



SAINT JOHN

**Together in Christ
Collaborative**

AUGUST 15, 2021

**THE ASSUMPTION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN
MARY**



SAINT 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

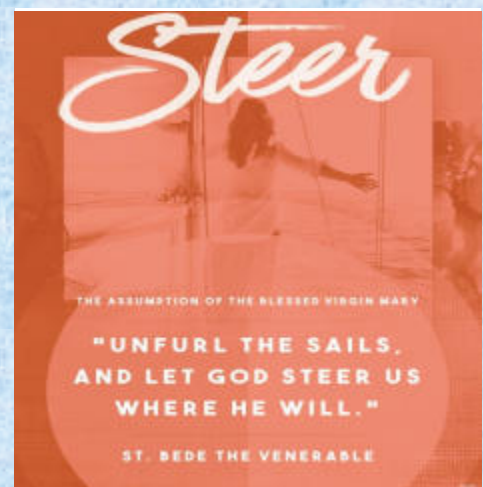
**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring**

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



**"From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty
has done great things for me and holy is his Name. He has cast
down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly."**

- Lk 1:48b-49, 52



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, August 14, 2021

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

Sunday Aug. 15, 2021

8:30 - Edward Joseph Twomey — 2nd Anniv.

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, August 21, 2021

4:00—Richard D. McGrath — 6th Anniversary

Sunday, August 22 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, August 14, 2021

5:30 - Pam Adornato — 5th Anniversary

Sunday, Aug 15, 2021

10:30 - Richard Robillard — 1st Anniversary

Saturday, August 21, 2021

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, August 22, 2021

10:30 - Kathleen Shahvari — Month's Mind

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Your continued support is very much appreciated.
Weekly Offertory
July 27 - Aug 2, 2021

ST ANN
Online N/A
Mail \$ 235
Mass \$ 2,866
TOTAL \$ 3,101

ST JOHN
Online \$ 1,292
Mail \$ 833
Mass \$ 3,239
TOTAL \$ 5,364



**DONATIONS FOR ROOF
REPAIRS:**
NEEDED \$5,395
DONATED \$4,690

(\$580 this week)

**We are so close and will get the
work started.**

Thank you for your generosity to make this happen.

NEWS FLASH:

The bulletins for the weekends of August 21 and 28 will not be published.

Bulletins will return on the weekend of September 4th.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Many years ago, when I was teaching Religious Education (or CCD, as we called it back then!), I asked my students what the Assumption was. One of my students offered that it was the day that we “assume” Mary went to Heaven”. I had to inform him that we need not assume that Mary is in Heaven, because the Church teaches that she is, indeed, in Heaven. Today the Church takes a bit of a “detour” from the rhythm of Ordinary Time to celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast, which was first celebrated in Rome around the 5th century as the “Natale/Dormito (“Falling Asleep”) of Mary”, promulgates the theological truth that Mary was taken up, or “assumed”, into Heaven, body and soul.

Our gospel passage today gives us that beautiful prayer of Mary, the Magnificat. In this prayer, Mary recognizes the gift from God of being chosen to bear the Savior of the world, her Son and our Brother, Jesus Christ. She goes on to speak of the goodness of God to the lowly, the hungry, and the promises made first to the Israelites and then to us. In this prayer, which is situated within the beautiful encounter she has with Elizabeth, who herself is to bear John the Baptist, she marvels at the love which God has for the world, for you and me.

Mary is our model and guide for discipleship and stands as our chief intercessor. This makes sense when we think about it. Not only is Mary in Heaven, where she has access to the Savior, but she is also His mother. Who better to have as an intercessor than the Mother of God? This intercession takes on many forms. One of the most profound for me is when I pray the rosary during my Holy Hour. In this prayer, given to the Church by Mary through St. Dominic, we reflect on the life of both Jesus and Mary. We also, in this prayer, ask for her intercession when we pray a multiplicity of Hail Marys. I must admit that I wasn’t always a prayer of the rosary. It is only in the last couple of years that I have come to appreciate the gift that the rosary is for me, for the Church, and for the world (for which we are called to pray).

As we celebrate this Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven, may we come to know Mary as Our Blessed Mother. May we also see her as a strong intercessor for our prayers. May she always watch over us, our Church, and our world. May she lead us into an ever-deeper relationship with her Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY



Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Among the devotions prevalent in Franciscan tradition is devotion to the Blessed Mother. St. Francis was among the greatest devotees in the history of the Church.

According to Thomas of Celano, in his writing “Second Vita”, Francis love for Mary was beyond words (“inexpressible”, wrote Thomas) “for it was she who made the Lord of majesty our brother” (“Second Vita”). Francis chose her as patroness of the Friars Minor and called for the friars to possess a true and living devotion to the Mother of God.

In his famous “Salutation to the Blessed Virgin Mary”, Francis wrote:

Hail, O Lady, Mary, holy Mother of God: you are the Virgin made Church and the one chosen by the most holy Father in heaven whom He consecrated with His most holy beloved Son and with the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, in whom there was and is the fullness of grace and every good

Hail His Palace!
Hail His Tabernacle!
Hail His Home!
Hail His Robe!
Hail His Servant!
Hail His Mother!

And (hail) all you holy virtues though the grace and light of the Holy Spirit are poured into the hearts of the faithful so that from their faithless state you may make them faithful to God.

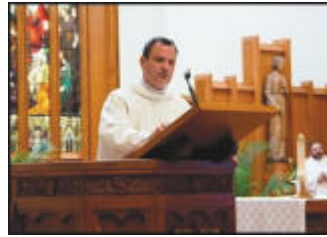
Amen

From Blessed John Duns Scotus, who led the Church to the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, to St. Conrad of Parzham and St. Pio of Pietrelcina (“Padre Pio”), the Franciscan saints have lived and promoted a strong devotion to the Blessed Mother and made her integral to the Franciscan spirituality.

Mary, on this Solemnity of her Assumption into heaven, once again shows us the way to her Son by leading the way to Him. Francis, for his part, calls on all of his followers to do the same. Through the Blessed Mother, Francis would tell us, is a sure path to her son. According to legend, St. Francis had a vision in which he saw friars trying to reach Christ by a ladder that was red and very steep. After climbing a few rungs, they would suddenly fall back. Our Lord then showed Francis another ladder, this one white and much less steep, at whose summit appeared the Blessed Virgin. Jesus said to Francis, “Advise your sons to go by the ladder of My Mother”. May we go to Mary, who will lead us, most assuredly, to Christ.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul



The Deacon's Column

Deacon Chris Connelly

The Cosmic Character of the Mass Part II

In my reflection last week, I shared how much I take comfort knowing that somewhere, at any given moment, there is a Mass being celebrated for the salvation of the world. This week I want to share with you another aspect of the cosmic character of the Mass that gives me great comfort, hope, and consolation. The Pope in *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* made the point that the Eucharist has a “cosmic character” because whenever it is celebrated “it unites heaven and earth.”

Twenty-six years ago, my Nana passed away at the age of 92 from dementia. I was very close to my Nana and loved her very much. My four brothers and eight cousins would say that I was Nana’s favorite grandchild. For a period of time, she lived with us in my parents’ home. I enjoyed spending my evenings in her room playing cards and watching tv. My Nana’s illness and death hit me hard, but I took great comfort in knowing that she was eternally young and alive in heaven with our Lord Jesus Christ. I believe that when I am at Mass, she is close by because we were both with the Lord.

Though there are hundreds of thousands of masses being celebrated every day, our tradition tells us that there is only one Divine Liturgy and “It is in this eternal liturgy that the Spirit and the Church enable us to participate whenever we celebrated the mystery of salvation in the sacraments” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1139). But we must remember that the Church is not just comprised of people on earth. The Church is a mystical body whose members stretch between heaven and earth. Quoting the Catechism again, the “Liturgy is an ‘action’ of the *whole Christ (Christus totus)*. Those who even now celebrated it without signs are already in the heavenly liturgy, where the celebration is wholly communion and feast” (1136).

It is this explanation of the cosmic character of the Mass that gives me great comfort, hope, and consolation especially as I grieve and mourn the death of my loved ones. The saints in heaven are eternally looking upon, communing with, and feasting with Jesus. They have the joy of seeing the crucified, risen, and glorified Jesus. What the saints do in heaven, we do on earth when we celebrate the mass. Though we do not see Jesus as he is, we truly look upon him, commune with him, and feast with him through the veil of the sacrament. Whether it is through sacrament or face to face—the action, the liturgy, is the same. Therefore, when we are at Mass celebrating the Eucharist, we are truly with our loved ones in heaven because we are one in the Lord.

When the priest holds up the consecrated host, I gaze upon it with great hope and consolation because I know that on the other side of the host my nana, my mother, and all my loved ones in heaven are gazing upon the same Jesus. The Eucharist is the bridge between heaven and earth, and we can be with our deceased loved ones in a real and profound way when we gaze and feast upon the Eucharist.

The Assumption

Question:

What lessons should I learn from the Assumption of Mary?

Answer:

Growing in holiness is similar to training in a sport. We need someone to show us how we can live our faith well. Mary is a model of sanctity. She shows us how to be faithful to God's will, living each day with confidence in God's mercy and love. At the Nativity, in Jesus' public ministry, and at the Crucifixion, we see her steadfast trust. She allows the Lord to use her life to accomplish his plan for her and for all of us. In the Preface of the Mass for the Assumption of Mary, we pray: "For today the Virgin Mother of God was assumed into heaven as the beginning and image of your Church's coming to perfection and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people."

It is this image of holiness that we strive to imitate. In the office, at home, or in our community, we look for signs of God's grace that call us to an ever greater love of him and each other. A greater awareness of God is a sign of our conversion of heart that lives the lessons Mary teaches.

©LPi

*Hail Mary full of Grace,
The Lord is with Thee, blessed art thou among women
And blessed is the fruit of they womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God
Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.
Amen*



Choir Is Back!

One who sings prays twice. If you would like to pray twice by singing in the Together in Christ Collaborative Choir please plan to attend choir rehearsal on Thursdays at 7:00 beginning on September 9 at St John's.

Please email Rich, our music director at richcesarini@gmail.com in advance so that he will have enough copies of music for everyone.

NOTE FROM FR. STEPHEN LUSIBA

(St. Benedict School, Uganda, Africa)

To the Parishioners of St. John the Evangelist and St. Ann, peace of love from me and the school. I am happy to be back to my home away from home parish. I thank the Pastor, Fr. Paul L. Ring for the love he has for me and my people.

I first of all thank you for the continued support you have always given the school. The girls dormitory is done. We have the water and electricity at school. We have 487 students at the moment and more girls and boys are willing to join.

CHALLENGE:

Due to the covid pandemic, the government has directed us to have fewer students per class. Our classes have 70 students and above. We must cut to half at least. This calls for more classrooms.

We would like to build a "covid classroom block" of at least three rooms to reduce the number of students per class. This will cost us \$37,000.00. The local community is willing to donate some local material.

I am here appealing to your generosity. Kindly help us to have this classroom block built. I will be sharing with you the pictures as the block is built.

How to donate? Write a check through your parish and in the memo indicate St. Benedict school or write Fr. Stephen. We shall have a second collection in September for St. Benedict school. Fr. Paul wires the money to the school.

Two, am kindly requesting for whoever has a laptop or laptops, to kindly assist us. I will take them with me for our office work and students to learn.

Kindly contact me for details on my email:
lusteve2012@gmail.com.

What's up number.
+256752893160

Fr. Stephen Lusiba



THIS IS OUR CHURCH.
And when you support the Catholic Appeal you support all of us.



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 & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Ifan 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, 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 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*

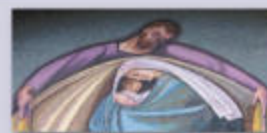
Donations are always appreciated but please call to let us know you are dropping off. 508-378-3760

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ie \$100**

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**Family Healing &
Recovery Ministry**

Rosary4recovery.org

Are you or your loved one suffering from addiction? Join us as we spend time in Adoration with our Lord, Jesus, and an Intercessory Rosary, along with a guest speaker who will witness to the power of healing and forgiveness through prayer.

Location: Our Lady of Lourdes
130 Main Street
Carver, MA 02330
Saturday, August 21, 2021

Time: 10-11 AM: Rosary & Faith Witness Speaker, followed by Food & Fellowship (optional). For any questions, please contact Deacon Paul Coughlin (508-269-6863) or Our Lady's Parish Office (506-866-4000)

ASSUMPTION



WWJD bracelets were all the rage about 25 years ago in Christian circles. I've always wondered if a WWMD bracelet might not make just as much sense, and maybe more. What Would Mary Do?

I would argue that Mary was the most exemplary steward who ever lived. Her answer was always "Yes." Yes, Lord, I am Your handmaiden. Yes, I will visit Elizabeth, and help her in the last difficult months of pregnancy. Yes, I will bring my son up in the Mosaic law and present him at the Temple of Jerusalem. Yes, I will give him to the crowds and to public ministry. Yes, I will offer him on this Cross, if it is Your will.

Yes, yes, yes.

Well, I can't be like Mary, we think to ourselves. There's an intimidation factor with the Blessed Mother and Catholics sometimes — one that almost exceeds that of Christ. Perhaps it's because we are in awe of the fact that she was not divine in any way — she was a mere creation, like us — but somehow, she always had the courage to say yes. How could she do it, when we find it so hard?

Well, God certainly lavished on Mary extraordinary graces. Her lack of original sin liberated her to conform her will to God's.

But God is impatient to give us, too, all the graces we need to be a steward in the example of Mary. He's waiting for us simply to ask. Just as in Adam we died, so in Christ — through Mary — we live.

What can we say yes to today, in Mary's example? ©LPi



**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.



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