

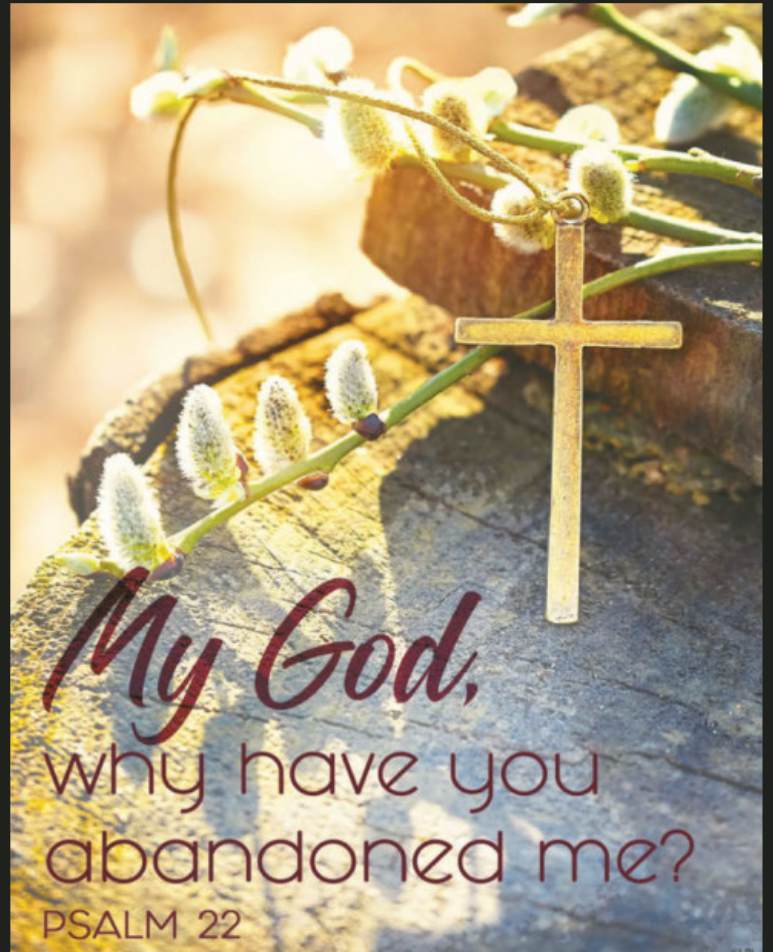
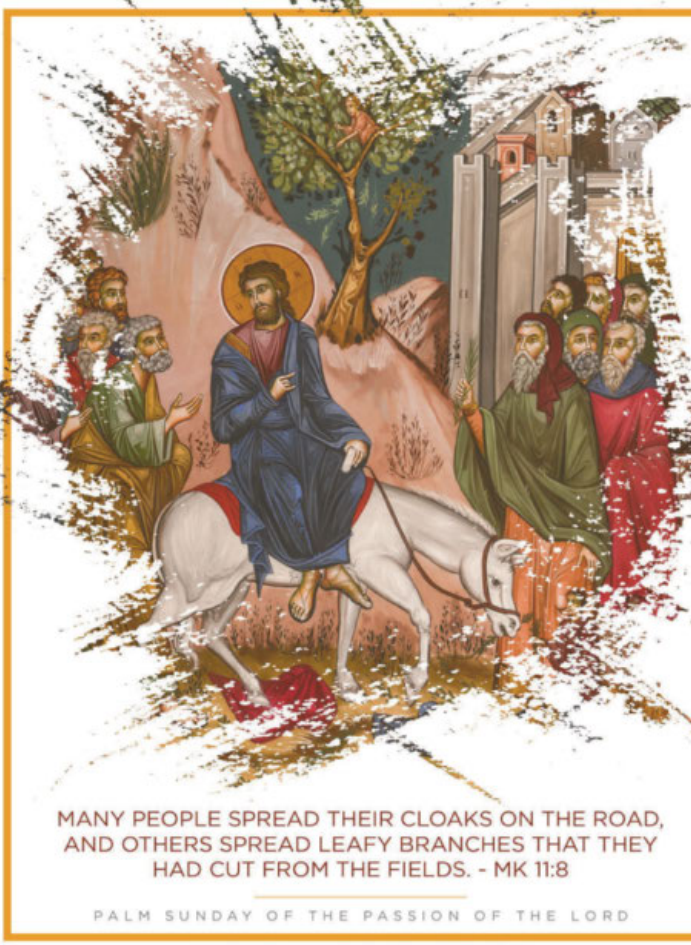


Saturday, 4:00 PM
 Sunday, 9:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 March 24, 2024
 Palm Sunday of the
 Passion of the Lord*



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 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

Sunday, March 31, 2024 — EASTER

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

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, March 24, 2024

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

11:30 - Suzanne Serino — 4th Anniversary

Saturday, March 30, 2024 — Easter Vigil

8:00 PM - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collab.

Sunday, March 31, 2024 — EASTER

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

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

LENTEN INFORMATION

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

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)



PLEASE

REMEMBER TO
SEND IN YOUR
EASTER FLOWER
CONTRIBUTIONS
IN MEMORY OF
YOUR LOVED
ONES.

THANK YOU.

TOTAL BILL \$1,089.00 — RAISED AS OF 3-15 = \$685

MASSES FOR THE WEEK



My Dear Friends in Christ,

In the universal mindset, as well as the mind of the Franciscan, Christmas is the “best of the best”, celebration-wise. In the world of liturgy, however, Easter is at the “top of the food chain”, so to speak, in terms of importance. As we enter into this Holy Week, we begin with Palm Sunday (also known as “Passion Sunday”, as the Passion of the Lord is read as the “main” Gospel passage. Today is unique in that two gospel passages are read, one depicting Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem and one speaking to us of Jesus’ Passion and Death. Both read at today’s liturgy serve as “bookends” to our Holy Week services. The entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem (intoned at the beginning of Mass) speaks of the kingship of Christ, for it is a celebration befitting royalty, with people lining the streets offering shouts of praise and acclamation to Jesus. They recognize Jesus as Messiah at this moment and pledge their loyalty to Him with shouts of “hosanna” (a word which means “save us” or “help”, an appropriate cry made to Jesus). The interesting thing is that the same crowd who is crying “hosanna” is most likely the same crowd who, in a few short days, will be calling for blood with cries of “crucify him”.

This is where the second gospel (read at the usual time) comes in. It is the telling of the Passion and Death of Jesus, about how He was betrayed and handed over to be killed just a few hours after celebrating the Last Supper (a Passover meal) with His disciples. This depiction of the last hours of Jesus’ earthly life serve as a reminder to us of how much Jesus gave Himself for us, offering His life so as to save ours. The telling of this Passion narrative shows to us that Jesus, He without sin, became sin for us and won for us newness of life. Jesus did all of this without rebelling, without turning back, not shielding Himself from the torture and torment that He knew awaited Him. This is true love, the self-emptying love by which Jesus shows us how we are to act.

May this Passion/Palm Sunday be a fitting time for us to unite ourselves with Jesus. Let us make the long walk to Calvary with Him so that we might have a share in His Passion, Death and, ultimately, Resurrection. May we have the courage to not turn back, to not shy away from all that Jesus suffered, so that we might have a share in new and everlasting life!

Wishing You All A Blessed Holy Week,

Fr. Paul

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

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

Tenebrae

March 26th 7 pm St. Ann (Tuesday)

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.

Easter Egg Hunt

This year's Easter Egg Hunt, which is sponsored by the Family Life Ministry, will take place after the 9:30 Mass at St. Ann on Easter Sunday. We have lots of eggs so everyone is welcome! There will be a dedicated area for the little ones, and the eggs will be filled with a mix of candy and toys.

April Teen Mass

Our next Teen Mass will be Sunday 4/7 at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann. There will be contemporary music and the teens are invited to do one of the readings or bring up the gifts. Volunteering for either of these roles counts for the parish portion of the Confirmation service requirement, so it's a good way to complete it and get your teen involved in the Mass. If interested please contact Matt Brady.

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)

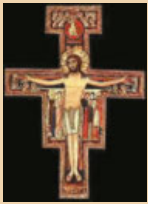
April 25—28 (Women)

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

For Francis of Assisi, it is the love of God, the self-offering and surrender of control that comes with the Incarnation that is at the heart of what it means to talk about the suffering of Jesus on the cross. This sense of giving up control is seen in the way scholar Zachary Hayes describes the place of the cross in the spiritual worldviews of Francis and Bonaventure.

When we look at the mystery of Jesus, this evokes quite a different sense of the divine. When we think of the historical origins of Jesus, the poor circumstances of his life, the tragic historical ending on the cross, we must ask in what sense this is truly the incarnation of divine love. What it means to talk about love is laid out for us on the cross. And it is this sense of divine love—made concrete in the Incarnation and completed in the suffering on the cross—that was so transformative in the saint’s own life. We must not forget how the legend of his initial conversion to religious life begins before the cross in the form of the now-famous San Damiano crucifix. Damien Vorreux describes that experience of the saint before the cross and how the young would-be saint would understand what was depicted before him: God.

Waiting for him over the altar was a great Byzantine Jesus that the poor man of Assisi particularly liked because it represented a redeemer at once friendly and triumphant. This savior did not seem to say to the faithful, “Look how I suffered for you!” but “Look how much I love you!” It was “a Christ of peace and persuasion.” It is not a God who is vindictive, vengeful, sadistic, or punishing that speaks to the heart of believers, but a God of love. It is a God who suffered on the cross precisely because of love, not despite it. And this love, this passion for humanity, touched the life of this Italian saints in a permanent, life-altering way.

After his death, Bonaventure will talk about the “transformative power of love.” Love is what moved the heart and mind of the saint from Assisi, and it is love that is the greatest force for change and good in our world. The cross, therefore, was not a sign of sin and death, but a sign of the tremendous power of love that speaks through the centuries, across all times and places, to the daily human experiences of true love. Hayes recalls how in so many ways, often in the subtleness of the ordinary day-to-day, people are changed and shaped by the love of those and for those with whom there is a relationship. So too we are changed, if we are likewise open to the possibility, by the love experienced in relationship with the God who loves us so much that God desires to be with us as one like us. Hayes writes: “The life of grace and the imitation of Christ are a process of responding to the divine offer and the example of Jesus. And the human person is changed in that process. We become like what we love.”

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

**THIS WEEK’S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR
Snow removal and heating funds**

**NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR
Clergy Trust**

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 :*

8:00 — St. John’s

9:30 — St. Ann’s

11:30 — St. John’s

no 6:15 Mass

Palm Sunday

Question:

Where do Palm Sunday palms come from and where should they go?

Answer:

The Palm Sunday celebration has ancient origins. Beginning the liturgy “outside” the church, we symbolically reenact Christ’s entry into Jerusalem. The crowds in ancient Israel waved palm branches – a symbol of royalty – to welcome Jesus. These days, obtaining palms takes a lot of planning and coordination, as hundreds of thousands of churches worldwide need them on the same day! Many in the United States order palms from Florida, California, Texas, or Central America. Many companies stress the sustainability of their production and the just wages paid to their workers.

The palms used on Palm Sunday are blessed at Mass. This means they shouldn’t end up in the trash! Many people weave palms into crosses or families display them in their homes. If you do not plan on displaying your palms throughout the year, they should be burned, buried, or left at the church. In the final case, the palms are burned to provide the ashes for next year’s Ash Wednesday service.

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.



Dear Lord, You demand justice for Your children who have been wronged. Give strength to people who investigate and prosecute traffickers. Encourage them when they are weary. Give courage to survivors when they are asked to testify against their former captors.

Pray for salvation of people being trafficked.

Jesus, would you save those being trafficked not only from the slavery they are held in, but from the slavery that is in their hearts. Save them from the sin that, no matter where a person is born and what life they live, is always there. You are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love. Cause these dear people to call upon you so that you can save them. Grant them an eternity where every tear will be wiped away and every injustice against them made right. May You be their hope.

Psalm 86:5

"For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you."

The common signal that someone needs help!



Thursdays — St Ann's Bingo
Doors open at 4 PM No Bingo on Holy Thursday.
3/28/24
Starting time is changing to
6:15 SHARP

Saturday Bingo still opens at 4 PM
And Bingo starts at 6:00 SHARP
There will be Bingo Sat. 3/30/24



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, April 1, 2024
Monday, April 15, 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.

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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to you every week.



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