



*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
October 1st 2023*

*26th Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

“Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you.” - Mt 21:31

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 OCD, GLPI

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](mailto:stanns@comcast.net)  
Website: [stannswb.com](http://stannswb.com)  
Facebook: St. Ann-WB**

**Collaborative Office Hours are  
9:00-3:00 M-TH**

**Saint John the Evangelist**

**210 Central St., East Bridgewater  
02333  
Office -103 N. Main Street,  
West Bridgewater  
508-378-4207**

**E-MAIL: [stjohnnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnnebridge@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.stjohnneb.org](http://www.stjohnneb.org)**

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

**MASS TIMES**

**St Ann  
Saturday, 4:00 PM  
Sunday, 9:30 AM  
Sunday, 6:15 PM**

**St John  
Sunday, 8:00 AM  
Sunday, 11:30 AM**

# 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

## EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

### **St Ann's**

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass  
w/ Drive up option

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

### **St John's**

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

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



## **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

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



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### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Saturday, September 30, 2023

4:00 - Brian Landolfi — Birthday Remembrance

#### Sunday, October 1, 2023

9:30 All the Families of the Collaborative  
6:15 - All Parishioners who are drawn to be  
Volunteers for the T. I. C. Collaborative

#### Saturday, October 7, 2023

4:00 - James Cosseboom — 3rd Anniversary

#### Sunday, October 8, 2023

9:30 - Maria Figueiredo & Family — 25th Anniv.  
6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

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### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Sunday, October 1, 2023

8:00 - All Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative  
11:30 - Bronislaw Morawski — 34th Anniversary

#### Sunday October 7, 2023

8:00 - Kendra Frabetti — Birthday Remembrance  
11:30 - Gerard Penney — Birthday Remembrance

Heavenly Father, the beauty and dignity of human life was the crowning of your creation. You further ennobled that life when your Son became one with us in His incarnation. Help us to realize the sacredness of human life and to respect it from the moment of conception until the last moment at death.

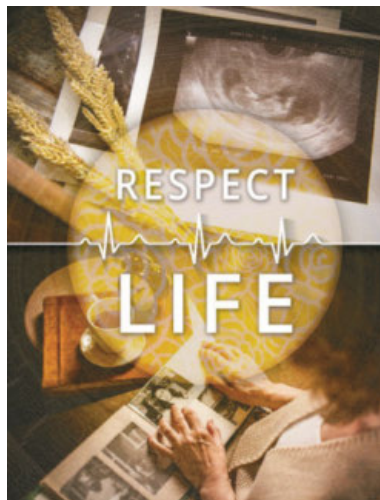
Today is

Respect Life

Sunday

Please pray for all

Human life.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

It has often been said that one must not only “talk the talk”, but “walk the walk”. This expression is so well known that we perhaps take its power for granted. It reminds us that when it comes to the important things of life, we must do more than pay “lip service” to them, but truly invest ourselves in the endeavors which are worthwhile, good and will bring about lasting and life-changing effects.

Jesus, in today’s gospel passage, compares prostitutes and tax collectors to chief priests and elders. On the surface, it may seem obvious on whose side a religious authority figure would be. It would seem obvious that someone who had the spiritual well-being of the people in mind would side with the latter group, the chief priests and elders. Jesus, in defying convention here, sides with the prostitutes and tax collectors. We may not be shocked at this, but I’m sure the elders to whom Jesus was offering this parable were not only shocked, but offended. How could Jesus not side with them? How could Jesus say that tax collectors and prostitutes would enter into the Kingdom before priests and elders? It all goes back to “walking the walk”.

The chief priests and elders were great at offering sage advice on how to grow closer to God. One is to follow the rules (which are important, let’s not forget that!) by doing things like worshipping in temple (a good idea, indeed!), tithing (another good idea!) and the like. The problem was that they, themselves, in following these rules did so with unclean hearts. Their motivation wasn’t to grow closer to God – it was to win esteem in the eyes of men. The difference is that tax collectors and prostitutes were already thought of as “less than” by society (especially by religious elders), and no one could see beyond their human appearance. No one except for God, of course! God does not judge by human appearance, by externals. God sees into the heart – into our desires, our motives and our motivations. God sees what we truly desire.

The tax collectors and the prostitutes were seen as “second-class citizens”. Many of our brothers and sisters are put in this category, and perhaps we have been guilty ourselves of putting them there. May we strive to see as God sees – as God sees others, as God sees ourselves. May we be quick to forgive, slow to judge. May we strive to know as God knows, to see as God sees and to love as God loves.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

# MINISTRY NEWS

## Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at [Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com](mailto:Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com)

### October Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

Join us as we make sandwiches for Fr. Paul and the team at Capuchin Mobile Ministries to distribute to the homeless of Boston. The October date is 10/16 at 6:30 pm at St. Ann. All are welcome to join us!

### Volunteer Drive THIS WEEKEND

After all the Masses on the weekends of September 23-24 and 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.

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

### Altar Servers Wanted!

This year we are bringing back altar servers. Any child in grade 3 or higher is welcome as are any adults who would like to serve in this role. There will be a training session on October 22 after the 9:30 Mass. Please email Matt Brady to sign up. If you can't make the training, that's ok, just email Matt to make an alternate time to meet.

### October Teen Mass

Sunday, October 15th at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann is our first Teen Mass. There will be contemporary music, a teen-centered homily, and the kids are invited to do one of the readings or bring up the gifts.

If your teen would like to do a reading or bring up the gifts, please email Matt Brady.

### Ministry Spotlight: Bereavement Ministry

This team works with grieving families to plan funerals and provide pastoral support during the grieving period. We also need people to help Fr. Paul during funeral Masses.

### October Family Mass

Next Sunday, October 1st at the 9:30 Mass is our first Family Mass. We invite our children to serve as readers and gift bearers, and Fr. Paul will call the kids up to the altar for the homily. After Mass there will be coffee and donuts under the tent in the Rose Garden.

If your child would like to do a reading or bring up the gifts, please email Matt Brady.

### **BLESSING OF THE PETS AT ST JOHN'S ON OCTOBER 7TH AT 10 AM.**



### **Reminder:**

**Effective October 1st, the 6:15 Mass will be held at St. Ann's**



## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Conversion is one of those experiences that happen over a period of time, oftentimes a lifetime. For people like tax collectors and prostitutes it happens when they see, meet, and get to know Jesus. One would hope that for the chief priests and elders of Jesus' day, conversion would have already happened by the time Jesus comes on the scene but, alas, this isn't the case. They don't seem to have a grasp as to what Jesus offers and the gift that He is for the world.

One could say that St. Francis' conversion happened at different points over time. It happened when he knelt in front of the Crucifix in San Damiano. It happened when he encountered the leper on the road. It happened in the town square of Assisi when he renounced all of his worldly goods (literally, stripping himself naked in front of his father and the Bishop!). This conversion continued to happen over the course of his ministry in establishing the Franciscan Order. No doubt he came to a deeper understanding of his calling from God as he taught the Brothers and led them into the Order. He also came to understand what it was God was calling him to do over time, with one of the final moments of conversion being when he received the Stigmata (the wounds of Christ) before finally being called Home by the Lord to the Eternal Kingdom.

These moments of conversion all led St. Francis to a deeper understanding of who he was in the world, who he was in the eyes of his Brothers, who he was in the eyes of God. Where is it that God is calling us to conversion, to a deepening of our relational understanding of God? May we come to know God in the simple and profound moments of our life. May we, like St. Francis, be open to these moments of conversion by giving our will, intellect, and very selves over to God... this day, and every day of our lives!

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

## Protecting God's Children Training

This training, also known as Virtus, is required for all parish staff and volunteers regardless of role. You are only required to attend this training once, so if you have previously attended this training, you can receive credit for it. In conjunction with the Volunteer Drive, all current volunteers will receive an email about their status and info on how to sign up. We are hosting two (2) trainings here:

**Saturday 9/30 at 10 am at St. Ann**

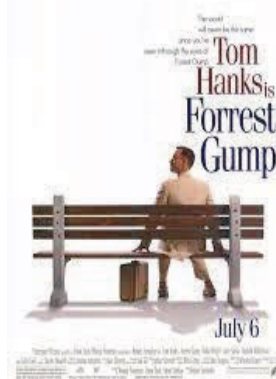
**Saturday 10/14 at 9:30 am at St. John**



## Forrest Gump Movie Night

*Friday October 13th at 7 pm at St. John*

There will be free popcorn and a concession stand with other treats. All are welcome! Sponsored by the Disciples of Hospitality.



## **SOUND OF FREEDOM**



A movie about child trafficking that is a MUST for all adults to see. It is extremely tastefully done but addresses the most disturbing matter in today's society. Based on a true story that will shock your inner core. We as Christians need to be aware and stand up to create change. **GOD'S CHILDREN ARE NOT FOR SALE!!!!**

**THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSIONARY EFFORTS.**

**NEXT WEEKS'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR UNEXPECTED EXPENSES**



## 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](mailto: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, Ralph & Susan Evans & 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 .***



### ARE YOU AWARE ?

**Definition: Human trafficking is the practice of exploiting adults and children for use as commodities, or objects, in conditions of sexual and labor servitude.**

**The United States is again ranked as one of the worst countries in the world for human trafficking. According to a recently released report by the State Department, the top three nations of origin for victims of human trafficking in 2018 were the United States, Mexico and the Philippines.**

**There Are An Estimated 27.6 Million Human Trafficking Victims Worldwide At Any Given Time.**

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.

**Sept. 21st. First rehearsal — St. John's**  
For more info contact our music director, Rich at [richcesarini@gmail.com](mailto:richcesarini@gmail.com).



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.  
Cookies and crackers are also needed.

**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, October 2, 2023  
Monday, October 16, 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 than large sums., ie \$100

## NEWS

Recently, we have had a bit of a black cloud over the Rectory at St. John's.

The hot water tank let go in the basement which flooded the basement and during a recent wind storm the wind got hold of the side door and ripped the closers off the door and destroyed the door frame as well. With the cost of water remediation in the basement, a new hot water tank and a new door and frame we have accumulated a total cost of \$4,300.00.

While you as parishioners have been extremely generous, we unfortunately, still do not have the necessary funds for such an amount.

On the weekend of October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, the second collection will be to help defray this extraordinary cost. Please be as generous as possible.

### 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 20 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 Ginny at 508-697-7649 to register, or for more information.**

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to you every week.



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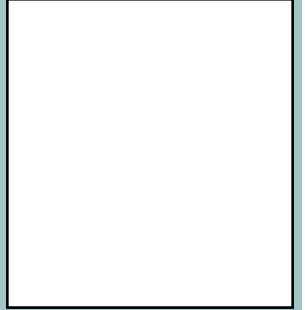

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