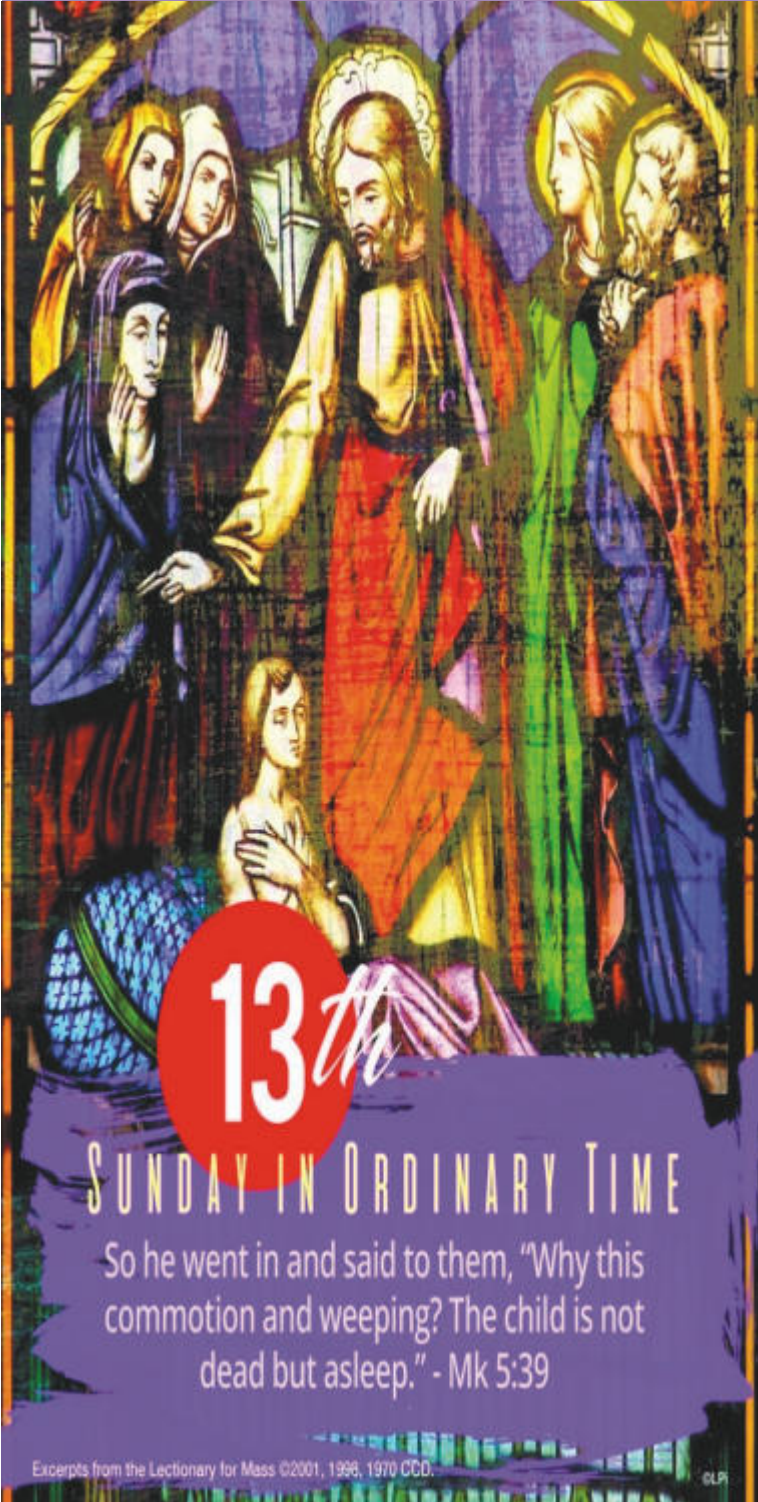




**Together in Christ  
Collaborative**

**JUNE 27, 2021**

**THE THIRTEENTH  
SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**



**Church of Saint Ann  
103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater 02379**

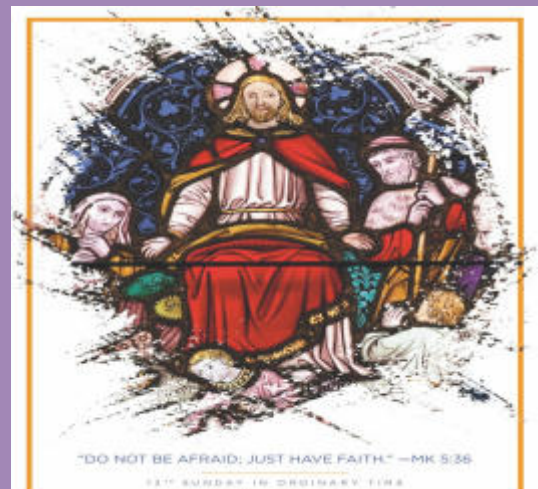
**508-586-4880**

**E-Mail: [stanns@comcast.net](mailto:stanns@comcast.net)  
Website: [stannswb.com](http://stannswb.com)  
Facebook: St. Ann-WB  
Collaborative Office Hours are 9-4 M-Th  
For both Churches  
Currently we are working from home.**

**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](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.stjohneb.org](http://www.stjohneb.org)  
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB  
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring**



**"DO NOT BE AFRAID; JUST HAVE FAITH." —MK 5:36**

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

# TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

## PASTORAL STAFF

**Pastor:**  
**Rev. Paul L. Ring**  
fr\_plrstjohn@comcast.net

**Priests In Residence**  
**Fr. Peter Francis**  
**Fr. Michael Diochi**

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

## Permanent Deacons:

**Christopher Connelly**  
cconnelly@rcab.org

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

## EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

### St John's

**Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.**

**Sunday: 10:30 a.m.**

**Outdoor Mass – 6 p.m.\***

**Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday**  
**9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice**  
**In the Chapel**

### St Ann's

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.**

**Sunday: 8:30 a.m.**

**Outdoor Mass – 6 p.m.\***

**Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.**  
**9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice**

**\*Aleternating between the two worship**  
**sites, refer to website for details.**

## 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 p.m. These baptisms are private and can accommodate 30 or so people. Social distancing and masks are required. Alternately you may opt for celebrating the Baptism at the 6 PM Outdoor Mass.

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  
stjohnebridge@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

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, June 26, 2021**

4:00—Parishioners of Saint Ann

**Sunday, June 27, 2021**

8:30 - Bob & Geri Slowey — Memorial

**Saturday, July 3, 2021**

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

**Sunday July 4, 2021**

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, June 26, 2021**

5:30 - Robin Pearson — 1st Anniversary

**Sunday, June 27, 2021**

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

**Saturday, July 3, 2021**

5:30 - Clara DiFalco — 22nd Anniversary

**Sunday, July 4, 2021**

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John



My Dear Friends in Christ,

One of the most common questions I'm asked is: "Why does God allow people to die?" (or some variation on that question). Death is, indeed, part of the human condition. As one trained in sociology, I can tell you that (statistically) the death rate for the general population as a whole runs at about 100% - eventually, we all gotta go! I say that "tongue in cheek", of course, but the truth is that for all of us our earthly life will end. Thank God for God however, because for us as Christians death is not the end. As one preface for the Mass of Resurrection (Funeral Mass) states that for one who follows Christ, "life is changed, not ended" and that "when our earthly life ends, we gain an everlasting dwelling place in heaven". What a comfort that is for us! The gift of everlasting life, won for us in the sacrifice of Jesus, is something on which we can rely.

So where does that place the question of death? Why does it happen? Is it just so that we can (God willing) get into heaven? We read in the Book of Wisdom that "God did not make death" (Wis 1:13); death came into the world through the "envy of the devil" (Wis 2:24). It was through the jealousy that Satan felt towards God that death came into the world; we can look at Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel and many such biblical references to see how jealousy plays a part in this. We read further in this passage that "they who belong to his (read: Satan's) company experience it" (Wis 2:24). Since we (who follow Christ) do not belong to Satan's company, we do not experience the fullness of death. Our earthly life may end, but our lives do not end. The cessation of this earthly experience does not affect or hinder our entrance into the Kingdom.

Our God is the Living God, so how could someone who is living promote death? It is simply not possible! Therefore, we take comfort in the fact that Jesus, in calling us home to heaven, is calling us to life – Eternal Life! When Jesus, in today's gospel, commands the little girl "Talitha kum" ("Little girl, I say to you, arise!") (Mk 5:41), this is a command for us as well. It is a charge to believe in, to trust in, the Resurrection. We are to believe not only in the Resurrection of Christ, but in the fact that we will share in a like resurrection. May this, indeed, come to pass for all of us. May we never know eternal death, but share in the fullness of Eternal Life won for us by Christ Jesus!

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

### THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Your continued support is very much appreciated.  
Weekly Offertory

**June 8 - June 14, 2021**

#### ST JOHN

Online \$ 534  
Mail \$ 715  
Mass \$ 2,410  
TOTAL \$ 3,659

#### ST ANN

Online N/A  
Mail \$ N/A  
Mass \$ 2,698  
TOTAL \$ 2,698

### DONATIONS FOR ROOF REPAIRS:

NEEDED

DONATED

\$5,500

\$0



## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

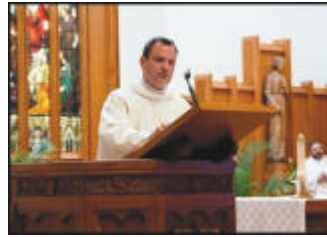


In a recent gospel passage from Mass, we heard Jesus tell His disciples “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth... But store up treasures in heaven” (Matthew 6:19-20). In giving His followers (which include you and me) this directive, Jesus is reminding us that our true treasure are the things that money cannot buy – peace, mercy, justice, hope, and love – and things that the world cannot take away. We can lose our money in the stock market, we can lose our car in an accident, we can lose our house in a fire. These are all terrible things to have happen, for sure. We cannot, however, lose “heavenly treasures”, as they are rooted in the Eternal Kingdom of God and are things over which the world has no power.

It was once said that we should “live simply so that others can simply live”. This quote, which did not originate from Ss. Francis or Clare, fits perfectly into the Franciscan tradition. The simple life of “Il Poverello d’Assisi” (“The Poor Little Man of Assisi”) speaks boldly to the fact that when we let material goods get in the way of our relationship with God, we run the risk of losing Heaven itself. St. Francis had the opportunity to live a life of comfort and luxury, a life of ease. To follow in his father’s footsteps, as a silk merchant, certainly would have been easier than the life he chose to live. In turning his back on material things, Francis showed us that our focus must be – first and foremost, above all else – our relationship with God. Francis’ radical love included radical poverty. Francis certainly followed the gospel mandate to eschew the things of earth, and to hold fast to the things of heaven. In doing so, Francis not only kept his focus on the mission for which he was called but also to see Christ in those who the world sees as “less than”. The Franciscan tradition calls one to engage in the Corporal Works of Mercy not only because Francis did but also because it is in these Works that we bring Christ to those who might not otherwise know Him. In feeding the hungry, giving water to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead, we are caring for the physical needs of our brothers and sisters and allowing them to “simply live”. When we “live simply”, we then have (and can use) more time, talent, and treasure to assist our brothers and sisters in need. When we help others to “simply live”, we give them the dignity which is inherent in them as Children of God, Brothers and Sisters in the Lord. This “living simply” also allows us to align ourselves ever closer with Ss. Francis and Clare, living as they did so as to focus on their mission.

When we strive to “live simply so that others may simply live”, we bring to life the mission on Francis and Clare. We engage in the practice of “simple living”, we then can align ourselves with the Church, as well, which calls us to have a “preferential option for the poor”. This poverty can be physical, but it can also be emotional and even spiritual. When we live simply, we not only become acutely aware of the economic imbalances in our world but also have the wherewithal to correct those imbalances; we can then use our own gifts, talents, and abilities to make the changes necessary to bring about harmony between all. To bring about a balance to the world and among peoples, we must first realize that there is an inequity and then muster the courage (through the power of the Holy Spirit) to rectify that inequity. As Franciscans, we do this by providing a level of security to someone whose life (in the world) is tenuous (at best) or in danger of being lost (at worst).

Francis (or Clare) may not have been the one to come up with the phrase “live simply so that others may life”, but they certainly applied it to their lives and we as Secular Franciscans (in the name of Francis) would do well to use it to deepen our relationship with God though the intercession of Ss. Francis and Clare. May God continue to bless the Secular Franciscan Order and her Members, and may



## The Deacon’s Corner

Deacon Chris Connelly

Why do I celebrate Sunday Mass?

The past fifteen months has brought a lot of changes to how we have participated in and celebrated Mass. We went from a regular Sunday schedule to nothing overnight. A few weeks ago, vaccinated individuals could take off the masks, sit close to each other, and sing with full voice. And now, to encourage Catholics to resume public worship, Cardinal Sean has lifted the dispensation from the Sunday obligation.

For me, these months has caused me to put into focus why I celebrate Sunday Mass. Allow me to let you in on a secret—it is not because I am obligated to do so. The reason I attend Sunday Mass is twofold: first, to give thanks to God for the gift of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ; the second reason is to unite myself to Christ’s offering for the salvation of the world. I am grateful for the gift of life that Jesus has given me by his death and resurrection. He entered the human story at the incarnation. In the Jordan River, he bathed himself in the messy history of his people, marinating himself in our sins. He takes those sins to the cross where he suffers sin’s consequences on our behalf. In death, he entered each of our tombs so that from the empty tomb we have full access to the Father and the life he lives and shares. What he did for all, he did, and continues to do for me—and in gratitude my heart longs to say “Thanks” which we do together every Sunday around the altar of his word and sacrifice.

Jesus died on the cross nearly two thousand years ago. However, the sacrifice of Christ is an eternal sacrifice. Jesus continues to offer himself to the Father for the salvation of the world. The Mass is the place where the sacrifice on Golgotha is made present in our particular time and place in history. On the day of our baptism, we were “incorporated” into Christ. This means that we are part of his mystical body and we are invited to give ourselves over to Christ and unite our offering to his for the salvation of the world. I don’t go to Mass to “get” something out of it—rather I go to Mass with the intention of uniting myself as a part of Jesus’ body to His sacrifice for the salvation of the world.

How does the Father in heaven receive the weekly offering of his people? By giving us the one we desire—Jesus himself under the appearance of bread and wine. Jesus is truly present at every celebration of the Eucharist. He is present in the members of his body who gather with his priest acting *in persona Christi*. He is present in the proclamation of the Gospel. Most profoundly, He is present in the bread and wine we offer. If He is present in these many ways, how could we stay away! My friends, nourished by the Body and Blood, share with your family, neighbors, and friends, the one you have received and invite them to join us next Sunday.

Ss. Francis and Clare intercede for us so as to assist in bring us into unity, and to “live simply so that others may simply live”.

Peace and All Good,  
Fr. Paul

# This Week in *Ministry*

6.28.21-7.4.21



## Happy 4th of July!

Before heading off to see the fireworks, enjoy the outdoor Mass at 6pm in the St. Ann's parking lot!

In a time where division is often the focus, let us take some time on this holiday to remember how we are united; let us pray and strive for true patriotism, where we not only appreciate our country but actively show love, charity, and respect for all of its people as well as those throughout the world.

## *"Not by bread alone"*

### Summer Recipe Contest: Last Chance to Submit!

Now that it's getting warmer, it's time to break out those summer recipes! Whether it's for a fruity punch, a refreshing salad, or a frozen treat, we want to hear from you! No need to be an expert chef; any recipe you've created (or just found and love to make or eat!) all entries are welcome and eligible for prizes! Our last contest was wonderfully successful: let's see if we can top it this time!

Send your recipe by Wednesday, June 30th to [directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com](mailto:directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com)



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 ) 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 Nicoliar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Dana Debenedictis, Harry Evans, Frank Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Rene Pearson, Linda Joy, Gail Butler, Helen Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Karen Parenteau, Casey L'Italien & 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*

*The schedule is as follows:*

*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.**

### 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](mailto: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.



SAINT VINCENT de PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER

@ 774-240-8095

or [jchbaker@msn.com](mailto: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.

### Summer Lunch

St. Ann's and the St. Vincent DePaul Society will again be providing gift cards for groceries to help families with kids who usually get free lunch at school, or anyone who needs help. If you live in West Bridgewater or are a member of St. Ann's, please contact Linda Santry by email at [linda@santry.org](mailto:linda@santry.org) and arrangements will be made to send you grocery cards bi-weekly through August.

Other groups in town with lunch support programs are:  
First Church of West Bridgewater  
508-857-3118  
Friday Grab-n-Go bag lunches.  
Call a day ahead with request.

West Bridgewater Food Pantry  
Spring Street School  
2 Spring Street  
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.  
Pick up hours: 3:30-4:30  
Proof of residency required.

West Bridgewater Library  
508-894-1255  
[wbpl80@gmail.com](mailto:wbpl80@gmail.com)  
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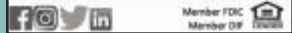


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