

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 9, 2017

4:00PM Mary Sawyer Memorial

Sunday, September 10, 2017

7:00 AM Theresa Grant Anniversary

9:30 AM Prisco & Paula Parawan Anniversary

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

Monday, September 11, 2017

7:00 AM Joseph & Shirley Sopel Memorial

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

7:00 AM Virginia McCole Memorial

Thursday, September 14, 2017

7:00 AM Jack & Catherine Davis Memorial

Friday, September 15, 2017

7:00 AM Marie Lucey Memorial

Saturday, September 16, 2017

4:00PM Mary & James McDonough Memorial

Sunday, September 17, 2017

7:00 AM Eric Michael Graziano Anniversary

9:30 AM Laura Fasano Anniversary

11:30AM Stephen Daly Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—76%

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

Collection Report

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Offertory Envelopes | \$ 5,479.00 |
| Offertory/Loose | \$ 2,157.00 |
| EFT Weekly Average | \$ 1,322.00 |
| Total Offertory | \$ 8,958.00 |

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 THIS weekend 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.



"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.'" - Mt 18:15-16

Readings for the Week of September 10, 2017

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|--------------|--|
| Sunday: | Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Rom 13:8-10/ Mt 18:15-20 |
| Monday: | Col 1:24--2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:6-11 |
| Tuesday: | Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11/ Lk 6:12-19 |
| Wednesday: | Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab/ Lk 6:20-26 |
| Thursday: | Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38/ Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17 |
| Friday: | 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35 |
| Saturday: | 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-5a, 6-7/ Lk 6:43-49 |
| Next Sunday: | Sir 27:30--28:7/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/ Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35 |



From the desk of the Pastoral Associate Mrs. Linda Muldoon

"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts." God speaks to us and invites us into relationship with him so many times during the course of our days! Sometimes God's voice is in "a tiny whispering sound" and sometimes it's more like "an earthquake" (like the reading from several weeks ago). I think that always, God's voice is meant for us to hear, except for when we don't, because we choose not to. For me, God's voice can be a reminder to be more generous—with my time, with my patience, with my treasure. And sometimes, I shortchange God. God's voice can be a reminder to me to be kind, to choose to raise up rather than tear down, to say nothing if you can't say something nice (do you hear your mother?) Yet sometimes, I hear the right thing but still do the wrong one. God's voice can bring up the same subject—over and over again, until I do something about it. And sometimes, I make God wait. So—if today, you hear God's voice calling you to serve him and his people, please—harden not your hearts, and—come and see what opportunities await you at our ministry fair!



It Takes a Parish to plan for and celebrate a ministry fair...



There have been folks working behind the scenes for several months now in anticipation of ministry fairs at both St. Clare (09/30 and 10/01) and St. Francis (10/14 and 10/15) of Assisi. We are reaching out to 3 important groups of parishioners—those who already volunteer and are willing to share what they do and why, those who may have never volunteered but might under the right circumstances, and those who want to learn more about what is happening in each of the parishes of our collaborative. We will soon be reaching out to our current volunteers to ask for your presence at one of the ministry fairs, and to everyone else to invite you, as Jesus did, to "come and see." We hope to see YOU—soon!

A new bereavement group begins this Tuesday, September 12 at 1PM in the SFA church hall. We will be using the book, *The New Day Journal*. Copies will be available for new members. If you are a returning member and already have this book, please bring it with you on Tuesday. Please feel free to call or email Linda Muldoon with questions—781.843.1332 or lmuldoon@sfab.org.



September 10—23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time: In today's Gospel, Jesus says: "...where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we help them to know that indeed "God is in the midst of them."



SVDP Monthly Food Collection Sunday is next weekend.

Please help stock our food pantry with your donations of non-perishable food items (we do not have access to refrigeration), small toiletries, paper products, and cleaning supplies. Choices at the supermarket can be overwhelming—we have found it helps to think in terms of meals: cereal, raisins, pancake mix, syrup/peanut butter, jelly, tuna, mayo, mustard/soup, pasta sauce, pasta, rice, canned vegetables/applesauce, crackers, cookies, pretzels. And if you prefer not to shop, we are grateful for any financial assistance you can offer. Please use the blue SVDP envelopes found in the church for your cash or check (written to St. Vincent DePaul with SFA on the memo line) and place them in the collection basket or the rectory mail slot. Thank you!

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 Assisi 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.



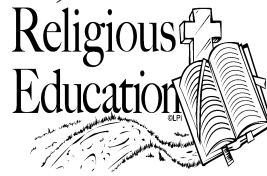
Protecting God's Children... This one-time workshop, required by the Archdiocese of Boston for all clergy, staff, and volunteers, will be held at St. Mary's in Randolph on this coming Saturday, September 16 from 9-11:30AM and again on Tuesday, October 17 from 6:30-9PM. For more information and to register, 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.

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 **THIS** 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 **THIS** Tuesday, September 12 at 1:00PM in the church hall. More information elsewhere in this bulletin.
- **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.



Keith Burns & Heidi O'Donnell II
Richard O'Neil & Kathleen O'Neill II
Steve Powell & Evelyn Barrales I



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

If you have not yet returned your child's registration form kindly get it back to us as soon as possible so we can communicate program details with you. Please give this task some attention.

Confirmation II – Grade 10 - Welcome Meeting will take place this 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. We are counting on parents to come through with their "written assignment" for a super successful retreat!

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. Our website has the overall **calendar** for **September and October** under the **Class Times** tab.

Thank you to all families who have returned registration forms. If you need to reach us regarding the Confirmation Program or the upcoming retreats, please feel free to contact us at dhopkins@sfab or rpetrilli@sfab or call 781-848-3238.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Stay close,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli





From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal



Welcome Back to our SFA Students! The school bells are once again ringing at St. Francis of Assisi School! Our students in grades 1 – 8 have returned this past week and have embarked on what is to be a productive, exciting and successful academic school year for all. There was great excitement and energy in our classrooms and halls.

As in the past, our students began with early dismissal days on the first three days, which gave the faculty once again the opportunity to meet in the afternoons for additional planning, meetings, and professional development opportunities. This Monday morning, we are anxiously awaiting our students in our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs.

On behalf of the SFA School community, I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and thank you in advance for your continued prayers, as well as for the gifts of your time, talents and treasures that you give us in order that we can further our mission in offering our students the best Catholic education possible.

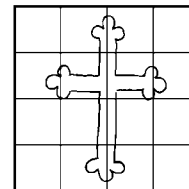
“School Nurse Position Available” – St. Francis of Assisi School is currently seeking a full-time nurse to join our school for the 2017–2018 academic school year. The school nurse is responsible for maintaining the school’s health policies and programs. The primary role is to promote health education and to provide preventative health services to facilitate the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social growth of our students. If interested in applying, please send a letter of interest, resume and license(s) to Brian Cote, St. Francis of Assisi School, 850 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184 or via email bcote@sfab.org. For more details regarding this position, contact Brian Cote at 781-848-0842 x12 or via email.

ENROLL TODAY

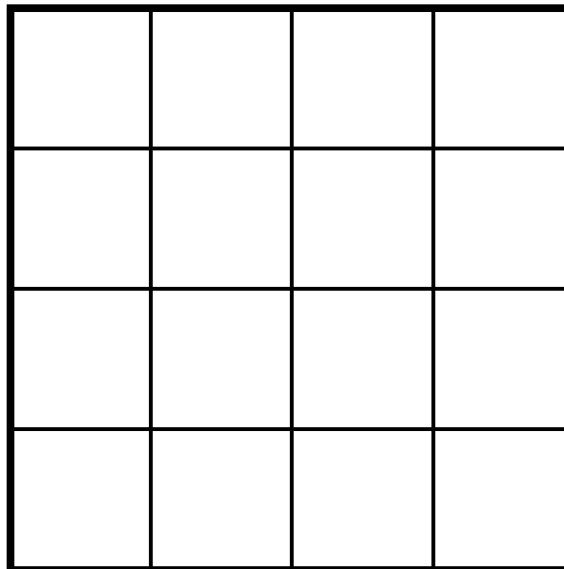
St. Francis of Assisi School is now accepting applications for all grade levels for the 2017-18 school year. For more information regarding our admissions procedure, simply visit our school’s website (www.sfab.org) or contact us at (781) 848-0842. Are you interested in learning more about what SFA has 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.



Puzzle



Enlarge the Picture square by square.



©LPI

Sharing the Gospel

One day someone might sin against you. Friends may hurt your feelings. A neighbor may take your toy without asking. Remember what Jesus said. Remember that you sin, too. Talk it over quietly, just the two of you, and give your friend a chance to apologize.

Prayer

Be with me, Jesus, when someone has hurt me. Help me to forgive. Amen.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of someone apologizing to you.

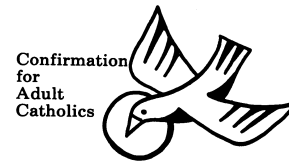
Mission for the Week

Pray for your friends who get stuck in sin. Help them out if you can.





From the Archdiocese of Boston



September 10 ~ Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them.” These words are hope-filled words but they are also challenging. We know Christ is present when we are gathered for Eucharist. We believe he is present when we are with friends and family. Are we as aware that Christ is present when we are with people who may hold opposing views? Does Christ’s presence make a difference in those situations? Take some time this week to consider these words of Jesus, asking for the grace to be aware of Christ’s presence in all interactions and conversations.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: CLERGY HEALTH AND RETIREMENT TRUST

—Next week, the diocese-wide collection will support the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust which cares for 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. You can show your gratitude by giving generously to the collection. You are also invited to make your gift online at clergytrust.org or 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.” Thank you in advance for your generous and prayerful support of our priests.

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.



Pray for Vocations

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

Early Birds Men’s Group—Next meeting: September 16—Topic -The Communion of Saints (cont’d), Bishop Robert Barron Catholicism DVD series. Men, Bishop Barron’s widely acclaimed Catholicism series does a great job of exploring 4 saints that you may want to learn about and pray to for help in everyday life. The Early Birds meet from 7:00 AM to 8:30 AM, on the third Saturday of each month. The St. Mary of the Hills Parish Community in Milton is the host, in the lower church, at 29 St. Mary’s Road in Milton. Call 617-696-3170 for more information.



“Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.” Discover how to more easily love one another 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/>.