

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 29, 2017

4:00PM Richard Keane Memorial

Sunday, July 30, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

9:30 AM Giulia Gratta Memorial

11:30 AM John O'Sullivan Anniversary

Monday, July 31, 2017

7:00 AM Angela Kelly Memorial

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

7:00 AM Mary Kelly Memorial

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

7:00 AM Kathleen Carr Anniversary

Thursday, August 3, 2017

7:00 AM Georgiana M. DeSantis Memorial

Friday, August 4, 2017

7:00 AM Denise Kelly Memorial

Saturday, August 5, 2017

4:00PM Alexander Prall & Patrick McDonough Anniversary

Sunday, August 6, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

9:30 AM Kathleen Carr Anniversary

11:30AM Susan Reilly Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:

Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—75%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 4,616.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 1,887.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,057.60
Total Offertory	\$ 7,560.60

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

Our Lady of Fatima

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.



"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." - Mt 13:44

 **Wedding Banns**

Steven Dugan & Maria Moscato



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



I've always wondered about the person who finds the treasure buried in the field. Does he search with purpose and intent? Does he have a map? Or does he stumble over something that has been right

in front of him for a long time? And then we have the merchant who searches for fine pearls and finds a pearl of great price. Clearly, he is doing his job. Do the stories have anything in common? Both contain the phrase, "goes and sells all that he has." When we choose to participate in something, we say, "I'm in," and if we're really enthusiastic, it might be, "I'm all in!" Whether God comes to us in unanticipated moments or at the end of our journey, I think God wants to hear from us, "I give back to you all that I have, I'm all in." The Suscipe of St. Ignatius of Loyola reminds us of just that:

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will,

All I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To You, Lord, I return it.

Everything is Yours; do with it what You will. Give me only your love and your grace. That is enough for me.

In the Gospel, we find that the demand of daily Christian living is to spend our life primarily searching for the kingdom of God. **This month through your generosity, the Society of St. Vincent DePaul was able to assist or refer families and individuals, providing food and limited financial assistance. Thank You!**



Protecting God's Children... This one-time workshop, required by the Archdiocese of Boston for all clergy, staff, and volunteers, will be held at St. Mary's in Randolph on Saturdays, August 26 and September 16 from 9-11:30AM and on Tuesday, October 17 from 6:30-9PM. For more information and to register, please call 781.961.5009. You need attend just one of the sessions, and please sure to ask for a certificate of attendance to bring to your home parish.

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. Current and former members are welcome to attend. RSVP (so we can order enough food for everyone) by Friday, August 4 by calling 781-843-1332. 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

If you attended Mass at St. Francis or St. Clare last weekend, you heard Rev. Patrick J. Byrne, SVD speak about the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. In his talk, he reminded us that because of our baptism, we are all called to be missionaries, to bring the Gospel to people in need. **At any given time, someone within our collaborative is in need—in need of support in their grief, a visit and perhaps communion to remain connected to their parish, some encouragement and guidance when struggling financially.**

We can make a difference—right here in Braintree, simply by sharing what we know with others. We can gently inform those who care for the dying that there is support for them—before, during, and after death. We can encourage someone who is unable to attend Mass to request a communion visit or do so for them. We can let someone who is having trouble putting food on the table or paying bills know that there is somewhere they can turn for help. Or we can make a greater difference by becoming involved in one of the ministries described above. We have a bereavement ministry and a bereavement group. We have trained visitors who bring the Eucharist to the homebound and to those in care facilities. We have a food pantry, a St. Vincent DePaul Conference and Help for the Poor. We have some wonderful volunteers who would be absolutely thrilled to mentor new help. These opportunities require a minimal amount of your time and will nourish YOU in surprising ways. Take a leap of faith, and see what it's like in the pope's "field hospital for the wounded!" **Please pray and think about the difference a few intentional moments of your time can make to someone who needs what you can bring—the Good News of Jesus Christ—as his hands and feet and heart, his eyes and ears and voice.**



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!

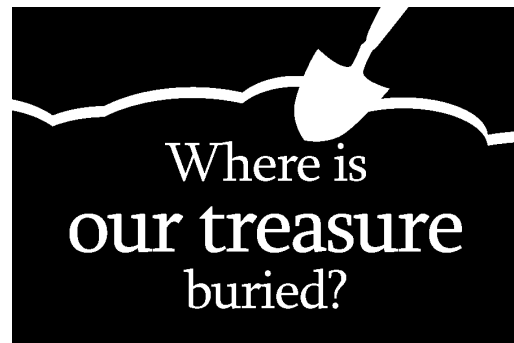


From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal



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.



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Readings for the Week of July 30, 2017

- 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
- Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-23/Mt 13:31-35
- Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-13/Mt 13:36-43
- Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5-7, 9/Mt 13:44-46
- Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53
- Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58
- Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12
- Next Sunday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9

What happens when the Holy Spirit comes to dinner in the Church Hall? You are so moved by witnessing the moment that you must share its awesomeness!



Last week we gathered for dinner to thank the volunteer catechists who share the love of Christ with the children in our parish. We recognized that those *who let the light of Christ shine through them* are true gifts to our parish family. Each creates a unique path to the joy in the Kingdom of God, and for their generosity, we are forever appreciative.

Although all of our self-giving volunteers deserve much praise, we honored Marie Manning for her dedication to a group of young men and their families. Many years ago Marie said yes to the call to help prepare a group of children for their First Holy Communion. She faithfully walked with them as they grew, always thoughtful to adapt to their learning needs. This year the young men, embracing their new saint names, stood before the Bishop and were sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit as they were Confirmed.

As a surprise to Marie we invited these young men and their families to join our "catechist dinner". Before Marie arrived I wandered over to 4 of the young men who were seated together at a table. I overheard them talking about how happy they were to see each other again. As they were recalling in detail the memories of their Confirmation, I overheard one young man exclaim proudly that he was "as tall as the Bishop!" At the mention of the Bishop, I shared with them that Bishop Dooher needs their prayers right now. Upon knowing that someone needed prayers, one of the boys immediately blessed himself, the others followed suit, and the *Our Father* sprang from their hearts and their mouths and could be heard throughout the church hall.

These young men heard the call of Bishop Dooher at their Confirmation and not only "opened" but are using the God-given gifts of understanding, knowledge, strength, wisdom, counsel, reverence and wonder and awe to show the rest of us that God is among us.

To witness this gesture happen spontaneously and lovingly among the young men is a testament to their families and the influence of a catechist, like Marie Manning. The magnitude of the impression our catechists make on little lives is immeasurable and most often unrecognized.

Not today, my friends, the heartfelt investment is on display loud and clear!

Lord, I love your commands.

Stay Close,
Diane and Ronna

Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

KINGDOM	HIDDEN	PEARLS
HEAVEN	FIELD	SOLD
TREASURE	FOUND	BOUGHT

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

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Sharing the Gospel

Your toys can break. Your books can tear. Your clothes can shrink and stain. Things don't last forever. The kingdom of heaven does last forever. It is like a treasure. Heaven is worth more than anything you own. In both stories, the person who found the treasure sold everything else just to be a part of God's kingdom.

Prayer

God, help me to love your kingdom more than the things I have.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself finding a buried treasure.

Mission for the Week

Put God's kingdom first. Read a Bible story every morning.



From the Archdiocese of Boston

July 30 ~ Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings challenge us to ponder the motives of our words and actions. In our first reading, God assures Solomon that anything he might ask will be granted. He doesn't ask for anything that is just for himself or anything fleeting. Instead, Solomon asks God for an understanding or listening heart that he may judge according to God's will. In the gospel, Jesus describes in parables the Kingdom of Heaven. We are left with two questions to ponder this week: What will I ask from God to aid me in doing His will? To what length am I willing to go to build His Kingdom?

PROJECT RACHEL POST-ABORTION HEALING RETREATS

God's forgiveness knows no bounds – 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. Fall dates are September 16, October 14 and November 11. Locations are confidential. Limited to ten participants per retreat. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

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.

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.



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.**



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



"Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart." Help encourage understanding hearts in your marriage 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!

