

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.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, August 6, 2016

4:00 PM Jean Pike Anniversery

Sunday, August 7, 2016

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

9:30 AM Pamela Gorman Anniversery

11:30 AM Gail Kelley Anniversery

Monday, August 8, 2016

7:00 AM

Tuesday, August 9, 2016

7:00 AM

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

7:00 AM

Thursday, August 11, 2016

7:00 AM St. Clare of Assisi

Friday, August 12, 2016

7:00 AM Harold Mallon Memorial

Saturday, August 13, 2016

4:00 PM Anna Rose Berardinelli Anniversery

Sunday, August 14, 2016

7:00 AM Richard Walbridge, Sr. Memorial

9:30 AM Kathleen Carr Anniversery

11:30AM Paul Hanson Anniversery

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—72%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 5,440.30
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,518.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,003.00
Total Offertory	\$ 8,961.30

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

My brothers and sisters,

Summertime is in full swing—many blessings to all.

For our parishes Summer also means a call to attend to the Missions. Fr. Thomas Otieno, SMA has had a wonderful experience of our country and culture so far. Before long we'll be saying good-bye and taking a collection for his missionary work—especially his dream of establishing and growing a pre-school at his parish.

Not long after he departs we will have our participation in the Missionary Cooperative Plan and will be visited by a missionary at the end of September for a weekend appeal.

And then there's my friend Fr. James Ojo. He is a priest of the Diocese of Idah in Nigeria. His bishop has him studying and growing in pastoral development first in Ireland and now in the U.S. There was a fire in the seminary where Fr. James taught in Nigeria. He's been collecting books, and now needs to ship them back (real "expensive"). I'm working on bringing him to Braintree for a mini-appeal. More later.

Summer has seen a little surge in attendance at Daily Mass (St. Francis Monday—Friday at 7AM and St. Clare Monday—Wednesday at 9AM and Saturday at 8AM) and at Confessions (St. Francis Saturday 2:30-3:45PM and St. Clare Saturday 8:30-9:00AM). Great to see you. Bring a friend.

In His service and yours,
Fr. Paul Clifford



"Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." - Lk 12:39-40



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



The readings this week invite us to take a look at our faith.

What is faith? The most simple definition, given by the *Merriam Webster's Learner's Dictionary*, has 3 elements:

A strong belief or trust in someone or something

Belief in the existence of God, strong religious feelings or beliefs

A system of religious beliefs

What is faith? As Catholics, faith is all of the above, and more. My mom frequently says, "I don't know what I would do without my faith." It not only bookends her day—from her morning prayers to her night-time rosary, it is part of her every breath. She trusts that God is in charge, that God never tires of the prayers with which she storms heaven, and that God's will for her will be done, in God's time. **What is faith?** It's in the first sentence of today's reading from the Book of Wisdom: "The night of the passover was known beforehand to our fathers, that, with sure knowledge of the oaths in which they put their faith, they might have courage."

The people of Israel put their faith in God's promises, and even though they had to wait a long and difficult time, they trusted in *God's faithfulness* to them. **What is faith?** Chapter 11 of the letter to the Hebrews begins: "Brothers and sisters: Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen. Because of it the ancients were well attested." In today's passage, the writer uses the word "faith" five more times. The faith he describes is an active faith that feeds their desire for a better and heavenly homeland. **What is faith?** In Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples (us): "Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the Kingdom." And like the ancients, we put our faith, "our moneybags that do not wear out", our "inexhaustible treasure" that "no thief can reach" in this promise. Faith, hope (revisit today's psalm), trust, release from fear, and finally—preparedness. How ready ARE we? As Catholic Christians, we have been entrusted with much, with much more. Are we doing what is required of us, what is demanded of us? Let's take the time to polish our "inexhaustible treasure" so that we shine brightly and are ready and vigilant for the return of our Master.



Summer Evenings of Prayer

The second of our collaborative evenings of prayer takes place on Wednesday, August 17 at 7PM in St. Clare Church. Take a break from the heat, cool off in the air-conditioned church, nourish your soul, renew a friendship, and enjoy some refreshments. Come alone, invite a friend, bring the family, all are welcome!

TOGETHER
for LIFE online

Together for Life Marriage Enrichment... If you were married in the Catholic Church, chances are that somewhere you still have a copy of the planning book, *Together for Life*. Together for Life Marriage Enrichment is now available as a free, online resource for all couples. The August articles include spirituality, communication, finance, and romance and date ideas. Check it out at www.togetherforlifeonline.com.



SFA/SC Bereavement Group Summer Reunion... FINALLY—A DATE!!!

We have found some time in between the beginning and end of a construction project and the return of our SFA school teachers later this month. Current group members were sent emails or notes in the mail last week. WE WILL GATHER THIS TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, FROM 1 – 2:30 IN THE SFA CHURCH HALL for a pot-luck luncheon. If you did not receive an invitation or you are an "alum" who would like to join us, please call Linda at the SFA parish office. AND, if you are struggling over the loss of a loved one, please feel free to call the parish office.



St. Francis of Assisi Christian Service Commission will be sponsoring the Annual School Supply Drive August 7-21. **New supplies** needed include backpacks,

notebooks/assignment notebooks, folder pockets, pens/pencils/erasers, crayons/colored pencils, construction paper, scissors and glue sticks. A drop-off box will be located in the church foyer (off Washington Street). If a cash donation is more convenient, please place in the collection basket in an envelope marked "School Supplies". (Checks made payable to St. Francis of Assisi, with School Supplies on the memo line.) Donations will be distributed to our Pantry clients and the Braintree Food Pantry. All contributions should be returned **no later than August 21**, so they can be distributed in time for the opening of the school year. Thank you!

Parish Info and events of note...

- **Prayer Shawls...** will resume again in September. Newcomers, novices and experts are always welcome!
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.



From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal



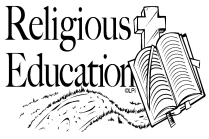
“School Nurse Position Available” – St. Francis of Assisi School is currently seeking a full-time nurse to join our school for the 2016 – 2017 academic school year. The school nurse is responsible for maintaining the school’s health policies and programs. The primary role is to promote health education and to provide preventative health services to facilitate the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social growth of our students. If interested in applying, please send a letter of interest, resume and license(s) to Brian Cote, St. Francis of Assisi School, 850 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184 or via email at bcote@sfab.org. For more details regarding this position, contact Brian Cote at 7811-848-0842 x12 or via email.

Enroll Today

St. Francis of Assisi School is now accepting applications for all grade levels for the 2016-17 school year. For more information regarding our admissions procedure, simply visit our school’s website (www.sfab.org) or contact us at (781) 848-0842. Are you interested in learning more about what SFA has to offer for your child, its curriculum and extracurricular activities? Arrange your personalized visit/tour with our principal by contacting Brian Cote at (781) 848-0842 x12 or emailing bcote@sfab.org. We look forward to possibly serving your family in the spiritual, academic, and social development of your child.



As you plan your summer vacation or have the opportunity to sneak away for the weekend, here is something to pack in your suitcase along with your sunscreen, or in your smart phone! To find the Mass closest to your location, visit www.masstimes.org. When you make your reservations, please remember to reserve some time for the Lord!



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238



Catechists;

Thank you so much for all your time and effort given to our Religious Education Program last year. We hope you plan to return this year to share your faith with the children of our parish. Catechist Information sheets were mailed to all Catechists who taught last year. If you plan to return this fall, please complete and return to the Religious Education office as soon as possible.

In the summer Lord we truly recognize your gift of joy and we so thank you each day for the warm weather, the children at play, the gatherings with friends and families, our backyard barbecues, flowering gardens, happy vacations and other summer treats.

We ask you to help us stay aware of your presence in all of this. Assist us in being patient, energetic, confident and thankful through these beautiful months of summer.



When the weather cools and leaves begin to fall help us to serve joyfully once again in service to Catholic education.

Author Unknown

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Stay Close,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli

LIFT Worship Night

Join LIFT Ministries as they celebrate 10 years of ministry with a special event on Saturday, August 13th at LaSalette Shrine in Attleboro, MA. The event will include Mass at 4pm followed by a BBQ and then LIFT at 7pm. This event is FREE to attend and open to ALL AGES. A downloadable flyer, along with more information about LIFT, can be found on their website at www.liftedhigher.com. Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!

 **Puzzle**

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

- | | | |
|----------|---------|--------|
| ready | master | home |
| lamps | night | thief |
| servants | morning | coming |

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msatre _____

lmasp _____

©LPI

Sharing the Gospel

One day Jesus will come back from heaven. He could come back any day now - nobody knows when. So, you and I need to be ready. Put God first in your life. Love God with your whole heart. Live every day in a way that will make Jesus smile. Be ready to go to heaven!

Prayer

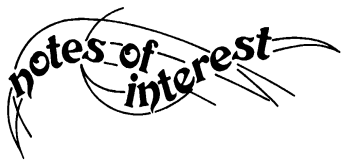
Dear God, help me to stay close to Jesus.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus coming back in the clouds.

Mission for the Week

Every day I will read, play, and listen to things that make God happy.



From the Archdiocese of Boston

August 7 ~ Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom..... where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.” Given the statistics of weekly Mass attendance, it seems that, tragically, we are truly a “little flock”. How can this be when the Father gives us the kingdom, won for us by the blood of Jesus on the Cross? How can we overlook this blessing? Giving thanks to God with this faith community at Mass should be a real priority. The question arises, then, do we treasure the gift of faith and the sacraments – especially Eucharist and Reconciliation? If we do, then our hearts will be moved to invite someone to come to Mass with us next week.

EMPOWER—BOSTON (9/10/2016)

“Empower” is Youth Ministry training at its best! It will be held on Saturday, September 10th, 2016 at St. Francis Parish, Medford Catholic Collaborative. The day will include training for small group facilitation, relational ministry, and middle school ministry; as well as activities for high school ministry, team planning, Mass, lunch and the best praise & worship music. The goal of the day is to help parishes lead teens closer to Jesus Christ! This event is sponsored by the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation and Parish Support, and Life Teen. Registration opens May 1st with a discount for early registrations. All priests attend for free!



25TH AND 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

His Eminence, Sean Cardinal O’Malley, OFM invites all couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2016 to the Silver and Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. The Mass will be celebrated on September 25th at 11:30 and will include a renewal of vows. Family members and friends are welcome to attend. For more information and to register, please visit bostoncatholic.org/WeddingAnniversaryMass. Please register by September 2 to have your name included in the printed list of anniversary couples. A formal invitation and more information will be mailed to each registered couple in September.



Readings for the Week of August 7, 2016

- Sunday: Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-22/
Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/
Lk 12:32-48 or 12:35-40
- Monday: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c/Ps 148:1-2, 11-14/
Mt 17:22-27
- Tuesday: Ez 2:8--3:4/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111,
131/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
- Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-9/
Jn 12:24-26
- Thursday: Ez 12:1-12/Ps 78:56-59, 61-62/
Mt 18:21--19:1
- Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/
Is 12:2-6/Mt 19:3-12
- Saturday: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32/
Ps 51:12-15, 18-19/Mt 19:13-15
- Next Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2-4, 18/
Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53

