



**Together in Christ  
Collaborative**

**April 4, 2021**

**EASTER SUNDAY  
The Resurrection  
Of the Lord**



*St. John the Evangelist*

*St. Ann*



**Church of Saint Ann  
103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater 02379  
508-586-4880**

**Saint John the Evangelist  
210 Central St., East Bridgewater 02333  
Office –103 N. Main Street,  
West Bridgewater**

**508-378-4207**

**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**

**E-MAIL: [stjohnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.stjohneb.org](http://www.stjohneb.org)  
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB**

# 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

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## St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

Saturday, April 3, 2021

4:00—Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, April 4, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, April 10, 2021

4:00 - Kim Russo — 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, April 11, 2021

8:30 - Domingos & Sibor Families — Memorial

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## St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

Saturday, April 3 2021

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, April 4, 2021

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Saturday, April 10, 2021

5:30 - Dorothy Walsh — Birthday Remem.

Sunday, April 11, 2021

10:30 - William J. Buckley — 2nd Anniversary

### THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

Your continued support is very much appreciated.

#### Weekly Offertory

Mar 17 - Mar 23, 2021

ST JOHN

Online \$959

Mail \$2,057

Mass \$1,690

TOTAL \$4,706

ST ANN

Online N/A

Mail \$690

Mass \$1,319

TOTAL \$2,009

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO THE EASTER FLOWER FUNDS. YOUR GENEROSITY IS VERY APPRECIATED.



happy easter

HAPPY EASTER FROM FR. PAUL,  
FR. MIKE, DEACON CHRIS, DEBBIE,  
ARLENE, STEPHANIE & DONNA



My Dear Friends in Christ,

HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song! Today’s solemnity brings about a joy that no power can attain, no money can buy, and no “social distancing” can thwart! Today, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, true to His Word, has broken the chains of sin and death and won for us newness of life. What a glorious day this is for all God’s people.

I can remember growing up that Easter had a different “feel” than the other holidays/holy days. Family gatherings were a part of each of these times (Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter), and going to Mass was part of many of them (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter), but Easter stood out for me. Perhaps it was when I came to the realization of what the day was about. Christmas was (and still is) a beautiful time of year, but often times the “commercialization” gets the better of even the best of intentions; I can’t recall any “commercialization” ever being associated with Easter. The other thing about Easter which brings it to the “top of the list” for me is the gift of resurrection.

Don’t get me wrong – I’m eternally grateful that God thought enough of us to give His Son for us at Christmas. Easter, however, is when one like us in all things (save for sin) gave His life for the world, so as to rise from the dead and win for us Eternal Life. Scripture tells us that “no greater love hath one, than to lay down their life for a friend” (Jn 15:13). This is what Jesus does for us in the Easter miracle – He lays down His life so that He might pick it up again, winning for us new life.

Easter comes at a time of new birth and, boy, do we need a rebirth! As safely as we are able, we join together in prayer. As we do so, may we not let this be a time of isolation; even if some are (still) separated in body, let us come together and be united in spirit, the Spirit that rose Jesus from the dead and won for us NEWNESS OF LIFE!

A Blessed Easter to All,

Fr. Paul

## NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

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

#### A Happy Ending Isn't the Whole Story

"Is there a happy ending?"

When my kids were young, we never made it past the first whiff of any narrative tension before I got this question. As soon as whatever princess or furry woodland animal who was the hero of the story got into any small scrape, they wanted that reassurance, "Is there a happy ending?"

I can't say I blame them. Don't we all feel that way sometimes? We enter into a relationship with someone or some situation, and we just want to protect ourselves. We want to know it's not going to go badly — or, if it does, that we will be able to come back from it. It's a human instinct, a reflex. Our inclination to protect ourselves makes it so that we sometimes want to press fast-forward on the bad stuff and skip straight ahead to the happily-ever-after.

Easter is the ultimate happy ending. It's the day of miracles. The day when all the stones roll away and all the sins are forgiven. It's the day that puts everything right.

But if we learned anything from this week — from the Passion and death of the Lord — it's that we can't press fast-forward on the hardships of life. That tension, that loss, that fear — it's crucial, isn't it? As Catholics, we are who we are because of Easter. But Easter doesn't happen without Good Friday.

So, does the story of salvation have a happy ending? We know it does. But we also remember that the ending isn't all that matters.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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#### Great News - Worldwide Marriage Encounter has gone "Virtual"!

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some span multiple weeks on a given weekday. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call at or visit them at <https://www.wmema.org/>.

He is risen! May the joy of Easter be with you. Let Worldwide Marriage Encounter help you resurrect the romance in your marriage. Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter experiences:

Friday/Saturday/Sunday April 23-25  
Mondays/Thursdays May 3-24

### WHAT IS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

The Church is marked by four signs which help to identify its true nature: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. An understanding of these four signs will help form a definition of the Catholic Church.

**The Church is One.** The unity of the Church is rooted in the unity of the Holy Trinity – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit. The Church has a common body of beliefs and is universal in doctrine. All united under the Pope, Catholics profess one faith, creed, and set of moral teachings.

**The Church is Holy.** God is the ultimate source of holiness in the Church and Jesus Christ is the model of holiness for the Church. The Church is holy since it was instituted by Christ, who gave the Church the gift of the Holy Spirit to continue his mission and ministry on earth. Through the Church, one is called to live a life which leads to the wholeness of personal development and true relationship with God, the source of life and eternal salvation.

**The Church is Catholic.** The word "Catholic" means "universal." The Church, from the time Jesus commissioned the Apostles until the present age, has always been centered on spreading the message of Jesus Christ. The Church of yesterday, today, and tomorrow will always have Christ as our foundation. Furthermore, the Church is for all people throughout the world. The Mass and the other sacraments are celebrated throughout the world, bringing all Catholics together in a spirit of prayer and unity.

**The Church is Apostolic.** The Bishops, who are the successors to the Apostles, in union with the Pope, continue to teach, sanctify, and guide the church until Christ comes again. The doctrine and way of life of the Church is the same today as it was in the time of the Apostles. The good news of Jesus Christ announced by the Apostles almost 2,000 years ago continues to be announced by the Church today. Furthermore, the Church recognizes the apostolic mission – to reach out to people of all nations and preach the Good News of the Gospel.

EASTER

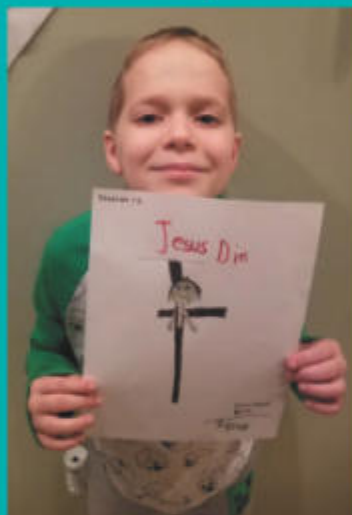


# This Week in Ministry

4.5.21-4.11.21

## Stations of the Cross Art Contest Winners!

Congrats to this week's winner, Christopher Berlo, who submitted his drawing of Station 12. Great job, Christopher!



## He is Risen! And that's just the beginning...

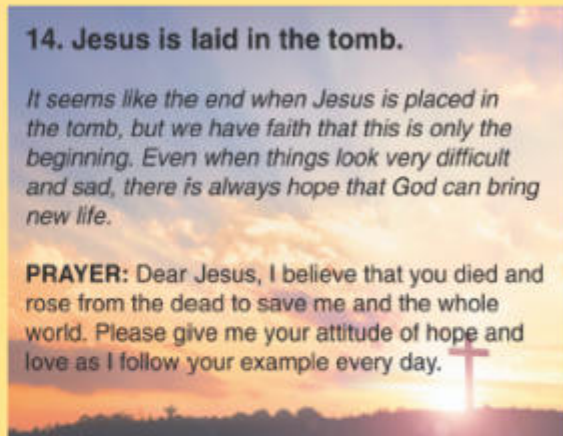
Happy Easter to all!

Are you happily enjoying the chocolate you gave up for Lent? I hope so! But if you started some good habits during Lent, don't stop now! See if you can keep striving to connect to God, build a closer relationship with Him through prayer, and be your best self every day.

### 14. Jesus is laid in the tomb.

*It seems like the end when Jesus is placed in the tomb, but we have faith that this is only the beginning. Even when things look very difficult and sad, there is always hope that God can bring new life.*

**PRAYER:** Dear Jesus, I believe that you died and rose from the dead to save me and the whole world. Please give me your attitude of hope and love as I follow your example every day.



**"God sees you and all your potential, and he aches to see you embrace your best, truest, highest self"**  
-Matthew Kelly, *I Heard God Laugh*

## Grade 2 Reminder—Stepping Stone Decorating!

For the first time, First Reconciliation is going to be outdoors! To prepare for this very special event, all grade 2 students are invited to come paint and decorate their own stepping stone on:

**Saturday, April 10th: 12-2pm in the St. John's parking lot**

All decorating will be outdoors and socially distant.



The stones will be arranged to form a path to guide them at Reconciliation (April 25th, 1pm in the St. John's parking lot). Students will be able to take their stepping stone home afterwards, having a permanent keepsake to mark this sacred milestone of their faith journeys!

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)*

## 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, Linda Joy & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

**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 Spring.*

*Our pantry is open on the first and third Mondays of the every month April through October, 2021. When days fall on a major holiday, the pantry will be the Tuesday of that week.*

*First Mondays = 3:00—5:30*

*Third Mondays = 3:00—4:30*

*Monday, April 1 - 3:00—5:30*

*Monday April 19 - 3:00—4:30*

*The schedule is as follows:*

*May 3rd and 17th*

*June 7th and 21st*

*July \*Tues the 6th and 19th*

*August 2nd and 16th*

*September \*Tues the 7th and 20th*

*October 4th and 18th*

Donations are always appreciated but please call to let us know you are dropping off. 508-378-3760

**Gift cards are also a great help.**

**\$5—\$25 cards are easier to distribute than large sums, ie \$100**

**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

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.

### 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.

## EASTER BLESSING

*He is Risen!*

On this day, loving and gracious God, we once again sing Alleluia. We praise You and bless You for raising Your Son, Jesus, up from the dead. We praise You for all the times You have raised us up through Your loving grace.

When we are weak and unable to make good decisions, when we are stubborn and refuse to forgive others, when we are afraid and uncertain and forget that it is You who strengthens us, raise us up, loving God, raise us up.

Thank You for giving us new life in Your Son and for His presence among us this Eastertime and always.

Amen

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# Communion Fasting

Question:

Do we need to fast for one hour before Mass, or one hour before communion?

Answer:

The practice of fasting before receiving the Eucharist is a centuries-old act of devotion that was once very different than it is today. In the 1917 Code of Canon Law, for example, anyone who wanted to receive the Eucharist had to fast from midnight until the time of communion (even water and medications were forbidden). Over the following decades, the rules for the eucharistic fast were relaxed, first by Pope Pius XII and, later, by Pope Saint Paul VI.

The current Code of Canon Law (1983) states very clearly: “A person who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain for at least one hour before holy communion from any food and drink, except for only water and medicine” (Canon 919, §1). And, in the case of those who are ill and the elderly, the rules are even more accommodating, “The elderly, the infirm, and those who care for them can receive the Most Holy Eucharist even if they have eaten something within the preceding hour” (Canon 919, §3).

So, if we strictly follow the “letter of the law,” the fast is calculated from the time of Holy Communion and not the start of Mass. However, when we remember why we fast — it is a reminder of the deeper hungers of the spirit that our physical thirst or hunger symbolize — we see that the issue is much bigger than simply fulfilling what is called for by Church Law and tradition. Joining fasting to our prayers and reflection before Mass is an opportunity to really center ourselves and to prepare our minds, hearts, and bodies to welcome the One we receive in the Eucharist.

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