



*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
March 12, 2023
3rd Sunday of Lent*



IF TODAY
YOU HEAR
his voice.
HARDEN
NOT YOUR
Hearts.

Psalm 95



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." - Jn 4:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

GLP

GLP

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 9-3 M-F
For both Churches**

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

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

Daily Mass, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 a.m.
In the Church

St Ann's
Sunday: 7:30 a.m. & 11:30 &
6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass: Thurs & Sat.
9:00 a.m.
Holiday Schedules will vary

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 ANN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Arlene Stefano
stanns@comcast.net
508-586-4880

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

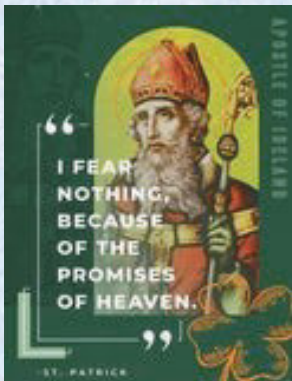
Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
stjohnebridge@comcast.net
508-378-4207
Music Minister: Erica Vinton

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



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, March 12, 2023

7:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative
11:30 - Gerry & Mamie Marochino — Anniversary
6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

Thursday, March 16, 2023

9:00 - Nadine DeCoudrois — Memorial

Sunday, March 19, 2023

7:30 - For all families struggling financially
11:30 - For all families struggling with addiction
6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 11, 2023

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

Sunday, March 12, 2023

9:30 - William J. Buckley, Jr. — 4th Anniversary

Saturday, March 18, 2023

4:00 – Suzanne Serino — 3rd Anniversary

Sunday March 19, 2023

9:30 - For the homeless and the hungry

Deacon Chris' column will be on hold during Lent and will return after the Easter Holiday.

We look forward to the return of these articles as they are a valued part of each bulletin.

March 19 — Teen Mass — 6:15
March 25 — Confirmation Retreat — Glastonbury Abbey

April 2 — Palm Sunday
April 7 — Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)
April 8 — Holy Saturday (Vigil Mass)
April 9 — EASTER SUNDAY

April 22 — Ecumenical Bi-Centennial Celebration —
6:30 — 8:00 pm at St. John's

Mass Location/Time Changes effective April 15 & 16

Saturday

3:00 pm — St. Ann's (confessions)
4:00 pm — St. Ann's Mass

Sunday

8:00 am — St. John's Mass
9:30 am — St. Ann's Mass
11:30 am — St. John's Mass
6:15 pm — St. John's Mass

My Dear Friends in Christ,



Have you ever been so caught up in your daily routine that you fail to see Jesus in it? Of course you have – we all have. I think this to be less of a condition of faith than a case of humility. What do I mean by that? Well, I believe that sometimes we forget the humanity of Jesus to such a point that we don't think that He ever would "lower" Himself to be with us. We want Jesus to be divine – and He is! We also want Him to understand those things we are going through in our daily lives – and He does.

Today's gospel is a perfect "case in point" of that phenomenon. When Jesus approach Jacob's well, He is thirsty; it is noon (so it is most likely hot), and Jesus is tired from His journey. Who wouldn't be? What happens next is something which distinguishes this event from any ordinary encounter one might have at such a place. First off, there is the idea of a Jew asking for something from a Samaritan. Next, there is the cultural barrier of a man approaching a woman not his wife for any reason. Finally, there is the level of conversation in which Jesus engages the Samaritan woman. Any of these three things would make this event "stand out", but for all three to happen in the same encounter is truly amazing! Then again, Jesus is anything but conventional in His thinking, acting or living.

Jesus' desire for water is just the "jumping off point" for a further exploration into the Samaritan woman's life, the worship practices of Jews and Gentiles and the mission of Jesus. When Jesus reveals details about this woman, it is clear that He "knows" her (by "knowing", I speak here of her soul (note the conversation about her husbands)), even though they have never met. In speaking of "living water" (Jn. 4:10), Jesus is speaking about Himself being the "spring of water welling up to eternal life" (Jn. 4:14). In speaking of worshipping "neither on this mountain (Mt. Gerizim) nor in Jerusalem (where Jesus will complete His earthly mission)" (Jn. 4:21), Jesus expands the vision of His mission to include all places, all times, all peoples.

This is where we "come into the picture." Jesus sees into our souls (just as He did with the Samaritan woman), helping us to confront evil and sin which may be blocking us from fully experiencing God's goodness. Jesus gives us that "living water" (Jn. 4:10) when we approach Him in humility, He "quenches our thirst" for mercy and love (in our lives and in the world). When Jesus expands His mission, we are brought "into the fold", and Jesus becomes an integral part of our journey of faith.

Let us have the courage to invite Jesus into our lives, letting His "living water" (ibid.) satisfy our thirst for righteousness. Let us allow Jesus to heal us of that which is preventing us from loving fully God and neighbor. Let us use this Lenten journey as a time for deepening our relationship with the One who comes to bring life in abundance.

Have a Blessed Lent,

Fr. Paul

MINISTRY NEWS

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

St. Patrick's Day Stations and Potluck: 3/16 at St. John

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, we are hosting a special Stations of the Cross on Thursday, 3/16 at 6 pm at St. John's followed by a potluck supper. All collaborative parishioners are welcome to join us, young and old!

For those interested in bringing something to the potluck, please fill out the signup sheet at the back of one of the churches so we can get a sense of how much food we will have. Thanks!

March Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries:

Our monthly sandwich making project for the homeless of Boston returns this month. Join us on March 20th at 6:30 pm at St. John's as we make sandwiches for Fr. Paul and the Capuchins to give out.

If you plan to join us, please sign up here: <https://forms.gle/8WNFPiMaMHRByn2D9>.

All ages are welcome!

March Teen Mass

Our March Teen Mass is 3/19 at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann. This will be the last Teen Mass of the year due to the changes to the Mass schedule after Easter.

All are welcome to attend! If any teens are interested in doing one of the readings or bringing up the gifts, please contact Matt Brady.

Coffee Hour at St. Ann

On Sunday, March 26th our Disciples of Hospitality will host a coffee hour in the hall following the 11:30 Mass. Please join us for refreshments and conversation with your fellow parishioners!

Adult Bible Study

Our new Adult Bible Study will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, March 29th at 7 pm at St. John and continue to meet every Wednesday at 7 pm after that. We will gather in the conference room in the lower church. Our focus is the Sunday Gospel and what it means for us as disciples. All are welcome!



EASTER THIS YEAR IS ON APRIL 9TH

The three common practices during Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Prayers:

“God, may Your light guide my day, and your spirit bring me peace.....

“God may my sacrifice of today of (state your Lenten sacrifice) remind me of my dependence on You for all the blessing I enjoy....

“May I stand in solidarity today with all my brothers and sisters around the world who are suffering.”

What are the rules for fast and abstinence in Lent?

Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence (as well as Good Friday). .

The law of abstinence binds those who are 14 years old or older.

Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

According to the Church's official rules:

The law of abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, the products of milk or condiments made of animal fat [*Paenitemini*, Norms III:1].

Do you have to give up something for Lent? If you do, can you have it on Sundays?

The traditional custom of giving up something for Lent is voluntary. Consequently, if you give something up, you set the parameters. If you choose to allow yourself to have it on Sundays as to promote joy on this holy day, that is up to you.

Almsgiving:

The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on “almsgiving,” which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

St. Francis was ordained as a Deacon, never a priest. And he LIVED his Diaconate in every sense of the work - *Diakonos*...**service**. Francis lived a life of radical hospitality. He welcomed all, stranger, Muslim, Christian, woman, child, etc., as Christ. Ever since his encounter with the poor beggar man, wherein Francis gave him his cloak, Francis lived a life for others. He lived his life as an *alter Christus* (another Christ).

Francis had a great love for the Church, he had a great love for the people of God, a great love for the Liturgy in all its splendor, and he had a great love for beauty. Francis lived the radical hospitality, which the Gospel demands with such fervor that he saw God’s presence in the beauty of each part of Creation. Whether it be Sister Moon, Brother Wolf, Sister Breeze, Brother Leo, Sister Clare, or even Sister Death...*from whom no mortal can escape*. Francis saw the presence of God, the *incarnation* of Christ in every living being. He lived the mystery of the Incarnation, because he honored Christ’s presence, wherever and whenever he found it.

Francis was joyful. There’s no doubting that. Read any commentary you ever could on him, watch Bishop Robert Barron’s *The Pivotal Players* episode on him (I HIGHLY RECOMMEND DOING SO) and you will see a man, faced with trials, with sin, with struggles, yet as he walked he sang. As he received he gave. As he lived, so he loved.

Francis abandoned the pleasures of the flesh, the pleasures of the world, because he had seen that only Christ, could provide what he needed. He had fallen deeply and madly in love with the Bridegroom of the Church, and sought to offer his own life with Christ to the glory of God the Father. Francis embraced his trials. He received the Stigmata. He founded religious communities. He created the first “living” Nativity Scene. He rebuilt physical church buildings. He prayed often. He went away to quiet places for retreats. He stirred up the ardor of faith in men of no faith. He loved without being loved in return. Why? Because he embraced the “radical hospitality” of the Gospel; he embraced a life of joy. He embraced Christ, present in all of humanity and creation, with all of its flaws, because he saw the beauty of the Creator within.

St. Francis lived a life of radical surrender to the workings of the Spirit. He lived a life of radical hospitality and love. He lived a life of joy as he embraced the cross. May we have the strength and courage to do the same. May we be made worthy to share the light of Christ in Heaven with you.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

COLLABORATIVE NEWS AT SAINT ANN'S AND SAINT JOHN'S

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Kenneth Upham, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Diane Nicolar, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, Kay Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Kathy Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Joan Thompson, Kenneth McLaughlin, Debbie & Fred Sprague, Baby Ryan, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Jeannette Shalginewicz, Jack, Brian Scanlan, Rocco Zarrella & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

If you know that some of these people should be removed, Please call the Rectory so we can update the list.

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.



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
(508) 510-5274.

**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.**

Pantry days will be the **FIRST MONDAY** of the month, except for holidays, from **3 pm to 5:30 pm**, and the **THIRD MONDAY from 3 pm to 4:30 pm**, except for holidays. Please check the schedule.

*Monday, March 6, 2023
Monday, March 20, 2023*

Donations are always appreciated but please call to let us know you are dropping off. **508-378-3760**

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.



We at SVdP at St Ann's want to thank everyone who donated to our calendar and all those who purchased calendars from us. All the funds raised will benefit those in need.

Thank you and God Bless.



**ALL PARISH SECOND
COLLECTIONS
ARE APPLIED TO HEATING
COSTS AND
SNOW REMOVAL
UNLESS OTHERWISE
NOTIFIED**

BINGO IS IN FULL SWING

Thursdays — St Ann's Bingo
Doors open at 4 PM
Bingo starts 6:30 SHARP

Saturdays — Southeast Cyclone's Bingo
Doors open at 4 PM
Bingo starts at 6 PM SHARP

Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Retreats (March 11, May 6)

Are you—or someone you know—suffering from post-abortion pain? The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women experiencing regret from a past abortion to attend a Come to the Waters of Healing one-day retreat. Spring dates are March 11 and May 6. Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact Project Rachel at 508-651-3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com

NEWS

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

March 23-26 (Men)

April 20-23 (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.

To register/obtain more information, contact:

Holy Cross Retreat House
490 Washington St.
North Easton, MA 02356
508-238-2051



The Catholic Women’s Group will start meeting again. . .

All are welcome, bring a friend.!

For more information, contact Jeanne MacDonald — 508-807-1823

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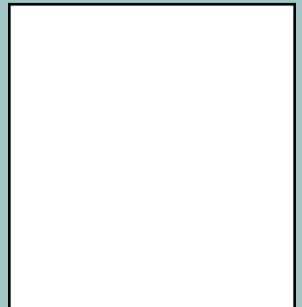


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