Unitarian Universalist faiths.

While the word “amen” ends in “men,” like “repairmen” or “handymen,” it is not in reference to a gender, Dr. John Bergsma of the Franciscan University of Steubenville said to CNA on Monday. Bergsma has taught four undergraduate courses on Hebrew, as well as a summer intensive on the language.

“‘Amen’ is a Hebrew word whose root meaning is ‘truth,’” Bergsma explained to CNA. “Already in ancient times, the Israelites used the term ‘amen’ in solemn ceremonies to express consent to the truth of what was said, meaning, ‘it is true’ or ‘so be it,’ depending on context.”

In Hebrew, said Bergsma, the word for man is ‘adam’ or ‘ish,’ and is unrelated to the word “amen.”

“In fact, the Hebrew pronunciation is ‘ah-MAIN,’ rhyming with ‘train,’ and doesn’t sound like ‘men,’” he said. “It is a verbal form, not a noun.”

The use of “amen” in Christian liturgical and prayerful context, said Bergsma, “expresses complete consent and faith in what is being said or done, as when we approach the Eucharist and say ‘amen’ to the minister’s statement, ‘The Body of Christ’.”

“At the end of prayer, ‘amen’ expresses our solemn consent to what has been said in prayer, affirming that we have been truthful and expressing faith in God’s truthfulness and trustworthiness,” he said.

As for Cleaver’s use of “a-women” in Sunday’s prayer?

“‘A-women’ is wordplay for comical or political effect in English,” said Bergsma. “Strictly speaking, it is a nonsensical mashup of syllables from different languages.”

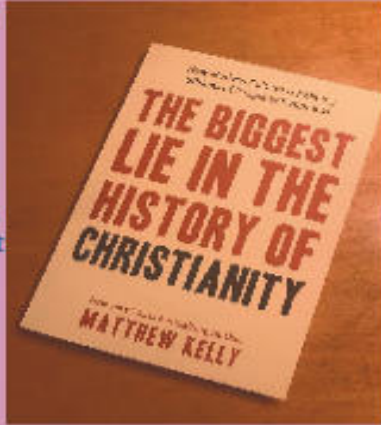
This Week in Ministry

1.18.21-1.24.21

Virtual Book Club!

Join us on Zoom for our first online book club!

We will be discussing Matthew Kelly's book, *The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity* on Sunday, February 21st at 1:00 PM. All are welcome!



Click here to join the discussion:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81724087067>

Need to find a copy of the book? Check out:

[East Bridgewater Library](#)
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[Amazon](#)
[DiscoverBooks](#)

“Today it is very fashionable to talk about the poor. Unfortunately, it is not fashionable to talk with them”

–Do Something Beautiful for God: The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa, January 13th

When we think of the poor, we usually think of a lack of wealth; however, people can also be poor in other ways, such as poor in spirit. In person or not, there is always good we can do to help someone in need.

Challenge of the Week: What can you do today to help the poor?

Are you interested in being a lector or Eucharistic Minister?

We would love to have you join us!
Please email directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com
We will happily answer your questions and train you at your convenience.

Stephanie Gaboury
Director of Ministries, T.I.C. Collaborative

directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com

“Be doers of the word, and not hearers only; Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith” (James 1:22; 2:18)

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

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.



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.

CARDINAL O'MALLEY STATEMENT FOLLOWING VIOLENCE IN WASHINGTON DC

BostonCatholic.org

January 7, 2020

"The beginning of the Prayer of St. Francis is familiar to most of us: "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace". And it is peace we need in our nation today, united by the common good of our people. The violence witnessed in our nation's capital yesterday serves only to inflame our divisions and pit citizen against citizen at a time we need to be united. We reject all forms of violence including the acts of those who stormed our Capitol. We pray for those who lost their lives and for their loved ones and for the injured. We live in a divided nation and the challenges our nation faces are significant.

Our recovery from yesterday's assault will require the best talents of our civic leaders. Very soon President-elect Biden and Vice President-elect Harris will be sworn in to lead our country. In the spirit of what makes America a beacon of light and democracy for the entire world we must set aside our divisions and together go about the work of helping to lift people out of poverty, healing the sick, welcoming the immigrant and address systemic racism, and many other tasks.

Let us heed the words of St. Francis' simple prayer: "where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy."

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