

# 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, January 14, 2017

4:00PM Frank O'Toole Anniversary

## Sunday, January 15, 2017

7:00 AM Camillo & Maria D'Angelo Memorial

9:30 AM Ann Palombo Memorial

11:30 AM James Dwyer Memorial

## Monday, January 16, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Assisi

## Tuesday, January 17, 2017

7:00 AM Lucille Bennett Anniversary

## Wednesday, January 18, 2017

7:00 AM Susan Reilly Memorial

## Thursday, January 19, 2017

7:00 AM

## Friday, January 20, 2017

7:00 AM Edward Murphy, Sr. & Edward Murphy, Jr. Memorial

## Saturday, January 21, 2017

4:00 PM George V. Ward Anniversary

## Sunday, January 22, 2017

7:00 AM

9:30 AM Ruggiero & Loreta Ricci Memorial

11:30AM Mary, Frank and Fr. Philip F. Zingarelli Memorial

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:  
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—82%

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

## Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 4,186.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 1,184.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,023.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 6,393.00</b>

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



**If you are a registered parishioner** who utilizes the parish envelope system or the EFT option and would like a copy of your total contributions for 2016 please call the parish office at 781-843-1332. In Accordance with federal regulations contribution statements have been mailed to any parishioner who has made a single contribution of \$250 or more. If you do not currently utilize the parish envelope or EFT/online giving system, but would like to; or if you have any questions regarding your statement, please contact Patty Kinnally in the parish office.



**John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God." - Jn 1:32-34**

## Readings for the Week of January 15, 2017

- Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40/1 Cor 1:1-3/ Jn 1:29-34
- Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110/Mk 2:18-22
- Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111/Mk 2:23-28
- Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110/Mk 3:1-6
- Thursday: Heb 7:25--8:6/Ps 40/Mk 3:7-12
- Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85/Mk 3:13-19
- Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47/Mk 3:20-21
- Next Sunday: Is 8:23--9:3/Ps 27/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/ Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17





From the desk of the  
Pastoral Associate  
Mrs. Linda Muldoon

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings of the Advent and Christmas seasons were filled with references to light—the Sun of Justice and the Star of Bethlehem are a couple that come to mind. Now here we are at the beginning of Ordinary Time, and the theme of light continues. Today's reading from Isaiah ends with God telling his servant, Israel, "I will make you a light to the nations that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." God tells you and me the very same thing; by virtue of our baptism, we, too, have been made... lights! And immediately following those words, we proclaim the psalm response: "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will." Let us do God's will, let us spread the light, giving witness to the world of God's majesty and mercy, by our service and worship of the God who made us and calls us by name.





A couple of weeks ago, you may have read about our need for some "real time" help in several areas of parish life and ministry. Most of the help we are looking for depends on your presence here with us for a designated hour or two a month—a night-time Panera pick-up, a morning at the food pantry, a shift as a sacristan. **And now** this week a volunteer brought to my attention that we need the kind of help you can give while staying home! We are looking for folks who are willing to collect and launder (at home) the linens used during Mass, and then return them. After pre-treating, this would be one washing machine/dryer small load of whites (mostly purificators—think large handkerchiefs) that are then steam-pressed and folded. For those who find ironing relaxing, this is ideal; and for those who hate ironing, this is easy! At the moment, there are 6 people on the schedule, meaning this is no more than a once monthly arrangement. If you can help—please call 781.843.1332 or email Linda ([lmuldoon@sfab.org](mailto:lmuldoon@sfab.org)) at the parish office. Thank you.



**The parish office will be closed on Monday, January 16 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**

## 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 Thursday, January 26 at 12:30PM 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!  

- **Our Bereavement Group** will resume in February (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays from 1-2:30PM), and we will use the book, *The New Day Journal*. This book is "a journey from grief to healing for people coping with the loss of a loved one." Meanwhile, if you have just experienced or are struggling with the loss of a loved one, we have resources, referral information, and lots of tissues. Help and a cup of tea are a phone call away at 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

**St. Francis of Assisi School: A Community of Faith, Knowledge and Service.** Beginning with an Open House on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 P.M., we have a week of activities planned to demonstrate what our students are accomplishing and celebrate the community we've built to educate tomorrow's citizens and church leaders.

Once again this year's National Catholic Schools Week theme is based on community: "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." The theme highlights the facts that not only are schools considered communities themselves; they are also part of many other communities, including families, parishes, cities and our country.

In addition, the theme focuses on key components of Catholic education: faith development, academic excellence and dedication to service. These elements set Catholic schools apart from other educational options. They are why families make sacrifices to provide a Catholic education to their children.

National Catholic Schools Week is an opportunity for you to see what I'm talking about. I am so proud of our students, and I can't wait for you to visit our school. It is also a time for me to say publicly what I think every single day: I am grateful for the dedication and commitment of our teachers, staff, administrators, board members, parents, parishioners and volunteers who make our school such a success. They help our school community thrive.

# OPEN HOUSE

**Open House for Prospective New Families** - *Do you have a friend or relative who might be interested in enrolling their child at SFA for the 2017 – 2018 school year?* If so, please invite them to attend our Open House, which will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Highlights of the day include the following: An information session; guided tours directed by SFA students; meet administration, faculty, and staff; hear from current students, parents, and alumni; and learn about SFA's curriculum and extracurricular activities. In addition, prospective families may also visit our school throughout Catholic Schools Week (January 30<sup>th</sup> – February 3<sup>rd</sup>) from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Applications will be accepted (pending availability) on a first come, first serve basis. Enroll Today!

### Holiday Calendar Winner 2017

On Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, we held Week 1 drawing of our Holiday Calendar Raffle. Congratulations to our winners!

Date	Prize	Winner
1/1	\$50	Pat Gravelle
1/2	\$500	Bob and Marie Cliford
1/3	\$75	Villot Mars
1/4	\$100	Brett Marcotte
1/5	\$75	Virginia Polio
1/6	\$100	Nicole Reynolds
1/7	\$75	Susan Thorn
1/8	\$250	Bill and Kim Hinthorne
1/9	\$100	Cristan Ramage

## GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

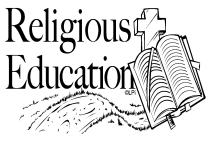
As of Wednesday our Grand Annual Collection was \$60,900 from 280 contributors (14% of Appeals sent). Thank you to all who have contributed. If you did not receive an Appeal letter or have misplaced your copy, please call the parish office at 781-843-1332 and we'll be happy to send you a new one.



**Today is our monthly Food Collection Sunday.** A reminder for it slipped right off the radar screen in the midst of short work weeks due to the holidays and it being the earliest possible date for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday.

So—if you forgot to shop like we forgot to remind you, please consider helping us financially with either cash or a check (written to St. Vincent DePaul with SFA on the memo line). Kindly place your donation in one of the blue SVDP envelopes found in the holders affixed to the back inside wall of the church. In the Gospel today, we read, "The Word became flesh and made his swelling among us... filled with enduring love." **As you place your blue Society of St. Vincent DePaul envelope into the offertory basket, the rectory mail slot or the US mail, please know that YOU are a sign of God's enduring love to those who are suffering, and you give them reason to believe and to trust.**





Mrs. Diane Hopkins  
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli  
Phone 781.848.3238

Class meet as scheduled for Religious Education:

Sunday, January 15 10:30-11:30 Gr. 1-5

No classes this week.

Sunday, January 15 5:00 – 7:00 Gr. 10

No classes this week.

Monday, January 16, 2017 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5

No classes this week (MLK).

Tuesday, January 17, 2017 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5

No classes this week (MLK).

Tuesday, January 17, 2017 6:30- 7:45 Gr. 6-8

No classes this week

**NEXT CLASS: January 24.**

Thursday, January 19, 2017 6:00-7:30 Gr. 9

Classes meet this week at St. Clare

**NEXT CLASS: February 2**



**CONFIRMATION II (Grade 10) - IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

**Important Note/Retreat:** All Confirmation Candidates (grade 10) have been assigned a date **to attend a retreat being held at St. Francis of Assisi.** Please review the information received regarding the upcoming retreat.

**Parents, kindly return your assignment to our office at St. Francis of Assisi as soon as possible.**

Pray for the young people on retreat that they may enjoy each other's company and grow closer to a loving God.

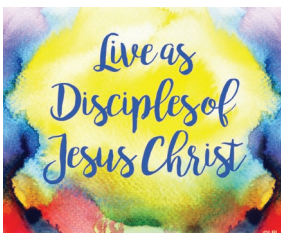
*"Whenever we do something together, something good, something beautiful, everyone changes.*

*All of us change in some way and this does us good."*

*Pope Francis*

***Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.***

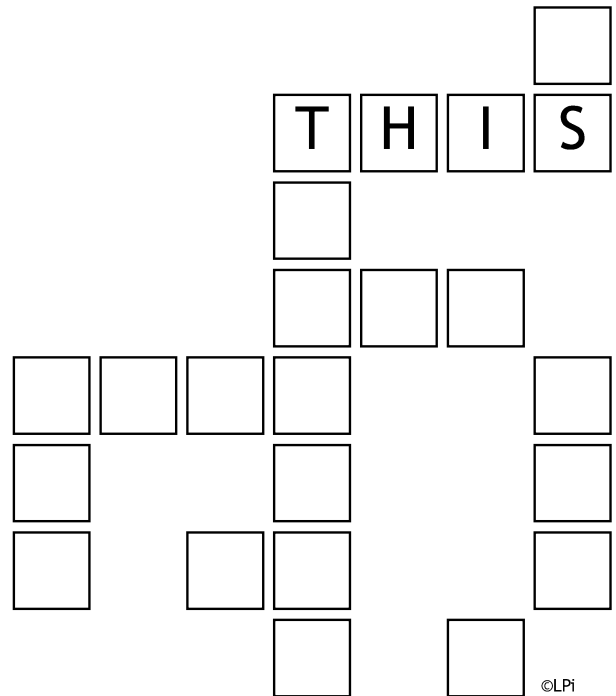
Stay Close and God Bless,  
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



 **Puzzle**

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

**I testify that this is the Son of God.**



**Sharing the Gospel**

Imagine how excited John the Baptist must have felt after he baptized Jesus. He knew without a doubt that Jesus was God's Son. The very next day John told the crowds that Jesus would take away the sins of the world. God's people had eaten a Passover lamb every year to remember how God saved them from death in Egypt. Jesus was the Lamb of God. He frees you from your old sins and offers you new life with God.

**Prayer**

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to take away my sins.

**Something to Draw**

Draw a picture of a lamb

**Mission for the Week**

Read the story about the very first Passover, when God saved the Hebrews from the Angel of Death (Exodus 12).



## From the Archdiocese of Boston

### January 15 ~ Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

John the Baptist, seeing the Holy Spirit descend on Jesus and hearing the Father's voice, testifies that Jesus is the Son of God. Our faith and Sacred Scripture, the inspired word of God, confirm this for us – He is the Son of God. So? Pray today's Psalm with an open heart and open mind: "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will." What is God's will for us - for you? It is to speak His name, tell of His work in your life, help Him make disciples. Not everyone will do this the same way. Pray to find the best way for you to testify – talk about - Jesus.

### Prayer Service Celebrating Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King

A prayer service to celebrate the life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King will be held on January 16, 2017 at 9:00 am at St. Katharine Drexel Parish, 517 Blue Hill Avenue, Grove Hall. Featured guest speaker is Professor Randall Kennedy, Harvard Law School. Tickets are \$15.00 and MUST be purchased in advance. Space is very limited. For tickets, please call Lorraine Smith 857-249-7773 or Ruth Andrews, 617-610-5579.

### Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreat

God's forgiveness knows no bounds – Pope Francis. The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a Come to the Waters of Healing one-day retreat. Winter/spring dates are February 4, March 4 and May 20. Location is confidential. Limited to ten participants. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or [help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com).

### CHRISTIAN UNITY

"The quest for Christian unity is central to our mission as disciples," Cardinal Sean has said. This year the Archdiocese co-sponsors a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with the principal service on Saturday, January 21, 2-3pm, at Holy Name Church in West Roxbury. Please join the ecumenical mission of the Church by coming to renew our faith in Jesus the Lord, principle of unity for all Christians. Themes include evangelization and solidarity with persecuted Christians worldwide. RSVP to [Vito\\_Nicastro@rcab.org](mailto:Vito_Nicastro@rcab.org). More information at [uniteboston.com/wpcu/](http://uniteboston.com/wpcu/)



## Upcoming Events



The Catholic Daughters of the America's will be having a special presentation at their January meeting. Joan Vercollone Barry will speak on Human Sex Trafficking: What is it? How does it work? Where does it exist? This is a free lecture and will be presented on Saturday, January 21st at 10:00AM at **St. Clare** in the lower church hall. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

### PENNIES FOR THE UNBORN

The Catholic Daughters will be collecting Pennies for the Unborn at all the exits of the Church today. The offerings are given to Cardinal Sean for his programs for the Unborn. Thank you.



**Join LIFT Ministries** on Tuesday, January 17th @ 7pm for an inspiring night of worship at St. Anthony Church in Cohasset with speaker Frank Connell. The night will include uplifting music, a relevant talk, confessions, Eucharistic Adoration, and 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](http://www.liftedhigher.com). Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!

**Early Bird Special** Boston & South Shore Men's Prayer Gathering will be held **Saturday, January 21, 2017 from 7:00-8:30 AM**. Bob Joyce, President, The Pro-Life Legal Defense Fund will speak about his group's work and achievements. Location: St. Mary of the Hills Lower Church 29 St. Mary's Road (off Brook Road), Milton. Please call 774-343-5075 for more information

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom." As we await the coming of the Lord, let us rejoice and encourage our marriages to bloom by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Jan 20-22, 2017 in Duxbury, MA and Mar 17-19, 2017 in South Kingstown, RI. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at [www.WWMEMA.org](http://www.WWMEMA.org).

### The Knights of Columbus

is seeking a field agent for a career opportunity representing their Insurance, Annuity and Long Term Care Program. We offer a complete benefits package with this full time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information on this exciting career opportunity, please contact Michael R. Capobianco, General Agent at (508) 238 – 2300.

