



*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
October 2, 2022*

*Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**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 9-3 M-F  
For both Churches

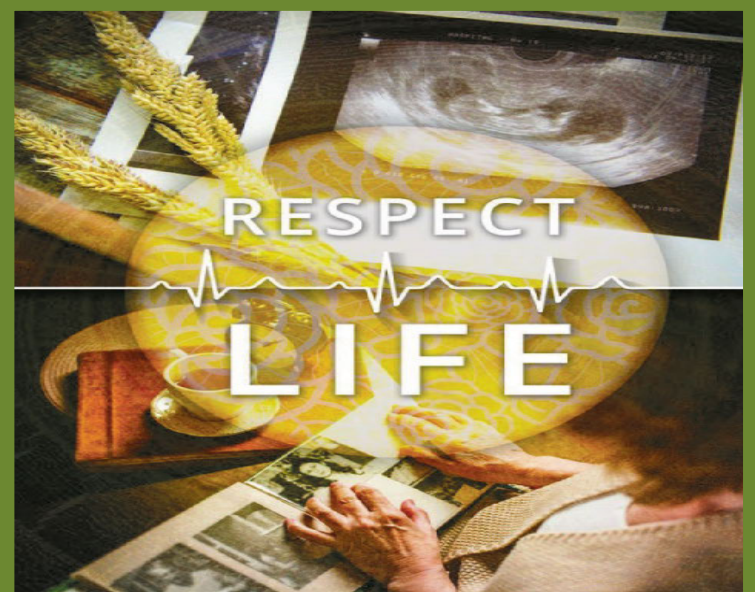
**Saint John the Evangelist**  
210 Central St., East Bridgewater 02333  
Office –103 N. Main Street,  
West Bridgewater  
508-378-4207  
E-MAIL: [stjohnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.stjohneb.org](http://www.stjohneb.org)  
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB  
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring

**27<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

"When you have done all you have been commanded, say,  
'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were  
obliged to do.'" - Lk 17:10b

GLP

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 - 3PM Monday-Friday**

## EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

**St John's**  
**Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday: 9:30 a.m.**

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

**St Ann's**  
**Sunday: 7:30 a.m. & 11:30 &**  
**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  
774-533-2002

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

\*\*\*\*\*

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, October 2, 2022**

7:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann  
11:30 - Brian Landolfi — Birthday Remem  
6:15 - Parishioners of St. Ann & St. John

**Sunday, October 9, 2022**

7:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann  
11:30 - Richard Robillard — 2nd Anniversary  
6:15 - Parishioners of Saint Ann & Saint John

\*\*\*\*\*

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, October 1, 2022**

4:00 - Alexis Doucette — 18th Birthday Remem

**Sunday, October 2, 2022**

9:30 - Kendra Frabretti — Birthday Remem

**Saturday, October 8, 2022**

4:00 - Maria Figueiredo — 24th Anniversary

**Sunday, October 9, 2022**

9:30 - McLaughlin, & Hutchins Families —  
Memorial

**HOSTS, WINE AND SACRATUARY LAMPS FOR THIS WEEK — ARE IN MEMORY OF**



JOE UTKA



## 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**

My Dear Friends in Christ,



In this day and age of “options” (“Press #1 for..., Press #2 for...”), we shy away from the word “obligation”. Yet at times, it can be a very powerful, even necessary, word to employ. When one has an obligation (as opposed to an “offer” or “suggestion”), one is more compelled to show up and do their part. In today’s gospel, the idea of obligation comes up with regard to our relationship to God. There are certain things, done as part of a full relationship with God, which we are obliged to do.

In the analogy put forth in today’s gospel, Jesus compares our relationship to a slave and a master’s relationship. While we may bristle at that comparison (after all, we are more than slaves, aren’t we?) we would do well to recognize that while God desires to be in relationship with us, God is the “creator” and we are the “created”. As such, we are beholden to God for everything we are and have; without God, we are nothing and our efforts come to nothing – nothing lasting, at least. This may be a humbling thought, but how else are we to react when we put into perspective all that we have done, as opposed to all God has done. It pales in comparison, doesn’t it? As great as we are, that greatness is a result of using the God-given talents and abilities which we have at our disposal.

I remember as a young boy my mother telling me how to react when I was given a gift. I was to receive that gift (whether it is a new, sought-after toy or a badly-knit, hand-made sweater) with a smile and a heartfelt “thank you”. I was then to say no more, no less; in that way, I wouldn’t say something I would come to regret (by hurting the giver’s feelings). In much the same way, we might do well to react to all God has given us – the challenges as well as the good things we have – by thanking Him and moving on. In that way, perhaps the difficulties we face can be minimized (perhaps even eliminated) by us realizing that even the challenges we encounter can help us to grow.

God desires a certain sense of “loyalty”. It is not to be a “blind” loyalty (for God doesn’t want “robots”, otherwise how does one explain “free will”, itself a gift from God)? No, God wants us to put the things we have/are into the “context” of faith. With faith, we can “move mountains” (perhaps not literally...perhaps so!); we can do amazing things. Let us have the courage to see God’s gifts for what they are – moments when we acknowledge our dependence on God, thanking Him for all those things which help us to grow in faith, hope and love.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

# NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION IS TO PAY THE PAST-DUE BILL TO OCP FOR **LAST YEAR'S MISSALS ( BREAKING BREAD) FOR BOTH PARISHES WHICH IS \$1483.**

WE CANNOT ORDER NEW MISSALS FOR THE UPCOMING NEW LITURGICAL YEAR UNTIL AND UNLESS WE PAY THIS BILL. THEY WILL NOT SHIP ANYTHING ELSE TO US UNTIL OUR ACCOUNT IS CAUGHT UP.

WE THEN WILL ALSO HAVE TO PAY FOR THE NEW MISSALS WHICH WILL COST ABOUT THE SAME AS LAST YEAR.

SO WE NEED APPROXIMATELY \$3000. TO BE ABLE TO ORDER NEW MISSALS FOR BOTH PARISHES.



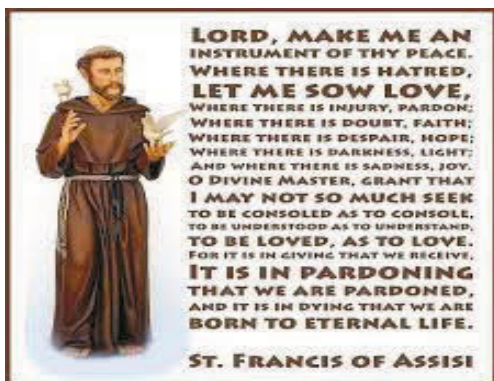
## **Registration for Faith Formation is Now Open!**

Registration for this year's Faith Formation Program is now open. Registration forms can be found at the back of both churches or on the website. Classes will begin Sunday, October 2nd so please register as soon as possible to allow us to finish getting ready. Cost per student is \$100 for the first child and \$25 for each additional child.

The schedule of classes is below. When registering, please select the class each child in your family will attend. All classes will meet weekly, **except for grades 9 and 10, which will alternate weeks.** Once registrations are processed, you will receive the full schedule of class dates by email.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Matt Brady by email at [directorofministries.tic@gmail.com](mailto:directorofministries.tic@gmail.com) or by calling 774-533-2002.

Grades 1-5 Sundays 8:15-9:15 am @ St. John
Grades 1-5 Mondays 4-5 pm @ St. Ann
Grades 6-8 Sundays 5-6 pm @ St. Ann
Grades 6-8 Tuesdays 4-5 pm @ St. Ann
Grade 9 Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm @ St. Ann
Grade 10 Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm @ St. Ann



## OPENINGS FOR CATECHISTS FOR FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

### **SUNDAYS (8:15—9:15) St. John's**

Grade 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 2 — Filled

Grade 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 5 \_\_\_\_\_

### **SUNDAYS (5—6 PM) St Ann's**

Grade 6 — Filled

Grade 7 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 8 \_\_\_\_\_

### **MONDAYS (4 –5 PM) St. Ann's**

Grade 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 5 \_\_\_\_\_

### **TUESDAYS (4– 5 PM) St Ann's**

Grade 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 7 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 8 \_\_\_\_\_

### **SUNDAYS (3 Catechists needed per grade, grades 9 & 10) 7:30—8:30 PM — St. Ann's**

Grade 9 \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 10 \_\_\_\_\_

Catechists are needed to teach faith formation for all grades.

If you are interested in serving in this vital role, please contact Matt Brady. He will train you and make sure you are well-prepared for each session.

**774-533-2002**



## THE DEACON'S COLUMN

### The Faith of the Apostles

Many years ago, I was teaching an Introduction to Catholicism course to first-year students in high school. One day, I received a call from a student's mother requesting time to meet with me about something I said during class. Externally, I said I would be happy to meet at a time of her choosing but internally I was racking my brain thinking about what I said to warrant a parent meeting. At the scheduled time I met the mother and after a few minutes, she got to the point, "My daughter came home upset because in your class you said that a Catholic who intentionally, willfully, and freely committed a serious sin should go to confession before receiving Holy Communion." I did not deny what I taught, and I gave the mother a bit more context into the lesson and its purpose to which she responded, that is "your faith and I'd appreciate it if you keep your opinion to yourself."

I was taken back by her response and after careful thought, "I replied, that what I teach is not my opinion. What I teach is not even "my" faith—The faith I teach is the faith of the Apostles handed onto me by my parents and pastors.

In an earlier reflection on the Creed's place in the Liturgy, I wrote,

*The profession of faith that we proclaim has its roots in the fourth and fifth centuries after the death and resurrection of Christ. The creed was developed to declare what the Church believed in contrast to the false teachings that were common in the fourth and fifth centuries. These false teachings threatened to destroy the common "Amen" or "Yes, I believe" that is implied by the one offering of Christ's body and blood during the Eucharist. In the early Church there were some who did not believe that Jesus is God and that he is co-eternal with the Father in heaven. There were some who believed that Jesus was simply a human person like you and me but because he had a lot of faith, he was considered God's son. There were others that did not believe that the Holy Spirit was God and therefore should not be given the same honor, glory, and praise as the Father and the Son. The creed was drafted to declare against those who taught differently what the Church knew in her collective heart that God is a Trinity of three divine persons sharing one divine nature. The Father is not the Son or the Holy Spirit, the Son is not the Father or the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit is not the Son or the Father. Yet, the Father is God; the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. The mystery of the Holy Trinity is the central mystery of our Catholic faith, and it is what we profess as children of the Father, brothers, and sisters of the Lord, and as Temples of the Holy Spirit.*

To help us understand more fully the Creed we profess, I will be writing a short series of reflections on certain aspects of the Creed. My intention in the next series of articles is to not only show the historical and theological background that moved the Church to define what it believes but to place the tenets of the creed in our own time and place. My hope is that reflecting on the Creed in an intentional way we may come to believe more fully what we profess.

## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY



In the coming days, the Church (in general) and the Franciscan community (in particular) celebrates two major "milestones": the "Transitus" (or "Passing") of St. Francis (Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>) and the Feast of St. Francis (Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>). Most saints' feast days are celebrated once, with the feast marking either their birth or their death. These two feasts celebrate, in a way, both the life and the death of St. Francis. In the past, these days passed by me without much notice. I knew "of" the Feast of St. Francis, but really knew nothing of the Transitus of Francis. This all changed when I went to Assisi and "discovered" (for myself) St. Francis, came home and embarked on a course of formation towards becoming a Secular Franciscan, and began a new "chapter" in my life of faith, priesthood, and life in general.

Each year on the evening of October 3<sup>rd</sup> the Franciscan family throughout the world pauses to celebrate the solemnity of our Holy Father Francis's Transitus, passing over from this life to the next. In his famous Canticle of the Creatures, the saint from Assisi wrote "Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no one living can escape." That line, written near Francis's own embrace of Sister Bodily Death, reflects the importance and natural character of death in the life of all creation. Francis was not afraid of what would come at the end of his earthly life, choosing instead to recognize in that experience, not an end, but a transition from one way of living to another. Br. Thomas of Celano recorded an account of that transition, that transitus:

*"St. Francis spent the last few days before his death in praising the Lord and teaching his companions whom he loved so much to praise Christ with him. He himself, in as far as he was able, broke out with the Psalm: I cry to the Lord with my voice; to the Lord I make loud supplication. He likewise invited all creatures to praise God and, with the words he had composed earlier, he exhorted them to love God. Even death itself, considered by all to be so terrible and hateful, was exhorted to give praise, while he himself, going joyfully to meet it, invited it to make its abode with him. 'Welcome,' he said, 'my sister death.' "* (Celano, *Second Life*.)

These beautiful and powerful words by Thomas of Celano (and St. Francis) reminds us of how grace-filled and powerful the passing from "earthly life" to "eternal life" can (and should) be! The same is true when we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis. This is more than just a celebration of an "animal-loving tree hugger", as I heard St. Francis described by a narrow-minded individual who seemingly knew nothing of the man's conversion, ministry, and life of faithful Church work. They knew nothing of the man whose "180 degree turn" was marked by a renunciation of all worldly goods, a proclamation of a new life, and a journey that would change him, the Church, and the world. They knew nothing of the man who began a religious order which would usher in a recognition and celebration of ALL creation (not just human beings) as "gifts from God". They knew nothing of the man whose persevering faith would influence priests, cardinals, popes, and even sultans! They knew nothing of the man whose death would still be recognized and celebrated almost 800 years later! In these "Franciscan Days", may we as a people of faith celebrate the life and death of St. Francis of Assisi by entering into the world with a renewed sense of stewardship. May we look at ALL creation as a gift from God, and may we care for this creation with a loving, nurturing heart. May the Good God, who calls us into relationship by this stewardship, watch over us. May we, through the intercession of St. Francis of Assisi, take our role as stewards seriously as to be able to hand to the next generation a world of goodness, grace, and life. Happy Transitus! Happy Feast!

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 Nicolar, 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, Joe Pigeon, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda, Gerry Penney. Dottie & Leo Slack & 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.

**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.

**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.**

**THE FOOD PANTRY**

*Monday, October 3, 2022  
 Monday, October 17, 2022*

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

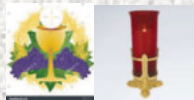
**Thank you for your continued generosity.**

**WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES**



**MEMORIAL MASSES**  
 Suggested donation \$25+

**HOSTS, WINE AND SACRATORY LAMPS FOR THE WEEK — \$30+**



**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE WEEK**  
 \$75+



**BINGO IS BACK!**



**St. Ann's Bingo is open  
 Doors open at 4 PM  
 Bingo will start at  
 6:30 PM Sharp**

**Southeast Cyclones Bingo is Saturday Night  
 Doors Open at 4 PM  
 Bingo will start at  
 6 PM Sharp**

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

## Protecting God's Children Training

Saturday 10/15 at 11 am in St. Ann's hall  
All collaborative volunteers who work with children, provide pastoral care to the sick or homebound, are part of St. Vincent de Paul, or involved in liturgical ministry, or want to be part of any of these ministries must complete this training at least once. If you have not completed this training, please contact Matt Brady for info on how to register.

Thanks!!  
**Matt Brady**  
Director of Ministries

## Create a new Fall Tradition for your family at the Family Rosary Festival!

You'll want to be part of this beautiful fall tradition to celebrate the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary on Friday, October 7 at 6:00 pm. With a candlelight procession and Rosary prayer your family can place your intentions in a basket during the procession. We will pray for your family and families around the world! Following prayer, we will have fun fall refreshments of cider and donuts. Go to our web page for an optional family activity to create a Procession Banner to bring to the event -- Event to be held at The Museum of Family Prayer in N. Easton, MA. For more information and Banner instructions, go to: [MuseumOfFamilyPrayer.org](http://MuseumOfFamilyPrayer.org).

## 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](mailto:richcesarini@gmail.com) in advance so that he will have enough copies of music for everyone.



**EXTRA ORDINARY EUCHARIST MINISTERS ARE NEEDED TO DELIVER THE EUCHARIST TO PARISONERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY IF YOU CAN ASSIST.**

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