

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, January 21, 2017

4:00PM George V. Ward Anniversary

Sunday, January 22, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Assisi

9:30 AM Ruggiero & Loreta Ricci Memorial

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

Monday, January 23, 2017

7:00 AM Unborn Children

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

7:00 AM Thomas Conneely Anniversary

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

7:00 AM

Thursday, January 26, 2017

7:00 AM

Friday, January 27, 2017

7:00 AM Alice & Charles Beaulieu Memorial

Saturday, January 28, 2017

4:00 PM Annie Mullen Memorial

Sunday, January 29, 2017

7:00 AM Brian Sampson Memorial

9:30 AM John Joyce Memorial

11:30AM Samuel A. Dentino Memorial



Please join us for a Holy Hour for Life to pray in solidarity with the thousands of pilgrims going to Washington, DC for the annual March for Life. Deacon Michael Cavanaugh will preside at a holy hour THIS Sunday, January 22 at 12 noon at St. Clare Church. Deacon Joe MacDonald will lead a holy hour at St. Francis THIS Monday, January 23 at 7:00PM.



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.

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	\$ 5,569.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,510.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,023.00
Total Offertory	\$ 9,102.00

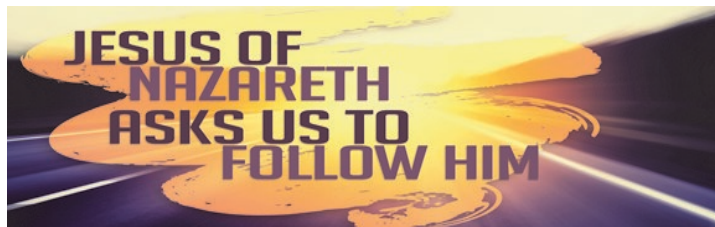
PLEASE REMEMBER ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH WHEN PLANNING YOUR ESTATE. Thank you!



As [Jesus] was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." - Mt 4:18-19



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



Today's Gospel presents with a shorter and longer form, and the selection rests with the celebrant of the Mass. So you may or may not hear the 2nd scene from St. Matthew. In the hope that you do, or that you look at Matthew 4:12-23, here are a couple of thoughts from an interesting reflection I read this week. Please note that the words in parentheses are my inserts. In the passage, Jesus calls first Peter and Andrew and then James and John to follow him. All four respond immediately, leaving behind nets, boat, and father. The author of the reflection posits that our nets are what we (think we) control; our boat allows us (freedom) to come and go as we please; and our father might be the family history (self-identity) we carry within ourselves. If Jesus were to summon us from all that is familiar (right here in Braintree...), could we immediately leave it behind? The final sharing question that follows the reflection is, "What things do we have to (can we) give up and walk away from in order to approach and possess them anew?"



In this Sunday's Gospel, we find that Jesus "... proclaimed the good news of the kingdom and cured the people of every disease and illness." **Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent DePaul proclaims the good news of Jesus to those who are**



suffering.

SFA/SC Bereavement Group...

We are finalizing plans for a group that will begin on Tuesday, February 14 at 1PM in the St. Francis of Assisi church hall. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one and looking for a faith-based opportunity to share your story and listen to the wisdom of others who may be a little further along on their grief journeys, please consider our group. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month for 90 minutes and offer a good supply of coffee, tea, snacks, and tissues! For more information, please see "Parish Info and Events of Note" elsewhere in this bulletin.



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...** Meets THIS 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 (2nd & 4th 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

National Catholic Schools Week, which begins on Sunday, January 29th is now right around the corner! It is our annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Once again, the theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2017 is "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." During this week, our school as well as other Catholic schools across the country will observe the annual celebration week with Masses, Open Houses and other activities and events. Through these events, St. Francis of Assisi School will focus on the value that Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities, and our nation.

St. Francis of Assisi School
 Pre-K to Grade 8

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 29th
 1:00pm-3:00pm

VISITING DAYS
 Mon., Jan. 30th - Fri., Feb. 3rd
 9:00am-1:00pm

850 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184
 781-848-0842 • www.sfab.org

Catholic Schools Week is one of, if not THE most important week of the school year for most Catholic schools across the United States. It's typically during this week when most elementary schools will hold their annual open house in order to lay the foundation for welcoming the next incoming class of kindergarteners, as well as other grades focusing on filling any seats that are available for the upcoming school year!

We are excited to welcome our new kindergarteners, who will be the Class of 2026.

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.

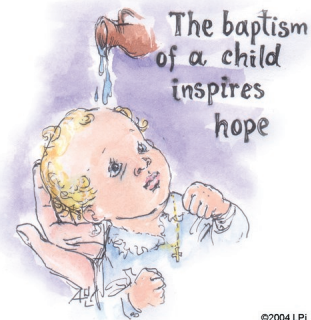
Holiday Calendar Winner 2017

On Thursday, January 12th, we held Week 2 drawing of our Holiday Calendar Raffle. Congratulations to our winners!

Date	Prize	Winner
1/10	\$250	Jake Rowell
1/11	\$75	Sandra Polizio
1/12	\$100	Margi Mahony
1/13	\$75	Karen Whitney
1/14	\$100	Oscar Medua
1/15	\$75	Michael Trocki
1/16	\$500	Sarah & Clint Smith

GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

As of Wednesday our Grand Annual Collection was \$60,400 from 282 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.

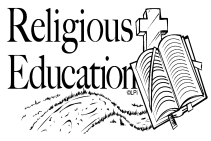


We welcome with joy into the family of the Church the following children who were baptized during the months of December, 2016 and January, 2017:

Elena Marie Sutherland, Wyatt Schawe MacPherson, Clara Louise Muldoon, Molly Anne Muldoon and Charlotte Ann Roth.

Readings for the Week of January 22, 2017

- Sunday: Is 8:23--9:3/Ps 27/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/ Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17
- Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98/Mk 3:22-30
- Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40/Mk 3:31-35
- Wednesday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117/ Mk 16:15-18
- Thursday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96/ Mk 4:21-25
- Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37/Mk 4:26-34
- Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1/Mk 4:35-41
- Next Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146/1 Cor 1:26-31/ Mt 5:1-12a



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238



Class meet as scheduled for Religious Education:

Sunday, January 22 10:30-11:30 **Gr. 1-5**

Classes meet in the school.

Sunday, January 22 5:00 – 7:00 **Gr. 10**

No classes this week.

Next class February 12.

Monday, January 23, 2017 3:50-4:50 **Gr. 1-5**

Classes meet in the school.

Tuesday, January 24, 2017 3:50-4:50 **Gr. 1-5**

Classes meet in the school.

Tuesday, January 24, 2017 6:30- 7:45 **Gr. 6-8**

Classes meet in the school.

Thursday, January 26, 2017 6:00-7:30 **Gr. 9**

No classes this week.

NEXT CLASS: February 2



Confirmation I (Grade 9): Thursday, February 2nd. - Class meeting from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at St. Francis of Assisi church hall. This lesson will focus on prayer. The church hall at St. Francis of Assisi is better suited for this exercise.

Confirmation II (Grade 10): Important Note - Sunday January 22nd class is cancelled. The candidates were active and respectful participants at retreats!

The young people have experienced the love of Christ during their time together in retreat. May they hear God's voice in their hearts.

At their next class on February 12, 5:00-7:00, the candidates will be expected to attend Mass as part of their class. Anyone who cannot attend needs a written note from a parent to be handed in before class.

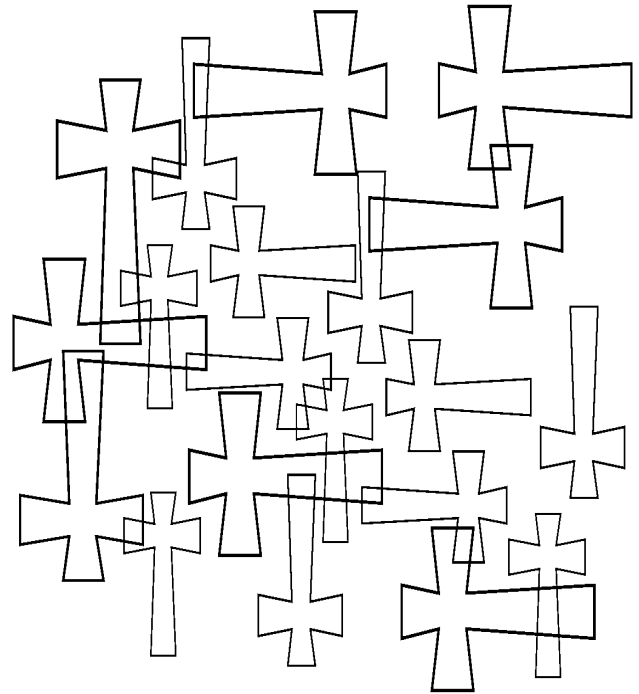
"Whenever we do something together, something good, something beautiful, everyone changes. All of us change in some way and this does us good." - Pope Francis

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Stay Close and God Bless,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



Puzzle
How many crosses can you count?



©LPi

THE ANSWER IS TWENTY CROSSES

Sharing the Gospel

Today's Gospel talks about people living in darkness. When you think about darkness, you may also think about stumbling, falling, or even being afraid. That's what your life could be like without God. You could stumble around trying to find love or happiness, but without God you will only fall. Jesus brings light into a dark, unhappy world. With Jesus, you no longer need to fall, and you don't need to be afraid. God loves you.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you that with Jesus I don't need to be afraid.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus bringing light and love into a dark world.

Mission for the Week

Sing the song, "This Little Light of Mine."



From the Archdiocese of Boston

January 22 ~ Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings are filled with inspiration and instruction. Isaiah reminds us that we no longer walk in darkness. For us, the 'great light' he speaks of is Jesus Christ. We can agree on this -Jesus is the Light of the World. This brings us to Saint Paul's scold of the Corinthians: "be united in the same mind and in the same purpose". What good advice for our time! And finally, Jesus' invitation to the first Apostles: "'Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.'" He is calling us, too, every day, to follow Him. The Apostles immediately left their nets. What nets are you tangled in, that keep you from following Him – reticence, complacency, indifference, misgivings? Pray for trust and courage to know Him more clearly, Love Him more dearly, and Follow Him more nearly.



Have you ever wondered if God is calling you to be a religious sister? If so, Fiat is for you. Fiat is a discernment group for single women considering a vocation to religious life in the Catholic Church.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 25, 2017, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine, 1105 Boylston St., Boston. The topic is the Pauline Charism in Religious Life.

If you are interested in attending, please respond to Sister Marian Batho, CSJ, Delegate for Religious, [Sr Marian Batho@rcab.org](mailto:SrMarianBatho@rcab.org) or call 617-746-5637.

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.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, February 4, 2017, 5:00 pm

St. Gregory Parish Auditorium, 2215 Dorchester Avenue, Dorchester, MA. "When the Saints Go Marchin' In". Come learn about black Catholics that are being considered for Sainthood with Rev. A. Gerard Jordan, O. Praem. RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/when-the-saints-go-marchin-tickets-30926390667>

Sunday, February 5, 2017, 11:30

Black History Month Mass & Day of Prayer for the African and African American Family at St. Katharine Drexel Parish 517 Blue Hill Avenue, Grove Hall with Rev. A. Gerard Jordan, O. Praem, Celebrant. Reception immediately following Mass.



Upcoming Events

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." As we reflect upon the beatitudes, let us explore how to understand our spouse better by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Mar 17-19, 2017 in South Kingstown, RI and Jun 10-11, 2017 in Medway, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at 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.

Prayer of St. Thomas Aquinas

Grant me,
O Lord my God,
a mind to know you,
a heart to seek you,
wisdom to find you,
conduct pleasing to you,
faithful perseverance
in waiting for you,
and a hope of
finally embracing you.
Amen.