

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 27, 2017

4:00PM Paul O'Reilly Anniversary

Sunday, May 28, 2017

7:00 AM Annie Mullen Memorial

9:30 AM Joseph Kazanowski Anniversary

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

Monday, May 29, 2017

7:00 AM Deceased Members of the Military

Tuesday, May 30, 2017

7:00 AM Robert J. Reedy Anniversary

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

7:00 AM Virginia Gentile Memorial

Thursday, June 1, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, June 2, 2017

7:00 AM Mary "May" Burke and Ruth McDonald Memorial

Saturday, June 3, 2017

4:00PM Mary & John Duffy Memorial

Sunday, June 4, 2017

7:00 AM Annie Mullen Memorial

9:30 AM Ann & Tom Glynn Anniversary

11:30AM Maddalena Leccese Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:

Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—65%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 5,345.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 1,976.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,319.50
Total Offertory	\$ 8,640.50

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



Memorial Day Prayer

Dear Lord,

on this day, we remember those who have served us by protecting our freedoms. When we celebrate our long weekend with our friends and family, help us remember, that our freedom to speak of you, and our freedom to worship you, and our freedom to do that which we ought to do, have all been bought at the price and sacrifice of many lives.

Your Son died for our eternal life in heaven. So too, your children died protecting us here on earth. Help us be mindful this weekend and always of the sacrifices made by those in uniform for all our freedoms. Amen.

In observance of Memorial Day and with gratitude for those who serve and those who gave their lives in service to our nation, the parish office will be closed on Monday, May 29.



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.



Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you, just as you gave him authority over all people, so that your son may give eternal life to all you gave him. Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ."

Jn 17:1-3



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



The 7th Sunday of Easter

I'm thinking about the apostles. Even though three of them had witnessed the Transfiguration of Jesus, many had witnessed his passion and death, and most had spent some time with him after his Resurrection, it must have been incredibly difficult to wrap their brains and hearts around the fact that "he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight." So after Jesus left them for the 2nd time, they followed his directive and remained in Jerusalem, in "the upper room where they were staying," and waited for "the promise of the Father... the Holy Spirit." There they "devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, and his brothers." **And now I'm thinking about the scenes from Manchester, England**, where we stand with the men, women, and children of many different faiths in an attempt to wrap our brains and hearts around not the act of terror, but in love and solidarity around the victims and the survivors. We, too, are the survivors; and we, too, gather and "devote ourselves with one accord to prayer." As people of faith and people of peace, we are stronger than our differences, certainly stronger than the evil we have witnessed, and strongest in our resolve that Light will prevail over darkness.

grazie

Thank you for donating to our monthly Food Collection last weekend. The abundance of groceries and financial assistance that you give helps us to help others, and we appreciate your generosity! We gratefully accept non-perishable food items, small toiletries, paper goods, and cleaning supplies at the parish office during business hours, M-F, 9-4. For the non-shoppers, please use 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. Grazie!

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.

Bereavement Support Group... Our drop-in group always has room at the table for new members! We meet from 1-2:30PM in the church hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of 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

IT TAKES A PARISH TO CELEBRATE A LITURGY

When we plan a special event with families, friends or co-workers, there are countless details to which we attend. For Catholic Christians, MASS is THE SPECIAL EVENT, with many details contributing to the beauty of our liturgy, our public act of worship.

Did you ever wonder how many people are involved in the preparation for, celebration of, and cleaning up after...a Mass?

At each Mass, we participate along with the priest celebrant, the altar server(s), the lector, and the extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. For the Sunday Masses, the organist, cantors, choir, and folk group encourage everyone gathered to sing along with them. The ushers say hello, help us find seats, and pass the collection basket. At St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, all of this comes together, day after day, week after week.

But for it to happen:

The pastor creates a schedule for our priests. Other staff and volunteers not only schedule but also recruit and train the altar servers, the lectors, and the EMHCs. With the Director of Music, the cantors and choir select and practice the music and songs for each Mass; and the folk group does the same. Some of our ushers have been "regulars" at the same Mass—for years!

Seldom seen but always appreciated are volunteers who carefully launder the linens used at each Mass, the sacristans who arrive early and stay late to assist with set-up and clean-up the folks who give the church an occasional extra cleaning, and those who help arrange and maintain our seasonal flowers. In the weeks to come, you will have an opportunity to learn more about how it takes a parish to celebrate a liturgy and to "meet" some of the volunteers whose efforts help make every Mass a special event. We invite you to sit up and take notice and to prayerfully consider sharing some of your time and talent with our parish family.



Learning and experiencing much of our American History has recently taken place beyond the classrooms of SFA. Our grade-eight students visited Washington D.C; our grade-seven students visited The Freedom Trail in Boston; our grade-three students visited Plymouth Plantation in Plymouth; our grade-four students presented their Presidential Wax Museum. This holiday weekend, we celebrate Memorial Day. Let us pray for all those who have died for our country in time of war; may they be remembered with honor in time of peace. On behalf of the administration and faculty at SFA, I want to wish all our families and parishioners a safe, healthy, and wonderful Memorial Day Weekend!

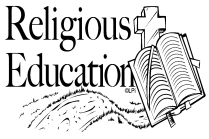
SFA Fine Arts – Our school provides a strong academic education that also instills into our student the love for the arts. At SFA, we have so many talented and gifted students, who demonstrate such creativity in their art work, as well as shine on stage in our drama and music programs.

Our SFA **Drama Club** will be presenting the musical "The Lion King, Jr." on Friday, June 2nd and Saturday, June 3rd at 7:00 pm, as well as a special afternoon matinee on Sunday, June 4th at 3:00 pm in the School Hall. Tickets will be available at the door for \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Come and support our students as they perform this classic musical.

On Saturday, June 3rd beginning at 5:00 pm and Sunday, June 4th, at 1:30 pm, we will be holding our **Annual Art Fair**, where our hallways will be fully decorated with creative art projects completed by our students. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Enroll Today

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 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. We look forward to possibly serving your family in the spiritual, academic, and social development of your child.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

Thank You

We want to thank all parents and parishioners who take the time to share the love of Christ with our young people. It matters because your example, like the testimony of the disciples, confidently points toward the truth of Christ. As much as we try within our parish programs to provide proper formation, delivered clearly, correctly, and kindly, we know it is out there in the world where the "living example of faith" really matters. Thank you for your dedication and companionship.

"Jesus keeps knocking on our doors, the doors of our lives. He doesn't do this by magic, with special effects, with flashing lights and fireworks. Jesus keeps knocking on our door in the faces of our brothers and sisters. In the faces of our neighbors, in the faces of those at our side." – Pope Francis

Stay close to us, to each other, and to Christ,
Ronna and Diane



The celebration of the feast of the Ascension reminds us that Christ's saving work on earth continues through his disciples—and through us. This month, through your gifts, the **Society of St. Vincent DePaul** brought the love and care of Jesus to the poor, right here in Braintree, by assisting families and individuals with food and basic living expenses.



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.



Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

ETERNAL	GLORY	WORLD
CHRIST	GIVEN	SHOWN
FATHER	FOLLOWERS	PRAYING

E	A	I	T	O	I	E	U	P	E	Y
T	C	H	R	I	S	T	Y	A	R	I
A	F	L	O	H	R	E	O	I	A	T
S	O	A	F	W	O	R	L	D	P	O
I	L	N	A	E	L	N	I	S	R	N
R	L	Y	T	R	E	A	V	E	A	U
A	O	R	H	U	G	L	O	R	Y	R
H	W	U	E	F	I	T	E	W	I	A
U	E	T	R	A	V	O	N	U	N	L
C	R	I	U	G	E	F	A	L	G	E
O	S	H	O	W	N	U	G	O	Y	I

©LPi

Sharing the Gospel

Jesus prayed for his friends. He knew they were a special gift from God. Jesus was patient with them. He taught them about God. He cared about his friends and forgave them from his heart. Everything that Jesus did showed what God was like. Be a friend like Jesus. Care for your friends like God does.

Prayer

God, thank you for my friends. Help me to treat them like you would.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of you with your friends.

Mission for the Week

The next time you talk to God, pray for each of your friends. Ask your friends to pray for you, too.



From the
Archdiocese
of Boston

May 28 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter

In today's readings from the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel of John, the Church reminds us how important prayer is in the life of a disciple. First we hear of the scene in the upper room, where all the Apostles gathered with Mary, the Mother of Jesus to devote themselves to prayer. Then in the Gospel, we hear Jesus in prayer to his Father for us! Consider the effect prayer had on Jesus, Mary and the disciples! Pray for the grace to develop a daily habit of prayer and when you do – see how your life will change.

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.



"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." Find ways to let the Lord deeper into your marriage 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://www.mema.org/>.



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!

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.