

# 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, February 18, 2017

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

## Sunday, February 19, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

9:30 AM Karen O'Neil Anniversaries

11:30 AM Kevin Casey Anniversaries

## Monday, February 20, 2017

7:00 AM

## Tuesday, February 21, 2017

7:00 AM

## Wednesday, February 22, 2017

7:00 AM

## Thursday, February 23, 2017

7:00 AM

## Friday, February 24, 2017

7:00 AM

## Saturday, February 25, 2017

4:00 PM Buddy & Sheila Trabucco Memorial

## Sunday, February 26, 2017

7:00 AM Benjamin Venuti Anniversaries

9:30 AM Jerry Foley and Mary & James Donahue Memorial

11:30AM John McDonough Anniversaries

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	\$ 3,995.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,983.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,291.25
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 8,269.25</b>

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



### 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow." At first glance, we might think this instruction refers only to money or possessions. Jesus would surely want us to be generous with our finances, and in the spirit of today's Gospel, to give without seeking to receive. However, the principle also applies to our time and our talents.

Most likely, some of the people God has placed in our lives are "asking" for our time: children in need of care; elderly parents; neighbors or friends experiencing sickness, etcetera. Often, the needs of others do not coincide perfectly with our own plans. Rather, serving our families and communities frequently requires a change in our normal program of life. When such interruptions occur, do we share our time and attention freely, handing over our "cloak" as well without a grumble or a grudge?

And what about the use of our God-given talents? We have all been blessed in different ways with gifts that can strengthen our communities. When our abilities could be useful to others, are we willing to share them without seeking recompense? Gifts of organization or artistry, culinary or mechanical skills, musical or ministerial talents...what we have received can be a blessing to those in our parish, our workplace, our neighborhood, and our family. Rather than being stingy with the treasures God has given us, may we be willing to follow the Lord's command to go the extra mile.

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## GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

As of Wednesday our **Grand Annual Collection** was \$63,500 from 287 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.



From the desk of the  
Pastoral Associate  
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



Today, in the book of Leviticus, we hear the Lord say to Moses, “Be holy, for I the LORD, your God, am holy.” Holy is hard to do. So many distractions and temptations swirl around us! I don’t know about you, but I sometimes find myself delaying holiness. I rationalize it away with, “Later.” Somedays, there are as many items in my “later” box as there are in my inbox. My “laters” can include formal prayer/reading, informal prayer, and even simple conversations with the Lord about the day to come or the day just finished. Other “laters” can be the difficult phone call, the challenging email, the awkward in-person conversation, the task on my calendar I’d rather avoid, the errand for someone I’d rather not run. I look at those “laters” and see how they wrap into the first reading and into the two great commandments given us by Jesus himself. Hmmm... Perhaps that is why I feel so much better when the “later” list is small or non-existent! How blessed we are indeed that “The LORD is kind and merciful.”



Thank you to everyone for your donations today of non-perishable groceries on our monthly Food Collection Sunday. Although we designate the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month for this, know that if you miss it or run across a great

sale or find extra money in your pocket, you can always stop by the parish office, Monday – Friday, 9AM – 4PM and we will gratefully accept whatever you choose to donate! And if you would like to help today, we welcome your financial assistance. Please use a blue SVDP envelope you can find throughout the church (checks to St. Vincent DePaul with SFA on the memo line) and drop it in the collection basket or the rectory mail slot. Money received helps us to supplement our pantry and offer limited financial assistance to folks who are struggling, right here in Braintree!



The parish office will be closed on Monday, February 20 in observance of President’s 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...** Meets Thursday, February 23 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 ...** We cancelled last week’s start date because of the weather and walking conditions. Please continue to watch the bulletin and website for more information. Thank you.
- **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

February is the shortest month of the year, especially with three snow days already.



This year as a service project for the month of February, our students participated in the "Jump Rope for Heart" program. Through this community service effort, our students had the opportunity to learn how to take care of their hearts, and our school donated to the American Heart Association.

This past week, our students began, as part of their regularly-scheduled physical education class, jumping rope for this cause.

On Wednesday, we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school at SFA. Throughout the school, many of our classrooms celebrated with special lessons and activities in observance of this unique day. Where has this school, year gone?

Students and teachers alike are always pleased that their mid-winter vacation comes in February. This year, the school vacation will begin on Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, Presidents' Day, and will conclude on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to welcoming all our students when they return to school on Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. May they all have a safe, healthy and wonderful vacation.



# 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](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.



**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.

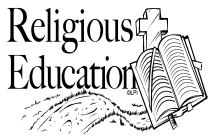


**"You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well." - Mt 5:38-39**

## Readings for the Week of February 19, 2017

- Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13/1Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48
- Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29
- Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37
- Wednesday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6/Mt 16:13-19
- Thursday: Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Mk 9:41-50
- Friday: Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34-35/Mk 10:1-12
- Saturday: Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-18/Mk 10:13-16
- Next Sunday: Is 49:14-15/Ps 62:2-3, 6-9/1 Cor 4:1-5/Mt 6:24-34





Mrs. Diane Hopkins  
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli  
Phone 781.848.3238

There are no classes this week due to February school vacation.

Sunday, February 19 10:30-11:30 Gr. 1-5

No classes this week—Next class March 5.

Sunday, February 19 5:00 – 7:00 Gr. 10

No classes this week.

Next class February 26 at St. Clare.

Monday, February 20, 2017 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5

No classes this week—Next class February 27.

Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5

No classes this week—Next class February 28.

Tuesday, February 21, 2017 6:30- 7:45 Gr. 6-8

No classes this week—Next class February 28.

Thursday, February 23, 2017 6:00-7:30 Gr. 9

No classes this—Next class March 16 at St. Clare.

Mass March 5 at 6:00PM—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.



The **Respect for Life Baby Shower** is coming up on **Monday, February 27, at 6:30PM** in the church hall at **St. Francis of Assisi**. Anyone in the Confirmation Program can

participate in this service by attending and bringing a baby gift (ie. diapers of any size are most appreciated.) All parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Clare are welcome to attend or make a donation towards this worthy cause.

**Confirmation II (Grade 10):** **Next Class: February 26 at St. Clare.** On Sunday, March 5, we will have class at 5:00PM and attend Mass at 6:00PM with Confirmation I (Grade 9).

Enjoy the school vacation week and remember... you may be the answer to someone's prayer!

*"Pleasure is a poor substitute for the happiness we desire. It is fleeting and we yearn for something that is lasting... It is only by placing God at the center of everything that we can make sense of life."* – Matthew Kelly, Resisting Happiness

**The Lord is kind and merciful.**

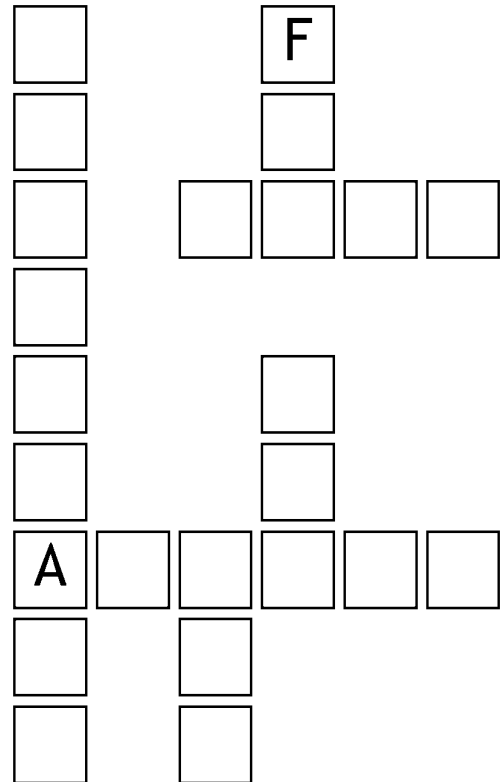
Stay Close and God Bless,  
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



 **Puzzle**

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

**Pray for anyone who mistreats you.**



©LPi

**Sharing the Gospel**

After you let God's love fill your heart you will act different. If someone at school is mean to you, you won't get even. You will pray for her instead, with love in your heart. If your parents ask you to make your bed, you will do it cheerfully. With God's help you can do a lot of good.

**Prayer**

God, help me to love other people the way you do.

**Something to Draw**

Draw a picture of yourself praying for someone who hurt you.

**Mission for the Week**

Pick up your toys and help with the dishes, without waiting to be asked.



## From the Archdiocese of Boston

### February 19 ~ Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

“So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Perfect? Seriously? Jesus is at it again – asking an awful lot of us: turn the other cheek, hand over your cloak as well as your tunic, asked to walk a mile?, walk two. All of this is building up to the big one: LOVE YOUR ENEMIES and PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU. But don’t despair, Saint Paul shows us that it is possible. We find hope in his letter to the Corinthians: “... you are the temple of God, ... the Spirit of God dwells in you..” We – you – can do anything if you are open to the power of God, the love of Jesus, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:spiritual_development@rcab.org).



## Upcoming Events

### 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](http://www.liftedhigher.com). Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!



The Society for the Propagation of the Faith cordially invites you to attend the exclusive Boston premiere of the major motion picture:

**THE SHACK**

**Thursday, March 2, 2017**

**Doors open at 6:30 p.m., Premiere begins at 7:00 p.m.**

**AMC Framingham 16, 22 Flutie Pass**

**Framingham, MA**

All seats in the theatre are reserved for this event - over 800 are available through The Propagation of the Faith. Groups will be seated together on a first-come, first-served basis, so be sure to be there when the doors open at 6:30pm!

Sign up by emailing [info@propfaithboston.org](mailto:info@propfaithboston.org) with the following info: number of people attending, parish or ministry, and contact name and email of your group leader. Individuals may request tickets as well.

While the tickets are complimentary, we request that attendees prayerfully consider a Lenten gift to benefit children in the missions. An opportunity to donate will be available the night of the event in the theater. See you at the movies!