

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 27, 2016

4:00 PM Edward F. Lawlor, Jr. Anniversary

Sunday, August 28, 2016

7:00 AM George & Virginia Walsh Memorial

9:30 AM George Letteney Memorial

11:30 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Monday, August 29, 2016

7:00 AM

Tuesday, August 30, 2016

7:00 AM

Wednesday, August 31, 2016

7:00 AM Eleanor & Antonio Corbo Memorial

Thursday, September 1, 2016

7:00 AM

Friday, September 2, 2016

7:00 AM

Saturday, September 3, 2016

4:00 PM John McLean Anniversary

Sunday, September 4, 2016

7:00 AM

9:30 AM

11:30AM

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—70%

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

Collection Report

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Offertory Envelopes | \$ 4,503.00 |
| Offertory/Loose | \$ 2,513.00 |
| EFT Weekly Average | \$ 1,253.75 |
| Total Offertory | \$ 8,269.75 |

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



My brothers and sisters,

Time passes and the end of Summer is upon us. Some Highlights:

BISHOP MARK O'CONNELL joins us today for the 11:30AM Mass. Congratulations Your Excellency! AD MULTOS ANNOS!

FR. THOMAS OTIENO, SMA—What a wonderful visit from a wonderful priest. God bless America, indeed. Many were able to give last week to his collection. (The 9:30 congregation will be today.) This collection supports some other work in his district of the SMA Fathers but principally is used to fund missionary needs and efforts. And they are great. Fr. Thomas and his assistant minister to the main parish and clinic as well as 23 other “outstations” in the Kaparu Mission of Sts. Peter and Paul. He needs our generosity for ongoing projects and ministries and to begin to make his bold dream of a preschool and better water service a reality. Dig deep with me and let's make a difference with Fr. Thomas and Christ our Savior for our Zambian brother and sisters. Donations can be sent this week or left at the Parish Office. Checks to ST. FRANCIS PARISH with “SMA” or “FR. THOMAS” on the memo line. Many thanks!

LOUISIANA: What a catastrophe! The flooding in the general area of Baton Rouge has not received the media coverage it deserves. The people of that region are truly suffering. I've been in touch with Bishop Roger Morin—now of Biloxi, MS, formerly of Louisiana—and he told me some of the things that are happening and the great needs for the relief across the area. For many, it is waking images and memories of Hurricane Katrina.

We will have a **Special Optional Collection** next weekend (September 3-4—Labor Day Weekend) to assist the Diocese of Baton Rouge. This will be an optional collection—no second passing of the basket. The ushers will have baskets at the doors of the church as you leave Mass. If you will be away, please drop off or send an offering in this week to the parish office in an envelope marked 'Louisiana'. Checks should be made payable to ST. FRANCIS PARISH, “Louisiana” on the memo line. If you prefer a different type of giving option you could purchase gift cards for major retailers that you think would be helpful. (Think home improvement stores such as Lowe's or Home Depot, or retailers like Wal-Mart or Target.)



These are great needs being felt by our brothers and sisters in Christ. Even small gifts are helpful, and your prayers are powerful even if you can't donate at this time. Many thanks for your continued help and concern for these efforts.

In His service and yours,
Fr. Paul Clifford



*From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon*

In the special section of the Pilot on Episcopal Ordination, the last paragraph of one of the articles on Bishop Mark O'Connell reads: "I don't know what else will come, but I am ready," he smiled. "I've



always been a happy priest; I plan on being a happy bishop." It seems to me, from many shared conversations, his ready responses to questions, and his thoughtful homilies, that Bishop O'Connell has always also been a humble priest and will be a humble bishop. Today's first reading from the Book of Sirach and the Gospel from St. Luke provide us with quite a lesson on humility, on "taking the lowest place." Most of us know a truly humble person, someone who exemplifies the virtue of humility. We all know what it means, but it can also be difficult to put into words. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* defines humility as "the virtue by which a Christian acknowledges that God is the author of all good. Humility avoids inordinate ambition or pride, and provides the foundation for turning to God in prayer (2559). Voluntary humility can be described as "poverty of spirit" (2546). The excerpts that follow are from www.christianbiblereference.org/humility.htm:

- People often wonder what humility means or what is the definition of humility. In the Bible, humility or humbleness is a quality of being courteously respectful of others. It is the opposite of aggressiveness, arrogance, boastfulness, and vanity. Rather than, "Me first," humility allows us to say, "No, you first, my friend." Humility is the quality that lets us go more than halfway to meet the needs and demands of others.
- Humility as a virtue is a major theme of both the Old and New Testaments. Why do qualities such as courtesy, patience and deference have such a prominent place in the Bible? It is because a demeanor of humility is exactly what is needed to live in peace and harmony with all persons. Humility dissipates anger and heals old wounds. Humility allows us to see the dignity and worth of all God's people. Humility distinguishes the wise leader from the arrogant power-seeker.
- Acting with humility does not in any way deny our own self-worth. Rather, it affirms the inherent worth of all persons. Some would consider humility to be a psychological malady that interferes with "success." However, wealth, power or status gained at the expense of others brings only anxiety -- never peace and love.

- Humility means putting God and other persons ahead of our own selfish interests. Humility comes with the knowledge that God's creation as a whole transcends our own narrow interests. As with other aspects of wisdom, humility will gain us much more than we sacrifice.
- By humility we acknowledge that God created us for his purposes and not for our self-glorification. By humility we acknowledge the dignity of all God's people. By humility we cool the angry passions of others. By humility we can turn enemies into friends.
- A humble demeanor is not a denial of our worth as individuals. Rather, it is the tool that allows us, insofar as possible, to be on good terms with all persons.



In that same special section of the Pilot, the congratulatory message from SFA reads: **"The Parish Family of St. Francis of Assisi, Braintree, celebrates with joyful hearts the Episcopal Ordination of our friend, Most Reverend Mark O'Connell." Godspeed, Bishop Mark, as you bring people to meet with your, with our Messiah!**



Bible Study returns this fall... Mark your calendars NOW! Celia Sirois of CHRISM will present "The Fourth Gospel" (John) on Tuesday evenings, October 4 through November 1 from 7-8:30PM in the church hall. For more information, please visit www.chrismbiblestudy.org.



"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." -

Lk 14:13-14

Parish Info and events of note...



From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal

- **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...** will resume again in September. Newcomers, novices and experts are always welcome!
- **SFA/SC Bereavement Group** will resume in the fall. Please call the SFA 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.



There's still time! Whether you can get away for a week or a weekend, here is something to pack along with your sunscreen or in your smartphone! **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!

As most of you are aware, St. Francis of Assisi School is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. (NEASC). Accreditation has two purposes: quality assurance and school improvement. Our school was last evaluated for accreditation during the spring of 2008, and another evaluation is being planned for the spring of 2018.

As we begin this school year, we will begin the 18-month process of preparing for our visit by undergoing a structured self-study, that examines every aspect of school life, assesses compliance with the NEASC Standards, and sets goals for school improvement.

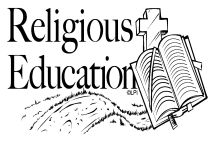
Mrs. Ann Scott, the Associate Director of the Commission (NEASC) will kickoff our process by presenting a workshop to our faculty at our opening professional development day on Tuesday, September 6th.

School begins on Wednesday, September 7th for students in grades 1 – 8. The first couple of days (Wednesday and Thursday), will be early dismissal days at 11:30 a.m., with faculty meetings and professional development opportunities in the afternoons. Our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs will begin on Monday, September 12th.

Substitute Teachers Needed – As another school year begins, we are in need of individuals who may be interested in being placed on our substitute teacher list. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Connie Daly, our school secretary at 781-848-0842, ext. 10 or by email at cdaly@sfab.org.

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 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.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

This beautiful summer will soon be coming to an end. Fall is just around the corner and before we know it Religious Education classes will begin.

Please return your registration forms as soon as possible for planning purposes and so that you are able to have your first choice of class time.

Registrations are on our website at www.sfab.org. Just click on the Religious Education Program window and then click on the Class Times tab. The icons are at the bottom of the page for the Registration Form for Grades 1-8 and the Registration Form for Grades 9 & 10. Please note that the Grade 9 & 10 Confirmation program is a separate program with a separate registration form and fee schedule. If you prefer to have one mailed, please let us know.

Opening Class Schedule:

Sunday Faith Enrichment has a Parent/Student Meeting on Sun., Sept. 25 immediately following the 9:30 Mass (no class). The First class which is a Parent/Child session is on Sun., Oct. 2. at 10:30.

Grade 10 has a Parent/Student meeting and Mass on Sun., Oct., 2, at 5:00.

Grades 1-5 Monday has a Parent/Student Meeting on Mon., Oct. 3, at 3:50 followed by class.

Grades 1-5 Tuesday has a Parent/Student Meeting on Tue., Oct. 4, at 3:50 followed by class.

Grades 6-8 Tuesday evening has a Parent/Student Meeting on Tue., Sept. 20, at 6:30 followed by class.

Grade 9 has a Parent/Student Meeting on Thu., Sept. 29 (no class). The first class will be on Thur., Oct. 13 at 6:00.

We will also be sending out reminders on our Connect Ed. System prior to the start of each class with more detailed information.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 781-848-3238 or dhopkins@sfab.org or rpetrilli@sfab.org

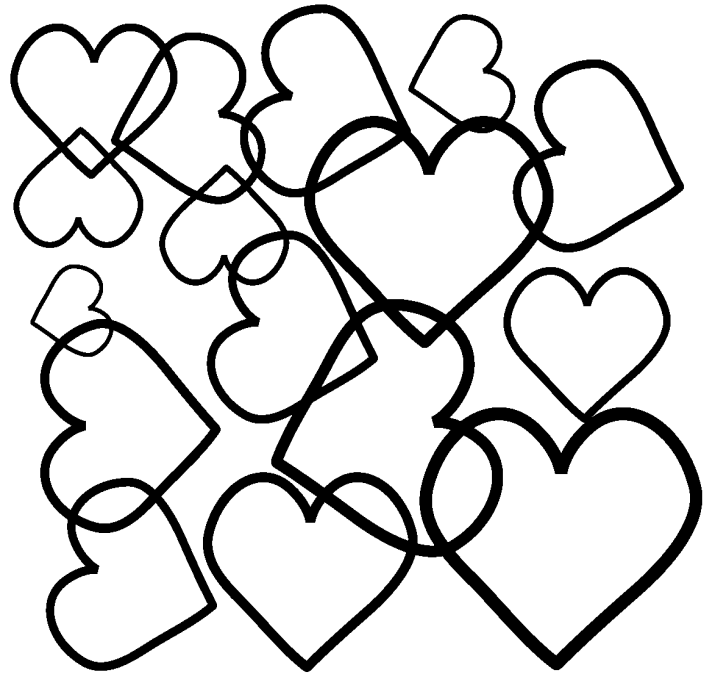
God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

Stay close and God bless,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



Puzzle

How many hearts can you count?



©LPI

The answer is sixteen

Sharing the Gospel

If you act bossy, you might get your way, but you won't make many friends. Jesus shared a secret about making friends. When you treat other kids with kindness, they will want to be your friends. Instead of telling other kids what to do, ask other kids to choose a game. If you want to play tag with other kids, offer to be "it" first. If it is time to line up to go outside, offer to go to the back of the line and let other kids in front of you.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to be a good friend.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself at the end of the line.

Mission for the Week

When you sit down with your family for dinner tonight, ask if you can serve the food. You may surprise your parents and get some pretty big smiles from them.



From the
Archdiocese of
Boston



August 28~ Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings are bookended by humility. Sirach: "conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts." And in the parable in Luke, "everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Bishop Robert Barron, quoting Saint Thomas Aquinas, says, "Humility is truth." Humility is not head hung low, in self-deprecation. Rather, humility is recognizing that all we have and all we are is a gift from God. Our task is to thank God for the gifts we have been given – starting with life – and use those gifts to praise and glorify God and help others draw closer to Him.

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!

MEETING CHRIST IN PRAYER is an 8-week guided prayer experience based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, calling for a commitment of daily prayer and faith sharing. The Office of Spiritual Life will offer this program at the Pastoral Center on Wednesday evenings, Sept. 21 through Nov. 9 from 7-8:15PM. To learn more, please call Sister Anne D'Arcy at 617-779-3648 or email sdarcy@rcab.org.



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.



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Friends of the Unborn need your help! Please help our brave women! We need your help this month to continue providing for the courageous mothers living here at "Friends of the Unborn." With your financial support, we are able to help young women protect the precious life they carry, while showing them a path to self-reliance through love, education and spiritual guidance. The summer months are when our ministry needs your support the most. We ask that you prayerfully consider making a donation to "Friends of the Unborn," Box 692246, Quincy, MA 02269 or via PayPal at www.friendsoftheunborn.org. May God bless you.

35th Annual Lawn Party to benefit Seminarians

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston is hosting its 35th Annual Lawn Party on Wednesday, September 28th, at 6:00 P.M, on the grounds of the seminary. This premiere fundraising event is hosted this year by Bishop Robert Reed. The evening will include a reception and dinner with music. Located on Route 30 in Weston, the seminary prepares second career candidates, men over the age of 30, for priesthood. The proceeds from the Lawn Party help to keep tuition costs affordable. For ticket information, please call the Pope St. John XXIII Development Office at 781-899-5500, or visit their website www.psjns.edu/lawn-party. You can make a difference and encourage the vocations of these men through your support of the Lawn Party.

Explore your Catholic High School options at a multi-school fair hosted by Archbishop Williams on Sunday, September 18th from 11:00-1:00 (80 Independence Avenue, Braintree). For more information contact Brett Marcotte -- bmarcotte@awhs.org.

Readings for the Week of August 28, 2016

- Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-7, 10-11/
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14
- Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97-102/Mk 6:17-29
- Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-14/Lk 4:31-37
- Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-15, 20-21/
Lk 4:38-44
- Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1-6/Lk 5:1-11
- Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40/
Lk 5:33-39
- Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-21/Lk 6:1-5
- Next Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-6, 12-17/
Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33