

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, August 19, 2017

4:00PM Marie Parr Spec. Intention

Sunday, August 20, 2017

7:00 AM Emily Buglio Anniversary

9:30 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

11:30 AM Deceased Members of Westwood Family Anniversary

Monday, August 21, 2017

7:00 AM Claire Leonard Memorial

Tuesday, August 22, 2017

7:00 AM Emily Liston Memorial

Wednesday, August 23, 2017

7:00 AM Brian Sampson Anniversary

Thursday, August 24, 2017

7:00 AM David Machado Memorial

Friday, August 25, 2017

7:00 AM Joseph & Caroline Altobelli Memorial

Saturday, August 26, 2017

4:00PM Patricia Dailey Anniversary

Sunday, August 27, 2017

7:00 AM George & Virginia Walsh Memorial

9:30 AM Louse & Alfred Hart Memorial

11:30AM Brian Sampson Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—78%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 5,623.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 1,979.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,322.00
Total Offertory	\$ 8,924.00

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



My Experience with Ebola -- Fr. Valery, SMA

On one occasion at the Ebola Center there was a girl (Mabinti) of about four years of age. Her parents had died of Ebola. She was sick, and was taken to the Center. Fortunately she was Ebola negative; but those in the Center did not know where to send her. There was no family to take her; even the extended family was not ready to take her. We came forward to take her to our house. Even now she is with us. We are planning of making a home for the children who are orphaned due to Ebola.

The youth of the community came to us, on their own, and expressed their desire to do their part in the fight against Ebola. We sought the support of Kwama Community Development Program [KCDP], in carrying out a seminar for the youth and encouraged the youth to go to 34 villages and inform each household of the presence and danger of Ebola and of the strict requirement for all members of every family to comply with sanitation protocols. 103 youth joined this venture.

In view of responding to the need for more beds for the Ebola patients, in collaboration with the Shepherd's Hospice, we planned and established a Community based Ebola Care Center. We received a great support from the Archbishop, Caritas - Freetown, Salesians, Xaverians and the local community. We ran the center with 20 trained nurses and 34 voluntary health workers. We operated a short time for more than one month. As the number of cases comes down and many of the centers are without patients, we decided to close down the Ebola Care Center and to plan for other health issues that come to our attention.

Now with the help of our Community Chairman, Mr. Clement Kanu, we have opened a Home for the children who lost their parents to Ebola. Though there are many children who need attention, we took only the most abandoned ones. When there are some relatives to care for them, we encourage them to care for the children. With the help of other organizations we try to assist them in providing food and other necessary things. At present we have eight children in our Home ranging from the age of 7 to 15 years. It is time for us to think of the Post Ebola Crisis. We want to help these children who are orphans of Ebola and also to build a Shrine to Our Lady of Healing. This is a huge undertaking. I hope for your supports and prayers. May Our Lady of Healing be our strength and support!

Thanks very much. God is Good, all the time, and all the time God is Good!

Fr. Valery, SMA

It has been a pleasure to have Fr. Valery Aguh, SMA with us this summer. Next weekend (August 26 27) will be Fr. Valery's last *weekend* with us. He will be speaking at all of the Masses at St. Francis THIS weekend. A rare second passing of the basket will take place at all Masses THIS weekend to support the work of Fr. Valery and the SMAs in Africa. Please be as generous as your means allow. Checks should be made payable to St. Francis of Assisi Parish with Fr. Valery or SMA in the memo line. If you would like to make a donation but are not prepared to do so this weekend you can place it in the collection basket next weekend or drop it off in the parish office. Fr. Valery will be in Braintree until August 31.



*From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon*



Matthew's gospel was written 2,000 years ago, and STILL in our world we have religious and ethnic groups (like the Jews and the Gentiles) who hold each other in disregard and disdain. Still there are parts of our world where it is considered improper and inappropriate for a woman to approach and dare to speak with a given leader of the people. It is important to remember that the agenda of the woman, a Canaanite and a Gentile is not trivial—it is healing for her daughter. Even though she does not immediately receive from Jesus what she asks—Jesus is dismissive of her—the woman persists with faith, respect, and even humor. She does not give up nor return insult for insult nor become violent. She persists; and finally, Jesus acknowledges her faith and heals her daughter. How persistent are we in our prayer, in what we ask of God? How persistent are we when God puts before us an opportunity to build a bridge, to make a connection, to promote healing? May God bless us and have mercy upon us all.



Palliative Care Presentation... Save the date of Wednesday, October 4 at 7PM at SFA to hear Diane McCarthy, RCAB Parish Education Coordinator, explain the difference between palliative and hospice care and how to begin the conversation and seek treatment as a patient, family member, or health care provider.

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 ...** resumes in the Fall please watch the bulletin for future updates. 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.



Your help needed... to tend the plants and flowers inside and outside of the church. What an opportunity to honor Francis, our patron saint, by caring for some of the beauty of God's creation! Our current volunteer will gladly mentor individuals or teams willing to share a bit of their time with our parish family. Please call the office (718.843.1332) for more information.



Food Collection Sunday...

Our apologies for not including a reminder in last week's bulletin! So—thank you to our faithful “regular” donors for the non-

perishable food and other grocery items you brought to church this weekend or for your financial support. For those who may be “new,” the 3rd Sunday of the month is our Food Collection Sunday. Your gifts go from the church foyer directly to the shelves of our food pantry; and our staff, volunteers, and pantry clients are most appreciative of your generosity. If you would like to provide monetary assistance for when our supplies deplete, please use one of the blue St. Vincent DePaul envelopes found in holders on the inside back wall of the church for your cash or check (written to St. Vincent DePaul with SFA on the memo line). You can place the envelope in the collection basket or through the rectory mail slot. We have no overhead—every penny assists a needy individual or family—right here in Braintree! Thank you.

August 20—Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time: The Gospel today announces that the kingdom and salvation are for all people. It is our persistent calling out to Jesus and our faith that count, for Jesus always responds. **With love for your neighbors who have nothing, look around your house to see what furniture, household items, and clothing you no longer use...and give it to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Please call 781.344.3100.**



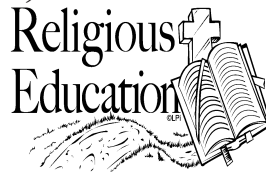
Prayer Shawls... Gatherings resume in September on Tuesday evening, the 12th at 7PM and on Thursday afternoon, the 28th at 12:30. Please join us for a peaceful hour of prayer, quiet conversation, and soft music as we create shawls to share with members of our parish family. If you knit or crochet or would like to learn—this group is for you! New members are always welcome. For more information, please call the parish office.



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.



*Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238*

We hope you are all enjoying the warmth of summer and the freedom to relax and wander a bit. We have been hard at work planning a year of faith filled enrichment.

We have recently mailed out the details of the **Confirmation Retreat** and the assignment of dates (either Saturday, September 23rd or September 30th depending on their last name). The retreats will take place from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm in the church hall at St. Francis of Assisi. Please look for the information and read the instructions carefully. We know when the school year starts our families will be busy getting back into routines. We want to be helpful in the process of “re-entering fall.”

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

Blue Registration forms for Grades 1-8

Registration forms can be downloaded on line at www.sfab.org. Click on Religious Education window and then click on Class Times tab. Near end of page you will see Registration Grades 9 & 10 and Registration Grades 1-8. Click on the appropriate icon. Fall will be here before you know it. Please submit your registration forms as soon as possible so that the opening of the school year runs smoothly. We understand how hectic Back-To-School can be. Your effort will be greatly appreciated.



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.

O God, let all the nations praise you!

Stay Close,
Diane and Ronna



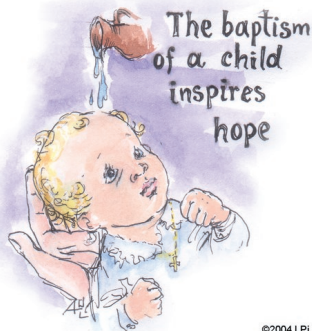


From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal



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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We welcome with joy into the family of the Church the following children who were baptized during the month of July, 2017:

*Lucy Ann Charland, Beau Alexander Kendrick,
Cooper Douglas Ronald Mallett, Natalie Gloria Medina,
Connor William Miley, Caleb James Ricci and
Kevin Matthew Timulty, Jr.*



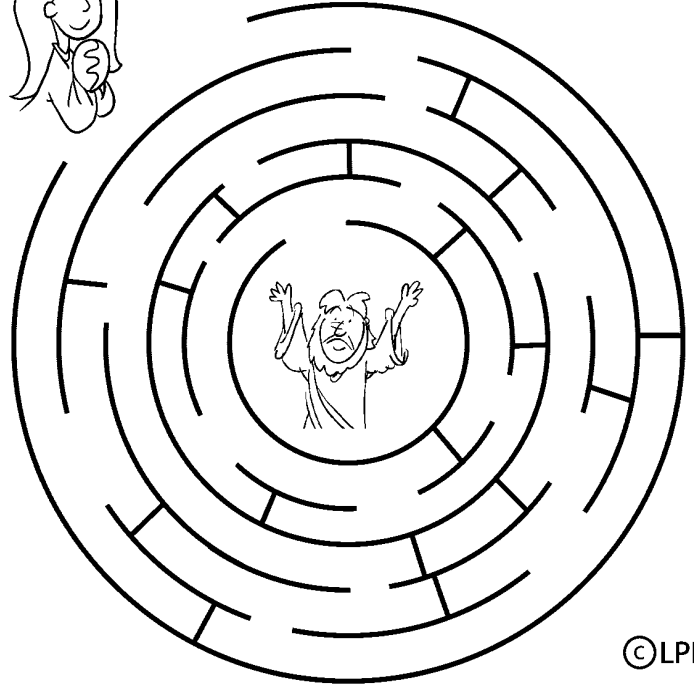
As you plan your summer vacation or have the opportunity to sneak away for the weekend, here is something to pack in your suitcase along with your sunscreen, or in your smart phone! To find the Mass closest to your location, visit www.masstimes.org.

When you make your reservations, please remember to reserve some time for the Lord!



Puzzle

Help this woman find Jesus.



© LPI

Sharing the Gospel

A woman begged Jesus to cure her daughter who was possessed by demons. This lady believed that Jesus could cure her daughter. He cured her daughter because of her faith. Ask God to help someone you know who is very sick. Ask God to help the homeless find jobs so they can pay for a place to live. Ask God to help you and your sisters and brothers play without fighting. He will help because of your faith.

Prayer

Jesus, I believe you can help.

Something to Draw

Draw yourself and your sister playing an indoor game together without fighting.

Mission for the Week

When I hear a siren, I will pray for the people inside the ambulance.



From the Archdiocese of Boston

Confirmation
for
Adult
Catholics



August 20 ~ Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Take a moment and look around you at Mass today. Are there people there whom you have never met? or come from a different culture? Today's scripture make it clear that the message of God's love is not to be squandered and kept to ourselves – it is for everyone! How will you be a welcoming presence to the stranger or immigrant in your midst? Pray for the grace to do your part to make your parish a "house of prayer for all people," where all are welcome!

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.



Help increase your faith 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://wwwmema.org/>.



"It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:26b-28

Adult

Do you Know of anyone who has postponed receiving the sacrament of Confirmation? Contact Mary Ellen Cassani at maryellen.cassani@gmail.com to receive up-to-date information on when classes begin or just to have your questions answered.

Confirmation

The **Fall Adult Confirmation program begins Sunday October 29 with the 5:00pm Mass at Saint Jerome Church.** Class follows in the Church Hall. Please email maryellen.cassani@gmail.com for further details or to register. This class is intended for adults who have already been Baptized and received First Holy Communion.



Readings for the Week of August 20, 2017

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/
Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28
Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-37, 39-40,
43ab, 44/Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-14/
Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-7/Mt 20:1-16
Thursday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/
Jn 1:45-51
Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-10/
Mt 22:34-40
Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-5/
Mt 23:1-12
Next Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8/
Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20



Patrick Curtin, Jr. & Jessica Cole II