

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, February 11, 2017

4:00PM Maureen Manning Memorial

Sunday, February 12, 2017

7:00 AM Marshall Speer Anniversary

9:30 AM Irene Lund Anniversary

11:30 AM John J. Bradley Anniversary

Monday, February 13, 2017

7:00 AM Kathleen Walbridge Memorial

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

7:00 AM Domenica & Camillo Leonida Memorial

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

7:00 AM

Thursday, February 16, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, February 17, 2017

7:00 AM

Saturday, February 18, 2017

4:00 PM Paul Kerr, Hannah Spolsino and Rita Powers Anniversary

Sunday, February 19, 2017

7:00 AM

9:30 AM Karen O'Neil Anniversary

11:30AM Kevin Casey Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—64%

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

Collection Report


Offertory Envelopes	\$ 4,602.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 3,347.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,291.25
Total Offertory	\$ 9,240.25

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



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prior to today's Gospel from Matthew in which Jesus puts before us some very specific instructions on the Ten Commandments, we have the reading from Sirach, which begins: **"If you choose**, you can keep the commandments, they will save you; **if you trust in God**, you too shall live." We are the creations of a God whose love knows no limits, whose desire for relationship with us is beyond our imaginations. Our loving God does not force this relationship but rather gives us the freedom to choose whether or not we will participate in it. Our faithful God proves to us over and over his trustworthiness from the beginning of time. If we choose and if we trust, we become better-equipped to follow the law of the Lord. If we choose and if we trust, we participate in the eternal hidden plan of God; and we will one day find out "what God has prepared for those who love him." 



SFA/SC Bereavement Group... Our group begins **THIS Tuesday, February 14 from 1 – 2:30PM** in the St. Francis of Assisi church hall (use the parking lot entrance to the church and take the elevator or stairs to the lower level). 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 joining us. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month and offer a good supply of coffee, tea, snacks, and tissues! For this session, we will use the book, *The New Day Journal*. This book provides "a journey from grief to healing for people coping with the loss of a loved one." Books will be available on the 14th for new members. If you are a returning member and have this book, please bring it with you. If you have questions, please feel free to call the parish office and speak with Linda (lmuldoon@sfab.org).



Food Pantry



Food Collection Sunday is next weekend... We always welcome your donations of non-perishable grocery items on the 3rd Sunday of every month—Our Food Collection Sunday. We have a pretty good supply of canned food from the “Souper Bowl” conducted by SFA school students, but we can always use cereal, pancake and baking mixes, pasta and mac & cheese, rice and instant potatoes and other sides. If you prefer not to shop but would like to help out financially (your donation allows us to shop for pantry items that are in short supply or to offer limited and specific financial assistance), please use one of the blue envelopes found in the church and place it in the offertory basket or the rectory mail slot. If you prefer to write a check, please do so payable to St. Vincent DePaul with SFA on the memo line. We also welcome gift cards—to Shaw’s and Stop & Shop and also to local coffee or fast food places. Most of us think nothing about grabbing a coffee or a sandwich on the run, but that is not the case for our pantry clients. God bless you for the difference your caring can make!

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry also meets THIS Tuesday, February 14 at 7PM in the church hall. Newcomers are always welcome to join us as we create prayer shawls for new babies and for those who are hospitalized, homebound, or going through a difficult time.



In the Gospel, Jesus says: “Whoever fulfills and teaches these commands shall be great in the kingdom of God.” **By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent DePaul, you indeed put your faith into action as you fulfill the commands**

of Jesus.

GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

As of Wednesday our **Grand Annual Collection** was \$63,300 from 286 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.

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 Tuesday, February 14 at 7:00PM 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 Tuesday, February 14 from 1-2:30PM.
- **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



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.



CONGRATULATIONS – On behalf of the SFA's School Community, I would like to extend a word of congratulations to Thao Ho (8th grade), Anthony Apromollo (7th grade), Grace Burgoyne (6th grade) and Alexandra Lacandula (5th grade) winners of our SFA Spelling Bee. These students will compete in

the South Area Catholic School's Regional Spelling Bee held at St. Francis of Assisi School on March 9th.

SFA's Got Talent Show – This past Friday evening, our School Hall was rocking with talent as SFA held its 4th Annual SFA's Got Talent Show. The evening was Spectacular with a variety of over 30 acts. Congratulations to all our students for showcasing and sharing their talents with our school community. I would like to offer a special word of thanks to our coordinators, Mrs. Wilkinson, Mrs. Rousseau, Mrs. Barber and Miss Gratta, as well as our Master of Ceremonies, Mrs. Hamilton.

Enroll Today

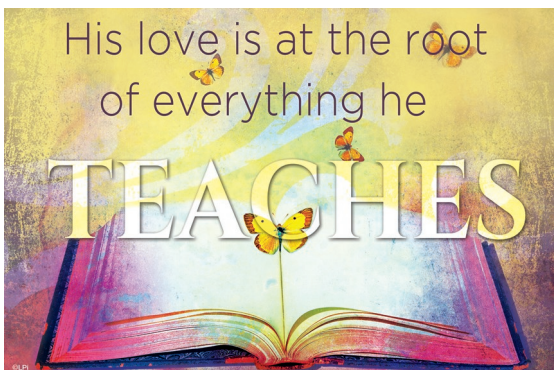
St. Francis of Assisi School offers a rolling admissions policy. For more information regarding our admissions procedure, simply visit our school's website (www.sfab.org) or contact us at (781) 848-0842. Are you interested learning more about what SFA has to offer for your child, its curriculum and extracurricular 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.

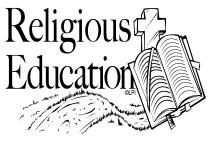


"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes' and your 'No' mean 'No.'" - Mt 5:33-34a, 37

Readings for the Week of February 12, 2017

- Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37
- Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21/Mk 8:11-13
- Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10/Mk 8:14-21
- Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/Ps 116:12-15, 18-19/ Mk 8:22-26
- Thursday: Gn 9:1-13/Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23/ Mk 8:27-33
- Friday: Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-15/Mk 8:34--9:1
- Saturday: Heb 11:1-7/Ps 145:2-5, 10-11/ Mk 9:2-13
- Next Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48





Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

Classes meet as scheduled for Religious Education:
Sunday, February 12 10:30-11:30 Gr. 1-5

Class in the school—Safety Sunday.

Sunday, February 12 5:00 – 7:00 Gr. 10
Class at St. Clare.

We will be attending Mass as part of this class.

Next class February 26 at St. Clare.

Monday, February 13, 2017 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in the school - Safety Monday.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in the school—Safety Tuesday.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 6:30- 7:45 Gr. 6-8
No classes this week.

Thursday, February 16, 2017 6:00-7:30 Gr. 9
Class this week at St. Clare.

CONFIRMATION IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Confirmation I (Grade 9): You are expected to attend Mass with Grade 10 on Sunday, March 5, at 6:00. This is an important part of your Confirmation program.

INVITATION: Please know that all the young people and their parents in the Confirmation Program are welcome and encouraged to attend the **Drug Epidemic Meeting** taking place at St. Francis of Assisi on **Saturday, February 18th from 10:30 to 11:30 am.** The meeting is sponsored by the Catholic Daughters in the hope of raising awareness of a serious problem. We don't want to see this sign in Massachusetts. We fear for the young people who turn to drugs to dull their feelings. To be truly human is to be truly alive; and sometimes being alive is painful! BUT THERE IS HOPE ... Come and join us and be part of the solution! (We consider this a community service event and we ask our young people to bring a \$5.00 donation for the cause.)



The **Respect for Life Baby Shower** is coming up on **Monday, February 27, at 6:30.** Anyone can participate in this service by attending and bringing one baby gift. Parishioners are welcome to attend or make a donation towards this worthy cause.



"It is not enough to LOVE, people have to feel that they are LOVED."
Saint Don Bosco

Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Stay Close and God Bless,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

- | | | |
|--------|----------|---------|
| OBEDY | ANGRY | PROMISE |
| BETTER | FAITHFUL | KEEP |
| MURDER | THOUGHTS | SWEAR |

Y T O B U O M E U Y S
A G L S W E A R O T I
B R E H T I N Y E H A
C I F O R A G E Y O M
E S A T I B R O T U A
O D I S K D Y I E G C
B E T T E R M U N H D
E S H B E T Y R A T A
Y T F A P R O M I S E
A C U H I S E F O L U
W Y L A N M U R D E R

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Sharing the Gospel

God's rules stop you from hurting yourself and the people around you. God knows that if you really love him, you will want to follow his rules. You will trust him. You will want to be thoughtful and kind. You will want to love people the way God does.

Prayer

God, help me to follow your rules with my whole heart.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself cheerfully helping your parents dust and vacuum your house.

Mission for the Week

Ask your parents to list three ways you can honor them.



From the Archdiocese of Boston

February 12 ~ Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's all about the Law this week. Sirach gives us great insight, "If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you;" The law is all about freedom - our choice: "Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him." This chapter in Matthew's Gospel has sets the bar high - it's not simply about doing good and avoiding evil, there's more: "whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven." To borrow an old-fashioned - some would say, quaint - phrase, do you set a good example? And not just in front of children, what about conversations, language, and actions with adults? Think about it. Pray for what you need: Temperate Speech? Greater kindness? Patience?



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, February 22, 2017, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine, 1105 Boylston St., Boston. The topic is: The Various Forms of Consecrated Life. If you are interested in attending, please respond to Sister Marian Batho, CSJ, Delegate for Religious, Sr_Marian_Batho@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 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.



MEETING CHRIST IN PRAYER is an 8 week guided prayer experience based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. It calls for a commitment of eight weeks of daily prayer and eight weekly meetings of faith sharing. The Office of Spiritual Life is offering this program at The Pastoral Center, 66 Brooks Drive, Braintree on Wednesday mornings during Lent, March 8 through April 26, 2017 at 10:30 am - 11:45. For further information and to register call: Sister Anne D'Arcy 617-779- 3648 or e-mail: sdarcy@rcab.org.

An Opportunity to Deepen Your Faith

Cursillo is a short course in Christianity, which offers the participants a vibrant experience of the Christian Life and a method for living as an active member of the Church. The English Cursillo Weekends for the Archdiocese are being held at the Campion Center, Weston, Massachusetts. The dates for the Cursillo Weekends are:

Women's Weekend March 2-5, 2017

Men's Weekend March 30 - April 2, 2017

For information and registration please check the Archdiocesan Cursillo Website: www.bostoncursillo.org or call Mrs. Mary Ann McLaughlin, at the Office of Spiritual Life at 617-779-3640, or email us at: spiritual_development@rcab.org.



Upcoming Events

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA

On Saturday, February 18th the Catholic Daughters of the Americas will be hosting a lecture in St. Francis of Assisi church hall. The lecture is on the current Opioid drug problem that is plaguing our country. The Catholic Daughters' meeting will start at 10:00AM and the **lecture will start at 10:30AM**. We are inviting the Confirmation class to attend this meeting. **This lecture is open to anyone and we ask that you please bring toiletry items for a shelter that one of the lecturers sponsors.**

LIFT Worship Night

Join LIFT Ministries on Tuesday, February 21st @ 7pm for an inspiring night of worship at Immaculate Conception Church in Nashua, NH with speaker Fr. Matt Williams. 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. Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!



"For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God." Let the Holy Spirit scrutinize and strengthen your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Mar 17-19, 2017 in South Kingstown, Rland Apr 22-23, 2017 in Brewster, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at www.WWME.org.

