

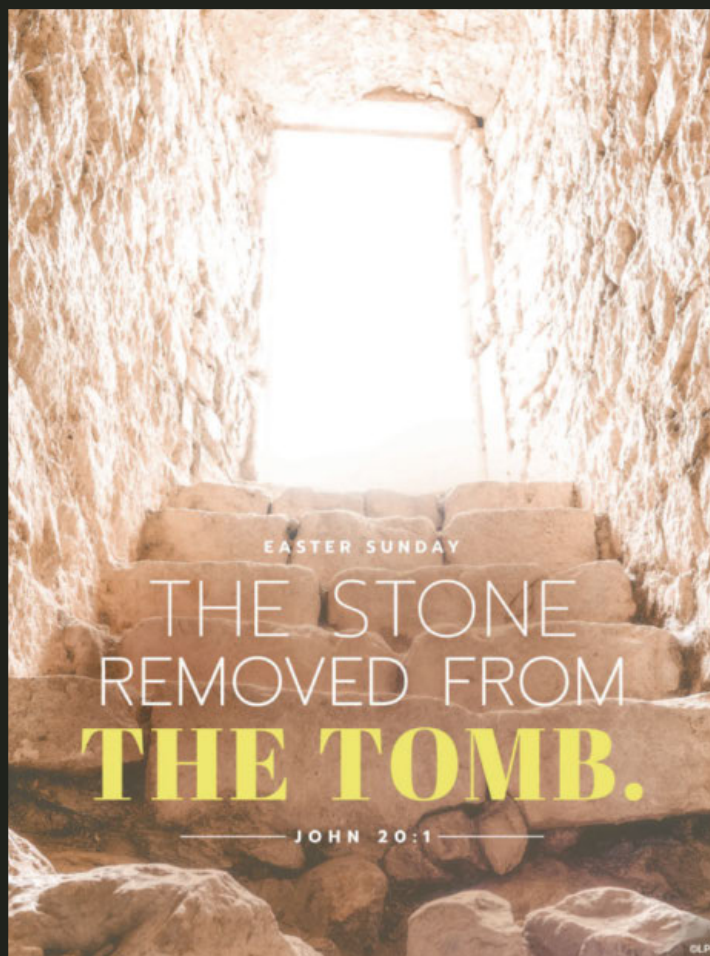


Saturday, 4:00 PM  
 Sunday, 9:30 AM  
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ  
 Collaborative  
 Saint Ann & Saint John  
 March 31, 2024  
 Easter Sunday of  
 The Resurrection 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](mailto:stanns@comcast.net)  
 Website: [stannswb.com](http://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: [stjohnnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnnebridge@comcast.net)  
 Website: [www.stjohnnebridge.org](http://www.stjohnnebridge.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**

## EUCCHARISTIC 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

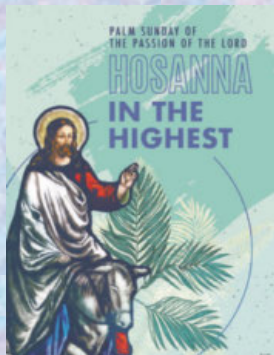
## **SAINT JOHN'S STAFF**

**Administrative Assistant:** Deborah Conrad

stjohnnebridge@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 30, 2024**

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

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 — EASTER**

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

**Saturday, April 6, 2024**

4:00 - Mary and Manny Diaz — Memorial

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

9:30 - Kim Russo — 5th Anniversary

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

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**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

**Sunday, April 7 2024**

8:00 - Patrick J. Riel — 43rd Anniversary

11:30 - Meg Weljkovic — 1st Anniversary

**Thursday, April 11, 2024**

9:00— Dorothy Walsh — Birthday Remembrance

## THE MASS SCHEDULE WILL BE CHANGING

**THE WEEKEND OF  
May 25 - 26**

### ST ANN'S MASS SCHEDULE

**Sunday, — 8:00 & 11:30 AM  
6:15 PM**

### ST JOHN'S MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday — 4:00 PM  
Sunday — 9:30 AM**

**This schedule will be in effect  
for 1 year.**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

My Dear Friends in Christ,



We are an Easter People, and Alleluia is our song! I want to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very blessed Easter Day and Season. We tend to forget that Easter is a season, and not just one day on the calendar. In all truth, each day God gives us is a “little Easter”. Each day is a new opportunity for us to “rise and shine” (even those of us who aren’t “morning people”!) and look for ways to serve our God in our brothers and sisters. Each day is a chance to engage in discipleship and to spread the Good News that is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Mary of Magdala (or Mary Magdalene, as she is more commonly known to us) is given that opportunity on that first Easter Sunday. Mary is given the chance to share the news of the Resurrection, even if she doesn’t fully understand what is happening. She approaches the tomb, which is empty, and on seeing the stone rolled away she runs to get Simon Peter and “the other disciple whom Jesus loved” (Jn 20:2) (who biblical scholars have come to identify as John, the “Beloved Disciple”).

Here is where “the plot thickens”, as writers like to say. On approaching the tomb, John arrives first but does not enter; he waits for Simon Peter to arrive. Why? Mainly because faith (as represented by John) always *precedes* knowledge/authority (as manifested in Simon Peter), but waits for knowledge to *verify* our faith before acting. Our first encounter with Christ – our Baptism - was taken on faith; the actions entailed in the Sacrament were undertaken by our Parents, Godparents and the Clergy who performed the Baptism. We trusted that our parents had our best interest at heart in bringing us to the baptismal font. It wasn’t until our Confirmation, when we had the wisdom to do so, that we fully took on our faith for ourselves.

Easter is a season of new possibilities. It gives hope in a brighter tomorrow, even in the midst of challenge and struggle. It helps us to realize that our lives do not end in death if we have faith that Christ’s life, death, and resurrection happened so that we might have newness of life. May we celebrate this day and season with a renewed sense of hope in God’s promise of Life Everlasting. May we come to the understanding that Jesus Christ has broken the chains of sin and death and won for us the gift of Eternal Life.

A Blessed Easter to All,

Fr. Paul

## MINISTRY NEWS

### Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at [Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com](mailto:Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com)

#### 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.

#### Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

April 22 at 6:30 pm St. Ann

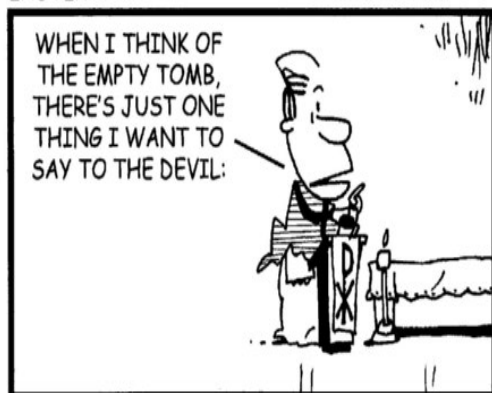
Every month we make sandwiches to be distributed to the homeless in Boston and Cambridge by Capuchin Mobile Ministries. This is a great service project that anyone can do! All are welcome, especially those in need of service hours.

#### April Family Mass

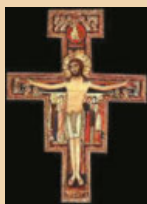
Our next Family Mass is April 28 at the 9:30 Mass at St. Ann. We invite our kids to do the readings and bring up the gifts, and Fr. Paul has the kids join him around the altar for the homily. There is also coffee and donuts in the back of the church after Mass.

If your child is interested in bringing up the gifts or doing a reading please contact Matt Brady.

EASTER







## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

The sanctity of Francis of Assisi is a many ‘splendored thing. He is an EVANGELICAL saint, for he sought to imitate Christ by living in a most radical way the perfection of the Holy Gospel. He is likewise an ECCLESIAL saint, a man who anchored his mission and his teaching in that of the mystical Bride of Christ, the holy Catholic Church. Nature-lovers claim Francis of Assisi, the friend and brother of creation, as an ECOLOGICAL saint. Those involved in dialogue with other religions hail the Sultan-visiting, peace-promoting Francis as the model of an ECUMENICAL saint. But can the Poor Man of Assisi, who bore on his body the wounds of Jesus Crucified, be rightly called an EASTER saint?

For St. Francis, the spiritual Easter was not a one-time event, but a journey, a process. Like St. Paul, Francis could declare: All I want to know is Christ and the power flowing from His Resurrection! This knowledge and power enabled Francis to take the Cross-road which leads to glory: sharing in (Christ’s) sufferings by being formed into the pattern of His death, Francis hoped that (he) too might attain to the resurrection from the dead. (Phil 3:10-11). Francis’ road to Easter began with a profound encounter with Jesus Crucified. Praying before the crucifix in the church of San Damiano outside Assisi during the first years of his conversion, Francis heard Christ address to him the heart-shaking words: Francis, rebuild My house! The future saint felt a mysterious change in himself, but he could not describe it. This was the beginning of his spiritual Easter.

St. Francis journeyed to Easter transformation by contemplating and imitating Jesus in the mysteries of His poverty and humility. Seraphic love even compelled the Poor Man to ask Christ to grant him to feel in his body the pains of the Passion and to feel in his heart the love which urged Christ to die for sinners. In September 1224, two years before the Seraphic Patriarch’s death, God answered his prayer with the imprinting of the Sacred Stigmata, making Francis an icon of the Crucified Jesus. Yet, Francis’ immersion in the mysteries of the Passion did not make him sad or somber. Rather, the sorrows of the Lord opened Francis to a deeper, truer joy. The wounds of Christ’s Passion which the Poor Man bore were in truth signs of spiritual resurrection, God visibly confirming Francis’ passage through death to life. The Easter life is new life, - life in Christ. Again and again, the 13th century authors hail St. Francis as the new man. In him, new signs of sanctity appear, new prodigies are made manifest. His religious family is a new flock in the Church, a new Order, living a new life. Francis proclaimed even in his body that if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature: the former things have passed away. Behold! They are made new! (2 Cor. 5:17) Francis’ Easter newness was the fruit of his union with the Crucified and Risen One. This union is the secret of the Little Poor Man’s joy, his peace-making skills, his enthusiasm for the things of God, his unique relationship with creation. Illness, disappointment, pain, betrayal and misunderstanding still marked Francis’ earthly pilgrimage. But, he saw these sufferings in a new light. He understood that through them, God was making all things work toward an eternal good, an eternal Easter. And so in Francis and through him an unexpected joy and a holy newness came into the world. St. Francis’ mission of newness did not end with death. Those present at his funeral services saw his body, adorned with the wounds of Christ, shining with a marvelous brightness. In life, Francis bore in his body the likeness of the sufferings of Christ. In death, his body presaged the glory of the future resurrection: The wounds he has show forth Gifts of a newer kind. The power of this new life was also manifested in the wonders which occurred through his intercession: he shone with the new light of miracles after his death.

## THIS WEEK’S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR Clergy Trust

### NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR REPAIRS

Against this backdrop, the Easter references in St. Francis’ writings shine with a new splendor. When composing his devotional Office of the Cross, the Seraphic Father included a special Office for the Easter Season. Yet even in the solemn Offices for Holy Week, the thought of Resurrection is present: Arise, my glory! Arise, lyre and harp! I will arise at dawn! I have slept and risen and my most Holy Father has received me in glory. Christ made Francis, the Easter Saint, a singer of the new song of Redemption. In the “Exhortation to the Praise of God,” the Poor Man sang as his own the hymn of those who stand before the Throne of God in heaven: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power, glory and honor! His song of Easter triumph is likewise that of the Church on earth: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! St. Francis of Assisi shows what can happen when the grace of Easter becomes effective in a Christian’s life. He teaches us that every earthly suffering holds the seed of resurrection. For Francis, Easter was a vibrant reality that gave light and hope and even energy for his daily journey with Christ to the Father. He teaches us that the real saints (the Easter saints) are the quite human, quite natural people in whom, through the Easter purification and trans-formation, what is human appears afresh in its total originality and beauty.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS



## ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

April 7th — 7 AM—Noon

GWM Middle School

All net proceeds benefit  
Kiwanis Charities

Tickets available at the Door

## The Together in Christ Collaborative is sponsoring a Baby Shower!

“Cribs” will be set up on **April 6** at both St Ann and St John Parish. Donations will be accepted through **May 5!**

**Donations of NEW UNWRAPPED layette items, toiletries (no powder please), and diapers are needed.**

Items from the Parish Baby Shower helps mothers make life-affirming decisions for their unborn children and supports clients of Pregnancy Help, the crisis pregnancy center of the Archdiocese of Boston. Monetary donations to Pregnancy Help or the Fund for the Unborn are also gratefully accepted.

Please contact Missy Schrader at 508-725-2177 or [missyschrader73@gmail.com](mailto:missyschrader73@gmail.com) with any questions!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!**

## 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.**

**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



## Understanding the Mass

The Mass, or celebration of the Eucharist, is the principal liturgical action in the Roman Catholic Church. It is the central action and aspect of our lives of faith and the primary way Catholics worship God as a community. The word “Mass” comes from the Latin word, missa meaning “mission” or “sending” because the liturgy is to send forth the faithful to bring forth the Good News of Jesus and to be His sacramental presence in the world. It can also be referred to as “Liturgy” which means “work of the people.” It is also a time to give God thanks and praise, as the word “Eucharist” means “thanksgiving.”

Catholics gather for Mass on Sundays, Holy Days, and sometimes on a daily basis in order to honor and praise God and unite in prayer with fellow believers in Christ. The celebration of Mass is the foundation for the universal Church and for the individual believer. Participation in the gift of the Eucharist feeds, transforms, and heals us in our spiritual journey. We are empowered to go forth and continue the saving ministry of Jesus in our daily lives. We are centered on God and on the mystery of God’s love for us through the redemptive sacrifice of Christ on the cross.

In celebrating the Mass, we continue to follow the example of the early Christians who gathered together to witness the belief that Christ lives on through our liturgical worship and the lives of the faithful. *In the Mass, we gather together as a community of believers, many parts of the one body of Christ. We remember all that Christ has done and sacrificed for us and that Jesus truly remains with us. We celebrate Christ’s active presence among us when Christ becomes truly present in the Eucharist.*

HAPPY EASTER

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