



*ST. JOHN*

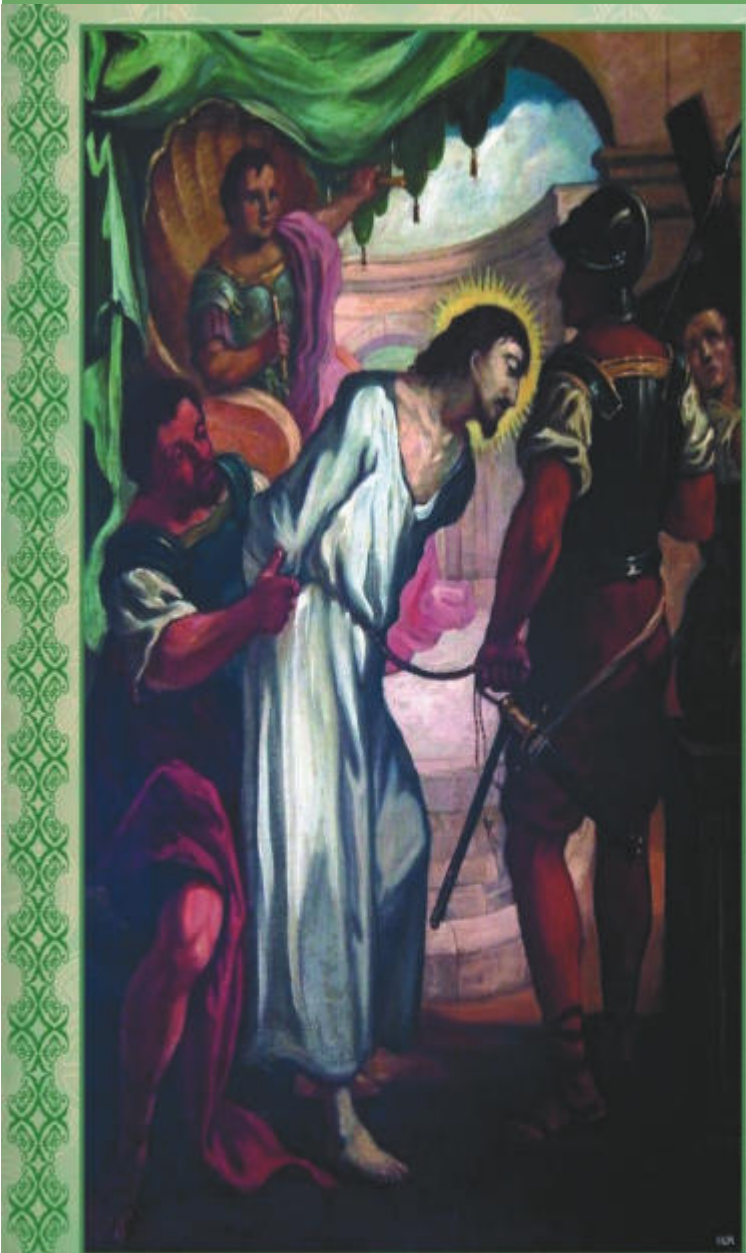
***Together in Christ  
Collaborative***

***OCTOBER 17, 2021***

**29th SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**



*ST. ANN*



**29th SUNDAY** *in ordinary time*

"For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many." - Mk 10:45

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

**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 9-4 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](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**



# 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, October 16, 2021**

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

**Sunday October 17, 2021**

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

**Saturday, October 23, 2021**

4:00—Lisa Kearney Elias — 4th Anniversary

**Sunday, October 24, 2021**

8:30 - Manuel & Ana Barros & Family — Mem  
6:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

\*\*\*\*\*

## St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

**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

**Saturday, October 23, 2021**

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

**Sunday, October 24, 2021**

10:30 - Linda Fontaine — 18th Anniversary

### THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Your continued support is very much appreciated.  
Weekly Offertory

Sep 21 - Sep 27, 2021

<b>ST ANN</b>	<b>ST JOHN</b>
Online N/A	Online \$ 839
Mail \$ -0-	Mail \$ 1,545
Mass \$ 1,958	Mass \$ 2,281
<b>TOTAL \$ 1,958</b>	<b>TOTAL \$ 4,665</b>

### 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,

There is a story told about Muhammad Ali, the boxing champion who called himself “The Greatest”. As he was boarding a flight, he was informed that he would have to fasten his seat belt. Ali apparently retorted that “Superman doesn’t need a seatbelt”; the flight steward was said to respond “Superman doesn’t need a plane to fly, either – fasten your seat belt”.

The idea of “greatness” is something about which the world and Christianity greatly disagree. While the world may see power, prestige, wealth or might as being “marks” of greatness, the Christian sees greatness in the ability to serve. This idea of “servant leadership” is something which Jesus was constantly trying to instill in His disciples. Today’s gospel is a perfect example of what it means to be a “servant-leader”. As the disciples are engaging in ministry, James and John approach Jesus and inquire about a “place of honor” in the Kingdom. Jesus takes the request, no doubt ponders it, and asks to what lengths they are willing to go to be His disciples and to spread the message of the Kingdom. When James and John assure Jesus that they can do all that is asked, they are informed that these “places of honor” which they seek are only given by God the Father – they are not for Jesus to bestow. This request angers the others, and this is where Jesus “sets the record straight”.

In informing the Twelve that they must serve others in their role as leaders, Jesus isn’t just giving a pious platitude or paying “lip service” to this idea. Jesus, Himself, is ready to (and ultimately will) “put His money where His mouth is” by committing to this ideal with His very life. In giving of His whole self – body, mind, and spirit – Jesus shows the others (and us) what it means to be a “servant-leader”. By giving His life for the sake of all, Jesus isn’t just readying the Kingdom for us – Jesus is showing us what it means to be a Christian here and now.

May we have the courage to put our needs, wants and desires aside so that others may know what it means to be a follower of Christ. May we unite our lives to Jesus by giving of our whole selves – body, mind, spirit – so that others may come to know what we have come to know: that Jesus, by being a servant-leader, has opened up the Kingdom and won for us newness of life!

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



In today's gospel, Jesus teaches His disciples that "whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all" (Mark 10:43-44). He went on to say that he had come "not be served but to serve" (Mark 10:45). Along with this passage, in the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of the Gospel of John (the pivotal chapter of St. John's gospel), Jesus gets up from the table after a final meal with his disciples and begins to wash their feet. The one they call "Teacher" and "Lord" performs for them an act of Middle Eastern hospitality usually reserved for the lowest slave in the household. "I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you," Jesus tells the future shepherds of his flock (John 13:15). These moments of Jesus' ministry may have come as a shock to His disciples and other followers, but they should not come as a shock to us. Jesus is the epitome of the "servant-leader" and they show clearly to us that the concept of servant-leadership is nothing new in the Christian tradition.

St. Francis wanted this servant attitude of Christ to be mirrored in his own life and in the lives of his followers, especially the leaders among them. He frequently referenced the story of the foot-washing in John's gospel. He told the friars: "Let no one be called superior, but let everyone in general be called a lesser brother. And let one wash the feet of the other." (St. Francis of Assisi, *The Earlier Rule*, VI:3-4). To those who exercised authority "in the world," Francis wrote: "Let the one to whom obedience has been entrusted and who is considered the greater be the lesser and the servant of the other brothers." (St. Francis of Assisi, *Later Admonition and Exhortation*, 42) In word and deed, Francis taught that the best leaders are self-effacing stewards who put the common good of all ahead of their own personal gain.

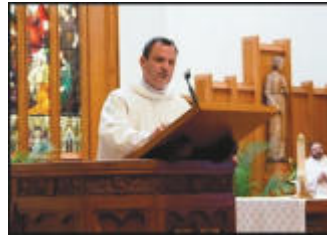
Another perspective of servant-leadership can be found in St. Clare of Assisi. She was a reluctant leader and would not have become abbess of her band of sisters had it not been for Saint Francis' request that she do so. The alternative was the potential closure of her monastery, and Francis likely recognized her abilities and qualities. Like Jesus, Francis did not treat women as second-class citizens. Both recognized that we are all equal in God's eyes. Clare displayed qualities that were dissimilar from those of typical abbesses in any era, and certainly behaved unlike other noble women. Like Francis, everyone was welcome to join them, whether from rich or poor backgrounds. Unlike other monasteries, where women brought their servants and dowries, everyone was an equal and everyone worked. She wanted them to live as family, advising her sisters to meet weekly and give each other honest feedback to live in deep respect and loving presence to each other.

In both Ss. Francis and Clare, Franciscans have exemplary models of what it means to be a servant-leader. Their embodiment of Jesus' call to serve and not be served is something for which every Franciscan, Secular and Religious, strives. Furthermore, carrying this idea of servant-leadership out into the world, into our family situations, our work environments, and our own personal prayer lives, is something every Secular Franciscan seeks to do so as to "bring Gospel to life and life to Gospel".

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul

## The Deacon's Column



### "A father in the shadows"

For over twenty years I was a high school teacher and administrator. One of the most challenging parts of my job was dealing with "helicopter"

parents. For those not familiar with this term, a "helicopter" parent is the kind of parent who does not let their children live their lives. I am grateful that my parents gave me and my brothers the freedom to grow into our identity without over-shadowing every aspect of our lives. In his Apostolic Letter beginning the Year of St. Joseph, Pope Francis reflects on the parenting skills of St. Joseph, calling him a "father in the shadows." Of course, what he says of St. Joseph we can also put on the Blessed Mother.

In his letter, Pope Francis writes, "Being a father entails introducing children to life and reality. Not holding them back, being over protective or possessive, but rather making them capable of deciding for themselves, enjoy freedom and exploring new possibilities (*Patris Corde*, #7). I have nothing but happy memories growing up in West Bridgewater. If the weather was good on a Saturday, my mother told me and my brothers to go outside. We were only allowed back indoors to go to the bathroom or to grab a bite to eat or water to drink. We knew that when the streetlights came on it was time to come home. I grew up in a time and place where children were given a lot of freedom to play, explore, mature, and grow. If we made mistakes, my parents were the first to hold us accountable. When we did something to be celebrated, we ordered pizza or our mom made our favorite dish—mine was tacos. We were given a lot of freedom to grow into the best version of ourselves.

This freedom came with a great responsibility to honor the gift of freedom that was given to us. We knew we had to study, do our chores, go to Church, be respectful to our elders AND to our peers! These are gifts that my parents gave me and I am sure many of your parents gave you. This freedom is a gift and it is a gift that God gives to each one of us who are called his children. God does not micromanage our lives. Instead, he gives himself to us so that we might see in the context of his incarnate life the life he calls all of us to have in true freedom and with great responsibility for the love and care of others. Pope Francis reminds us that parents cannot "live the lives of their children for them" (*Ibid.*) stating that when parents "refuse to live the lives of their children for them, new and unexpected vistas open up. Every child is the bearer of a unique mystery that can only be brought to light with the help of a (parent) who respects that children's freedom. (*Ibid.*)" Brothers and sisters, our children are our greatest gift.

Though this sounds cliché it is not. Nor are they the "future of our Church" (another cliché). They are members of our Church and as Jesus reminds us in the gospels they can teach us many things about being God's children. I am sure many of you know the joy of being a parent and caring for our children. They teach us many things about living God's life and we are blessed to care and nurture them and be called by them, "Mum" and "Dad" or "Nana" and "Papa". By God's grace the Spirit of St. Joseph, the "father in the shadows" will inspire us to give our children the freedom to accept the lessons we teach by word and example so that they can become the best versions of themselves glorifying the Lord by their lives.

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, 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.

Please CALL TO UPDATE THE PRAYER LIST. LET THE RECTORY KNOW WHO SHOULD STAY ON THE LIST.

**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

**THE FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW HOURS:**

*October,  
Monday, October 18th*

*Winter Hours as above.  
Monday, November 1  
Saturday, November 18*

Donations are always appreciated but please call to let us know you are dropping off. 508-378-3760

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**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.

**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.



SPIRITUAL RESOURCES  
FOR THE STREET

SAINT JOHN'S AND SAINT ANN'S IS RESUMING THE PRACTICE OF USING EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT THE MASSES. IF YOU WERE OR WOULD LIKE TO BE A EUCHARIST MINISTER, PLEASE CALL THE RECTORIES TO SIGN UP.

ST JOHN 508-378-4207      SAINT ANN 508-586-4880  
WE ALSO NEED LECTORS

**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.

**What's in it for me?**

I think we've all been guilty of looking at a situation and wondering what's in it for us. It doesn't matter if it's a particular work assignment, someone at the parish asking for help with the mission trip bake sale, or your spouse asking if you'll take over the grocery shopping this week. Often, our first reaction to one of these requests is a heavy sigh and the thought: "If I do this, what will I get?"

Sometimes it surprises us to realize that the Apostles were no different. We tend to idolize these contemporaries of Christ as giants who walked with the Savior. But in reality, these individuals were merely human beings struggling to commit to the task of everyday stewardship.

In the Gospels, we see glimpses of them longing for praise and affirmation. We see them jockeying for positions of power within the group of twelve. We see them expect earthly rewards like honor and admiration. We see them acting a lot like us.

But in the end, we see them transformed by the grace of God. Like all the saints, their holiness stems from their commitment to their call. They stumble through, and as they stumble, they keep trusting God. They keep turning to Him. They keep asking for help. They don't give up just because they keep failing at it.

We are defined by what we give when we have no hope of being reimbursed, rewarded, or recognized. The Apostles understood this, eventually, and they gave accordingly. Most of them gave their very lives.

Remember, they're just like us. If they can do it, we can too.  
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

**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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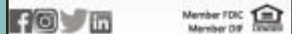
[www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)



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