

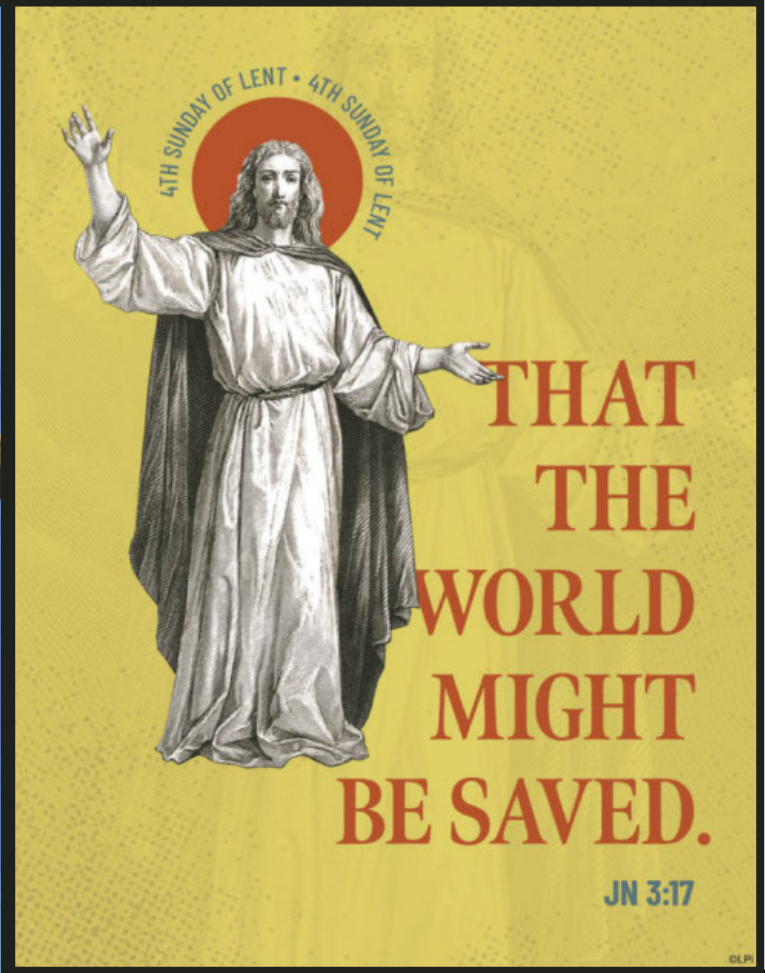
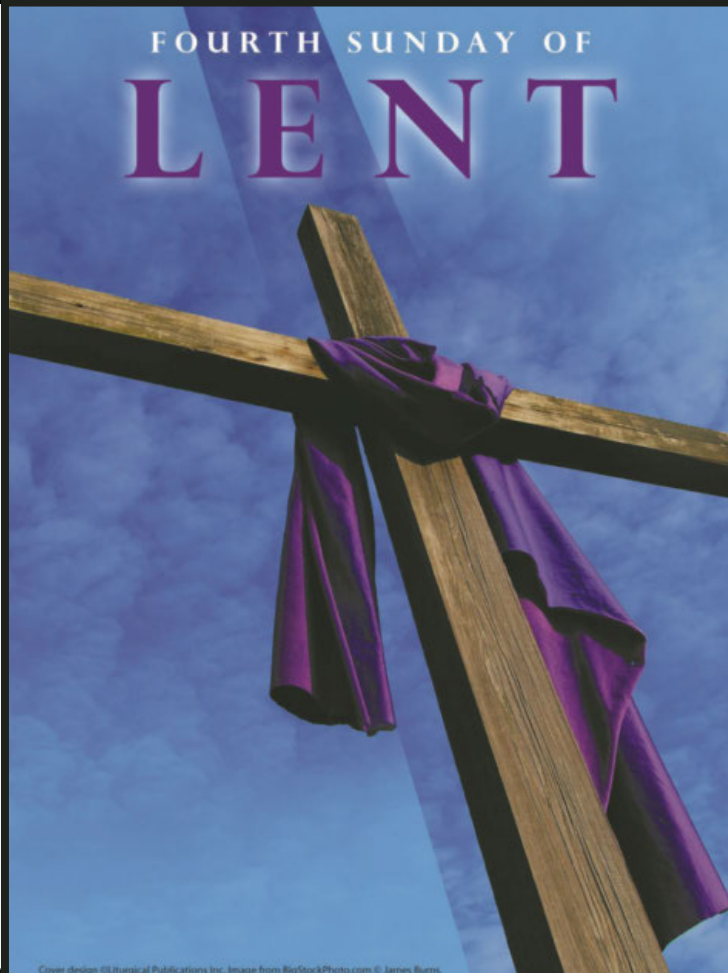


Saturday, 4:00 PM
 Sunday, 9:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 March 10, 2024
 The Fourth Sunday of Lent*



Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM



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
9:00-3:00
Monday through Friday

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 OFS

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

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

**6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass
w/ Drive up option**

**Daily Mass
Thurs & Sat.
9:00 a.m.**

St John's

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 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 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 JOHN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
stjohnebridge@comcast.net
508-378-4207
Music Minister: Erica Vinton

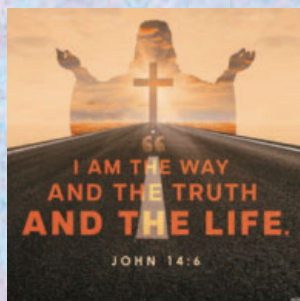
COLLABORATIVE STAFF

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





St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 9, 2024

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

Sunday, March 10, 2024

9:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

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

Saturday, March 16, 2024

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

Sunday, March 17, 2024

9:30 - Joseph Giovoanoni — 2nd Anniversary

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

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, March 10, 2024

8:00 - Jean Berrigan — Month's Mind

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

Sunday, March 16, 2024

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

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

LENTEN INFORMATION

Ash Wednesday — February 14, 2024

Mass at St. John's — 9:00 AM

Mass at St. Ann's — 7:00 PM

Service (with Ashes) at St. John's — 4 PM

The Light is On For You (Reconciliation)

Wednesdays from 6:30—8:00 PM

Feb 21 — At St. John's

Feb 28 — At St. Ann's

Mar 06 — At St. John's

Mar 13 — At St. Ann's

Mar 20 — At St. John's

Mar 27 — At St. Ann's

Stations of the Cross — Fridays at 7:00 PM

Feb 16 — At St. John's

Feb 23 — At St. Ann's

Mar 01 — At St. John's (simple supper)

Mar 07 — At St. Ann's

Mar 15 — At St. John's

Mar 22 — At St. Ann's (6:00 PM with First Church and hopefully a simple Supper)

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

My Dear Friends in Christ,



I was speaking to some folks the other day about the various churches in which I've celebrated Mass. The one thing that stands out for me in each of these buildings is the Cross; it tends to stand out as the most prominent feature in most churches. I've seen all different styles, types and interpretations, but what tends to "link" them is the power to move one's heart towards union with Christ. One of the most beautiful crosses I've seen in recent memory is the Franciscan cross found in the Basilica de Santa Croce (Church of the Holy Cross) in Florence, said to have been founded by St. Francis of Assisi himself. The cross present in this church was such a powerful manifestation of Christ that it literally brought me to tears.

The Cross of Christ stands before us as a stark reminder not only of the sacrifice of Christ, but the sacrifice which we (as followers of Jesus) are called to make. It also brings to mind the love we are called to have for our brothers and sisters in Christ. It is in the name of Jesus that we do, as Christians, what we do. It is His love – a selfless, emptying (or "kenotic", as the Greeks would say) love - which we bring into the world. This is not unique to Christians, for there are many who do not share in the Christian faith who give of themselves beyond measure without expectation of recompense. What makes Christian love unique is that it is not mere altruism (giving for the sake of giving, giving because it "feels good"); Christian love is what it is because of the source and end result of that love – Jesus and His Kingdom. It is a love which the world cannot or will not understand, because there is (seemingly) nothing in it for the giver. There's no "what's in it for me" or "looking out for #1", because what's "in it for us" is intangible and the "#1" for whom we're looking out is Jesus!

The gospel passage from today contains what is, arguably, the most famous line in scripture: "For God so loved the world, that He gave us His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life" (Jn 3:16). It is so well known due not only to being seen at sporting events throughout the world, but also because it points to the Cross, which is a "stumbling block" for some but which is the vehicle of salvation for so many who believe in the sacrifice of Jesus. It is we who bring this scriptural passage into the world for whom this message is meant. It is not for us alone, however – it is meant for all who "have ears to hear", and are open to the message. May we have the courage to not only hear, but listen, that Jesus is calling us to conversion, such that when Jesus is lifted high on the Cross that we are with Him. May we know His transforming love, and share it with all whom we meet!

Have a Blessed Lent,

Fr. Paul

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 March Teen Mass is March 17 at the 6:15 Mass. There will be contemporary music and Fr. Paul will make his homily relevant to the life of our young people.

We also invite any of our teens who would like to do a reading or bring up the gifts to do so. If your teen wants to do one of these things, please contact Matt Brady.

Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

Our next sandwich making night will be March 18 at 6:30 pm at St. John. All are welcome! This counts as service hours for Confirmation and for anyone else who needs them.

Soup and Stations with First Parish Church

In conjunction with our annual joint Stations of the Cross with First Parish Church, on Friday March 22nd St. Ann will host a potluck soup supper at 6 pm in the parish center. Stations will follow at 7 pm in the church. All are welcome!

Tenebrae

March 26th 7 pm St. Ann

Start your Holy Week with our annual Tenebrae service. The word tenebrae is Latin for darkness, so this service will feature the gradual darkening of the church by extinguishing of candles on the altar. Through scripture readings and the singing of psalms, it honors the loneliness and darkness that characterizes Jesus' passion.

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 1—4 (Men)

February 22—25 (Women)

March 21—24 (Men)

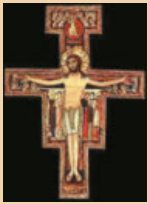
April 25—28 (Women)

October 24– 27 (Men)

November 21-24 (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.



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

The Cross stands for us as one of the most powerful symbols of our relationship with Christ. It was at the Cross that Jesus gave Mary, his Blessed Mother, over to the care of John (the Beloved Disciple) and John over to the maternal love of Mary. It was at the Cross at San Damiano that St. Francis heard the words that would change his life and, for many, the world. It was at the Church of San Damiano that St. Francis was told by the Lord “rebuild my Church, for it is falling down”. St. Francis took these words literally, at first, and began to rebuild the church stone by stone. It was only through further discernment that Our Lord was telling St. Francis to “rebuild” in the spiritual sense. St. Francis was to reform the Church, or at least his little corner of it.

When St. Francis heard these words of the Lord at the foot of the Cross at San Damiano, his “new life” was set in motion and he would go on to found the Franciscan Order as well as the Poor Clares, the second “branch” of the Franciscan “tree”. His own personal life would also change after that encounter with the Lord at the foot of the San Damiano Cross, his own personal “Calvary”. Secular Franciscans, for their part, join in this “cross bearing” by wearing the Tau Cross, which is the “habit” of the Secular Franciscan Order. The Tau was created by St. Francis, who modeled it after the letter “T” (“Tau”, in the Greek alphabet), as it most closely resembled the Cross of Christ. I wear one (as do my fellow Secular Franciscans) to remind us to “live like Francis”, who strove to “live like Jesus”. It is a daily reminder, when it is donned, to live simply, humbly, but profoundly in our commitment to Christ and His Gospel.

The gospel today reminds us of how Jesus was “lifted up” (John 3:14) on the Cross and how we are called to “lift up” Jesus by putting Him first and making Him present in all we do. The gospel further reminds us that we are to be people of the light, letting Christ’s light shine through us into a darkened and broken world. St. Francis did this by bringing God’s peace, mercy, and love into the world by his preaching, teaching, and living simply. May we be a people of the light as well, bringing Christ’s light into our everyday encounters.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS



**THIS WEEK’S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR
Bills**

**NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR
Bills**

HOLY WEEK

*March 24, 2024 — Palm Sunday
Masses as usual*

*Tuesday, March 26, 2024 — Tenebrae —
St Ann’s — 7 PM*

*Thursday, March 28, 2024 — Holy Thursday
Mass at St. John’s — 7 PM*

*Friday, March 29, 2024 —
Seven Last Words — 3 PM — St. John’s
7 PM — Service at St. Ann’s*

*Saturday, March 30, 2024 — Easter Vigil
8 PM — St. John’s*

*Sunday, March 31, 2024 — Easter
Regular Mass Schedule with the
Exception of no 6:15 Mass*

Dear Friends of Life:

In order to advance the pro-life cause in Massachusetts, there is a great need for education on Respect for Life, especially the most vulnerable, and least visible lives: the children in the womb.

And so, you (clergy, DRE’s, catechists, parents, activists) are invited to an important educational event - “Advocacy for Life: A Successful Approach”.

The program will be presented by Linda Thayer, who has used this method with over 100,000 Confirmation students in parish programs for over four decades.

It is our hope, that after viewing the presentation - including images of the unborn - you may wish to offer this program as part of your parish Faith Formation, or to other adult parish groups. We further hope to encourage catechists and activists to volunteer for training in this method to assist in the goal of spreading the message that human life is sacred.

We look forward to seeing you there!

For Life,

Linda Thayer, The American University Women for Life, Pro Vita Melrose, and The Pro Life Network, Billerica and Beyond

Date: March 21, 2024

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Register using this link:

<https://forms.gle/R47a4yTdgpGLxhDV6>

Zoom: The Zoom link will be emailed to you prior to the event.

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, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela McDevitt, Karen & 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 Churchill, Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Eileen Doherty, Louise Ferrari, Dan & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



A Prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the true King of peace. In You alone is found freedom.
 Please free our world from conflict. Bring unity to troubled nations. ...
 Dispel all darkness and evil. Protect the dignity of every human life. ...
 Give wisdom to world leaders. Free them from selfish ambition.

Amen

**Thursdays — St Ann's Bingo
 Doors open at 4 PM**

**Starting time is changing to
 6:15 SHARP**



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
**peanut butter, Progresso soups, pasta sauce & brownie
 mix are needed.**
Cash donations also accepted

St Ann's
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
 P O Box 474
 West Bridgewater MA 02379

To join please call — **TINA ANTHONY**
508-245-5481

**Donations are always appreciated. Place Money and gift
 cards \$5-\$25 into the St. Vincent de Paul boxes located
 at the exits.**

**Because of your generosity, we were able to put together
 16 toiletry bags for our homeless neighbors and were
 able to donate some toiletry items to the food bank.**

Thank you for your continued generosity.

**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.

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

*Monday, March 4, 2024
 Monday, March 18, 2024*

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.**

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.

This will be commitment weekend for the Catholic Appeal.

Gavan P. Mooney, Chief Philanthropy Officer for the Archdiocese of Boston, said, “The Catholic Appeal is a collective opportunity to demonstrate our shared strength as Catholics to uphold Catholic values and help our parishes, schools, and ministries to serve the needs of thousands across the Archdiocese. The greater the participation, the greater the impact we can have on the lives of others.”



Ways to Give

The Catholic Appeal makes an immediate impact on the 50+ ministries that support our parishes, schools, and communities.

If attending Mass, you can use the in-pew envelope to make a gift or pledge. The in-pew envelope will be available beginning Commitment Weekend, March 9-10.

To make an online donation or to learn more about the benefits of giving by direct debit, donor-advised funds, stock, or IRA contributions, visit our secure website at bostoncatholicappeal.org.

The Catholic Appeal is managed by Boston Catholic Development Services, an Archdiocesan ministry with a mission of seeking philanthropic support for the mission of the Church.

For more information, please visit bostoncatholicappeal.org.

**NEVER MISS
OUR BULLETIN!**

SUBSCRIBE

Have our bulletin emailed
to you every week.



VISIT WWW.PARISHESONLINE.COM

C.J. PLUMBING
PLUMBING HEATING GAS FITTING

Trusted on the South Shore since 1984
 Serving Brockton to Bridgewater & Everywhere In-Between

Joseph Gouthro
 License # 31320
 Proud Parishioner
 Business Partner
(508) 378-1271


Coffey
 DANCE CENTER

Jazz · Tap · Ballet · Hip Hop

EAST BRIDGEWATER
(508) 378-7043
www.coffeydance.com
Proud St John Parishioner

E. WATSON
 Excavating

SEPTIC SYSTEMS • SITEWORK



Eric Watson O: 508-378-4543
 East Bridgewater C: 774-259-0278

*Local reliable service &
 Friend of the St John's Parish*

Ockers
TECHNOLOGY... FOR TOMORROW

- Computer & A/V Solutions Provider
 - Data / Video Wiring Installation
 - Network Configuration, Installation & Support
 - Security Systems
 - Public Address Systems
508.586.4642

830 W. Chestnut St. | Brockton
St. John's Parish's Longtime Friend

CONLEY
 Funeral & Cremation Service

Stability ♦ Family ♦ Integrity

Brockton, Massachusetts
508-586-0742
www.conleyfuneralhome.com
*Longtime Friends of
 St. John & St. Ann Parishes.*

Blanchard Funeral Chapel



Steven J. Leonard,
 Funeral Director

Plymouth St. (Rt. 58 at Rotary) • Whitman
www.blanchardfc.com | 781-447-0170

SUPPORT
 OUR
 PARISH



IF YOU LIVE ALONE
MDMedAlert!™ **You Need**

At HOME and AWAY! As Low As
\$19⁹⁵ /mo.

- ✓ Ambulance/Police
- ✓ Family/Friends
- ✓ GPS & Fall Alert


CALL NOW! 800.808.9294
md-medalert.com



Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

Instantly create and purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO

4lpi.com/adcreator

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust


- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider | SafeStreets | **833-287-3502**



FREE AD DESIGN
 with purchase of this space

CALL 800-477-4574



LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS
 Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME
Ginny Sgarzi

gsgarzi@4LPi.com
(800) 888-4574 x3121

catholicmatch®
 Massachusetts



CatholicMatch.com/MA

ROOFING, SIDING, WINDOWS, GUTTERS



508-441-3161

Parishioner



EAST BRIDGEWATER INSURANCE AGENCY

"Let the Spagone Family insure your family"

www.ebinsuranceinc.com
508-378-3991



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!