



St. J SAINT JOHN

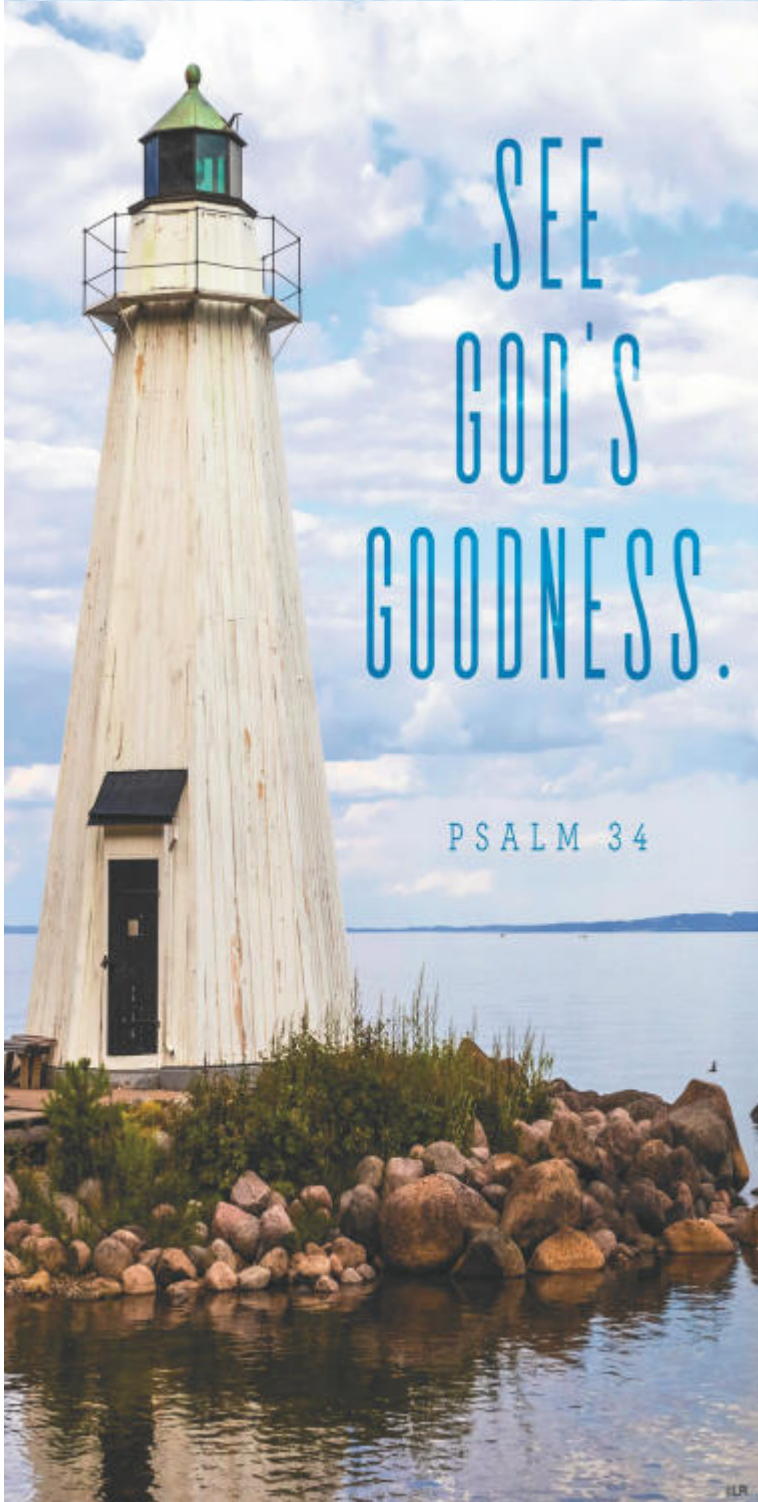
**Together in Christ
Collaborative**

AUGUST 8, 2021

**THE NINETEENTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**



SAINNT.ANN



**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**

Currently we are working from home.

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

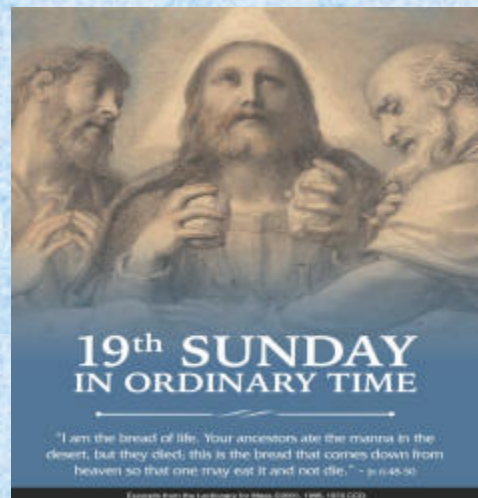
508-378-4207

E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net

Website: 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
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: TBA
508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, August 7, 2021

4:00—Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, August 8, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, August 14, 2021

4:00 - Robert D. Smith — Birthday Remem.

Sunday Aug. 15, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

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

Saturday, August 14, 2021

5:30 - Pam Adornato — 5th Anniversary

Sunday, Aug 15, 2021

10:30 - Richard Robillard — 1st Anniversary



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Something that has been (and will, I think, continue to be) debated is the “nature” of Jesus. For centuries, theologians have ponder the question of “what did he know, and when did he know it?” when it comes to the divinity and/or humanity of Jesus. Some “camps” will say that Jesus always knew He was divine; some will place this knowledge at the point when He was found in the temple by Mary and Joseph; some will say that He had some knowledge early, and that He “grew” into full understanding when He started His public ministry.

Certainly, when Jesus encounters the Jewish crowds in today’s gospel passage, He has full knowledge of who He is. In this continuation of the “Bread of Life discourse” (found in the sixth chapter of John’s gospel, and the source of our gospel for the last few weeks), Jesus declares Himself as having come “down from heaven” (Jn 6:41). The Jewish audience (who has been following Him) are surprised (one might even say shocked) to hear this. They know Jesus to be the son of Joseph and Mary; they know His relatives (especially John the Baptist); they know His background – or at least they think they do. This encounter is much like when Jesus goes back to Nazareth, where the people “knew him when...” Much like that encounter, they feel they have Jesus all figured out.

There’s only one problem with that logic: they’re only seeing one “side” (the humanity) of Jesus. I say “side” because to speak of Jesus, one must walk a “theological tightrope”. One cannot give too much weight to either the divinity or humanity of Jesus; they are equal in measure, equal in importance. Without divinity, there is no salvation; without humanity, there is no connection to you and me – both are necessary for us to have any chance at full redemption. While it is true that God could have saved us anytime, any way, anywhere, God chose Jesus (with the fullness of humanity and divinity) to be among us, similar to us in all things but sin. In this way, “one of our own” saved us. This is where it gets tricky for the Jewish audience: according to tradition, no one is supposed to know the origins of the Messiah – but they know Jesus’ roots. This is not so important for us as Christians (we should be happy that God loves us so much that He gave us Jesus as savior and messiah!), but it is a major issue for the Jewish audience of the day (and continues to be a point of division between Christians and Jews).

Today’s passage gives us hope, both for today and for the future. Today’s hope comes in the fact that Jesus gives us Himself as “food for the journey”, spiritual food that strengthens our souls. Future hope comes in the fact that Jesus came “down from heaven” (Jn 6:41), showing us the way to the Kingdom, and that with this “Bread of Life” we will live forever. May we come to know, appreciate and share this life, this life in Christ, with all whom we meet.

Have a Blessed Week

Fr. Paul

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Weekly Offertory
July 20 - July 26, 2021

ST ANN
Online N/A
Mail \$ 753
Mass \$ 1,773
TOTAL \$ 2,526

ST JOHN
Online \$ 734
Mail \$ 652
Mass \$ 2,048
TOTAL \$ 3,434

GO FOR THE GOAL!

Our Goal:

\$5395

\$4,110

DONATIONS FOR ROOF REPAIRS:

NEEDED \$5,395

DONATED \$4,110

(\$625 this week)

Thank you for your generosity!!!



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY



Recently I attended a “Renewal of Vows” for my nephew, for which several people made the journey to New Hampshire to support my nephew and his lovely bride. They had to “adjust” things because of Covid protocols, thus the renewal of vows (as many could not make the wedding last year!). It was a joyous occasion, and fun was had by all. What made it all the more special for me, personally, was the fact that it was the first time in almost 30 years that myself and my four siblings were together in the same place, at the same time! To say that it was emotional would, I dare say, be an understatement!

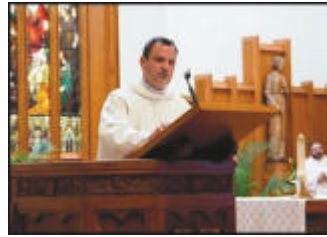
Family is important, and it was important to St. Francis. For Francis, this idea of family took on a different form. His own family life was, to the world, idyllic. He had everything he could want, or need...or so it seemed. Francis realized, however, that he wanted/needed more, and to do this his idea of “family” had to change. For Francis, family went from those to whom he was related (i.e., mother and father) to those who God put in his life, namely his brothers and sisters (such as Clare) who God put in his life. In this way, Francis’ view of what “family” was shifted from the earthly to the spiritual.

We are all “brothers and sisters” when it comes to our Baptism. We are “related”, in a very real way, to those to whom we are “tied to” by our entrance into our life of faith. Francis knew this, and saw everyone who he met as a “brother” or a “sister”, even extending this to the physical realities around him regarding earth, water, and sky. This is not to say that Francis valued these more than his human relationships. When we look at Francis, we see someone who had the ability to see that “divine spark” that is in each of us. He truly saw all of creation as interconnected, and that we must all work together as a “family” to see that we are living as closely to how God wishes us to live as possible.

The time that I recently spent with my family was truly a gift from God. To have the opportunity to spend even a day with them gave me realization that we must all strive to see beyond wounds, hurts, and pain. This is not to say that we forget what happened in the past, but it is to say that we must all strive to see that “divine spark” that we all have – even those with whom we might have our differences and grievances. Francis, I believe, would call on us to reach out to our brothers and sisters to whom we are estranged, and to be a “bridge” for them to God. May we always strive to be “bridge builders” and not “wall creators”. May we know that, in the spirit of Francis, that we are all brothers and sisters to one another, and that our familial bonds are strong enough to withstand even the hardest onslaught from the Evil One. May we call upon the intercession of St. Francis to help us to be brother and sister to all.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul



The Deacon’s Column

Deacon Chris Connelly

The Cosmic Character of the Mass

A couple of weeks ago in my Deacon’s Column I reflected on how the prayer of the Mass is able to bring expression to a variety of human emotions and experiences. We celebrate Mass when we are happy and filled with joy. We celebrate Mass when we are sad and confused. We celebrate Mass with a great amount of faith and we celebrate the Mass when we are looking for something to hold on to and believe. We celebrate Mass to mark major transitions and rites of passage in life: first communions, confirmations, quinceañeras, weddings, and funerals. Between all these emotions and experiences, the Eucharist is celebrated every week marking the ebb and flow of human life.

No matter where we are in the world the Mass is the common prayer of the Church. Even if we do not understand the language we understand and know the ritual and are able to enter it. Nearly thirty years ago I was in Montreal with some college friends, and it was a Sunday morning. While my friends were still asleep, I walked to a local Church where the Mass was completely in French. Although I didn’t understand the language, I knew where I was in the Mass by its gestures and prayed the Mass in my heart.

There is a beauty in the simplicity of the Mass we celebrate every week. I have celebrated Mass at Yankee Stadium with Pope Benedict XVI with tens of thousands of believers, and I have celebrated Mass with the parish priest in my parents’ home, on the Church lawn, even once on a beach while on retreat. The Mass is the universal prayer of the Church and is celebrated in Churches like our own, in monasteries, and in the marketplace at places like Westgate Chapel. It is even celebrated in the homes of elderly priests who are homebound due to infirmity.

I take comfort that even as I write, there is a Mass being offered somewhere in the world by the Church for the salvation of the world. I leave you with the words of Pope St. John Paul II who reflects on this same mystery in his encyclical on the Eucharist, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*: *This varied scenario of celebrations of the Eucharist has given me a powerful experience of its universal and, so to speak, cosmic character. Yes, cosmic! Because even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world. It unites heaven and earth. It embraces and permeates all creation. The Son of God became man in order to restore all creation, in one supreme act of praise, to the One who made it from nothing. He, the Eternal High Priest who by the blood of his Cross entered the eternal sanctuary, thus gives back to the Creator and Father all creation redeemed. He does so through the priestly ministry of the Church, to the glory of the Most Holy Trinity. Truly this is the mysterium fidei which is accomplished in the Eucharist: the world which came forth from the hands of God the Creator now returns to him redeemed by Christ.*



**Come to the
Waters of Healing**
*A Post-Abortion
Healing Retreat*

*"My spirit was broken and as far as I knew
beyond repair. I was living a
decision that I will regret
for the rest of my life.
I was haunted by the choice and consumed
with feelings of remorse.
During the retreat, I realized
the lasting impact of forgiveness.
I knew God had forgiven me,
and now I needed to forgive myself."
A Project Rachel Retreat Participant*

Fall 2021 Dates

Saturday, September 25
Saturday, October 16
Saturday, November 20
9:00AM – 5:00 PM



Sponsored by the Project Rachel Ministry - Archdiocese of Boston



Location is confidential. Pre-registration is required.
Limited to 10 participants.
For more information:

Project Rachel at (508) 651-3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com

What's Your Hearth Cake?

"Get up and eat, or the journey will be too much for you." I've been to a lot of meetings in my years of work in the Church, and you can take my word for it: the ones with snacks just seem to go better.

I don't know what it is exactly. Maybe it's just that people are in a more agreeable mood if you show up with donuts. Or maybe it's about the very real sense of community and camaraderie that is created at a table where people are engaging in that most human of tasks — eating — beside one another. I think a big part of it comes down to the simple fact that we're all just nicer people when we're fed.

This rings true spiritually, too. We simply must remain fed if we, in turn, are to feed others. Think of a time when you have neglected your relationship with God — when you haven't fed yourself with whatever it is that you need to remain committed to the journey of a Christian life. Is it Mass attendance? Is it prayer or Scripture reading? Is it time with your small group, or conversation with a trusted friend who knows your soul? What sustains your ability to be a good disciple, a good steward? What inspires you to give more freely, to love more abundantly?

Whatever it is, that's your hearth cake. That's your jug of water. Don't neglect it. The Angel of the Lord is nudging you in your sleep: "Get up and eat, or the journey will be too much for you."

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Cardinal Chibly Langlois of Haiti visits Prospect Hill Company's retail store in Brockton, Massachusetts. Shown here with the owner and president of Prospect Hill, Tim McMullen. Cardinal Chibly was appointed the first Cardinal of Haiti by Pope Francis in 2014.

"We very much appreciated the Cardinal's visit and purchases. The staff and I wished him a safe trip back and prayers for the people of Haiti and peace in his homeland of Haiti."



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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.

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.



SAINT VINCENT de PAUL
PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 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.

**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 though 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

**Gift cards are also a great help.
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ie \$100**

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What is a transitional deacon?

There are two types of deacons in the church. Both are members of the clergy. Both have the same liturgical role. Both have the service of the community as their primary work. One is called a permanent deacon, usually a married man ordained as a deacon with no intention of becoming a priest. They preach, baptize, witness marriages, conduct funeral services, and look after the needs of the poor. They also visit the sick and take Communion to them, although they cannot celebrate the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. They might also assist the pastor in his administrative duties. Permanent deacons are usually well known and respected in their communities and have roots there.

A transitional deacon is one who functions as a deacon for a period of time prior to ordination as a priest. His diaconate assignment serves as a kind of internship of ordained ministry. During his year or two as a deacon, he will learn the practical aspects of parish life, getting a firsthand look at the life of a priest. His work has a different focus than a permanent deacon in that he is looking forward to ordination as a priest.

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





**HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES**

The Museum of Family Prayer

Come and explore the Museum of Family Prayer, Easton, MA, a place to pray, listen, touch, watch and reflect alone or as a family. Learn about the remarkable story of Father Patrick Peyton C.S.C., sainthood candidate who preached to over 28 million people during his lifetime.

Young and old are welcome. The grounds at 518 Washington Street, Easton, MA 02356 provide an oasis of serenity. Tour guides are available to assist families with child-centered activities.

Contact www.museumoffamilyprayer.org The museum is open Wed - Sat 10 A.M to 4:00 P.M. and Sunday from Noon – 4:00 P.M.



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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