

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 29, 2017

4:00PM Nancy Gorman Anniversary

Sunday, April 30, 2017

7:00 AM Henry & Mildred Nilan Memorial

9:30 AM Donna Daly Anniversary

11:30 AM Edwin & Eleanor Pitera Memorial

Monday, May 1, 2017

7:00 AM Eleanor Lucey Memorial

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

7:00 AM Mary Gannon Memorial

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

7:00 AM Ruben Lanot Anniversary

Thursday, May 4, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, May 5, 2017

7:00 AM Norma L. Cheney-Davis Anniversary

Saturday, May 6, 2017

4:00PM

Sunday, May 7, 2017

7:00 AM Jack Walsh Memorial

9:30 AM Vito Cannavo Anniversary

11:30AM Deceased Members of the Curran Family Memorial

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—68%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 4,648.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,791.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,291.25
Total Offertory	\$ 8,730.25

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



Thursday, May 4 has been designated a National Day of Prayer.

God of Abraham, Isaac, Moses,
we cry out to you for wisdom and compassion.
You led the early Jews out of slavery, to freedom.
You led the disciples of Jesus after the crucifixion to
courageously preach the Gospel.
Today, we seek your wisdom to preach the good news in our
country.
Grant wisdom and faith to our elected leaders, the people
we choose to lead our country, to make choices that are
based upon your teaching.
Where laws are made that go against your will, give us
courage to change policy,
not based upon our comfort, but upon principles taught in
Scripture.
We ask all this in the name of Jesus, our brother and Christ,
who lives and reign with you, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.



And it happened that, while [Jesus] was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. - Lk 24:30-31

Readings for the Week of April 30, 2017

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29
Joseph the Worker: Gn 1:26--2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16/Mt 13:54-58

Tuesday: Acts 7:51--8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a/Jn 14:6-14

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-17/Jn 6:60-69

Next Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-6/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



From the desk of the Pastoral
Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



The Third Sunday of Easter

Sometimes, we miss what is right in front us! Because our days can be filled with distractions—difficulties, worries, lack of sleep, busy schedules, phones at our fingertips—we are not so good at being in the moment or truly present. Sometimes what is right in front of us is someone in need of something from us. Sometimes what is right in front of us is someone loving us. Almost always, in the need, and in the love, is Jesus himself. Let us pray that our eyes be opened to the needs of others, let us pray that Jesus be made known to us today and always in the breaking of the bread. Let us be in the moment (for more than a minute) when we listen to the words of Sacred Scripture and when we receive our Lord in the Eucharist. And maybe, just maybe—our hearts will burn within us.



It's CORI time again! Thank you to the many volunteers and staff who have returned their renewal CORI. We have submitted 75 forms and are almost halfway there! A couple of weeks ago, we mailed these forms to all volunteers. Since volunteer ministry can be fluid at times, we may have missed some of you. So—if you volunteer for our parish and did not receive a CORI in the mail (or forgot or misplaced it), please, after the Masses this weekend, stop by the table near the Mary statue in the right front corner of the church. All you need to have with you is a photo ID—for most folks, that's a MA driver's license or a passport. You can also call (781.843.1332), email (lmuldoon@sfab.org) or stop by (M-F, 9-4) the parish office to obtain or return your CORI. Your cooperation is most appreciated!

Third Sunday of Easter

In this Sunday's Gospel, as we hear the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we also come to know that our daily reaching out to our neighbor is our daily walk with the risen Christ; we recognize him in others. **This month, through your gifts, our SVDP conference brought the love and care of Jesus in food and other assistance to families and individuals right here in Braintree.**



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 Tuesday, May 9 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 ...** Begins May 9 please see below 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. 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.

Bereavement Support Group...

A new group will begin at St Francis of Assisi on Tuesday, May 9 from 1-2:30PM in the church hall. The group will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays for May (9 & 23) and June (13 & 27) and on the 2nd Tuesday in July (11) and August (8). If you are mourning the loss of a loved one and looking for a faith-based, confidential group where you can share your experience and learn from the wisdom of others, please join us. For more information, call the parish office or email lmuldoon@sfab.org.





From
Mr. Brian Cote
 Principal

April Showers Bring May Flowers – As the month of May quickly approaches, we have so much to celebrate and such wonderful things happening at St. Francis of Assisi School. Many of our students in grade two will make their First Holy Communion next weekend. Throughout the month, our students in grades one through eight will be administered the NWEA MAP Spring Assessment. In addition to our strong academics, many enrichment and extra-curricular activities and programs will take place including field trips to Freedom Trail, Plymouth Plantation and Washington DC. We will also celebrate National Teacher’s & Nurse’s Days; and thank our wonderful faculty and staff for their dedication and commitment, as well as, the many gifts and talents that they bring to SFA.

Science Fair – Congratulations to all our students in grades 6 – 8 for their participation in our Annual Science Fair that was held this past week. All our students did an outstanding job in preparing and presenting their individual projects. A special word of congratulations to our top three finalists in each grade level who competed in our Regional Science Fair on Thursday evening, April 27, 2017. Our finalists include Grade 6 – 1st place John Ictech (*The Best Stain Removee*), 2nd Grayson Louvar (*The Effect of Video Games*), and 3rd Adrian Velazquez (*Which Fruit Has the Most Vitamin C?*); Grade 7 – 1st Darren Belizaire (*Now You See It, Now You Don’t*), 2nd Breanna Pham (*Science of Making Perfume*), and 3rd Daniel Murtagh (*Detergent: Do Sudsy or Non-Sudsy Detergents Work Better?*); Grade 8 – 1st Grace McDonald (*Can Music Give You Energy?*), 2nd Tyler Dao (*Homemade Vacuum Chamber*) and 3rd Kendall Phan (*How Heavy is a Bubble?*).

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.

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.



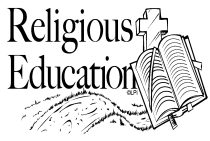
Parish Registration Forms

By now all registered parishioners should have received a new parish registration form. **Please return this form even if you have been a parishioner for many years.** It can be mailed, dropped off at the parish office, or placed in the collection basket on Sunday. If you did not receive a form but are interested in joining our parish we welcome you. Gold-colored registration forms are available at the church entrances. **ALL INFORMATION SUBMITTED WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.** If you or someone you know has received a letter for someone who no longer resides at your address, please notify the parish office so we can update our records. Thank you for your cooperation.

A community rosary will be held on the grounds of St. Francis of Assisi, 856 Washington Street, Braintree on Sunday April 30, 2017 beginning at 9:00AM.

Everyone is invited to attend. We will gather outdoors on the side of the church at the memorial to the unborn children. In the event of inclement weather, we will gather in the sanctuary. The community rosary will be led by the Knights of Columbus Braintree Council as part of the 5th Sunday Rosary Program. A supply of rosary rings and prayer cards on how to pray the rosary will be available.





Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

Classes are completed for this school year.



Catechists, thank you so much for sharing your faith with the youth of our parish. We can never express enough how thankful we are to have you in our program.

Students, thank you for being with us this year. We look forward to seeing you again in the fall.

We pray that Jesus will be watching over all of you as you enjoy summer activities and bless you with a wonderful, safe, happy and healthy summer. Please remember all that you learned this year in classes and act in a way this summer that those who have not learned about Jesus will learn about Him because they have come to know you.

Congratulations to all the newly Confirmed young people of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Clare! You are no ordinary young people as you were chosen by God and gifted with the grace needed to live as the chosen people of God. We are praying for you to respond to this grace for the rest of your lives, not only for your sake, but for the sake of the whole world which desperately needs more saints. *Be one!*

“Remember, then, that you received a spiritual wisdom and understanding, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear. Keep safe what you received. God the Father sealed you, Christ the Lord strengthened you and sent the Spirit into your hearts as the pledge of what is to come.” – St. Ambrose



Next weekend will be the start of our **First Communions**. Parents will be receiving reminder emails on Monday. This is a beautiful time in our parish when children receive the Holy Eucharist and the graces that go with it for the first time. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do.

Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Stay Close and God Bless,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



Puzzle

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

Emmaus	Christ	village
talking	Moses	bread
Cleopas	Prophets	Simon

Emuams	<u> E m m a u s </u>
Pohprets	_____
vliagel	_____
taklign	_____
Crihts	_____
berda	_____
Clapoes	_____
Mesos	_____
Sonim	_____

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Sharing the Gospel

Even though he had risen from the dead, two of Jesus' friends had not seen him yet. These men were still sad and confused. Imagine their surprise when Jesus walked with them, explained the Scriptures about the Savior, and then broke bread for a meal. They saw him alive!

Prayer

Jesus, when I am sad or confused, help me to remember that you are alive and with me always.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus walking with you on a long road.

Mission for the Week

Pack a bag with some snacks and your Bible, and take a long walk with your family. When you stop to eat your snacks, read your favorite story about Jesus.



From the
Archdiocese
of Boston

April 30 ~ Third Sunday of Easter

The Road to Emmaus is a long Gospel passage but well worth reading again – and again: “he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them....their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us...?’” Put yourself in their place. Feel how their sadness and fear turned to joy in the breaking of the bread. Jesus is with us at every Mass in the breaking of the bread: Eucharist. Our hearts should always be burning within us.

PROJECT RACHEL POST-ABORTION HEALING RETREAT

Let the Church always be a place of mercy and hope, where everyone is welcomed, loved and forgiven. – 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 on Saturday, May 20. Location is confidential. Limited to ten participants. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

THE REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY is pleased to announce its 8th Annual Gala Dinner, to be held on Sunday, June 4, 2017, at 5PM, at Boston Marriott Quincy, Quincy. This year’s keynote speaker and honorees are George Weigel, a Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center, and local businessman Ronald J. Brodeur, Braintree. For information, reservations, or to buy space in the Ad Journal, please visit www.rmsboston.org. For all questions, please call 617-879-9814 or email seminary@rmsboston.org. The gala dinner is the Seminary’s main yearly fundraising event. Please help us, if you can, either by attending the dinner or by making a contribution to the Seminary.

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.



Upcoming Events

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Celebrate God’s love and mercy for each other by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Jun 10-11, 2017 in Medway, MA and Sep 16-17, 2017 in Medway, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at www.WWMEMA.org.

Notre Dame Education Center Celebrates Its 25th Anniversary

—The Notre Dame Education Center of South Boston(NDEC) will hold its 25th Anniversary Celebration and Fundraiser on Thursday, May 4, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Venezia Restaurant, 20 Ericsson Street, Boston. There also will be an All-School Reunion for those who attended or graduated from Cardinal Cushing Central High School for Girls. NDEC traces its roots back to Cardinal Cushing High School. For more information about the celebration and the reunion, or to purchase tickets, visit the NDEC web site www.ndecboston.org. To purchase advertising in the Program Booklet, contact Kate Nelson, NDEC25@ndecboston.org, or call 617-268-1912, Ext. 248.

Join LIFT Ministries on Tuesday, May 9th @ 7pm for an inspiring night of worship at St. Bonaventure Church in Plymouth, MA with guest speaker Fr. Paul Soper. 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!

The Braintree Catholic Women’s Club will hold their final meeting of the season on Wednesday, May 10 at 1:30PM in the St. Clare Parish Hall, 1244 Liberty Street. The installation of officers will be held, along with the presentation of scholarship awards to two high school graduating students from Braintree. Chairpersons for this event will be Margaret Hart, tel. # 781-849-1755 and Frances Buonopane, tel. # 781-843-3738.

