



Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 March 30, 2025
 The Fourth Sunday of
 Lent*



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

2025 Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

"His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again.'
 - Lk 15:21-22a, 23b-24a



**4th Sunday
 OF LENT**

"He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours.'" - Lk 15:31

Church of Saint Ann

**103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater
 02379
 508-586-4880 (24 hour service)**

**E-Mail: stanns@comcast.net
 Website: stannswb.com
 Facebook: St. Ann-WB
 (Account suspended)**

**Collaborative Office Hours are
 9:00-3:00 M-TH**

Saint John the Evangelist

**210 Central St., East Bridgewater
 02333**

**Office –103 N. Main Street,
 West Bridgewater, 02379
 508-378-4207 or 508 586-4880
 E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net
 Website: www.stjohneb.org**

**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB
 (Account suspended)**

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 Ann's

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
6:15 p.m.
Daily Mass
Thursday & Saturday
9:00 a.m.

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:30 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 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

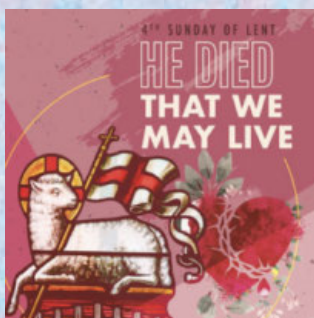
Administrative Assistant:
Deborah Conrad
stjohnebridge@comcast.net
508-378-4207
Music Minister: Erica Vinton

COLLABORATIVE STAFF

Finance & Operations Manager:
Kevin Mercier
bmanager.tic@gmail.com

Director of Music: Rich Cesarini
richcesarini@gmail.com

Director of Ministries: Matthew Brady
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com
774-533-2002





St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, March 30, 2025

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Leo J. Giovanoni — Month's Mind
- 6:15 - Frances Sousa — Memorial

Sunday, April 6, 2025

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 29, 2025

- 4:00 - James Coffee — 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, March 30, 2025

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

Saturday, April 5, 2025

- 4:00 - Esther Sweeney - Birthday Remembrance
- Patrick & Ann Sullivan - Remembrance of 67th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, April 6, 2025

- 9:30 - Dorothy Walsh — Birthday Remembrance

WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

MEMORIAL MASSES
Suggested donation \$25+

HOSTS, WINE AND SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR THE WEEK Suggested donation \$55
Including a Memorial Mass, Suggested donation \$80

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK \$85; or including the mass Suggested donation \$110

HOSTS, WINE & SANCTUARY LAMPS, FLOWERS \$140 including the MASS, is a Suggested donation of \$165



Payment for the above memorials would be appreciated TWO weeks in advance, separate from your offertory.

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Today the Church, on this Fourth Sunday of Lent, “Laetare Sunday”. This designation marks the (approximate) halfway point of our Lenten Season/Journey. I once came across a little (adapted) poem that speaks of this:

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
The vestments are pink,
So Lent is halfway through.

A silly rhyme? Perhaps. But it gets the point across that we are at the mid-point of our Lenten journey. It also points out the fact that we have the option, and are encouraged, to break out the rose colored vestments, as the word “Laetare” means “rejoice and rose is the liturgical color for rejoicing. But what are we rejoicing? Are we celebrating the fact that we have made it half-way through Lent and are still able to say that we have kept our Lenten sacrifice intact (which I hope you can say!)? Or, are we celebrating the fact that we are halfway towards celebrating the Paschal Mystery?

Today’s gospel ends in celebration, although it certainly doesn’t begin in that fashion. Jesus is giving a lesson to the Pharisees and scribes about welcoming the sinner (something with which the authorities of Jesus’ day had a problem), and He uses the “Parable of the Prodigal Son”. As we know, Jesus often spoke in parables, using them to teach a greater lesson. In the story of the Prodigal Son, a landowner’s son wishes to receive his share of the property now (before the father’s death); the father gives in to this request, much to his dismay I would imagine. After squandering the riches, and encountering a famine, the son comes to his senses. The son, however, is hesitant to approach the father, feeling unworthy to come home. After practicing what he will say (comparing himself to a hired hand, unworthy of anything more in the father’s eyes), he makes his way home. The father does not even wait for his son’s speech, embracing and kissing him, thankful to have him home. He sets about to have a celebration for this prodigal son. It is at this point that the elder (“faithful”) son hears the revelry and inquires as to the cause. When the elder son is told that his brother has returned and the father has put together a celebration, the son refuses to enter the party. This elder son has been loyal, and is upset that nothing has been done to reward this loyalty. The father tries to convince the (elder) son to join the celebration because this “brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found” (Lk 15:32). We do not know the outcome of this conversation with father and son; one would hope that the elder son would join the celebration.

Where are you in this story? Are you the prodigal son, looking for a way home? Are you the father, praying for your children to return to their (biological or faith) family? Are you the elder (and loyal) son, resentful of those who have come into the family after turning their back on them? Wherever we find ourselves, let us rejoice that God is with us on our journey of faith – ready to restore our hope, renew our life, or reward our fidelity.

Have a (Continued) 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

April Family Mass

April 6 at the 9:30 Mass at St. John
Our final Family Mass of the school year is April 6 at the 9:30 Mass at St. John. We invite our kids to do the readings and bring up the gifts, and Fr. Paul has the kids join him around the altar for the homily. There is also coffee and donuts in the back of the church after Mass. If your child is interested in bringing up the gifts or doing a reading, please email Matt Brady.

April Teen Mass

Our final Teen Mass of the school year is April 13 at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann. Similar to Family Mass, we invite our teens to do a reading or bring up the gifts. Fr. Paul also tailors his homily to be relevant to their life and there is contemporary music at the Mass. If your teen is interested in bringing up the gifts or doing a reading, please email Matt Brady.

Lenten Simple Suppers are back!

Last year we did two Soup and Stations nights before the Stations of the Cross. This year we are doing Simple Suppers at 6 pm before **all** the Stations. They are potluck style, so please bring a simple meatless dish (it doesn't have to be soup) to share if you are so inclined. But all are welcome, so bringing something is not a requirement! Hope to see you there— see the last page and the flyers in the church for the schedule.

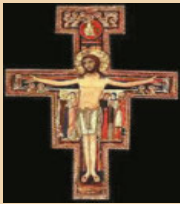


Tenebrae

April 15 @ 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.



Annual Easter Egg Hunt
Easter Sunday (April 20) following the
9:30 Mass at St. John. All are welcome!



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Today's gospel features the parable of "The Prodigal Son". In this story, Jesus relates how the young son who seeks to come home after squandering his share of his father's fortune on "wine, women, and song", so to speak. In being welcomed home, the Prodigal Son regains his place in his father's house. By way of this parable, Jesus shows us that we are always welcome "home" when we show contritions for our erring ways and seek forgiveness for our past sins.

St. Francis, much like the Prodigal Son, took his share of the family fortune "on the road" and sought his fame in the world by emulating the knights about whom he heard in the troubadour's songs while traveling to markets in France with his father. Fueled by these stories, Francis looked to make his mark in the world by attaining the status of the "majore" (the "upper class", that is) by working in the "family business" as a cloth merchant. It was while working there that Francis' life began to change. During this time, while busy in the family store, a poor beggar came in asking for help. Francis dismissed him and returned to work, yet the affair ate at him. He realized his courteousness extended only to his peers and noble folk. Contrite, he swore to show chivalry to everyone regardless of class and so ran after the beggar to make up for refusing alms.

But there were limits. Chivalry did not offset Francis' aversion to physical or social ugliness – and nothing was more revolting than the lepers. He avoided these outcasts whose outward deformities were considered an expression of an inward spiritual or moral deformation. Francis would hold his nose as he ran away from them. Courtesy and manner only went so far. But this changed one day on the road, where he encountered one of these lepers. Having moved on from the family business to that of seeking his fame as a knight, Francis saw, and was (as usual) repulsed by a leper. At that moment, something stirred in his heart (the Holy Spirit, perhaps?) and he had a conversion of mind, heart, life. He went back, kissed the leper...and his life was forever changed.

Francis went home, encountered his (biological) father, renounced his wealth, and sought entrance into his Father's House. Not his earthly father, but his Heavenly Father. At this moment, Francis "the Prodigal Son", came home. And the rest, as they say, is history. May we seek entrance into Our Father's House by changing our ways that are not of God and realigning our mind, heart, and life towards the Father. May we use this Lenten journey to unite ourselves with the Eternal Kingdom by building up the Kingdom of God here on earth, so that we may (one day) share in the fullness of life of the Kingdom in Heaven.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

THE SECOND COLLECTION THIS

WEEK IS
TO BUILD UP THE EXPENSES FUND.

EASTER IS COMING

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU —Confessions
Wednesdays 6:30—8:00 PM

3/12 @ St. John's	3/19 @ St. Ann's
3/26 @ St. John's	4/2 @ St. Ann's
4/9 @ St. John's	4/16 @ St. Ann's

STATIONS OF THE CROSS — Fridays at 7:00 PM
Each week Simple Suppers will be held at 6:00 PM
before Stations - Pot Luck - Please bring a meatless dish.

3/7 — St. John's	3/21 — St. John's
3/14 — St. Ann's	4/4 — St. John's
3/28 — St. Ann's	
4/11 — 6:00 Simple Supper with First Church & Stations at 7:00 at St. Ann's	

HOLY WEEK

4/15 - 7PM — TUESDAY — TENEBRAE — ST. ANN'S

4/17 - 7 PM — MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
(WITH WASHING OF THE FEET)
ST. JOHN'S.

4/18 - GOOD FRIDAY
9:00 MORNING PRAYERS AT ST. JOHN'S

3:00 PM — SEVEN LAST WORDS WITH EB
CLERGY ASSOC. AT ST. JOHN'S
7:00 PM — GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE — ST.
ANN'S

4/19 - 9:00— MORNING PRAYERS AT ST. ANN'S
8:00 PM — EASTER VIGIL MASS—ST. JOHN'S

4/20 EASTER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE
8:00 — ST. ANN'S
9:30 — ST. JOHN'S
11:30 — ST. ANN'S



Please pray for health and healing for Pope Francis, entrusting him to the healing care of our Lord, so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life. unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

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:



Pope Francis, Denise Robichaud, Patricia Estes, William Neyman, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela McDevitt, Janet Daly, Kathy Conrad, Joan Ward-Fusco, Kenneth McLaughlin, Nancy McHugh, Jerry Paluch, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Irene Churchll, Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Dan, Candice Frabetti, Patrick McCormick, Rob Levesque, Alex & Landon, Susan Coronella, Stephen D'Guiseppe, Ann Bortolotto, Elaine Landolfi, Cathy Hadfield, Helen Bomar, Stacy McCarthy, Mark Neumeier, Johnny MacDonald, Marilyn, Sandy, Tina DeCost & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

*This week the Wine, Hosts and Sanctuary Lamp are offered
At St. Ann's in
Loving memory of:
Leo J. Giovanoni*



Prayer of Lent

Prayer of a Father's Blessing

God who wills good things for your children,
Help me to trust that You will be faithful. God
who will not leave me,

Help me to seek You, too. God who is ever-
waiting for me,

Help me to run straight towards You.

Amen.

©LPi

St Ann — ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
P O Box 474 West Bridgewater MA 02379
To join please call — TINA ANTHONY
508-245-5481

Please help St. Ann's, St. Vincent de Paul Committee help our homeless neighbors.

We are looking for donations of:
Hats, Gloves/mittens, handwarmers, hand sanitizer,
cleansing wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes,
\$5.00 Dunkin Donuts gift cards, etc.

To join or get more information on how we can help a neighbor in need, please call Tina Anthony at: 508-245-5481.

Next meeting: April 8, 2025

West Bridgewater Food Pantry
457 Rear, South Main Street, Unit #1
West Bridgewater 02379

**WHEN: Curbside distribution the FIRST and THIRD
Wednesday each month**

TIME: 1:45-3:00PM or 5:30-6:00PM

**Need: jelly, rice pilaf, pancake mix, syrup, pasta sauce,
baked beans**

Cash donations also accepted.

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
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

April 7 & April 21

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, toothpaste, tooth brushes, toilet paper.

Gift cards are also a great help. \$5 — \$25 cards are easier to distribute than large sums., ie \$100

NEWS

Please remember in your prayers:

*Eldon Moriera
Carol Therault
Ralph Grillone
Sydney Schmitchel
Camella A. Sullivan
June Snow
Richard DiBlasio
M. Doris Thompson*

May they rest in peace, and may their families find comfort from their faith in Jesus Christ.



*Please welcome the following children
Into our Collaborative.*



*Garrett McCartney
Christopher Ribeiro
Jack Dmitrick
Finley Turner Machado*

Pray that this is the first step in a wonderful journey with God.

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