



*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
July 30, 2023*



*The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

DOMINICAN THEOLOGIAN

“—  
GRANT ME,  
O LORD MY  
GOD, A MIND  
TO KNOW YOU,  
A HEART TO  
SEEK YOU,  
WISDOM TO  
FIND YOU.  
”

-ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

We, The Together in Christ Collaborative of St. Ann and St. John the Evangelist, welcome and engage all ages to become the disciples that Jesus is calling all of us to be. United by faith and in the Celebration of the Mass, we embrace the call of Jesus to live our mission to “Go forth and make disciples.” Through evangelization, education, and by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we will grow together as One Body of Christ.

**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 M-TH  
Friday the Office is closed**

**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**

**MASS TIMES**

**St Ann  
Saturday, 4:00 PM  
Sunday, 9:30 AM**

**St John  
Sunday, 8:00 AM  
Sunday, 11:30 AM  
Sunday, 6:15 PM**

# TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

## PASTORAL STAFF

### Pastor:

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

### Priests In Residence

**Fr. Peter Francis**  
**Fr. Michael Diochi**

### Permanent Deacons:

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

**Christopher Connelly**  
cconnelly@rcab.org

**The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 3PM Monday-Friday**

## EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

### **St Ann's**

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

**Daily Mass**  
**Thurs & Sat.**  
**9:00 a.m.**

### **St John's**

**Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.**  
**&**  
**6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass**  
**w/ Drive up option**

**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  
stjohnebridge@comcast.net  
508-378-4207  
**Music Minister:** Erica Vinton

**THE OFFICE WILL  
BE CLOSED  
ON FRIDAYS**

**DURING THE  
MONTHS OF  
JUNE  
JULY  
AUGUST**

**DUE TO FISCAL  
CONSTRAINTS**

## **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



# MASSES FOR THE WEEK

# A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



\*\*\*\*\*

## St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

### Saturday, July 29, 2023 -

4:00 - Conceicao Ponte & Family — 3rd Anniv.

### Sunday, July 30, 2023

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

### Saturday, August 5, 2023

4:00 - Tina Marie Hunnewell — 1st Anniversary

### Sunday, August 6, 2023

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

\*\*\*\*\*

## St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

### Friday, July 28, 2023

9:00 - Salvatore Gaziano - Memorial

### Sunday July 30, 2023

8:00 - Lydia (Couchion) Riel — Memorial

11:30 - Children around the world who need our prayers

6:15 - Frances Sousa — Memorial

### Sunday, August 6, 2023

8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

11:30 - Bridget A. Sullivan — Birthday Remem.

6:15 - World Leaders

Please welcome the following children into our Collaborative. Pray that this is the first step in a wonderful journey with God.



Ryder James Davis,  
Isabella Rose Edwards,  
Blake Avery Edwards,  
Ford Xander Edwards,  
Morgan Rae Edward,  
Sienna Carolyn Albanese



My Dear Friends in Christ,

One often hears of someone having the “wisdom of Solomon”. Often times, it is a judge, a teacher, a parent or, in the case of the man himself spoken about in our first reading, a ruler. When Solomon assumes the kingship of Israel (following the death of his father, David), he is visited by God in a dream. When given the opportunity to receive anything he wishes to make his rule successful, he doesn’t opt for the “quick fix” or the “easy out”. In recognizing an apparent shortcoming in being “a mere youth” (1 Kgs 3:7), he opts for “an understanding heart to judge...people and to distinguish right from wrong” (1 Kgs 3:9). Solomon starts off on the “right foot” with God by not being concerned with himself, but with his people.

This gift of **discernment** is a key element to having true wisdom, the God-given variety which we attribute as a Gift of the Holy Spirit. What is it that makes us successful and happy? Surely the world would say “riches” or “power” or “prestige”; this flies in the face, of course, of the life God wants for us. We would do well, like Solomon, to ask (in prayer) for those things (attributes, behaviors, mindsets) which will help us to grow in faith, hope and love. In looking at not merely what we *want* but what we *need*, we grow in the eyes of God. We grow in the gift of Wisdom (a Gift of the Spirit given at Confirmation, free for our use) by discerning, in union with God’s plan for us and for the world, by separating out the wants (which we can pray for, but not necessarily rely on getting) from our needs, that which helps us truly grow in the Spirit. It all works together for our good and the good of the world.

It is in the gifts of discernment and wisdom that help us to determine that which is of true and lasting value, that which will bring to life and light the Kingdom (both the Kingdom awaiting us, as well as the Kingdom in our midst (which, when discerned properly, are one and the same!)). In the gospel, the “treasure in the field” (Mt 13:44) and the “pearl of great price” (Mt 13:46) are images of that Kingdom. These images are used because, like the Kingdom, they are only found by discerning what is lasting from what is fleeting, what is finite from what is infinite. This “separating” is like the “dragnet” (see Mt 13:47) which is cast into the sea and collects fish of all kinds (the fish, in this passage, being an image of humankind); the good (godly) and the bad (worldly) are separated, and the bad is thrown away. In that same way, we will be separated at the end of time with those who have striven to follow God’s way welcomed into the Kingdom.

May we always strive to discern God’s will for us, for our brothers and sisters and for the world. May we look to God for all things which help us to grow in faith, hope and love. Finally, may we continue to (like Solomon) ask (in prayer) for those things which will build up the Kingdom, serve the needs of ourselves and our brothers and sisters, and usher forth the greater glory of God!

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## MINISTRY NEWS

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

### **Registration for Faith Formation 2023-2024 is now open!**

I am happy to announce that registration for faith formation for the fall is now open! Classes will begin on Sunday 9/24 and run through the first week of May. The schedule remains roughly the same, but there are some adjustments based on your feedback and the current Mass schedule. The 2023-2024 schedule is as follows:

Grades 1-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9 and 10
Sundays 8:20-9:20 @ St. Ann	Sundays 5:00-6:00 @ St. Ann <u>Grades 4, 6-8</u>	Sundays 7:15-8:15 @ St. Ann
Mondays 4:30-5:30 @ St. Ann	Wednesdays 4:30-5:30 @ St. John	(Grades 9 and 10 meet on alternate weeks)
Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 @ St. John		

### **Catechists Wanted!**

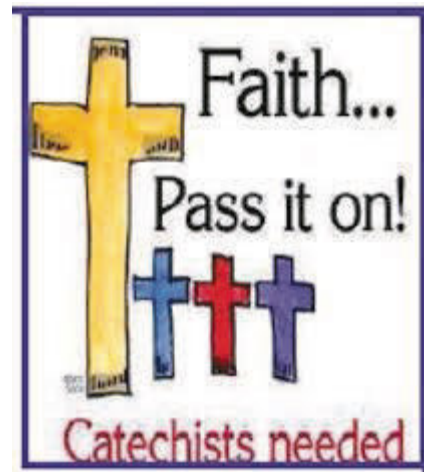
As we prepare for the new faith formation year in the fall, catechists are needed for all grades.

The only requirements are love of Christ and a willingness to work with our children.

**No experience needed** - we will train you and give you all the materials you need.

If interested, please contact Matt Brady.

[Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com](mailto:Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com)



### **August Movie Nights**

We will be hosting 4 movie nights over the course of the summer, 2 at each parish. There will be free popcorn and other snacks available for purchase.

#### **Schedule:**

**Saturday, 8/5: Encanto — St. John's**  
**Wednesday, 8/9: Zootopia — St. Ann's**  
**Saturday, 8/19: Inside Out — St. John's**  
**Wednesday, 8/23: Shrek 2 — St. Ann's**

**7 pm outside at St. John (inside if it's bad weather)**  
**7 pm in St. Ann's Parish Center**





## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Recently, the Church celebrated the Feast of St. Bonaventure (15 July). St. Bonaventure was a Bishop and Doctor of the Church, so he stands out as not only one of the greatest Franciscan saints, but one of the Church's greatest saints. So who was this man, known as "The Seraphic Doctor"?

Born in 1221 in Bagnoregio (central Italy), St. Bonaventure was given the name Giovanni ("John"). As a very young child, St. Francis of Assisi prayed over him to be healed of a serious childhood disease. It was said that St. Francis could intuit peoples' character; he prophesized about St. Bonaventure's future greatness. It was St. Francis who coined the expression, "O Buona Ventura", which means what "good fortune" he will have. The name stayed with him.

St. Bonaventure entered the Franciscan Order in 1238, and after finishing his studies he became close friends with St. Thomas Aquinas while in Paris. For his astute knowledge and vibrant faith, St. Bonaventure became known as "The Seraphic Doctor". In addition to theological and philosophical works, St. Bonaventure has left us numerous spiritual treatises, some of which have been translated into English including the Journey of the Soul to God, Tree of Life, and The Life of Saint Francis.

Although St. Bonaventure was a man of the highest intellectual attainments, he would emphasize that a fool's love and knowledge of God may be greater than that of a humanly wise man. To reach God, he said, "little attention must be given to reason and great attention to grace, little to books and everything to the gift of God, which is the Holy Spirit." Above all he emphasized charity: "For in truth, a poor and unlearned old woman can love God better than a Doctor of Theology."

St. Bonaventure served as Minister General of the Friars Minor (the Franciscan Order). Bonaventure was nominated as archbishop of York in 1265 by Pope Clement IV, but asked humbly not to be elevated. In 1273, Pope Gregory X obliged him to assume a greater place of honor, that of Bishop-Cardinal of Albano, one of the seven suburb dioceses around Rome. Bonaventure enjoyed special veneration even during his lifetime because of renowned teaching and writing, his preaching of the Word of God, his stainless character, his spiritual power to reconcile opposites, and for the miracles attributed to him.

Bonaventure died in 1400, and was canonized by Pope Sixtus V on 14 April 1482. He was declared a "Doctor of the Church" in 1588 by the same Pope. St. Bonaventure, Seraphic Doctor, Pray For Us!

Pax et Bonum,  
Fr. Paul, OFS

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE A

 **COLOR**

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 13:44-52

### Offertory Donations

**If you want your Offertory used for tax purposes, you must use an envelope from the Waltz Co.**

**All cash donations given at a Mass that is NOT your Parish that you want to go in the account for your Parish should be placed in an envelope with the church name on it. Otherwise it goes to the other Parish.**

**Cash donations are not recorded in the computer.**

**Loose checks (not in Waltz Envelopes) are very much appreciated but are not able to be tallied in the computer for tax statements.**

**If you like to set up an On-Line Giving Account, directions are on our websites.**

**Any questions, please call the Rectory Offices  
St. John — 508-378-4207  
St Ann — 508-586-4880**



## 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:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Kenneth Upham, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Kay Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Gail Butler, Kathy Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Joan Thompson, Kenneth McLaughlin, Fred Sprague, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Brian Scanlan, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Irene Churchill, Matthew Owings, Kayla Perry, Fr. Pater Francis's Mother & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military. *If you know that some of these people should be removed, Please call the Rectory so we can update the list.*



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**

Is in need of:  
Spaghetti Sauce  
Small jars only please.

### St Ann's ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

**Is looking for new members**

**PLEASE CONTACT — TINA ANTHONY**

**508-245-5481**

**P O Box 474  
West Bridgewater MA 02379**

**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



**Thursdays — St Ann's Bingo**  
**Doors open at 4 PM**  
**Bingo starts 6:30 SHARP**

**Saturdays — Southeast Cyclone's  
Bingo**

**Doors open at 4 PM**  
**Bingo starts at 6 PM SHARP**

### WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

**MEMORIAL MASSES**  
Suggested donation \$25+

**HOSTS, WINE AND SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR THE WEEK — \$30+**



**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK**  
Increasing to \$85+

Today's Second Collection is to build up a snow removal and heat fund for the winter. Kevin Mercier would like to build this fund on the last weekend of each month so that we will be prepared for whatever winter brings.

### PANTRY HOURS WILL REMAIN THE SAME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

Pantry days will be the **FIRST MONDAY** of the month, except for holidays, from **3 pm to 5:30 pm**, and the **THIRD MONDAY** from **3 pm to 4:30 pm**, except for holidays. Please check the schedule.

*Monday, August 7, 2023*  
*Monday, August 21, 2023*

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



# NEWS



Fr. John Fisher from Uganda is the Pastor of Our Lady of Assumption Buyambi Parish. He is currently trying to bring clean drinking water to his community.

This requires getting a solar-powered well that would deliver clean water to storage tanks where the students and villagers could come and get clean water more easily.

Any help you can provide would be extremely appreciated. If you want to donate to this cause, please write a check to St. John's or St. Ann's and put Clean Water Project on the memo line. Cash should be in an envelope marked for the Clean Water Project. Fr. Paul will collect and mail your donations.



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