



ST. JOHN

***Together in Christ
Collaborative***

November 7, 2021

**32nd SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**



ST. ANN



32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents. Calling his disciples to himself, he said to them, "Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury."

- Mk 12:42-43

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 CCC.

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**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



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

***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
stjohnnebridge@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, November 6, 2021

4:00—Paul Gigliotti — 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, November 7, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, November 13, 2021

4:00 - Louis & Mary Oriola — Memorial

Sunday November 14, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, November 6, 2021

5:30 - Beatrice & Louis Miller — Memorial

Sunday, November 7, 2021

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Saturday, November 13, 2021

5:30 - Robert & Lorraine Anton — Memorial

Sunday, November 14, 2021

10:30 - Dorothy Boisclair — Memorial

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Weekly Offertory
Oct 19 - Oct 25, 2021

ST ANN		ST JOHN	
Online	N/A	Online	\$ 539
Mail	\$ 340	Mail	\$ 823
Mass	<u>\$ 1,813</u>	Mass	<u>\$ 1,684</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,153	TOTAL	\$ 3,046
Restoration Fund	\$721	Restoration Fund	\$85



A REQUEST FROM THE COUNTERS.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE CHECKS OUT TO:
SAINT JOHN'S OR SAINT ANN'S

CHECKS MADE OUT TO THE T I C COLLABORATIVE
CANNOT BE CASHED BECAUSE THE ACCOUNTS ARE
IN THE NAME OF EACH OF THE CHURCHES.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

In today's economically challenging times, most of us give what we can. Whether it be in time, talent or treasure, we give to God that which we are able. Today's gospel, often referred to as "The Widow's Mite", is a reminder and a recommitment to the principle that we are called to give to God everything we have, not just the "surplus" or "leftover" – whether it be in time, talent or treasure.

In Jesus' day, according to the Mishnah (the "oral Torah"), there were receptacles (13 in all) standing against the wall of the Court of Women which were used to collect the gifts of the faithful for the Temple treasury. Jesus and His disciples observed the people coming into the Temple who offered their gifts of support for the works of the Temple. The thing that struck Jesus, and the point of today's gospel, is the fact that, while many gave out of their surplus, the widow gave two *leptons* (the equivalent of two pennies), basically *all that she had*. This moved Jesus to comment, and the comment cut the Scribes and the Pharisees to the quick, for they knew the comment was meant for them.

Today's gospel is a poignant reminder to us that we owe God not just our surplus, our excess. We owe God all that we have, all that we are. We can give this in many ways. There is the aforementioned "schema" of "time, talent and treasure". You might be thinking to yourself, "well, yes Father Paul, we can give our time and talent, but don't you want our 'treasure'?" It would be foolish and disingenuous of me to sit here and say that the "treasure" part of the equation didn't matter. There are some in our community, however, who cannot give "treasure" but who can – and do – give of their "time" and "talent". I remember a situation with a young bride and groom who came to me to be married. They mentioned that they were paying for the wedding themselves, and if there is any way they could pay the Church offering over time, or come to another suitable arrangement, it would be appreciated. In speaking about this, the groom-to-be mentioned that he was a landscaper, and that he could "beautify" the property in lieu of the monetary offering. I jumped at the opportunity (knowing that the pastor had wanted to "spruce up the place"), and the arrangement was mutually beneficial.

God gives us an abundance of gifts. To some, God gives "treasure"; to some, "talent"; to some, "time"; to a lucky few, all three! No matter what God gives us, let us be prepared to give God our all, knowing that He has already given us His all. God gave Jesus to the world, and Jesus gave His life so that all might have life, and life abundantly. May we use our time, talent and/or treasure to the fullest, giving back to God all that He has given us.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Today's readings speak of the "widow's mite", and how she gave everything she had when it came to honoring God. Jesus commended the widow for her generosity and told His disciples that we must do the same, not just giving from our "surplus" (that which is "left over") but out of our "want" (giving from the very start). When one looks at St. Francis, one can say that in the beginning of his life Francis was hesitant to give even of his surplus. He was accustomed to, and desirous of, the "good life" – of pleasure, of worldly desires. Upon his conversion, upon meeting the leper on the road, Francis' life took a dramatic turn.

When Francis met the leper on the road, he was on his way to another adventure, another opportunity to further his "stake" in the world. Upon meeting the leper, his mind, heart, and life were changed and he experienced a conversion which led him to give the very clothes off of his back. In exchanging clothes with the leper, Francis wasn't merely making a change of wardrobe, but truly a change of heart! In donning the clothes of the leper, Francis was making a statement about his life and the change that this conversion brought.

When we look at the gospel in light of St. Francis and his life, we can see a parallel. Francis, in the early part of his life, was like those who gave of their surplus. They, like Francis, gave merely out of obligation and out of a desire, perhaps like those scribes who "accept greetings in the marketplaces, seats of honor in synagogues, and places of honor at banquets" (Mark 12:38-39), to win esteem in the world. After his conversion, Francis was more like the widow (not looking for glory but to honor God). From exchanging his clothes with the leper on the road to giving his clothes to his father in the town square, Francis' giving of these material goods signified an interior change. From that point on, Francis' focus was aligning himself with the poor of the world. His conversion brought about a desire to please God above all else, and it showed in the formation of the Franciscan Order. As Secular Franciscans, this is our focus as well – to please God above all else. May we all experience such a conversion – of mind, heart, and life. May we see Christ in others and be Christ for others, especially the materially, emotionally, and spiritually impoverished.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul



The Deacon's Column

Due to the recent storm and the challenges we all faced without power, Deacon Chris's article will not appear in this week's bulletin. His column will resume next week.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Look

Have you ever made the mistake of telling your spouse that you're out of something — only to see them respond with The Look? Then you realize it: of course, he or she knows you're out of butter. They knew it before a butter shortage was even a blip on your radar.

We might go to the fridge and lament the complete lack of ketchup. Then someone moves a couple items and show us the ketchup that so savagely eluded us just moments before.

Sometimes, we all have "the look" when dealing with God. We tell Him our stores are empty. "I'm out, God! I can't do any more! Can't give any more. Can't take any more. It's all gone." But we forget: God is the keeper of our stores. He is the one who fills them, and the one who watches as they empty.

See, we don't know how much we are capable of loving. We don't know how much we are capable of serving. We don't know how much we are capable of hoping. We see everything with spouse eyes. Only our Creator truly knows the limits of His creation.

Do you ever make the mistake of telling God "I'm done"? Be careful the next time you do. Chances are, He's far from finished working.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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National
VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK



Welcome to the Bloomin' 4 Good Program!

A Program to Benefit *Society of St. Vincent de Paul Saint John's Conference*

Let's Fight Hunger Together. One Bouquet at a Time.

We are thrilled to share the **Bloomin' 4 Good Program**, an innovative program from Stop & Shop that works to fight hunger in our local communities. In this program, every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet sold sends a \$1 donation to a hunger organization local to the store in which it was purchased.

For the month of December 2021, **Society of St. Vincent de Paul Saint John's Conference** has been selected to receive a \$1 donation for every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker (pictured below) sold at the store located at 475 Bedford Street, Whitman MA.



Look for the bouquets with **the red circle sticker** pictured here to make sure it is a Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet that will benefit your organization upon purchase

Vocation or Calling

Can you explain what we mean by a vocation or calling? I have heard this term used in many different contexts and am not sure what it means. Does it apply to religious life?

A vocation or calling refers to a spiritual experience whereby a person senses within oneself the closeness of God and what he is asking in one's life. It is a realization of what one's part in God's plan could be. Vocation comes in all kinds of ways. Some are as dramatic as St. Paul's, being knocked off his horse, blinded, and hearing God's voice. Others are less dramatic, often occurring over time through little events and personal interests. Others happen in a hurry, accompanied by great spiritual insight or conversion. We often think that this applies to religious vocation, but in fact, every Christian has a vocation, a calling to serve others in and through the church. Whether married or single, religious or lay, we are all called to live out our baptismal commitment to preach and teach the Gospel message. Each of us has our role to play in God's plan, and we become coworkers with God in the work of redemption. With a little confidence, a willing spirit and God's grace, we can and will respond to his unique call.

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, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett 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, Joan Ward-Fusco, Claudette Rochefort, Frank McCarthy & 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 OR BE ADDED TO THE LIST AND WHO CAN BE REMOVED.

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 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:

Monday, November 1 — 1—4 PM
Saturday, November 18 — 10—11:30 AM

Tuna, pasta, pasta suase, soups, canned goods, etc are always great additions to the shelves.

In the Gospel today, Jesus tells us: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength...and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you can show your love for our Lord and your love of your neighbor who is hungry, hopeless, alone and frightened.

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 that large sums., ie \$100

Thank you for your continued generosity.

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 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.

Christmas Sharing

After surveying our Christmas Sharing families, we will again ask you to purchase gift cards that will be distributed to the families, Project Grad Teen Moms, and senior citizens. The following stores are preferred: Target, Walmart, Kohl's, Amazon. We are asking for gift cards in any amount up to \$50. This will allow us the flexibility to give an amount appropriate to the family, teen mom or senior citizen. We will also need \$25 Trucchi's, Market Basket or CVS cards for families and Senior Citizens. All gift cards should be placed in an envelope marked "Christmas Sharing" in the St. Vincent dePaul boxes at the doors of the church, or sent to Linda Santry. They must be received by November 30th, to allow the parents time to purchase gifts before Christmas. See the handout on October 31st for more details. If there are any questions, please call or email Linda Santry: **508-586-6535** or linda@santry.org

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 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.



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