



*Together in Christ Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John*



*March 3 2019
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time*



8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“A good tree does not bear rotten fruit, nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit. A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good, but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil; for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks.”

Lk 6:43, 45

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

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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

The 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

TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Brendan Fitzgerald
deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

Permanent Deacons:

Joe Hopgood
deaconjoe@comcast.net

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., 4th Sunday of the Mo.

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, 2nd Sunday of the Mo.

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

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 ANN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Brian Manning
bmanning.stjohns@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

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Brian Manning
bmanning.stjohns@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

Jackie Buccigross



St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 2, 2019

4:00 - Stephen Hopkins — 20th Anniversary

Sunday, March 3, 2019

8:00 - Parishioners of St. John

10:30 - Bryan Dennis O'Connor — 25th Anniv.

Saturday, March 9, 2019

4:00 - Donna McGrath — Birthday Remem.

Sunday, March 10, 2019

8:00 - Parishioners of St. John

10:30 - Catherine Eisenmann — 1st Anniversary

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 2, 2019

4:00 - Donald Nelson — 1st Anniversary

Sunday, March 3, 2019

8:30 - James (Jim) Baker — Birthday Remem

10:30 - Parishioners of St. Ann

Monday, March 4, 2019

9:00 - Margaret Corbett — Mass of Healing

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

9:00 - Mark Corra — Memorial

Saturday, March 9, 2019

4:00 - Parishioners of St. Ann

Sunday, March 10, 2019

8:30 - Parishioners struggling with addiction

10:30 - First responders of the Parish

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Back when I was in seminary, I would help out with retreats run by the Office for Young Adults. During these retreats, we would engage in what were called “trust walks”. We would pair up those on retreat and blindfold one of them; the one who was not blindfolded would then walk the other through a makeshift obstacle course. The “trust” element came into play at this point, with the blindfolded person having to trust that the non-blindfolded person would not lead them astray, causing them to stumble and fall. The point of the exercise was to illustrate that we are called to trust God, who we cannot “see”, to lead us on a path that would not cause us to stumble and fall.

Jesus, in today’s gospel speaks, in a way, about the blind leading the blind. In interacting with our brothers and sisters, if one is to “lead” the other they must have the “vision” to do so. One cannot *both* be blind, or else they would both stumble and fall. The same is true for the other analogies which Jesus uses in today’s gospel. Jesus ventures a bit into hyperbole with the image of the splinter and the wooden beam (Lk 6:41-42), but His point is still valid: one cannot help another to see if their own vision is so compromised as to the point of blindness themselves. Finally, Jesus moves into the realm of good and evil. Jesus’ image of the good and bad trees and the fruit they produce speak to the fact that if one’s spiritual “roots” are poisoned (by sin), one cannot produce anything but bad fruit. The image of good and evil is furthered by what lay in one’s own heart. In the gospel passage’s conclusion, Jesus tells us that it is “from the fullness of the heart the mouth-speaks” (Lk 6:45). Jesus tells us that if one’s heart is evil, one speaks evil and if one’s heart is good, it will speak only of good things.

This gospel passage (much like last week’s gospel, which precedes this passage) is less of a condemnation as it is a “cautionary tale”. Today’s gospel serves as a warning to us as to how to live our lives. We must first look within our own heart to examine motives and motivations, and rid ourselves of any malice, evil, or wrong thinking, none of which is how the Lord wants us to live our lives. May we have the courage to look deep within ourselves and “root out” anything that is not of God. May we know that God wishes to only speak that which is beneficial, good, and fruitful. May we have the courage to live in accord with God’s ways and help others to do the same – not lording it over them, but doing so in humility and love.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

LENT IS COMING.....

**March 6 — ASH WEDNESDAY
A DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE**

**Distribution at St John’s: 9:00 AM, during Mass
4:30 PM Service**

Distribution at St. Ann’s: 7:00 PM during Mass

**THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU (Confession Schedule)
6:30—8:00 PM**

St Ann’s
March 13
March 27
April 10

St John’s
March 20
April 3
April 17

EASTER SCHEDULE:

**Holy Thursday — St John’s — 7 PM
Good Friday — St. Ann’s — 7 PM
(Easter Vigil) — St John’s — 8 PM**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
FRIDAYS DURING LENT**

**At St John’s after the 9:00 am Masses
At St. Ann’s — 7:00 PM**

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

The Next Second Collection Ash Wednesday — Catholic Charities

Financial Blessings	St. Ann's	Budget	St John's	Budget
SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS	Figures not Available			
OFFERTORY		\$3,680		\$ 5,70
GRAND ANNUAL		\$32,000		\$32,000

Brian Manning has officially joined the staff of the Collaborative. He is currently training with Jackie. When he gets his feet planted firmly in our procedures, offertory totals will be available. Please give Brian a warm welcome.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- For the Catholic Church, there is a "line in the sand," which can never be crossed, and that is to not allow anyone who harms or would harm a child to exercise public ministry, said Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley of Boston.

In fact, removing someone from public ministry for abuse should be seen not so much as a punitive act as much as it is an urgent pastoral and "prudential" measure to keep young people safe, added Archbishop Charles Scicluna of Malta.

The cardinal and archbishop spoke with reporters Feb. 22 at a news conference during the second day of a Vatican summit on child protection in the church.

They were responding to questions as to why there seemed to be resistance or reluctance to adopting "zero tolerance" policies and why, in some cases, leaders are hesitant to even use the term.

One reporter noted that, to the dismay of survivors gathered in Rome, "zero tolerance" was not mentioned on a list of 21 points Pope Francis distributed Feb. 21 for reflection -- points that had been compiled from ideas bishops had provided beforehand.

Cardinal O'Malley, who is a papal adviser on the Council of Cardinals and president of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, said, "I know there is a lot of resistance to using that terminology," perhaps it sounds too "secular, I don't know." But he said zero tolerance reflects a principle that was "so clearly articulated" by St. John Paul II in 2002 when he said that there is no place in the priesthood or religious life for those who would harm the young.

That principle, Cardinal O'Malley said, "has to be a line in the sand."

Responding to a related question, he said he would advocate the removal of a person from ministry for all cases of abuse against minors everywhere and clarified that additional penalties -- such as dismissal from the clerical state or a life of prayer and penance -- would vary, following the principle of proportionality of punishment.

Archbishop Scicluna said another way to look at the situation would be to see removal from ministry as an action that "has nothing to do with punishment, but (is) a prudential and urgent" measure that is taken to guarantee the safety of minors.

Forty days — Forty Items

Wednesday, March 6th is the first day of Lent.

I have a challenge for you!
Each day of Lent, remove one item from your closet that you no longer wear or need and put it into the trash bag provided.
At the end of the forty days, donate these items to a place that can share them with someone who can really use them.

The collaboration has made arrangements with The St. Vincent de Paul Society.
The week after Easter, bags can be dropped off for pick up at St Ann's.

Specific drop off details to be announced.

FIND A
MOMENT TO
TELL A FAMILY
MEMBER,
NEIGHBOR,
FRIEND, OR
CO-WORKER
HOW MUCH YOU
APPRECIATE
HIM OR HER.



If you have donated to the Grand Annual Collection this year, Thank You.

If you have not yet given, please remember that this collection is essential to the financial stability of each parish.

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.

II The Second Station - March 8, 2019

JESUS ACCEPTS AND CARRIES HIS CROSS

LEADER: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise You,
ALL: Because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the
world.

Jesus placed heavy wood upon his shoulders and began a journey through the streets toward the place they named Golgotha. He certainly knew what awaited him there. Who would have blamed him if he offered some resistance? He could have shown the authorities that they had no real power over him. But instead, Jesus accepted his cross in spite of the fact that they had no real power over him.

Power is a strange thing. Humans will go to great lengths to gain it. Many who receive great power easily abuse it. It can corrupt the soul of those who have it, while at the same time seem like the cure for the ills of those who are powerless.

True power only comes from God and all power rests in God. We can easily fall into a trap, believing worldly powers have tied our hands. We may believe that we cannot do God's work in the world because the world will not let us. We offer excuses and speak of great obstacles. But the reality is that no one has power over us unless we grant them that power. The only one we should be surrendering power to is God.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,
all glory and honor is yours.
Help me to accept the burdens and the triumphs
I encounter in this world
and increase in me the wisdom to see your plan for my life.
I surrender all to you, the source of all good things,
for all I have, you have entrusted to me as a good steward.
AMEN.

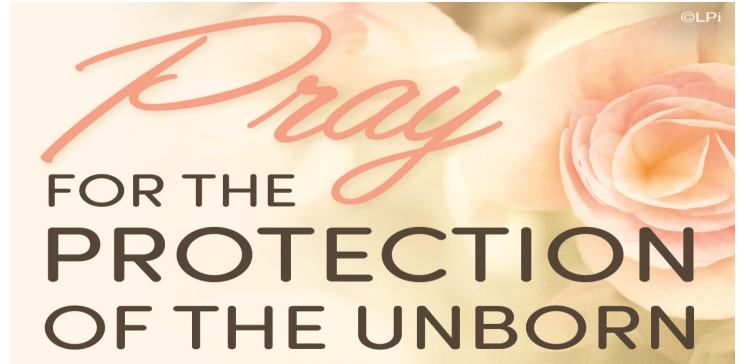
CHALLENGE

Buy someone a treat by taping an envelope with coins to a vending machine.

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.



CONFIRMATION RETREATS

The Confirmation Classes from both St. Ann and St. John will attend the following Confirmation Retreats.

Retreats will be conducted in
St. Ann's Parish Center.
8:00—12:00
10th Grade — March 2, 2019
9th Grade March 9, 2019



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

MEAT RAFFLE

MARCH 30, 2019

1:00 PM

ST. ANN'S PARISH CENTER

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



NEWS FOR THE PARISHES (St. John)

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Karen Debenedictis, Harry Hewins, Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Joan Fusco, Pat Zemeitus, JoAnn Micalizzi, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Dave Avery, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Patricia Baldassarre, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Scott Dolan, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Christopher Laursen, Karen Daly, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Maureen Campbell & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

CONFIRMATION RETREATS

The Confirmation Classes from both St. Ann and St. John will attend the following Confirmation Retreats.

Retreats will be conducted in
St. Ann's Parish Center.
8:00—12:00
10th Grade — March 2, 2019
9th Grade March 9, 2019

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

March 3, 2019
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

I was traveling recently and watched as a wife led her blind husband onto the plane by her arm. She lovingly helped him into his seat and made sure he was comfortable. She placed their bags above in the bin and then sat next to him. They were ready for the flight. As I sat in my seat just a few rows away, I wondered what he would do if she ever left his side.

Sometimes those we love in our life can be blind, and we need to be their eyes. They aren't physically blind, but they are unable to see the truth about their life, situation, or needs. We need to lend them our sight and insight, or they will remain in their world of darkness.

Jesus asked his disciples, "Can a blind person guide a blind person?" If we aren't actively working to be sure that we can see clearly, what will we be able to offer someone we care about when they come to us with their blindness? Can you lead someone to Christ if you aren't living a life with him yourself? Can you share with another truth if you aren't concerned with knowing the truth yourself?

Life is not always easy. Without faith, hope, and love, the road can be too hard to travel. We are not created to be alone. Instead, we are created to be traveling companions. However, the blind cannot lead the blind. May the Light of Christ dispel your darkness and give you sight so that when the call comes, you might lend an arm to lead the blind.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

IMPORTANT DATES

Rosary after daily Masses.

Divine Mercy every Thursday after daily mass.

Adoration — Every Wednesday—7:00—8:00 PM (changed)

Catholic Women's Club Mtg — No February Meeting
March 13, — 12:00

The April Baptism scheduled for April 14th (Palm Sunday) has been moved to April 28th.

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

Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy is that the Light shines there.

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, "Light" has shown, bringing real, lasting and deep joy to the hearts of the poor who live in dark places in our streets and neighborhood.

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

EASTER CHOIR

For teen and adult parishioners of both parishes interested in singing in the Collaborative Choir for the Paschal Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil, rehearsals begin Monday, March 11, 7:15 pm at St. Johns. For children from St. John's Parish who have already received First Communion and are interested in joining the Children's Choir to sing Easter morning, rehearsals begin Monday, March 11, 6 pm at St. Johns. Contact Paul Hoffman, St. John's Music Director, for details.

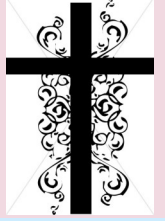
Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap." Give the gift of your love to your spouse by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Mar 8-10, 2019 in Duxbury, MA and Apr 13-14, 2019 in Brewster, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>.

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.

**Prayer to
St. Michael the Archangel**
Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Please remember
Saint Ann's and Saint John's
When doing your
Estate Planning!



TEEN MASSES ARE BACK!!!!

Saint Ann	Saint John
March 10	March 24

The prayers to Saint Michael will continue throughout the year.