

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 22, 2017

4:00PM Thomas Hansbury Month's Mind

Sunday, July 23, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

9:30 AM Tom Glynn Anniversary

11:30 AM Adam Thomas Trudeau Anniversary

Monday, July 24, 2017

7:00 AM Richard J. Manning Memorial

Tuesday, July 25, 2017

7:00 AM Douglas Elvendahl Memorial

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

7:00 AM Carl Howell Memorial

Thursday, July 27, 2017

7:00 AM Jolena Driscoll Memorial

Friday, July 28, 2017

7:00 AM Annie Mullen Memorial

Saturday, July 29, 2017

4:00PM Richard Keane Memorial

Sunday, July 30, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

9:30 AM

11:30AM John O'Sullivan 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	\$ 4,801.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,347.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,057.60
Total Offertory	\$ 8,205.60

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



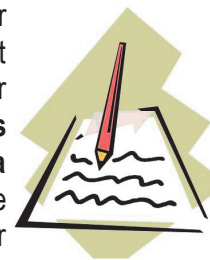
As part of the annual Missionary Co-Operative Program, Rev. Patrick J. Byrne, SVD, a representative of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, will speak at all Masses, THIS WEEKEND about the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies

represented here in the Archdiocese of Boston. He will share his experience in the missions with us as a way to raise awareness about the need to spread the Good News to the more than one billion people in the world who have yet to hear it proclaimed.

The Society of the Propagation of the Faith is the official mission agency of the Church dedicated to helping missionaries bring the Gospel to people in need around the world. They thank you in advance for your prayers and support.

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.**



"The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." - Mt 13:41-43a



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



The mustard seed. Jesus described it to the crowds: “It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants.”

Such potential that God plants within us! How carefully and lovingly our God tends and nourishes us by his Word and by the sacraments, by his Son sent to redeem us, and by his Holy Spirit as our advocate and guide. Such beauty with which God surrounds us—from the most miniscule of origins, filled with such potential and purpose! God manifests God’s creative power from the night sky to the oceans to the grains of sand, from the mountains to the forests to the crops and gardens of summer, from the ants to the elephants to the animals we call our pets, from Pope Francis and Mother Theresa to leaders of nations and conglomerates to members of families to those who have no one to you and to me. Let us allow God to do God’s work with us. As one of the other graphics in my Google search proclaimed, “I’ve got a mustard seed, and I’m not afraid to use it!”

Hearing this Gospel, we can trust that God knows our love and good deeds, and that he will mercifully gather us into his kingdom. **This week, please say a special prayer each day for the poor and forgotten in our parish.**

THANK YOU for remembering the poor and the forgotten by your generous response to last weekend’s Food Collection Sunday.



Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents

A Catholic ministry for parents whose children of any age have died by any cause, no matter how long ago. Losing a child under any circumstance is horrific. Focusing on the spirituality of the grieving process can help tremendously. Please join us. All are welcome.

**Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents
At St. Anthony Shrine, Boston, MA
One-Day Spiritual Retreat
August 5, 2017**

For more information on this and other retreat times and locations, call (617) 542-8057 or visit www.emfgp.org

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...** On hiatus for the summer months. See you in the Fall!
- **Our Bereavement Group ...** meets August 8 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.

Bereavement Support Group...

Our final meeting for the summer will be a luncheon on Tuesday, August 8, at **12NN** (note time change) in the church hall. 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.





It Takes a Parish to Reach Out to and Care for Its People

Back at the end of June, when we resumed our reading of the Gospel written by Matthew, Jesus told “the Twelve” to “Fear no one,” and twice more he says to them, “Do not be afraid.” **At any given time,**

someone within our collaborative needs a re-assuring voice, a prayer, a bag of groceries, a visit, school supplies or Christmas gifts for their children, or a prayer shawl to remind them that they belong a family of believers!

What fears hold us back from helping those among us who suffer? Commitment? A past experience? Fear? Mistrust? A thin line that we hesitate to cross? A feeling of unworthiness? Most of the time, when we have and take the opportunity to help someone, we do not regret making that choice. And... when we ignore the opportunity to help someone, we often regret that choice. A few random moments of our time can make such a difference in someone’s life. We are called to put back our fears, step forward, and be the “hands of God” for our brothers and sisters.

Do you prefer to remain behind the scenes? If so—you can be the “hands of God” by joining our Prayer Shawl ministry. This group meets twice a month to knit or crochet shawls for new babies and their families and also for the homebound and hospitalized. You can also be the “hands of God” with our Christian Service Commission—helping with the back-to-school backpack drive, the Advent Giving Tree, or the occasional meal preparation. Our Panera pick-up team and our food pantry can also use the “hands of God” behind the scenes. Our “pray-ers” put their hands together in prayer for the people whose names are placed on our prayer line. **Please pray and think about the difference a few intentional moments of your time can make to someone who is struggling—right here in Braintree.**



LIFT Ministries' 11 Year Anniversary Celebration

Join LIFT Ministries as they celebrate 11 years of ministry with a special event on Saturday, August 19th at LaSalette Shrine in Attleboro, MA. This outdoor event (weather permitting) will include Mass at 4pm followed by a BBQ and then LIFT at 7pm. This event is FREE to attend and open to ALL AGES. For more information or to order tickets for the BBQ, go to www.liftedhigher.com. Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!



From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal

“Back to School” - Even though it is only the end of July, there is already a plethora of “Back to School” ads in the media and stores are stocked with “Back to School” supplies. In less than five weeks, our school will be filled with children’s voices and footsteps. I eagerly anticipate their return. I hope that our SFA families are having a safe, healthy and wonderful summer. I look forward to the sights, the sounds, and the faces of our students as we draw closer to September. I pray that our students will have the same spirit of anticipation and that it will continue into the 2017 – 2018 academic school year.



ENROLL TODAY

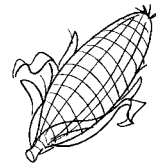
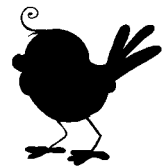
St. Francis of Assisi School is now accepting applications for all grade levels for the 2017-18 school year. For more information regarding our admissions procedure, simply visit our school’s website (www.sfab.org) or contact us at (781) 848-0842. Are you interested in learning more about what SFA has 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. We look forward to possibly serving your family in the spiritual, academic, and social development of your child.

Readings for the Week of July 23, 2017

- Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
- Monday: Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-6/Mt 12:38-42
- Tuesday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-6/Mt 20:20-28
- Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-28/Mt 13:1-9
- Thursday: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52-56/Mt 13:10-17
- Friday: Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 13:18-23
- Saturday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
- Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Puzzle

Find the matching shadow.



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PRAYER FOR A GOOD AND MEANINGFUL VACATION

Heavenly Father, when your work of creation was complete, you rested. Lord, during my vacation from the cares and burdens of everyday life, please renew me physically, mentally, and spiritually. Help me to slow down and take delight in your magnificent creation and in all those I'll share this time with. Help me to embrace this period of leisure and regain strength to continue my journey through life. By leaving my work behind for these days, may I focus my gaze on you, and reflect on what is important in life. Remind me to pray each day since I'm taking this vacation with you, not away from you. May you keep me safe in my travels and protect me from all harm. May I be revitalized and refreshed so that I may return to carry out my daily responsibilities with joy and newfound enthusiasm. Amen.

Registration forms have been sent out in the mail. If you have not received one, please contact us immediately.

Pink Registration Forms for Confirmation Program (Grades 9 & 10)

Blue Registration Forms for Grades 1-8

If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education office at 781-848-3232. Summer hours are Monday-Thursday 10:30-2:30. If we are unable to answer your call, please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Stay Close,
Diane and Ronna

Sharing the Gospel

As God's child, you are the wheat in God's field. As you love and trust God more, your faith will grow. You will see others around you who love God, too. God will be happy to see you growing up in God's love. As you grow taller and stronger, you will also notice others around you who ignore or hate God. God will get rid of those weeds. Then he will bring you into heaven.

Prayer

God, help my love and faith to grow strong.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of wheat and weeds.

Mission for the Week

Help your parents in the garden. Watch how carefully weeds need to be pulled, so you don't pull up the good plants, too.





From the Archdiocese of Boston



July 23 ~ Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit intercedes with inexpressible groanings." These words from St. Paul give us great consolation, especially when we feel distracted or unable to pray. As we take time this week for prayer, let us rely on the Spirit of God to give us the words we need even when we feel inadequate or preoccupied. Trust that God knows the desires of our heart.

BETHANY HEALTH CARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE ANNUAL AWARD DINNER

Sister Jacquelyn McCarthy, CSJ is pleased to announce the Massachusetts State Council of Knights of Columbus as Bethany Health Care Center's 2017 "Making a Difference" honorees. Exemplifying the criteria for the award in their demonstrated commitment to Bethany's mission and as being instruments for change in reaching out to the needy and helping to improve lives, Bethany is privileged to recognize the Massachusetts State Council Knights of Columbus. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at the Seaport Hotel, Boston, MA. A reception will be held at 6PM and dinner and program at 7PM.



Just as a small mustard seed can become a large and elaborate bush, discover how to encourage your marriage to blossom and provide a lifetime of joy 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://wwwmema.org/>.

Franciscan Feast of the Portiuncula (Our Lady of the Angels) will be celebrated at an Annual Outdoor Mass on Monday, July 31 at 6:30PM at the Cardinal Cushing Center, Route 53 in Hanover. Eucharistic Adoration with Exposition and the Divine Mercy Chaplet begin at 3PM in the Portiuncula Chapel. Both the Rosary and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place between 3:30 and 5:30PM. Reposition will be at 5:30. In the event of rain or extreme heat, Mass will be celebrated at St. Mary of the Sacred Heart, Route 139 in Hanover.



Our Lady of Fatima... Pope Francis has granted a plenary indulgence in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady of Fatima which you may gain on **Sunday, August 13th!** **To obtain the plenary indulgence**, the faithful must visit with devotion a statue of Our Lady of Fatima solemnly exposed for public veneration in any church on the 13th of each month from May through October this year. There they shall devoutly participate in some celebration or prayer in honor of the Virgin Mary, recite the Creed, pray an Our Father, and invoke Our Lady of Fatima. Those unable to travel to a church due to age, illness, or other serious cause may pray before a statue of Our Lady of Fatima in their homes. **The ordinary conditions for a plenary indulgence** must also be fulfilled: be in a state of grace, receive Holy Communion, sacramentally confess sins (within 20 days), be completely detached from all sin, and pray for the intentions of Pope Francis (suggested: an Our Father and a Hail Mary.) JOIN US after all the Masses on Sunday, August 13th, on the right side of the church where our statue of Our Lady of Fatima is displayed, as we offer our prayers to God and honor Mary. To help you obtain the indulgence, additional confession times (TBD) will be available.



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!



*John Shea & Natalie Butler
Steven Dugan & Maria Moscato*