

# 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](http://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 16, 2016

4:00 PM Frank O'Toole Anniversary

## Sunday, January 17, 2016

7:00 AM Thomas Woods, Sr. Spec. Intention

9:30 AM Joseph Stanton Month's Mind

11:30 AM Susan A. Reilly Memorial

## Monday, January 18, 2016

7:00 AM Susan A. Reilly Memorial

## Tuesday, January 19, 2016

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

## Wednesday, January 20, 2016

7:00 AM

## Thursday, January 21, 2016

7:00 AM Patrick Conneely Anniversary

## Friday, January 22, 2016

7:00 AM Unborn Children

## Saturday, January 23, 2016

4:00 PM Joseph & Martia Camara Anniversary

## Sunday, January 24, 2016

7:00 AM Guido Buglio Anniversary

9:30 AM Samuel A. Dentino Memorial

11:30AM Ann Palombo Month's Mind

## DAY OF PRAYER



JANUARY 22

On the eve of the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, we invite everyone to a Holy Hour for Life, Forgiveness, and Healing during the Jubilee Year of Mercy. **The Holy Hour will occur THIS Thursday, January 21 from 7 - 8PM at St. Francis of Assisi Church and will be led by Deacon Joseph MacDonald**, in collaboration with the Boston Deacons for Life and the Pro Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston. It is our hope that many parishioners from both St. Clare and St. Francis will join us for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Liturgy of the Word, Prayer and Music. This is a beautiful opportunity to pray together as a collaborative, and we hope that YOU will invite family members and friends to accompany you. Please keep in prayer those who plan to participate in the March for Life 2016 in Washington, DC.

### EMAIL SCAM

Many of us received an email this past week that was supposedly from Fr. Gustave Kotubey, SMA. This email was totally in French and was a bit disturbing. We have contacted Fr. Claude Nikpi, from the SMA Provincial Council in Tenafly, NJ. Fr. Claude has assured us that Fr. Gustave is fine. This is a scam. Fr. Gustave is in the process of changing his email address so that this will be rectified. In the meantime please **DO NOT RESPOND** to this email.

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:

Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—61%

## Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 6,634.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 4,905.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 982.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$12,521.00</b>

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

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

## GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

As of Wednesday our Grand Annual Collection was \$64,500 from 302 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.



**The parish office will be closed on Monday, January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Have a safe and happy weekend.**



From the desk of the  
Pastoral Associate  
Mrs. Linda Muldoon



The theme for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18 – 25, 2016, is “Called to Proclaim the Mighty Acts of the Lord” and is based on 1Peter 2:9: “You are ‘a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises’ of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” We continue to hear about the “New Evangelization.” As Catholic Christians, we are called to share the Good News of the action of God in our lives, of our relationship with Jesus Christ. Let's get out there and tell our stories! Also, during the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the January Intentions of Pope Francis include Interreligious Dialogue and Christian Unity. During the Prayers of the Faithful, we will pray “that sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice” and “that by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions.” May we all celebrate Who it is and what it is that unites us.



## FOOD PANTRY INFO

This weekend is our monthly Food Collection Sunday. For the shoppers among us, we appreciate your donations of non-perishable food items, small toiletries, paper products or cleaning supplies. If you forgot or prefer not to shop, we welcome your financial support. 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 it in the offertory basket or the rectory mail slot. With all the recent warnings to check to see how much of a charitable contribution actually goes to the charity, it is good to know that we have no overhead—your generosity directly benefits the individuals and families who turn to us for help! Thank you.



**Planning for Lent...** Can you believe that we've been chatting about Lent as the last of the poinsettia leaves are swept up in the church? Anyhow—conversations have begun about offering to our collaborative small, faith-sharing groups during Lent. We will most likely use *Lenten Longings* for Cycle C from Renew International. If you are interested in joining a small group for Lent, please call or email Linda ([lmuldoon@sfab.org](mailto:lmuldoon@sfab.org)) for more information.

## Parish Info and events of note...

- **Prayer Shawls...** Our afternoon gathering remains the same—the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday (1/28) at 12:30PM in the church hall. Newcomers, novices and experts are always welcome! 
- **SFA/SC Bereavement Group...** We have not yet set a start date for the beginning of the next group. Kindly watch the bulletin or check [www.sfab.org](http://www.sfab.org). If you are grieving the loss of a loved one and feel the need to talk, please do not hesitate to call the parish office at 781.843.1332. 
- **SFA 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.
- **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. Do you hunger, do you thirst for something more? Do you want to learn about the food that endures for eternal life, to taste and see the goodness of the Lord? Maybe you have questions about our faith or your own circumstances. 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.
- **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.



From  
Mr. Brian Cote, Principal

Come experience the tradition of success!

# OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 31st  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Enrolling PK – Grade 8

Take a guided tour directed by SFA students; meet administration, faculty, and staff; hear from current students, parents, and alumni; learn about SFA's curriculum and extracurricular activities for grades PK – 8.



### Visiting Days

Monday, February 1—Friday, February 5 • 9:00am—1:00pm



St. Francis of Assisi School  
Pre-K to Grade 8

850 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184  
781-848-0842 • www.sfab.org



**St. Francis of Assisi School: A Community of Faith, Knowledge and Service.** Starting with an Open House on Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 P.M., we have a week of activities planned to demonstrate what our students are accomplishing and celebrating the community we've built to educate tomorrow's citizens and church leaders.

Once again this year's National Catholic Schools Week theme is based on community: "Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." The theme highlights the facts that not only are schools communities themselves; they are also part of many other communities, including families, parishes, cities and our country.

In addition, the theme focuses on key components of Catholic education: faith development, academic excellence and dedication to service. These elements set Catholic schools apart from other educational options. They are why families make sacrifices to provide a Catholic education to their children.

National Catholic Schools Week is an opportunity for you to see what I'm talking about. I am so proud of our students, and I can't wait for you to visit our school. It is also a time for me to say publicly what I think every single day: I am grateful for the dedication and commitment of our teachers, staff, administrators, board members, parents, parishioners and volunteers who make our school such a success. They help our school community thrive.

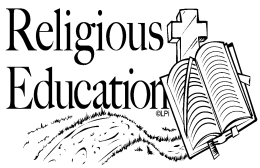
**Calling all Alumni** - St. Francis of Assisi School currently offers to its alumni four great ways to stay connected so that you can receive news about our school, alumni events, and alumni news. But, we need your help updating your contact information by:

- ◆ Completing our on-line Alumni Update Form located on our school's website ([www.sfab.org/sfabschool](http://www.sfab.org/sfabschool));
- ◆ Joining us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/sfabraintree](http://www.facebook.com/sfabraintree)
- ◆ Sending your current contact information (name, address, city, state, zip, telephone, year of graduation) and email address as well as news about what you have been up to [alumni@sfab.org](mailto:alumni@sfab.org); or
- ◆ Contacting us at (781)-848-0842.

Help us spread the news to other SFA alumni and parents of alumni and we look forward to reconnecting with you. Thank you for staying in touch.



**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 2015 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.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins  
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli  
Phone 781.848.3238



**No Religious Education classes this week for grades 1-5 and grade 10 due to the Martin Luther King holiday.**

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2016 6:00 – 7:30 Grade 9 – Class at 6:00 at St. Francis Church Hall.

**Confirmation Update:**

Please keep the Confirmation Candidates (grade 10) in your thoughts and prayers as they will be attending retreats over the next few weeks. A retreat is a moment away from normal activities offering them a time for quiet reflection and prayer. It is also a time to bond as a caring community of learners in Christ. We wish them an encounter with the Holy Spirit during this spiritual time together.

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

**Confirmation II (Grade 10)** Attending assigned retreat on Saturday, January 23 from 9:30 to 5:00 at St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall. Parents please return the permission slips and your "loving little assignment" as soon as possible. Call us if you have questions: 781-848-3238.

**Confirmation II (grade 10):** Next meeting will be on Sunday, January 31 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm

**Confirmation I (Grade 9):** Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at St. Francis of Assisi from 6:00-7:30 pm.

**Proclaim His marvelous deeds to all the nations.**

**Stay Close!**

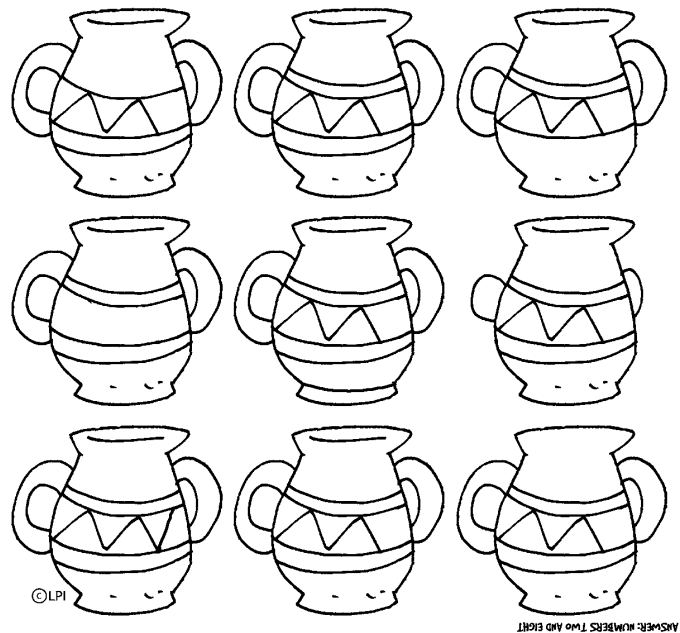
Diane and Ronna



**There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." - Jn 2:1-3**

**Puzzle**

Find the two identical jars.



ANSWERS: NUMBERS TWO AND EIGHT

**Sharing the Gospel**

Mary had great faith in God. She also knew that God could do anything. So when the wedding servers ran out of wine, she knew Jesus could help. She said, "Do whatever Jesus tells you to do." That's the smartest thing any of us can do.

**Prayer**

Dear God, help me to do everything you say. I know you can do anything.

**Something to Draw**

Draw a picture of the wedding servants listening carefully to Jesus.

**Mission for the Week**

What does Jesus tell you to do in his word, the Bible? Find out by reading the Bible for 15 minutes a day with your family. You could start by reading Luke.





from  
the Archdiocese of  
Boston



**FROM THE PASTORAL PLANNING OFFICE**

**January 17 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Mary's last words in the Gospel are, "Do whatever he tells you." (btw, Cardinal O'Malley's episcopal motto). Mary says these words to us too – to you and me. What is He telling us to do? Read today's psalm: "Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations." Paul reminds us that each of us has been given special gifts. Do you recognize the special gifts that the Spirit has given to YOU? Pray for the grace to use your gifts to proclaim his marvelous deeds - to family, neighbors, friends, co-workers. Pray for those who will proclaim his marvelous deeds at the March for Life this week in Washington.

**JANUARY SPECIAL COLLECTION**

THIS weekend (The weekend of January 16 and 17) there will be a special collection for Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Boston. The proceeds will go toward these schools to assist more families with demonstrated financial need and to help grow enrollment. In addition, 50% of the donations collected at our Masses next weekend will go to our school. Thank you for your generosity and belief in the gift of a Catholic education.

**JESUS IN BOSTON**

All Young Adults and College Students are invited to join us on Friday, February 5th @ 7:30pm for our monthly "Jesus in Boston" event. This month, we will be at St. Leonard's in the North End. It's a great way to meet new people and strengthen your interior life through the sacraments and fellowship with other Catholic young adults. For more information please email Mike Drahos at [MDrahos@rcab.org](mailto:MDrahos@rcab.org).

**PROJECT RACHEL**

During the Year of Mercy, *Project Rachel* extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of abortion to experience God's Mercy at a one-day retreat for hope and healing. Retreats will held at confidential locations on Saturday February 20, March 19 and June 4. Referrals for sacramental reconciliation to specially trained priests are also available throughout the year. For more information, contact *Project Rachel* at 508.651.3100 or [help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com).



**You are invited** to join a small group Bible study this Lent at St. Agatha Parish, 432 Adams St. Milton, MA. We call this "Circles of Faith" and we'll be discussing **Acts of the Apostles** in small groups of 6-10 people who will meet in homes or at the parish. Begins the week of Ash Wednesday, February 10 and runs once a week for six weeks. Sessions last no more than 90 minutes. No Bible experience needed. Book costs \$5. Various days and times will be available. To register contact Mary Campion [mcampion@stagathaparish.org](mailto:mcampion@stagathaparish.org) 617-698-2439 x209 or drop by St Agatha Church to sign up after Masses on Saturday, January 9 and Sunday, Jan 10 in the Gathering Space, Lower Church. Books will be available for purchase at that time. All are welcome.

**THE BRAINTREE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB** has two \$1,000 scholarships available to High School Seniors who are graduating in the year 2016. One will be awarded to a Braintree High School graduate and the other will be awarded to a Braintree Senior graduating from a Catholic High School. Notices for this scholarship have been sent to all participating schools in the area. The deadline for this scholarship is February 19, 2016. Please contact the guidance department of your school requesting an application or call Mrs. Margaret Hart, BCWC Scholarship Chairperson. Tel # 781-849-1755.



**Readings for the Week of January 17, 2016**

- Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-3, 7-10/1  
Cor 12:4-11/ Jn 2:1-11
- Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23/  
Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23/Mk 2:18-22
- Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20-22, 27-28/  
Mk 2:23-28
- Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/  
Ps 144:1-2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6
- Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-13/  
Mk 3:7-12
- Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11/  
Mk 3:13-19
- Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/  
Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21
- Next Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8-10, 15/1  
Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/  
Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21