



St. John

***Together in Christ
Collaborative***

August 23, 2020

***21st Sunday
In Ordinary Time***



St Ann

21st Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." - Mt 16:15-16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD.

**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**

**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

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

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

Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connelly
cconnelly@rcab.org

Joe Hopgood
deaconjoeh@comcast.net

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

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA

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

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and on Sundays at 1 p.m. All baptisms are private and can accommodate 30 or so people. Social distancing and masks are required. 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
Director of Religious Education
Charlotte Leines
stannscd@comcast.net
508-588-7140

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
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Director of Religious Education
Lorraine Hopgood
repstjohn@gmail.com
508-378-1521
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

UPDATES FROM THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Weekend Masses are being held at both churches, please check the schedule ON PAGE 7.

All guidelines of the Archdiocese are being followed.

Baptisms are being held on Sundays at 1 PM. through the month of August And as well on Saturday at 10 AM and 2 PM in Sept. Please call the Rectory Office to schedule.

Funerals are now allowed within the guidelines of the Archdiocese. Call the Rectory Office for information.

Memorial Masses can be rescheduled or scheduled within the limitations of the four masses between both churches. Call the Rectory Office to schedule.

Daily masses are continuing to be celebrated on line until further notice.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

“Who is Jesus?” is, at once, a simple yet complex question. It is simple in the fact that we read about Jesus, we read His words and know His deeds. In all of this, we know *of* Him. The complexity of the question comes in moments such as the ones we see in today’s gospel. When Jesus asks His disciples about Himself, Jesus isn’t taking a poll, or gathering information. Jesus, in posing the questions that He does, wants to know if the people *get it*. Jesus wants to know if His disciples (and the people) understand His message, His mission and Him.

The second question posed in today’s gospel (“who do you say that I am?” (Mt 16:15)) is one which we must answer for ourselves. The answer which is given will, most likely, depend on where we are on our journey of faith. It is an answer which is ours and ours alone. There may be many people with the same answer, but it is still unique to us. We are on different points, each one of us, on the road to the Kingdom. We are unique in that our lives of faith center on our own personal relationship with God. The answer which we give to the question may also vary depending on our age, gender or state of life; this is what makes the answer unique.

Peter answers the question posed to Jesus in a very astute way. Peter recognizes Jesus for who He is – The Christ. He recognizes Jesus as the Son of God, the one who’s coming the prophets foretold. Peter speaks first (as he so often does!) and does so with conviction. It is for this reason that Jesus gives him the “charge” that He does - that of the “keys to the Kingdom”. In this moment, Peter is put in charge of the Church from its beginnings. It is at this moment that Peter is also given the power to “bind and loose”, which is the origin of what we would come to know as the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

For each one of us, the questions posed today will have vast and varied answers, and this is a good thing. It shows the diversity of the Church. The answers which we give will also have a unity, in that the all should point to the Christ, the Son of the Living God. It is Peter’s statement which “sets in motion” the movements of the early Church. It is up to us to continue this momentum, and to recognize that in our answers we give life and hope to the future of the Church. May we have the courage to answer the questions posed today with courage and conviction. May we not just *know of* Jesus, but may we *know* Jesus for who He is – Lord and Savior of the world.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES - ENGAGE PARISHIONERS IN DAILY MASS AND PRAYER

Readings for the week of August 23, 2020

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 [8bc]/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Mk 6:17-29

Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Observances for the week of August 23, 2020

Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Bartholomew, Apostle

Tuesday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest

Wednesday:

Thursday: St. Monica

Friday: St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Saturday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist

Next Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Everyone, including the pope, experiences trials that can shake his or her faith; the key to survival is to call out to the Lord for help, Pope Francis said.

"When we have strong feelings of doubt and fear and we seem to be sinking, (and) in life's difficult moments when everything becomes dark, we must not be ashamed to cry out like Peter, 'Lord, save me,'" the pope said Aug. 9, commenting on the day's Gospel story in his Angelus address.

In the passage, Matthew 14:22-33, Jesus walks on the water of the stormy lake, but the disciples think they are seeing a ghost. Jesus reassures them that it is he, but Peter wants proof. Jesus calls him to walk on the water as well, but Peter gets frightened and starts sinking.

Peter cries out, "Lord, save me," and Jesus takes him by the hand.

"This Gospel narrative is an invitation to abandon ourselves trustingly to God in every moment of our life, especially in times of trial and turmoil," Pope Francis said.

Like Peter, he said, believers must learn "to knock on God's heart, on Jesus' heart."

"Lord, save me" is "a beautiful prayer. We can repeat it many times," the pope said.

And believers also should reflect on how Jesus responded: immediately reaching out and taking Peter's hand, showing that God "never abandons us."

"Having faith means keeping your heart turned to God, to his love, to his fatherly tenderness amid the storm," the pope told his visitors.

"In dark moments, in sad moments, he is well aware that our faith is weak; all of us are people of little faith -- all of us, myself included," the pope said. "Our faith is weak; our journey can be troubled, hindered by adverse forces," but the Lord is "present beside us lifting us back up after our falls, helping us grow in faith."

Pope Francis also said the disciples' boat on the stormy sea is a symbol of the church, "which in every age encounters headwinds, very harsh trials at times: we recall certain long and ferocious persecutions of the last century, and even today in certain places."

"In situations like that," he said, the church "may be tempted to think that God has abandoned her. But, in reality, it is precisely in those moments that the witness of faith, the witness of love, the witness of hope shines the most."

BOSTON -- While the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated the postponement of many events typically held in the spring, perhaps none was so significant as the Rite of Ordination to the Order of Presbyter, which was originally scheduled for May. This much-anticipated event finally took place on Aug. 1 as Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley ordained five diocesan priests and one Jesuit priest during an invitation-only Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross.

The new priests ordained for the Archdiocese of Boston are Father Joseph Hubbard, Father Denis Nakkeeran, Father Matthew Norwood, Father Fernando Vivas, and Father Daniel Zinger. The priest ordained for the Northeast Province of the Society of Jesus is Father James Ferus, whose family is from New Bedford.

In keeping with the archdiocese's guidelines, modeled after state requirements, each candidate for the priesthood was allowed a limited number of guests, and fewer priests and religious attended than usual. The faithful were spaced out among the pews, some of which had been taped off to ensure social distancing. Most of those present wore face masks unless they were reading or speaking as part of the liturgy. There was no procession, no receiving line of priests to welcome their new brothers, and no reception following the Mass.

News from the Pilot



"Trinity Catholic Academy has just a few opening in many grades from 1-8. Our Pre-School, Pre-K and K are full. We plan to open for full-time, in-person learning in September but we also have a plan in place to switch to remote learning or hybrid learning (a combination) should this become necessary. We successfully completed our curriculum remotely last year and we are ready to begin. Financial Aid is available for all families who qualify. If you would like to enroll your child please call our tuition manager, Melissa Matta at 508 583-6237 or email at mmatta@tcabrockton.org. She will take good care of you.

God Bless!"

Please remember Saint Ann's and Saint John's
When doing your Estate Planning!

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095
or jchbaker@msn.com

New mailing address:
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

The Food Pantry is open twice a month. — 1st Monday from 3:00-6:00 pm and the 3rd Monday from 3:00-4:30 pm.

In the months from March 1 to June 30th, the Pantry has fed more than 400 families due to the enormous generosity of the parishioners of St. John. **THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP.**

The Pantry is working to make food available for all in need while at the same time keeping within the guidelines of the pandemic. Please contact the Pantry if you need help. The only requirement to access the Pantry is to be an East Bridgewater Resident. All religions are welcome.

The Food Pantry is currently accepting donation at the bottom of the ramp. Please make sure you call to let them know you have dropped off food and that it is properly protected from the elements. Cash donations are always welcomed and can be mailed to the address above.

Gift cards are also a great help.

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

The next Food Pantry will be Monday, August 31st

Cereal, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, etc. are always great.

Thank you for your generosity, as always.



Don't miss story time with Fr. Paul & Nellie Tues & Thurs at 7PM
On Facebook Book Live!



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

COLLABORATIVE MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 p.m. (St. Ann's)

Saturday 5:30 p.m. (St. John's)

Sunday 8:30 a.m. (St. Ann's)

Sunday 10:30 a.m. (St. John's)

TO ATTEND A MASS YOU MUST REGISTER THROUGH THE WEBSITES PRIOR TO THE MASS.

PLEASE TRY TO DO THIS BY FRIDAY EVENING.

MASSES ARE BEGINNING TO FILL UP AND YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET A RESERVATION.

FOR ASSISTANCE CALL LORRY @ 508-373-4152 OR CHARLOTTE @ 508-369-3196

PLEASE ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE MASS TO INSURE YOUR SEATING.

Intercession For Our Land

Dear God,

I pray You will be put in Your rightful position in this country. Give the leaders of this nation the wisdom and integrity to lead our nation in the best direction. Give each one discernment I pray, when making decisions or drawing up the legislation and laws that they pass. And may the decisions that they reach be good and wise.

As the days become increasingly dark in our country, I pray that the light of Your love will shine on this land. May peace reign in our nation and protect us from those that would seek our downfall, I pray.

I really thank You that you have placed me in this land and I am grateful that I am a citizen of this nation. Thank You, Lord, for my country. In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Source: <https://prayer.knowing-jesus.com/Prayers-for-Our-Country>

NEWS FOR THE PARISHES

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Karen Debenedictis, Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, JoAnn Micalizzi, 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, Karen Daly, Ann Smith, Joan Maclsaac, Diane Nicolcar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, Bill Frabetti, George Lepine, , Joseph Rizzitano, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Paul Currie, Dennis Green, John McCovy Murphy, Dana Debenedictis, Harry Evans, Jerry Paluch, Frank Genatossio, Kathleen Jezard Maher, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevtt & 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.



As people begin to come back to Mass and those of us who have been attending become more relaxed after having attended Mass for a few weeks, it is important that we continue to follow the guidelines set up to ensure our safety.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDING MASS — YOU MUST REGISTER FOR MASS. USE OUR WEBSITE TO DO SO.

- * In order to limit social gathering and allow time to seat registered parishioners, those attending Mass should arrive no earlier than 30 minutes and no later than 15 minutes before the start of Mass. (Seats will then be offered to those parishioners on 'standby' who arrived without pre-registration.)
- * One entrance: Entry into church will be front right and left side doors (no entry through middle doors) at St. John's, front door at St. Ann's. PLEASE NOTE THAT IN SEATING PEOPLE (ASIDE FROM THOSE WITH PHYSICAL CHALLENGES), **DUE TO SAFETY PROTOCOLS IN PLACE, WE CANNOT GUARANTEE YOU A PARTICULAR SEAT IN THE CHURCH.**
- * All parishioners must wear masks. There are several exceptions, such as: children under the age of two, and people with underlying health conditions. The wearing of masks for children between the ages of 2-5 is based on the parents' discretion.
- * Parishioners should bring their own hand sanitizer if possible. The church will have limited supply.
- * Parishioners must maintain 6 feet of social distance between each other at all times. This does not apply to families that live in the same household.
- * Appropriate social distancing spaces will be designated on the floor/in the aisles. Ushers will provide guidance.
- * Everyone will enter church using front doors and leave church using side doors. Those closest to the front doors will leave first
- * There will be no sign of peace, offertory collection or singing during Mass. Baskets for financial contributions will be available as you leave church.
- * **Special instructions on receiving Holy Communion will be presented during each Mass. (Please be patient; wait for instructions by the ushers — everyone will be served.)**
- * To prevent close contact, the clergy will employ minimal entrancing in or recessing out of the church. **(Please wait for the Ushers to exit after the Priest and Deacon have exited.)**
- * Public gatherings before or after Mass are not permitted outside church.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE:

If you are uneasy about attending such an event, please remember that the Dispensation from Reception of Communion is still in effect. If you are in the "vulnerable/at risk" category, please remember that you need not (nor would I want you to) risk your health and well-being. It is for this reason that I will still be taping Sunday Mass (broadcast on EB-CAM and posted on Facebook/parish websites) and live-streaming Daily Mass on Facebook.

“In these times of uncertainty, we are assured that the Lord is present to us at ALL times. During this time, with the practice of public Masses suspended, we can tune in on television/internet and make the following Act of Spiritual Communion while viewing the Mass.”

Peace,

Fr. Paul

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
 I believe that You
 are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
 I love You above all things,
 and I desire to receive You into my soul.
 Since I cannot at this moment
 receive You sacramentally,
 come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

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