



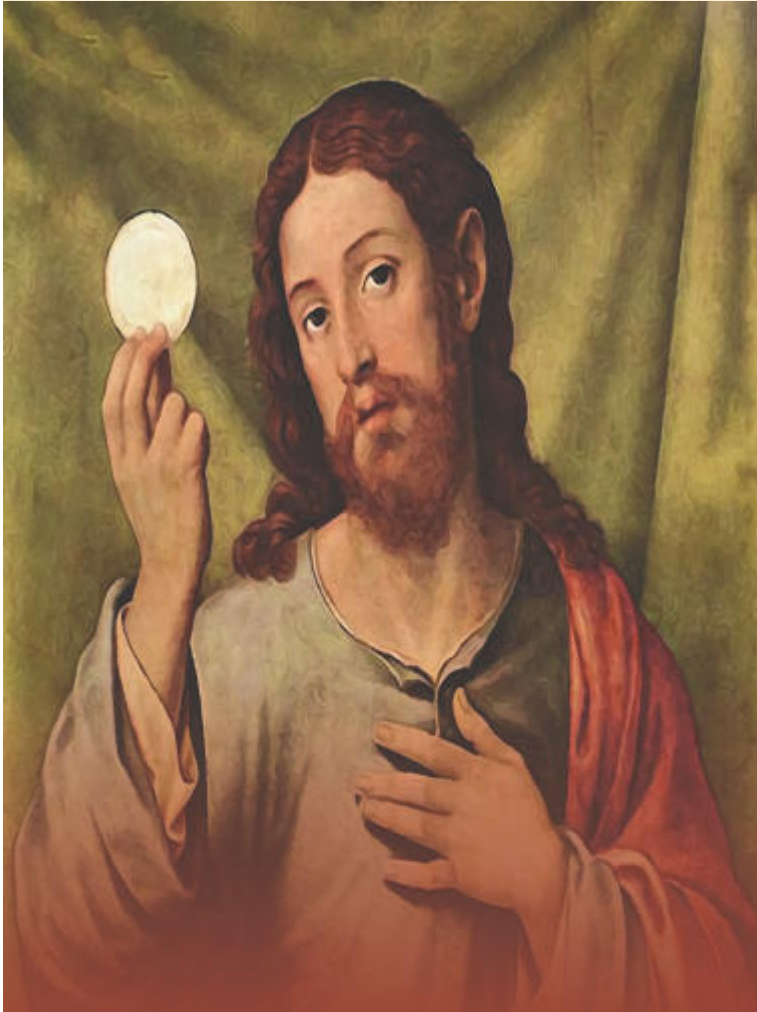
*St. J SAINT JOHN*

**Together in Christ  
Collaborative**

**AUGUST 1, 2021  
THE EIGHTEENTH  
SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**



*SAINNT.ANN*



**18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

“For the bread of God is that which comes down from  
heaven and gives life to the world.” - Jn 6:33

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

**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**

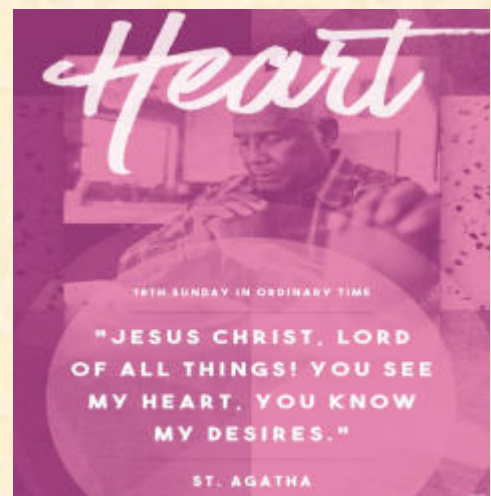
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**E-MAIL: [stjohnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)**

**Website: [www.stjohneb.org](http://www.stjohneb.org)**

**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB**

**Fr. Paul’s Facebook Page —Paul Ring**



# 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 - 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:** TBA  
508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880

# MASSES FOR THE WEEK

# A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

\*\*\*\*\*

## St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, July 31, 2021**

4:00 - Manuel & Maria Luz — Memorial

**Sunday Aug. 1, 2021**

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

**Saturday, August 7, 2021**

4:00—Parishioners of Saint Ann

**Sunday, August 8, 2021**

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

\*\*\*\*\*

## St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, July 31, 2021**

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

**Sunday, Aug 1, 2021**

10:30 - Jonathan Murray — 1st Anniversary

**Saturday, August 7, 2021**

5:30 - Bill Estes — Month's Mind

**Sunday, August 8, 2021**

10:30 - Anna Biagi — 26th Anniversary

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint John



My Dear Friends in Christ,

In most parts of the world, bread is a “staple” in one’s diet; there’s a reason that it is called “the staff of life”, for it provides one with basic sustenance and allows one to survive. There is also a comfort that comes from eating bread, probably because it is so filling and allows us to be fed in a very simple way.

This is really what is at the heart of today’s readings. Bread (manna, actually, which is bread-like in taste) plays a key part in the Israelites journey, for it sustains them on the way to the Promised Land. They had been starving to this point, not only hungry for food but for a sign that God was with them. This gift from God shows to them that God is caring for them, for the manna that they receive comes from Heaven and is derived from God’s goodness to His people. It feeds them both physically and spiritually, and allows them to carry on in their journey of faith. This is what the Eucharist does for us; it’s bread-like quality might feed us physically, but more important is the way that it feeds us spiritually. The real presence of Jesus is in the Eucharist; it is not a sign or symbol which we are receiving, but the actual Body of Christ. This spiritual “feeding”, which the Israelites receive in the desert, is one we experience at the Eucharistic table.

This leads into the “culmination” of God’s plan to feed His people, found in Jesus Christ. Today’s gospel passage is taken from John’s sixth chapter, which is often referred to as the “Bread of Life Discourse”. Throughout this chapter, the gospel writer makes reference to Jesus as the “Bread of Life” (as he does in this passage today). Jesus, in this chapter, looks back at the Israelites journey in the desert led by Moses. Jesus remarks how the source of the manna was not Moses, but God the Father. In doing so, Jesus establishes the relationship He has with the Father by “linking” Himself to that event. The people ask Jesus for the bread from heaven; Jesus, for His part, declares Himself as the “Bread of Life” (Jn 6:35). In doing so, Jesus establishes both Himself as the Messiah (which “comes down from heaven and gives life to the world” (Jn 6:33)), and the giver of Eucharist, for it is in Holy Communion that we receive the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ.

May we always hunger for this Bread from Heaven. May we come to know and experience Jesus as the Bread of Life. May we trust that Jesus will always keep us fed and close to the Father. May we as a people of faith, in becoming “living tabernacles”, take the Body of Christ we have received at the Eucharistic table and share it with the world.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

## THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Your continued support is very much appreciated.

**Weekly Offertory  
July 13 - July 19, 2021**

ST ANN	ST JOHN
Online N/A	Online \$ 664
Mail \$ 835	Mail \$ 1,830
Mass \$ 2,084	Mass \$ 1,272
<b>TOTAL \$ 2,919</b>	<b>TOTAL \$ 3,766</b>



**DONATIONS FOR ROOF REPAIRS:**

**NEEDED \$5,395**  
**DONATED \$3,485**  
**(\$1,350 this week)**  
 Thank you for your generosity!!!



## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY



Recently I had lunch with Fr. Ken Cienik (SA), who is the head of the Chapel of Our Savior (run by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, thus the “SA” at the end of Fr. Ken’s name). We were joined by Fr. John Keane, SA and Bro. Louis Marek, SA, and it was a

lovely gathering. During the luncheon, Fr. Ken joked that I was already well on my way to Franciscan life before joining the Blessed Lucius Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order. I asked him what he meant and he pointed out my perpetual wearing of sandals, and my love of animals as exhibited by my “showing off” pictures of my dog, Nellie (as well as my previous dog, Oscar, who I had (or, who had me!) for 15 of his 17 years)!

When we think of Francis, we often think of animals. This is understandable because most everyone knows Francis’ love of, and concern for, animals. The story is told of Francis and his confrères going through the Spoleto Valley near the town of Bevagna.

Suddenly, Francis spotted a great number of birds of all varieties – doves, crows, and others. After gathering them, he proceeded to preach the Word of God to them, which they received with rapt attention! After preaching, he gave them his blessing, and they flew off – no doubt better off for the encounter with the saint! Also, there was the encounter Francis had with the “Wolf of Gubbio”.

Francis learned of a wolf so ravenous, it was not only killing and eating animals but people as well! The people tried their best to defeat the wolf, but they were no match with many losing their lives at the teeth of the wolf! Francis took pity on the people and decided to meet with the wolf, despite warnings to the contrary by the people of Gubbio. Francis, undeterred, insisted that God would take care of him. He met with the wolf, calling for it not to harm the people. In return, Francis promised that no harm would come to the wolf. Living in peace for nearly two years after, the wolf died of old age – much to the sadness of the people, who fed him during that time. Such was the power Francis had over/with animals. Thus, Francis is well-known as patron of animals and a Blessing of the Animals is traditional on or near his Feast Day (of October 3<sup>rd</sup>).

Animals are an important part of God’s creation, and Francis knew this. They offer service, companionship (accompanied by unconditional love) and, yes, food. We are called to be stewards of creation, and that extends to animals. While one can have varying opinions on the “use” of animals, there are things on which most (if not all) people can agree. Cruelty can never be part of the equation when dealing with animals; this attitude is not of God, and thus cannot be part of our spiritual makeup. When one is dealing with animals, in a service or domestic situation, one must exercise patience – even charity – towards the animal. One would do well to invoke the intercession of Saint Francis when dealing with an animal. I know there are many times when I have called upon Francis to intercede for me in dealing with Nellie (and Oscar before her). I certainly called upon the intercession of Saint Francis when Nellie had her “great adventure” around East Bridgewater when I first got her! I can remember invoking the Saint calling for him to intervene. Sure enough, through this intercession – and the good and diligent work of MANY people – Nellie was found a day later, a little shaken but none the worse for wear! I immediately said a Prayer of Thanksgiving to God for the help of Francis!

As we find ourselves in these summer months, let us remember to take some time for leisure, enjoying the natural beauty around us. Let us include our pets in this enjoyment, giving back to them some reward for the good things they give to us, namely companionship and love! Happy Summer, All!

Peace and All Good,  
Fr. Paul



## The Deacon’s Column

Deacon Chris Connelly

### The Carpenter’s Son

What’s in a last name? All of us have a name after our personal name that denotes the family to which we belong. For me, last name is Connelly—it is an anglicized version of the Gaelic name, *Ó Conghalaigh* (*fierce as a wolf or hound*). In modern times, last names are used to describe our ancestry. This is likely due to the laws of inheritance that was essential among royalty and nobles. However, most people did not have last names in the proper sense. Instead, the name that followed the personal name was something that described the person and distinguished him from others. The following were common sources of a person’s last name: hometown, father or mother’s first name, trade or employment, or distinctive personal traits. Therefore, last names can tell us something about a person.

In the New Testament Jesus is given many surnames. The placard nailed to the cross identifies “Jesus as the Nazarene” or “Jesus of Nazareth”. In Matthew and Luke’s Gospels, Jesus is called, “son of Joseph” and “the son of the carpenter”. But in Mark’s Gospel, Joseph is never mentioned. Instead, Jesus is “the carpenter, the Son of Mary”. Joseph was a carpenter and he taught his trade to Jesus who too was referred to as a carpenter. But before we start asking Jesus to build us a house, shed, table, or chair, we ought to look at the Greek word that is commonly translated as “carpenter”—*tekton*. The Greek word, *tekton*, means much more than simply a worker of wood. The word is better translated as craftsman or artisan. While it is true that a carpenter fits this description, it also is used of people who worked with stone and masonry.

When we realize that Joseph was an artisan and craftsman who taught Jesus how to build homes, roads, and to fashioning beautiful things out of the earth, we have a rich source of imagery that helps us understand Jesus’ mission as the Son of God. As a craftsman, Jesus carved alongside Joseph many “corner stones”. Jesus identifies himself as the cornerstone that would be the foundation stone that would anchor the home we call the Church. Jesus fashioned many large ceremonial cisterns out of stone. Jesus invited the servants at the wedding in Cana to fill six ceremonial jars with water so he could turn it into wine. This is a metaphor for each one of us who are fashioned out of the earth and the “water of our humanity” is transformed by grace to share in the wine of Jesus’ divinity.

My friends, Jesus took all the lessons he learned from Joseph and put them to good work restoring creation to its original beauty. Having restored our fallen nature, he used his skills as an artisan and craftsman to refashion us into his brothers and sisters, sons and daughters of the Father, and temples of the Holy Spirit. As Jesus worked alongside Joseph, can we work alongside Jesus to remake and transform the world to reflect God’s beauty, goodness, and truth?

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### Practicing Graciousness in the Desert

Looking back over my journey of parenthood, I know there were days when I traveled the extra mile for my children. I made their toast the way they like it, let them play in the park an extra ten minutes, or let them go to the movies with their friends and I finished up the chores on my own. And then, it happened: the attitude. The request for the smallest thing from one of them is met with disdain or bewilderment.

Sometimes you can be made breathless with the ingratitude of another person who takes so much and with so little shame, only to scoff at the idea that they, too, give even the smallest amount.

But if we're being honest with ourselves, we will admit that we do the exact same thing to God. Haven't we all been the Israelites in the desert at one point or another? God has parted our Red Sea in some way. He's led us out of some great trial, given us some great blessings. But then we run into a little resistance somewhere along the way and we throw up our hands. How could you do this to us, Lord? How could you ask this of us? No, I can't go any further. No, I won't do any more.

Persisting in the blindness to the many ways God continues to protect us is nothing short of a temper tantrum. It robs our Everyday Stewardship of its graciousness, of our ability to accept with joy the trials of life because we are also constantly aware of its blessings.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



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

### Please keep the following in your prayers:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, AnnSmith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, 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, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Helen Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Karen Parenteau, Casey L'Italien, Anne Flannery, Claire Voss, Joan Fisher & 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:*

*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

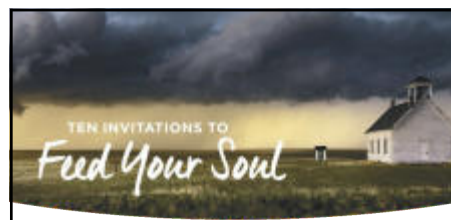
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\$5—\$25 cards are easier to distribute than large sums,  
ie \$100**

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@ 774-240-8095 or 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.



Summer brings with it plenty of thunderstorms. They wreak havoc quickly and powerfully. Life brings with it plenty of storms too. What storms have been wreaking havoc in your life? What keeps you grounded when the storms come? Here are **10 pieces of inspiration and encouragement** to help you navigate the storms of life and keep thriving.

1. What will determine your future, [your potential or your circumstances?](#)
2. Matthew is looking for a personal assistant. [Click here to apply.](#)
3. How will Matthew Kelly's new book change your life? Watch [Part 1](#) of an exclusive interview on *Life Is Messy* for the answer! Subscribe for updates!
4. "Whenever man attempts to do what he knows to be the Master's will, a power will be given him equal to the duty." – Fulton Sheen. [Get the book! Be inspired daily!](#)
5. Did you miss the latest episode of The Matthew Kelly Show? [Watch it here!](#) Subscribe today and you'll be notified when new videos are coming your way!
6. Every decision you make is life or death—life to the fullest or death to that dream. [What will you choose?](#)
7. *Everybody Needs to Forgive Somebody*—[get the book for FREE](#) today!
8. Not being on the same page about [this](#) could be holding your marriage back!
9. Need a companion in the storms of life? [We're here and we'll pray for you!](#)
10. Do you ever wish you could give the child you love a map for life? [Well, you can!](#) And it can work for you too.

Dynamic Catholic is committed to walking with you through content that helps you navigate life's storms with passion and purpose. With these ten invitations, we hope you've found the inspiration and encouragement you need for the next step of your journey!

- The Dynamic Catholic Team  
Dynamic Catholic <info@dynamiccatholic.com>



## Adorers Needed

Holy Ghost Parish in Whitman, MA is seeking volunteers to fill our Perpetual Adoration of the Eucharist. Holy Ghost has kept Perpetual Adoration for the past 18 years, and is now seeking to restore hours following the pandemic. If you will consider taking an hour to be with Our Lord, please visit <https://www.loccc.org/adoration-holy-ghost> or call 781-878-0900

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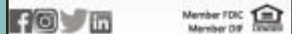
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