

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 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

11:30 AM Stephen Daly Anniversary

Monday, September 18, 2017

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

7:00 AM Jennie & Angelo Luccio Memorial

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

7:00 AM Joan Clark Anniversary

Thursday, September 21, 2017

7:00 AM Paul McDevitt Memorial

Friday, September 22, 2017

7:00 AM Cheryl Cox Memorial

Saturday, September 23, 2017

4:00PM Gail Kelley Memorial

Sunday, September 24, 2017

7:00 AM Nathan Watson Memorial

9:30 AM Victoria Fay Anniversary

11:30AM William J. & Miriam F. Little 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	\$ 6,418.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,603.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,322.00
Total Offertory	\$ 10,343.00

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



Prayer for Catechetical Sunday

Dear Lord Jesus,
after you rose from the dead
but before you ascended into heaven,
you gathered your followers to you.
You told them to baptize all in your name,
and that of your Father and the Holy Spirit.
You told them to make all nations followers of you
and to teach them obedience to all your words.
Most important, you said you would be with them
always, even to the end of the world.
As we honor our catechists today,
give them the grace to be ministers of your word
and your sacraments.
Give them courage to counsel others to obedience,
and faith to remember that you are with them always.
Amen.



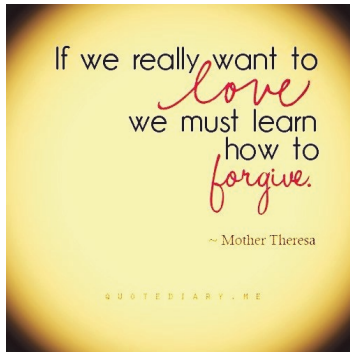
Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." - Mt 18:21-22

Readings for the Week of September 17, 2017

Sunday:	Sir 27:30--28:7/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/ Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35
Monday:	1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7-9/Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday:	1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-3ab, 5-6/ Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday:	1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-6/Lk 7:31-35
Thursday:	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-5/Mt 9:9-13
Friday:	1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-10, 17-20/ Lk 8:1-3
Saturday:	1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-5/Lk 8:4-15
Next Sunday:	Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/ Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



Forgiveness provides the bookends to today's Gospel, with Peter asking how many times he must forgive his brother and with Jesus admonishing that it will not go well for us if we do not forgive from our hearts. Fortunately, our psalm response sets for us an example of God's ways: "The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion." But that is the Lord, and we mortals are not always so good at that. We mess up, we hurt each other, and we hurt ourselves. As difficult as an "I'm sorry" can be, forgiving—and being forgiven—can set us free and allow us to move on. Edward Morse, in the Daily Reflection from Creighton University's Online Ministries, quotes Seneca, the Roman philosopher: **"Don't stumble on things that are behind you."**

September 17—Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time: The challenge in today's Gospel, is to forget how others have behaved toward us and to look to God's way of loving and forgiving. Our focus must be on God. **Is there a neighbor or friend of yours who is in temporary need because of a loss of a job or an illness? Please leave a message for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul...we want to help!**



SVDP Monthly Food Collection Sunday is THIS weekend. Thank you for helping to keep our food pantry stocked with your donations of non-perishable food items (we do not have access to refrigeration), small toiletries, paper products, and cleaning supplies. If you forgot (or 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!



It Takes a Parish to plan for and celebrate a ministry fair...
St. Francis of Assisi Parish Ministry Fair
Saturday, October 14 and Sunday, October 15
Join us after Mass for info, opportunities, and refreshments!

A new bereavement group began last Tuesday and will continue on September 26 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, we ask that you bring it with you on Tuesday. Please feel free to call or email Linda Muldoon with questions—781.843.1332 or lmuldoon@sfab.org.



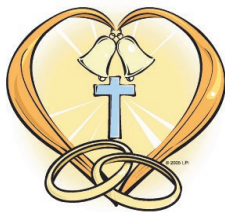
Palliative Care Presentation... Are you over 18 years of age? Are you or someone you love facing medical challenges? Do you wonder what is the difference between palliative care and hospice care? Do you wonder what the Catholic Church teaches regarding health care proxy, advance directives, or end-of-life 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.



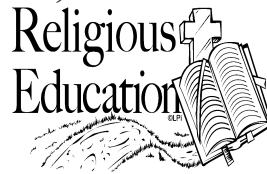
Protecting God's Children... This one-time workshop, required by the Archdiocese of Boston for all clergy, staff, and volunteers, will be held at St. Mary's in Randolph on Tuesday, October 17 from 6:30-9PM. For more information and to register, please call 781.961.5009. You need attend just one of the 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...** Next meets Thursday, September 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 ...** meets Tuesday, September 26 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



Sunday Faith formation begins on Sunday, September 24, with a Parent/Student Meeting in the church hall after the 9:30AM Family Mass.

Religious Education for Grades 1-5 begins on Monday, September 25 and Tuesday, September 26. We will start with a Parent /Student Meeting in the church hall at 3:50PM.

Religious Education for Grades 6, 7 & 8 begins on Tuesday, September 26. We will start with a Parent/Student Meeting in the church hall beginning at 6:30PM.



Confirmation II (Grade 10) – We were so happy to see everyone last Sunday at St. Clare for our “welcome back” meeting. Please pray for us all to be open to the movement of the Holy Spirit!

Confirmation I (Grade 9) - PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!! - **We have moved our “Welcome Parent/Student Night” to Thursday, October 12th at 6:30 at St. Clare** due to a conflict with a Freshman/Parent Orientation at Braintree High.

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.

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

Stay close,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli



From
Mr. Brian Cote
 Principal

Kindergarten’s Kindness Garden – This year, our students in our kindergarten program will be creating a Kindness Garden outside of our school, and will place their decorated rocks in various places throughout the grounds and buildings of St. Francis of Assisi, including our beautiful church. This idea originally began as The Kindness Rocks Project, which was founded by a woman who lives on the shores of Cape Cod. Our students will certainly be busy as they paint, design and write inspirational messages on these special rocks. The goal of this project is simple ... to promote random acts of kindness to unsuspecting recipients by painting and dropping inspirational rocks to bring kindness into the world. At St. Francis of Assisi, it is also another way that our school is attempting to connect and strengthen our relationship with our parish community. Later in the school year, our students in grade four are already planning to participate in a similar activity. **St. Francis of Assisi School Rocks!**

“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.

St. Francis of Assisi Friar’s 500 Club – How would you like the possibility of winning \$500, \$100 or 6 prizes of \$25 every month for the next twelve months? If so, St. Francis of Assisi School invites you to participate in our Friar’s 500 Club by purchasing a 500 Club Ticket for only \$60. Since tuition does not cover the full operating costs of our school, we must rely on various fundraising efforts. The families of our school community are required to purchase four tickets per year, which may be sold to friends and relatives. Once again thank you for your continued support of our school and Catholic education. To join our Friar’s 500 Club and purchase your ticket, simply provide us with your name, address, and telephone number along with your \$60 payment (checks made payable to St. Francis of Assisi School) to St. Francis of Assisi Friar’s Club, 850 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184.

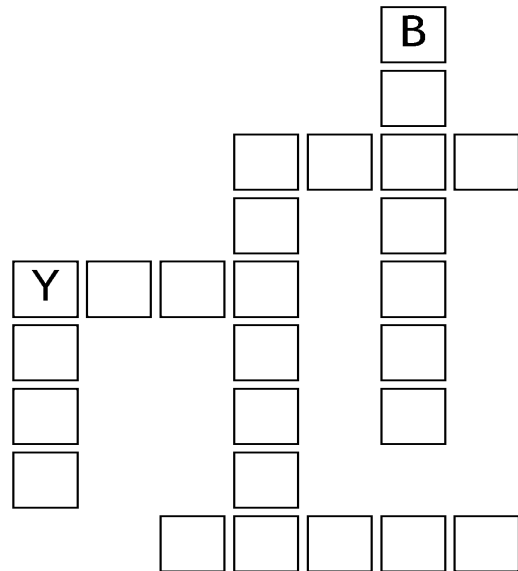
Enroll Today – St. Francis of Assisi School is now accepting applications for all grade levels for the 2017-18 school year. For more information regarding our admissions procedure, simply visit our school’s website (www.sfab.org) or contact us at (781) 848-0842. Are you interested learning more about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

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Forgive your brother from your heart.



©LPI

Sharing the Gospel

You sin, just like everybody else does. God forgives you even if your sin is very bad. God washes all of your sins away and treats you with kindness. The next time someone hurts your feelings, remember how God forgives you. Follow God’s example.

Prayer

God, teach me to forgive other people the way you forgive me.

Something to Draw

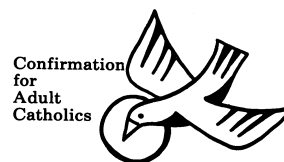
Draw a picture of Jesus dying on the cross for your sins

Mission for the Week

Name one person you are angry with. Pray to God. Ask God to help you let go of your anger and really forgive.



From the Archdiocese of Boston



September 17 ~ Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Forgiveness – even the first disciples found it hard to be forgiving of others. When they asked, perhaps in frustration, how many times they were to be forgiving, Jesus does not soften his response. Rather he multiplies the number of times they are to be forgiving saying “not seven times but seven times seventy-seven times.” We are fortunate that each time we seek out God’s forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance, we are never turned away, never refused His mercy and compassion. To whom is God calling us to extend that same kind of forgiveness?

The diocese-wide collection today will support the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust which cares for the health and well-being of our priests. In the Archdiocese of Boston, we are blessed to have 590 men who have devoted their lives to serving Christ and His family. Your gift to this collection will help provide our priests with an appropriate level of care and quality of life so they can continue sharing the good news, performing good works, and spreading good faith. Remember the priests who have been there in your time of need, and consider honoring them with a generous gift to this special collection. You may also make your gift online at clergytrust.org or text the word **PRIEST** to 56512 (msg. & data rates may apply). Thank you 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.



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.

HIGH SCHOOL FAIR—Local-area Catholic High Schools present information at a High School Fair hosted by Archbishop Williams on Sunday, October 1 (11am-1pm).

Archbishop Williams High School (Grades 7-12) Open House--Sunday, October 22 (11am-1pm) and Thursday, November 2(6pm-8pm).

Recruiting Drive

The Braintree Braves Drum and Bulge Corps will be having their Recruiting Drive on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at Thayer Academy from 12:00PM to 4:00PM. Call manager Jim Buglio at 781-843-6313 for more information.



“The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.” Help to encourage our compassion and forgiveness by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Oct 21-22, 2017 in Contocook, NH and Dec 2-3, 2017 in BREWSTER, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at <https://wwmema.org/>.

