



Together in Christ Collaborative

February 14, 2021

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. John the Evangelist

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

St Ann

return



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"A SINGLE ACT OF LOVE MAKES THE SOUL RETURN TO LIFE."

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE

**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

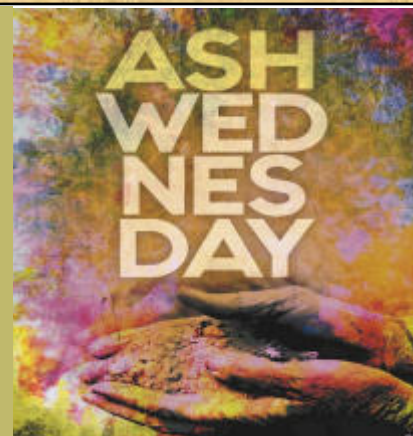
Collaborative Office Hours are 9-4 M-Th

For both Churches

Currently we are working from home.

PRAY

FAST



GIVE

ALMS

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 13, 2020

4:00 - Grace Cosgrove — 2nd Anniversary
Mark Cosgrove — 10th Anniversary

Sunday, February 14, 2020

8:30 - Athur, Marilyn, & Maureen Pigeon
Memorial

Saturday, February 20, 2020

4:00—William McCormack — 8th Anniversary

Sunday, February 21, 2020

8:30 - Rita Giovanni — 3rd Anniversary

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, February 13, 2020

5:30 - Jonathan Kelly — 5th Anniversary

Sunday, February 14, 2020

10:30 - Kim Russo — Birthday Remembrance

Saturday, February 20, 2020

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, February 21, 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 27 - Feb 2, 2021

ST JOHN

Online \$1,422

Mail N/A

Mass \$1,066

TOTAL \$2,488

Grand Annual To Date \$11,610

ST ANN

Online N/A

Mail N/A

Mass \$1,189

TOTAL \$1,189

Grand Annual To Date \$12,405



Let today be the
day you give up
who you've been
for you who can
become.

Blessed Ash Wednesday



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Illness, in ancient times, was often seen as a reflection of one's relationship with God. If one was healthy, one was "right with God"; conversely, if one was ill (say, with leprosy as seen in today's readings) one was seen as "unfavorable" to God. It was in this light that today's readings present a contrast as to how the revelation and presence of Jesus makes such a large difference in our lives.

In today's first reading, Moses sets forth the steps one would take if they found themselves leprous. They are to first present themselves to Aaron, or one of the priests, for inspection. If they are found to be with leprosy, they are declared "unclean" and are to announce themselves as such. The person with leprosy would then separate themselves from the community until such time as the leprosy leaves them (something which would be highly unlikely, since they couldn't get medical treatment). The members of the Israelite community (including the leprous person themselves) would not find this unusual, since it came from the priest.

Jesus, by contrast, takes a radically different approach to one with leprosy. Rather than follow the Mosaic Law, Jesus chooses a different "tack" by opting to unite Himself with the person with leprosy. This is radical not only in that it stands in contrast to Mosaic Law, but also in the fact that Jesus actually touches the person with leprosy. Even if one had sympathy for such a person, one would never actually choose to come into physical contact with that person. This is where Jesus shows us a "new way". Jesus is "moved with pity" (Mk 1:41) at the plight of the man with leprosy. He has been separated from the community by his condition; he is also seen as being "in sin", for the illness has to have a cause and the people automatically think it is because the man is not "right" with God. Jesus sees beyond all of this, choosing to align Himself with the man by not only physically touching the man, but also uniting the man back with the community through the Mosaic Law ("go, show yourself to the priest..." (Mk 1:44). In this way, Jesus once again shows Himself to be the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets.

Where is it in our lives that we need to, in humility, approach Jesus for healing? Perhaps we have a "broken" relationship which needs God's healing touch. Perhaps we have a physical malady in which we need to "align" our suffering to that of Christ who, Himself, knew what it meant to suffer. Perhaps we need to be an "agent" of healing, not being healed but bringing God's healing touch to someone. In whatever way healing needs to take place, let us be "vessels" of God's healing presence. May we know God's healing, and may we be unafraid to bring it to those who need it. May we look to God to heal us, bring His healing touch into the world, and celebrate this healing with all whom we meet.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

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, Rene Pearson & 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.

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



LENT BEGINS

ASH WEDNESDAY — February 17, 2021

Fr. Paul has created a very safe way of distributing ashes this year.

You can drive up to the church using the circle driveway at the front of the church (St John's)

During the hours of:

6:30-7:30 AM

Noon—1:00 PM

5:30—6:30 PM

Drive up to the front doors of the church where Fr. Paul (masked) will meet you and distribute ashes to you in your car. Please be sure to wear a mask while receiving ashes.

Fr. Paul will also be available by appointment for distribution at St. John's Rectory (210 Central St., East Bridgewater)

Or you can text him at 508-954-4767)

There will not be a mass for distribution this year.

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

2.15.21-2.21.21

Confirmation Students: Outdoor Mass!

All grade 10 students and their families are invited to a special outdoor Mass on **Sunday February 28th at 3:00 PM in the St. Ann's parking lot**. Families are invited to bring chairs to sit outside, or can listen to Mass from inside their cars! At the Mass, all Confirmation students will be given forms to prepare them for their upcoming Sacrament. We look forward to seeing you all there!



"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

Final Reminder: Virtual Book Club this Sunday, February 21st at 1:00 PM!

We will be discussing Matthew Kelly's book, *The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity*. Even if you haven't finished reading the book, you're still welcome to participate!

Click here to join the discussion: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81724087967>

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

'THE SOCIAL DILEMMA' EFFIE CALDAROLA

Social media sites know everything about you, or at least that's their goal. And with every click, every "like," every message you view or ignore, they learn more about you.

My brother has been a faithful member of Alcoholics Anonymous for decades. He's the guy who opens the church and brews the coffee for the weekly meeting.

But since March, his meetings have been on Zoom. So he had an idea. On Zoom, he could meet anywhere, right? So why not go somewhere new. He looked up AA meetings on Google, wrote to a group in County Mayo, Ireland, and asked if they'd share their meeting link. Voila! There he was, at a meeting in a little village in Ireland.

Technology and social media are amazing. What would I have done without texting, emails and Zoom during isolation, with kids far away and a new granddaughter in October? It's great to keep up with friends on Facebook. Twitter and other platforms provide lots of news. It's a blessing in so many ways.

"The Social Dilemma" is a documentary made before our recent terrorist attack. Available on Netflix, it includes interviews with many of the brilliant people who brought us Google, Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest and other sites that occupy so much of our time. The warnings they present are sobering. I have friends who have quit Facebook after watching it.

Social media sites know everything about you, or at least that's their goal. And with every click, every "like," every message you view or ignore, they learn more about you. It's a constant process, a never-ending attempt to lure you into more -- more scrolling, more addiction, more hours spent on their sites.

When they see what you like, what you click on, they give you more of the same. That's how some people fall into a rabbit hole of increasingly more frightening misinformation and conspiracy. So you're interested in the "lizard people conspiracy?" Or you're sure there's a "deep state" running things? Wait, says the site, there's more!

The film provides a realistic portrayal of how a young person might become radicalized by social media, something we've come to associate with jihadis. But now that we've seen our own home-grown terrorism, we realize how powerfully persuasive social media can be even to susceptible adults.

Addicting us is what social media has to do to sell their product, and to sell the products their sites sell. It's built into their algorithms.

And what is social media doing to our kids? We've heard of young teens seeking plastic surgery so they could resemble the "influencers" they follow on Instagram.

The statistics on the skyrocketing rates in the last decade of suicide, depression, self-harm and anxiety among teens are terrifying, and those rates are rising fastest among the youngest teens. Meanwhile, teen pregnancy rates are dropping. On the face of it, that's a good thing, right? But it's a sign of a frightening trend -- teens are increasingly living their lives on screen, rather than in in-person relationships. This is not healthy.

Solutions? The "Social Dilemma" offers some technical and regulatory ones, but also practical advice. Don't give your kids smartphones until they're well into their teens, and then be vigilant. It's very important to get your own news from a variety of well-regarded sources. And monitor the time you spend scrolling.

Perhaps a good question to ask as we look forward to Lent: How much time do I spend daily in prayer versus how much time on social media?

- Effie Caldarola is a columnist with the Catholic News Service

World Marriage Day

©LPI

Great News - Worldwide Marriage Encounter has gone "Virtual"!

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some span multiple weeks on a given weekday. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call at or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.

"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." Does your marriage give glory to God? Learn how to let your Sacrament shine on an upcoming virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on Feb 22-Mar 15, 2021 in VIRTUAL 3RE, NY and Mar 19-21, 2021 in HAWTHORNE, NJ

Fr. Donald Skerry SVD passed away peacefully at 7:25 A.M. Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at the Techny residence. In Chicago. His health, especially his memory, had steadily declined for the last several months.

Fr. Skerry was a dedicated part of the St. John Faith Community for years, serving masses, assisting with sacraments, being a constant example of someone filled with God's grace. He was a good friend to Fr. Wally, Fr. Paul and to us all.

May Fr. Skerry rest in peace and receive his reward in heaven with Almighty God.

Come Unto Me and I will give you Rest!

Please keep Fr. Skerry in your prayers.



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