

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, May 20, 2017

4:00PM Albert A. Augenti Anniversary

Sunday, May 21, 2017

7:00 AM John E., Olga & John A. Zanelli Memorial

9:30 AM Dorothy DeRoche Memorial

11:30 AM Sadie & Nicholas DelVecchio Memorial

Monday, May 22, 2017

7:00 AM Marjorie Smith & Albert Richards Memorial

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

7:00 AM Edward Deptula Month's Mind

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

7:00 AM Daniel J. Mahoney Memorial

5:00PM Kay Bickford Month's Mind

Thursday, May 25, 2017

7:00 AM Michael Conneely Memorial

12:10PM Shirley Cartwright Anniversary

Friday, May 26, 2017

7:00 AM John "Jack" Rourke Month's Mind

Saturday, May 27, 2017

4:00PM Paul O'Reilly Anniversary

Sunday, May 28, 2017

7:00 AM Annie Mullen Memorial

9:30 AM Joseph Kazanowski Anniversary

11:30AM Mary E. O'Brien & Margaret E. Bannon Memorial

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—69%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 4,287.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,561.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,319.50
Total Offertory	\$ 8,167.50

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



SAVE THE DATE

June 13, 2017 is Fr. Paul Clifford's 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. The St. Francis/St. Clare of Assisi collaborative celebration will take place on **Saturday, June 10 at St. Francis** beginning with the 4PM Mass, followed by a reception in the church hall. More details will be provided in the upcoming bulletins.

Readings for the Week of May 21, 2017

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20/
1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b/
Jn 15:26--16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8/
Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22--18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-14/
Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-9/
Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-7/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10/
Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: Acts 1:12-14/Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8/
1 Pt 4:13-16/Jn 17:1-11a



"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you." - Jn 14:15-17



Wedding Banns

William Jones, Jr. & Jachyn Dulong III



*From the desk of the Pastoral
Associate*

Mrs. Linda Muldoon

The 6th Sunday of Easter

We are closing in on the end of the Easter Season. This coming Thursday, we will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord; and then many will begin a Novena to the Holy Spirit, ending on Pentecost Sunday, June 4. Today, Jesus prepares his followers for the coming of another Advocate, the Spirit of truth. The reflection that follows is written by Steve Scholer of Creighton University and shared with permission of <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistries/cmo.html>.



The Fruit of the Spirit

Imagine if your pastor started the homily by asking for a show of hands of who in church has been baptized. Almost everyone would probably have their hand held up high and waving it. Now imagine if the next question your pastor asked was for a show of hands of those who are imbued with the power of the Holy Spirit. Would there be the same sea of raised hands, or would there be a few held high, a few hands at shoulder level and lots of tentative hands slightly tilted upward but still on the lap?

Where would your hand be? Up high and waving? Or, are you like the Samaritans who had been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus but the Holy Spirit had yet to descend upon? Maybe Peter and John knew full well the struggles those recently baptized into the faith would have in discerning God's will for them, and hoped that by introducing the Holy Spirit to the Samaritans, they would be more receptive to God's constant presence in their hearts, minds and souls. Some possible markers to look for in determining if the Holy Spirit is in you can be found in Galatians 5:22, which says, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."

Are these attributes that describe how you not only interact with God but with those you love? What about how you interact with those you don't know and, yes, how you interact with those you would sometimes prefer not to know?

For me, the most important of the attributes listed in Galatians is love, a love that seeks the best for others and a love that is willing to give without seeking anything in return. If you can check this box, then I would venture to say that the rest of the attributes may likely also fall neatly into place.

During your Examen of Consciousness pay special attention to how the Holy Spirit is present in your thoughts, words and deeds. Give thanks for all the gifts you have received and recognize when you have fallen short of what is expected from someone who is filled with the Holy Spirit.

But most importantly during your Examen, look forward to the day to come and the gifts you will not only receive but the gifts you will give to others. Think of your interaction with others and your giving and receiving of the gifts of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Maybe you will realize that you have a little bit more Holy Spirit in you than you give yourself credit for. Maybe the next time the pastor asks who is filled with the Holy Spirit, your hand will be held high and waving.

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...** Next meets Thursday, May 25 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 ...** meets May 23 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. 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



SFA's 2nd Annual Spring Social – Our 2nd Annual Spring Social held last Friday evening at Great Pond Hall was a huge success that was certainly enjoyed by all who attended. It was a festive evening of fun, conversation, and laughter for faculty, parents, friends, parishioners, and alumni that allowed us to celebrate our community, as well as raise financial support to strengthen the overall educational experience of our students. Through the generosity and support of so many, we raised over \$15,000. A word of thanks and appreciation to our many sponsors and donors. I would like to also take this opportunity to offer a special word of thanks to our fantastic planning committee.

Thursday, May 25 is the Ascension of the Lord, a holy day of obligation. The Mass schedule for the collaborative of St. Francis /St. Clare of Assisi is:

St. Francis of Assisi

Wednesday, May 24 Vigil 5:00PM
Thursday, May 25 7:00AM, 8:45AM (School Liturgy all are welcome) and 12:10PM

St. Clare

Wednesday, May 24 7 Vigil 4:00PM
Thursday, May 25 9AM and 5:30PM

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.

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.



In the Gospel today, Jesus says to us: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments...Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father and I will love him and reveal myself to him. **When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and through us into the hearts of those who are poor.**

Our monthly Food Collection Sunday is THIS weekend.

Please help keep our pantry shelves well-stocked! If you were unable or forgot to shop, please consider financial assistance by using the blue SVDP envelopes found throughout the church (checks written to St. Vincent DePaul with SFA on the memo line). You can place the envelope in the collection basket or the rectory mail slot. Thank you.



Bereavement Support Group...

A new drop-in group continues this week. We had some new folks and some returnees, and there is always room at the table for more! The group will meet from 1-2:30PM in the church hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of May (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.





Please continue to pray for our recently Confirmed young people. Like the young disciples of Jesus who were *gifted the courage* to go out and proclaim the truth, our young people are in need of spiritual courage too. When you see a young person...tell them you are keeping them in your prayers and ask them to pray for you too. May they be gracious recipients of God's love and comfortably hold others in their hearts. These young people are our newest spiritual "gardeners"... growing God's Good News!

Parents, Catechists and Students, we are updating our registration forms and working on the class calendars for school year 2017-2018. We will send out copies in June.



This will be the last weekend for our First Communion ceremonies.

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.



"Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do." – Pope Saint John XXIII

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Stay Close and God Bless,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



As we continue to note the Centennial of the Apparitions of Mary at Fatima, we invite you to take a prayer card/bookmark from the pamphlet racks in the side and back lobbies of the church or from the basket in front of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima right next to our larger Mary statue at the inside right front corner of the church. More information on the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Mary to 3 children—Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta—over the course of 6 months, with a 7th apparition in 1920 to Lucia only can be found at www.EWTN.com.

Kids Corner

Puzzle

Circle the pictures that show love.



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Sharing the Gospel

If you love Jesus, you will do what he asks. If someone hurts your feelings, Jesus asks you to forgive. If someone is hard to get along with, Jesus asks you to show love. If someone is sick, Jesus asks you to pray. Learn from Jesus. Follow his example. Love all people like God does.

Prayer

Jesus, help me to love you enough to do all that you ask.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself forgiving someone who hurt your feelings.

Mission for the Week

Make cards for the sick. Remind them how much Jesus loves them.



From the
Archdiocese
of Boston

May 21 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter

Evangelization means bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ into every human situation. The New Evangelization invites each Catholic to renew their relationship with Jesus Christ and his Church. This means that we need to take our discipleship seriously. We need to grow in our ability to speak to others about Jesus and how we have come to know and love him. St. Peter put it very simply in today's reading, "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope – but do it with gentleness and reverence." Can you give an explanation for your hope?

JESUS IN BOSTON—A MONTHLY GATHERING FOR YOUNG ADULTS—SPECIAL EVENT

First time at the newly dedicated Shrine of Our Lady of Good Voyage, 51 Seaport Boulevard, Boston—Friday, June 2 beginning at 7:30PM. The schedule is 7:30—Adoration; 9:00-Holy Mass; 10:00-Social. Special Benediction and greeting by Cardinal Seán O'Malley. For more information contact Mike Drahos: mdrahos@rcab.org or 617-746-5751.

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.



**Pray for
Vocations**

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Upcoming Events

SMA Fathers Dedham will hold a Dudley Street/State Ballroom Reunion Dance on Friday, June 2 from 7-11PM at the Irish Social Club, 119 Park Street, West Roxbury. Music by Fintan Stanley. Admission \$10 - proceeds support SMA Fathers' missionary work. For more information contact Sean & Celia Staunton at 617-327-3642 or Fr. Brendan Darcy or 781-326-3288.

FAMILY PRAYER EVENT: Join us for an afternoon of family fun, prayer and food! We'll kick off Saturday, June 3 with Adoration, a short film on Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., and engaging activities for children. Then we'll have a brief interactive theatre production about the miraculous appearance of Our Lady of Fatima. Immediately after the production, we will pray the Rosary and process to Mass with Bishop Edgar M. Da Cunha, S.D.V. Following Mass, there will be a delicious *free* family meal of hotdogs, hamburgers and potato chips. Come for any or all of our prayer activities, we'd love to see you! Event to be held at The Father Peyton Center, 518 Washington St., N. Easton, MA 02356 and is free, family-friendly, handicap accessible and open to the public. For more info: Family Rosary 508-238-4095.

Join LIFT Ministries on Tuesday, June 6th @ 7pm for an inspiring night of worship at St. Anthony Church in Cambridge, MA with guest speaker Fr. Eric Cadin. 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!



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love Him and reveal myself to Him." Expand your married love 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 <https://wwwmema.org/>.