



ST. JOHN

***Together in Christ
Collaborative***

OCTOBER 10, 2021

**28th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**



ST. ANN



**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

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



They were exceedingly astonished and said among themselves,
"Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said,
"For human beings it is impossible, but not for God.
All things are possible for God." - Mk 10:26-27



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

EUCCHARISTIC 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, October 9, 2021

4:00—Francisco & Maria Figueiredo — Mem

Sunday, October 10, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, October 16, 2021

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday October 17, 2021

**8:30 - Emidio (Joe) & Susan (Pat) Palaza —
Memorial**

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, October 9, 2021

5:30 - Marie T. Connolly — 1st Anniversary

Sunday, October 10, 2021

10:30 - Bronislaw Morawski — 32nd Anniv.

Saturday, October 16, 2021

5:30 - Kendra Frabetti — Birthday Remem.

Sunday, October 17, 2021

**10:30 - Donald & Lorraine Kerrigan —Mem
6:00 - Parishioners of Saint John**

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

**Your continued support is very much appreciated.
Weekly Offertory**

Sep 21 - Sep 27, 2021

ST ANN
Online N/A
Mail \$ -0-
Mass \$ 1,958
TOTAL \$ 1,958

ST JOHN
Online \$ 839
Mail \$ 1,545
Mass \$ 2,281
TOTAL \$ 4,665

RENOVATION FUND

In an effort to provide the safest possible environment for our Religious Education Children and all of our parishioners, we are undertaking an effort to bring air quality of the Parish Center up to acceptable health and safety standards. Because our main gym-size room in the Parish Center does not have windows that open, it is necessary in a Covid environment to purify that air. We are working together to purchase a state-of-the-art filtration system that will cleanse the air and remove 99.99% of all particles and viruses (including Covid) from the air. This system was designed by scientists who work for NASA and is extremely effective.

We also have other expenses to meet those safety standards: New carpeting, a new furnace and necessary maintenance issues.

We thank all of you in advance for your support and generosity in meeting these very important needs.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

When I was in seminary, I wrote a paper for an ethics class (which I was taking over at Boston College) entitled, “Is Being Good, Good Enough?” In the paper I hypothesized that while there was an element of “goodness” in one’s life of faith, it was not enough if one was to call themselves a Christian. To be a Christian, I ultimately concluded, meant that one not only must be good, but holy as well. Holiness was essential to the Christian life because Jesus stated, in scripture, that one was to “be perfect, as my Father in heaven is perfect” (Mt 5:48). This “perfection” comes, I believe, when one is not only good (which anyone can be) but holy (as the Christian is called to be). The holiness for which we are called to strive takes out any ulterior motive, and need for repayment or any desire for glory. Holiness for the Christian comes when one puts their needs, wants and desires second to that of their brothers and sisters.

Jesus establishes this holiness in today’s gospel by first es- chewing any notion of being good as a virtue in and of it- self, shunning any attempt for anyone to call Him “good”. Only God is good, Jesus surmises, and the key to Eternal Life is not only following the Commandments but also not relying on the world and its goods. In this way, one can achieve holiness and perfection. This is a challenging edict, especially in our consumerist society. The goal of acquiring as many “goods” (i.e. physical items, that is, not virtues) as possible is key in our society. The old adage, “the one with the most toys at the end, wins”, comes to mind here.

Jesus helps the listener to understand how this can be achieved. If one relies on God, for “all things are possible for God” (Mk 10:27), then one can reach this state of holi- ness, of perfection. This reliance on God, of course, requires a trust on the listener’s part. It doesn’t just “happen” that one trusts God; it comes over time, over a period of “trial and error” (often times God’s “trial” and our “error”!). It was once said (by American humorist Will Rogers) that “good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that (experience) comes from bad judgment” – how true!

May we have the courage to trust in God so that His light may shine through us. May we come to share that courage by what we do and say in the world. May we always believe that the experiences we have in life – both the good and the bad – can be of benefit for us to achieve not only goodness, but holiness. May this holiness, one day, see us into the Kingdom, sharing Everlasting Life.

Have a Blessed Week,
Fr. Paul

MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY



In today's gospel, the subject of "evangelical poverty" comes up. When the rich young man in the Gospel of Mark (Mk. 10:17-30) approaches Jesus inquiring about inheriting eternal life, he is told to follow the Commandments - which he is doing. He is then told to "sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come follow me" (Mk. 10:21). He went away crestfallen because he had many possessions and couldn't bear to part with them.

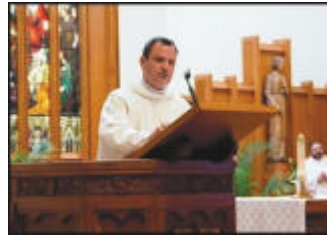
St. Francis was a young man of means, coming from a well-off family. His father was a cloth and silk merchant and did well for himself. Because of this wealth, Francis wanted for nothing. As a result, he became somewhat complacent when it came to the needs of others, whether those needs were physical, emotional, or spiritual. He no doubt saw himself as not being reliant on others, even God. One could easily say that Francis was like that young man in the gospel. When he came to his "moment of conversion", he realized that all of this wealth meant nothing when put up against the benefits of evangelical poverty. The idea of not being beholden to the world, of relying on God's grace, was a freeing moment for Francis. It can be a freeing moment for us, as well, when we realize that earthly wealth is nothing as compared to treasures stored up in heaven.

Francis took this idea of "evangelical poverty" and raised it to the level of a spiritual exercise. For Francis, "Lady Poverty", as he came to see this idea of impoverishment, was a concept in which Francis saw himself as a suitor pursuing this personification of perfect poverty for the rest of his life. He would never attain complete fulfillment in this ideal because of earthly constraints, but it did not keep him from wooing and pursuing Lady Poverty. Francis did this by exercising what the Church would come to call a "preferential option for the poor". Francis saw Lady Poverty as symbolic of the poor Christ. She was symbolic of the paradoxes found in the Gospel, especially "richness in poverty". For Francis, Lady Poverty was also a means to the indwelling of God and a way of life that makes present the Kingdom of God here and now.

For the Secular Franciscan, "evangelical poverty" is something for which to be striven and seen in the fact that when we desire Lady Poverty, when we seek to follow in the footsteps of Francis, we see who we truly are as Franciscans. The rich young man would be hard-pressed to be a Secular Franciscan, as would much of the world. For those of us involved in the Secular Franciscans, Lady Poverty is someone with whom we should be intimately acquainted, and someone we should be willing to share with all whom we meet.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul



The Deacon's Column

Deacon Chris Connelly

We Are What We Eat

In 2004, American filmmaker, Morgan Spurlock released a documentary titled, *Super Size Me*.

The documentary detailed the lived experience of what would happen if one were to eat all three daily meals at McDonalds for one month. One of the caveats to the experiment was that he had to eat the "Super sized meal" if it was offered to him. Over the course of 30 days, Spurlock gained 24 pounds, experienced depression, and mood swings, and put health in danger of lasting damage. This documentary shows the extreme side to the saying, "we are what we eat." But in truth, we are what we eat. If we want to be healthy then we must eat healthy food. What is true in the physical world is also true in the spiritual world. We are what we eat.

In an earlier article on the Eucharist, I shared that we are members of Christ's mystical body and that this mystical body offers itself at every Eucharist for the sake and salvation of the world. In this reflection, I want to explore our true identity using two aspects of the Eucharistic Liturgy. The preparation rite over the chalice and the rite of communion reveals the truth that the Eucharist reveals our deepest spiritual identity nurtures it and forms it as well.

In the preparation rite, the deacon takes the chalice and pours a wine into it. Then taking the cruet filled with water he puts a drop of water into the chalice filled with wine saying quietly, "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." This quiet prayer said at the preparation of the chalice reveals a profound truth about who God calls us to be. The wine symbolizes the divinity of Christ. The water symbolizes our humanity. Through the incarnation the divine Son of God assumes human nature and becomes a human being—a man we know as Jesus Christ. In the first centuries, the Eastern Fathers of the Church referred to this truth as "Theosis". Another way of saying this is "deification", making divine. The great defender of orthodoxy in the early Church, St. Athanasius wrote in his book, *On the Incarnation*, "God became man that man might become God." This is the intention of our God. God becomes a man so that by grace we can share in the divine life. God doesn't not want us to simply gaze upon him with wonder and awe, he desires us to share the life he lives and shares as the Triune God.

Each one of us are members of Christ's body and we are called to unite ourselves to Christ's offering to the Father. The priest, in the *persona Christi* (in the person of Christ), takes our offering, unites it to Christ's and gives it to the Father in heaven. After receiving our offering, the Father accepts it. By his grace he transforms the offering of bread and wine into his Son's own Body and Blood so that we might receive the one we wish to become. The Communion Rite is a beautiful movement of the Body of Christ receiving Jesus' true Body and Blood so that, who he is by nature, we might become by Grace.

My brothers and sisters, the next time you approach the Blessed Sacrament at Communion and hear the words, "The Body of Christ" see in yourselves what God wishes you to be. By your reception of Holy Communion, become like the one you receive for we are what (who) we eat.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED TO GET THE PARISH CENTER READY FOR OUR PARENT MEETINGS.

Virginia Bonaparte, Chantel Richard, Jim Guarino, Joe Moriarty, Fran Cloutier (the Grand knight, and his team of Knights: Ron Hill, Don Correia, Erik Craffey, & Mike Craffey, Claire Yocum and Karla Berlin and a special thank you to her son, Andrew.



THE PARENT MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 29TH TURNED OUT TO BE A NIGHT OF FUN AND INFORMATION!
ANOTHER ONE IS PLANNED FOR OCTOBER 13TH 7:00—8:30

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 Nicolai, 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.

**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

2021-2022 FOOD PANTRY WINTER HOURS/DATES

Winter days will be in effect from **November thru April**, pantry days will be the **first Monday** of the month, except for holidays, from 1pm to 4pm., and **3rd Saturday**, except for holidays, from 10am to 11:30 am

Summer	2021		
October		Mon	4
		Mon	18
Winter	2021		
November		Mon	1
		Sat	20
December		Mon	6
		Sat	18
2022			
January		Mon	3
		Sat	15
Feb		Mon	7
		Sat	19
March		Mon	7
		Sat	19

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.

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.

SPIRITUAL CARE TO THE HOMELESS

Sunday, Oct. 17, 12 p.m. @ St. John's Main Church
Presenter: Br. Anthony Zuba, OFM Cap.

[Capuchin Mobile Ministries](#) provides spiritual care to our homeless neighbors in Boston and Cambridge through street outreach. It is a Franciscan-hearted ministry of accompaniment in which we discover Christ already present among us. Learn how you can volunteer and support this mission to bring the welcome of Christ to the homeless in our midst.

Brother Anthony, the presenter, is one of the chaplains at Capuchin Mobile Ministries and lives in Jamaica Plain with his Capuchin brothers.



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.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us



McGowan, Laura Rosemarie, FSP. [St. Michael](#) (detail). 2015.

Today, we are in great need of devotion to Saint Michael. We can easily become numb to evil because Satan is good at making evil appear pleasurable. One way to consciously reject evil and choose what is good is to turn to Saint Michael and our guardian angels when we are afraid, conflicted, or struggling with temptation. Angels and archangels are powerful intercessors, and I have experienced

Pray the Saint Michael Prayer for your family, for protection, and for deliverance from evil. Ask Saint Michael to help you in your daily battles against sin. He is here to protect you and lead you safely to Jesus, who wants your love and friendship

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And do thou, O prince of the heavenly host, cast into hell Satan and all his evil spirits, who prowl about the world, seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

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.

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