

# 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](http://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.

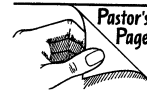
**Sacrament of Baptism:** First and Third Sunday of the month at 1:30 PM.  
Please call the Parish Office to register.

**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, September 10, 2016

4:00 PM Mary Sawyer Memorial

## Sunday, September 11, 2016

7:00 AM Doris Kippenhan Anniversary

9:30 AM Joan Palmer Anniversary

11:30 AM John Kyne, James Kelly and Thomas & Katherine Kelly Memorial

## Monday, September 12, 2016

7:00 AM

## Tuesday, September 13, 2016

7:00 AM Joseph & John Odenweller Memorial

## Wednesday, September 14, 2016

7:00 AM Exaltation of the Holy Cross

## Thursday, September 15, 2016

7:00 AM

## Friday, September 16, 2016

7:00 AM Alice Murphy Memorial

## Saturday, September 17, 2016

4:00 PM James & Mary McDonough Memorial

## Sunday, September 18, 2016

7:00 AM

9:30 AM Laura Fasano Anniversary

11:30AM Sheehan & Niedzwiecki Families Memorial

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:  
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—73%

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

## Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 6,067.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,667.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,253.75
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 9,987.75</b>

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

## My Brothers and Sisters,

15 years. Wow!

"Where were you when the world stopped turning, that September day?" mused Alan Jackson in what I consider to be one of the most inspired songs ever.

September 11, 2001 tested us—as a nation and as Christians—more than any other day in this 21st Century. We pass that test when we can recall in the face of hatred and multiple attacks that "faith, hope and love are some good things God gave us; and the greatest is love." To claim our faith when terror brings fearful doubt, to hope when all we can see, taste, smell, hear, and feel is death and wreckage of buildings, planes, and, most of all, beautiful lives, to love when hate seems so much simpler, this is the test of September 11, of December 7, of any day that says God doesn't care, and why should we.

Our country was born from the sacrifice of those who passed that test. To rise above is written right into who we are.

Katherine Lee Bates (not someone known as a religionist by any stretch) did capture something of what truly makes us great when she penned the third verse of *America the Beautiful*.

*O beautiful for heroes proved  
in liberating strife.  
Who more than self their country loved,  
and mercy more than life.  
America! America!  
May God thy gold refine  
'til all success be nobleness  
and every gain divine!*

September 11th drives us to examine what "successes" we are pursuing. Are they as noble as they can be? How much do we really care about "gains" that don't show in our household or corporate balance sheet?

Let's not wait for the world to stop turning some September day, but, pursuing noble successes and divine gains—with love in our hearts in season and out—Let's roll!

In His service and yours,  
*Fr. Paul Clifford*





From the desk of the  
Pastoral Associate  
Mrs. Linda Muldoon

**“This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance:  
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.”**

When Pope Francis proclaimed this the Year of Mercy, he desired to open our hearts to God’s grace and mercy at work in our own lives AND to the people and circumstances we encounter that present us with the opportunity to show mercy. Today’s readings illustrate this desire. In the Old Testament reading, God is set to let his wrath blaze up against the Israelites for their lack of faith and trust until Moses reminds God of the promises made to their ancestors; and in his mercy, God relents and the people are spared. In the New Testament, St. Paul writes to Timothy about his initial ignorance and unbelief, prior to his conversion; and twice he mentions that in spite of his sinfulness, he was “mercifully treated” by a faithful, loving, and patient Christ Jesus. In Luke’s Gospel, Jesus himself illustrates in three separate parables the joy in heaven “over one sinner who repents.” The action in the first two parables is passive—the sheep and the coin are “found.” And sometimes, we may see ourselves in that passive mode. We stay lost—maybe because we’re not quite ready to give up (whatever) and be found, maybe because we’re in so deep that we see no way out. Let us pray for the grace to cooperate with God in God’s plan of salvation—as agents of mercy to others and mindful of God’s promises, of God’s love, and of our responsibility to choose to journey back home, time and time again.



**Bereavement Group** begins THIS Tuesday, September 13 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. The group will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday into the month of December. For more information, please email [lmuldoon@sfab.org](mailto:lmuldoon@sfab.org) or call 781.843.1332.



**Wedding Banns**

Justin Marriott & Christen Auvil

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** also begins THIS Tuesday, September 13 from 7-8PM in the St. Francis church hall. This group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7PM and the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 12:30PM. 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! The idea is that the stitches in each prayer shawl hold prayers for the person who receives it—from a newborn with first-time parents to someone preparing to go home to God.



 **HANKS!**

To the parishioners of St. Francis and St. Clare collaborative,

*I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you all for your hospitality and kindness. After spending my summer among you, I felt privileged as my experience was so blessed with a lot of beautiful experiences many of which were possible through your generosity and friendliness.*

*I humbly express my gratitude for your generous financial contribution after my appeal at the parish. May the almighty God bless you always. I will always remember you in my prayers and pray for me too and my missionary journey. I will certainly tell beautiful stories to my parishioners back in Zambia. Thank you and God bless you.*

*“For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.” (Ephesians 1: 15-16)*

Yours sincerely  
Fr. Thomas Otieno, SMA  
St. Peter and Paul Kaparu Mission  
PO Box 30657, Lusaka, Zambia  
[otienokotieno@gmail.com](mailto:otienokotieno@gmail.com)



**“I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” - Lk 15:10**



## 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 Tuesday, September 13 at 7PM and Thursday, September 22. 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.

### 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](mailto:cdaly@sfab.org).

Welcome Back to our SFA Stars! The school bells are once again ringing at St. Francis of Assisi School! Our students in grades 1–8 returned this past week and have embarked on what is to be a productive, exciting and successful academic school year for all. There was great excitement and energy in our classrooms and halls.

As in the past, our students began with early dismissal days on the first three days, which once again gave the faculty the opportunity to meet in the afternoons for additional planning, meetings, and professional development opportunities. This Monday morning, we are anxiously awaiting our students in our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs.

On behalf of the SFA School community, I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and thank you in advance for your continued prayers, as well as for the gifts of your time, talent and treasure that you give us in order that we can further our mission in offering our students the best Catholic education possible.

**St. Francis of Assisi Friar's 500 Club** – How would you like the possibility of winning \$500, \$100 or 6 prizes of \$25 every month for the next twelve months? St. Francis of Assisi School invites you to participate in our Friar's 500 Club by purchasing a 500 Club Ticket for only \$60. Since tuition does not cover the full operating costs of our school, we must rely on various fundraising efforts. The families of our school community are required to purchase four tickets per year, which may be sold to friends and relatives. To join our Friar's 500 Club and purchase your ticket, simply provide us with your name, address, and telephone number along with your \$60 payment (checks made payable to St. Francis of Assisi School) to St. Francis of Assisi Friar's Club, 850 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184.

## 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](http://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](mailto:bcote@sfab.org). We look forward to possibly serving your family in the spiritual, academic, and social development of your child.

Catechist – *noun* - a teacher of the principles of Christian religion, teacher of the Catholic faith by word and example. Seven reasons why you may want to be a catechist:



- You are a Catholic
- You love your faith
- You enjoy being with children and young people
- You love meeting new people
- You would like to contribute to the parish
- You want to share your faith with others
- You want to learn more about your faith

Do you feel unqualified? So did the prophets, apostles and saints.

Is God calling you to be a catechist? Call Diane or Ronna to meet and discuss what being a catechist is all about. Pray!

For more information about being a catechist, please visit [www.eCatechist.com](http://www.eCatechist.com).

Registration Forms – due now. Registrations are on our website at [www.sfab.org](http://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 a registration form mailed, please let us know.

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](mailto:dhopkins@sfab.org) or [rpetrilli@sfab.org](mailto:rpetrilli@sfab.org)

***I will rise and go to my father.***

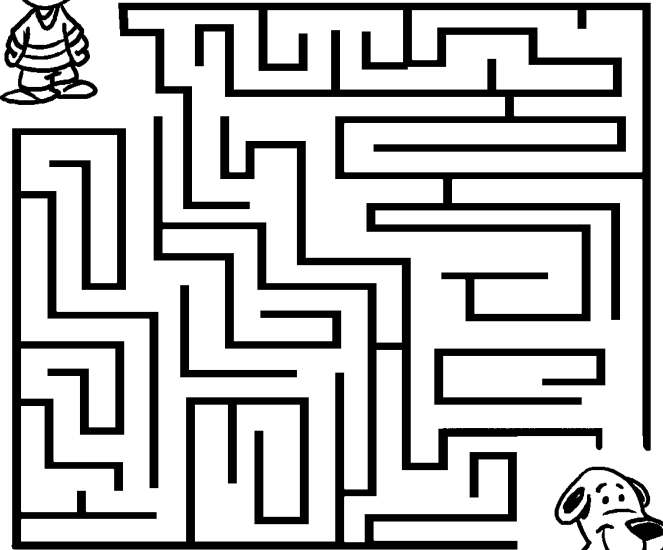
Stay Close and God Bless,  
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



# Kids Corner

## Puzzle

Help the boy get to his dog.



©LPI

### Sharing the Gospel

Jesus was kind to people who were lonely. Jesus forgave people who were sorry for their mistakes. Jesus ate dinner with people who needed God's love. They sinned. Everybody knew it. But Jesus knew that God's love could turn their frowns into smiles. If there are kids in your class who don't have many friends, be kind to them like Jesus. When other kids make mistakes, forgive them like Jesus. You'll make Jesus smile.

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to show kindness like Jesus did.

### Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself playing with a child who's lonely.

### Mission for the Week

When you go outside to play at school, look for someone who is alone. Offer to be a friend and play together.

**September 11 ~ Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"Lost" is an interesting word. On this date in 2001, nearly 3000 people were "lost" in an attack on our country. We pray for the repose of their souls, comfort for their loved ones. The gospel today speaks of the lost sheep, lost coin, lost son. There is great rejoicing when what is lost has been found, and in the parable of the Prodigal Son, we see clearly how much God loves us. "While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion". This loving father scanned the horizon EVERY DAY, hoping that his son would return. God longs for our return too, especially for those who are not with us each week. Not every absentee from Mass is prodigal, many are just "out of practice". Invite someone to come with you next week. Be courageous, St. Paul assures us: "the grace of our Lord has been abundant."

**CLERGY HEALTH AND RETIREMENT COLLECTION**

Next week, the diocese-wide collection will support the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust which cares for the health and well-being of our 614 Boston priests. Our priests are always there for us; they share Christ's good news, joyfully perform good works, and spread good faith to all they encounter. You can show your gratitude by giving generously to the collection. You are also invited to make your gift online at [clergytrust.org](http://clergytrust.org) or text the word **PRIEST** to 56512 (msg. & data rates may apply). Thank you in advance for your generous and prayerful support of our priests.

**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](mailto:sdarcy@rcab.org).

**ST. JOHN SEMINARY OPEN HOUSE**

**Invitation to All Fifth Grade Catholic School and Religious Education Students and Scouts**

Saint John's Seminary cordially invites all scouts and 5th grade students and their families, parish priests, religious education directors, principals, and teachers to attend an Open House Sunday, 30 October 2016 from 2:00 to 4:00pm.

This is a great opportunity to learn firsthand about the Sacrament of Holy Orders and to meet the Seminarians who would like to share their stories with you. For more information or to RSVP please contact [maryjo.kriz@sis.edu](mailto:maryjo.kriz@sis.edu) or call 617-746-5423. For more information about Scouting or RSVP please contact [Kathy\\_Stebbins@rcab.org](mailto:Kathy_Stebbins@rcab.org).

**Please join us for the March for Life** on October 9 on Boston Common. The rally and live music begin at 1PM and the March steps off at 2:30PM. To obtain a sponsor form, contact Sally Healy at 781-848-3796 or print out a form from the MCFL website at [www.masscitizensforlife.org](http://www.masscitizensforlife.org).

**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](mailto:bmarcotte@awhs.org).

**"HANOVER, MA – TUESDAY, SEP 13th SERVICE** - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary Service and Benediction is being celebrated from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM on TUESDAY, SEP 13, 2016. Service held at The Portiuncula Chapel at the Cardinal Cushing Center, Route 53, Hanover, MA. Free Parking is available. The 13<sup>th</sup> of the Month Service is held every Month from MAY thru OCT 2016. All are most welcome to come and share in the Blessings of this special Devotion to Our Blessed Mother w/Service sponsor: Order of Franciscan Secular(OFS)"



**Readings for the Week of September 11, 2016**

- Sunday: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10
- Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-10, 17/Lk 7:1-10
- Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1-5/Lk 7:11-17
- Wednesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1-2, 34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
- Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 28/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
- Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1, 6-8, 15/Lk 8:1-3
- Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10-14/Lk 8:4-15
- Next Sunday: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-8/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13