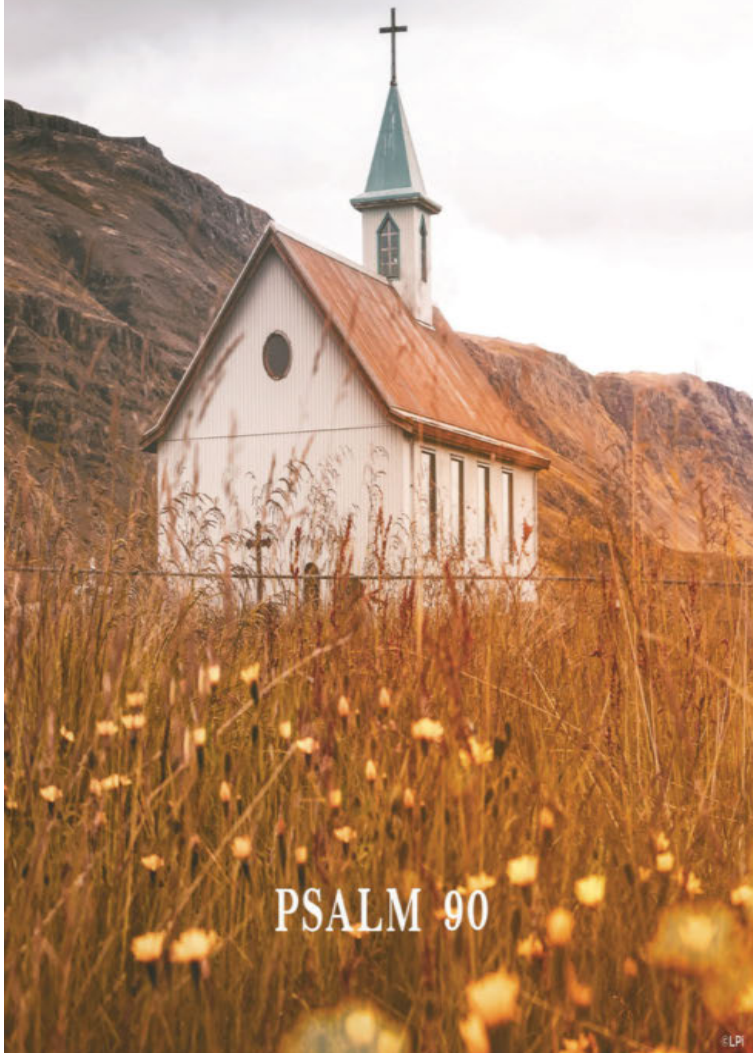




*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
September 4, 2022
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*



In every age,
**LORD, YOU HAVE
BEEN OUR REFUGE.**



PSALM 90

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 9-3 M-F
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

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 John's
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 a.m.
In the Church

St Ann's
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. &
6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass: Thurs & Sat.
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

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, September 3, 2022

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, September 4, 2022

8:30 - Joe Pigeon — Healing

6:15 - Parishioners of Saint Ann & Saint John

Sunday, September 11, 2022

7:30 - Prisco & Paula Parawan — Memorial

11:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:15 - Parishioners of Saint Ann & St. John

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, September 3, 2022

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, September 4, 2022

10:30 - Sgt. Michael Clancy — 1st Anniversary

Saturday, September 10, 2022

4:00 - Leonard Shephard — 30th Anniversary

Sunday September 11, 2022

9:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

My Dear Friends in Christ,

You may have heard me compare the difference between involvement and commitment in the analogy of a plate of bacon and eggs. The chicken was involved, the pig was committed! The same is true in the realm of discipleship; when one is a disciple, one is not merely involved – one is committed!

Every once and again, it's good to take a long, hard look at what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. The dedication required goes "above and beyond" what it means to simply "volunteer" for something. When one engages oneself in a life of discipleship, the commitment asked for goes beyond the task at hand; discipleship is more that "getting the job done" – it is engaging in a way of living, a way of life in which God comes first.

Jesus illustrates this point by reminding the listener that God must come first in all that we do, above even family. This can be a hard thing for many, for the commitment to family is important. It cannot be so important, however, that it supersedes the commitment to God. It is from this commitment, this relationship that all other commitments and relationships stem and flow. Jesus further makes the case for committing to discipleship by citing the example of a builder and a king going into battle. Before engaging in either pursuit, one must look at the cost (financially in the first case, availability of soldiers in the second) and ask oneself "is it worth the cost"? If one isn't ready to "pay the price" (even to the extent of one's own life), then one must look at whether they are ready to be called a Christian.

This is a "hard line" which Jesus is taking. This is not, as we would say in the seminary, a "warm and fuzzy Jesus". This is a prophet who is unafraid to speak the hard truth, regardless of whether one wants to hear it or not. This is a messiah who lays out for folks what it takes to be His follower. If one is ready, however, then the rewards are amazing (one might say "out of this world"!)

May we have the courage to both hear and follow Jesus. May we come to know Jesus as Messiah and Lord, calling us to a new way of living. May we strive to follow the teachings of Jesus, and be unafraid to share them with our brothers and sisters. May we put God first in our lives and allow all other relationships be guided by that one. May we trust that God has set the path before us, and may we have the courage to walk that path in faith, hope and love.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

NEW MASS SCHEDULE



After consultation with the Parish Council and Staff, we are unveiling a New Mass Schedule.

**BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 10 & 11, 2022
Through Approx. Easter**

SATURDAYS

4:00 PM — SAINT JOHN'S

SUNDAYS

7:30 — SAINT ANN'S

9:30 — SAINT JOHN'S

11:30 — SAINT ANN'S

6:15 — SAINT ANN'S

LECTOR AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING

Anyone interested in becoming a Lector
Or
Eucharistic Minister
Or
Those currently serving who want to refresh their skills, training will be available:

September 11th at St. Ann's
1:00—2:00 — Lectors
2:15—3:15 — Eucharistic Ministers

GRAND OPENING!!!



BINGO IS BACK!

**St. Ann's Bingo will open
Thursday, September 8th
Doors open at 4 PM
Bingo will start at
6:30 PM Sharp**

**Southeast Cyclones will be holding Saturday Night
Bingo starting Sept. 10
Doors Open at 4 PM
Bingo will start at
6 PM Sharp**

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THE PARISH CENTER CLEAN UP !!

**It was wonderful to have so many people working together.
Job well done!**

Has a Loved one Died Recently?

The Saint Thomas Bereavement Ministers are pleased to announce that our series of Bereavement meetings will begin Wednesday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m. and will run for 9 weeks. All those who are grieving the loss of a loved one are invited to join. These sessions are held at St. Thomas Parish Center 103 Center St. Bridgewater.

**PLEASE NOTE:
ADVANCE REGISTRATION is requested.
Contact Roberta at 508-697-4184 or Ginni at 508-697-7649 to register or for more information.**

"Our one task, our one goal, the whole purpose, meaning, and secret of our lives, is to learn how to fully trust God. Trusting God is everything."

DR. GREGORY BOTTARO
The Mindful Catholic



The Knights of Columbus is seeking a field agent for a career opportunity representing their top rated Insurance, Annuity, Disability and Long Term Care Programs.

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For more information on this exciting career opportunity, please contact Michael R. Capobianco, General Agent at (508) 238-2300.

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





THE DEACON'S COLUMN

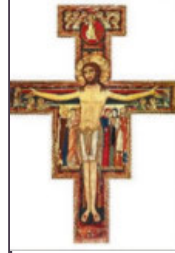
Praying as a Whole Person: Gestures and Postures During the Liturgy

In ancient times, there used to be groups of philosophers and theologians who thought that the body was a prison for the soul. To those who thought this way philosophy and religion became a means for the human spirit to become free from the limitations, sinfulness, and weaknesses of the material body. However, Catholic Theology has continually taught that the human person is an intrinsic unity between what is spiritual and material. We are embodied souls who cannot separate our “spiritual life” from our “physical life.” During the Liturgy we are encouraged to pray, not only with our minds, but with our bodies as well for it is the “whole person” who prays. This reflection will look at the different gestures and postures of the body that give physical expression to the movement of our souls in prayer. During the Liturgy we engage in many different postures. We sit, stand, and kneel. At other times we make certain gestures that represent with our bodies what we experience in our souls. We make the sign of the cross. We strike our breast. We bow our heads. These are a few of the movements of the body in prayer during the liturgy. Let us look at some of these in greater detail to help us pray with our bodies more faithfully and well.

The different postures we take during the liturgy reflect the activity the person is engaged in at the time. The posture of standing at liturgy reflects the active participation of God’s people in the liturgy around the altar. When the assembly is invited to pray with the celebrant as one body, the people are invited to stand together in unity as we pray. Sitting is a different posture than standing. We sit during the liturgy—usually during the Liturgy of the Word—when we are attentively listening to and receiving the Word of God. Finally, the last posture is kneeling. Kneeling is a reverent posture during the most sacred of moments during the Liturgy. In the United States, we kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer and then we kneel again during the communion rite as we prepare to receive Holy Communion. Besides these postures there are several gestures we make during the Liturgy. During the Confiteor we strike our breast as a sign of our sorrow for sins committed and for our need for mercy and grace. When we say, “Jesus Christ” we slightly nod our heads in recognition of Jesus’ sacred name. During the profession of faith, we bow together when we say the words acknowledging the incarnation of God’s only begotten Son. At communion time, we bow before the Blessed Sacrament as a sign of reverence. Before the tabernacle we acknowledge the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist by genuflecting on one knee and as we pass before the altar, we reverence it with a bow. These are just a few of the gestures we make during the liturgy.

The key to the postures and gestures is that the assembly do these things together. The whole assembly forms one body around the altar. To reflect this unity and to build it, the people of God are invited to do the same rituals together. When we are called to stand—we all stand. When we are called to sit—we all sit. When we are called to kneel—we all kneel. Speaking to this point, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal (Third Edition)* states: “A common posture, to be observed by all participants, is a sign of the unity of the members of the Christian community gathered for the sacred Liturgy: it both expresses and fosters the intention and spiritual attitude of the participants (#42).”

Body postures and gestures reflect our spiritual motivations and desires. Through the liturgy we become “One Body in Christ. In prayer, what we do in common through our individual bodies builds the spiritual bonds of unity that bind us as the Mystical Body of Christ.



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Many, if not most, of you are familiar with my Thursday night online offering of “Story Time with Fr. Paul and Nellie”. In this Facebook Live venture, I read a “bedtime story” to our young (and young-at-heart) viewers. I will read either a spiritually-based book or take a well-known story that has an applicable spiritual “theme” (i.e., peace, love, joy, etc.). It was borne out of the Covid pandemic and continues to be one of my favorite things to do, as well as one of my most well-received offerings.

This past Thursday, I started reading “Margaret and The Pope Go to Assisi” (written by Joan Sweeney and illustrated by Roy DeLeon). It is a fictionalized account of a trip that Pope Francis makes with Margaret, the “papal cat”! I will be reading a few pages each of the Thursday evenings of September, leading up to the big events of October for the Franciscan community – the “Transitus” (or “passing”) of St. Francis (October 3), and the Feast of St. Francis (October 4). I thought that a journey to Assisi in the month leading up to these major Franciscan events would put us “in the mood” to celebrate with Joy and Peace.

A brief word about each of these events (with more to come in a few weeks): the “Transitus of Francis” marks the death of Francis in a reverent and holy way. It was a time when his fellow friars gathered around him to receive their final words and inspiration from Francis before his passing into Eternal Life. It is celebrated by Franciscan communities all over the world with prayerful and powerful ceremonies. The Feast of St. Francis marks Francis’ entrance into Eternal Life, his “Heavenly Birthday”. It is on this day, the most central Feast on the Franciscan calendar, that Franciscans all over the world remember “Il Poverello” (the “Little Poor One”) who, to this day, has such a profound impact on our Church and our world.

I hope that you can join me on these Thursday nights in September to hear about Margaret and The Pope as we journey with them to Assisi! I also hope that you can join in celebrating the upcoming events of Franciscan tradition, the “Transitus” and the Feast of St. Francis. Until then, be well and safe!

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

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, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolai, Paul Martin, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, Kay Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Kathy Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Joan Thompson, Kenneth McLaughlin, Debbie & Fred Sprague, Baby Ryan, Karen McSweeney, Joe Pigeon, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda & 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

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.



St VINCENT DE PAUL
PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095 or jchbaker@msn.com
P O Box 474
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.

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
(508) 510-5274.

PANTRY HOURS WILL REMAIN THE SAME THROUGH- OUT 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.

THE FOOD PANTRY

Tuesday, September 6, 2022
Monday, September 19, 2022

*Tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned goods, etc
are always great additions to the shelves.*

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 than large sums., ie \$100

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Second Collections this Month



September 10 & 11
St. Benedict's School

September 18th
Clergy Trust



Every other week — outstanding bills.

Where's the Sacrifice?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

"It's not that I want you to do it. It's that I want you to want to do it."

If you're married or in a relationship, your partner has probably either said something like this to you or you have said it to them. If one of you hasn't said it, you have probably wanted to, and it's likely that a big argument or two was had where you dance around the sentiment, these exact words flashing in your mind like an old-time movie marquee.

The "it" never really matters much. Taking out the trash, painting the bedroom, traveling to your in-laws' for Christmas — whatever the subject matter of the disagreement is, it's all just so much set dressing. The heart of the matter is the sacrifice and desire. That's what it all hangs on. Am I with a person who will sacrifice for me?

When Paul writes to Philemon that he is sending Onesimus to him, he says exactly this. He tells Philemon that he would prefer to keep Onesimus with him, but that he does not want to deprive Philemon both of Onesimus and the opportunity to make a sacrifice worthy in the sight of the Lord.

The point is not who gets to hang out with Onesimus. The point is, as it says in the Gospel, who is willing to carry his cross? Who is willing to renounce his possessions? Who is willing to do the good deed for the sake of the other?

God doesn't care that much about what we have to offer. He cares much more that we have the strength to offer whatever we have.



This is the Boy's Dream Dormitory for St. Benedict's High School, located in Kasambya, Mubende District, Uganda. This dormitory will house 200 boys offering them a safe place in which to earn an education, faith, and the ability to become responsible adults.

The total project cost is estimated at \$195,074 (USD). Please be as generous as you can to help make this dream a reality.

Peace to you all my friends. I am Fr. Stephen Lusiba, a friend to Fr. Paul L. Ring and to you all. Your parish is my home away from home.

In 2019, we completed the girls' dormitory at St. Benedict High School, Uganda. Thank for your support.

We now have a dream for the boys' dormitory. Kindly help me to realize the dream at nearly USD 200,000.00. We would like to bring the boys' also into the compound of the school. We have the space. They now walk long distances from home to school and back.

Why Build a Dormitory?

1. To ensure quality education since students will not be disrupted on the way to school and back home.
2. To minimize the long distances of more than six miles while coming to school, still yet to have to walk back. We have no buses.
3. To reduce early pregnancies /Marriages. Normally when these youths are not in schools, we end up with early marriages at 15!

How to donate?

Write a check to St. John's or St. Ann and in the memo line write St. Benedict. The donation will be wired to Uganda.

Contact me at lusteve2012@gmail.com

Fr. Stephen Lusiba

THE SECOND COLLECTION 9/10 & 9/11 WILL BE FOR ST. BENEDICT'S SCHOOL. PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY.

	<p>G.M. Petti Painting Co. Painting & Wallcovering Interior • Exterior Gary M. Petti 508.378.3459 25 Memorial Dr., East Bridgewater <i>Long time friend and business partner of the St. John's Parish</i></p>	<p>GROW YOUR BUSINESS BY PLACING AN AD HERE!</p> <p>CONTACT US!</p> <p>Contact Tom Blanco to place an ad today! tblanco@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6285</p>	<p>Ockers TECHNOLOGY... FOR TOMORROW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Computer & A/V Solutions Provider - Data / Video Wiring Installation - Network Configuration, Installation & Support - Security Systems - Public Address Systems <p>508.586.4642 830 W. Chestnut St. Brockton <i>St. John's Parish's Longtime Friend</i></p>
<p>Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!</p> <p>Instantly create and purchase an ad with</p> <p>AD CREATOR STUDIO</p>  <p>4lpi.com/adcreator</p>	<p>SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.</p> <p>4LPi Buy a bulletin ad space today!</p>	<p>E. WATSON <i>Excavating</i> SEPTIC SYSTEMS • SITEWORK</p>  <p>Eric Watson O: 508-378-4543 East Bridgewater C: 774-259-0278 <i>Local reliable service & Friend of the St John's Parish</i></p>	

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