



*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
August 27, 2023
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time*



21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCO

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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
Website: 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
Website: www.stjohneb.org**

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

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



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, August 26, 2023 -

4:00 - Louis Percio — 50th Anniversary
Loretta Young — 15th Anniversary

Sunday, August 27, 2023

9:30 - Kerry Masefield — 25th Anniversary

Saturday, September 2, 2023

4:00 - Dennis Rando — Memorial

Sunday, September 3, 2023

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

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday August 27, 2023

8:00 - The sick and Homeless
11:30 - Jessica Thurston — 10th Anniversary
6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

Sunday, September 3, 2023

8:00 - Tony & Lu Cruz
11:30 - All our children starting school
6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative



Holy Cross Retreat House in Easton, Ma is currently hiring a new Chef/Kitchen Manager.

We are looking for someone to serve as the cook for all meals during retreats and to set the tone for a culture of Christian community amongst kitchen volunteers and retreat participants. For a complete job description visit our website at: <https://www.retreathouse.org> or call Nancy Smith at 508-238-2051 or email nsmith@holycrossusa.org.

St John's

*The Flower Memorial
this week is for:*

Jessica Thurston

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

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

We have been in touch with Fr. Francis this week to make sure that he and his family are safe. They are. The unrest has not reached his town in Pakistan.

MINISTRY NEWS

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at 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

Fellowship Hour: Saturday 9/23

Join us after the 4 pm Mass on 9/23 for a Fellowship period to connect with fellow parishioners before you head out to dinner. There will be crackers and cheese, fruit and drinks so it's the perfect (and a free) appetizer! We will be set up in the rose garden between the church and the rectory. Sponsored by our Disciples of Hospitality.

Volunteer Drive

After all the Masses on the weekends of September 23-24 and September 30-October 1 we will be holding a Volunteer Drive. As we work to expand our ministries and revive some that have been dormant since the Covid shutdown, we need many more volunteers to make this possible. Please stop by the table to learn about the ways in which you can help our collaborative better minister to all those whom we serve.

In the next few weeks, we will be running a ministry spotlight in the bulletin so you learn more about our ministries.

All current volunteers should plan on stopping by the table so that they can fill out their paperwork for this fiscal year.

August Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

Every month we make sandwiches for Fr. Paul to take with him when he volunteers in Boston with Capuchin Mobile Ministries to serve the homeless. This month's date and time is:

Monday the 28th at 6:30 pm at St. Ann.

Please sign up here if you plan on helping: <https://forms.gle/GVyBxJg2uqHysShM8>. This link will also be posted on the parish websites.



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNE

When Francis decided to give the rest of his life in service to God, he didn't take the track expected of him. He did not pursue the priesthood, yet was known for his ability to captivate crowds with his preaching. He didn't choose the cloistered life of a monk, yet he embraced vows of poverty and chastity that set him apart in remarkable ways. He created a new way to follow Christ, one that required all the devotion and sacrifice of a religious calling, yet was lived out among the common people, especially the poorest of the poor. And people followed him by the thousands.

What made his life so appealing to so many? Among other things, Francis's love for Jesus was so explicit that he was naive enough to believe that Jesus actually meant for us to do the things he taught us. And while such a radical devotion often led him to extremes -- like when he interpreted Jesus' command to "preach the gospel to every creature" and so began to proclaim the good news to the birds -- it also produced in him a commitment to love God through loving others, especially those who lived on the margins of society, such as the poor and the lepers. He managed to draw to his movement both the simpleton and the academic, the lawyer and butcher, because his was a faith of actively imitating Christ.

Francis lived in a time when the church had taken for granted its position in the culture. Often compromised by wealth and political power, the church had lost credibility among the people. Many would worship Jesus at Mass, but few truly followed his teaching or example. Francis became a reformer, not through angry protests and recriminations against the corrupted clergy, but through his life of humble yet fearless obedience to Jesus. In other words, he knew that the best rebuke of the bad was the embodiment of the better.

In the face of a religious war, Francis walked across a continent to convince his fellow Christians to make peace. When that failed, he crossed the battle lines so that he could plea for peace for his "pagan" captors instead. In the face of poverty, he refused to accumulate wealth or property (which could have been utilized for noble ends), but instead choose to share life alongside the poor, creating communities where the wealthy and poor came together as sister and brother. And in a culture where he was surrounded by moral compromise, he refused to police people's behavior, instead demanding of himself and his brothers such a high standard that a watching world was humbled by their example.

Francis was far from perfect, prone to extremes and failings like any other human. Yet that is part of what makes him such a great example for us today. If he was perfect, we might too quickly dismiss him. In his imperfection, he is like us and, therefore, his example is one we might actually consider following. We might work for peace and change, even if it appears we are betraying our political or even

religious allegiances. Far from some long-dead saint who's best known for being the inspiration for bird baths, St. Francis of Assisi invites us- dares us- to consider what life might be like if we followed his example.

The question is, are we willing to be naive enough to believe that Jesus actually means for us to do the things he asks? So...are we?

Pax et Bonum,
Fr. Paul, OFS

September 2/3. at all Masses

There will be a special collection to support the Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation (HCCF) relief efforts for local community members affected by the Maui wildfires. Please address your checks to the parish, with "Maui Relief" in the memo. We will then send **one check** from the Collaborative.



St Ann's

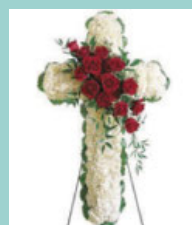
*Flower Memorial
this week is for:*

Kerry Masefield

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



Riley Grace Peck
Henry James Eldeb



Please remember in your prayers:

*Madeline F. Ferretti
Charles Kadis
Daniel G. O'Connor*

May they rest in peace, and may their families find comfort from their faith in Jesus Christ.

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, 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, Barbara, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti & 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 or added, Please call the Rectory so we can update the list.***



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE CATHOLICS IN PARKISTAN. THEY ARE ENDURING SEVERE PERSECUTION. VIOLENCE HAS ESCALATED SIGNIFICANTLY.

THEY NEED OUR PRAYERS AND OUR HELP FINANCIALLY

THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES WILL USE YOUR DONATIONS TO HELP REBUILD CHURCHES, CHAPELS, & HOMES.



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad You Did!

The Together in Christ Collaborative Choir wants you!
You do not have to read music.
You do not have to have experience.
You do not have to audition.
If you sing along from the congregation on Sundays then you are qualified!
Rehearsals will begin on Thursday nights in September.
For more info contact our music director, Rich at richcesarini@gmail.com.

Today's Second Collection is to cover The Heat and Snow Removal Fund.



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.
and cookies.

**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

**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 that large sums., ie \$100

NEWS



PROPOSED BOYS' DORMITORY BILLS OF QUANTITIES			
MAIN SUMMARY			
1.0	BILL NO.1 PRELIMINARIES		5,000,000
2.0	BILL NO.2 BUILDING WORKS		
2.1	Element A: Substructure		190,285,100
2.2	Element B: Superstructure		171,915,900
	Ground Floor		85,897,500
	First Floor		14,218,000
2.3	Element C: Staircase		53,800,000
2.4	Element D: Roof and ceiling construction		20,295,000
2.5	Element E: Windows		40,320,700
2.6	Element F: Doors		66,816,000
2.7	Element G: Floor finishes		50,180,500
2.8	Element H: Wall finishes		11,490,500
2.9	Element I: Ceiling finishes		35,000,000
3.0	Element J: Electrical and mechanical works		745,179,200
Grand Total (Ug Shs)			195,074
Grand Total (Dollars)			

Dear Parishioners of St. John's and St. Ann, peace. Accept my sincere greetings from St. Benedict School. These two parishes are my home away from home. I thank your Pastor for the good spirit towards the poor. Thank you all for your continuous support.

As you can see in the picture, the boys' dormitory you begun last year is in progress. Your donation was put to good use. Thank you very much.

The project costs USD\$195,074. More support still highly needed. If finished, over 200 boys will be able to sleep in that dormitory. Kindly help these boys who are walking long distance of 6 to 8 miles to school. We thank God the girls have a dormitory. There are no houses to take students to school.

How can you donate? Write a check to St. John's or St. Ann. In the memo indicate St. Benedict Uganda. Money will be wired to Uganda. Thank you so much.

Fr. Stephen Lusiba

lusteve2012@gmail.com

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