



***Together in Christ
Collaborative***

**SEPTEMBER 19,
2021**

**25th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**



**25th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name,
receives me.” - Mk 9:37a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 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**

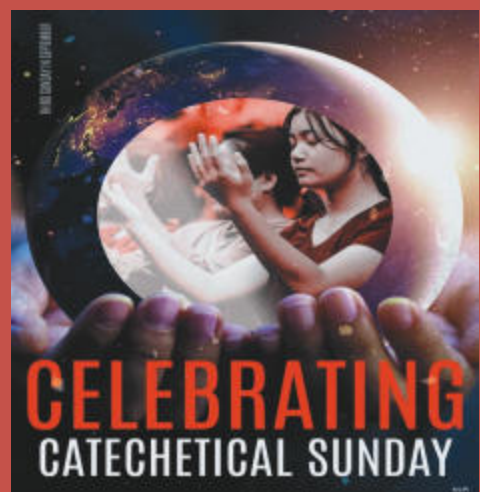
508-378-4207

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

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: Nancy Goggin
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com
508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, September 18, 2021

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday September 19, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, September 25, 2021

4:00—Vincent Hallisey — 7th Anniversary

Sunday, September 26, 2021

8:30 - Bob & Geri Slowey — 65th Wedding Rem.

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, September 18, 2021

5:30 - Nancy Saya — 20th Anniversary

Sunday, September 19, 2021

10:30 - Kenny Fontaine, Jr. — 2nd Anniversary

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

Saturday, September 25, 2021

5:30 - Claire Voss — Month's Mind

Sunday, September 26, 2021

10:30 - Karl Talabach — 1st Anniversary



My Dear Friends in Christ,

As I was sitting in my recliner, rooting the Patriots on to victory, my phone rang...and before I knew it, I was presented with the amazing opportunity to meet Mother Teresa. In a set of circumstances that many would consider coincidental, but that I would call providential (i.e., something which was meant to happen, as opposed to accidentally happening), I found myself standing in a Newton convent, in the presence of a woman who radiated holiness. Short in stature, “Mother” (as she liked to be called, apparently) was not short of what I would call “presence”. When she was in the room, you knew it – you could just sense it. She was the type of person who, in her simplicity, emanated a complexity beyond this world. This is why, I believe, she was on the “road to sainthood”.

Jesus, in His message, mission and life radiated this same presence, I believe. Jesus knew who He was, He knew what He had to do, and He never deviated from that message, mission and life. Jesus did so by living simply, but profoundly, living a life of service and putting His needs, His will second to the Father. Jesus calls us to do the same, to put our will second to those around us and to God. We do this most profoundly by seeing the needs of our brothers and sisters as more important than our own. The challenge with this, of course, is that this runs counter to everything that our society teaches and espouses. Our culture is a “me first”, “I’ve got mine, so the heck with you” society. This is why it is so difficult to live life as a Christian in the world today, for there are very few paths in life that are more counter-cultural.

Jesus, in today’s gospel calls us, in serving the needs of all, to “be the last of all and the servant of all” (Mk 9:35). We serve our brothers and sisters best, I believe, when we espouse the truths of the Gospel and the teachings of the Church. We serve the needs of all when we reach out to the poor, marginalized and downtrodden – those seen as “less than”. We achieve greatness (in the eyes of God) when we eschew the “greatness” of this world and amass treasures in heaven, such as a peaceful spirit and a humble heart. We can do this by looking beyond ourselves, our needs, and seeking to meet the needs of others, especially the “less than” of which I previously spoke.

May we have the courage to be like that little child Jesus placed in the midst of the Twelve. May we live simply, humbly and joyously. May we come to know Jesus as Savior and Friend and may we “introduce” Him (in word and deed) to all whom we meet.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Your continued support is very much appreciated.
Weekly Offertory

Aug 31 - Sep 6, 2021

ST ANN		ST JOHN	
Online	N/A	Online	\$ 1,354
Mail	\$ 430	Mail	\$ 798
Mass	<u>\$ 1,959</u>	Mass	<u>\$ 2,272</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,389	TOTAL	\$ 4,424

Roof Repair Update -

The sliding shingles and the board behind the church tower have been repaired.

This week, the largest repair - the hall roof, will be completed. The rectory shingle tabs will be repaired after that.

We will be humanely removing the bats from the hall at the end of September. Thank you again for your support.



And behold, he [a companion of St. Francis] went into ecstasy and saw among the many thrones in heaven one that was more honorable than the rest, ornamented with precious stones, and radiant with all glory. He wondered within himself at this noble throne and considered silently whose it might be. And while he was considering these things, he heard a voice saying to him: "This throne belonged to one of the fallen angels, but now it is reserved for the humble Francis."

At length, coming back to himself, the brother saw the blessed St. Francis coming from his prayers, and quickly prostrating himself at Francis' feet in the form of a cross, he said to him, not as to one living in this world, but as to one already reigning in heaven: "Pray for me to the Son of God, Father, that he will not impute to me my sins." The man of God stretched forth his hand [Matthew 14:31] and raised him up [Acts 3:7], realizing that something had been shown to him in his prayers. (Celano, *Second Life of St. Francis*, 123)

These words, written by Thomas of Celano (poet and author of three biographies of St. Francis, speaks to us of a vision one of Francis' companions had of the heavenly reward Francis will receive. He will receive this (and be merited with the crown of Sainthood) in large part because of the humility he showed in this life. True humility, as exhibited by St. Francis, is a gift from God that we *say* we want...but do we?? True humility is a virtue by which we put ourselves second, at the service of our brothers and sisters. It is something which Jesus taught His disciples, the model of "servant leadership". It is something which Francis took upon himself, uniting himself with Christ. Everything which Francis did united him with Christ, with whom he sought an intimate relationship and for whom he lived at every moment of his life. May we come to emulate Christ (and Francis) by being "servant leaders" to one another. May we come to recognize the opportunities to "see Christ in others and be Christ for others".

In closing, let us look upon the words of Thomas of Celano with regards to true humility and seek to do the same:

Forgetting the things he had gained, he set before his eyes only his failings in the conviction that he lacked more than he had gained. There was no covetousness in him except the desire to become better, and not content with what he had, he sought to add new virtues. (Celano, *Second Life of St. Francis*, 140)

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul

Deacon Chris Connelly

"A Creative and Courageous Father"



When Jen and I were first married we lived in a two-bedroom apartment in East Providence, Rhode Island. One night when Jen and I were settling down for the night, I heard a large banging noise at the apartment door. In a panic, I ran out and found an intruder trying to break into our apartment claiming that my neighbor downstairs were complaining that my dishwasher was leaking into their apartment. The intruder did not know that the two downstairs apartments were vacant. With all my might I pushed against the intruder as he tried to push through our front door. By God's grace he heeded my warnings, gave up gaining entry and fled the scene.

To put this story into context, Jen was pregnant with our first child and I felt an enormous responsibility to guard and protect her and our unborn baby. To this day, I sleep between my wife and the door to my bedroom because I feel a strong need to guard and protect my wife and all those that I love. In twenty-six years of marriage, I continue to be a light sleeper ready to react to any threat to my family.

In his Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde*, beginning the Year of St. Joseph, Pope Francis raises St. Joseph as a model of facing life's trials and tribulations with "creative courage". For all of us who face trying and difficult times in life, Pope Francis raises St. Joseph as a model for all of us to follow. St. Joseph was faced with a very challenging situation when he discovered that his betrothed was pregnant with a child that he did not father. With creative courage, St. Joseph faced the circumstances of his life and choose to trust in God's word that there was more to the situation than he was capable of perceiving. Trusting in God's vision of the future, Joseph chose to be creatively courageous and accept Mary into his home as his wife. When King Herod sought to hunt down and destroy his son, he chose to be "creatively courageous" and move to Egypt and there was "creatively courageous" to begin a new life there as refugees and foreigners.

In these ways (and in many more that are not recorded in Sacred Scripture), St. Joseph guarded and protected Mary and Jesus through creative courageousness. In his letter, Pope Francis asks us to consider the ways that we model St. Joseph by stating, "We should always consider whether we ourselves are protecting Jesus and Mary, for they are also mysteriously entrusted to our own responsibility, care and safekeeping. (*Patris Corde*, #5.9)" Pope Francis reminds us that Mary found herself in a very compromised and vulnerable position because of the Word God spoke to her. Jesus found himself in a very vulnerable position as he was born into a world that did not have room for him and among forces that wanted him dead. St. Joseph was the one who was called to be "creatively courageous" and guard and protect those entrusted to his care.

Considering the example of St. Joseph, I see in my own life the ways that I am called to take up St. Joseph's example to guard and protect my family with creative courage. In a similar way, I know my wife also feels a responsibility to watch over, nurture, guard, and protect me and our family. Through the intercession of St. Joseph, I pray that all of us find creative and courageous ways to guard and protect the manifestations of Mary and Jesus in our lives.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES

My name is Nancy Goggin and I am thrilled to be your new Director of Ministries. I come to you with 24 years of ministry experience at both the capacity of Director of Religious Theology Teacher. Over the past 24 Archdiocese in Religious Education certificate program from the *The* total youth ministry programs. I am on Theology of the Body and



John's Seminary and have my Master's degree in Theology from *Boston College*. I am also certified by the Archdiocese of Boston's office for Child Safety as a "Train the Trainer." This means that I am certified to train parishes and volunteers to develop and implement programs and structures that assure the safety of the children in the Parish.

parish level and Catholic Schools, in the Education, Director of Youth Ministry and years, I have had extensive training from the and Youth ministry. I have participated in a *Center For Ministry Development* on designing certified by *The Theology of The Body Institute* Chasity. I have taken theology classes at *St.*

Although I have a tremendous love and passion for ministry, pursuing ministry was not my first career choice. I was actually employed in the Fashion Industry in New York City for 13 years as a Fashion Trend Forecaster. I would project fashion trends 18-20 months in advance of the selling season. As strange as it many sound, it was through doing this work that God called me into ministry.

A large target market in the fashion industry is the youth market. Therefore, it was my job to study youth culture. The more I studied, the more horrified I became. In those days, gang activity was very bad, suicide rates were high and it was estimated that a 100,000 children nationally were bringing a gun to school.

I was so disturbed by all of these stats that each night I would fervently pray that God would send people to work with the youth. I felt that if the youth knew how much God loved them, they would not be killing themselves and they would not be killing others. Each night as I prayed, the response was the same...Go and do it!

For three years, I denied my call into ministry because I did not feel like I was qualified to do the work. After all, there were so many people that had chosen ministry as a career and had been schooled in ministry work. Yet, God was calling me, someone who worked in the Fashion Industry? Finally, I could not battle with God any Longer; I gave God my yes and started working as a volunteer in NYC doing both religious education and youth ministry. The work was so profound that I used to tell people that my job in the Fashion Industry was my hobby but that my passion was doing ministry work.

Finally, upon moving back to Massachusetts 25 years ago to marry someone I went to High School with, I decided to pursue a career in ministry as a parish Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry. Throughout the past 24 years, in the programs I directed, God's love has impacted the lives of many youths, resulting in vocational calls to holy marriages, missionary work and the Priesthood.

I have a passion to know, love and serve God and to help others to do the same. I look forward to seeing the beautiful work that God has visioned for the Together in Christ Collaborative of St Ann's and St John's and I look forward to working with all of you to actualize that vision, so that together we may all come to more fully know, love and serve God.

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, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicoliar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Dana Debenedictis, Harry Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan 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, Joan Ward-Fusco, Claudette Rochefort & 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:

*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



Praising Jesus through Mary Rosary Makers are reaching our 20th year. Knowing how important praying the rosary every day is, we are seeking new members. If anyone feels the desire to make rosaries, please contact Ginny Connell 508-697-3964; Rose Penney 508-583-5045; Jean Berrigan 508-378-3351; or Mary Ann Boyle 774-274-8640.

PS. We send the rosaries all over the world as well as to our churches and nursing homes etc..

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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.

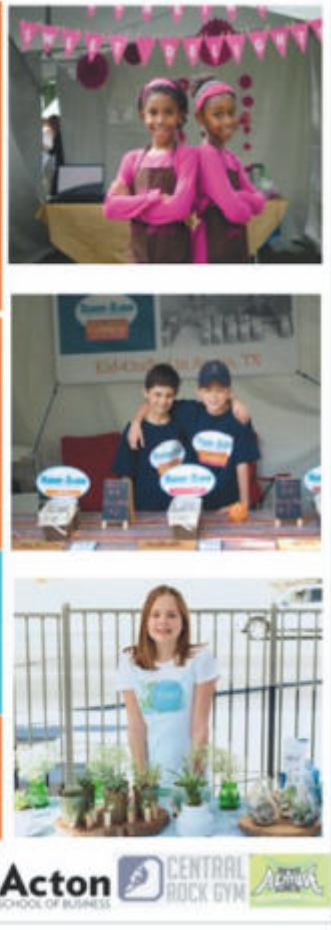


WB Children's Business Fair

Experience young minds marketing, selling, counting money and feeling accomplished! Come be a shopper and help [CITY]'s young entrepreneurs launch their businesses!

OCTOBER 2, 2021 | 10AM-2:30PM
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For more information visit our website:
www.childrensbusinessfair.org/westbridgewater-massachusetts
 Joanne- 508-631-5793



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