



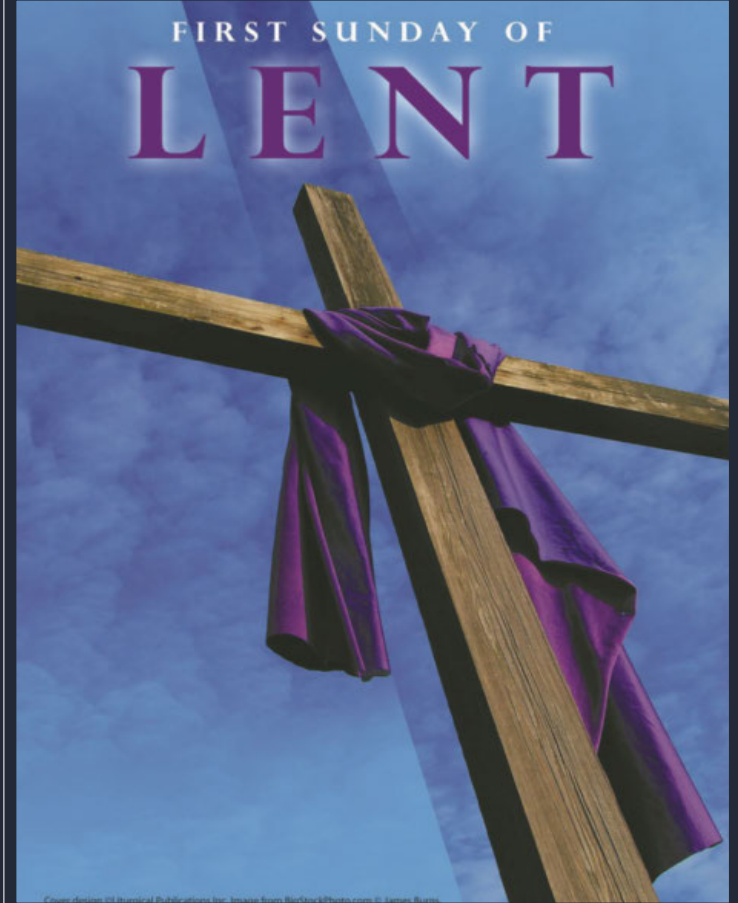
Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 March 9, 2025
 The First Sunday of
 Lent*



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
 (Account suspended)**

**Collaborative Office Hours are
 9:00-3:00 M-TH**

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: stjohnbridge@comcast.net
 Website: www.stjohneb.org**

**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB
 (Account suspended)**

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

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
6:15 p.m.
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.

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 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



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, March 9, 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, March 16, 2025

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Oliver Sansoucie — 1st Anniversary
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 8, 2025

- 4:00 - Sunday, February 23, 2025
Jose & Maria Pereira & Son & Grandson—
Memorial
- 9:30 - Jim McLaughlin & Jimmy McLaughlin —
Memorial

Saturday, March 15, 2025

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

Sunday, March 16, 2025

- 9:30 - William J. Buckley — 6th Anniversary

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,

Lent has begun! Our forty day period of “prayer, fasting and almsgiving” has kicked off, and I hope and pray that this Season is a time of grace and joy for you. Yes, I said joy! When we think of joy, we think of a festive feeling of frivolity, but joy to the Christian is something entirely different. Joy to the Christian is rooted not in this world, but in the Kingdom; this is why the concept is so difficult for many to grasp. We live in a world of instant gratification, of living “in the now”. There is nothing wrong, per se, with “living in the moment” – it can make the present reality that much more “present”. The challenge with living in the here and now, however, comes to bear when we forget why we are here. The present life isn’t just a “stop over” until we get to heaven, but neither is it the “be all, end all” that world would have us believe. The “pitfall” of living a fully human life is to think that this is all there is; it is a temptation to be avoided, for if we do not, our very soul could be at risk.

Jesus knows all about temptation. Today’s gospel presents three very real temptations to humanity – physical deprivation and need, power and glory, and safety and security. In being presented with these three temptations, Satan acknowledges Jesus’ humanity. This is something of which we need to remind ourselves. When we remember that Jesus (along with being “fully God”) is “fully human”, we find our own humanity “raised up”. A reminder of this comes in our Mass, when the priest (in preparing the water and wine for consecration, so as to become the Blood of Christ), says the words “By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity”. In doing so, he is reminded (and thus, by his actions, reminds the congregation) that Jesus knows what it is to be tempted as a “flesh and blood” human being, but did not give into those temptations.

In moving forward in our Lenten journey, may we realize that there will be temptations. May we also realize that we can, with the help of God through the presence of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit, overcome those temptations. May this Lenten Season be for us a time of cleansing, purification and healing. May this Season also be a time of hope, peace and....JOY!

A Prayerful, Peaceful, and Joyful Lent to All,

Fr. Paul



IN EARLY PREPARATION FOR EASTER, WE ARE ENCOURAGING YOU TO SEND IN YOUR EAST FLOWER DONATIONS.

YOUR ASSISTANCE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

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

March Teen Mass

Our next Teen Mass is March 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 Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

March 17 at 6:30 pm at St. John
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!

IMPORTANT: CORI Forms

All collaborative volunteers and staff are required to submit at FY2025 CORI form per Archdiocesan policy. Copies of the form can be 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 Simple Suppers are back!

Last year we did two Soup and Stations nights before the Stations of the Cross. This year we are doing Simple Suppers at 6 pm before **all** the Stations. They are potluck style, so please bring a simple meatless dish (it doesn't have to be soup) to share if you are so inclined. But all are welcome, so bringing something is not a requirement! Hope to see you there— see the last page and the flyers in the church for the schedule.

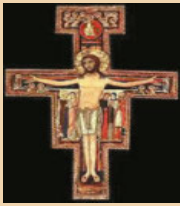
Lenten Mission: Pilgrims of Hope

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

Last Wednesday, with the imposing of the ashes and the admonition: “Repent and believe in the Gospel,” we began our Lenten journey. This season of intense preparation for the joy of the Easter Resurrection admonishes us to prayer, fasting, alms-giving and a sincere repentance of heart. Many of us will begin “giving up” things or making Lenten resolutions. The Church holds up for us the lives of saints in order that we might not only admire their dedication but imitate their example. St. Francis of Assisi observed Lent with the utmost seriousness. We see his ardent devotion to true repentance in chapter seven of “The Little Flowers of St. Francis of Assisi”.

“Saint Francis, true servant of Christ, was in many ways like Christ himself, given to the world for the salvation of all people. Thus, God willed that Saint Francis conform to the example of his only son Jesus Christ in his choice of twelve companions, as we have seen, in the wondrous mystery of the Sacred Stigmata, and in his Lenten fasting, which he observed in the following manner.

Having been lodged at the house of a faithful follower near the Lake of Perugia during the time of Carnival, Saint Francis was inspired by God to observe Lent that year on one of the islands in the lake. So Saint Francis asked his devoted son, for the love of God, to take him on Ash Wednesday in his boat to the uninhabited island by night, so that no one might see them, which the man did readily out of the great love and devotion he held toward Saint Francis. Bringing with him only two small loaves of bread, Saint Francis enjoined his friend to tell no one that he was there and to come back for him no sooner than Holy Thursday, at which his friend took leave of the island, leaving Saint Francis there by himself.

As there were no houses on the island to be used as shelter, Saint Francis was content to use a large, thick bush overgrown with vines and plants as a kind of den or hut for himself. There he prayed and contemplated heavenly matters, staying there throughout all of Lent without food or drink, eating no more than half of one of the small loaves he had brought with him, and his faithful friend found him on Holy Thursday upon his return to the island. Upon seeing a loaf and a half of bread still untouched, he believed that the saint ate the half loaf he did eat out of sheer reverence for the fasting of the blessed Christ, who ate nothing for forty days and forty nights, wishing to follow the example of Christ’s fast but setting aside any temptation to vain-glory by eating this half loaf of bread as an act of intentional humility.

Afterwards, God began to perform miracles in this place where Saint Francis had observed his Lenten abstinence in such a wondrous fashion. People came to this island, building houses and living there, until finally a town grew up, along with a community house for the friars, and all in this place where Saint Francis observed Lent felt great devotion for him and reverence. Praise be to Jesus Christ and to his poor servant Francis. Amen”

May your Lenten journey be a grace-filled experience and may it bring you closer to Christ and His desire to grow close to Him in all things!

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

THE SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK IS TO BUILD UP THE SNOW FUND.

EASTER IS COMING

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU —Confessions
Wednesdays 6:30—8:00 PM

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
Each week Simple Suppers will be held at 6:00 PM
before Stations - Pot Luck - Please bring a meatless dish.

3/7 — St. John’s	
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 - 7PM — TUESDAY — TENEBRAE — ST. ANN’S

4/17 - 7 PM — MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER
(WITH WASHING OF THE FEET)
ST. JOHN’S.

4/18 - GOOD FRIDAY
9:00 MORNING PRAYERS AT ST. JOHN’S

3:00 PM — SEVEN LAST WORDS WITH EB
CLERGY ASSOC. AT ST. JOHN’S
7:00 PM — GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE — ST.
ANN’S

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

4/20 EASTER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE
8:00 — ST. ANN’S
9:30 — ST. JOHN’S
11:30 — ST. ANN’S



Please pray for health and healing for Pope Francis, entrusting him to the healing care of our Lord. so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life. unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

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:



Pope Francis, Denise Robichaud, Patricia Estes, William Neyman, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela McDevitt, 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 Churchll, Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Dan, Candice Frabetti, Patrick McCormick, Rob Levesque, Alex & Landon, Susan Coronella, Stephen D'Guisepppe, Ann Bortolotto, Elaine Landolfi, Cathy Hadfield, Helen Bomar, Stacy McCarthy, Mark Neumeier, Johnny MacDonald, Merilyn, Sandy & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

Lent

Question:

After attending our parish retreat and feeling much better and stronger about my faith, I want to make this Lent worthwhile. What can I do to keep the spirit and practice of Lent?

Answer:

You've already taken the first step by going on the parish retreat. It is important for us to "tune up" our faith, taking some time to renew ourselves through prayer, meditation and education. By deepening our knowledge and understanding of faith, we are often better attuned to its richness and meaning for our life.

Lent is an intense retreat, a forty-day period of reflection and penance that prepares us to celebrate the passion, death and resurrection of Christ. Our communication with God and our awareness of him is the purpose of prayer. Setting aside extra time each day helps intensify the season. Prayer includes daily Mass, Stations of the Cross, communal penance services and private confession. Making restitution for sin as well as disciplining our hearts and minds to focus on God is the purpose of penance. It helps us restore a sense of balance to our souls, thrown off kilter by sin. Penance includes personal sacrifice, self-denial, fasting, almsgiving and charitable works.

Finally, spiritual practices help us sharpen our understanding and insight into the meaning and understanding of our faith. When you take your faith seriously, you do what is necessary to follow Jesus more closely, to integrate your life and your faith more carefully.

©LPi

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: March 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

March 3 & March 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

The Archdiocese of Boston's guidelines for Lent include fasting, abstinence, and generosity.

Fasting:

Catholics between the ages of 15 and 59 are required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting means eating one full meal and two smaller meals that don't add up to a full meal. Eating between meals is not allowed, but liquids like milk and fruit juice are permitted.

Abstinence:

Catholics over the age of 14 are required to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. Abstinence means not eating meat from chickens, cows, sheep, ham, pigs, or birds.

Generosity:

Donating to local, national, and world programs.
Participating in traditional Lenten devotions.
Practicing self-denial, or "mortification".

Other practices:

Attending daily Mass
Reflecting, serving, and praying

The traditional pillars of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The goal is to develop a closer relationship with God.

The custom of giving up something for Lent is not mandatory, but it can be a salutary custom.

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