



*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
May 17, 2020
Sixth Sunday of Easter*

6th Sunday
OF EASTER

“Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.” - Jn 14:21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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

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 9-4 M-Th
For both Churches

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. John and St. Ann are Stewardship Parishes

MASSES OF INTENTION WILL BE RESCHEDULED
ONCE THE CHURCHES ARE OPENED FOR
GROUP GATHERINGS.

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES - ENGAGE PARISHIONERS IN DAILY MASS AND PRAYER

Readings for the week of May 17, 2020

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21
 Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a
 Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11
 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
 Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20
Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20
 Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Jn 16:20-23
 Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28
 Next Sunday: *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20
 7th Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:12-14/Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8 [13]/1 Pt 4:13-16/Jn 17:1-11a

Observances for the week of May 17, 2020

Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter
 Monday: St. John I, Pope and Martyr
 Tuesday:
 Wednesday: St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
 Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord (holy day of obligation in some U.S. dioceses); St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
 Friday: St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
 Saturday:
 Next Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day

ASCENSION OF THE LORD — MAY 21, 2020 ASCENSION THURSDAY



MAY 24TH ASCENSION SUNDAY THE CELEBRATION OF THE ASCENSION

The Ascension of Our Lord, which occurred **40 days after Jesus Christ rose from the dead on Easter**, is the final act of our redemption that Christ began on Good Friday. On this day, the risen Christ, in the sight of His apostles, ascended bodily into Heaven.

My Dear Friends in Christ,



As many of you know, I am a big fan of bumper stickers. I read them often times when I am stuck in traffic (which, unfortunately, is all too often!). A while back I read one that intrigued me so much that I sought it out and bought it; unfortunately I lost it in one of my recent moves. It read, simply but powerfully. “If God Had Wanted Us To Be Permissive, He Would Have Given Us ‘The Ten **Suggestions**’” (emphasis added). The implication, of course, is that the Ten Commandments (the item in question) are just that...Commandments that we are obliged to follow.

Jesus, in today’s gospel, calls on His disciples to follow the Commandments as a way of showing their love for Him. This is a challenging order, for them and for us. Luckily, Jesus does not leave them (or us) without help. He goes on further to tell them (and us) that He will ask the Father to send “another Advocate...the Spirit of truth...” (Jn 14:16-17)...the Holy Spirit. When we hear of the Holy Spirit, we tend to think of the Sacrament of Confirmation. This thought is not entirely wrong, but it is only part of the story. While we are “sealed with the Holy Spirit” at Confirmation, we have the Holy Spirit with us at all times...even before we are baptized. The relationship we have with the Holy Spirit is “sanctified” (that is, made holy) at Baptism, and with which we are “sealed” at Confirmation, but we have the Spirit with us even before we are brought to life in our mother’s womb. This is the great gift of God, this gift of the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is a gift of the Father that is always with us, always at our disposal. We are called to use the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, which are often listed as seven in number but which are truly infinite. We are called to rely on the Spirit when we find ourselves in need of God’s guidance, strength, and love. We are called to see the Holy Spirit at work in others, so that we may emulate that behavior in ourselves; this is often done with Confirmation Sponsors and their Confirmandi. The works of the Spirit are infinite, as are the opportunities to see and employ those gifts. May we have the courage to rely not on our own “devices”, but on these aforementioned gifts. May we know that God is always ready to lavish these gifts upon us, filling us to overflowing. May we share these gifts with all, especially those in need of God’s grace, mercy, and love. May we pray those words we so often hear at Confirmation, and pray them often...**COME, HOLY SPIRIT AND FILL THE HEARTS OF YOUR FAITHFUL AND KINDLE IN THEM THE FIRE OF YOUR LOVE. SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT AND THEY SHALL BE CREATED. AND YOU SHALL RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH. AMEN.**

Have a Blessed (Continued) Easter,

Fr. Paul

TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

Brendan Fitzgerald (Sr. Deacon)
deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connelly
cconnelly@rcab.org

Joe Hopgood
deaconjoe@comcast.net

The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 4PM Monday -Thursday

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., See Schedule

Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday
9:00 a.m.

In the Chapel

Divine Mercy every Thursday
After Mass.

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., See Schedule

Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.
9:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the Month at St John's and the 4th Sunday of the month at St. Ann's. Prep classes are Wednesday before Baptism at St. John's. Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. – Other times as scheduled in the bulletin or 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.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St John's - every WEDNESDAY from 7-8 p.m.
in the Church.

St. Ann's - First Friday of the month following the 9:00 a.m. Mass concluding with Benediction at 10:30 a.m.

Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Donna Roderiques
donna.stannstjohn@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Arlene Stefano
stanns@comcast.net

Director of Religious Education

Charlotte Leines
stannscdd@comcast.net

508-588-7140

Director of Music: Matthew Cunningham
matthewcunningham@bpsma.org

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Donna Roderiques
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Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
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Director of Religious Education

Lorraine Hopgood
repstjohn@gmail.com

508-378-1521

Director of Music: Paul Hoffman
p.hoffman@stjohnne.org

Music Minister: Erica Wasil

PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

Deacon Joe Hopgood
Paul Hoffman
Denise Robichaud

Ben Williams
Nancy Maloney
Margaret Mary Williams

COLLABORATIVE NEWS AT SAINT ANN'S AND SAINT. JOHN'S

The Next Second Collection

Financial Blessings	St. Ann's	Budget	St John's	Budget
<p>SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS <i>Thank you to those who gave to the Grand Annual</i></p> <p>Thank you to all who contribute to our offertory through your weekly offering and other gifts! It is very much appreciated! For more information on Online Giving, please contact us.</p>				
GRAND ANNUAL THROUGH 2/28/20	\$15,110	\$20,000	\$18,001	\$20,000

TEACHING MASS

STORY TIME W/ FR. PAUL & NELLIE

My Dear Friends in Christ,

One of the things which I'm most looking forward to when we move into this "new normal" of which everyone is speaking is holding First Communions! While we will have to "think outside the box", with regards to these (and other) events to be sure, I can assure you that they will be held! In anticipation of, and preparation for, this event I, along with Deacons Chris Connelly and Joe Hopgood, filmed a series of videos, highlighting the different parts of the Mass.

I invite our 2nd grade families, along with all other interested parties, to view these videos (available on Facebook and by way of email) and then offer any questions and/or comments you might have. Along with a second showing of the video(s), I will tackle these comments/questions each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in a Facebook Live Event. So, after "online school" is dismissed, and supper is served, I invite you to join me "virtually" each Wednesday evening in my chapel by way of Facebook Live as we "Explore The Mass".

Peace,

Fr. Paul

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" - Phil. 4:13



My Dear Friends in Christ,

These are an uncertain times and, if you're like me, we look for reassurance during such moments. One of the ways my mother used to reassure my siblings and me was to read to us. They were always entertaining, and had a message for us that gave comfort to us. In that same vein, I will be offering "Story Time with Fr. Paul and Nellie". From the warm confines of my chapel, Nellie and I will be reading (well, I'll be reading...she'll be there for emotional support for us all!) from various books that I hope will be of comfort and reassurance. I will be doing this by way of Facebook Live, and I invite you to join me.

So, after "online school" has let out and supper has been served, please join me (by way of Facebook Live) on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. for "Storytime With Fr. Paul and Nellie". I pray that this will give comfort and support to all, young and young-at-heart!

Peace,

Fr. Paul

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES (ST. ANN'S)



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095
or jchbaker@msn.com

New mailing address:
P O Box 474
West Bridgewater MA 02379

MASSES ARE MOVED ON LINE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. MASSES CAN BE VIEWED ON:

CATHOLIC TV - CHANNEL 268 IS BROADCASTING DAILY AND SUNDAY MASS

EWTN — CHANNEL 238 is also broadcasting masses.

Fr. Paul is conducting Daily Masses and a Holy Hour/Rosary on Facebook Live.

**FR. PAUL'S FACEBOOK PAGE — Paul Ring
ST JOHN'S FACEBOOK PG — St. John the Evangelist—EB
ST ANN'S FACEBOOK PAGE - St. Ann - WB**

Cardinal Sean encourages Catholics to participate in the daily and Sunday Masses broadcast from the Catholic TV chapel. Channel 268 (Comcast)

Daily mass aires live at 9:30 and is rebroadcast at 7 pm and 11:30 pm.

Sunday Masses air throughout the day at 10 am, 4 pm, 7 pm and 11:30 pm.

Viewers can watch these Masses on demand at anytime at www.WatchtheMass.com

Visit <http://www.catholicstv.org/>

The month of May is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Blessed John Henry Newman offers various reasons why May in particular is dedicated to Our Lady in "[Meditations and Devotions](#)". He states:

The first reason is because it is the time when the earth bursts forth into its fresh foliage and its green grass after the stern frost and snow of winter and the raw atmosphere and the wild wind and rain of the early spring. It is because the blossoms are upon the trees and the flowers are in the gardens. It is because the days have got long, and the sun rises early and sets late. For such gladness and joyousness of external Nature is a fit attendant on our devotion to her who is the Mystical Rose and the House of Gold.

Blessed Newman admits that sometimes May is a rainy, cool month. However, it always remains a month of promise and hope, the prelude to summer, the season of light. It is in this sense that it represents Mary. She reflects the light of Christ.



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.

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Ann's would love to have some new members! There is work to be done, discussions to have, and decisions to be made and we need more voices and more help.

Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. If you have been looking for a way to participate, please come to a meeting and see what we are all about! The next one is March 10th. For more information, contact Chris Baker at 774-240-8095.

Sign Before the Gospel

Question:

I have been going to Mass for years and have always wondered: why do we make the three signs of the cross before the Gospel?

Answer:

Certainly, many people go to Mass or other devotions, doing and saying things out of habit or reverence and not really understanding the reasons behind some of these things. But everything we do has a meaning or purpose that helps us to worship better, proclaim our beliefs, or focus the attention of the people on something that has a greater importance or significance. A review of the meaning of various gestures and practices can help us have a deeper appreciation for what we do.

There is a little prayer that goes with the three crosses before the Gospel: "May the words of the Holy Gospel be on my mind, on my lips and in my heart." In standing to hear the Gospel, we acknowledge that Jesus is present, and the words of the Gospel are addressed to us. All of the gestures and special postures we adopt before the Gospel are intended to help us prepare for hearing the Word as well as act on it. The incense, the Alleluia, the deacon or priest, and the special dialogue and announcement that introduces the Gospel help us focus our attention on the Good News we are about to hear. The three signs of the cross show our desire and good intention to hear and live the Gospel.

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NEWS FOR THE PARISHES (St. John)

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Karen Debenedictis, Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, JoAnn Micalizzi, 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, Karen Daly, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicoliar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, Bill Frabetti, George Lepine, Dennis Green, Joseph Rizzitano, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Paul Currie, Dennis Green, John McCovy Murphy, Dana Debenedictis, Harry Evans, Jerry Paluch, Frank Genatossio, Kathleen Jezard Maher, Dr. Irfan Francis & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

NOVENA



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Are you feeling these days like your life is “tied up in knots” (honestly, whose doesn’t to some degree)? Let us take the opportunity to ask Mary, “Our Lady Undoer of Knots”, to intercede for us.

This powerful Novena will present the chance for us to ask our Blessed Mother to present our petitions to her Son. Join me for the next eight Mondays (we began on 4/20, but no worries...you can join right in!) for the Novena, along with Evening Prayer, at 7:00 p.m. on Facebook Live. “Our Lady, Undoer of Knots, pray for us.” For more information on the Novena, you can go to

<https://churchpop.com/2018/09/28/nothing-is-impossible-gods-mercy-remarkable-story-behind-mary-undoer-of-knots/>

for more information and prayers. Asking God's blessing upon you I am, and remain

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Paul

IMPORTANT DATES

Rosary after daily Masses.

Divine Mercy every Thursday after daily mass.

Adoration — Every Wednesday—7:00—8:00 PM (changed)

Catholic Womens’ Club will meet on the second Wednesday of each month. EXCEPT JAN & FEB.

The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul
Saint John’s Conference
PO Box 544
East Bridgewater MA 02333

Call the Saint Vincent DePaul HOTLINE at 508-378-3760 if you need food or other assistance.

The Food Pantry is open twice a month. — 1st Monday from 3:00-6:00 pm and the 3rd Monday from 3:00-4:30 pm.

The Pantry is working to make food available for all in need while at the same time keeping within the guidelines of the pandemic. Please contact the Pantry if you need help. The only requirement to access the Pantry is to be an East Bridgewater Resident. All religions are welcome.

The Food Pantry is currently accepting donation at the bottom of the ramp. Please make sure you call to let them know you have dropped off food and that it is properly protected from the elements. Cash donations are always welcomed and can be mailed to the address above. **Gift cards are also a great help.**

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

Anyone sitting at home bored who would like to help; call the hotline. The Food Pantry could use all the help it can get. Please make sure you have a mask and gloves. They will put you to work and keep you as safe as they can.

The next Food Pantry will be May 18th

Cereal, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, etc. are always great.

Thank you for your generosity, as always.

For those who would like to join the On-line Giving Program for the convenience of their Offertory:

- Go to www.stjohneb.org
- Click on tab across the top “Giving”
- Go to “Click Here to Give Online”

We recommend setting up an account by selecting “Sign In” at the top. This way we can track donations for your tax purposes. If you prefer a one-time donation without signing in, select “Give Now.”

“In these times of uncertainty, we are assured that the Lord is present to us at ALL times. During this time, with the practice of public Masses suspended, we can tune in on television/internet and make the following Act of Spiritual Communion while viewing the Mass.”

Peace,

Fr. Paul

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.