

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, April 8, 2017

4:00PM James Fahey Anniversary

Sunday, April 9 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

9:30 AM Giacomo & Liberata DiCenso Memorial

11:30 AM Sheila Baraggia Anniversary

Monday, April 10, 2017

7:00 AM Eugene & Dick Hamel Memorial

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

7:00 AM Mary Donahue Memorial

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

7:00 AM James Dooley Memorial

Thursday, April 13, 2017

9:00 AM Holy Thursday Morning Prayer

Friday, April 14, 2017

9:00 AM Good Friday Morning Prayer

Saturday, April 15, 2017

9:00 AM Holy Saturday Morning Prayer

4:00PM NO Mass at this time

Sunday, April 16, 2017

7:00 AM Alleluia!

9:30 AM He Is

11:30AM Risen

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—77%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 6,389.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,282.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,291.25
Total Offertory	\$ 9,962.25

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



Holy Thursday, April 13

9:00AM Morning Prayer St. Francis

7:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper St. Francis

7:30PM Mass of the Lord's Supper St. Clare

Good Friday, April 14

9:00AM Morning Prayer St. Francis

12:00PM Stations of the Cross St. Clare

12:10PM Stations of the Cross St. Francis

3:00PM Passion Service Both Parishes

7:00PM Passion Service St. Francis

Holy Saturday, April 15

9:00AM Morning Prayer St. Francis

8:30PM Easter Vigil Both Parishes

Please Note There is NO 4:00PM Mass in either parish.

Easter Sunday, April 16

Regular Sunday Mass schedule in both parishes.

Please pick up a copy of the special Confessions schedule at the church entrances.



Give up time this Lent to learn how God's word becomes our prayer.

Join us for a Survey of the Psalms with Celia Sirois of CHRISM this Tuesday for the final session from 7-8:30PM in the St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall. The suggested offering for all CHRISM courses is \$5/session. Pre-registration is not required, please bring your Bible.



THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU — continues this Wednesday and every Wednesday for the duration of Lent from 6:30-8:00PM in our church. In addition to confession, we invite you to spend some quiet time in adoration of the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Please join us in the church hall after all Masses this weekend for refreshments. A member of our staff will be present to assist you in completing your new parish registration form.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



From the desk of the Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



The Holy Week 2017 *Magnificat* contains a reflection on Palm Sunday written in the seventeenth century by St. Francis de Sales. In it, he describes three qualities found in the simple beast of burden, the ass, requested by Jesus for his entrance into Jerusalem. Humility. Patience. Obedience. We see that Jesus himself embodies these attributes in the events that unfold in today's gospel and passion narrative from Matthew and in the Holy Week readings. Jesus tells his apostles, Jesus tells us on Holy Thursday: "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

For most of us, that model given by Jesus is a challenge. Holy Week gives us the opportunity to reflect on the life and times, the passion and death of Jesus Christ. It also provides us with a lens to reflect on our lives, to look back a little, but mostly to look forward—with renewed humility, patience, and obedience—to the glory of Christ's Resurrection and to the redemption and renewal that his Paschal Sacrifice offers to all of us.



WE NEED YOUR HELP



We need a few volunteers who can spare just an hour or so of their time to decorate our church for Easter. Our flower order is scheduled for delivery this Saturday, April 15, at 12NN. We need folks who can lift, folks with an eye for color and placement, and folks who simply enjoy being around flowers. This is an opportunity to come by yourself or to invite a family member or friend to accompany you, to see almost immediate (and beautiful) results, and to contribute to and be a part of our Easter celebrations. We are hoping for 6 volunteers. Please call or email the parish office if you are interested—781.843.1332 or parish@sfab.org. *For their safety, please plan to leave the little ones at home.*



April 9—Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord... Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life. **Please support the Society of St.**

Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the poor as they carry their cross of suffering and pain.

One way to support SVDP and help the poor is to participate in our **Food Collection Sunday**, held on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Next weekend, we will welcome your donations of non-perishable food items, paper products, small toiletries, and cleaning supplies. Or—if you would prefer to help us financially, please use the blue SVDP envelopes found in the church and place your offering (cash or checks written to St. Vincent DePaul with St. Francis of Assisi [or SFA] on the memo line) into the collection basket or the rectory mail slot. Because of your past generosity, we recently purchased 40 Easter meals to distribute to our pantry clients. Thank you for your support!



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, April 11 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 ...** Please continue to watch the bulletin and website for more information. In the meantime if you are struggling and would like to speak to a member of the clergy, please call the parish office. 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. 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



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
 Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
 Phone 781.848.3238

New England CYO Tournament – What an Outstanding Season and Accomplishment to represent Boston in the New England CYO Basketball Tournament in Bridgeport CT this past weekend. Unfortunately, our boys were defeated by St. Joseph School of Danbury, CT (40 - 29). Not only last weekend, but throughout the entire season, our boys played hard and demonstrated great sportsmanship. A special word of thanks to our coaches Mr. Rainford, Mr. Paula & Ms. Huff-Larmond for their leadership and coaching abilities; as well as to all our supportive parents and friends! A special word of thanks to our boys for representing SFA so well and know that we are so proud of them!

SFA's 2nd Annual Spring Social – Come celebrate and join us for SFA's 2nd Annual Spring Social on Friday, May 12 at 6:00PM at Great Pond Hall in Braintree. Our event last year was a spectacular time; socializing as a community, as well as raising financial support to benefit our students. Like last year, our event will include a fun DJ, delicious hearty appetizers, desserts, and a cash bar. We will have one-of-a-kind raffles, interactive fundraising games, a "wall of wine," and an amazing silent auction featuring tickets to Walt Disney World, and more! The funds raised at this year's Spring Social will assist us in *continuing to build a foundation for our students today, tomorrow, and our future* as we continue to improve our curriculum offerings, teaching resources, and most specifically, technology needs and advancements. Tickets may be purchased online at <http://sfabraintree.eventbrite.com?s=74493359> or visit our school's website (www.sfab.org) for additional information and details. Once again, child care services will be provided on this evening. As always, we have the greatest appreciation for the generosity of our school families, faculty, staff, parishioners, and friends of St. Francis of Assisi School who never fail to come together to support the mission of our school.

ENROLL TODAY – St. Francis of Assisi School is now accepting applications for all grade levels for the 2017-18 school year. 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 must 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.

Palm Sunday

Alleluia, how the people cheer and palms rustle as the Lord draws near....

Please stay close to the Church during Holy Week to experience the selfless act of God for our salvation.



Classes this week are as scheduled:

Sunday, April 9	10:30-11:30	Gr. 1-5
Palm Sunday Mass followed by P/C session in the school hall. Final class.		
Sunday, April 9	5:00 – 7:00	Gr. 10
Classes at St. Clare. Final Class. Mass at 6:00 with Grade 9.		
Monday, April 10	3:50-4:50	Gr. 1-5
Classes in the school.		
Tuesday, April 11	3:50-4:50	Gr. 1-5
Classes in the school.		
Tuesday, April 11	6:30- 7:45	Gr. 6-8
Classes in school.		

CONFIRMATION IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Please join us on Palm Sunday, April 9th, for Mass at 6:00 at St. Clare with the 10th grade Confirmation Candidates.

Confirmation II (Grade 10) Please make sure I have your Baptismal and Sponsor information.

****The Confirmation Ceremonies and Practices are as follows:**

St. Francis of Assisi (SFA) – Friday, April 21st, at 7:00PM for Candidates (registered through St. Francis of Assisi) with surname from A-L. Candidate and sponsor should arrive by 6:15. **Practice** at SFA at 7:00PM on **April 19th** for Candidate and Sponsor

St. Francis of Assisi (SFA) – Friday, April 28th, at 7:00PM for Candidates (registered through St. Francis of Assisi) with names from M-Z. Candidate and sponsor should arrive by 6:15. **Practice** at SFA at 7:00 pm on **April 26th** for Candidate and Sponsor

St. Clare – Saturday, April 29th, at 11:00 am for all Candidates registered through St. Clare. **Practice** at St. Clare at 7:00 on **April 27th** for Candidate and sponsor

**** (excluding previously changed arrangements)**

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Stay Close and God Bless,
 Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



Kids Corner

Puzzle

Help Jesus get to Jerusalem.

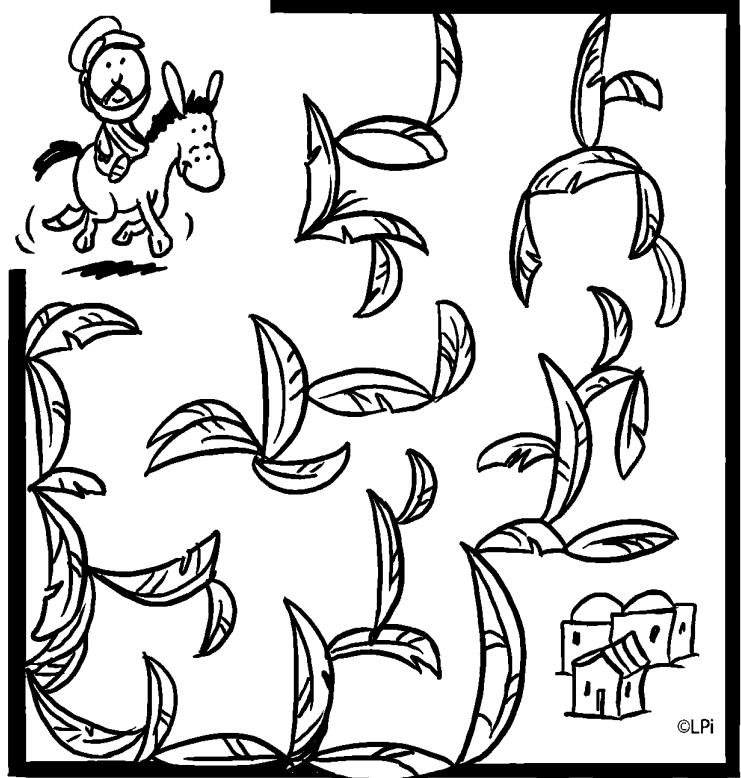
**"Hosanna to the Son of David;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
hosanna in the highest."
And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was
shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds
replied, "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in
Galilee." - Mt 21:9-11**

PALM SUNDAY

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Readings for the Week of April 9, 2017

- Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20,
23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 or
27:11-54
- Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1-3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11
- Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15, 17/
Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
- Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34/
Mt 26:14-25
- Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/
Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21
- Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc,
17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
- Friday: Is 52:13-53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17,
25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42
- Saturday: Vigil: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6,
10, 12-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13,
20-22/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13,
15-18/Ps 16:5, 8-11/Ex 14:15-15:1/
Ex 15:1-6, 17-18/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4-6,
11-13/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-6/Bar 3:9-15,
32-4:4/Ps 19:8-11/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/
Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-6 or
Ps 51:12-15, 18-19/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2,
16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10
- Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17,
22-23/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or
Mt 28:1-10 or Lk 24:13-35



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Sharing the Gospel

Many years earlier, God's prophets had written about the Savior. He would heal the blind, he would raise the dead, and he would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey as a gentle king. The people knew Jesus was the Savior they had been waiting for. They treated him like a king.

Prayer

Jesus, help me to treat you like my king.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself waving a branch for Jesus.

Mission for the Week

Make your own palm branch to wave for Jesus at home. Cut an oval out of green construction paper. Then make cuts toward the middle (but not all the way through) for leaves.



From the Archdiocese of Boston

April 9 ~ Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

This story never gets old. How quickly things change, from "Hosanna" and palm branches to "Crucify him! Crucify him!". Strange that it was Pilate who asked: "Are you the king of the Jews?" And then, correctly, publicly, identified him: "...they placed over his head the written charge against him: This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." He is our King. During this holiest week of the year, spend some time in church or in quiet prayer reflecting on the way of the Cross (the Stations) with the One Who died for you. On Good Friday – good because it is the day we were redeemed – when we sing "Were You There" will you be able to say, Yes, Lord, I walked – and will continue to walk - with you?



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, April 19, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Sisters of Saint Joseph, 637 Cambridge Street, Brighton. Father David Barnes will offer an Easter Evening of Recollection.

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.

CATHOLIC APPEAL—Through your support of the 2017 Catholic Appeal, we are able to bring the Gospel message to life. If you have yet to make a pledge to this year's Catholic Appeal, please complete a pledge form available in the back of the church or visit bostoncatholicappeal.org. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Holy Week Prayer

Loving God,

I am just beginning to realize how much you love me. Your son, Jesus was humble and obedient. He fulfilled your will for him by becoming human and suffering with us.

I ask you for the desire to become more humble so that my own life might also bear witness to you. I want to use the small sufferings I have in this world to give you glory.

Please, Lord, guide my mind with your truth.

Strengthen my life by the example of Jesus.

Help me to be with Jesus in this week as he demonstrates again his total love for me. He died so that I would no longer be separated from you. Help me to feel how close you are and to live in union with you.

From One Prayer A Day—Creighton University



Upcoming Events

Early Bird Special—Boston & South Shore Men's Prayer Gathering, **Saturday, 7:00-8:30AM** at St. Mary of the Hills Lower Church, 29 St. Mary's Road (off Brook Road), Milton. Prayer; Coffee and refreshments; Presentation and discussion. Next meeting April 15. Topic: St. Joseph, Father by Geoff FitzGerald Early Bird Member .

LIFT Worship Night

Join LIFT Ministries on Tuesday, April 18th @ 7pm for an inspiring night of worship at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Hanson, MA with guest speaker Fr. Stan Fortuna. 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!

BRAINTREE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS

The Braintree Catholic Women's Club has two \$1,000 scholarships available to high school seniors who will be graduating this year. One will be awarded to a Braintree High School senior and the other will be awarded to a BRAINTREE senior graduating from a Catholic high school. Notices have been sent to all participating schools. The deadline for this scholarship is April 15, 2017. Please contact the guidance department of your school requesting an application, or call Mrs. Margaret Hart, BCWC Scholarship Chairperson at 781-849-1755.



APRIL 18

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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. 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.



Pray for Vocations

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