



**Together in Christ
Collaborative**

February 7, 2021

**The Fifth Sunday in
Ordinary Time**



St. John the Evangelist

St Ann



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH
December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021

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

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.



LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH
Directions for the distribution of ashes will be in next week's

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
508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

***St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish**

Saturday, February 6, 2020

4:00—Carolyn A. Ritucci — Month’s Mind

Sunday, February 7, 2020

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, February 13, 2020

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, February 14, 2020

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, February 6, 2020

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, February 7, 2020

10:30 - Paul Luddy — 37th Anniversary

Mary Luddy Ahern — 1st Anniversary

Saturday, February 13, 2020

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, February 14, 2020

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

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

Jan 20 - Jan 26, 2021

ST JOHN

Online \$559

Mail \$1,425

Mass \$1,009

TOTAL \$2,993

Grand Annual To Date \$11,460

ST ANN

Online N/A

Mail \$1,330

Mass \$ 874

TOTAL \$2,204

Grand Annual To Date \$12,405

Suggested Sacramental Offerings

Memorial Mass — \$25

Baptisms — \$50

Funerals — \$600

My Dear Friends in Christ,



Sickness can take many forms: one can be physically, emotionally or spiritually sick. One form of sickness can bring about another form of sickness. For example, one who is physically sick with a chronic illness can develop emotional illnesses (or vice versa), or even spiritual maladies (such as despair and doubt of God’s presence). We are, by nature, holistic beings – our minds, bodies and souls are intrinsically linked, one to the other. This is how God made us; we cannot discount anything about our “makeup”, for it all works toward the whole of life. I am very blessed, I feel, to have a good spiritual director and therapist, both of whom work, independent of each another, to keep me “together” (the “jury is out” as to how they’re doing, but I think they’re doing pretty well!).

In today’s readings, illness abounds. In our first reading, Job is despairing about the state of his life, and who could blame him?! Throughout his trials and tribulations, Job curses many things, including his very life – but he never curses God. He still holds out hope that God’s plan is at work in his life.

Ultimately, Job is vindicated for his trust and belief in God. All about him, his family and friends urge him to “curse” and be done with it, move on with his life. Job cannot bring himself to do this, for he knows deep down that God is still there. How often in our lives have we questioned God (even doubted, on some level) in the “low points” of our lives? How often have we wondered, if only to ourselves, where God is in these challenging moments of our lives? This is only natural, human. As long as we don’t bring it to the point of abandoning God’s plan for us and His existence in the world, we are fine.

In our gospel, after curing the illness of Simon’s mother-in-law, the ill and possessed are brought to Jesus for healing. It was thought in Jesus’ day and age that illness and sin were related – the sicker you were, the more “steeped” in sin you were. We know this not to be the case now, for sin is a result of a break in our relationships with God and others and not our physical selves (although sin can impact us physically, impacting our corporal beings). Many of our brothers and sisters in faith still hold on to this misconception, that of sin and illness being related. It is a notion of which we must disavow ourselves, for this is not how God operates. This is not to say that God is absent from these moments. His allowing of these things is part of the “permissive will of God”. It is true that evil exists and “bad

CONT’D NEXT PAGE

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, Bryan Senn & 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 HAS NEW HOURS:

The Food Pantry has changed its hours for the winter.

*Monday, Feb. 1 - 1:00—4:00
Saturday, Feb 20. - 10:00—11:30
Monday, Mar. 1 - 1:00—4:00
Saturday, Mar. 20 - 10:00—11:30*

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**

Cereal, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned goods, etc. are always great additions to the shelves.



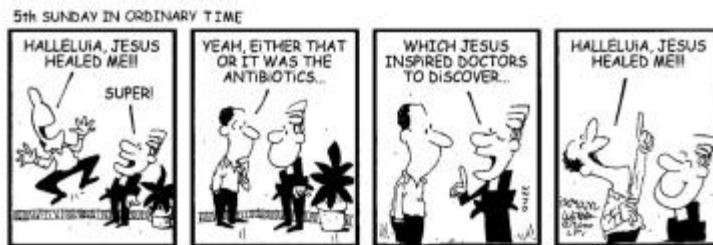
Fr Paul's column cont'd

things happen to good people". To say that God is absent from those moments couldn't be further from the truth. If anything, God is in the midst of those events, leading us from "darkness" to "light", a light that breaks through the darkness of tragedy, illness or even death itself.

Ultimately, Job never loses hope and neither should we. Our God is one who calls us from brokenness to wholeness, from pain to healing, from death to life. In those moments when God seems furthest away, look around – God may be closer than you think. He may just be right there beside you, or more likely carrying you (n.b. the "Footprints" story). May we trust that God is always at work in our lives, especially in the dark and challenging moments. May we trust that God will see us through those times, leading us to the Light that is Himself.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



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.

This Week in Ministry

2.8.21-2.14.21

Congratulations to our new Lector and Eucharistic Ministers!

Welcome to our new Lector, Stephanie Callender, and our new Eucharistic Ministers, Tina Anthony, Claire Easter, Kristin Masefield, and Nancy Weljkovic, who were trained last week by Deacon Chris! Thank you all for sharing your talents and serving our community!



"Not by bread alone"
Recipe Contest!

Do you love to cozy up in the kitchen on a chilly blustery day? It's time to share those talents with our very first Recipe Contest! No need to be an expert chef; whether it's a simple snack, a tasty dessert, or a well-honed family favorite, all entries are welcome! There will be prizes in various categories!

Send your recipe by Friday, March 5th to directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com

Reminder: Upcoming Virtual 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/81724087967>

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

[East Bridgewater Library](#) [West Bridgewater Library](#) [Barnes and Noble](#) [Amazon](#) [DiscoverBooks](#)

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) by my works will show you my faith" (James 1:22; 2:18)



The official prayer of the Year of St. Joseph—To you, blessed Joseph (*Ad te, beate Ioseph*)—was composed by Pope Leo XIII in his 1889 encyclical, [*Quamquam Pluries*](#). The Holy Father asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary especially during October, the month of the Holy Rosary. This prayer is enriched with a partial indulgence (Source: USCCB).

THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH PRAYER

To you, O blessed Joseph (Ad te, beate Ioseph)

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also. Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Audacity of Holiness

Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness “a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness.”

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that “the fever left her and she waited on them.” Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

SAINT ANN'S IN IS NEED OF SOME ELECTRICAL WORK. IF THERE IS A QUALIFIED PARISHIONER WHO COULD DO SOME WORK FOR US, WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT. PLEASE CONTACT THE RECTORY OFFICE . 508-378-4207 OR 508-586-4880

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