



**Together in Christ Collaborative**

**March 14, 2021**

**The Fourth Sunday Of Lent**



*St. John the Evangelist*

*St. Ann*

above

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

"CHRIST BESIDE ME,  
CHRIST BEFORE ME,  
CHRIST BEHIND ME,  
CHRIST WITHIN ME,  
CHRIST BENEATH ME,  
CHRIST ABOVE ME."

ST. PATRICK

**Church of Saint Ann**  
103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater 02379

**508-586-4880**

**E-Mail: [stanns@comcast.net](mailto:stanns@comcast.net)**  
**Website: [stannswb.com](http://stannswb.com)**  
**Facebook: St. Ann-WB**  
**Collaborative Office Hours are 9-4 M-Th**  
**For both Churches**  
**Currently we are working from home.**

**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](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)**  
**Website: [www.stjohneb.org](http://www.stjohneb.org)**  
**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB**  
**Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring**

**SAINT PATRICK'S DAY**



# 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](mailto: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, March 13, 2021

4:00 - Raymond & Patricia Eaniri -Anniv. Rem.

Sunday, March 14 2021

8:30 - Robert Smith — 8th Anniversary

Saturday, March 20, 2021

4:00—Gilda Jane Cribbin — 1st Anniversary

Sunday, March 21, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

Saturday, March 13, 2021

5:30 - Nancy Robichaud — Birthday Remem.

Sunday, March 14, 2021

10:30 - Paula & John Brodie — Memorial

Saturday, March 20, 2021

5:30 - Suzanne Serino — 1st Anniversary

Sunday, March 21, 2021

10:30 - Martin J. Hanley — 31st Anniversary

### 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

Feb 24 - Mar 2, 2021

ST JOHN

Online \$1,447

Mail \$1,855

Mass \$1,981

TOTAL \$5,283

GRAND ANNUAL \$50 (new donation)

ST ANN

Online N/A

Mail \$1,860

Mass \$1,229

TOTAL \$3,089

#### 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.



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 these many churches 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

## 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, 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.



### CATHOLIC APPEAL

Our Collaborative has decided to delay the annual Catholic Appeal until later in the Spring due to safety concerns. As you may know, the Catholic Appeal funds the 51 Central Ministries of the Archdiocese that support our parishes on a daily basis-especially as we navigate the pandemic. You may have already received a letter from Cardinal Sean asking for your early support. If you are able, please consider responding to that request to help our parishes meet our Appeal goals early. You can offer your support by mail or by going online to [bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org) to make your gift at any time.

Mathew Albanese  
St. Ann Parish

Elaine Meuse  
St. John Parish

**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, 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.**

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER  
@ 774-240-8095

or [jchbaker@msn.com](mailto:jchbaker@msn.com)

P O Box 47 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.

*Listening to Other Voices* presents:  
**Molly Burhans**  
**UN Young Champion of the Earth**

**"Mapping a Path Towards a Brighter Future with Our Land"**

Thursday, March 18, at 7:00 p.m. (Eastern)  
via Zoom

Molly believes a just and verdant future is not possible if faith-based institutions do not transform their relationship with their properties and ensure that this land is used for good.

Recently featured in The New Yorker, "[How a Young Activist is Helping Pope Francis Battle Climate Change](#)," Ms. Burhans, as founder and director of GoodLands, works with the Catholic Church to strategically plan and manage Catholic communities' land holdings around the world. She is one of the leading young adult voices in the environmental/faith space, an exciting and growing field aimed at implementing conservation efforts on religious lands worldwide.

**Join us for this free virtual program;  
Please register no later than noon on  
March 18th!\***

To register, please call:  
781-749-2155, x300, or email [re-treats@glastonburyabbey.org](mailto:re-treats@glastonburyabbey.org)  
We are happy to assist!

**Please register by noon on March 18!!**

# This Week in Ministry

3.15.21-3.21.21

## TIC Collaborative Recipe Book!

Thank you to all who participated in our very first recipe contest!

We invite you to enjoy our completed Recipe Book, which will be emailed to everyone on our email list.

If you have not received emails from us before and would like to be added, please reach out to [directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com](mailto:directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com)

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## Stations of the Cross Art Contest! Submit by Thursday, March 25th

Lent is a special time to pray, reflect, and connect to Jesus in new ways. This year we are embracing the benefits of praying creatively—by having our very first Stations of the Cross Art Contest!

Step 1: Choose a Station

Step 2: Recreate it using whatever art form you'd like

Step 3: Send your submission to [directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com](mailto:directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com)

Need a reminder of the stations? Check out [Stations of the Cross for Children](#) or [Stations of the Cross Prayers](#)  
Winners will receive prizes and be featured in the bulletin!

Stephanie Gaboury  
Director of Ministries, T.I.C. Collaborative

[directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com](mailto: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)*

## NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENT

Awake, O Sleeper!

This morning came a little earlier than I would have liked — Daylight Savings Time always does. Sometimes that morning sunlight seems more intrusive than illuminating. You're still half-lost in sleep, and that sun is demanding of you a lot more than you're ready to give.

I've said it, and I'm sure you've said it, too. "Just five more minutes." You hit the "snooze" button on your iPhone once (maybe twice? Show of hands?) and turn away from the window.

So many kings of the Old Testament were steadfast in their sleepy ways, rejecting the light their God tried to share with them. Likewise, John tells us that, though Light — Christ — was sent into the world, the world preferred darkness.

Sometimes it seems, when reading through Scripture, that all throughout salvation history, God has been trying to pull back the curtains, to rouse us from our defiant slumber. And we resist Him. Time and time again, we resist Him.

Light brings a certain responsibility with it. It seems to compel productivity. Furthermore, there's no hiding in the light. Any photographer worth his salt knows how to manipulate it, highlighting the good and casting some merciful shade on the bad.

As we enter into the fourth week of Lent, we're getting so close to the main event. Can we handle the light that will come on Easter morning, bursting into the tomb as the stone is rolled away? Can we keep ourselves from hitting the "snooze" button on our souls, and sit up to face the dawn of a new day?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LP



### HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**SNOW REMOVAL IS ALWAYS EXPENSIVE.**

**YOUR HELP IS VITAL**

**ANY ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS YOU ARE ABLE TO MAKE TO HELP COVER COST WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATE AND DESPERATLY NEEDED.**

## Hello, Friends!

This weekend we learned of a terrible event that happened back in late November, when Ethiopian Orthodox Christians gathered for a festival along with others seeking refuge from the ongoing fighting in the Tigray region. Eritrean soldiers arrived at the monastery and opened fire, killing over 70 people. Other recent news including the killing of 18 protesters in the military crackdown in Myanmar.

And then I read a third article, in which I learned that laboratories across Africa and Southeast Asia stand ready to manufacture vaccines to meet a global shortfall—but the patent holders are unwilling to share crucial information that could save hundreds of thousands of lives.

I have to tell you this, my friends: I read all these stories and **my Lent just broke open**. What can I think, or say, or even pray in the face of such pain?

I have to take refuge in the cross, in Jesus on the cross, at that execution place where this season is leading us. **Jesus knew**. Jesus knew what would be in the hearts of all these victims. Even more than that, he knew what would be in the hearts of all these perpetrators. And *his* heart went out—to all of them.

I'm not a gardener, but many of my sisters are. What I have learned from them is that when the earth shatters—a little bit—seeds can find soil in which to grow. **When our humanity shatters, when our hearts shatter, then there is a place for God's love to enter and take root and flourish**. It's difficult not to focus on the wound that shattered the heart, even the wounds that shattered Jesus' body, but behind all the pain is God's intentionality. We are wounded, we are suffering, we are victim and perpetrator, but we can all be redeemed. We can all enter the Kingdom. Jesus knew all humanity's cruelty and selfishness—and died for us anyway.

That is where Lent is headed, where Lent has always been headed: to the cross. The world is just making it a major point, this week, to remind us of that.

Know you are in the sisters' prayers,



DIGITAL FASTING FOR INTENTIONAL LIVING

Lent

I wonder what I will do to enter more profoundly into this penitential season: Should I refrain from sweets, coffee (Hmm, not really a good idea!), gluten? All are good and probably healthy choices. Then I reflect upon what would really alter my life dramatically toward Christ, and realize how life-consuming is my digital technology.

I'd like to share with you [my secrets for Digital Fasting for Intentional Living](#):

- **What is a Digital Fast?**
- **Five benefits you'll receive when you do a digital fast**
- **Different ways of digital fasting: choose the way that works best for you: daily, 24-hours, week-long, seasonal.**

May this practice of digital fasting lead us to the ultimate goal of union with Christ and peace with him forever!

<http://media.pauline.org/Resources/Blog/ArticleID/4504/LIVE-LENT-Digital-Fasting-for-Intentional-Living>



Old Colony Hospice has opened a resale boutique at 595 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA

Threads is a non-profit resale store whose proceeds support the Dr. Ruth McLain Hospice Home in Braintree, MA

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