

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, January 20, 2018

4:00PM Carolyn Burch Anniversary

Sunday, January 21, 2018

7:00 AM Thomas Conneely Memorial

9:30AM Phyllis Mae Nuss Anniversary

11:30AM Samuel A. Dentino Memorial

Monday, January 22, 2018

7:00AM Unborn Children

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

7:00 AM Cardinal Bernard Law Memorial

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

7:00 AM Robert Munnis Memorial

Thursday, January 25, 2018

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, January 26, 2018

7:00 AM Edward Murphy, Sr. & Edward Murphy Jr. Memorial

Saturday, January 27, 2018

4:00PM Paul Harris Anniversary

Sunday, January 28, 2018

7:00 AM Annie Mullen Memorial

9:30AM Brian P. Sampson Memorial

11:30AM John & Jane Crimmins & Ancestry Memorial

Thank you for your offerings for the 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	\$ 4,787.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,122.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,310.75
Total Offertory	\$ 8,219.75

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

From the Pastor's Desk



My brothers and sisters,

SOME WINTER NOTES/REMINDERS

All of the following come from my belief in you as mature dedicated Catholic people. I trust you to make good, sensible decisions out of your own devotion and charity toward one another.

First, **SNOW**. We do not cancel Mass for any weather. Sometimes the governor will restrict travel with a State of Emergency or other officials will offer requests or guidelines regarding travel or parking. These should be respected but will not result in the cancellation of Mass. If it snows on a day when a family has requested a Mass intention we will be happy to reschedule to a different day (to the extent possible).

Second, **INFLUENZA**. This year the "flu shot" is not as helpful as in other years and there is also a rise in reported cases of the virus in this area. This often happens in Winter. Please use extra care if you know (or even suspect) that you are sick.

The one change I will make at both parishes is that we will suspend the distribution of Our Lord's Blood at Sunday and Daily Masses until the flu recedes (usually in April or May). The exceptions here will be on Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Easter Sunday and the Octave of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday.

If anyone needs to receive from the chalice for health reasons (Celiac disease) we will, of course, accommodate those needs.

Last, **OTHER ILLNESS** concerns. Winter can bring a rise in viral and other illnesses as well. For your consideration:

- Please stay home. Illness is **ALWAYS** an acceptable reason not to attend Mass.
- Some people refrain from using the Holy Water when entering/exiting the church. We will not be emptying the fonts.
- The Sign of Peace is customarily marked with a handshake. A wave, nod, or any other kind gesture is acceptable.
- While reception of Holy Communion on the tongue is always acceptable, if you are conscious of being sick it may be appropriate to receive in the hand for a brief time.

Thank you for your faith and your charity.

In His service and yours,
Fr. Paul Clifford



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



The Jesus in Mark's gospel is an action figure. Although the briefest of the four gospels, Mark's writing contains the most activity on the part of Jesus. His Jesus is always on the move, a man on a mission. In today's passage, Jesus recruits four of his twelve Apostles. Not bad for a day's work! The words, "Then he called them," refer to James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother, John. They also refer to us! God calls out to us in so many ways with opportunities to follow him during the course of our days. Sometimes God calls to us "from the outside" in the beauty of creation, in the presence of others in our lives, in the words of Sacred Scripture, in a stanza from for a poem, or in a musical composition. And sometimes, God calls to us "from the inside" in a soft whisper to our hearts, in a gentle tap on our shoulders, or in the "thunk" of a necessary wake-up call. May God help us all to find the time and the availability to listen for his call and to respond to it.

January 21--Third Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says: "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." As disciples, we are called to continue God's work on earth. Taking care of God's poor is indeed living gospel values. **Have you considered answering the call to serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?**



food collection

Food Collection Sunday THIS weekend... Thank you to everyone who shopped for and donated to our food pantry today. If you forgot to shop, don't like to shop, or are new to our parish, please know that in addition to groceries on the 3rd Sunday of the month (or during business hours (M-F, 9-4) at the parish office, you can financially support our pantry. Please place your offering (cash or checks written to Society of St. Vincent DePaul with St. Francis of Assisi on the memo line) into one of the blue St. Vincent DePaul envelopes found in the holders on the back inside wall of the church, and then place that into the collection basket or through the rectory mail slot. Your generosity allows us to take advantage of supermarket sales and keep our pantry shelves well-stocked in between our monthly food collections. Grazie!



Bereavement Support

Our bereavement group is now on winter hiatus, and we will start up again in March. Those struggling with and grieving the death of a loved one are always welcome to contact the parish for assistance by calling 781-843.1332 or sending an email to lmuldoon@safb.org.

We can offer a cup of tea, a box of tissues, a listening heart, and resources that will help along the way of your grief journey.



If you are a registered parishioner who utilizes the parish envelope system or the EFT option and would like a copy of your total contributions for 2017 please call the parish office at 781-843-1332. In accordance with federal regulations contribution statements have been mailed to any parishioner who has made a single contribution of \$250 or more. If you do not currently utilize the parish envelope or EFT/online giving system, but would like to; or if you have any questions regarding your statement, please contact Patty Kinnally in the parish office.



Spring Adult Confirmation begins Sunday February 25, 2018 with 5pm Mass at Saint Jerome Parish, Weymouth followed by class in the Church Hall.

**Program ends with Confirmation Sunday April 8 at 1pm
Dates : 2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/8 Confirmation**

Any baptized adult who has received First Communion but who has postponed the reception of Confirmation is invited to attend. Please note that the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary to be a godparent at baptism and to serve in church ministry. This sacrament is also highly recommended for those preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage.

*****A baptized Catholic, if married, is expected to be validly married in the Church prior to receiving Confirmation. Any questions regarding marriages, please consult your parish priest prior to registering**

What will the course be like?

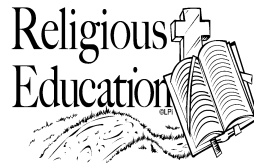
The course will introduce the adult learner to major aspects of the Catholic faith through the study of the Mass which includes reflection on the sacraments, the Creed, prayer and the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit essential to live the Christian life. The five weeks will be a chance to ask questions and move forward in faith. Please note attendance at the 5pm Mass is part of the class experience.

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, January 25, 2018 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 ...** will start up again in March, but those grieving the death of a loved one are always welcome to contact the parish for assistance, using the above information.
- **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.

GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

As of Wednesday our Grand Annual Collection was \$55,000 from 255 contributors (15% of Appeals sent). Thank you to all who have contributed. If you did not receive an Appeal letter or have misplaced your copy, please call the parish office at 781-843-1332 and we'll be happy to send you a new one.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

Religious Education classes are as scheduled:

Sunday, January 21	10:30-11:30	Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in the school.		
Sunday, January 21	5:00-7:00	Gr. 10
Classes for this week postponed to January 28.		
Monday, January 22	3:50-4:50	Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in the school.		
Tuesday, January 23	3:50-4:50	Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in the school.		
	6:30- 7:45	Gr. 6-8
Classes meet in the school.		
Thursday, January 15	6:30-8:00	Gr. 9
No classes this week.		

Next class February 1 at St. Francis of Assisi

CONFIRMATION - IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Confirmation I (Grade 9)

Next Meetings: **Thursday, February 1st** from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at St. Francis of Assisi (*Note change of place.*)

Sunday, February 11th – attend the 6:00 pm Mass at St. Clare

Confirmation II (Grade 10) - Class scheduled for 1/21 postponed to 1/28.

Next meeting: **Sunday, February 11** from 5:00 to 7:00* pm at St. Clare

Sunday, February 25th from 5:00 to 7:00* pm at St. Clare

***(Mass is part of our meeting time.)**

Please return your Sponsor Sheet and Saint Report at the next meetings.

“Catholic education aims not only to communicate facts but also to transmit a coherent, comprehensive vision of life, in the conviction that the truths contained in that vision liberate students in the most profound meaning of human freedom.” - Saint Pope John Paul II

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Stay close and God bless,
Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli





From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal



National Catholic Schools Week, which begins on Sunday, January 28th is now right around the corner! It is our annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2018 is "Catholic Schools - Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed." During this week, our school as well as other Catholic schools across the country will observe the annual celebration week with Masses, Open Houses and other activities and events. Through these events, St. Francis of Assisi School will focus on the value that Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities, and our nation.

As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." - Mk 1:16-17

Open House for Prospective Families - Do you have a friend or relative who might be interested in enrolling their child at SFA for the 2018 – 2019 school year? If so, please invite them to attend our Open House, which will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2018 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Highlights of the day include the following: An information session; guided tours directed by SFA students; meet administration, faculty, and staff; hear from current students, parents, and alumni; and learn about SFA's curriculum and extracurricular activities. In addition, prospective families may also visit our school throughout Catholic Schools Week (January 29th – February 2nd) from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Applications will be accepted (pending availability) on a first come, first serve basis. Enroll Today!

A CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN TO ALL FAITHS AND DIVERSITIES!

OPEN HOUSE Sunday January 28th 1 pm – 3 pm
VISITING WEEK January 29th – February 2nd 9 am – 1 pm

Academic Excellence
Safe Environment Faith & Values Based Education.

St. Francis of Assisi School
Pre-K to Grade 8
850 Washington St., Braintree
781.648.0842 | www.stfab.org

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Holiday Calendar Winner 2018

On Thursday, January 10th, we held Week 2 drawing of our Holiday Calendar Raffle. Congratulations to our winners!

Date	Prize	Winner
1/10	\$250	John/Nadine Kubiak
1/11	\$75	John Doran
1/12	\$100	Joy McCaffrey
1/13	\$75	Evan O'Brien
1/14	\$100	Engelbert Solis
1/15	\$75	Febe Azanem
1/16	\$500	Mardochea Mexil

Readings for the Week of January 21, 2018

- Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/
1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20
- Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22,
25-26 [25a]/Mk 3:22-30
- Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9,
10 [8]/Mk 3:31-35
- Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28,
29-30 [29a]/Mk 4:1-20
- Thursday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/
Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Mk 16:15-18
- Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a,
2b-3, 7-8a, 10 [3]/Mk 4:26-34
- Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13,
14-15, 16-17 [12a]/Mk 4:35-41
- Next Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9, [8]/
1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"For the world in its present form is passing away." If change in our lives is our lot, let us learn how to change with and for our spouses by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Feb 2-4, 2018 in Manchester, CT and Feb 9-11, 2018 in Huntington, NY. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.

The Knights of Columbus is seeking a field agent for a career opportunity representing their Insurance, Annuity and Long Term Care Program. We offer a complete benefits package with this full time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information on this exciting career opportunity, please contact Michael R. Capobianco, General Agent at (508) 238-2300.

January 21 ~ Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Once again in today's Gospel Jesus gives us reassurance that if we "come after him" that is, if we follow him and come to friendship with him, he will give us what we need to bring other to Christ. Too often we take the first step of coming to friendship with Jesus, but we stop there! We don't take the next step of reaching out to bring others to Christ either because we lack confidence or don't think it is our job. Listen to Jesus speaking to you today, "come after me and I will make you fishers of men [and women]". How will you respond? What action will you take?

FIAT! - Have you ever wondered if God is calling you to be a religious sister? If so, Fiat is for you. Fiat is a discernment group for single women considering a vocation to religious life in the Catholic Church.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine, 1105 Boylston St., Boston. If you are interested in attending, please respond to Sister Marian Batho, CSJ, Delegate for Religious, Sr_Marian_Batho@rcab.org or call 617-746-5637.

Mass for Prayer and Penance

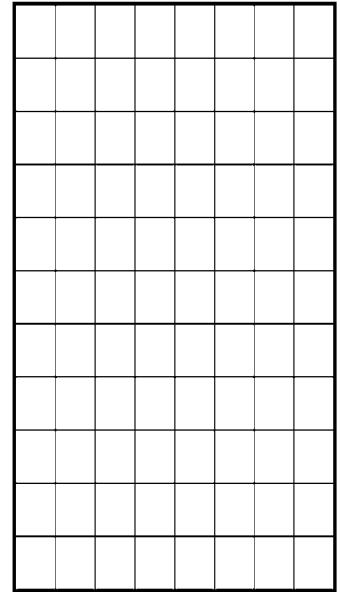
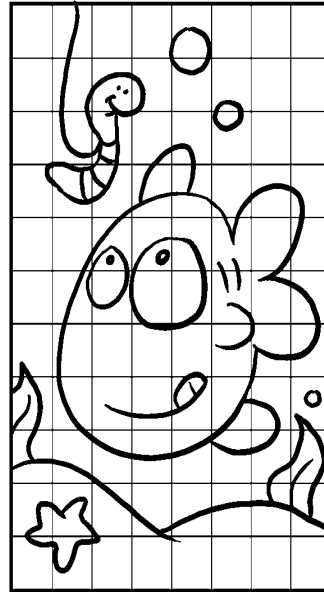
All Masses for Sunday, February 4th will be offered for Prayer and Penance at the request of Cardinal Sean. The Mass is being held in response to a call from Pope Francis for all episcopal conferences across the world to have a Day of Prayer and Penance in recognition of harm done by clergy sexual abuse within the church. It will be an opportunity to seek repentance for the sins of the church, to pray for all those who were abused, and to pray for continued healing for all those impacted by the abuse including those who were abused, families, members of our church, and the community at large.

So that you can make appropriate decisions for your children, please keep in mind that the topic of the clergy sexual abuse crisis will be addressed during the Mass. If you know of anyone who has stepped away from the church because of the clergy abuse crisis, please let them know about this Mass in case they would like to attend. If you know of anyone who has been sexually abused by clergy or a member of the church, please let them know that the Office of Pastoral Support and Outreach is there to help. To report abuse or get help please call 617-746-5995.



Puzzle

Copy the picture square by square.



©LPI

Sharing the Gospel

There's a colorful envelope addressed to you on the kitchen table. You see it's from your friend. You open it and find a party invitation inside. Your parents say you can go! When Jesus invited Peter, Andrew, James and John to come along with him, they were just as excited to go. Jesus was the Savior and a good friend. They couldn't wait!

Prayer

Jesus, I thank you for inviting me to spend time with you.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus smiling and waving to you.

Mission for the Week

Jesus wants you to come to his home in heaven. Make a party invitation from Jesus to you. Use this invitation as a bookmark in your Bible.

