



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

*Together in Christ
 Collaborative
 Saint Ann & Saint John
 November 19, 2023
 33rd Sunday in Ordinary
 Time*



Sunday, 8:00 AM
 Sunday, 11:30 AM



33rd Sunday
 IN ORDINARY TIME

✝

"'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.'"

- Mt 25:20b-21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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
 9:00-3:00 M-TH
 Friday the Office is closed**

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 OFS**

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



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, November 18, 2023

4:00 - Kathleen Andrews — 3rd Anniversary

Sunday, November 19, 2023

9:30 - Joanne Hanson — 4th Anniversary

6:15 All the teens of the T.I.C. Collaborative

Saturday, November 25, 2023

4:00 - Paul Martin — 1st Anniversary

Sunday, November 26, 2023

9:30 - Stephen Nyhan — 9th Anniversary

Cindy Nyhan — 3rd Anniversary

6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, November 19, 2023

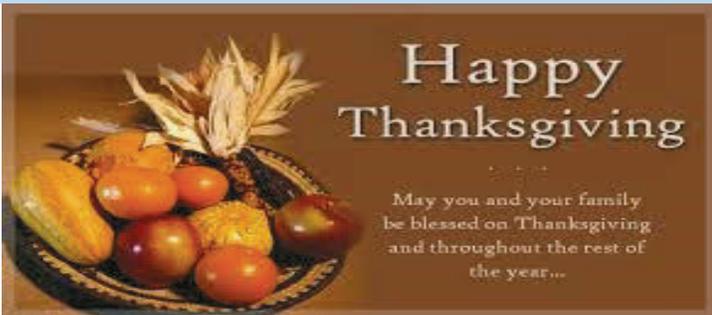
8:00 - Joseph Sousa — 1st Anniversary

11:30 - Dorothy Boisclair — 5th Anniversary

Sunday, November 26, 2023

8:00 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

11:30 - Patricia Fortune — Memorial



Happy Thanksgiving from the Clergy and Staff of the T.I.C. Collaborative.



**CRAFT FAIR
AT SAINT ANN'S PARISH CENTER
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH
10 AM—4 PM**

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Friends in Christ,



I would be willing to bet that for most of us, our first experience of “saving” was a “piggy bank”. It was in this way that we put away, little by little, our hard earned allowance, birthday money or the like, saving it for something really special or that proverbial “rainy day”. If you’re also like me, you got impatient at times and broke into that repository, splurging on something you “just had to have”. The object lesson in all of this (and in today’s gospel) is that there is a difference between “saving” and “hoarding”.

In today’s gospel, three servants are given “talents” (a coin which had varying amounts of worth, depending on the material of which it was made; presumably, the three servant’s talents were of the same value, albeit varying amounts). One is given five talents, one is given three, the third given one; the first two subsequently invested them, the third buried his one talent (given today’s economy, he might be seen by us as the wisest one!). In this way, the third servant wasted his charge. He chose not to risk the talent given, something inherent in investing. This sense of risk is also something inherent in discipleship, for following Christ involves risk. One risks losing friends, even family; one may even risk their life, given the situation.

When the master returns, he praises the two servants who invested (albeit with the known risks), and takes away the one talent from the third servant. The servant attempts to justify his action by putting the onus on the master – bad move! The master takes offense at this because his actions and motivations notwithstanding, the servant still failed to take that “leap of faith” necessary in investing (read: discipleship). We do not plant, yet we are called to harvest; we did not scatter, yet we are called to gather. At the very least (taking the gospel as a metaphor for discipleship), we are called to at least attempt to bring some “return on investment” – the investment God has made in us.

What “talents” (using now the modern understanding of the word) do we have, have we been given by God? Are we “burying” these gifts by failing to trust in God’s plan for us? Are we fearful of reprisal, rebuttal or retribution? We should not fear what the world can do to us, for the world holds no power over us (only the power we might choose to give it). May we have the courage of that “worthy wife” (Prv 31:10) spoken of in our first reading, reaching out to the poor and needy while trusting in God’s plan for us. May we, as Paul speaks of in our second reading, be “alert and sober” (1 Thes 5:6), ready to answer the Master’s call, no matter when it may come!

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

**OUR GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION IS UNDERWAY!
IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE YOUR ENVELOPE,
THERE ARE ENVELOPES AT THE DOORS OF THE CHURCH.**

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

Our **Adult Bible Study** meets every Wednesday, at 7 pm at St. John.

We will be discussing the gospel for the upcoming Sunday. All are invited to join us!

Christmas Pageant

This year's Christmas Pageant is Sunday, December 10th at 1 pm in St. Ann's Parish Center. We are throwing a big birthday party for Jesus, so it will be lots of fun! All are welcome to attend, young and old. Please bring a non-perishable food item for our local food pantries as a present for Jesus.



November 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 November date is 11/20 at 6:30 pm at St. John. All are welcome to join us! This can count for part of the parish service requirement for Confirmation as service hours.



November Teen Mass

Teen Mass is today, November 19 at the 6:15 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. This counts for part of the parish service requirement for Confirmation.

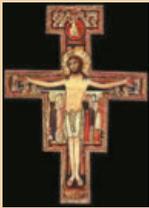


Christmas Brunch

December 3rd after the 11:30 Mass at St. John

**Tickets are \$5/person, \$20/family
Available by calling the office or after Masses starting
11/5 and must be purchased by 11/27**

There will be pancakes, sandwiches, fruit, pastries and more. All are welcome!



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Today's gospel speaks of the "Parable of the Talents". One might not realize that a "talent" as spoken of by Jesus in this gospel parable was an actual thing, a unit of currency. In terms of currency, a talent was worth 60 minas. 1 mina was worth 100 denarii. 1 denarius was the equivalent of a day's wages. So a talent was 6000 days' wages, or the equivalent of more than 16 years' earnings! So the man who had five talents basically had a lifetime of wages entrusted to him. This is important to realize when looking at the gospel, and important when looking at St. Francis.

St. Francis was a man of many talents, which are natural gifts that we think of when speaking of "talents". Along with his natural charm, he was a gifted horseman and archer. These would suit him well in terms of his pursuit of his seeking knighthood. Little did he know that these talents would be of little use when pursuing a relationship with God, after his conversion. His natural charm, however, would be of great use when seeking to establish the Franciscan Order. Being a "man of the world", he knew how to deal with the worldly and the things that were important to them. He could speak to both king and commoner with equal aplomb. But it was his ability to discern when to "turn on the charm" and when to be "Il Poverello" (the "Little Poor One") that was perhaps his greatest gift. His humility was genuine, as it was a recognition of his standing with God, but it also was of great use when seeking approval of, and later contributions to, the Franciscan Order.

These "talents" were also not unlike the talents spoken of in today's gospel, for the many talents which St. Francis had were meant to be used over a lifetime, much like the man who was entrusted with five talents (a lifetime of wages). It was meant to be "invested" (literally, in the case of the gospel), to bear fruit for the master who gave his servant these talents. St. Francis, after his conversion, invested wisely and well to bear much fruit for the Order and for the Church Universal.

May the talents of St. Francis, given over time and used over a lifetime, be ours as well: namely, poverty (of spirit), humility, and love for all God's creatures (great and small, human and animal). May we come to know the life St. Francis had, a life lived in union with God here on earth and (please, God) in the Kingdom to come.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

Here are a few prayers you may find helpful on Thanksgiving.

The Grateful Heart Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father,
We gather today with hearts full of gratitude.
Thank you for the food on our table and the love in our hearts.
May we always remember the importance of thankfulness.
Amen.

The Prayer of Peace:

Dear God,
As we gather to give thanks, we also pray for peace.
In a world often filled with strife and conflict,
May the spirit of Thanksgiving remind us of the importance of harmony.
Grant us the wisdom to seek understanding and the courage to promote peace.
May our hearts be a sanctuary of serenity, and our actions be a testament to your loving grace.
Amen.

The Blessing of Friendship Prayer:

Dear God,
Thank you for the friends and family who gather around us.
Bless our friendships, and help us cherish the moments we share.
May we always be a source of support and love for one another.
Amen

**THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR
Retired Religious Sisters**

**NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR
THE HEAT AND SNOW FUND**

**THE CHOIR WILL BE SINGING
AT THE 9:30 MASS
AT SAINT ANN'S
NOVEMBER 19TH**

Christmas Sharing Planning

Plans are being made for this year's Christmas Sharing Program and we need your help. Families have been surveyed, and the decision is to again give gift cards to children age 17 and younger in needy families. The families must meet one of the following criteria: be parishioners of St. Ann's, live in West Bridgewater, attend West Bridgewater schools, or be recommended by a parishioner of St. Ann's. As always, we rely on you to help us find the families in need of assistance. If you know of a family who is struggling due to a job loss, injury or disability, please call Linda Santry at **508-586-6535**, or email her, linda@santry.org.

All information is kept in strict confidence.

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. 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, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, & 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 .**



St Ann's St. Vincent de Paul

Winner of the Raffle tickets was Nancy Maloney

Because of your generous donations to the summer lunch program, we were able to help 19 families to include 46 Children.

Please pick a slip from the baskets located at each door as we are putting together toiletry bags for the homeless of West Bridgewater.

The next meeting will be on November 14th @ 6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall.

Flowers, wine, hosts and sanctuary lamps

*At St. John's
this week are in memory of
Dorothy Boisclair*



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, brownie & cake mix, frosting.
Gift cards for purchase for Thanksgiving Dinners
Cash donations also accepted

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, November 6, 2023
Monday, November 20, 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 that large sums., ie \$100

Thank you for your continued generosity.

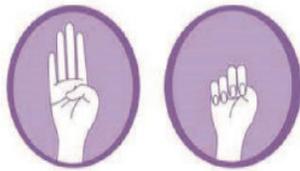
Dear Lord, You demand justice for Your children who have been wronged. Give strength to people who investigate and prosecute traffickers. Encourage them when they are weary. Give courage to survivors when they are asked to testify against their former captors.

Pray for salvation of people being trafficked.

Jesus, would you save those being trafficked not only from the slavery they are held in, but from the slavery that is in their hearts. Save them from the sin that, no matter where a person is born and what life they live, is always there. You are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love. Cause these dear people to call upon you so that you can save them. Grant them an eternity where every tear will be wiped away and every injustice against them made right. May You be their hope.

Psalm 86:5

"For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you."



The common signal that someone needs help!



A Prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the true King of peace. In You alone is found freedom. Please free our world from conflict. Bring unity to troubled nations. ... Dispel all darkness and evil. Protect the dignity of every human life. ... Give wisdom to world leaders. Free them from selfish ambition.

Amen

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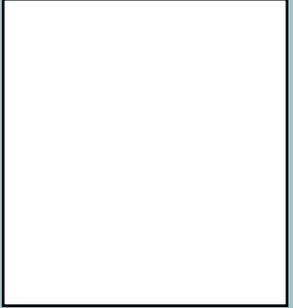
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