

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 30, 2016

4:00 PM John J. Cusack, Sr. Anniversary

Sunday, January 31, 2016

7:00 AM Michael Nee Month's Mind

9:30 AM Thomas Conneely Anniversary

11:30 AM Rita Nave Anniversary

Monday, February 1, 2016

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

7:00 AM

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

7:00 AM

Thursday, February 4, 2016

7:00 AM

Friday, February 5, 2016

7:00 AM

Saturday, February 6, 2016

4:00 PM Santina Olsen Anniversary

Sunday, February 7, 2016

7:00 AM Marjorie, Frank & Edwin Smith Memorial

9:30 AM Bridget Twomey Memorial

11:30AM Elizabeth Grace Goslin Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:

Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—76%

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 4,749.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 1,817.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 982.00
Total Offertory	\$ 7,548.00

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!



Planning for Lent...

Small, faith-sharing groups using *Lenten Longings* for Cycle C from Renew International will begin the week of Ash Wednesday. At the moment, we are looking at groups on Monday afternoon, Wednesday night, Thursday night and Friday morning. If you are interested in joining a small group for Lent or would like more information, please call the SFA parish office at 781.843.1332 or send an email to lmuldoon@sfab.org.

The Light Is on for You for confession on Wednesday nights, beginning February 17, from 6:30 – 8PM, at Catholic churches throughout the Archdiocese. Our Lord is waiting for you!

The Little Black Book, containing six-minute reflections on the weekday Gospels of Lent, will be available next weekend. Feedback received from Advent suggested that something pocket or purse-sized worked well for most people, and so we hope that this option will enrich your Lenten prayer.

Lenten Moments of Mercy is a free daily e-mail series from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday that delivers reflections based on the Scriptures of Lent, shares the inspiring words of Pope Francis, and suggests Lenten actions and prayers. To sign up or learn more, visit www.loyolapress.com/lenten-moments-of-mercy.htm.

Retreat Opportunities and Other Programs for Lent:
 CHRISM Bible Study, 781.331.5194, www.chrismbiblestudy.org
 Espousal Retreat House in Waltham, 781.209.3120, www.espousal.org
 Glastonbury Abbey in Hingham, 781.749.2155, www.glastonburyabbey.org
 Miramar in Duxbury, 781.585.2482, www.miramarretreat.org
 St. Joseph Retreat House in Cohasset, 781.383.6024, www.csjretreatcenter.org



He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They also asked, "Isn't this the

son of Joseph?" - Lk 4:21-22



From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Typically, the Sunday Scripture readings are so arranged that there is a clear connection between the Old Testament and the Gospel. And we see that today—Jeremiah will surely have more than his share of opposition as will Jesus himself as the people in the synagogue become filled with fury at his words. We've all felt the tide turn against us—what starts out as a great day can turn quickly in the opposite direction. We can be running on “full” but realize that “empty” may lurk just around the corner. And that's where First Corinthians 12:31-13:13 (one of the most popular readings chosen by wedding couples) has a lot to say to us. We can pray with it and consider saying “Jesus” wherever the word “love” occurs. We can spend some time with the verses that follow “Love never fails” that remind us that in this world, we know partially and see indistinctly. Let us remember to place our faith and our hope in—to trust—the greatest of these—Jesus. Let us sing of God's salvation!



GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

As of Wednesday our Grand Annual Collection was \$65,400 from 304 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.

Parish Info and events of note...

- **Prayer Shawls** * Dates for February are Monday, February 8 at 7:00PM and Thursday, February 25 at 12:30PM in the church hall. Newcomers, novices and experts are always welcome! 
- **SFA/SC Bereavement Group...** We will resume in February with a slight change in format. We will run as a drop-in group on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from February 9th through May 24th. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one and feel the need to talk, please do not hesitate to call the SFA 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

National Catholic Schools Week is finally here! During this week, our school as well as other Catholic schools across the country will observe this annual celebration of Catholic education with Masses, Open Houses and other activities and events. Listed below is a schedule of our events that will be held throughout the week:

Sunday, January 31: “Celebrating Our Community”

Open House for Prospective New Families (1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.)

Monday, February 1: “Celebrating Our Faith”

- ◆ Visiting Day and Registration for Prospective New families; (9:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M.)
- ◆ Penny Game
- ◆ All-School CSW Liturgy (8:45 A.M.)
- ◆ School Uniforms must be worn

Tuesday, February 2: “Celebrating Our Faculty & Staff”

- ◆ Visiting Day and Registration for Prospective New Families (9:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M.)
- ◆ Penny Games
- ◆ “Crazy Hat and/or Tie Day” (school uniforms must be worn)
- ◆ Faculty & Staff Luncheon

Wednesday, February 3: “Celebrating Our Nation”

- ◆ Visiting Day and Registration for Prospective New Families (9:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M.)
- ◆ Penny Game
- ◆ Out of Uniform Day - “Red, White and Blue Day”

Thursday, February 4: “Celebrating Service”

- ◆ Visiting Day and Registration for Prospective New Families (9:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M.)
- ◆ Penny Game
- ◆ No Homework Pre-K through 8
- ◆ Out of Uniform Day – “Team Pride Day” (favorite sports team gear apparel)

Friday, February 5: “Celebrating Our Students”

- ◆ Visiting Day and Registration for Prospective New Families (9:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M.)
- ◆ Penny/Bingo/Trivia Games
- ◆ Pizza Lunch & popsicles for all students (no cost)
- ◆ Out of Uniform Day - “SFA Spirit Day” (blue & gold)

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

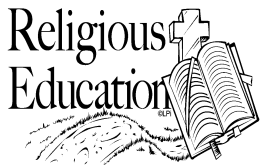
850 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184
781-848-0842 • www.sfab.org



In conjunction with our Catholic Schools Week celebration, SFA will be embarking on a special project, an all-school read aloud initiative called One School, One Book. Throughout the week, all of our students at every grade level will read and/or listen to the same book, *Who Was Ben Franklin?* by Dennis Brindell Fradin and illustrated by John O'Brien. With this One School, One Book initiative, we aim to further build a community of readers at our school. As a follow-up activity, a performance of *Benjamin Franklin: The Statesman and Inventor* by the Historical Perspective for Children is being scheduled later in the month.

Also our students in grades 5 – 8 will conduct grade level Spelling Bees during Catholic Schools Week. The first place winner of each grade level will then compete in our Regional Spelling Bee on March 10th at St. Jerome School.

In addition, our school will be conducting a school-wide canned drive. We are asking that students bring in canned goods (corn, green beans, peas, fruits, baked beans, tuna, soups, etc ...) for our annual St. Francis of Assisi School “Souper” Bowl, which will benefit our St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry. We would like to extend a word of thanks in advance for your generosity and support of this worthy cause.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

Religious Education Classes will meet as scheduled:

Sunday, January 31 10:30-11:30 Gr. 1-5

Classes meet in the school.

Sunday, January 31 5:00—7:00PM Gr. 10

Classes meet at St. Clare's starting at 5:00 PM.

Monday, February 1 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5

Classes meet in the school. **Safety Monday**

Tuesday, February 2 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5

Classes meet in the school. **Safety Tuesday**

Tuesday, February 2 6:30- 7:45 Gr. 6-8

No classes this week.

Tuesday, February 2, 2016 6:00 – 7:30 Gr. 9

Classes meet in at St. Francis of Assisi church hall.

Confirmation II (Grade 10) meets on **Sunday, January 31** at **St. Clare church hall** from **5:00 to 7:00PM**. For future planning, we will meet again on **Sunday, February 21** (Meeting place will be announced in next bulletin and on our Connect-Ed voice and e-mail communication system. Please stay tuned.)

Confirmation I (Grade 9) meets on **Tuesday, February 2** at **St. Francis of Assisi** in the church hall from **6:00 to 7:30PM**. Please bring your books with you.

The parents and volunteers in our Confirmation program are helping to empower the young men and women to be the saints and the kingdom builders they are called to be. They are showing their dedication as they encourage them to come to our meetings, our service projects and our Masses. Whether or not the young people know it, their hearts and minds are made to hear and *live* the Good News of the Gospel. Some gentle guidance may be necessary to teach them; be encouraged to share the faith with them and when you see a teenager *living* the life of Christ, please stop to tell them you notice.

I will sing of your salvation.

Stay Close!

Ronna and Diane



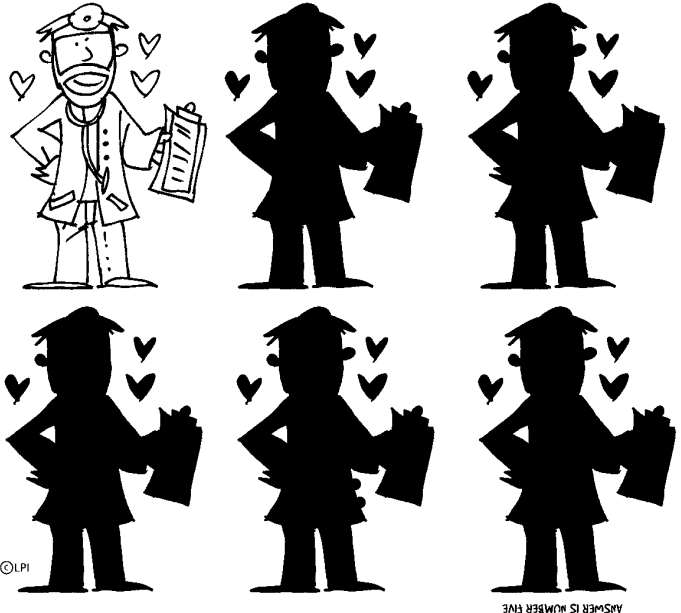
If you are a registered parishioner who utilizes the parish envelope system or the EFT option and would like a copy of your total contributions for 2015 please call the parish office

at 781-843-1332. 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.



Puzzle

Find the right shadow.



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ANSWER IS NUMBER FIVE

Sharing the Gospel

Jesus did not expect everybody to like him. Jesus chose to follow God's plan, no matter what other people said. Even though some people wanted to hurt Jesus, he always spoke the truth. He always did what was right, no matter what.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to keep on doing what you want, no matter what other people say.

Something to Draw

Draw Jesus walking away from people who didn't like him.

Mission for the Week

Has anyone ever hurt your feelings because you love God? Pray for that person, and keep doing what is right.



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from
the Archdiocese of
Boston



January 31 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

One month into 2016. How are the resolutions coming along? Have you lost those 10 pounds, organized your desk, visited your ailing neighbor? It's never too late to start over. St. Paul provides some direction. He gives us a "still more excellent way", the way of love: patient and kind. "So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love." Love of God is the beginning. It's definitely not too late to resolve to love Him more, talk with Him in prayer more, and meet Him in the sacraments more often.

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.

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.

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN YOUR FAITH
Archdiocese of Boston – Men's and Women's Cursillo**

Cursillo is a short course in Christianity. It is an encounter with Christ in a small community of the Church, in order to deepen your own faith and strengthen your ability to be witnesses of Christ in the world.

The dates for the **Cursillo Weekends** are:

Women: March 3-6, 2016

Men: April 21-24, 2016

The weekend runs from Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon and is held at the Campion Center in Weston MA.

For information and registration, please check the Boston Cursillo Website: www.bostoncursillo.org or call the Office of Spiritual Life at 617-779-3640 or email us at spiritual_development@rcab.org.

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 617-698-2439 x209. 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 31, 2016

- Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-6, 15-17/
1 Cor 12:31--13:13 or 13:4-13/
Lk 4:21-30
- Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-7/
Mk 5:1-20
- Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7-10/Heb 2:14-18/
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
- Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5-7/
Mk 6:1-6
- Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10-12/
Mk 6:7-13
- Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47, 50-51/
Mk 6:14-29
- Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9-14/Mk 6:30-34
- Next Sunday: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-5, 7-8/
1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

