



<u>Saturday, March 17, 2012</u>	
4:00 PM Cecelia Grogan	Memorial
<u>Sunday, March 18, 2012</u>	
7:30 AM Barbara & David Harrington	Memorial
9:00 AM Tucker Critchley	Memorial
10:30 AM James Donahue	Anniversary
12:00 NN Joseph MacGillivray	Anniversary
<u>Monday, March 19, 2012</u>	
7:00 AM Kathleen Walbridge	Anniversary
<u>Tuesday, March 20, 2012</u>	
7:00 AM	
<u>Wednesday, March 21, 2012</u>	
7:00 AM	
<u>Thursday, March 22, 2012</u>	
7:00 AM John McLaughlin	Memorial
<u>Friday, March 23, 2012</u>	
7:00 AM Sick, Deceased and Personal Intentions	
<u>Saturday, March 24, 2012</u>	
9:00AM	
4:00 PM John E. McDonald	Anniversary
<u>Sunday, March 25, 2012</u>	
7:30 AM Lisa Marie Rizzo	Month's Mind
9:00 AM Arman DelPico	Memorial
10:30 AM Michael Fitzgerald	Anniversary
12:00 NN Paul Riley & Rosemary Gallagher	Anniversary



Last Sunday, Jesus cleansed the temple of Jerusalem. He made a whip out of cord and drove out the animals and the money changers. He wanted to restore his Father's house to its quiet, prayerful, life-giving origins. When asked, "What sign can You show us for doing this?" Jesus replied, "Destroy this temple and I will raise it up on the third day." Jesus was clearly making a reference to his own bodily resurrection from the tomb on Easter. By identifying himself as a temple, Jesus raises our dignity as his brothers and sisters to a new awareness. The Holy Spirit, God himself, dwells in his disciples.

St. Paul refers to this when he reminds us that we are all temples of the Holy Spirit (1Corinthians 6). Lent is that season of self-preparation for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter. We are reminded of the importance of inviting Jesus into our hearts, so that He may purify us, driving out all the profanations and distortions caused by our selfishness and sin. This inner act of purification takes place in the sacrament of Penance. After prayerful examination of conscience, we can confess our sins to the priest who stands in the person of Christ. We express our contrition which includes a firm resolution with God's grace to sin no more. Then we are once again brought to the life-giving moment of our baptism, restored anew as the purified Temple of the Holy Spirit.

**Our Tithes & Offerings**

Thank you for your offerings last weekend:

Offertory/Envelopes (270)	\$7,261.00
Offertory/Loose	\$2103.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$1,562.75
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$10,926.75</b>

**Percentage of Offertory Received by Envelope/EFT—81%**

Tithe information will be available in a future bulletin.

**If you are interested in the EFT option to simplify your weekly contributions please contact the parish office.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH WHEN PLANNING YOUR ESTATE. Thank you!**



And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. — Jn 3:19-20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCD.

**The Lenten Journey**

"The Lenten Journey" Parish Mission for the Catholic parishes of Braintree and St. Francis Xavier in Weymouth begins next Sunday, March 25 at 7PM at St. Clare Church with Bishop Dooher as president. The mission offers us an opportunity to come together as brothers and sisters in Christ to reflect upon our observance of Lent and to prepare for the great miracle of Easter.



**The Catholic Appeal...** In the Gospel this Sunday, Saint John tells us that when we live the truth, we come to the light. We live the truth when we offer care and support to those who need us. Through generosity to the 2012 Catholic Appeal, tens of thousands of people experience the light of truth in their daily lives, thanks to the ministries it supports. If you would like to join with St. Francis of Assisi Parish in fulfilling our Catholic duty to serve the less fortunate, please complete and return one of the pledge forms by the doors to the church or make a gift online at [www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org](http://www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org). Thank you.



From the desk of the  
Pastoral Associate  
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



**Bakers and shoppers needed** to provide snacks and desserts for Sunday, March 25, opening night of the Lenten Mission, "The Lenten Journey" at St. Clare Parish. Please help with hospitality on our assigned night by bringing a treat to St. Clare's church hall prior to the 7PM start of the evening. Let's fill the food tables with "goodness" from SFA parish! The mission is a wonderful way to reaffirm our Lenten resolutions and to prepare for the joy of Easter.

**Green thumbs needed** for the set-up and especially the maintenance of our Easter flowers and greenery. If you can give of your time once weekly to help with watering, our display will look as beautiful at Pentecost as it does at Easter! Please call the parish office for more information.



**TODAY IS FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY.** Our shelves are fairly well-stocked except for the following items: peanut butter and jelly, pancake mix and syrup, and cereal. Our St. Vincent

DePaul Conference thanks you in advance for your generous support. Whether you donate non-perishable food or use the blue envelopes for a monetary contribution, you truly make a difference in the lives of individuals and families right here in Braintree. If you or someone you know—a shut-in or someone hesitant to ask for help—needs food or other assistance, please call the parish office to request a SVDP referral.

**MA Citizens for Life** invite you to a chapter meeting on Tuesday evening, March 20 at 7PM at the Thayer Public Library. Our featured speaker will be Ed Shanahan, the Executive Director of MCFL. For more information, contact Sally at 781.848.3796.

**From the Archdiocese of Boston**

**A Day of Prayer and Conversation for Men and Women Interested in Religious Life** will be held on Saturday, March 31 from 10:30AM – 5:00PM at the Fatima Shrine, 101 Summer Street, Holliston, MA. For more information or to register please call or email Sr. Marian Batho, CSJ, at 617-746-5637 or [Sr.Marian.Batho@rcab.org](mailto:Sr.Marian.Batho@rcab.org).



St. Francis of Assisi  
Parish Info

- **Court St. Francis Catholic Daughters of the Americas** will present an inspiring version of the Way of the Cross on Monday, March 19 at 7:15PM in the church. We invite all **men and women** to join us as we pray the Way of the Cross. Refreshments will follow in the hall.
- **SFA BEREAVEMENT GROUP** meets THIS Tuesday, March 20 at 1:00PM in the church hall.
- **Bible Study with Fr. Gregory** will meet THIS Tuesday, March 20, and again on April 17, and April 24 at 7PM in the church hall.
- **MAKING MUSIC PRAYING TWICE** meets THIS Wednesday, March 21 at 10:30AM in the church hall. Family materials cost an initial \$40; classes are \$5 per child, pay as you go.
- **RCIA for our elect and candidates** continues this Wednesday, March 21 at 6:30PM in the church hall. Please keep Leon, Lorraine, Elizabeth, Joseph, and Timothy in your prayers.
- **THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU** for confession this Wednesday, March 21 from 6:30-8PM at every parish and at the Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese of Boston. Here at SFA, you will also be able to spend some quiet time in Adoration before our Lord.
- **PARISH PRAYER LINE** – To be placed on or participate in the prayer line, please call the parish office.
- **PRAYERS FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN** - Names and photos of everyone on active duty from or connected to SFA are displayed in the church as a constant reminder of prayers needed and prayers offered. If you would like to add someone, please call the parish office.

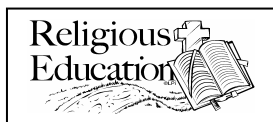


**FISH FRYDAYS during Lent...** Grove Manor Estates invites parishioners to join members of their community for lunch on the Fridays of Lent. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED as SEATING IS LIMITED. Please call 781.843.3700.

**ITALIAN FIESTA!** The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court #1859 SFA invite you to attend their annual fundraiser on Sunday, March 25 at 2PM at Braintree Town Hall. Enjoy Italian folk singers and dancers, raffle, cake sale and light refreshments. Donation \$15, RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. RSVP ASAP to Irene at 781.843.3251.



**BRAINTREE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS** of \$1,000 are available to a graduating senior from Braintree HS and from a Catholic HS. Please contact your guidance department or call Marie at 781.843.1965 for more information.



from  
**Mrs. Lynne Jensen**  
 Office phone 781.848.3238,  
 email ljensen@sfab.org

**Religious Education Classes will be meeting as scheduled:**

<b>Sunday, March 18</b>	10:05.-11:05AM	Gr. K-6
	11:35AM.-12:35PM	Gr. 1-6
<b>Monday, March 19</b>	3:50 - 4:50PM	Gr. 1-6

**Grades 7 & 8 Classes do NOT meet this week.**

**Confirmation Classes (Grades 9 & 10) meet THIS Sunday from 5-7PM in the school.** Students please return any overdue Milestones/paperwork and see Mrs. Jensen if you need help with service options to complete that expectation. The Service Summary paper should be submitted after your necessary service is completed. For questions about what paperwork you owe, go to [www.sfab.org](http://www.sfab.org) - click-on the Rel Ed Icon; then, Activities Tab. Scroll down to a link with first names, last initials. Please bring the Confirmation Competency Packet of Q & A's to class to prepare for Confirmation Interviews.

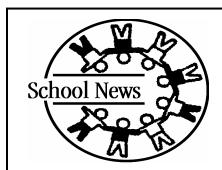
**A Lenten Prayer Activity is scheduled for Grades 9 & 10** on Friday, March 30 from 6:00 to approximately 7:30PM. We will meet in the church hall for a light supper of rice and beans. Please bring a donation of at least \$5.00 for the meal which will be donated to Operation Rice Bowl. There will be a short presentation on tools of Lent—prayer, fasting, and almsgiving followed by prayer together in the Church. Since this is the Friday before Good Friday, we will honor the devotion to the Seven Sorrows of Mary as we pray the chaplet of the Seven Dolours. Because students will be sacrificing, giving alms to the poor, and participating in prayer, those who fully participate can count it as a service activity.

**Students who are participating in the next Bingo/Ice Cream Social at Braintree Manor** on Saturday, March 31 can find information and a permission slip on the website.

**Students in Grade 6** (who are studying the Old Testament/Hebrew Scriptures), have the opportunity to take part in a Seder ritual meal on Sunday, March 25 12:00-1:00PM. It is hoped that all of the sixth graders will be able to attend, and the event will be in place of their regular class time on Sunday, March 25 and Monday, March 26. Remember to RSVP to Mrs. Jensen. Several of the Confirmation students have volunteered to help with the preparations, serving, and clean-up. Please plan to report to the school @ 11:00M for preparation. Thank you!

**First Communion:** There are some parents who were unable to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion meeting and who need to pick up their Preparation Book and other information related to practice dates and times, banner kits and pictures. Kindly make arrangements to do this ASAP. Please contact Mrs. Jensen with any questions.

**FYI:** The Glastonbury Abbey book store at 16 Hull Street in Hingham will donate 10% of 1<sup>st</sup> Communion purchases made there to our parish. Please mention that you are a parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi in Braintree or bring the flyer you received at the parent meeting.



from  
**Mrs. Vittoria DeBenedictis**



**RED SOX FUNDRAISER** - Our St. Francis of Assisi grade 8 students travel to Washington, DC in May. The trip supports their study of American History and encourages learning outside the classroom. To help defray the cost of the trip, the students are sponsoring a Red Sox Raffle. Tickets are just \$5.00 each for a chance to win four (4) tickets to see the Red Sox vs. the Texas Rangers on 4/18/12 at 7:10PM. The seats are valued at \$400 and are located in the loge section of Fenway Park, between home plate and 3<sup>rd</sup> base! Raffle tickets will be sold after each Mass this weekend. You can also purchase tickets by contacting the school at (781) 848-0842. The drawing will be held on April 3, 2012. Thank you for your support and good luck!

**Congratulations** to our students who placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 2012 National Educational Contest for the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. The winners from our school are

<u>Division 1: Poetry – Grade 4</u>	<u>Division 1: Essay – Grade 5</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> Place Krystal Phan	Joleen Johnston
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place An Ngo	Casey Gervais
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Alex Jaworski	
<u>Division 2: Poetry – Grade 6</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Place Emily Pham	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Chloe Tavernier	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Drew Topalian	

Not only are we so very proud of the students who placed as winners in this contest, but also of our students who continue to put their best work forward and try their hardest in the true spirit of education in the Catholic tradition. Congratulations!



**THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU**—this Wednesday and every Wednesday for the duration of Lent from 6:30-8:00PM in our church and all Catholic churches throughout the Archdiocese. In addition to confession, we invite you to spend some quiet time in adoration of the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

**Readings for the Week of March 18, 2012**

**Sunday:** 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21  
**Monday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a  
**Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16  
**Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30  
**Thursday:** Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47  
**Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30  
**Saturday:** Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53  
**Next Sunday:** Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

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ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE  
WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN**

CHURCH NAME: **St. Francis of Assisi**

CHURCH CITY: **Braintree**

ROUTING CODE: **Y**

RUN NUMBER: **99**

FILENAME: **03-0540.17b**

PHONE NUMBER: **781-843-1332**

FAX NUMBER: **781-848-0976**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Patty Kinnally**

**CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUN**

**Comments:**

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