

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, July 1, 2017

4:00PM Gentulina Micolucci Memorial

Sunday, July 2, 2017

7:00 AM Stephen M. Hosannah, Sr. and Shephard S. Fernandes Memorial

9:30 AM Marie Reis Anniversary

11:30 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Monday, July 3, 2017

7:00 AM Peg Hough Memorial

Tuesday, July 4, 2017

7:00 AM All Who Have Died For Our Freedom

Wednesday, July 5, 2017

7:00 AM Carl Howell Memorial

Thursday, July 6, 2017

7:00 AM Patricia Joyce Memorial

Friday, July 7, 2017

7:00 AM Audrey Brown Anniversary

Saturday, July 8, 2017

4:00PM Harry & Jeannette Dulong Memorial

Sunday, July 9, 2017

7:00 AM Lillia Cabral Anniversary

9:30 AM Marty Murphy Anniversary

11:30AM Ruth & Lucius Manganello Memorial

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	\$ 5,588.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,090.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,319.50
Total Offertory	\$ 8,997.50

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



Almighty God, you have given us this good land for our heritage.

We humbly ask you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will.

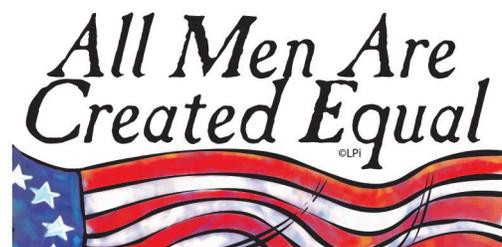
- * Bless our land with honorable endeavor, sound learning, and pure manners.
- * Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way.
- * Defend our liberties and fashion into one united people the multitude brought here out of many nations and tongues.
- * Endow with the Spirit of wisdom those to whom, in your name, we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to your law we may show forth your praise among the nations of earth.

In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble do not allow our trust in you to fail. We ask all of this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(The above was adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer*.)



"Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple-- amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward." - Mt 10:42





From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon

Parish Info and events of note



I struggle with the 1st part of today's Gospel from Matthew. Do I love my parents, my husband, my children, my grandchildren more than I love Jesus? Isn't that part of the 2nd commandment—to love them?

But I want also to be worthy of God. It's complicated. Because I believe that God loved all of us into existence, that God's love manifests in all that is good, and that God's love will lead all of us home, I see these individuals and relationships as gifts from God, as signs of God's presence, and as forever in my life—here and in the one to come. I think God wants us to let our love for the most important people in our lives be welcoming and inclusive of God. That they are in our lives is God's gracious gift to us. That they are in our lives reminds us that as much as we love them, God loves us even more than that! That feeling of overwhelming love that fills our hearts at special moments in our lives? That's God! Let us pray: "Back at You, God!"



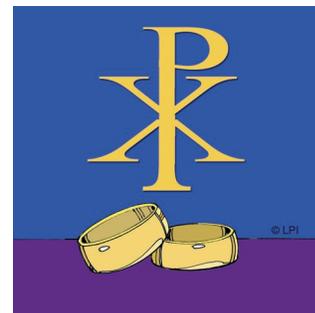
In today's Gospel we hear Jesus tell us: "Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple—Amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward." **This week, know that**

you will bring hope to the poor by your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. You can bring hope by placing your donation in one of the blue SVDP envelopes found throughout the church and then placing the envelope into the collection basket or the rectory mail slot. Please write checks to St. Vincent DePaul with SFA on the memo line. If you prefer to shop, we welcome your donations of non-perishable food items, small toiletries, paper products, and cleaning supplies at Mass on our Food Collection Sunday (next one July 16). Thank you.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP... Our drop-in group always has room at the table for new members! Our next meeting is Tuesday, July 11 from 1-2:30PM in the church hall—we will be watching a movie. Our final meeting will be at the same time on 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.



- **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...** On hiatus for the summer months. See you in the Fall!
- **Our Bereavement Group ...** meets July 11 please see further information elsewhere in the bulletin. 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.



Steven Lester & Valerie Hall III
Gregory Hamilton & Danielle Vaughan III



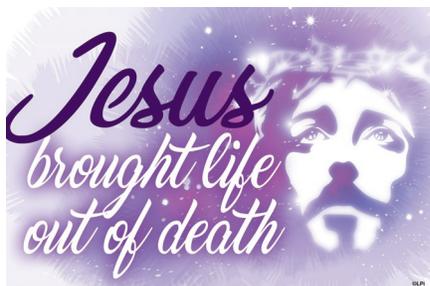
It Takes a Parish to Prepare for and Celebrate the Sacraments

Do you remember the definition of the word “sacrament”? In user friendly terms, “The seven sacraments are outward signs and celebrations of God’s love and life, or grace.” **At any given time, someone within our collaborative**

is preparing for a sacrament! At any given time, someone within our collaborative may benefit from your faith, your experience, and your wisdom!

Have you run into someone at Mass who asked you about going to confession? Our priests hear confessions above and beyond the times published in the bulletin. So—next time you can tell that person to call the parish office rather than to wait until next Saturday. By taking a few extra seconds, you’ve helped someone to prepare for and celebrate a sacrament. Do you know of a person in a care facility or homebound who might want to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick? By asking the question and calling the parish office on their behalf, you have helped him or her to prepare for and celebrate a sacrament.

Do you have mentoring skills? Many couples preparing for their weddings would benefit from a visit or two with a husband and wife whose marriage could serve as an inspiration to them. In our secular world of disposables and short attention spans, your stories of faith and endurance can help someone to prepare for and celebrate a sacrament. And if you’ve been a mentor or a coach, who better than you to walk with someone along the RCIA journey? We’d love to be able to connect folks who come to us with inquiries about becoming Catholic with...Catholics who live and love their faith! Not perfect Catholics, but those who are very much aware of God’s forgiveness and mercy and generosity. Please pray and think about the difference even a few random moments of your time can make in someone’s life. **Please pray and think about the difference a few more than random moments can make to help someone prepare for and celebrate a sacrament.**



From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal



On behalf of the SFA School community, we hope that you have a safe, healthy and wonderful July 4th holiday!

Summer Program 2017 - Our Summer Program at St. Francis of Assisi School is off to a great start with an average of over 30 students enrolled, including the SFA students, as well as students from our community.

A special thanks to our director, Ms. Gratta, as well as all our teachers who are dedicated and committed in providing these students with lots of summer-time fun!

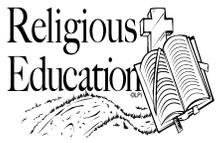
The summer fun at SFA’s Summer Program, consists of Arts and Crafts; Theme Days and Projects; Fun and Educational Field Trips; Gym Games and Outdoor Play; and Library and Playground Excursions. The camp is offered for seven-weeks (Mondays – Fridays from 7:45 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.) with flexible day/week options.

Listed below are the Themes and Trips of the Week:

7/3 – 7	Party in the USA (<i>Timberlanes</i>)
7/10 – 14	It’s a Jungle Out There (<i>Southwick Zoo</i>)
7/17 – 21	Dive Right In! (<i>N.E. Aquarium</i>)
7/24 – 28	Christmas in July (<i>Gingerbetty’s/Plaster Fun</i>)
7/31 – 8/4	Come On, Let’s Play! (<i>Pawtucket Red Sox</i>)
8/7 – 11	Finale of Fun (<i>Canobie Lake Park</i>)

For more information, visit our Summer Program Link on our school’s website (www.sfab.org) or call 781-848-0842.

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 in 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.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

**We hope everyone has a
safe, healthy and happy
Fourth of July!**



Independence Day Prayer

Dear Lord,

There is no greater feeling of liberty than to experience freedom from sin and death that you provided for me through Jesus Christ. Today my heart and my soul are free to praise you. For this, I am very thankful.

On this Independence Day, I am reminded of all those who have sacrificed for my freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Let me not take my freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May I always remember that a very high price was paid for my freedom. My freedom cost others their very lives.

Lord, today, bless those who have served and continue to give their lives for my freedom. With favor and bounty, meet their needs and watch over their families.

Dear Father, I am so thankful for this nation. For all the sacrifices others have made to build and defend this country, I am grateful. Thank you for the opportunities and freedoms we have in the United States of America. Help me never to take these blessings for granted.

Help me to live my life in a way that glorifies you, Lord. Give me the strength to be a blessing in someone's life today, and grant me the opportunity to lead others into the freedom that can be found in knowing Jesus Christ.

Amen

by Mary Fairchild

Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Stay Close,
Diane and Ronna



**Pray for
Vocations**

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 **Puzzle**

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

LOVE	GIVE	GOOD
CROSS	WELCOME	REWARD
LIFE	PROPHET	FOLLOWER

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

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Sharing the Gospel

God wants you to love your family and friends. But God wants you to love him even more. Be kind to your mom and listen to her. Help your dad with chores and have fun with him. But also remember to help people who are not in your family. God gets excited when you share his love with others.

Prayer

God, show me ways to help all people who love you.

Something to Draw

Draw yourself bringing homemade cookies to a neighbor who loves Jesus.

Mission for the Week

Together as a family send a care package to a missionary family.



From the
Archdiocese
of Boston

July 2 ~ Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The story of Elisha, in today's first reading, is a reminder of the importance of hospitality. Hospitality involves openness to what friends and strangers bring to us. It implies attentiveness to the other and the needs of the other. As we consider the ministry of hospitality, we are called to heighten our awareness of others so that we can carry on the ministry of Jesus. Is there a stranger or newcomer at Mass this weekend? Is the hospitality we offer a means of service to others and to Christ in them?



Set off your own fireworks by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Sep 16-17, 2017 in Medway, MA and Oct 21-22, 2017 in Contoocook, NH. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963

or visit us at <https://wwmema.org/>.



As you plan your summer vacation or have the opportunity to sneak away for the weekend, here is something to pack in your suitcase along with your sunscreen, or in your smart phone! To find the Mass closest to your location, visit www.masstimes.org. When you make your reservations, please remember to reserve some time for the Lord!

Readings for the Week of July 2, 2017

- Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-19/
Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42
- Monday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc-2/Jn 20:24-29
- Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29/Ps 26:2-3, 9-12/
Mt 8:23-27
- Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Ps 34:7-8, 10-13/
Mt 8:28-34
- Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19/Ps 115:1-6, 8-9/Mt 9:1-8
- Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67/
Ps 106:1b-5/Mt 9:9-13
- Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Ps 135:1b-6/
Mt 9:14-17
- Next Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14/
Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30



Upcoming Events

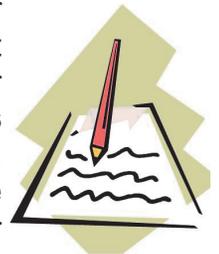


SUMMER ACADEMY FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, sponsored by Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Wednesday nights, July 12 - Aug 16 in Hanover. Learn about pre-natal

development, end of life issues, legal and legislative issues, what we offer pregnant women and how you can be a leader for life in your school and community. Academy is free to all High School students. Pre-registration required, www.massprolife.com/2017summeracademy or call 617-242-4199 and ask for Maria.

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. **To date less than 25% of the Registration Forms have been returned.**



from
the clergy and staffs of
St. Francis/St. Clare of Assisi

The parish office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 in celebration of Independence day. Have fun and be safe!

Happy Birthday America!