

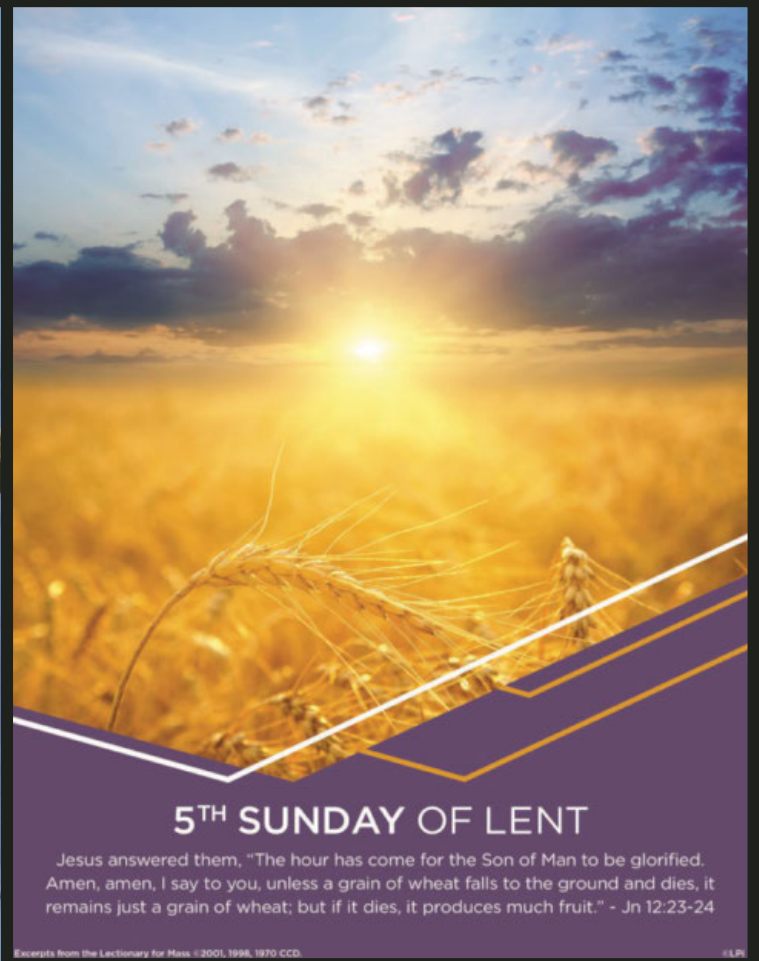
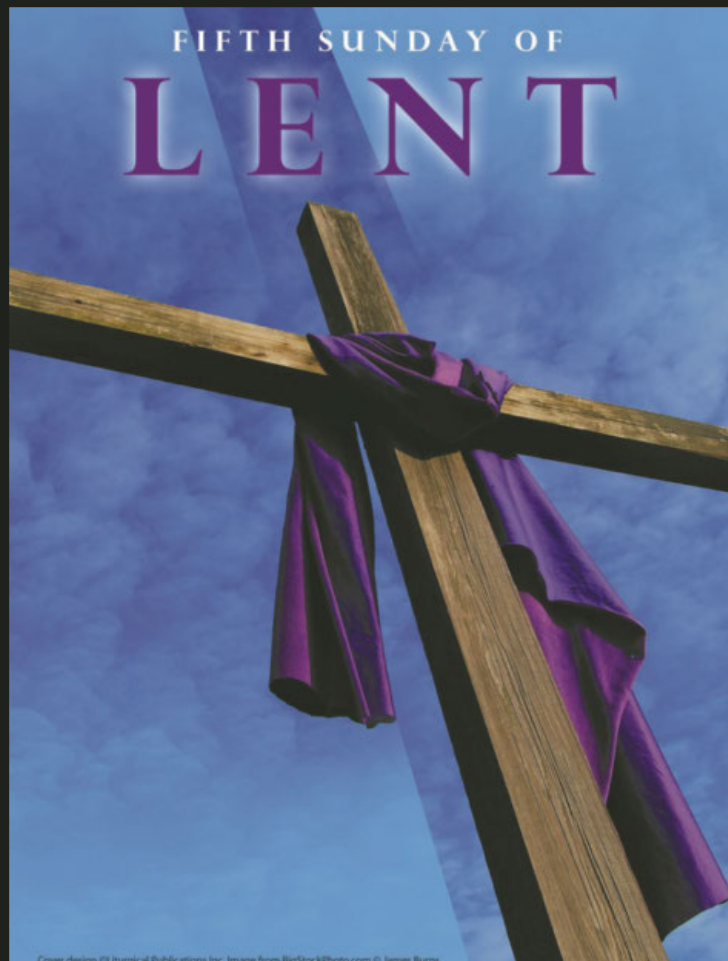


Saturday, 4:00 PM
 Sunday, 9:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 March 17, 2024
 The Fifth Sunday of Lent
 Happy St. Patrick's Day*



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

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.

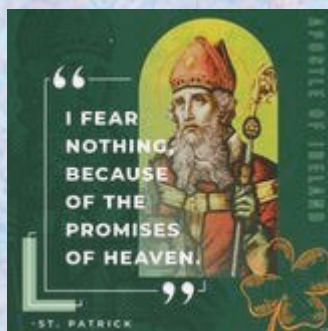
Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

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



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 16, 2024

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

Sunday, March 17, 2024

9:30 - Joseph Giovanoni — 2nd Anniversary

6:15 - John F. Lovell, Jr. — 4th Anniversary

Saturday, March 23, 2024

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

Sunday, March 24, 2024

9:30 - Veronica Moore — 40th Anniversary

Patricia Eugenio — 32nd Anniversary

Mark Eugenio — 19th Anniversary

Marie Bagley — 18th Anniversary

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

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, March 17, 2024

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

11:30 - William J. Buckley, Jr. — 5th Anniversary

Sunday, March 24, 2024

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

11:30 - Suzanne Serino — 4th Anniversary

LENTEN INFORMATION

**The Light is On For You (Reconciliation)
Wednesdays from 6:30—8:00 PM**

Mar 20 — At St. John's

Mar 27 — At St. Ann's

Stations of the Cross — Fridays at 7:00 PM

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

This week the wine, hosts and Sanctuary Lamp are offered

At St. Ann's in memory of:

Joseph Giovanoni



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

My Dear Friends in Christ,



Jesus once noted, regarding the law, that He had come to “fulfill” what had been written (cf. Matthew 5:17). He was to fulfill this writing and prophecy by giving His life for us all on the Cross. In doing so, Jesus would bring to completion all that had been written about the Messiah in Scripture. Furthermore, Jesus would bring about a new covenant between God and the People of God (i.e. you and me).

In today’s gospel passage, some Greeks wish to meet Jesus. This encounter is brought about in a linear fashion, moving from Phillip, to Andrew, to Phillip AND Andrew, and finally to Jesus. When all arrive and hear from Jesus, He talks about the sacrifice He must make for this “fulfillment” to take place. Jesus uses the analogy of a seed which must die so that life might be brought forth. Analogously, it is only in Jesus’ death that we can have life; it is the death of Jesus that will bring about Eternal Life for us. This is to take place so that the covenant between God and the People of God can be realized.

God alludes to this covenant when Jeremiah brings the message of God to the people. Unlike the covenants of old, this “new covenant” will be unbroken because it will not be written in stone (like the Ten Commandments) but on our hearts. It is when this “new covenant” is written that we will be in “full communion” with God. Jesus will bring this about in His life, death, and resurrection. When we enter into Holy Week (in just about a week’s time!) we make a journey with Jesus, who will then fulfill all that was written about Him.

We are called to enter into this “new covenant” with God, through Jesus, by giving our lives in service to God and to our brothers and sisters. May we, in concluding our Lenten observances, continue to give our hearts to God so that He may write His Law upon them. May we come to know Jesus, have the courage to walk with Him, and seek to fulfill all that God has called us to do. May we take this Law, written on our hearts, and apply it to all that we do, say and are. May we share this Law, this Law of Love, with all whom we meet.

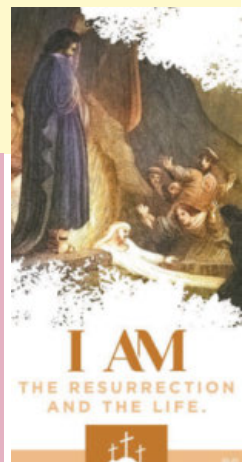
A Blessed (Continued) Lent to All,

Fr. Paul



PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR EASTER FLOWER

CONTRIBUTIONS IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES. THANKYOU.



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)

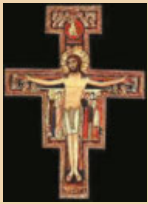
April 25—28 (Women)

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

MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Today, along with the Fifth Sunday of Lent, we celebrate (along with the rest of the world) St. Patrick's Day. Often times, when we think of the saints, we tend to make them into otherworldly creatures who have nothing in common with us. In the case of St. Patrick, we tend to think of the "legend" of St. Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland; the only problem with that is that Ireland, being an island, doesn't have any snakes! That legend notwithstanding, St. Patrick did much to bring Christianity to the people of Ireland and is revered as a great man of faith – not only in Ireland, but throughout the world!

When we think of St. Francis, we tend to think of the saint who preached to animals and spoke of peace. We tend to forget that St. Francis, like St. Patrick, was a good and faithful churchman who transmitted the faith by teaching the truths of the faith. He did so by making it accessible and applicable to everyday life, and he did that taking the otherworldly and making it real, helping the follower of St. Francis incorporate the truths of the faith into one's day-to-day experiences. St. Francis associated with all, and he never wavered in his commitment to Christ. From the moment he knelt before the Cross at San Damiano, St. Francis' life was the epitome of discipleship and he strove to live like Christ each and every day.

As we move ever closer to the end of our Lenten journey, let us take stock of how we have done to grow closer to Christ. Let us examine our relationship with Christ and see how it is that we have grown. Like St. Francis, let us be unafraid to "kiss the leper" and embrace the challenging moments of our life that we have still yet to confront. Let us be unapologetically united to Christ by living like Him. Let us, as Francis did, seek to make our relationship with Christ as deep as humanly possible. May this upcoming Holy Week give us the opportunity to unite ourselves to Christ to the same extent and degree that St. Francis did.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

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

**NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR
Snow removal and heating Funds**

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, Christine Staples & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



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.



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

Starting time is changing to
6:15 SHARP

Saturday Bingo still opens at 4 PM
And Bingo starts at 6:00 SHARP



CREMATION Guidelines for Cremation according the Archdiocese of Boston.

While the Church recommends that the pious custom of burying the bodies of the dead be observed, cremation is permitted as long as it has not been chosen for reasons contrary to Catholic teaching (Canon 1176.3 Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2301).

Given the increased practice of cremation in recent years, special care must be given to communicate the proper disposition of the remains in keeping with Christian tradition and respect for the body.

1. It is preferred that the Funeral Mass or the Funeral Liturgy outside Mass be celebrated in the presence of the body of the deceased prior to its cremation. (OCF Appendix Cremation #411-438)

2. The significance of having the body of the deceased present for the funeral liturgy is indicated throughout the Mass texts and ritual actions. Therefore, when arrangements involving cremation are being made, the parish priest is to recommend that: a) following a wake, or a time of visitation, the Funeral Mass be celebrated in the presence of the body of the deceased person, and that following the Funeral Mass, the body of the deceased be cremated; b) the Funeral Mass conclude with the final commendation in the church; c) at an appropriate time, usually some days later, the family gather at the cemetery for the burial of the cremated remains. The Rite of Committal takes place at this time with the inclusion of the proper prayers for the committal of ashes (OCF #406.3).

3. If cremation has already taken place before the Funeral Mass, the pastor may permit the celebration of the Funeral Mass in the presence of the cremated remains of the deceased person.

4. Special circumstances occur, such as health concerns or out-of-state or overseas transport which prompt families to arrange for cremation before making funeral arrangements. If RCAB | Policy and Instruction on Ecclesiastical Funeral Rites 15 cremation has taken place, the parish priest is to recommend: a) gathering with family and friends for prayer and remembrance of the deceased; b) celebration of a Funeral Mass; c) gathering with family and friends for the interment of cremated remains at the cemetery in the Rite of Committal.

5. Cremated remains should be treated with the same respect given to the remains of a human body, and should be buried or entombed. It is not permitted to scatter the ashes of the faithful departed in the air, on land, at sea or in some other way, nor may they be preserved in mementos, pieces of jewelry or other objects.

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