

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

856 WASHINGTON STREET, BRAINTREE, MA 02184

Parish Office Phone: 781-843-1332 • Fax: 781-848-0976 • Website: www.sfab.org

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM



Pastoral Staff: Rev. Paul Clifford, Pastor
Rev. Donald Delay, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Robert Milling, Senior Priest in Residence
Mrs. Linda Muldoon, Pastoral Associate
Rev. Mr. Joseph MacDonald, Director of Music
Mr. Brian Cote, School Principal, 781-848-0842
Mrs. Diane Hopkins, Religious Education, 781-848-3238
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli, Religious Education, 781-848-3238

Parish Office: Mr. Rick Timmerman, Business Manager
Miss Patty Kinnally, Office Manager

Mass Schedule: Saturday Evening – 4:00 PM
Sunday – 7:00, 9:30 and 11:30 AM
Weekday – Monday thru Friday 7:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday – 2:30 to 3:45 PM

Sacrament of Marriage: A minimum of ten months notice is required. Please call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment prior to booking a hall.

Sacrament of Baptism: First and Third Sunday of the month at 1:30 PM.
Please call the Parish Office to register.

Sacrament of the Sick and Communion Calls: Please notify the Parish Office if anyone is hospitalized or unable to attend Mass because of illness.

Community Meetings: School Hall Alcoholics Anonymous – Friday 8:00 PM

Food Pantry: Thursdays – please call the Parish Office one day in advance.

Saturday, November 19, 2016

4:00 PM Darche & McCue Families Memorial

Sunday, November 20, 2016

7:00 AM Vera Tsunis Anniversary

9:30 AM Gerald & Virginia Donovan Anniversary

11:30 AM Marks Family Memorial

Monday, November 21, 2016

7:00 AM Nancy Leccese Anniversary

Tuesday, November 22, 2016

7:00 AM Mary E. Rand Memorial

Wednesday, November 23, 2016

7:00 AM

Thursday, November 24, 2016

8:00 AM *Happy Thanksgiving*

Friday, November 25, 2016

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Saturday, November 26, 2016

4:00 PM Joannie Hill Anniversary

Sunday, November 27, 2016

7:00 AM Edward & Marie Neary Memorial

9:30 AM Philip Fasano, Sr. Anniversary

11:30AM John Curran, Sr. & John Curran, Jr. Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—75%

If you are interested in the Online Giving option to simplify your weekly contributions, please contact the parish office.

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 6,424.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,674.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,253.75
Total Offertory	\$ 10,351.75

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

My Brothers and Sisters,

HAPPY THANKSGIVING! A parishioner told me of a wonderful way to deal with the Election frustration so many of us felt. "I sat down and made a Gratitude List. I put down the letters A to Z then made an entry next to each letter—as much as possible." Once completed, this person realized that none of those items were going to be altered significantly by either of these less-than-perfect candidates. This process made it easier to focus on what was truly important, on the gifts God had sent into this person's life.

Isn't that a good idea for us all at this time of year, or at any time when life's ups and downs make us lose our focus to some degree on the centrality of God and His blessings in our life? I'll tell you what my entry is for P: Parishioners. Your words, actions, prayers, questions, faith, and even challenges are a great inspiration to me. Thank you.

The **BRAINTREE INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE** is THIS Tuesday November 22, at 7 PM at All Souls Church. Hope to see you there. If possible please bring a monetary or non-perishable food donation for those in need in our community.

This weekend is our last 2ND Collection of the year (2 passings of the basket) and is the most important in many ways. It is the collection for the retired Sisters. These women have sacrificed above and beyond for years and years. Now aging, and faced with staggering health care related expenses, they ask our help. Every gift—accompanied by prayer—is treasured and gratefully received, and I know there are many financial pressures weighing on individuals and families so do what you can. The Sisters ask no more. I would challenge everyone who possibly can, however, to go beyond a "normal" 2nd collection offering and join me in reaching up to that \$50-100 range or even more (if your Gratitude List was easy and quick to fill out). I'll try to arrange a visit from some religious women to thank you but even now, in their name, THANK YOU.

In his service and yours,
Fr. Paul Clifford



He said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." - Lk 23:42-43

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



Today begins the last week of the liturgical year, the 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time AND the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. If you and I had lived in the time of Jesus, would we have recognized him as our King? This Jesus of such a humble beginning, born in a manger? This Jesus of such a horrific death, mocked and abandoned? Now, with the benefit of hindsight, we Christians worship Jesus as King of the Universe. The King of the Universe must be very busy, we think. And we wonder how the King of the Universe can possibly have time for us. I believe that it is precisely because Jesus is the King of the Universe and knows intimately and cares deeply about all of creation that he not only has time for us but also that He is always with us. Each time we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, Jesus becomes even more present to us. Let us welcome the King of the Universe who desires even more the title, my Lord Jesus Christ, King of My Heart.



And... if it's the last week of the liturgical year, then next week we begin anew with the First Sunday of Advent. HOW is that even possible? I received the following in an email: **We prepare** for everything we consider important in life. And that includes Christmas. We shop for gifts, bake cookies, decorate our trees, and visit family and friends until we're ready to drop. This year, slow down and focus on what matters most. **Best Advent Ever** is a free email program that will help you prepare for Christmas in a different way. Beginning the First Sunday of Advent (November 27) and continuing every day until December 26, you'll receive short inspirational videos, practical tips, or free Christmas music that will help you slow down during the busy Christmas season to focus on what's really important in life. Don't miss the opportunity to make this your best Advent (and Christmas) ever. Sign up today! It's simple, and the only cost to you is your commitment to live better each day during Advent. For more information, please visit www.dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/.



From the SVDP website: Today as we celebrate Christ the King, may we open the door of our heart so wide that we may listen to the voice of Jesus calling us to help build his kingdom here on earth. **In the month of November, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent DePaul and the SFA Religious Education Program help build the kingdom of God by providing over 40 Thanksgiving meals to needy families right here in Braintree.**



One of our Advent traditions here at SFA is the Giving Tree which will appear in church the weekend of November 26/27. More details will be available soon, but meanwhile some of our volunteers have requested that we share the following suggestions with you—thank you for your attention to them:

- If you take a tag from the tree, please **look at it before you leave church** to be certain that you are willing and able to purchase at least some of the gifts listed there. If not—simply return it to the tree and take a different card that more suits your mindset and your budget. If someone has listed a basketball, please do not substitute a board game. (Seriously—this happens!)
- Please check to see if the organization sponsoring the card has requested that you wrap the gift(s). If the tag says **do not wrap**, you can still help everyone involved in sorting and organizing by placing your purchase in a gift bag so that our volunteers can easily check the contents.
- Please **securely attach the tag** you take from the tree to the outside of the bag or package. The tags are coded by color and number and we need them back so that your gift reaches the correct organization and recipient.

An early “thanksgiving” to Ronna Petrilli and Diane Hopkins, our religious education coordinators, and to Mary Kate and Christina, two confirmation students, who volunteered their services at last weekend's annual Mass of Remembrance for the families and friends of loved ones buried from SFA over the past year. Our priests, our bereavement team, and our guests truly appreciated your presence and assistance. Thank you also to Fasano's Catering—gustosa e abbondante!



Andrew Price & Nancy Conner I

Parish Info and events of note...

- **St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry...** We are open Thursdays from 10AM-12NN and 2-4PM. If you need groceries, please call on Wednesday so that we can be prepared for your visit. Referrals and limited financial assistance are available for parishioners in need. Please call the parish office for more information.
- **Prayer Shawls...** next meets Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00PM in the St. Francis church hall. If you knit or crochet or would like to learn—in an atmosphere of soft music, prayer and quiet conversation, please give us a try! 
- **SFA/SC Bereavement Group** continues THIS Tuesday, November 22 from 1–2:30PM in the St. Francis church hall. If you have lost a loved one and are looking for a faith-based, caring, and confidential environment to share your grief and perhaps learn from the experiences of others, we hope you will join us. Newcomers are *always* welcome! For more information, please email lmuldoon@sfab.org or call 781.843.1332. 
- **Visits to the Sick and Homebound...** If you or someone you know cannot attend Mass due to surgery, illness or infirmity, you can request a Communion visit. Our staff and trained home visitors are available and willing to come to you. Please call the parish office for more information.
- **Parish Prayer Line...** To be placed (or to pray) on the parish prayer line, please call the parish office.
- **Military Service...** If someone you know is newly deployed and you would like their info to appear on the board, please call or email the parish office. Thank you.
- **RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.** It begins with a time to ask your questions and discern whether God is calling you to something more. Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Maybe you were baptized but missed the opportunity to receive your first holy communion or be confirmed. Do you hunger, do you thirst for something more? Do you want to learn about the food that endures for eternal life, to taste and see the goodness of the Lord? Maybe you have questions about our faith or your own circumstances. You can reach out to a member of our staff at any time by contacting the parish office or join us for an inquiry session, soon to be scheduled. If the words above do not resonate with you, please pass them along to someone you know who may be interested. God works through us, especially when we pay attention.



From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal

At St. Francis of Assisi School ... Together, We Give Thanks!

As we will celebrate Thanksgiving this week, it is a time when most Americans sit down to a feast table with turkey and all the trimmings. In the midst of our feasting, it can be easy to forget the millions of people who did not have a place at a table during this or any other time of the year. As we prepare for the upcoming holiday season, we are constantly reminded of how fortunate and blessed we are. During this month of November, the Saint Francis of Assisi School community held a dress down day as well as collected non-perishables, money, and supermarket gift cards to assist and provide holiday food items for families in need within St. Francis of Assisi Parish and the Town of Braintree (Braintree Holidays).

Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving gives us the opportunity to stop and thank God for our many blessings, that focuses on God, our family, and our many gifts. On behalf of the St. Francis of Assisi School Community, we want to wish all of you a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

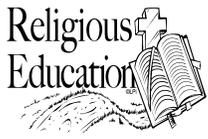
Calling all SFA Alumni!

At SFA, we would like to give thanks for all of our parents and students, both past and present who make up Saint Francis of Assisi School Community. As we gather to give thanks at the Thanksgiving table this year, it is an ideal time for our school to continue our efforts in reaching out to our Alumni.

St. Francis of Assisi School currently offers to its alumni four great ways to stay connected so that you can receive news about our school, alumni events, and alumni news. But, we need your help updating your contact information by:

- Completing our on-line Alumni Update Form located on our school's website (www.sfab.org/sfabschool/);
- Joining our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/sfabraintree
- Sending your current contact information (name, address, city, state, zip, telephone, year of graduation) and email address as well as news about what you have been up to alumni@sfab.org; or
- Contacting us at (781)-848-0842.

Help us spread the news to other SFA alumni and parents of alumni. We look forward to reconnecting with you. Thank you for staying in touch.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

Classes meet as scheduled for Religious Education

Sunday, November 20 10:30-11:30 Gr. 1-5

Classes meet in the school this week

Parents walk children over after Mass

Sunday, October 20 5:00 – 7:00 Gr. 10

Classes this week at St. Clare

6PM Mass at St. Clare with Grade 9

Monday, November 21 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5

Classes meet in the school.

Tuesday, November 22 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5

Classes meet in the school.

Tuesday, November 22 6:30- 7:45 Gr. 6-8

Classes meet in the school

Thursday, November 24 6:00-7:30 Gr. 9

No classes this week. Happy Thanksgiving

Confirmation I (Grade 9): Sunday, November 20th at 6:00 pm. We will be attending the 6:00 Mass as a Confirmation group with Confirmation II (Grade 10).

THANKS-FOR-GIVING !!!

We would like to thank everyone who contributed items to our Thanksgiving Food Baskets. The food drive was a big success. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Please come and celebrate with us at the 6:00 Mass at St. Clare on

November 20 when the Thanksgiving Baskets provided by the students of the Religious Education Program and assembled by the students in the Confirmation Program are blessed. We hope you and your families enjoy a happy and blessed Thanksgiving this year.



Rosary Night at St. Francis of Assisi on Monday, November 21, at 7:00.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Stay Close and God Bless,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli

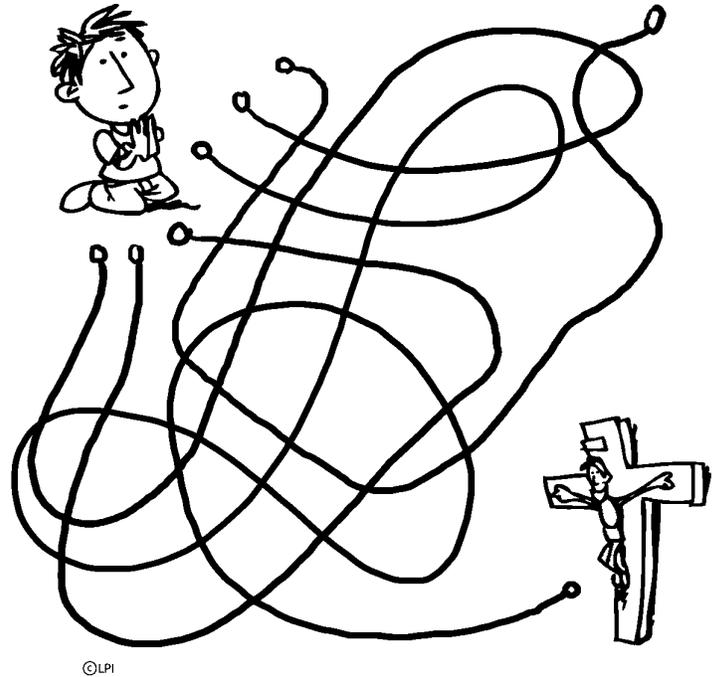
GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

As of Tuesday our Grand Annual Collection was \$36,250 from 179 contributors (9% of Appeals sent). Thank you to all who have contributed. If you did not receive an Appeal letter or have misplaced your copy, please call the parish office at 781-843-1332 and we'll be happy to send you a new one.



 **Puzzle**

Find the path that leads to Jesus.



Sharing the Gospel

When the soldiers hurt Jesus, they were only doing their job. They did not understand that they were killing God's Son. Jesus saw into the hearts of those soldiers, and he forgave them. A man next to Jesus on the cross had done terrible things. He knew he deserved to die on a cross, and he was truly sorry. This criminal believed that Jesus was God's Son. Jesus saw into that criminal's heart, and Jesus forgave him, too.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to forgive my sins, too.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus on the cross.

Mission for the Week

Jesus forgave the people who killed him. He expects you to forgive people who hurt you, too. Think of one person with whom you have been angry. Ask God to help you forgive that person, because Jesus forgives you.



CDA Court St. Francis of Assisi will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 21st, at 7:00PM at Father Crowley Hall in St. Francis of Assisi Church, 856 Washington Street, Braintree. This will be a "paint night", so wear casual clothes and bring \$6 to cover the cost of supplies. Prospective members and guests are also welcome. Come for the fun of it and leave with your own masterpiece!

THIS Sunday, November 20, the Braintree Knights of Columbus Council #1462 will be sponsoring a Coffee Hour in the lower church hall after the 9:30AM Mass. All are welcome to join us for coffee, juice, baked items and good conversation. Also at this time we invite parishioners to sign a Christmas card for our seminarian from earlier this year, Matthew Norwood, to let him know that we are thinking of him in the upcoming Christmas season.

The Braintree Knights of Columbus invite all adults to their Christmas Party on Saturday, December 17 at the Sons of Italy Hall on King Hill Road. The festivities begin with a cocktail hour from 6:30 – 7:30, followed by a dinner provided by Fasano's Catering. Tickets are \$35. For more information, please call Richard at 781.843.5095.



The parish office will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 in observance of Thanksgiving.
Blessings for a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

Readings for the Week of November 20, 2016

Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-5/Col 1:12-20/
Lk 23:35-43
Monday: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/Ps 24:1-6/Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96:10-13/Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday: Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98:1-3, 7-9/Lk 21:12-19
Thursday: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a/
Ps 100:1-5/Lk 21:20-28
Friday: Rv 20:1-4, 11--21:2/Ps 84:3-6, 8/
Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Rv 22:1-7/Ps 95:1-7/Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-9/Rom 13:11-14/
Mt 24:37-44



The Annual Thanksgiving Mass and Toy Drive will be celebrated at 8:00AM on Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 24). Please bring a new/unwrapped toy or game which will be presented during the offertory. These gifts will be distributed to needy children in our community.

Our Advent Giving Tree begins Thanksgiving Weekend (November 26-27). Our Christian Service Commission needs your help in providing gifts for many families who are unable to purchase even essentials for Christmas gifts. You can help in any of the following ways.



1) Take a tag from the tree and purchase a requested item. Unless otherwise stated, wrap the gift (include a gift receipt) and securely attach the tag from the tree to the outside. All gifts should be returned **no later than** December 12. **2)** If you are unable to shop, you can make a monetary donation **[do not take a tag]** and members of the Christian Service Commission will do the shopping and wrapping for you. You may place your donation in the collection basket in an envelope marked "Advent Giving Tree Program." Checks should be made payable to St. Francis of Assisi with "Giving Tree" on the Memo line. **3)** If you would like to "adopt" an entire family for Christmas, please contact Kate Waldron at 781-848-5233 or katewaldron@verizon.net. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.



*From the
Archdiocese of
Boston*

November 20 ~ The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

The Liturgical Year ends in glory. We proclaim that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, is King of the Universe, but what does this mean for us, for the average person in the pew? How often do we think about Jesus, talk to Him in prayer outside of church, or mention Him in conversation? How often do we speak to others about feeling His unconditional love, His strength when we are weak, and His comfort in our sadness and in our trials? People have a right to know about Him. If we don't praise and proclaim His name, who will? Today also marks the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The need – obligation – to be merciful- never ends. Continue to reach out to someone who needs a helping hand, a kind word or a phone call.

