



***Together in Christ
Collaborative***

***SEPTEMBER 26,
2021***

**26th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**



**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

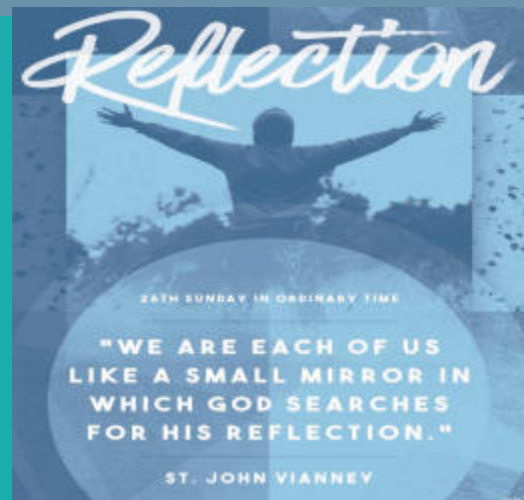
Website: www.stjohneb.org

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

***26th Sunday*
IN ORDINARY TIME**

**"There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name
who can at the same time speak ill of me." - Mk 9:39b**

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



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

***Alternating 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 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

Saturday, October 2, 2021

4:00 - Brian Landolfi — Birthday Remembrance

Sunday October 3, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, September 25, 2021

5:30 - Claire Voss — Month's Mind

Sunday, September 26, 2021

10:30 - Karl Talabach — 1st Anniversary

Saturday, October 2, 2021

5:30 - Alexis Doucette — 17th Birthday Remem

Sunday, October 3, 2021

10:30 - Allan & Ruth Winsor

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint John



THANK YOU FR. PAUL FOR ALL YOU DO FOR THIS
COLLABORATIVE.
YOUR EFFORTS HAVE NOT GONE UNNOTICED.

A special Thank you to Fr. Francis and Fr. Diochi also
on this special day.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

There is an old saying which states that “the enemy of my enemy is my friend”. It surmises that if someone is combating another who is at cross-purposes with your goals and objectives, they are “in your camp” as your ally. This can be true in the realms of government, military or even ministry. This is the point which Jesus is making in today’s gospel.

As the renown of Jesus grows, the number of followers and disciples grows as well. The Twelve report back to Jesus that they saw others (not of their company) performing miraculous acts. Jesus “sets the record straight” by letting the listener know that one cannot both do the works of God and speak/act against God. If they are truly “of God”, that is working, speaking and acting with the purpose of building up the Kingdom and furthering the mission of Jesus, then they cannot be wrong. There are ways to test this ministry; Jesus would later remark that “each tree is known by its own fruits” (Mt 7:20). In this way, one can determine if one is acting in the name of God or if one is working for one’s own purpose and gain. It can be as simple as providing a cup of water, for the work of God is charitable love.

St. Paul speaks of this in our second reading. He speaks of the rich storing for themselves treasures. In doing so, they are not looking to build up the Kingdom – they are looking to build up their own bank account. This might give them security for now; but in the long run, it will be held in testimony against them (see Jas. 5:3). The “treasures” which we are to store up for ourselves are not things which this world can provide. They are things such as mercy, understanding, patience, peace, and love. When we secure treasures such as these, we unite ourselves to Christ and His Kingdom.

May we have the courage to prophesy in the name of God. May we pray for the knowledge and wisdom which comes from God alone, a spiritual “sight” which allows us to see things for how they are and not how they are perceived. May we come to know God’s mercy for us and may we share that mercy, forgiveness and love with all whom we meet.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

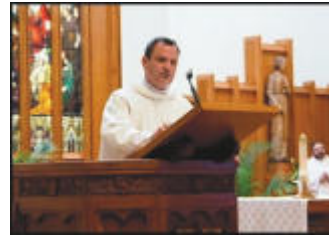
/ . Today's Mass Readings speak of having the gifts of prophecy (First Reading) and healing (the Gospel passage which speaks of someone not of Jesus' company driving out demons), presumably receiving those gifts from God. As I reflected on these passages, my mind went to the origins of St. Francis' mission to "rebuild my Church".

Most of us have heard the story. Francesco Bernadone (later known as "Francis of Assisi") was a restless young man, unable to find his calling. His dreams of being a heroic knight had turned into a bit of a nightmare after spending time as a prisoner of war. His father, Pietro, wanted his son to follow in the family business, but that didn't interest Francesco, either. What to do? He found himself wandering about the outskirts of his home town of Assisi in the hills of Umbria – breathtaking vistas at every turn, but he seemed to hardly notice. Until he came upon San Damiano, a little church in need of a good bit of repair. He entered and knelt down underneath a large wooden crucifix painted in an icon-like fashion. The eyes of Jesus on the cross seemed to lock him in a stare that was both intimidating and beckoning at the same time. He couldn't look away as feelings of doubt and fear, guilt and desire welled up within him. "Lord, what do you want me to do?" he asked. "Show me what you want me to do with my life." And the Lord answered! A voice as clear as the day responded: "Francis, go and rebuild my church which, as you see, is falling down." That was all he heard. That was all he needed to hear. It took a bit longer, however, to realize that Jesus wasn't asking him to physically rebuild San Damiano as well as a few other rundown churches near Assisi. He did that, of course, but it gradually dawned on him that his vocation was to rebuild the church, the human institution that was perilously close to falling apart.

This is why I wrote the word "Church" with a capital "C". Initially, Francis *misheard* the calling. It was not the building of San Damiano which God wanted him to fix (even though it was very much in need of repair), but the "Church as institution" which God wanted Francis to bring back to glory. This begs the question "what is it that God is calling you to 'rebuild'?" Is it a relationship with someone? Is it a life ravaged by drugs or alcohol? Is it your relationship with God? No one's life is perfect, and we are all in need of healing. To listen to that "voice" which calls one to go beyond oneself is a challenging thing to do. Sometimes it means moving out of our "comfort zone". Sometimes it means defying our own, or others', expectations or limitations (like in today's readings).

St. Francis, once he properly discerned his calling, was that prophetic voice and healing presence. May we have the courage to quiet our hearts, shut out the distractions of the world, and listen to (and respond to) the voice from God, which Francis heard, that calls us to do whatever work is ours to do. May we pray for the gifts of discernment (to interpret) and courage (to act) on whatever it is God is calling us to do.

Pax et Bonum,
Fr. Paul



The Deacon's Column

Deacon Chris Connelly

Body of Christ.

So what is the matter of the sacrament of the Eucharist? In the sacrament of the Eucharist, the essential matter is bread and wine. For the bread to be valid it must be made from wheat and be unleavened. There are nuances to this but Wonder Bread from Stop and Shop cannot be consecrated. For the wine, the wine must be from the grape and mingled with a bit of water.

The bread and wine we offer as the matter of the sacrament are true symbols of the total Christ that is "taken, blessed, broken, and given." Consider how bread is made. Individual grains of wheat are ground down to produce a flour. That flour is mixed with a certain amount of water until it forms a dough which is then baked into the basic staple of the human diet—bread. Now consider how wine is made. Grapes are collected and crushed. Then after fermentation begins, the crushed grapes are pressed to produce a sweet liquid that undergoes further fermentation. When fermentation is complete the grape juice becomes a new substance used in many communal celebrations—wine.

The process of making the matter of the Eucharist is symbolic of the life we live as members of Christ's body. The bread and wine we offer symbolizes the offering of ourselves to the Lord for the salvation of the world. Each individual grain of wheat and each grape symbolizes each one of us. Through repentance of sins, we are milled and crushed. By the grace of the Holy Spirit in the sacraments, we become a new creation meant to give life (bread) and joy (wine) to the world.

What happens to the bread and wine we offer is meant to happen to each one of us. When the deacon or priest prepares the chalice with the water and wine, he says, "By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity." Then after offering the bread and wine, the priest says quietly, "With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God."

Brothers and sisters, every time we present the bread and wine to the priest to be taken into his hands and offered up to the Father, we are giving to the Lord our own selves. Christ takes our offering and unites it to his own so that the whole mystical body of Christ is taken, blessed, broken, and given for the salvation of the whole world. When the priest holds up the bread and wine see in it a reflection of your own selves. Know that when we unite ourselves to him, God the Father receives our offering and gives us back the one we hunger and long for in the deepest parts of our soul—his Son and our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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 *Theology of the Body* and 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 may 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 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:

*First Mondays = 3:00—5:30
Third Mondays = 3:00—4:30*

The schedule is as follows:

October 4th and 18th

WINTER HOURS BEGIN IN NOVEMBER

*First Monday 1—4 PM
Third Saturday 10—11:30*

*Monday, November 1
Saturday, November 20
Monday, December 6
Saturday, December 18*

*Thanksgiving & Christmas Meals Distribution
To be Determined.*

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**

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..

**FR. PAUL WILL BE BLESSING ALL PETS
ON SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 2ND AT 10 AM.
IN THE PARKING LOT OF ST. JOHN'S**



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 PM at Saint 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.

Hello,

At times during the pandemic congregational singing was discouraged and congregants were ushered out of the church in a safe manner at the end of mass during the closing hymn. Now that restrictions have been lifted it is a good time to remind ourselves that a liturgy begins with the first notes of the opening song and ends with the final notes of the closing song. We ask that you stay and participate in the closing song if you know the words or stay and enjoy it if you don't know the words. The closing song is one last opportunity to sing God's praises in church before we leave to go about our week. We look forward to having hymn books back in the pews in late November so that everyone can read along. Thank you and God Bless

-The Together in Christ Collaborative music team.

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Your continued support is very much appreciated.
Weekly Offertory

Sep 7 - Sep 13, 2021

ST ANN	ST JOHN
Online N/A	Online \$ 549
Mail \$ 905	Mail \$ 1,147
Mass \$ 2,876	Mass \$ 1,459
TOTAL \$ 3,781	TOTAL \$ 3,155

Fr Stephen \$2,472

Fr Stephen \$2,628

The bats at Saint Ann are schedule to be humanely removed from the Parish Center on **Monday, October 4 and Tuesday October 5**

So we are moving forward in a positive way due to your generosity.

THANK YOU.

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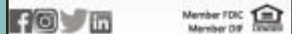
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