

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, September 2, 2017

4:00PM Jean Pike Memorial

Sunday, September 3, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

9:30 AM Joan Palmer Anniversary

11:30 AM The McLaughlin Family Memorial

Monday, September 4, 2017

7:00 AM Olive & Herbert Walbridge Memorial

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

7:00 AM Paula Beaulieu Memorial

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

7:00 AM Matthew & Julie McDonagh Memorial

Thursday, September 7, 2017

7:00 AM Daniel Mahoney Anniversary

Friday, September 8, 2017

7:00 AM Jack & Nellie McDonough Memorial

Saturday, September 9, 2017

4:00PM Mary Sawyer Memorial

Sunday, September 10, 2017

7:00 AM Theresa Grant Anniversary

9:30 AM Prisco & Paula Parawan Anniversary

11:30AM John Kyne, James Kelley and Thomas & Katherine Kelley Memorial

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—69%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 4,529.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,648.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,322.00
Total Offertory	\$ 8,499.00

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



Hurricane Harvey Relief Efforts

Cardinal Seán has authorized a special collection to be taken the weekend of September 9-10 in all parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston, in support of the relief

efforts to those in areas devastated by Hurricane Harvey. The funds collected will be used to support the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities USA, the official domestic relief of the U.S. Catholic Church, and will provide pastoral and rebuilding support to the dioceses in those areas impacted by Harvey. All checks should be made payable to St. Francis of Assisi Parish with "Hurricane Harvey Collection" on the memo line. Please pray for all those in the afflicted areas and the first responders working on the relief efforts.



"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life?" - Mt 16:24b-26

Readings for the Week of September 3, 2017

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/
Mt 16:21-27

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13/
Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/
Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10-11/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-6/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6/
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8/Lk 6:1-5

Next Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Rom 13:8-10/
Mt 18:15-20



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

Poor Peter... Last week, after he named Jesus as "The Christ, the Son of the Living God," Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father." This week, after hearing Jesus describe the suffering that awaits him in Jerusalem, Peter says, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you."



What is Peter thinking here? That the Messiah will display his power in Jerusalem? That the disciples will defend and fight for Jesus? That they should change course and not go to Jerusalem? Peter's concern for his Master, his friend, is most genuine. Can you imagine how the words spoken by Jesus must have stung? "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are not thinking as God does but as human beings do." At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus withstood the temptations of Satan. And now, toward its end, even knowing what awaits him, Jesus stands firm. Praying with this, it occurs to me that Jesus continues to include Peter. "Get behind me" becomes "I lead, you follow." "You are not thinking as God does but as human beings do." Does Jesus think that Peter is capable of thinking as God does? When we make a deliberate choice to let Jesus lead us, are we capable of "thinking as God does?"



September 3—Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time: Today, we hear Jesus say to us, "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." The challenge is to let go so God can lead us.

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

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 Saturday, September 16 from 9-11:30AM and again 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.



It Takes a Parish to Protect Its Members... As we anticipate the many opportunities ahead of us in the coming months, one theme that resonates throughout is safety. Our staff works diligently to ensure that our buildings and grounds are well-maintained, that children are watched over (please accompany little ones to the bathroom), and that the needs of our seniors are met. In addition, ALL clergy, staff, and volunteers submit a yearly CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information) request, sign a code of conduct, and attend a Protecting God's Children workshop. These workshops are offered at parishes throughout the Archdiocese. Our team of presenters would be happy to welcome new members. This may be the perfect volunteer opportunity for someone with a background in education, healthcare, law enforcement, public speaking, or PARENTING. Training is provided, the information is timely, and the time commitment is minimal. Please call the parish office for more information.

Palliative Care Presentation... Are you over 18 years of age? Are you or someone you love facing medical challenges? Do you wonder what is the difference between palliative care and hospice care? Do you wonder what the Catholic Church teaches regarding health care proxy, advance directives, or end-of-life care? We invite you to a presentation and discussion at St. Francis of Assis Church Hall on Wednesday, October 4 at 7PM, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Boston Initiative for Palliative Care and Advance Care Planning. RSVP to 781-843-1332 or parish@sfab.org so that we have enough materials and refreshments for everyone.



HELP NEEDED

Please call (718.843.1332) or email (parish@sfab.org) the office for more information on the opportunities below.

Looking for a few more green thumbs... to tend the plants and flowers inside and outside of the church. Help 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 small amount of time with our parish family.



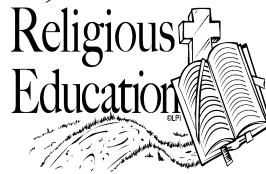
Looking for film crews... to record one Mass per weekend for broadcast on Braintree Cable TV. Equipment and training are available from BCAM-TV. This is a great opportunity to offer your services as a volunteer and to provide a connection between our parish and those who are unable to join us for Mass.

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...** September meeting dates are Tuesday, the 12th at 7:00PM and Thursday, the 28th at 12:30PM. Come and join us when you can. (We suggest that you bring yarn, knitting needles, and/or crochet hooks. There is some yarn available; but, if you have your own, that would be most helpful.)
- **Our Bereavement Group ...** resumes Tuesday, September 12 at 1:00PM in the church hall. 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.



The parish office will be closed on Monday, September 4 in observance of Labor Day. Have a safe and happy final weekend of summer.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

We are sure our families and young people are busy preparing for Back-to School. The athletes are already working hard practicing for the start of their games. I bumped into a group of them running drills up and down the access road at Braintree High. As they flew by one young woman, who was pushing herself to keep up, stopped to say hello. She needed to catch her breath so I told her how excited and ready we are at St. Francis of Assisi and St. Clare to receive them back for deeper formation and joyful gathering around Christ. She told me she was looking forward to coming back into a group of peers who cherish similar values. More importantly, she shared with me that she *"worries a lot about school and life in general."* In fact, she said she worries about her worrying! *Wow, her anxieties have anxieties....!* We took a big deep breath together as I admitted to being a chronic worrier too. Sweetly she admitted to me that when we assemble for our classes and we focus on God she is naturally calmer. She knows to work hard at all the activities in which she invests herself, but she is sadly out of practice properly directing her life toward God. Her world is so loud and filled with messages that are creating the anxieties and not filled with enough quiet time listening for God's will. I promised her this year we will, as a group, quiet ourselves more so we can hear God better and hopefully notice our gifts and the gifts of others. We both have much work to do Looking forward to our reunion. Warmly, Ronna

Confirmation II – Grade 10 - Welcome Meeting will take place on Sunday, September 10th at 5:00 pm in the Church at St. Clare, followed with the celebration of Mass at 6:00. ALSO, Information regarding the 10th Grade Confirmation Retreat (either Saturday, September 23rd or September 30th depending on their last name) has been mailed to our families. 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.

Confirmation I – Grade 9 – Welcome Meeting will take place on Thursday, October 5th at 6:30 pm in the Church at St. Clare.

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." Please call on us for anything.

Enjoy the Labor Day weekend!
Stay Close, Diane and Ronna



From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal



Welcome Back! The school bells are ready to ring to mark the beginning of the 2017 – 2018 academic school year at SFA. Our school is ready and truly looks fantastic. Our faculty has returned and their classrooms have been attractively decorated, eagerly awaiting the arrival of our students.

St. Francis of Assisi School not only offers a quality Catholic education in both faith and academics, but more importantly an investment for life. Throughout this academic school year, SFA will once again join other Catholic schools across the nation in our celebration of our existence with the theme of Catholic Schools: “Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed”.

School will begin on Wednesday, September 6th for students in grades 1 – 8. The first few days (Wednesday - Friday), will be early dismissal days at 11:30 a.m., with faculty meetings and professional development opportunities in the afternoons. Our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs will begin on Monday, September 11th.

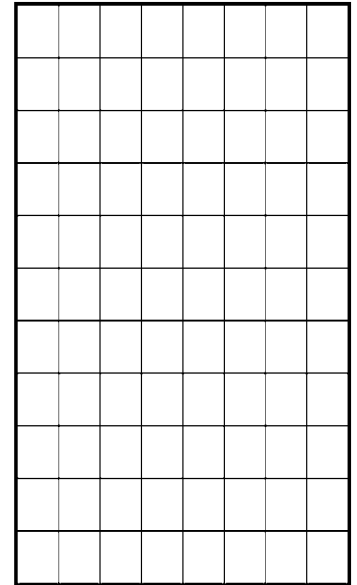


ENROLL TODAY

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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Sharing the Gospel

If it were up to Peter, Jesus would never have died on the cross. Peter did not want to see his dear friend get hurt. It could have been tempting for Jesus to listen to Peter. But Jesus did not come to be happy or comfortable. Jesus came to die on the cross and rise again. He came to take your sins away. Jesus gave up his own life so that your life could be saved. He did it for you.

Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for giving up your life to save mine.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus with a big heart pointing to the cross.

Mission for the Week

Every day firemen, policemen and soldiers give up their lives to protect yours. Thank God for them.





From the Archdiocese of Boston

Confirmation
for
Adult
Catholics



September 3 ~ Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Paul puts a very strong challenge before us in today's second reading, "Do not conform yourselves to this age..." It is so easy to be seduced into thinking that material things will satisfy the longings in our hearts. The Scriptures today remind us that when we follow the example of Christ, and consciously live as his disciple, not only will our longings be satisfied but we will be better able to discern God's will. Take a moment at this Eucharist to ask Christ to transform your life so that all that you do will be good and pleasing to God.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: CLERGY HEALTH AND RETIREMENT TRUST

In two weeks, the diocese-wide collection will support the health and well-being of our 590 Boston priests. Our priests are always there for us; they share Christ's good news, joyfully perform good works, and spread good faith to all they encounter. Show your gratitude by giving generously to the collection on September 16/17. You may also make your gift online at clergytrust.org or simply text the word **PRIEST** to 56512 (msg. & data rates may apply). And don't forget to find and follow the Trust on Facebook by searching "[@ClergyTrust](https://www.facebook.com/ClergyTrust)." Thank you in advance for your prayers and generous support of our priests through the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust.

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.



ADULT CONFIRMATION

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.

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.

ALPHA IS COMING!

Alpha is a program that invites participants to encounter Jesus in a new and personal way and discover answers to questions such as:

"Is There More to Life Than This?"

How Does God Guide Us?

Why and How Should I Read the Bible?

All are invited to an introductory dinner and presentation on Thursday, September 14th to discover if Alpha is right for them! Dinner will take place at St. Joseph's Parish, Holbrook in the St. Charles Hall from 6:30-8pm. For more info or to confirm for dinner email: alpha@stjosephholbrook.org



"I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it."

Learn how to more easily express love to your spouse 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/>.

Wedding Banns

Ryan Lancaster & Maryellen Shea II

Keith Burns & Heidi O'Donnell I

Richard O'Neil & Kathleen O'Neill I

