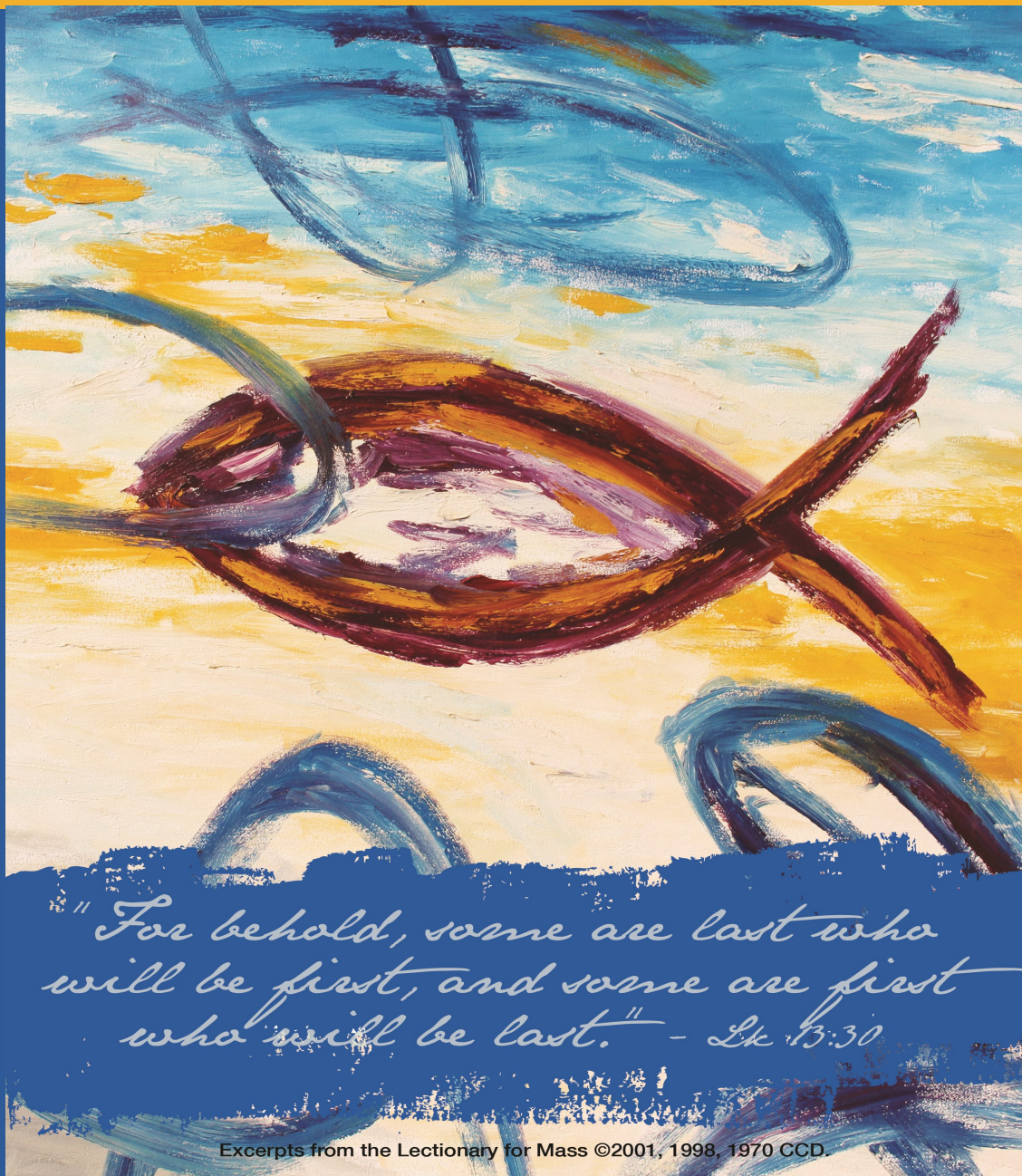




*Together in Christ Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John*



*August 25, 2019
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time*



*"For behold, some are last who
will be first, and some are first
who will be last." - Lk 13:30*

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

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.stjohne.org
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB

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

TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

Permanent Deacons:

Brendan Fitzgerald
deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Joe Hopgood
deaconjoeh@comcast.net

The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 4PM Monday -Thursday

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass –6 p.m., TBA

Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday
9:00 a.m.

In the Chapel

Divine Mercy every Thursday
After Mass.

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass—6:30, TBA

Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.
9:00 a.m.

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Brian Manning
bmanningsstjohns@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Arlene Stefano
stanns@comcast.net

Director of Religious Education

Charlotte Leines
stannscd@comcast.net
508-588-7140

Director of Music: Matthew Cunningham
matthewcunningham@bpsma.org

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the Month at St John's and the 4th Sunday of the month at St. Ann's. Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St John's - every WEDNESDAY from 7-8 p.m.
in the Church.

St. Ann's - First Friday of the month following the 9:00 a.m. Mass concluding with Benediction at 10:30 a.m.

Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Brian Manning
bmanningsstjohns@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
stjohnebridge@comcast.net

Director of Religious Education

Lorraine Hopgood
repstjohn@gmail.com
508-378-1521

Director of Music: Paul Hoffman

p.hoffman@stjohne.org
Music Minister: Erica Wasil

PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

Deacon Joe Hopgood
Paul Hoffman
Denise Robichaud

Ben Williams
Nancy Maloney
Margaret Mary Williams

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, August 24, 2019

4:00 - Parishioners of St. John

Sunday, August 25, 2019

8:00 - James Kenneally — Month's Mind

10:30 - All the Volunteers who service St. John's

Saturday, August 31, 2019

4:00 - Dennis Rondo — Memorial

Sunday, September 1, 2019

8:00 - Parishioners of St. John

10:30 - Deceased members of the Hanley Family

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, August 24, 2019

4:00 - Jean Herbert — Birthday Remembrance

Sunday, August 25, 2019

8:30 - Parishioners of St. Ann

10:30 - Julia Fernandes — 2nd Anniversary

Monday, August 26, 2019

9:00 - Anna Margaret Ritucci — Memorial

Saturday, August 31, 2019

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, September 1, 2019

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

10:30 - All the children of the Parish going back to school



PRAYER TO MARY

By Berthe Petit

Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, dwelling pure and holy, cover my soul with your maternal protection, so that being ever faithful to the voice of Jesus, it responds to His love and obeys His Divine will.

I wish, O my Mother, to keep unceasingly before me your co-redemption in order to live intimately with your heart that is totally united to the Heart of your Divine Son.

Fasten me to this Heart by your own virtues and sorrows. Protect me always.

Amen

From the Pietà Prayer Book



My Dear Friends in Christ,

As the story is told, a Baptist minister passes away and enters into the Kingdom. As he's being shown around, St. Peter is showing him the different "rooms" in Heaven. As they pass one room, the minister is informed that this is the "Baptist room"; as they go down the hall, the minister is shown the "Lutheran hall", the "Methodist hall", etc. As they pass by one room, St. Peter asks the minister to be quiet; when the minister asks why, St. Peter informs him that "this is the Catholic room – they think that they're the only ones up here!" I tell that story not to disparage the Catholic faith, but to illustrate a point.

I've always felt, as the song goes, that "there's wideness in God's mercy". Today's gospel reminds us that it takes more than "lip service" to be a Christian. It further reminds us that we might be surprised both by who's in the Kingdom and who's not. We must not only know about God, we must know God. This comes from prayer, study and relationship. Our prayer draws us closer to God; our study helps us to understand our faith; our relationship with God helps us grow closer in relationship to one another.

There is no doubt that to enter into the Kingdom means entering through the "narrow gate" (Lk 13:24). This idea applies not only to our life after this world, but also our life in this world. To be a Christian means to enter into a focused way of living, sometimes shutting out or disposing of those things that are not of God. It could be a wrong attitude, an incorrect way of living or a bad relationship. In each of these cases, we must decide what matters most to us. Ultimately, we stand before the judgment seat of Christ answering for our life's decisions. At that time, it won't matter how many times we have uttered the Lord's name – all that will matter is whether we put the Lord first, above all things. God's mercy is, indeed, wide, but narrow is the way to the Kingdom. Let us prepare right here and now for that time, so that God may welcome us into His Kingdom of Love.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

COLLABORATIVE NEWS AT SAINT ANN'S AND SAINT. JOHN'S

The Next Second Collection September 15, 2019 — Clergy Health & Retirement

Financial Blessings	St. Ann's	Budget	St John's	Budget
SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS	<i>Thank you to those who gave to the</i>		<i>Grand Annual</i>	
OFFERTORY 8/11/19	\$ 3,014	\$ 3,412	\$ 5,329	\$ 5,333

The summer is coming to a close and it's time to think about some of the programs at the Together in Christ Collaborative.

First the Bible Study will be restarting after the Summer Break. This year we will be digging into Paul's Letter to the Romans. This group is open to any level of biblical knowledge. It is a safe and supportive group to share your thoughts without judgement. I hope you will consider joining us. We meet every Monday evening from 7– 8 pm. If you are interested, please contact me at DeaconJoeH@comcast.net We will be starting the Monday after Labor day and I will need to know the headcount so I may order enough books.

For those Adults who wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church, we will be beginning RCIA Classes in September. I would like to know of anyone interested in this program so that I may order the study materials. We will decide upon the best meeting times when I know the schedules of those who are interested. RCIA is for those adults who have never received 1st Communion and Confirmation as well as possibly not having been baptized at this time. If you are interested please contact me at DeaconJoeH@comcast.net

Adult Confirmation is scheduled for December 7th this year. We will be having classes to prepare for this sacrament beginning in October and will entail six classes. We currently have three candidates and would love to have more. Perhaps you never completed Religious Ed as a child and now wish to be Confirmed. Here is your opportunity. If you are interested please contact me at DeaconJoeH@comcast.net. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested, so that I may order the study materials.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

August 25, 2019
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Have you ever seen a celebrity? Have you ever met a political representative? Did the encounter leave you with newfound acting or musical abilities? Did it give you a grasp of the intricacies of the latest city ordinance or controversial law? Talents, expertise, and skill are hard-won traits, not rewards that spread by contact. Our life of faith is also not so easy.

"We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets!" In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus notes that it requires moral strength to enter the kingdom of God. It's not mere proximity to righteousness that saves. Rubbing elbows with the righteous is not the same as being truly holy ourselves. Unfortunately, we can have this attitude in many areas. It's easy to see who may seem "first" in the eyes of the world. This occurs in our workplaces and among our public figures. It can also happen in our schools, local parishes, and the larger Church. For some of us, the temptation to have the popularity and prestige rub off on us can be fairly strong. If only we are in the right place with the right people, surely others will associate us with what they possess!

But salvation is worked out in each individual life. It is our task not merely to show up, but to be transformed. And the truly transformed may not be everyone we expect. "People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south... some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." Some who seem first in reputation now may be last in the kingdom of God. Others who appear now on the furthest fringes of society - but better imitate the lowly holiness of Jesus - will be first in his kingdom. What are your concerns? Proximity and reputation? Or prayerful righteousness?

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NEWS FROM THE PARISHES (ST. ANN'S)



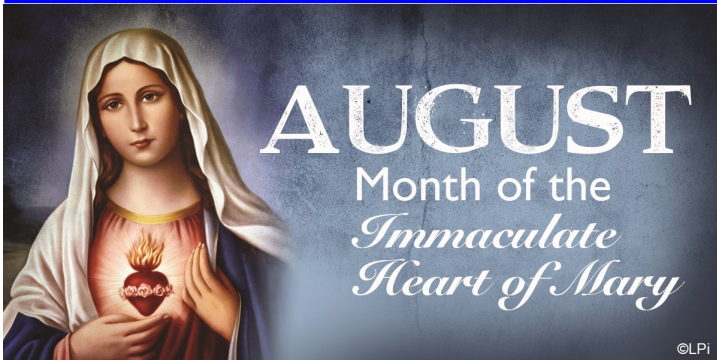
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095
or jchbaker@msn.com

New mailing address:
P O Box 474
West Bridgewater MA 02379

IMPORTANT DATES

**Rosary after Mass on Monday & Tuesday
Adoration — First Friday of the month following
the 9:00 a.m. Mass concluding with Benediction at
10:30 a.m.**



FAITH FORMATION CLASSES TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 15

SUNDAY 9:30 - 10:15 **Grades 1—6**
(Kindergarten will be Every other week. Begin. 9/22/19)
SUNDAY 6:00 — 7:00 PM **GRADES 7, 8 & 9**
SUNDAY 7:30 — 8:30 PM **GRADE 10**

All classes will begin Sept 15th for grades 1-8

**Classes will begin Oct. 6th at St. Ann's Parish Center for
grades 9 & 10**

Confirmation Classes will be combining with Saint John's students and will meet in St. Ann's Parish Center. Their first Teen Mass will be on Sept 15th at St. John's Church at 6:00 PM. With a meal for confirmation students and parents to follow.

SAINT ANN'S NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

Please silence your phones during Mass.

If you take a bulletin before Mass, please don't leave them in the pews.

And finally, please place the missles back in the holders on the back of the pews.

We appreciate your help!!!

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.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

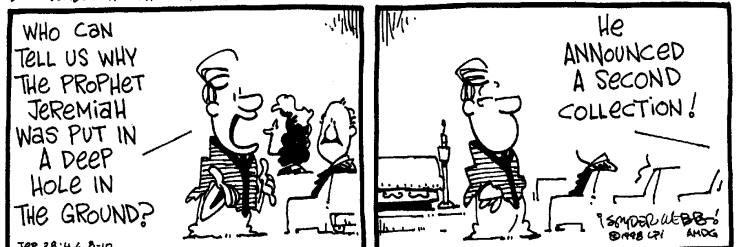
Get to Know Jesus

When I speak and write, I mention my family quite often. Those of you who have been reading these reflections for the past 5+ years - or who have read my books - may think you know them. When I travel, I do get asked about my family by those who have entered my life through the words on a page. My hope is that by sharing stories about my family and life the reader gets a chance to see himself or herself in the story as well. Then the point being made in the article or reflection can take on stronger meaning because it hits home. However, no matter how much I write about my family and how much you read about them, you will only have a glimpse as to the real people. It will take an actual relationship with one of them to get you to the point where you can say you know them.

That is the same way with Jesus. First, more Catholics need to read more and learn more about Jesus. Bible studies should be the norm and not the exception in our lives. Second, too many of us in the Church can explain who Jesus is from our past formation classes and reading, but we do not actually know him. Jesus is not a topic, a theological term, or simply a historical figure. He is a real being who is alive! He is not dead, but alive! He calls us to do more than read about him. He calls us into an intimate relationship with him. We grow in relationship with Jesus by worshipping at the Mass, spending time with him in adoration, resting in him in the quiet, and by having the Jesus in us meet the Jesus in others. If you do not know him personally, get to know him. I would love for you all to meet my family in person someday, but I would much rather you get to know Jesus instead.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Please keep the following in your prayers:

Karen Debenedictis, Harry Hewins, Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, JoAnn Micalizzi, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Scott Dolan, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Karen Daly, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, Kerri Fabrowski, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

IMPORTANT DATES

Rosary after daily Masses.
Divine Mercy every Thursday after daily mass.
Adoration — Every Wednesday—7:00—8:00 PM (changed)

PARISH PICNIC — AUGUST 25, 2019
following the 10:30 Mass.

The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul
Saint John's Conference
PO Box 544
East Bridgewater MA 02333

St. John Religious Education

Registration for 2019 - 2020

It is time to start our registration process for our 2019 - 2020 year.

There are two ways to register:

Use our website www.stjohnsb.org to find the registration forms or Come to the CCD office (in the basement of the church) Tuesday through Thursday 9:30 - 4:00.

Our classes begin the week of October 15th.

Schedule of Class:

Grades 1-6 T,W, Th — 4:30—5:30 & Sat 9-10 a.m.

Grades 7 & 8 Weds.— 6-7 pm or Thurs. 7-8 p.m.

Confirmation Classes, grades 9 & 10 will be combined with St. Ann's this year. They will meet on Sunday nights at St. Ann's Parish Center.

Teen Mass is September 15th and classes begin Oct 6th.

Grade 9 - 6:00—7:00 p.m. and Grade 10 - 7:30—8:30 p.m.

We will have a Required meeting for parents and students after the Teen Mass on Sunday, September 15th at 6:00 p.m. at St. John Church to explain the program and requirements.

August 25, 2019 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"In the Month of July, our St John Conference provided food to 108 East Bridgewater residents, 29 Children and 48 Seniors. The total amount of food distributed was 1,090 pounds, including fresh produce donated by the EB Community Garden and meat donated by Pea Pod.

Additionally, Vouchers were provided to several families for the St Vincent de Paul Thrift Shop to assist in their back to school supply needs.

Call the Saint Vincent DePaul HOTLINE at 508-378-3760 if you need food or other assistance.

The Food Pantry is open twice a month. — 1st Monday from 3:00-6:00 pm and the 3rd Monday from 3:00-4:30 pm.

SAVE THE DATE:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

Catholic Women's Club will celebrate its opening season with the Holy Sacrament of the Mass at 12:00 followed by a pizza lunch in the chapel.

Welcome to new members as we start our exciting new year!!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWEST MEMBER OF SAINT JOHN'S PARISH:

CORA GRACE DESMOND

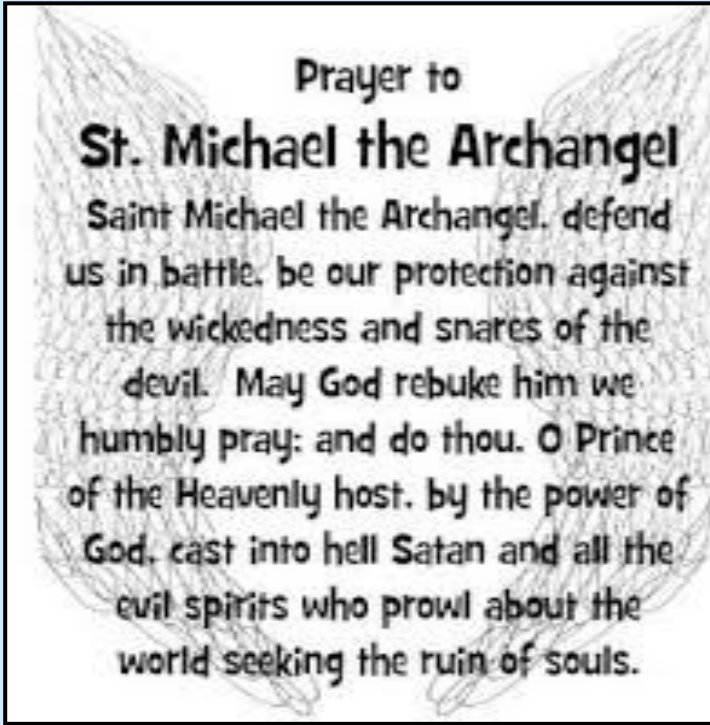
WAS BAPTIZED LAST SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019

BY FR. MICHAEL HARVEY

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



About the Archdiocese of Boston: The Diocese of Boston was founded on April 8, 1808 and was elevated to Archdiocese in 1875. Currently serving the needs of 1.8 million Catholics, the Archdiocese of Boston is an ethnically diverse and spiritually enriching faith community consisting of 286 parishes, across 144 communities, educating approximately 36,000 students in its Catholic schools and 156,000 in religious education classes each year, ministering to the needs of 200,000 individuals through its pastoral and social service outreach. Mass is celebrated in nearly twenty different languages each week. For more information, please visit www.BostonCatholic.org.



The Spiritual Direction Training Program at St. Anthony Shrine

is accepting applications for the 2019-2021 program beginning in September in Downtown Crossing, Boston. Have you become increasingly interested in developing your own spiritual life, and/or called to the ministry of spiritual companionship to others?

Classes meet on Saturdays, eight times a year for two years. For more information, please contact Carol Mitchell at 727-492-8315 or cmitchell@stanthonyshrine.org, or visit [stanthonyshrine.org/Franciscan Spiritual Companionship](http://stanthonyshrine.org/Franciscan_Spiritual_Companionship) page for further information.