

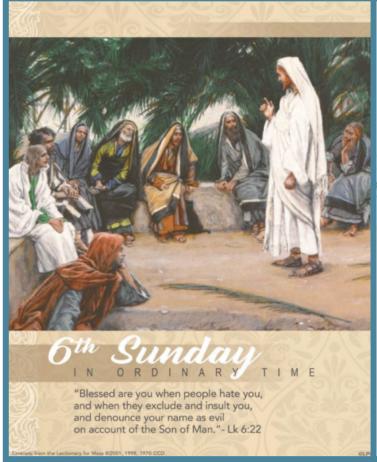
Sunday, 8:00 AM Sunday, 11:30 AM Sunday 6:15 PM

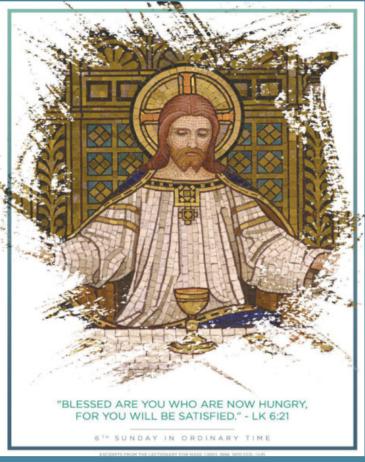
Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
February 16, 2025
The Sixth Sunday
In Ordinary Time



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

2025 Jubilee - Pilgrims of Hope





Church of Saint Ann

103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater 02379 508-586-4880 (24 hour service)

E-Mail: stanns@comcast.net
Website: stannswb.com
Facebook: St. Ann-WB

Collaborative Office Hours are 9:00-3:00

Monday through Thursday

Saint John the Evangelist

210 Central St., East Bridgewater 02333

Office -103 N. Main Street,
West Bridgewater, 02379
508-378-4207 or 508 586-4880
E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net
Website: www.stjohneb.org

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

1

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

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St Ann's

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. 6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass w/ Drive up option

> Daily Mass Thursday & Saturday 9:00 a.m.

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Daily Mass: Wednesday & Friday 9:00 a.m.

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 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

Director of Ministries: Matthew Brady directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

774-533-2002





Sunday, February 16, 2025

8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

11:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

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

Sunday, February 23, 2025

8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

11:30 - Rita Giovanoni — 7th Anniversary

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

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, February 15, 2025

4:00 - Manuel & Maria Moura & Son — Memorial

Sunday, February 16, 2025

9:30 - Kim Russo — 6th Anniversary & Birthday Remembrance

Saturday, February 22, 2025

4:00 - Robert & Theresa Mason — Memorial John & Mary Doherty — Memorial

Sunday, February 23, 2025

9:30 - Maria C. Boreira — 70th Birthday Remem.

WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

MEMORIAL MASSES Suggested donation \$25+

HOSTS, WINE AND SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR THE WEEK Suggested donation \$55

Including a Memorial Mass, Suggested donation \$80

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK \$85; or including the mass Suggested donation \$110

HOSTS, WINE & SANCTUARY LAMPS, FLOWERS \$140 including the MASS, is a Suggested donation of \$165







Payment for the above memorials would be appreciated TWO weeks in advance, separate from your offertory.

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Friends in Christ,

When I was in seminary, we often spoke of the "warm and fuzzy Jesus" of which people most often think when picturing Jesus. They think of the Jesus who restores sight to the blind, who restores



health to the crippled, and life to the dead. While these images of Jesus are valid, they neglect the Jesus who was not afraid to confront authority, who was not afraid to upend the status quo.

In the Beatitudes as presented by Luke, Jesus offers blessings to the poor, the hungry, the weeping, the accursed and insulted. He reminds them their "reward will be great in heaven" (Lk 17:23), something my mother used to say to us when things were not going our way. It was of little comfort to hear those words as a four year-old, but they are of great comfort as someone in their sixth decade of life! Jesus does not stop there, though, as He does in other gospel treatments of the Beatitudes. Jesus follows these blessings with the "woe" statements, cautioning those who are rich, filled, laughing, well thought of, and the like. To these folks, his "woe" is not meant as sadness, but caution; Jesus might as well be saying "whoa" (as in 'hold up/stop") because these statements are meant as a caution and a warning. He cautions those who put their trust in the world that these are only passing fancies, fleeting glories. Our real treasure is in heaven, and Jesus is cautioning those who rely on the world for everything (in the control of the world or not) to be careful.

One of the challenges of the Christian life is that it is meant to be lived out in a world that is often referred to as living a "post-Christian reality". The Christian life is one in which gospel truths and values are brought into the world, into one's everyday life. Wherever we find ourselves – work, school, home – we are called to be "gospel people"; all too often we leave what we have heard and read right where we have heard and read it. Our challenge is to bring the gospel with us. As has been oft quoted, "be careful...you may be the only bible someone reads"; in other words, we are called to be the living embodiment of the gospel, following in the footsteps of Jesus.

May we have the courage to be gospel people. May we know the truth and be unafraid to incorporate it into our daily lives. May we not only "know of" Jesus, but truly "know" Him by how we live. May the Beatitudes which Luke offers be both comforting and challenging. May these words we hear today take root and bear fruit so that all may know Jesus and share Him with all whom we meet.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

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

Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

February 17 at 6:30 pm at St. Ann

Join us as we make sandwiches for Fr. Paul and the team from Capuchin Mobile Ministries to distribute to the homeless in Boston and Cambridge.

All are welcome, especially those in need of service hours!

February Teen Mass

Our next Teen Mass is February 23 at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann. Similar to Family Mass, we invite our teens to do a reading or bring up the gifts. Fr. Paul also tailors his homily to be relevant to their life and there is contemporary music at the Mass.

If your teen is interested in bringing up the gifts or doing a reading, please email Matt Brady.

March Family Mass

Our next Family Mass is March 2 at the 9:30 Mass at St. John. 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 email Matt Brady.

IMPORTANT: CORI Forms

All collaborative volunteers and staff are required to submit at FY2025 CORI form per Archdiocesan policy. Copies of the form can by found in the sacristies of both churches. If you have any questions, please call the office or see a staff member at Mass.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.



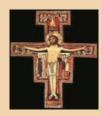
Lenten Mission: Pilgrims of Hope

For the theme of the Jubilee 2025, Pope Francis has chosen the virtue of hope. Why is hope so essential for being a Catholic today? What is hope? How can we grow in hope? Join us for this year's Lenten Mission to find out!

Sunday 3/23: 6:15 pm Mass, 7 pm talk at St. Ann Monday 3/24: 7 pm Mass followed by talk at St. John

Pope Francis: Hope does not disappoint!

MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY



Today's gospel is one of the key moments of Jesus' ministry, His "Sermon on the Mount and His preaching of the Beatitudes. In this passage, Jesus brings comfort to some (with the words "Blessed are you..." which begin some of these phrases) and challenge to others (with the

words "Woe to you..." beginning other phrases). In this sermon which brings blessings to some and woe to others, Jesus shows to us that the way God looks at people and their daily lives is radically different than how the world sees people and situations.

In that same vein, St. Francis looked at the world – creation, really – in the same light as Jesus did. This should come as no surprise, that Francis would align himself with Jesus rather than the world. In looking at creation, whether it was humanity, the animal kingdom, or nature, Francis saw the Divine in everything. In this way, Francis saw inherent value in people and other created things. One of the most "Franciscan" Beatitudes would have to be "Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours". How Franciscan is that?!? If Francis is known for anything by the layman, it is poverty. He is even known, colloquially, as "Il Poverello" ("The Poor Little Man"). Francis certainly would look at someone who is poor and see not their poverty but their dignity, as well as that "divine spark" which unites them to Christ. It was to the poor to whom Francis felt called to minister. And not just the physically impoverished (although he certainly did that, even to the point of taking poverty upon himself, wearing it like a cloak), but the spiritually and emotionally poor as well.

Francis was not afraid to "speak truth to power" and call upon the rich to share their treasures, for he saw wealth as a gift, one which was to be shared. He was not afraid to "call out" someone who was living luxuriously and challenge them to free themselves of their wealth so as to not only help out someone in need, but also to free the person themselves from being beholden to the world. This was not just limited to the lay world, even challenging the Church of his time and how it was living. His outburst caused Pope Innocent III to jail him, so outraged was the Pope, but that did not last long and Francis was released.

One of the great "fruits" of my Franciscan journey has been my time spent with the Capuchin Mobile Ministries, who serve our brothers and sisters in Boston and Cambridge who are without permanent, sustainable housing. In bringing them basic necessities in the form of sandwiches and coffee/cocoa/lemonade, as well as items such as hats, gloves, and socks, the Capuchin Mobile Ministries strives to bring the spirit of Francis alive. You can learn more about this wonderful ministry on their website, https://www.capuchin.org/mobile-ministries/ and you can even volunteer by visiting https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4eafa629abf5c43-volunteer

It was once said by St. Francis that "poverty is that heavenly virtue by which all earthy and transitory things are trodden under foot, and by which every obstacle is removed from the soul so that it may freely enter into union with the eternal Lord God". May we all grow in that virtue and see in the poor the very face of Christ the Lord.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul/ OFS

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION IS TO BUILD UP THE SNOW FUND

EASTER IS COMING

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU —Confessions Wednesdays

 3/12 @ St. John's
 3/19 @ St. Ann's

 3/26 @ St. John's
 4/2 @ St. Ann's

 4/9 @ St. John's
 4/16 @ St. Ann's

STATIONS OF THE CROSS — Fridays at 7:00 PM

3/7 — 6:00 Simple Supper @ St. John's — Stations 7:00

3/14 — St. Ann's 3/21 — St. John's 3/28 — St. Ann's 4/4 — St. John's 4/11 — 6:00 Simple Supper with First Church & Stations at 7:00 at St. Ann's

HOLY WEEK

4/15 - TUESDAY — TENEBRAE — ST. ANN'S

4/17 - HOLY THURSDAY

7 PM SERVICE — WASHING OF THE FEET AT ST. JOHN'S

4/18 - GOOD FRIDAY

9:00 MORNING PRAYERS AT AM AT ST. JOHN'S

3:00 PM — SEVEN LAST WORDS WITH EB CLERGY ASSOC. AT ST. JOHN'S

4/19 - 9:00 — MORNING PRAYERS AT ST. ANN'S 8:00 — EASTER VIGIL MASS

4/20 EASTER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

8:00 — ST. ANN'S

9:30 — ST. JOHN'S

11:30 — ST. ANN'S

Prayer of God's Blessing

Bless me, Lord, mold my heart in imitation of Yours.

Bless me, Lord, help me to see people as You do, and to hear their needs.

Bless me, Lord, replace my understanding with Yours. Amen.

©LPi

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, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela
McDevitt, Janet Daly, Kathy Conrad, Joan WardFusco, 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 Churchll,
Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti,
Deb Gifford, Karen, Dan, Candice Frabetti, Patrick McCormick, Rob Levesque, Alex & Landon, Susan Coronella,
Stephen D'Guiseppe, Ann Bortolotto, Elaine Landolfi, Cathy
Hadfield, Helen Bomar, Stacy McCarthy, Mark Neumeier,
Johnny MacLaughlin & The residents of Sachem &
Westview & all our service men and women serving in the
military.

Saint John

The host, wine, and sanctuary lamp this week

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John Russo

In loving memory of



Kim Russo



Father Paul would like to have **greeters** at all the masses.

This was done during Covid and it was a wonderful way to welcome parishioners to the masses.

If you would like to be a greeter at the mass you attend, or already perform this service, please let the office know by calling:

St John's 508-378-4207 or St. Ann's 508-586-4880

We look forward to hearing from you.

St Ann — ST. VINCENT DE PAUL P O Box 474 West Bridgewater MA 02379 To join please call — TINA ANTHONY 508-245-5481

Please help St. Ann's, St. Vincent de Paul Committee help our homeless neighbors.

We are looking for donations of: Hats, Gloves/mittens, handwarmers, hand sanitizer, cleansing wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, \$5.00 Dunkin donuts gift cards, etc.

To join or get more information on how we can help a neighbor in need, please call Tina Anthony at: 508-245-5481.

Next meeting: February 11, 2025

West Bridgewater Food Pantry 457 Rear, South Main Street, Unit #1 West Bridgewater 02379

WHEN: Curbside distribution the FIRST and THIRD

Wednesday each month TIME: 1:45-3:00PM or 5:30-6:00PM

Need: jelly, rice pilaf, pancake mix, syrup, pasta sauce, baked beans

Cash donations also accepted.

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul 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

February 3 & February 17

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, toothpaste, tooth brushes, toilet paper.

Gift cards are also a great help. \$5 — \$25 cards are easier to distribute than large sums., ie \$100

NEWS

Mardi Gras

Ouestion:

Carnivale and Mardi Gras celebrations are linked to Ash Wednesday, Lent, fast and abstinence. Can you tell us more about the connections between these events?

Answer:

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the forty days known as Lent. Every year, Christians highlight this penitential season as a time of self-examination, reformation of one's life, and continued development of a deeper spiritual life. The recommended practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving become the focus of Lenten activity and ritual. Each of these spiritual practices is aimed at personal discipline as well as continued concern for the other, especially the poor or alienated.

Forty days is a symbolic biblical period of time, during which personal transformation occurs and out of which people surface as more spiritual, ready to carry out God's mission. Relying on God's providence and care, no matter how difficult life becomes, is crucial to Lenten spirituality. Fasting was initially stricter, permitting only one simple meal a day without meat, fish, or other delicacies. Such things were not even allowed in the house.

Update on Westgate Chapel of Our Savior at Brockton's Westgate Mall

The Chapel of Our Savior staffed by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement has been serving Brockton and the neighboring communities for many years providing spiritual guidance, confessions, Masses and a gift store. We are fortunate to have such a resource so available and look forward to their continued presence in our area.

The Chapel announces that Brother Thomas SA who has faithfully served in the chapel and the gift store and has been a good friend to so many for the past 21 years has been reassigned. The Chapel Masses, programs and gift store will continue to serve the people in this area. Fr Ken Cienik, SA and Fr. David Porier, SA are presently serving the chapel community.

In order to prepare for this in an age of no refrigeration, people gathered to consume whatever was not allowed during Lent. This led to parties or celebrations originally referred to as Carnivale, literally meaning "goodbye to meat," or Mardi Gras, literally meaning "Fat Tuesday." The eating and celebrating ended on the Tuesday just before Ash Wednesday. Today we focus more on moderation in all things, as well as a strong concern the poor. What are you doing for the poor this Lent?







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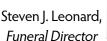
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