

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, April 2, 2016

8:30 PM Philip J. Landry, MD Anniversary

Sunday, April 3, 2016

7:00 AM Jamie O'Hare Anniversary

9:30 AM Nancy Gorman Anniversary

11:30 AM Debra Canale Anniversary

Monday, April 4, 2016

7:00 AM Judith Stempleski Anniversary

Tuesday, April 5, 2016

7:00 AM

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

7:00 AM

Thursday, April 7, 2016

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, April 8, 2016

7:00 AM Gloria Logue Month's Mind

Saturday, April 9, 2016

4:00 PM Paul D. Carlino, Jr. Anniversary

Sunday, April 10, 2016

7:00 AM Kenneth & Ann Rogers Memorial

9:30 AM Giacomo & Liberata DiCenso Memorial

11:30AM Sheila Baraggia Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:

Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—67%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$13,641.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 7,578.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,196.25
Total Offertory	\$22,415.25

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



From the desk of the Pastoral Associate Mrs. Linda Muldoon



It takes a village, a family, a community of faith... As most of you know, the newest Catholics in St. Francis of Assisi parish are Gabrielle and Sophia who were baptized, confirmed and received their first Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil. So first of all—CONGRATULATIONS—to both girls and to their parents, grandparents and sponsors! And thank you—to their parents, grandparents and sponsors who supported them every step of the way—with calendar juggling, rides, their presence and support, and their prayers. Along with Saturday and after school meetings, the girls and their families also participated in our Sunday Family Faith Formation program. Thank you to our coordinators, Diane Hopkins and Ronna Petrilli, to the catechists who taught the girls, and to the monthly presenters who offered something more to their parents. Thank you also to the staff of SFA school who have been an additional and huge part in the preparation of one of the girls. And finally—thank you to Fr. Paul for the time he spent with the girls and for presiding at their beautiful reception into the Church. Sophia and Gabrielle, our parish family welcomes you with open hearts; and we look forward to seeing you often at the table of the Lord!



Neil Renaud & Joanna Richardson I Donald Wightman & Kaitlyn McSorley I



Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." - Jn 20:28-29

 Divine Mercy

Jesus I Trust in You

THIS weekend, the Church celebrates Divine Mercy Sunday and the graces promised by Jesus, in a vision to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in 1935, to those who recite the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. For more information on this devotion, visit www.ewtn.com/devotionals/mercy/index.html. Pamphlets on the Chaplet are in the display racks in the front and rear foyers of the church.

How to Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Optional Opening Prayers:

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

(Repeat 3 times) O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!

Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostle's Creed

For each of the five decades *(On each "Our Father" bead of the rosary, pray)*

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

(On each of the 10 "Hail Mary" beads, pray)

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Concluding prayer *(Repeat 3 times)*

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.


Optional Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

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Parish Info and events of note...

- **Prayer Shawls...** dates for April will be Monday, April 11 at 7:00PM and Thursday, April 28 at 12:30PM in the church hall. Newcomers, novices and experts are always welcome! 
- **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.

 **SFA/SC Bereavement Group...** We meet THIS Tuesday, April 5 at 1PM in the St. Francis of Assisi church hall. Enter through the side door closest to the parking lot and take the elevator or stairs to the lower level. **We are a drop-in group that meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month through May 24th.** Everyone is welcome at any time—there is no need to pre-register. To find out if a session has been cancelled due to weather, please call the SFA parish office at 781.843.1332.

APRIL 3, 2016



From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal

As many of you are aware, Saint Francis of Assisi School is a member of and accredited by New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

The goals of accreditation are effectiveness, improvement, and public assurance. Each school that is a member of NEASC is accredited using the same protocols and materials assuring that the school is faithful to its mission, conducts its programs appropriately to meet its goals and fulfills the Standards of Accreditation established by the Commission on Independent Schools.

NEASC is a voluntary, peer review process. As a member of NEASC, it is expected that each school participates in the process of contributing and serving on various visiting committees. Participation on a visiting committee is a worthwhile and rewarding professional experience, while also providing much needed help to member schools as they strive to improve.

From Sunday, April 3rd – Wednesday, April 6th, I will be chairing a visiting committee at St. Patrick Cathedral School in Norwich, CT. During my absence at SFA, Mr. Richard O'Neil will serve as acting principal. Please keep both schools in your prayers and thoughts.

SAVE THE DATE - Join us for the SFA Spring Social on Friday, April 29th at Great Pond Manor, 120 Bay State Drive, Braintree. This event will feature a cocktail reception complete with appetizers, silent auction, raffles, games, music and so much more! The Spring Social promises to be a festive and fun-filled evening that allows us to celebrate our community as well as raise financial support to strengthen and enhance our high quality programs at SFA. More information and details regarding this event will be forthcoming!

Enroll Today

St. Francis of Assisi School is now accepting applications for all grade levels for the 2016-17 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.



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.



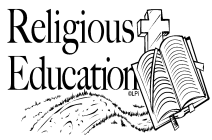
Invitations have been sent out for the Collaborative Volunteer Appreciation Dinner to be held on Friday, April 22 at Lombardo's. If you volunteer at either St. Francis or St. Clare and did not receive an invitation please call the parish office so that we can include you and correct our mailing list.

It is CORI renewal time. Please have your license with you at Mass over the next several weekends.



Readings for the Week of April 3, 2016

- Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/
Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31
- Monday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-11/
Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
- Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15
- Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-9/Jn 3:16-21
- Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20/
Jn 3:31-36
- Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/
Jn 6:1-15
- Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/
Jn 6:16-21
- Next Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/
Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13/Rv 5:11-14/
Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238



Religious Education Classes will meet as scheduled:

Sunday, April 3 10:30-11:30 Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in school. At the end of class teachers will bring students to hall for a reception.

Sunday, April 3 5:00—7:00PM Gr. 10
No class.
Confirmation practice Wednesday, April 6 at 7:00PM

Monday, April 4 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in the school.

Tuesday, April 5 3:50-4:50 Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in the school.

Tuesday, April 5 6:30- 7:45 Gr. 6-8
No classes this week

Tuesday, April 5 6:00 – 7:30 Gr. 9
Classes meet in St. Francis of Assisi church hall.

Sunday Faith Formation will have a reception after their guest speaker, Celia Sirois, presents *Family in the Bible*. Pope Francis proclaims "With families, there is always light. ... The family is like a factory of hope, a factory of Resurrection." We hope all will attend.

Confirmation I (Grade 9) Next meeting is **Tuesday, April 5th** in the church hall at **St. Francis of Assisi** from **6:00 to 7:30 pm**.

Confirmation II (Grade 10) Congratulations to those Confirmed on **Friday, April 1**. May the Holy Spirit be within you as you bring the light of Christ to the world!

The second Confirmation will be held at St. Francis on Friday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m. Mandatory practice at St. Francis Church for Confirmation Candidates and their Sponsors has been scheduled as follows:

Candidates receiving on Friday, April 8, will have practice on Wednesday, April 6, at 7:00 p.m.

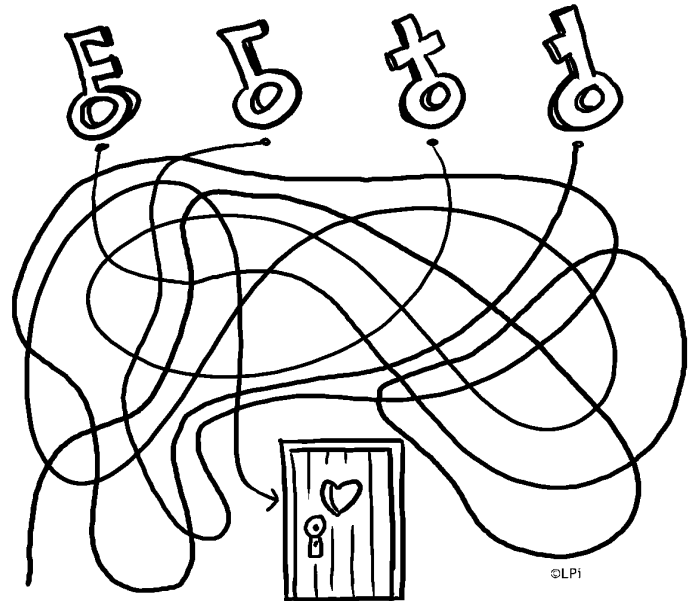
If you were unable to attend the Penance Service, please make sure you meet with a Priest for Reconciliation before your Confirmation Date. Reconciliation times are listed in the bulletins. **It is your responsibility to seek out the beautiful sacrament of forgiveness prior to receiving Confirmation.** If you have any questions or need our assistance, please call the Religious Education office at 781-848-3238.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Stay Close,
Diane and Ronna

 **Puzzle**

Which key can unlock the Door?



Sharing the Gospel

After Jesus died on the cross, the disciples were afraid people would want to hurt them, too. They stayed together in a room and locked the door. Then Jesus came to his friends, to show them he was really alive again. Jesus changed their fear into gladness. Have you ever been so afraid that you just wanted to hide? Remember that Jesus is with you when you are afraid, too.

Prayer

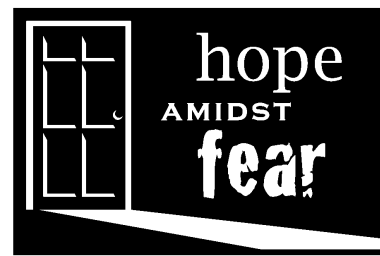
Dear God, thank you for being with me when I am afraid.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus next to you when you are afraid.

Mission for the Week

I will talk to God whenever I am afraid.





CDA COURT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI'S fund-raiser "**Meet Julia Child**" - starring Lynne Moulton, has been scheduled for Sunday, April 17th, from 1:30 to 4:00PM at St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall, 856 Washington St., Braintree. Included is the entertainment, a light luncheon, raffle, and bake sale. Tickets are \$20/pp and are available at the Braintree Town Clerk's Office or by calling Nancy at 781-413-1872.

The Braintree Catholic Women's Club will hold their next meeting on Wednesday, April 16 at 1:30PM, St. Clare's church hall. The regular business meeting will take place before the program. [Note change of program]. The game Left, Right and Center, will be the program for the afternoon. Be sure to bring your quarters to participate in the fun. For more information contact chairpersons for this event Gilda Mullen at 781-843-8588 or Marie Connelly 781-843-1965. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

BRAINTREE WOMEN'S CLUB

The Braintree Women's Club is pleased to sponsor a \$1,000.00 scholarship for a Braintree woman. This "Women Helping Women" scholarship is based on financial need, educational and occupational goals. This scholarship goes only to a Braintree woman who has either delayed entering college for a specific reason or who would like to return to an academic program.

All Braintree women interested in applying for this award are encouraged to email Lucille Barton at jeblab@beld.net or write her at 75 Amherst Road, Braintree, MA 02184. All applications are confidential and must be submitted by April 15, 2016.



Divine Mercy Sunday, Regional Celebration: April 3rd at Sacred Heart Church 12:45-2PM—Reconciliation: 2PM—Holy Mass; 3PM Exposition of The Most Blessed Sacrament Divine Mercy Chaplet, Veneration of Divine Mercy Image; and Veneration relic of Saint Faustina, 3:45 to 4:30PM – Reconciliation resumes. Questions: Ann call 781-337-7056.

Bus Trip to Devine Mercy Shrine, Stockbridge, MA

Wednesday June 1, 2016—Bus leaves St Clare's 8:45 AM—Leaves Shrine 5:00 PM—Returns 8:00 PM to St. Clare's. Cost: \$50.00 per person. Bring your own lunch and beverage. There is no food there. They have a room where we can eat but no food or beverages. For reservations or information call Marge at 781-843-8817.



from
the Archdiocese of
Boston

April 3 ~ Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy) Oh the joy and beauty of Easter season readings! They deserve to be listened to with attentive ears, and read and re-read. The Acts of the Apostles is our family history – how the Church began – the struggles and the joys, much like the Church today. And John's Gospel gives a special blessing from the Risen Lord's own lips. "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." That's us! And then note the urgency in John's voice in the last lines, "...But these [signs] are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name." Can you hear John's voice: He's begging us to LISTEN, this is amazingly wonderful Good News. We really have to share it!



Your Easter Offering

The Easter collection for the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust supported the health and well-being of our 614 active and senior diocesan priests. Thanks to your generosity, our parish raised **\$21,219.00** in support of all of our priests who faithfully serve our Catholic family in the Archdiocese of Boston. Our parish contribution will have a significant impact on the quality of life programs we are able to provide for our priests. If you were out of town this past weekend, or did not have the opportunity to participate, you are welcome to make a gift online at clergyfunds.org. On behalf of all our priests, thank you for your generous support of the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust.

New Annulment Workshop

In this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has created new norms for the processing of annulments. If you, or someone close to you, longs to be reconciled with this issue, a workshop presented by the Metropolitan Tribunal explaining this process and answering your questions, will be held at 7:00PM on Wednesday, April 13 at St. Jerome Parish, Weymouth and Wednesday, April 27 at Holy Family Parish, Duxbury.



Pray for Vocations