

# 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, May 6, 2017

4:00PM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

### Sunday, May 7, 2017

7:00 AM Jack Walsh Memorial  
 9:30 AM Vito Cannavo Anniversary  
 11:30 AM Deceased Members of the Curran Family Memorial

### Monday, May 8, 2017

7:00 AM Mary Richards Anniversary

### Tuesday, May 9, 2017

7:00 AM Alice Beaulieu Anniversary

### Wednesday, May 10, 2017

7:00 AM William Geary Memorial

### Thursday, May 11, 2017

7:00 AM Virginia Gentile Memorial

### Friday, May 12, 2017

7:00 AM Olive Walbridge Anniversary

### Saturday, May 13, 2017

4:00PM Martin Conneely Memorial

### Sunday, May 14, 2017

7:00 AM Jay Mullin Anniversary  
 9:30 AM Brenna Mae Fasano Anniversary  
 11:30AM Louis Campanale, Sr. Anniversary

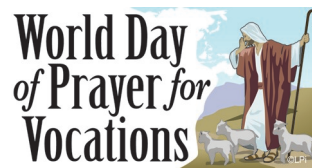
Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:  
 Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—72%

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

## Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 4,750.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,373.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,291.25
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 8,414.25</b>

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



LORD of the Harvest,  
 BLESS young people with the gift of courage to respond to your call.

Open their hearts to great ideals, to great things.

INSPIRE all of your disciples to mutual love and giving—for vocations blossom in the good soil of faithful people.

INSTILL those in religious life, parish ministries, and families with the confidence and grace to invite others to embrace the bold and noble path of a life consecrated to you.

UNITE us to Jesus through prayer and sacrament, so that we may cooperate with you in building your reign of mercy and truth, of justice and peace. Amen.

*Pope Francis*



**"Whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice." - Jn 10:2-4**

Readings for the Week of May 7, 2017

Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-6/  
 1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10  
 Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4/  
 Jn 10:11-18  
 Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-7/Jn 10:22-30  
 Wednesday: Acts 12:24--13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/  
 Jn 12:44-50  
 Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27/  
 Jn 13:16-20  
 Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-11ab/Jn 14:1-6  
 Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 14:7-14  
 Next Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/  
 1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12



From the desk of the Pastoral  
Associate

Mrs. Linda Muldoon

The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter and Good Shepherd Sunday  
and World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Today's readings are both comforting and challenging. So many of us pray **Psalm 23** with the image of the Good Shepherd burned into our hearts—leading us, guiding us, refreshing us, anointing us—giving us repose and courage. Breathe in, breathe out, shoulders down...**Our Good Shepherd calls each one of us by name**, but the choice to follow or not is ours to make. Yes, there is that verdant pasture, but there also are dark valleys along the way. In the dark places, it can be challenging to trust and to remember Who remains at our side. It can be challenging to sort through all the “voices” that call out to us, to all the “paths” that are available to us. Let us listen with our hearts for the voice that calls out to us with love. **And then there's Peter**, raising his voice and proclaiming Jesus as Lord and Christ, calling the people to repentance and baptism. As we pray for vocations today, we of course pray for priests, that many will respond to God's call and use their voices, their preaching skills, to proclaim Jesus. But what about us, in our vocations as single or married folks? When is the last time our voice was heard above the crowd in our daily lives proclaiming the Good News?

**It's CORI time again!** Thank you to the many volunteers and staff who have returned their renewal CORI. We have submitted almost two thirds of the forms we sent out. If you still have your CORI, please return it ASAP. If you volunteer for our parish and did not get a phone call this week or receive a CORI in the mail (or misplaced it), please call (781.843.1332), email ([lmuldoon@sfab.org](mailto:lmuldoon@sfab.org)) or stop by (M-F, 9-4) the parish office. All you need to have with you is a photo ID—for most folks, that's a MA driver's license or a passport. Your cooperation is most appreciated!

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**—Today, we celebrate “Good Shepherd Sunday” where we reflect on Jesus' care and love of us and hear his words, “I came so that they may have life and have it more abundantly.” **By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent DePaul, you will reveal the love of the Good Shepherd to your suffering brothers and sisters.** Our next Food Collection Sunday is May 21, but we gratefully accept donations M–F, 9-4, at the parish office. For those who prefer to help financially, please use the blue envelopes found throughout the church (checks payable to St. Vincent DePaul) and place them in the collection basket or the rectory mail slot. We recently processed some blue envelopes and noticed new participants. Many thanks to you and to our “regulars.”

## 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 THIS Tuesday, May 9 from 1-2:30PM in the church hall. The group will continue to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays for May (9 & 23) and June (13 & 27) and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:lmuldoon@sfab.org).



Bereavement Support





From  
Mr. Brian Cote  
Principal

**Regional Science Fair** – This past week, the 2017 South Regional Science Fair was held at St. Francis Xavier School in Weymouth. Ten schools with a total of 90 students in grades 6 – 8 participated in the fair. The nine students from SFA did an outstanding job representing our school and should be congratulated for their accomplishments. I am pleased to announce with great pride that John Ictech was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Grade 7 category and Tyler Dao was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Grade 8 category. Congratulations John and Tyler!



This weekend, many of our students in grade 2 will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist. Please keep these students in your prayers. I would like to also take this opportunity to thank our parents, as well as Mrs. Lord for their dedication and commitment in preparing the students so well.

**SFA's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Social** – Come celebrate and join us for SFA's 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:bcote@sfab.org). We look forward to possibly serving your family in the spiritual, academic, and social development of your child.

## Parish Registration Forms



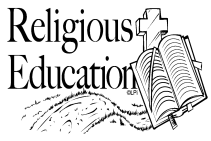
**Thank you** to all who have returned your parish registration form. If you haven't yet returned your form please do so at your earliest convenience. **Please return this form even if you have been a parishioner for many years.** It can be mailed, dropped off at the parish office, or placed in the collection 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.

## "Clean out your Closets and Support Two Great Organizations"

On the weekend of May 13 and 14 The Catholic Daughters of the Americas are having a fundraiser in conjunction with Savers Clothing Store. We are asking that you donate any GENTLY worn clothing, books, small appliances, dishes, shoes or handbags. These items should be bagged and delivered to the basement of either St. Francis or St. Clare, **during Mass Hours Only.** Please **Do Not leave items in doorways, or out on the doorsteps.** Savers will collect and sell the items and then donate a percentage to the Catholic Daughters who will then donate it to a local charity. Savers will also make a donation to the Epilepsy Foundation. Two great causes and an excuse to clean out your closet. Everybody wins!





Mrs. Diane Hopkins  
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli  
Phone 781.848.3238

We received a monetary donation this week from the Presidents Ladies Association in memory of Jeanne Falcione to benefit the children's Religious Education Program here at St. Francis of Assisi. As a member of our community, Jeanne held the religious education program close to her heart. We are very grateful and happy to accept her generous donation. She will be in our prayers. Thank you Jeanne and God Bless.

**Congratulations** to the students who are receiving the Holy Eucharist for the first time this weekend. You have been preparing for this for two years and we are very excited for you.



**Congratulations to all the newly Confirmed** young people of St. Clare and St. Francis of Assisi. 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

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

Stay Close and God Bless,  
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



Before you leave Mass this weekend (or the next time you are in church), please take a moment to view the statue of Our Lady of Fatima right next to our larger Mary statue at the inside right front corner of the church. This month, we begin to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Apparitions of Mary to 3 children—Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta—over the course of 6 months, with a 7<sup>th</sup> apparition in 1920 to Lucia only. A Google search will yield lots of additional information especially at EWTN—more to follow next week.



## Puzzle

Find the lamb that is different!



©LPI

### Sharing the Gospel

Jesus is the way for you to go to heaven. Through Jesus' love and forgiveness, you can be close to God. You can enjoy the many ways God takes care of you. God gives you people to love. God gives you food to eat. He gives you the Bible to read. Stay close to God through Jesus.

### Prayer

Jesus, thank you for helping me follow God.

### Something to Draw

Draw a picture of a sheep eating green grass.

### Mission for the Week

Make a sign for your bedroom door that says, "Jesus is the way to heaven."



**Tuesday, May 9 is National Teacher's Day.** As the bumper sticker states "If you can read this thank a teacher".

Happy Teacher's Day to all and thank you for all of your hard work and dedication.



From the  
Archdiocese  
of Boston

### May 7 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

"The Shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out." These words from today's Gospel hold both comfort and challenge! Can we hear Jesus calling us by our name? Are we willing to respond to what Christ asks of us? We are not asked to "go it alone." We have the promise of Christ's presence as we go out to others and share the "Good News." Take time this week in prayer to listen to the voice of our Good Shepherd and ask for the grace to be responsive to His call.

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.rmsboston.org). For all questions, please call 617-879-9814 or email [seminary@rmsboston.org](mailto: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](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org). Thank you for your prayers and support.



# Upcoming Events

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." Live your married lives "more abundantly" 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](http://www.WWMEMA.org).

**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](http://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.

**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 May 20. Topic: **Fatima 100 years ago**; Guest speaker Lynn Kenn, Archdiocese of Boston. Please call 774-343-5075 for more information



In case you were wondering, the flowers that graced our church inside and outside for Easter as well as those you see this weekend are from the Potting Bench. Thank you to Karen Disher and her team and to our parishioners who are on watering detail!



### Wedding Banns

William Jones, Jr. & Jaclyn Dulong I