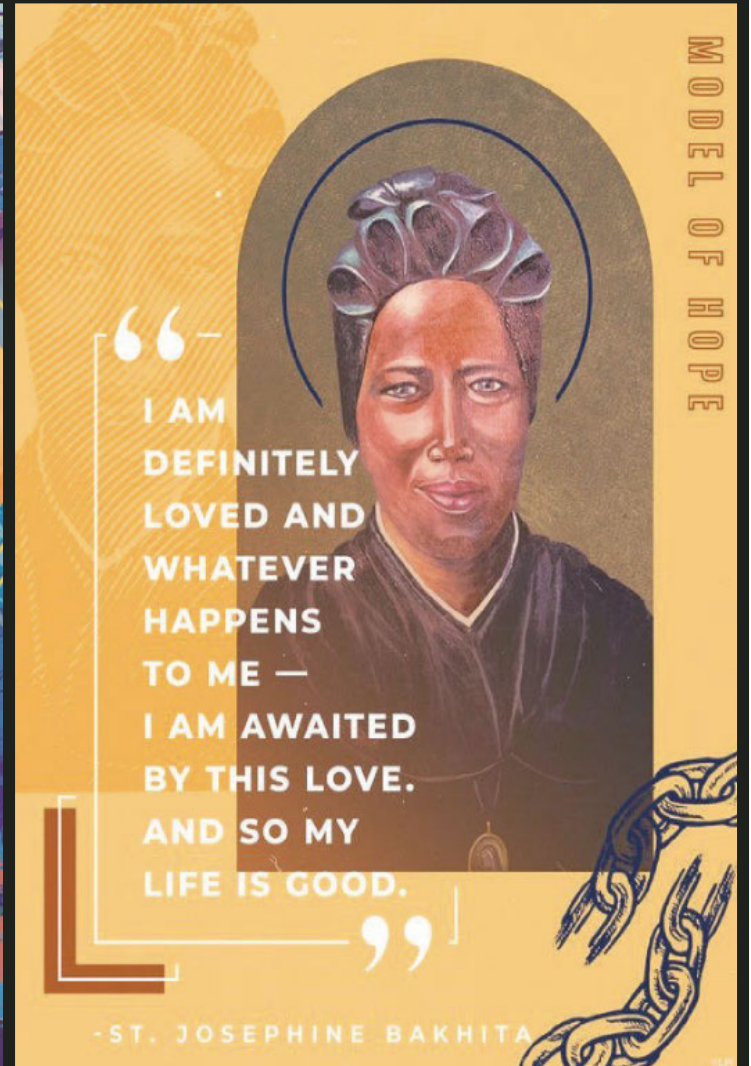
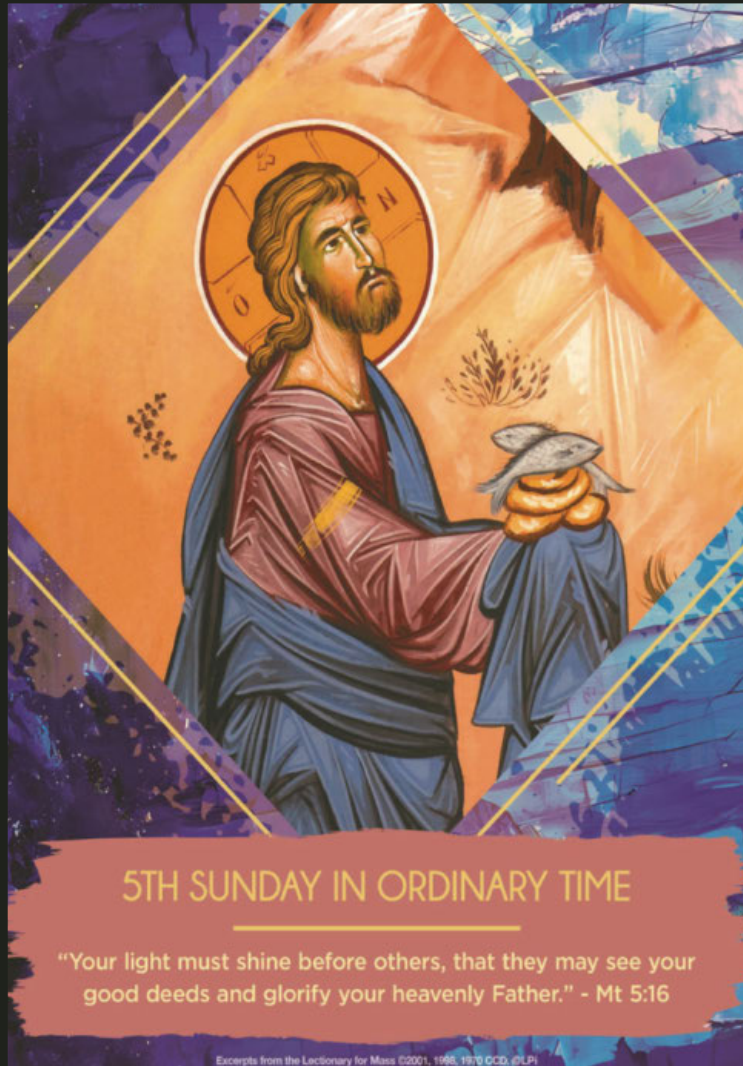




*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
February 5, 2023  
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**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**

**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**

## EUCHARISTIC 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, February 5, 2022

- 7:30 - Mass for the welfare and protection of all our military men and women.
- 11:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative
- 6:15 - For all people suffering from loss

#### Sunday, February 12, 2023

- 7:30 - Mass for the intentions of all our parishioners and loved ones.
- 11:30 - Peter Cogswell — 50th Anniversary
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Saturday, February 4, 2022

- 4:00 - Joseph Sousa — Memorial

#### Sunday February 5, 2023

- 9:30 - Stephen Puffer — Memorial

#### Wednesday, February 8, 2023

- 9:00 — Emily Harrington — 8th Anniversary
- Wendel Harrington — 16th Anniversary
- Patrick Abati — 33rd Anniversary

#### Saturday, February 11, 2023

- 4:00 - Robert DeCosta — 9th Anniversary
- Pauline Grady — 1st Anniversary

#### Sunday, February 12, 2023

- 9:30 Kim Russo — Birthday Remembrance



February 11 — First Reconciliation — St. John's — 10 AM  
 February 26 — Second collection for The Church Around the World

March 22 — Ash Wednesday — Begins Lent  
 March 25 — Confirmation Retreat — Glastonbury Abbey

April 2 — Palm Sunday  
 April 7 — Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)  
 April 8 — Holy Saturday  
 April 9 — EASTER SUNDAY

April 22 — Ecumenical Bi-Centennial Celebration —  
 6:30 — 8:00 pm at St. John's

### Mass Location/Time Changes effective April 14 & 15

Saturday  
 3:00 pm — St. Ann's (confessions)  
 4:00 pm — St. Ann's Mass

Sunday  
 8:00 am — St. John's Mass  
 9:30 am — St. Ann's Mass  
 11:30 am — St. John's Mass  
 6:15 pm — St. John's Mass



My Dear Friends in Christ,

When one does a “Google search” on the phrase “salt and light”, one comes up with over nine million entries. Listings abound, with everything from church ministries to small faith communities to t-shirts emblazoned with a salt shaker and a light bulb! All of them have one thing in common – they trace their origin back to today’s gospel passage in which Jesus uses the images of salt and light to describe how we, as Christians, are to be and act in the world.

Jesus, throughout His earthly ministry, used “earthy” images. This is understandable, given that people of His day were so connected to the earth and its environs. Jesus, in using images such as this, as well as speaking in parables (stories which point to a greater truth), wanted people to strive for a higher reality, one which reaches beyond this world. One may wonder how effective these images and stories are today, since we have become somewhat “disconnected” with our environment, often seeing it merely as a place to “hang our hat” while we go through life. I think it would be a mistake for us to fall into this trap; the earth isn’t just a “stopping point” for us until we get to heaven. Our earthly journey is meant as a learning experience for us so that when we do (God willing) make it to heaven we can know that we helped “build the Kingdom” in our time here. This is why we pray, in the “Our Father”, “thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” It is no accident that we are here on earth, which is why we are called to be “salt and light” to the world.

Salt and light are connected by their dispensation. When one uses too little salt in a meal, it can be bland and tasteless; when one uses too little light, one can stumble and fall. Conversely, when one uses too much salt, the dish being prepared can be “overwhelmed” by the spice; when one uses too much light, one can be blinded and thus rendered unable to move freely. In using both salt and light, a balance must be achieved; in the same way, in our lives of faith balance must be struck so that the message of Holy Scripture and Tradition as found in our Church can be heard, acted upon and lived. If one lives their life of faith sparingly, the message of faith might go unheard; if one is too “heavy-handed”, then people are turned off and the message is similarly lost.

May we have the courage to be “salt and light” to our brothers and sisters. May we be a “light to the nations” and may we “spice up” the world when able and necessary. May we effectively preach the gospel in word and deed by sensing the needs of our brothers and sisters, responding to those needs and thus bringing forth the greater glory of God.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

## Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at [directorofministries.tic@gmail.com](mailto:directorofministries.tic@gmail.com)

### **Coffee and Donuts after the 11:30 Mass:**

Starting next Sunday (2/12), we will have a monthly coffee and donuts after the 11:30 Mass in the hall. All are invited to join us! Special thanks to the Disciples of Hospitality for making this happen.

### **February Teen Mass:**

Our next Teen Mass is Sunday, February 26th 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. 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.

### **Bible Study Launch:**

I would like to start an adult Bible study for the parishioners of our parishes. It will be based on the Sunday Gospel and will feature discussion of the passage and how we can apply it to our lives. To find the best time to hold the Bible study, I have created a survey. This is the link: <https://forms.gle/415uB5ZsabXwHzwc7>. You can also find it on the website and our Facebook pages.

### **No Sandwich Making this Month!**

Many of you know we normally make sandwiches for Fr. Paul to distribute to the homeless in Boston on his monthly volunteer date with Capuchin Monthly Ministries. This month, someone else has signed up to make the sandwiches, so we look forward to next month! We will resume in March.

### **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+

### **BINGO IS IN FULL SWING**



**Thursdays — St Ann's Bingo**  
Doors open at 4 PM  
Bingo starts 6:30 SHARP

**Saturdays — Southeast Cyclone's Bingo**  
Doors open at 4 PM  
Bingo starts at 6 PM SHARP



## I Believe in One Lord Jesus Christ: If It Is Not Assumed It Is Not Healed

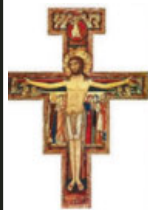
As we come to the final reflection on the section of the Nicene Creed that centers on our belief in Jesus Christ, I wish to call to your attention the basic structure of the creed as we have it in English. In total there is one sentence that describes the Father, five for the Son, one for the Holy Spirit, and one for the Church. The structure of the second section reveals what the Church believes to be true concerning Jesus Christ—He is True God and True Man. Of the five sentences dedicated to the Son, the first two sentences deal with Jesus as being consubstantial with the Father before all ages and teaches that for us the eternal Son is incarnate and becomes man. The next two sentences reveal what Jesus does for us as man: he suffered death on a cross and rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. Then, in the last sentence, the creed turns our attention to the Christian’s hope that Jesus will come again at the end of time to usher in his eternal kingdom of which there is no end.

The sheer number of words dedicated to the Son, reveals that there were significant confusions and debates about who Jesus is and what he does for us. Some believed that Jesus was truly God and only appeared to be a human being. Others argued that Jesus was not truly divine but was adopted as God’s Son at his Baptism. Though he enjoyed a special relationship with the Father, he was a creature—not the creator. There were still others who wrestled with the question, “how can Jesus be God and man?”

Apollinaris of Laodicea (died AD 382) was a bishop in Syria who taught that Jesus, a divine person, had a human body but did not have a human soul. The soul is where the powers of intellect and will reside. Apollinaris did not believe Jesus had a human intellect and will—instead, the divine intellect and will of the eternal Son replaced the human soul. Yet, scripture suggests the opposite. In the Gospel of St. Luke we are told that after Jesus is found in the Temple at age 12, he “grew in wisdom and understanding (2:52).” The faith of the Church teaches that Jesus is like us in all things but sin.

St. Gregory of Nazianzus, one of the three Cappadocian Fathers of the Church, writes against Apollinarianism in a letter to Cledonius, “For that which He has not assumed He has not healed; but that which is united to His Godhead is also saved. If only half Adam fell, then that which Christ assumes and saves may be half also; but if the whole of his nature fell, it must be united to the whole nature of Him that was begotten, and so be saved as a whole.” This teaching from St. Gregory affirms that humans are a unity of body AND soul. Our bodies rely on the soul to give it direction and purpose. A human act is an act that is motivated and directed by the soul’s power of intellect and will. The body does not sin without the intellect and will. By becoming a true human being, our human nature, body and soul, is touched by the person of Jesus Christ and healed. The Apollinarianism heresy was condemned at the Council of Constantinople in AD 381.

This teaching can be a great source of consolation. As scripture reveals, Jesus is truly Emmanuel—that is, God with Us! God knows what it is like to live a full human life. He knows what it is like to be hungry and thirsty. He knows what it is like to be adventurous and curious. He knows what it is like to love and be loved, to be held and to hold. He knows what it is like to wonder and learn. In Jesus, God knows what it is like to laugh and to cry, to celebrate and to mourn. Because Jesus suffers and dies, God knows what it is like to suffer the same. By assuming a true human nature—God is with us in all of these ways so that the grace of his eternal presence might touch our wounded nature, heal it, and elevate it to participate in his own life.



## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

In today’s gospel, Jesus challenges His followers to be salt and light. We are called to be “salt” by bringing some “spice” into the world and by bringing our own unique “flavor” to whatever relationships in which we find ourselves. We are called to be “light” by illuminating the darkness of the world and by letting Christ’s light shine forth from us as we strive to “be Christ” for others and “see Christ” in others. Francis did this in many significant ways.

Francis was “salt” because he was not afraid to shake things up a bit and walk a unique path. He saw things differently than others, sometimes even his own brothers, and was unafraid to preach a word that would, as humorist Finley Peter Dunne would say, “comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable”. He stripped naked in the town square to disavow material possessions. He visited the Sultan and brought the Gospel to regions that had not been exposed to the Word of God. He met with cardinals and popes to bring forth his Rule and make sure it lasted beyond himself. In all of this, his “saltiness” was what was needed, whether those around him realized or not!

Francis was “light” because he realized that the world in general, and the Church specifically, was in disarray. He was called by God to “rebuild the Church” and he did this, in large part, by illuminating the need for Christ’s light in a darkened world. He did this by acknowledging that “All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle”. He may have only been one candle, but he lit others’ candles by bringing his own into the world.

Jesus calls us to be “salt and light”. May we, through the intercession of St. Francis of Assisi, do that by spicing up the world (or, at least, our little corner of it) with our “salt”, and illuminating the dark corners of the Church and world which have been darkened by sin and suffering with our “light”.

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 Nicolar, 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.*

**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.



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.

**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.

*Monday, February 6, 2023  
Monday, February 20, 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.**

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**The Blessing of the Throats  
will be done at all the  
masses this weekend.**



St. Vincent de Paul @ St. Ann's Church  
St. Katharine Drexel Conference **Calendar Raffle**  
Calendar Cost: 1-\$20.00, 2-\$30.00, 3-\$40.00 - Special Prizes on Sunday

✝ March 2023 ✝

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 Bird Supplies Value \$35+ BW	2 6 Cupcakes Value \$25 The Cakes by Tina	3 Rice Cooker Value \$20 BW	4 \$20 Gift Card for 2 <i>Good Days</i>	5 BBQ Supplies Value \$35+
6 Air Fryer Value \$40	7 \$25 Gift Card Georgio's Roast Beef Anonymous	8 \$25 Gift Card Market Basket The Toland Family	9 Skin Care Value \$25 Neora	10 Hand Tools Value \$45+ BW	11 6 Cocoa Bombs Value \$30 The Cakes by Tina	12 Snack Pack Value \$25
13 Queen Size Bed Linen & Comforter Value \$40	14 Assorted Cocoa & Coffee Pods with Cup \$25 Value	15 \$20 Gift Certificate Day Break Restaurant	16 Toiletries Value \$25 Scentys	17 \$30 Gift Card Market Basket The Spano Family	18 6 Cupcakes Value \$25 The Cakes by Tina	19 Diffuser with Pods Value \$25 Scentys
20 \$30 Gift Card Grand Slam The Spano Family	21 Assorted Teas with Cup \$25 Value	22 Wax Warmer with Bars Value \$25 Scentys	23 \$25 Gift Card Market Basket	24 6 Cocoa Bombs Value \$30 The Cakes by Tina	25 \$25 Gift Card Ocean State Job Lot Crazy Deal	26 Assorted Coffee Pods with Cup \$25 Value
27 \$50 Gift Card Chateau The Spano Family	28 \$25 Gift Card Market Basket	29 Snack Pack \$25 Value	30 Cookie Basket \$25 Value	31 Garden Supplies Value \$45		

The Saint Vincent de Paul, Saint Katharine Drexel Conference at Saint Ann's is running a fund-raiser to build up the funds available to help people in need.

The above calendar raffle will begin in March and calendars are on sale now. Calendars can be obtained by contacting Chris Baker at 774-240-8095 or after the masses.

# NEWS

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 2-5 (Men)

February 23-26 (Women)

March 23-26 (Men)

April 20-23 (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.

To register/obtain more information, contact:

Holy Cross Retreat House  
490 Washington St.  
North Easton, MA 02356  
508-238-2051



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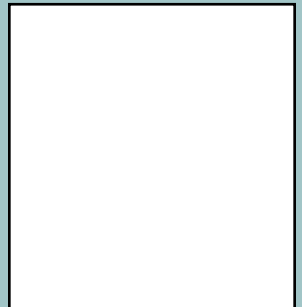


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