



*ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, 210 CENTRAL ST., E.BRIDGEWATER, MA 02333*  
*St John the Evangelist is a prayerful community in the Roman Catholic tradition called to witness the forgiving, healing, and saving presence of Jesus Christ in our sacramental, liturgical and social activities. Parishioners are called to respect all life and to offer evangelization for the parish, our town and surround communities. We are called to respond to the Gospel through the example of our lives. We reach beyond our parish to serve the needs of all people in our neighborhoods and around the world. We are a community of faith, hope and love.*

*December 13, 2015 — 3rd Sunday in Advent*

Parish Office-----508-378-4207

FAX 508-378-7317

Monday – 9:00 – 4:00

Tues-Fri – 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Or by appointment

E-MAIL: [stjohnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)

**Registration:**

Families not registered, please call the  
Parish Office

**Pastor:**

Rev. Paul L. Ring

[fr\\_prlstjohn@comcast.net](mailto:fr_prlstjohn@comcast.net)

**Weekend Assistant**

Rev. Donald Skerry

**Permanent Deacon:**

Deacon Joe Hopgood

[Deaconjoeh@comcast.net](mailto:Deaconjoeh@comcast.net)

**Director of Music:**

Paul Hoffman

[p.hoffman@stjohneb.org](mailto:p.hoffman@stjohneb.org)

**Minister of Music:**

Erica Wasil

**Administrative Assistant:**

Deborah Conrad

[stjohnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)

**Business Manager:**

Jaelyn Buccigross

[Jackie808@hotmail.com](mailto:Jackie808@hotmail.com)

**Religious Education: 508-378-1521**

Lorraine Hopgood

Nancy Smith

[repstjohn@stjohnrep.net](mailto:repstjohn@stjohnrep.net)

[www.stjohneb.org](http://www.stjohneb.org)

Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

508-378-3760

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT



## EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 6:00**  
**Summer Schedule: Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 & 10:30**  
**Daily Mass, Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m.**

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second Sunday of  
the Month at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Please call for registration.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**Saturdays: 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. – Other times as scheduled in the**  
**bulletin or call the rectory anytime.**

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please 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.

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Come spend some quiet time with the Lord on the 2nd and 3rd  
Wednesday of the month from 7—8 PM in the Church.

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St. John is a Stewardship Parish  
December 13, 2015  
3rd Sunday in Advent

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Masses For The Week

Saturday, December 12, 2015

4:00 - Parishioners of St. John

Sunday, December 13, 2015

8:00 - Charles Matthews — 17th Anniversary

10:30 - Parishioners of St. John

6:00 - Parishioners of St. John

Saturday, December 19, 2015

4:00 - John & Mary Barry — Memorial

Sunday, December 20, 2015

8:00 - Stacia & Robert Franciosi — Birthdays

10:30 - Ewa Morawski — 21st Anniversary

6:00 - Parishioners of St. John

**Please keep the following in your prayers:**

*Pam Adornato, Ann Storti, Karen Debenedictis, Floyd Weaver, Christopher MacDonald, Elaine McKeon, Joseph Recco, The Shearing Family, Alex Hankey, Chris Golden, Paul Martin, Joe Z., Steven Lacey, Pat Lang, Patrick Foley, Karen Burke, Steve Mason, Rachel, Mary Callahan, Christina Wedge, Jack Donovan, William Lucini, William Estes, Paul Moreau, Holton Weingrad, Arthur Hornstra, Brittany Paluch, Kathleen Creighton, Tim Tully, Lori Cullen, Len Shepard, Emily Armand, Tracy Belmoore, Dottie Younis, Dave Swartz, Aisling Grace Chapman, Roy Rossier, Roy Conrad & The residents of Sagem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.*

**IMPORTANT DATES**

ADORATION — WED'S — 12/16. 1/11, 1/18

Sat. 12/19 — Christmas Pageant following 4PM Mass

Sat/Sun 12/19-20 — PIME Mission Appeal weekend.

Sun. 12/27 — Skating Family Night—8 PM—Bridgewater Ice Arena

Fri. 1/1/16 - Solemnity of Mary —Holy Day of Obligation

Fri. 1/8 — Fiesta Friday — 7 PM

Fri 1/15-18 — Ski Weekend to Waterville Valley

Sun 1/24 - PMY Meat Raffle at Standish Grille - 2-4 PM

Fri 1/29—PJ Anderson arrives

Sat. 1/30—College Retreat at St. Basil Chapel, BSU-9 am—2 pm

Sat. 1/30 -- Concert by PJ Anderson in the Hall at St. John's

This Christmas, our parish collection will support the priests of our Archdiocese. The Clergy Health and Retirement Trust ensures an appropriate level of care for our 614 priests.

*Our Shared Treasure  
December 6, 2015*

Offertory: \$5620

Budgeted: \$5,784

**\*\*Below budget \$ 120**

Fiscal yr. 7/1/15—Present: **Deficit \$10,525**

St. Vincent de Paul—\$1,934

Grand Annual: \$17,976

*Thank you for your continued generosity!*

2nd Collection today for Special Parish Collection -Roof Repair  
December 20—PIME Mission Appeal

Church Roof repair costs: \$2,600

These are the repairs that must be done.

\$4000 additional costs in other repairs that could be done over time for the Church & Rectory

Collected \$1,541

= reason for second collection



**Important Collaboration Meeting of Parish Councils and Finance Committees and Staff for St. Ann & St. John 7PM  
December 17th in St. John's Parish Hall.**

**PIME MISSION APPEAL**

The PIME Missionaries are Catholic priests and brothers who commit themselves to lifelong missionary service, especially to non-Christians. (PIME stands for the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Mission in Latin.) Founded in Italy in 1850, PIME is an International Society of Apostolic Life with about 500 members in 17 countries. PIME's priority is the proclamation of the Gospel. We are actively involved in human development and the promotion of justice and peace. Our ministries include the foundation of schools, hospitals and clinic, orphanages, and the pastoral care of newly founded Catholic communities.

**PLEASE RETURN ALL GIFT CARDS THIS WEEKEND.  
MAKE SURE THE \$ AMOUNT IS ON THE CARD. THANK**



**Christmas Mass  
Schedule**

**4:00 Christmas Eve Upstairs  
4:00 Christmas Eve Downstairs  
6:00 Christmas Eve Upstairs  
12:00 Midnight Mass Upstairs  
Christmas Day 10:30 AM**



**With us  
on  
Tuesday, Dec. 22  
At 7 pm.**

**All are welcome to come and help!**



## LOOP Life of Our Parish

**Sun. Dec 19** — Christmas Pageant following  
4:30 Mass in the Hall

**Fri. Jan 8** — Fiesta Friday — 7-10 pm  
Come enjoy friends, fun and tacos. Everyone  
Welcome.

**Fri. Jan 15-18** — Ski Weekend, Waterville  
Valley Resort — weekend include three nights  
lodging, 2-day lift tickets, meals & transporta-  
tion. Swimming pool, skating ring fireworks.

**Fri. Jan 29-31** — PJ ANDERSON WEEKEND  
Including retreats, prayer & worship, music &  
Mass.



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER  
ENVELOPES  
ARE DUE  
THIS WEEKEND**

**Announcing Pilgrimage to Rome  
In 2017**

**With Catholic Heart Work Camps.**

**Deposits are due the end of January  
Contact Nancy Smith if interested**

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry would like to thank all the high school students who donated their time and assisted with the Turkey meals before Thanksgiving. They did the lifting and brought the heavy boxes out to the cars for our clients. They will return in December to help with the Christmas meals.

St. John's Parish is always generous to the Food Pantry. Your generosity helps us keep the shelves stocked, not only during the holidays but all year round.

Please consider becoming a member of St. Vincent de Paul here at St. John's. It only takes a few hours a month. If you are interested, call our hot-line at 508-378-3760 and leave a message.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Today the Church celebrates the Third Sunday of Advent. It has a particular name, Gaudete Sunday. "Gaudete" comes from the Latin, and it means "Rejoice". We "rejoice" on this Sunday because we are that much closer to the Christmas celebration. Today's celebration gives us a bit of a "breather", a chance to "take stock" as to where we are in our Advent journey and preparations.

Once again, John the Baptist is highlighted in the gospel. In the passage from Luke's gospel, John has just "dressed down" the crowds that came out to see him. John was certainly different than any prophet that had come before, but he was no "sideshow attraction". His words were sharp, and so was his prophetic vision. He knew that people were "sizing him up" to see if, perhaps, he could be the Messiah. In giving the people a "blueprint" on how they were to conduct themselves, he did not make it easy on them. John knew that the teaching of the Messiah would be tough to take, so he (like a good messenger) was preparing the crowd for Jesus. John also knew that if they could follow him, they could follow Jesus.

John's words are so powerful, in fact, that the "buzz" was going around that John might be the Messiah. It is understandable that people might think John the Messiah, because his words have a power and attraction that few, if any, prophets have brought. The idea that John is the Messiah is not a farfetched one, just an incorrect one. John puts this notion to rest, however, and with strong words. In calling himself "not worthy to loosen the thongs of his (Jesus') sandals" (Lk 3:16), he places himself at the service of Jesus and His message. The message that Jesus will speak will bring about repentance and healing, for the message that Jesus will bring will bear the mark of the Messiah.

Let us truly "rejoice" in the fact that God loves His people so much that He sent us a messenger such as John the Baptist. Let us "rejoice" in the "wake-up call" that John gives us this day, one that makes us aware that we must prepare with all our hearts for the coming of the Lord. Let us "rejoice" that our Messiah will soon be with us, as the Christ Child and the King of Glory. Let us be ready for the coming of the Lord by looking into our hearts and clearing out the "spiritual deadwood", those things that are not of God, and putting into our hearts the good things that God wants for us — the gifts of faith, hope, and love.

A Blessed Continued Advent,

Fr. Paul