

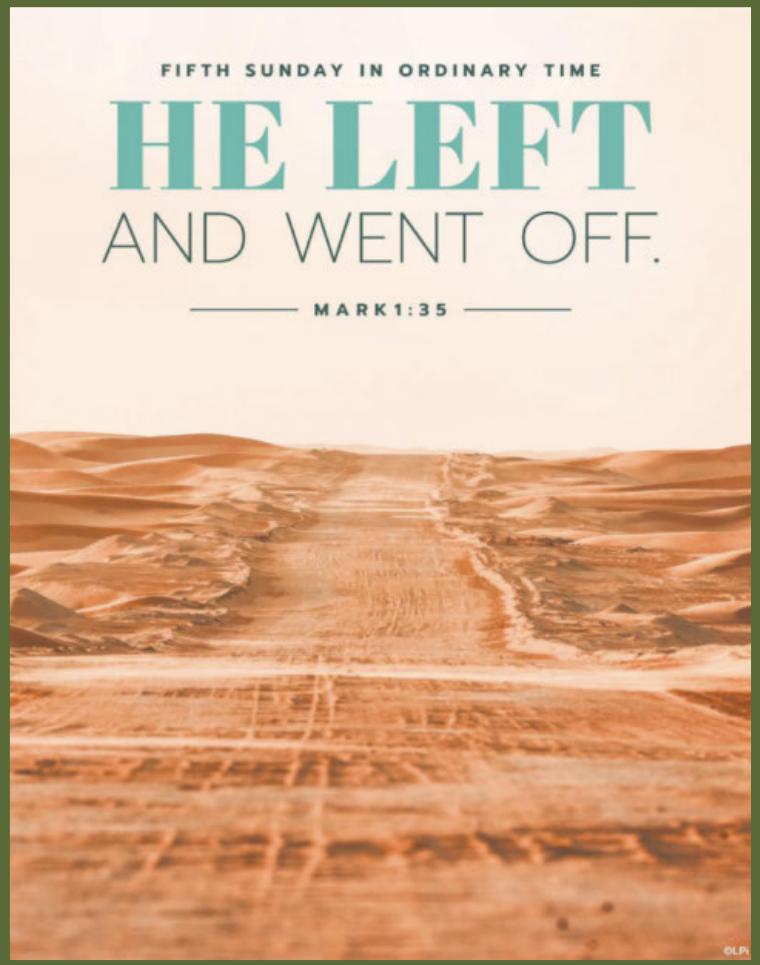


Saturday, 4:00 PM
 Sunday, 9:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 February 4, 2024
 The Fifth Sunday in
 Ordinary Time*



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



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
 9:00-3:00
 Monday through Friday**

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 OFS**

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-Friday

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass
Thurs & Sat.
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

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Arlene Stefano
stanns@comcast.net
508-586-4880

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 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



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, February 3, 2024

4:00 - Harry Soares — Month’s Mind

Sunday, February 4, 2024

9:30 - Kim Russo — Birthday Remembrance

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

Saturday, February 10 2024

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

Sunday, February 11, 2024

9:30 - Lyndsey Pellegrino — 17th Anniversary

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

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, February 4, 2024

8:00 - Robert & Theresa Mason — Memorial

John & Mary Doherty — Memorial

11:30 --Fr. Donald Skerry — Memorial

Sunday, February 11, 2024

8:00 - Emily Harrington — 9th Anniversary

Wendel Harrington — 17th Anniversary

Patrick Abati — 34th Anniversary

11:30 - Joseph Sousa — Birthday Remembrance

SAINT ANN’S CLEANING CREW NEEDS
ANOTHER HELPER.

CLEANING IS EVERY OTHER SATURDAY & WITH
THREE PEOPLE, IT GOES QUICKLY

ANYONE INTERESTED PLEASE CALL
DEBBIE CONRAD 508-378-4207 AND I WILL PUT YOU
IN TOUCH WITH THE CREW FOR MORE DETAILS.

**If you should call St. John’s Office number
(508-378-4207)
and you do not get an answer, please call
St. Ann’s number (508-586-4880)**



MASSES FOR THE WEEK



My Dear Friends in Christ,

In today’s gospel, Jesus goes about enacting healings of all sorts – physical, emotional, and spiritual. It shows the reader of the gospel that Jesus cares for us in all ways – body, mind, and spirit. After these healings, Jesus does something interesting of which we should take notice. Mark tells us that “He left and went off to a deserted place, where He prayed.” (Mark 1:35). It’s a wonderful reminder to us that along with all the work we are called to do, it is crucial for us to find time for ourselves in out-of-the-way places and (re)connect with God. As my mother would say, “if it’s good enough for Jesus, it’s good enough for me”.

As some of you might know, I have become involved in the various activities at the Holy Cross Retreat House in Easton. I volunteer my time on Mondays and help clean up from the weekend retreats that are hosted there, help serve meals at these aforementioned retreats, and also take part in the various spiritual endeavors held at the Retreat House. We even recently took our Confirmation students there for a day’s retreat, which was a wonderfully prayerful afternoon!

One of the long-time activities that is hosted at the Retreat House is Cursillo. Cursillo, for those who are not aware, is “A Short Course in Christianity” (“cursillo” is Spanish for “short course”, in this case in Christianity). When I “lived” my Cursillo, about seven years ago, I had heard about it but wasn’t well-versed in the experience. It is an intensely powerful, Spirit-led weekend which had a profound effect on my spiritual life and my priesthood. It gave me that “lived” experience which has allowed me to encourage others to “live” (which is the word used in Cursillo when one goes through the weekend) Cursillo.

Next weekend (2/10-11), we will be having an “Information Weekend” regarding Cursillo, with folks who have lived Cursillo speak on their experience at Mass and who will be available to answer any questions you might have about this experience. We will also be having an “Ultreya Mass” at 6:00 on Tuesday evening, 2/13, at St. John’s (East Bridgewater), which will be an opportunity for both those who have lived Cursillo, and those who want to know more about it, to come together in prayer and worship. I hope that you will “come and see” what all the “buzz” about Cursillo is all about! De Colores (if you know, you know; if you don’t, come on the weekend of the 10th/11th and Mass on the 13th and find out!).

Peace and All Good,

Fr. Paul

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

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

Adult Confirmation Classes

Classes will be beginning soon for any adult who has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation but is looking to do so. Please contact Matt Brady for more information.

Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

Our next sandwich making night will be February 19 at 6:30 pm at St. Ann. All are welcome! This counts as service hours for Confirmation and for anyone else who needs them.

Soup and Stations

On Friday March 1st we will be hosting a potluck soup supper at 6 pm at St. John followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7 pm.

Share a bowl of soup with your friends as we gather together for fellowship before we pray. All are welcome and you do not need to bring soup to join us.

January Teen Mass

Our next Teen Mass is January 28th at the 6:15 Mass. There will be contemporary music and Fr. Paul will make his homily relevant to the life of our young people.

We also invite any of our teens who would like to do a reading or bring up the gifts to do so. If your teen wants to do one of these things, please contact Matt Brady.

February Family Mass

Our next Family Mass is February 4th at the 9:30 Mass. We invite our kids to do the readings and bring up the gifts, and Fr. Paul has the kids join him around the altar for the homily. There is also coffee and donuts in the back of the church after Mass.

If your child is interested in bringing up the gifts or doing a reading please contact Matt Brady.

An offer of invitation from Nancy Smith, Director of the Holy Cross Retreat Center:

Consider yourself invited to discern a wonderful Retreat opportunity at the Holy Cross Retreat House held on various weekends from October-April. Kevin and I have lived in Cursillo, and either of us would be happy to sponsor you!

Cursillo means "a short course in Christianity".

Cursillo is more than a retreat. It is a dynamic Christian seminar. Participants are given practical insights into the everyday life of faith and service. Through prayer, reflection, group activities, and fellowship, the weekend is designed to deepen and round out what one has learned about Christ.

There is time for reflection and silence, and plenty of songs, laughter, discussion, prayer, liturgies, and breaks to make it a most enjoyable experience.

Winter/Spring Dates:

February 1—4 (Men)

February 22—25 (Women)

March 21—24 (Men)

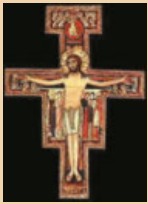
April 25—28 (Women)

October 24– 27 (Men)

November 21-24 (Women)



The retreat costs \$195 for the weekend and includes program materials, lodging, and meals. Please reach out if the cost prevents you from joining us, as help is always available.



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

In the first reading this weekend, we hear Job lament about life being a “drudgery” (Job 7:1), whose “days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle; they come to an end without hope” (Job 7:6). How awful that must have been for Job, and how awful it must have been for anyone whose life seems that way. No doubt, St. Francis went through periods, both before and after his conversion, where this was true. Many people think that when one goes through a conversion experience, especially one such as the dramatic one St. Francis went through, life is all “sunshine, roses, and lollipops”...but it is not. Life has its imperfections, and will be imperfect until we reach the Kingdom. Until then, we can have times when we struggle with life’s vagaries.

St. Francis had his challenges before his conversion, mainly trying to figure out a path in life. Once he heard the Lord speak to him in the little Church of San Damiano, he had a deep and abiding trust in the Lord. This did not mean, however, that his life (post-conversion) was without struggle and disappointment. St. Francis was plagued by difficulties later in his life, including two failed pilgrimages to the Holy Land and the loss of his eyesight, but he did not lose his positive outlook. He continued to find joy and peace in prayer and God’s creation.

Ultimately, Job finds his way back to the Lord. If we “stay the course” with Job, we see that while he had his struggles, he never lost hope that the good God who created him was with him (even when (seemingly) hidden). May we have the same trust and hope that Job did, that Francis did. May we come to believe that God will never leave us abandoned, even when He seems “hidden”.

Peace and All Good,

Fr. Paul, OFS

*The Hosts, Wine and Sanctuary Lamp
this week at
St. John’s
are in memory of:*



Kim Russo



**THIS WEEK’S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR
The Heat & Snow Fund**

**NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR
Bills**

“The trade in human beings, a modern form of slavery, ... violates the God-given dignity of so many of our brothers and sisters and constitutes a true crime against humanity.” —Pope Francis

You may not see the problem, but it’s there. The US State Department estimates there are 24.9 million human trafficking victims worldwide. This is not something that occurs only in dark alleys in the far corners of the Earth, though. It’s happening around the world every day.

Human trafficking is considered modern-day slavery, and there are more slaves today than at any time in history.

“They are hidden from view. You don’t recognize them in the back kitchens, shops, gas stations and in hospitality. They are also tucked away in fields. They don’t come out and ask for help. It’s a different kind of slavery than long ago,” says Dr. Lucy Steinitz, Catholic Relief Services senior technical advisor for protection. “They are not in shackles or on farms. People are coerced into harsh employment under horrible conditions, and then have no freedom to leave. They are beaten, violated and told they are worthless—that no one else wants them anymore.”

There are 3 ways you can help stop human trafficking:

1. Purchase a Gift for Trafficking Survivors

After escape or rescue, trafficking survivors remain at great risk until they can re-establish their lives. CRS’ kits provide a month’s supply of food, medicine, bedding, clothing and hygiene items.

2. Prevent Human Trafficking

The best response to human trafficking is to prevent people from being trafficked in the first place. CRS’ work in agriculture and livelihoods, education, shelter, inclusive value chains, emergency response and recovery and other programming aims to help people prosper at home. Prosperity at home greatly reduces the false enticements of the trafficking trade.

3. Take Action

If you witness suspected human trafficking or other forms of exploitation, speak up. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has been a national leader in advocacy and education efforts related to sex and labor trafficking. These resources can help you take action if you believe there are human trafficking victims in your community. Human trafficking may be a crime against humanity, but as a human you can be the light.

Crs.org

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, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela McDevitt, Karen & Janet Daly, Kathy Conrad, Joan Ward-Fusco, Kenneth McLaughlin, Fred Sprague, Joe Pigeon, Nancy McHugh, Jerry Paluch, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Irene Churchill, Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Eileen Doherty, Louise Ferrari & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



Please let the Rectory know if your loved ones should remain on the prayer list. Or if someone was removed and should be added again.. Thank you for your

LENTEN INFORMATION

Ash Wednesday — February 14, 2024

Mass at St. John's — 9:00 AM

Mass at St. Ann's — 7:00 PM

Service (with Ashes) at St. John's — 4 PM

**The Light is On For You (Reconciliation)
Wednesdays from 6:30—8:00 PM**

Feb 21 — At St. John's

Feb 28 — At St. Ann's

Mar 06 — At St. John's

Mar 13 — At St. Ann's

Mar 20 — At St. John's

Mar 27 — At St. Ann's

Stations of the Cross — Fridays at 7:00 PM

Feb 16 — At St. John's

Feb 23 — At St. Ann's

Mar 01 — At St. John's (simple supper)

Mar 07 — At St. Ann's

Mar 15 — At St. John's

Mar 22 — At St. Ann's (6:00 PM with First Church and hopefully a simple Supper)

(please cut out for quick reference)

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

**Tuna, peanut butter, soups, pasta & pasta sauce, cereal
are needed.**

Cash donations also accepted

St Ann's
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
P O Box 474
West Bridgewater MA 02379

To join please call — TINA ANTHONY
508-245-5481

**Donations are always appreciated. Place Money and gift
cards \$5-\$25 into the St. Vincent de Paul boxes located
at the exits.**

**Because of your generosity, we were able to put together
16 toiletry bags for our homeless neighbors and were
able to donate some toiletry items to the food bank.**

Thank you for your continued generosity.

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.

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

Monday, February 5, 2024

Monday, February 19, 2024

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, soups, pasta & pasta sauce, cereal.**

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.

West Bridgewater Lions Club
Valentine 50's Sock Hop

featuring
FOUR IN A ROW

Friday, February 9, 2024

7:00 - 10:00 PM

St. Ann's Parish Center
103 North Main Street
West Bridgewater, MA

\$15.00 per person

Cash Bar - Beer, Wine, Soda, Water
Hot dogs & Popcorn available for purchase

Bring your own snacks

Door Prize - 50/50 - Raffles

Please consider bringing a pair of socks for our community service project
Sound & Lighting by Thunderbolt Productions

Part of the Melvin Jones Challenge of the West Bridgewater Lions Club



This program is supported in part by a grant from the West Bridgewater Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



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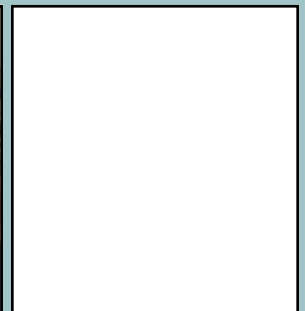
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Andrew Martinez

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