

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 16, 2016

4:00 PM Dennis O'Connell Anniversary

Sunday, April 17, 2016

7:00 AM Henry & Mildred Nilan Memorial

9:30 AM Katherine & Gus Murphy Anniversary

11:30 AM John Cappellano Anniversary

Monday, April 18, 2016

7:00 AM Michael Conneely Anniversary

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

7:00 AM

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

7:00 AM

Thursday, April 21, 2016

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, April 22, 2016

7:00 AM Audrey Brown Anniversary

Saturday, April 23, 2016

4:00 PM Joannie Hill Memorial

Sunday, April 24, 2016

7:00 AM Mary Dolan & William O'Sullivan Anniversary

9:30 AM Patricia Moran Anniversary

11:30AM John Joyce Memorial

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:

Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—76%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 5,716.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 3,164.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,185.00
Total Offertory	\$10,065.00

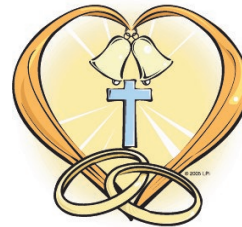
PLEASE REMEMBER ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH WHEN PLANNING YOUR ESTATE. Thank you!



Effective THIS Tuesday, April 19 we will begin booking Mass Intentions for the period of July 1, 2016 through April 16, 2017 (Easter Sunday). On March 2, 2017 [date change] we will start booking Masses beyond April 16.



Invitations have been sent out for the Collaborative Volunteer Appreciation Dinner to be held THIS Friday, April 22 at Lombardo's. Please RSVP no later than April 17 (whether or not you plan to attend). You can do so by returning the RSVP portion of your invitation, calling the parish office at 781-843-1332, or email pkinnally@sfab.org. Because both parishes will attend together, we anticipate a large crowd and hope for as accurate a meal count as possible. 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.



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



Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish." - Jn 10:27-28a

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



*From the desk of the
Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Linda Muldoon*



What great love the Lord has for his flock! In last week's Gospel, he instructed Peter to feed and to tend his sheep. This week, he tells us that he knows us, we follow him, he gives us eternal life, and no one can take us from his hand. How is it that we are worthy of such tender, loving care? **We hear his voice.** We are more than two thousand years removed from this discourse of Jesus. And although we have history and hindsight to help us to "hear," it is in our hearts where Jesus speaks to each one of us. We "hear" his voice with our senses for sure—the many times each day he speaks to us in what we see or hear, taste or smell, or touch. (Just ask Deacon Joe, aka the new "Papa," what he and his family have been "hearing" of late from the Lord!) For sure our brains quickly interpret the information our senses provide, but what lingers in our hearts prompts us to "hear" and recognize his voice and listen more deeply to what the Lord desires to tell us and to ask of us.



It's CORI time again! As required by the Archdiocese of Boston, all clergy, staff and volunteers who minister directly to children or have the potential for interaction with children or minister to the elderly complete a yearly renewal form. Returns from the past couple of weeks have been great—we're more than halfway there! This week, CORI forms were mailed to most of the volunteers I was unable to see at Mass. So—if you received your CORI in the mail, please complete both sides and return it (along with a photo copy of your driver's license) to the parish office, attention Linda. Returns can be made via the offertory basket, the rectory mail slot, or the US mail. If you misplaced or did not receive your CORI form, please call or stop by the parish office Monday-Friday, 9-4. Thank you for your help in keeping our children safe!



The parish office will be closed on Monday, April 18 in observance of Patriot's Day.



SFA/SC Bereavement Group... We meet NEXT Tuesday, April 26 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.



It's Food Collection Sunday! How is it possible that it is already the 3rd Sunday in April? So—if you remembered to shop for non-perishable groceries for our pantry—thank you! And if you forgot and would like to help us out financially, please use one of the blue envelopes found in the holders on the back inside wall of the church. **Food donations are welcome anytime. You can drop food items off at the parish office Monday—Friday from 9-4PM.** If you are writing a check, please write it to St. Vincent DePaul and place SFA on the memo line. Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or the rectory mail slot. Every donation directly benefits the clients of our food pantry and the families and individuals helped by our St. Vincent DePaul Conference.



The parish office will be closing at 2:00PM on Friday, April 22 so that the staff can prepare for the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.



Good luck and God bless to all who are running in (or working at) this year's Boston Marathon!



From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal

Poem in your Pocket Day - SFA celebrated Poem in your Pocket Day this past Thursday. This is a national celebration in which students are encouraged to keep a favorite poem in their pockets and share with others throughout the day. The purpose of Poem in your Pocket Day is to promote literacy in a fun way. Here are some ways our students chose to share their poems with others throughout the day: Some of the students read their poems on stage with the microphone and over the PA system; others wrote their poems using sidewalk chalk to decorate the play yard. In addition, we also had a poetry Story Walk and created a "Poet-Tree," located on the staircase leading downstairs to our School Hall. Students were able to write their poems on the green leaves for all to read and admire.

Spring Break – We wish all of our families a safe, healthy and wonderful Spring Break. We look forward to their return on Monday, April 25th.

SFA's Spring Social

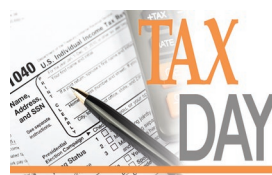
Join us for the SFA Spring Social on Friday, April 29th at Great Pond Manor in Braintree. This event will feature a cocktail reception, complete with appetizers, silent auction, raffles, games, music and so much more! We have all the necessary ingredients: a good cause (our students); cocktails paired with delicious appetizers; great raffle and auction prizes (weekend/weekday stay at Golden Eagle Lodge, Waterville Valley, NH; Red Sox tickets; golfing foursomes; etc.); and most of all, good friends like yourself who believe in supporting the academic and moral education of our children. Tickets may be ordered by contacting us at 781-848-0842 or online via our school's website (www.sfab.org) or www.eventbrite.com (simply type SFA's Spring Social into the Search of events tab). We are looking forward to seeing you at this exciting event!

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.

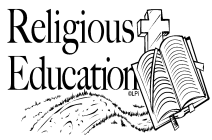
Parish Info and events of note...

- **Prayer Shawls...**remaining date for April will be Thursday, April 28 at 12:30PM in the church hall. May dates will be Monday, May 2 [change] at 7:00PM and Thursday, May 26 at 12:30PM. 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.



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.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
Phone 781.848.3238

There are no Religious Education Classes this week due to April vacation.

Classes for Religious Education will resume as scheduled:

Sunday, April 24	10:30-11:30	Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in school. Even if they attended on April 10, Mr. Brooks would like to see his second grade students again on the 24 th if at all possible.		
Monday, April 25	3:50-4:50	Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in the school.		
Tuesday, April 26	3:50-4:50	Gr. 1-5
Classes meet in the school.		
Tuesday, April 26	6:30- 7:45	Gr. 6-8
Grades 6 & 7 meet in the school. Grade 8 meets in the church hall.		

Classes for grades 9 & 10 are complete for this year.

Confirmation

The last Confirmation of the St. Francis/St. Clare of Assisi Parishes will take place on **Saturday, April 30th at 11:00 am** in the church at **St. Clare**. Please meet downstairs with your Sponsors at 10:15. Bishop John Dooher will be meeting with you prior to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Confirmation Practice is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 27th at 7:00 pm** in the church at St. Clare. It is important for your sponsor to be with you at this practice.

Congratulations to our newly Confirmed. May the Holy Spirit gently guide these young people ever closer to the Church so they may recognize the Lord, grow in unity and follow in love.

In the prayerful words of Rod Stewart....

*May the Good Lord be with you down every road you roam.
And may sunshine and happiness surround you when you are far from home.*

And may you grow to be proud, dignified, and true.

And do unto others as you'd have done to you.

Be courageous and be brave ... and in my heart you will always stay forever young....

May your guiding light be strong.... Amen

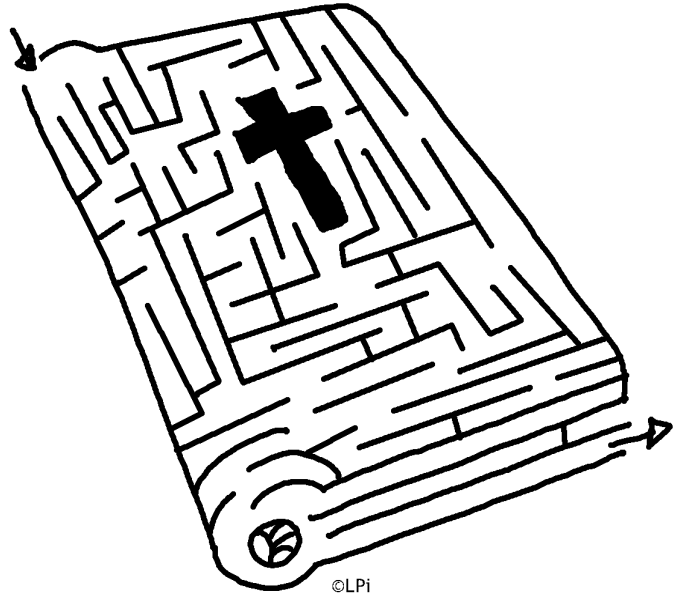
We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Stay Close,
Diane and Ronna



Puzzle

Find your way through the bible maze.



Sharing the Gospel

Jesus loves you so much! He knows what makes you happy and what makes you sad. You are his precious child, and he wants to be close to you forever. Get to know Jesus by reading about him in your Bible. Find out what makes him happy. Learn how he loves people who need help, and try to follow his example.

Prayer

Dear Jesus, help me to stay close to you.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself reading a Bible storybook.

Mission for the Week

Every night before you go to bed, read from a Bible storybook. Ask God to help you love him more and more.





from
the Archdiocese of
Boston

Bus Trip to Divine 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.

Braintree Catholic Women’s Club will hold their final
regular meeting of the season on Wednesday, May 11 at
1:30PM at St. Clare’s parish hall. The installation of officers
for the years 2016-2018 will be held along with the
presentation of scholarship awards to two high school
graduating students from Braintree. The chairpersons for
this event are Margaret Hart, 781-849-1755 and Marie
Connelly, 781-843-1965.



Prayer for Vocations

Loving and generous God,
you called the prophets

to bring your word to your chosen people.
Your Son, Jesus, called the first disciples
to be bold proclaimers of the good news.

In the modern world, you continue to call
your sons and daughters to the priesthood,
diaconate, and consecrated life.

Calm the chaos and soothe the sounds of our world,
and allow more to hear your soft voice
calling them to pick up their cross and follow.

May the Holy Spirit fall upon your church in a profound way,
so that we may experience a tremendous harvest of grace.

May vocations increase ever abundantly
and may your church stand as a witness to the world
of the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.



April 17 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

It must have been quite a scene: Paul and Barnabas
preaching about Jesus to a large crowd, but angry
onlookers, “...with violent abuse contradicted what Paul
said.”. That doesn’t stop Paul and Barnabas, they continue
to speak out boldly, until they are run out of town by
prominent members of the community. The key to
evangelization is in the last line of the passage: “The
disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit”. Perhaps
an odd reaction to being “expelled from the territory” but, not
an odd reaction to sharing the story of God’s love for us and
Jesus’ gift of salvation. Try it – share the Good News with
someone you know – someone who is not here with us each
week. You will find your joy in this.

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.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN YOUR FAITH

Archdiocese of Boston – Men’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 date for the **Men’s
Cursillo Weekend** is: **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.

**Jubilee Year of Mercy Pilgrimage and Mass for the Sick
and their Caregivers**

Cardinal Seán invites those who are sick and in need of
healing to join him at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross on
Sunday, April 24th for Mass at 11:30. During the Mass, the
Sacrament of the Sick will be offered for those who are
seriously ill and in need of the Lord’s healing. For more
information please visit [www.bostoncatholic.org/
healing](http://www.bostoncatholic.org/healing). Those wishing to be anointed are invited to register
by calling (857)302-HEAL. Come and join us as we
celebrate the Lord’s mercy!