



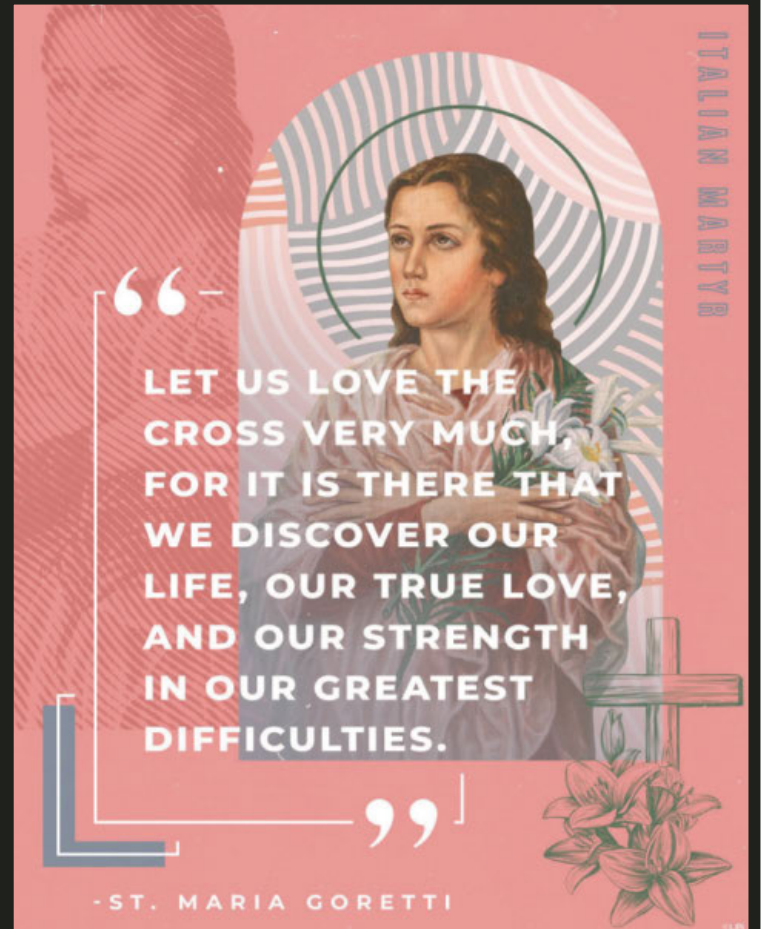
Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 September 15, 2024*

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saturday, 4:00 PM
 Sunday, 9:30 AM



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
 Monday through Thursday**

Saint John the Evangelist

**210 Central St., East Bridgewater
 02333
 Office -103 N. Main Street,
 West Bridgewater, 02379
 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

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

Priests In Residence

Fr. Peter Francis
Fr. Michael Diochi

Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connelly
cconnelly@rcab.org

The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 3PM Monday-Friday

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St Ann's

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass
Thurs & Sat.
9:00 a.m.

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Daily Mass:
Wednesday & Friday
9:00 a.m.

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 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
Director of Ministries: Matthew Brady
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com
774-533-2002



NOTES FROM THE PASTOR



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, September 15, 2024

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Mary Ann LaCroix — 1st Anniversary
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

Sunday, September 22, 2024

- 8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative
- 11:30 - Virginia Hallisey — 10th Anniversary
Brendan Hallisey — 2nd Anniversary
- 6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, September 14, 2024

- 4:00 - Leonard & Lena Shepard — Memorial

Sunday, September 15, 2024

- 9:30 - Michael Bonner — 4th Anniversary

Saturday, September 21, 2024

- 4:00 - Kay Grazano — 20th Anniversary
Albert Ialongo — 70th Anniversary
Linda Lynch — 36th Anniversary

Sunday, September 22, 2024

- 9:30 - Kenny Fontaine, Jr. — 5th Anniversary

My Dear Friends in Christ,

St. Francis de Sales was once quoted as saying that “God does not give us a cross that is an ounce too heavy or an inch too long”. This thought gives rise to the notion that God does, indeed, allow for crosses in our life. What St. Francis is alluding to, however, is that they are not unbearable. We realize that when we look at the life of Christ. Christ was able to bear His cross because He knew that it must be done, not only in His life, but in ours as well.

In today’s gospel, Jesus looks to His disciples to gauge how His earthly mission is going. When Jesus asks the question about who people say that He is, Jesus is not taking a “popularity poll”. Jesus doesn’t really care if people *like* Him or His message, just that they’re *getting it*. Jesus wants to know this so as to be able to “fine tune” His message. Jesus then turns to His disciples and asks the same question, but in a much more personal way. When Jesus inquires of the Twelve, “who do *you* say that I am?”(Mk 8:29, italics added), He wants to know if they *get it*, if they understand what He is all about. Jesus needs to know this because He will soon be entrusting His message and mission to them.

This is where we come in. Jesus, in asking the question of His mission to the Twelve, is talking to us in this gospel passage. Jesus is placing the question on our hearts this day so that we can think about where we stand in light of Jesus’ mission and message. Do we know who Jesus is? Do we *get it*? This is a vitally important thing, this knowledge of who Jesus is and about what Jesus is trying to teach us.

This is also where the idea of the cross comes in for us. Each one of us has a “cross” to bear, often many of them over the course of a lifetime. They come in all shapes and sizes, unique to the person. We may have corporate experiences, but even then the cross we bear in them in ours and ours alone. We may help one another (much like Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carry His Cross), but the burden of carrying one’s cross lays squarely on one’s own shoulders. We do have help, though. We have the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as well as the model of Christ Himself.

May we know that the crosses we bear assist us in drawing ever closer in union to Christ. May we trust that these crosses are never “an ounce too heavy or an inch too long”. May we know that our God will be with us on this journey – through our life and into the Kingdom.

A Blessed Week to All,

Fr. Paul

WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES

MEMORIAL MASSES
Suggested donation \$25+

HOSTS, WINE AND SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR THE WEEK
Suggested donation \$55
Including a Memorial Mass, Suggested donation \$80

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK
\$85; or including the mass Suggested donation \$110

HOSTS, WINE & SANCTUARY LAMPS, FLOWERS
\$140 including the MASS, is a Suggested donation of \$165



Payment for the above memorials would be appreciated TWO weeks in advance, separate from your offertory.

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

Don't forget to Sign Up for Faith Formation!

Classes start September 22

The registration form can be found on the parish websites under the Faith Formation tab.

September Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

September 16 at 6:30 pm, St. John

Join us as we make sandwiches for Fr. Paul and the team from Capuchin Mobile Ministries to distribute to the homeless in Boston and Cambridge. All are welcome!

Interested in becoming Catholic? Baptized but never received First Communion or Confirmation? We have a program for you!

Please contact Matt Brady in the office if interested.

Protecting God's Children Training

All parish volunteers and staff, regardless of role, must complete this training at least once. If you are a current parish volunteer and we do not have a record of you completing this training, you can expect an email from Matt in the next week. We are hosting two sessions this month:

Sunday, 9/15 from 12:30-3:30 at St. Ann
Saturday, 9/28 from 10-1 at St. John

Other sessions are also available at neighboring parishes. To sign up, please visit <https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/> and click on First Time Registrant. You will then be able to view a list of sessions before completing the registration process. **You must sign-up online in advance to attend.**

For questions, please call or email Matt Brady.

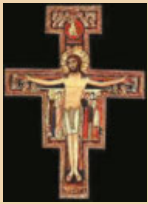
Faith Formation Teachers Wanted!

With the start of faith formation coming in a few weeks, we are urgently seeking catechists (teachers) for the following classes.

Sunday 8:20-9:20 am at St. John: Grade 4
Sunday 5-6 pm at St. Ann: Grades 6 and 8
Sunday 7:15-8:15 at St. Ann:
Grades 9 and 10
Monday 4:30-5:30 at St. Ann: Grade 1
Tuesday 4:30-5:30 at St. John:
Grades 1, 2, 5
Wednesday 4:30-5:30 at St. John: Grade 7

All materials and lesson support will be provided. You are welcome to team up with a friend if you would like. As Fr. Paul says, if you love Jesus and love our young people, then you are qualified!

If you are interested, please email Matt Brady at directorofmintries.tic@gmail.com



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Twenty-three years ago our nation suffered a devastating terrorist attack, the likes of which had not been seen in our land. As I was speaking recently to someone of the events of 9/11, I spoke in terms of “my generation’s ‘Pearl Harbor’, times three”. This was due to the fact that a foreign entity had breached our national security, caused significant loss of life, and shaken us to our core; it was also a “rallying point” for our nation, much like Pearl Harbor had been in 1941, because we really had never experienced something of this magnitude (especially considering that it happened in three locations (New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington (DC))).

In reflecting on the events of 9/11 in light of my Franciscan journey, I couldn’t help but think of the “Prayer of St. Francis”:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.*

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

*To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

Now, while the Prayer of St. Francis was more likely than not *not* written by Francis, it has been so widely associated with him that it is usually included in the “canon” of St. Francis. When we look at the word choices use and the counterbalance of the negative (i.e., hatred, injury, doubt, despair, darkness, sadness) and the positive (i.e., love, pardon, faith, hope, light, joy), it certainly reads like the “spirit” of Francis and his work in the world to bring “Gospel to life and life to Gospel”.

The Christ-like (and positive) attributes found in the poem are an antidote/response to the (negative) actions of 9/11. Franciscans are called, as a body, to mirror their lives after Francis, who mirrored his life after Christ. We are not called to be “doormats” in response to violence, but we are to answer violence with a Christ-like love. As we commemorate this 20th anniversary of 9/11, let us strive to be “instruments” of love, pardon, faith, hope, light, joy...and Peace.

Pax et Bonum,
Fr. Paul

THE SECOND COLLECTION IS TO SUPPLEMENT THE LOW OFFERTORY.



Fr. John Fisher has written to tell us that they have begun the process for the Water Project. The pictures above are of the water solar pump.

He has contacted the contractor to start the work. They will be drilling and fixing the tank stand concurrently and have placed the order for the tank.

Fr. John sends his love and appreciation!!!

Everyday Stewardship

I must confess. I have not always prayed for someone if I told him or her I would. I have fallen victim to making the phrase, "You are in my prayers," a sentence void of real emotion or intent. It is like asking the question, "How are you?" Do I always want to know how you are at the time? Then follows the most common responses of "fine" or "good." I could have had the worst day, but I still utter a response that does not reflect my true state. Many of us say things to be nice without really thinking about it. At least, I hope I am not the only one. The truth is that words are meaningless without action. We sometimes make ourselves and others feel better by saying we will do things only to provide no action at all. Offering best wishes to those in real need without any action is worth little. Even if we think we are sincere, true faith without works is dead.

Good stewardship requires us to say what we mean and mean what we say. Stewardship is a way of living. It does ask for sentiments of love. It asks for profound actions of love. We need to offer our gifts, talents, time, and prayers to one another and then follow through. This means we need to be more mindful of what we are saying, more committed to following through, and more accountable for our actions if we fail. If we practice this way of living, not only will we be able to say we are doing the right thing, but our integrity will be intact and we will bear witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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:

Denise Robichaud, Patricia Estes, William Neyman, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela McDevitt, Karen & Janet Daly, Kathy Conrad, Joan Ward-Fusco, Kenneth McLaughlin, Fred Sprague, Joe Pigeon, Nancy McHugh, Jerry Paluch, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Irene Churchill, Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen, Dan, Candice Frabetti, Patrick McCormick, Rob Levesque, Alex & Landon, Susan Coronella, Stephen D'Guisepe & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



CLOTHING DRIVES

Clothing Drive



What's in your closet?

The Conference of St. Vincent de Paul of West Bridgewater and the Conference of St Vincent de Paul of East Bridgewater will be having clothing drives at each respective church location.— St. John's in East Bridgewater and St. Ann's in West Bridgewater .

September 21 & 22 from 10:00 to 2:00

Each society will earn money per pound for all Clothing, coats, bedding, shoes, and boots. donated at their location which they will use to serve the neighbors of their community.

Please give your items to the drive and not the bin at St. Ann's parking lot to make this event completely Successful!!!

West Bridgewater Food Pantry
457 Rear, South Main Street, Unit #1
West Bridgewater
02379

WHEN: Curbside distribution the FIRST and THIRD Wednesday each month

TIME: 1:45-3:00PM or 5:30-6:00PM

We need jelly, rice pilaf, pancake mix, syrup, pasta sauce, baked beans

Cash donations also accepted.

**St Ann — ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
P O Box 474 West Bridgewater MA 02379
To join please call — TINA ANTHONY
508-245-5481**

Our Saint Vincent de Paul Society has provided support for our neighbors that find themselves in need of a little help with utility, fuel or rent bills. There are many ways we can help our neighbors; if not financially, we can help spiritually. The Society cannot help our neighbors without the generosity of our parishioners. Please consider donating by placing the donations in the SDVP boxes located at each entrance. Please make out any checks to St. Vincent de Paul Society, not St. Ann's church.

To Join or get more information on how we can help a neighbor in need, please call Tina Anthony, 508-245-5481

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 10th @ 6 PM

**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.

Our pantry is open on the First and Third Monday of each month. When pantry days fall on a major holiday, the pantry will open on the Tuesday of that week.

First Monday - 3:00 - 5:30 Third Monday - 3:00 - 4:30

**Tuesday, September 3, 2024
Monday, September 16, 2024**

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

The Pantry is a little low—needed: any food, especially tuna, peanut butter, soups, pasta & pasta sauce, cereal.

Gift cards are also a great help. \$5 — \$25 cards are easier to distribute than large sums., ie \$100

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YEAR 1	YEAR 2
QUARTER 1 IDENTITY & TRANSFORMATION	QUARTER 5 INTIMACY WITH GOD
QUARTER 2 HEARING GOD'S VOICE & THE PROPHETIC GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT	QUARTER 6 ADVANCED MINISTRY TRAINING
QUARTER 3 POWER & HEALING	QUARTER 7 POWER EVANGELIZATION
QUARTER 4 INNER HEALING & FREEDOM	QUARTER 8 LEADERSHIP & DEPLOYMENT

**2-YEAR
8-QUARTER
PROGRAM**



YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!!

It has recently been brought to our attention that the roof on St. Ann's Rectory is in dire need of replacement.

We have obtained quotes for the job and the total cost is \$15,000.

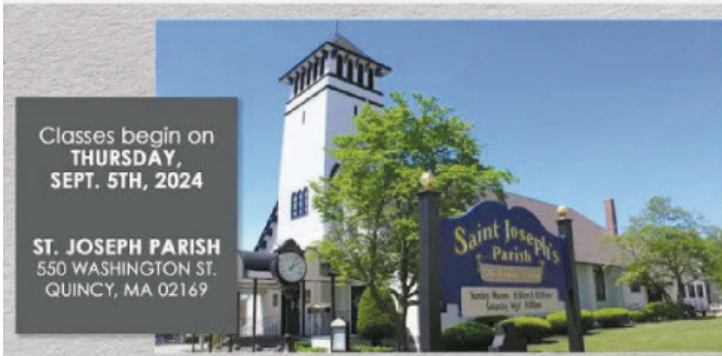
Fortunately, a couple of parishioners have already made a sizeable donation but, it is not anywhere near what we need to cover the cost.

This is where we need your help! The roof will be replaced in October. We cannot delay and have it go through the winter in it's current state.

When contemplating your ability to help, please keep in mind that this is not just a St. Ann's project since the building houses the Business Office for the Collaborative and Fr. Peter Francis' residence.

If you are able, please feel free to give your donation directly to Fr. Paul, place it in the Offertory collection clearly marked **"roof replacement"**, (with your envelope number or name on the envelope) or mail it to the Parish office with the same clearly marked designation.

Any and all funds will be completely dedicated to this



Classes begin on
**THURSDAY,
SEPT. 5TH, 2024**

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