

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.

Saturday, May 14, 2016

4:00 PM Roy Hendrickson Memorial

Sunday, May 15, 2016

7:00 AM Margaret Smith Anniversary

9:30 AM Vito S. Cannavo Anniversary

11:30 AM Braintree Catholic Women's Club

Monday, May 16, 2016

7:00 AM Giuseppe D'Angelo Anniversary

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

7:00 AM Marie Oliveira Moran Anniversary

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

7:00 AM Jay Mullin Anniversary

Thursday, May 19, 2016

7:00 AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, May 20, 2016

7:00 AM Rita & Al Duperre Anniversary

Saturday, May 21, 2016

4:00 PM John Reid Anniversary

Sunday, May 22, 2016

7:00 AM Marjorie Smith Anniversary

9:30 AM Shirley Cartwright Anniversary

11:30AM Ted, Sheila & Mark Warsheski Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for last weekend:

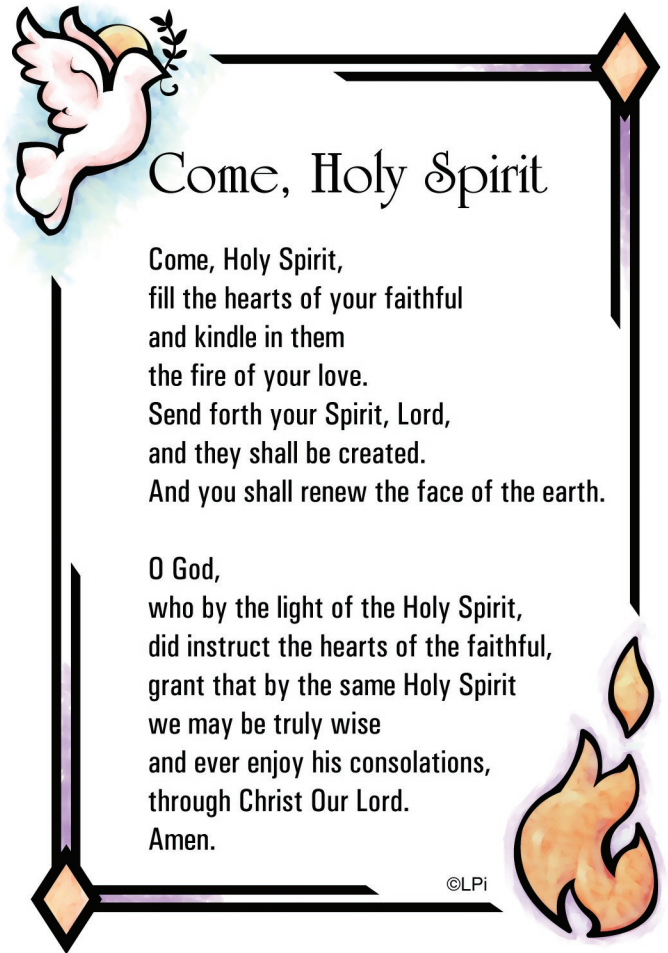
Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT—68%

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 6,295.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 2,956.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 923.00
Total Offertory	\$10,174.00

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



Come, Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them
the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit, Lord,
and they shall be created.
And you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God,
who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit
we may be truly wise
and ever enjoy his consolations,
through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

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Daniel Washburn & Jaclyn Pugsley



Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him." - Jn 14:23

PENTECOST SUNDAY



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

Towardness... is a word I learned this week while searching for a particular type of prayer for Pentecost. Although those who followed the directive of Jesus to “stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high” received the Holy Spirit on that first Pentecost, we are already recipients of that gift! By our baptism, our confirmation, and our participation in the sacraments of penance and Eucharist, the Holy Spirit dwells within us. It is up to us to seek and to animate that presence. Fr. Simeon, of St. Joseph’s Abbey, Spencer, MA in this month’s Magnificat expressed it beautifully (emphasis mine):

Remaining in Jesus’ Love

Having created us without having had to, and in his own image to boot, he, infinitely superior, proceeds to become the servant of us, the inferior. In the transposition of these meanings to God, we see how needy man is of something that this world cannot provide.

What a paradox it is that human loves alone are not enough for man!

*The very secret at the center of human nature is this dynamic **towardness** continually reaching out for God. The human capacity for God is not a matter of choice, an option for those among us who happen to be mystically inclined. The human instinct that tends toward God in the manner of a photosensitive plant striving toward the light is quite simply the deepest secret and motor-force of our human nature. We cannot be happy without moving toward the God whose image and likeness we bear at the center of our being. Our heart knows this even when other parts of us would persuade us otherwise.*

*However, our understanding of what divine love is can be neither a simple projection of our own needs nor a rational conclusion reached from certain premises. To know to the extent possible to us on the earth what **agape** is at its depths, we can go to only one source: Jesus Christ, the living Word and the incarnate Love of the Father.*

For me, emerging from the winter doldrums and feeling the warmth of the sun illustrates **towardness**—as do the flowers as they bend in the direction of the sun—reminders for sure that we are indeed wired for God.



SFA/SC Bereavement Group... We gather NEXT Tuesday, May 24 at 1PM in the St. Francis of Assisi church hall for the last meeting of this series. We encourage group members to bring a photo or memento of their loved one(s) along with their appetites as we welcome the warmer weather with an ice cream sundae! If you are mourning the loss of a loved one and need someone to talk to or perhaps some resources, please do not wait for the next group but instead feel free to call the parish office and speak with Linda.



CORI collections wrapping up... 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 **MUST** complete a yearly renewal form. **PLEASE**—if you volunteer at SFA and either did not receive or have not yet returned your CORI, call the parish office, and we will make every effort to accommodate you. Returns can also be made via the collection basket, the rectory mail slot, or the US mail. **We are all part of a greater good—the effort to keep our children safe.**

*Respect
Life*

Sanctity of Life Plant Sale, Saturday, 5/21 – Sunday 5/22 St. Paul’s, Hingham

Get a jump on your Memorial Day planting and support our ministry. We will have lots of heirloom and organic vegetables, plants, ground cover, and flowers for your garden and yard. “Under the tent” on St. Paul’s Church lawn located at 147 North St. Hingham, after all Masses from 9 AM Saturday to 11:00 AM Sunday. Donations of plants or flowers most welcome. Please contact Ed Boylan (749-1558 or Boylan.family@comcast.net for more information.



Many thanks to all who helped make last week’s (Mother’s Day/Father’s Day) Rose-for-Life Drive such a success. May God richly bless you!



From
Mr. Brian Cote
Principal

As we are rapidly approaching the close of another school year, we realize once again how quickly time passes and yet how much we have grown and accomplished.

Throughout this past year's events, we've been called to share and work together. During the year, we sought ways not only to grow academically and socially, but even more importantly, to prepare our students to grow spirituality, and reach out in service to those in need in our local and global communities.

The Saint Francis of Assisi community is indeed a community of faith-filled people seeking to love and serve God, the Church, and the world. Our community growing in faith certainly has been demonstrated through our penance services, individual classroom liturgies and recently in our second grade, where our students have received their First Eucharist. We congratulate all of them and look forward to having them join us in receiving the Eucharist when we go to Mass as a school community. We also strongly encourage them to receive the Eucharist every weekend, at Saint Francis or at their own parishes.



As a school community, we are looking forward to celebrating one of our traditions at Saint Francis of Assisi School, the May Crowning Mass, which will be held on Friday, May 27th at 8:45 AM. This is a special liturgy prepared and planned by our second and eighth

grade students; as they once again receive the Eucharist, as well as represents the last SFA school liturgy that our grade 8 students will attend before graduating.

Enroll Today

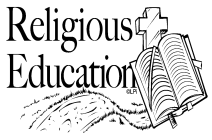
St. Francis of Assisi School is now accepting applications for all grade levels for the 2016-17 school year. For more information regarding our admissions procedure, simply visit our school's website (www.sfab.org) or contact us at (781) 848-0842. Are you interested learning more about what SFA has to 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...** will meet Thursday, May 26 at 12:30PM. Newcomers, novices and experts are always welcome! **This will be the final meeting. We will resume again in September.**
- **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.



We are now 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.



Mrs. Diane Hopkins
 Mrs. Ronna Petrilli
 Phone 781.848.3238



The Church is basking in the glory of the sacramental graces which are flowing with each Confirmation and First Holy Communion. For the next few weeks, we will be noticing the children answer the call to “*come to the table*” where they will be unifying themselves in a most intimate way with the Lord. We pray this communion will further and more firmly join their families to the Church as well. Ask any one of these beautiful children “What comes after your First Holy Communion?” Chances are they will respond with an excited...“My second and third and fourth.... Holy Communion.” Let us pray for all our families to remain spiritually nourished at “the table”. Mostly we pray for the families who experience the grace of communion to carry that grace wherever they go. Stay open to the movement of the Holy Spirit.



The First Communion ceremonies next weekend are as follows:

Saturday, May 21, at 4:00PM - Practice is Wednesday, May 18, at 4:00PM

Sunday, May 22 at 11:30AM - Practice is Wednesday, May 11 at 5:00PM

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Stay Close,
 Diane and Ronna



 Puzzle

How many spirits can you count?



©LPi

THE ANSWER IS FOURTEEN

Sharing the Gospel

The disciples must have missed spending time with Jesus after he went back to heaven. But they knew that the Holy Spirit would always be with them, helping them remember what Jesus taught them. The disciples kept learning about God and kept growing closer to him. The Holy Spirit will help you remember Jesus, too.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for sending the Holy Spirit.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus washing his friends' feet.

Mission for the Week

Pray to the Holy Spirit. Ask him to help you learn more about Jesus.



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.

LIFT Worship Night

Join LIFT Ministries on Tuesday, May 17th @ 7pm for an inspiring night of worship at St. Paul Church in Hingham with speaker Fr. Eric Cadin. The night will include uplifting music, a relevant talk, confessions, Eucharistic Adoration, and is FREE to attend and open to ALL AGES. A downloadable flyer, along with more information about LIFT, can be found on their website at www.liftedhigher.com. Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!

SMA Fathers, Dedham will hold a 70th Anniversary Benefit Dance on Friday, May 20 at the Irish Social Club, 119 Park St., West Roxbury. Doors open at 7PM with dancing until midnight. Music by Erin's Melody. Admission is \$10; tickets available at the door (proceeds support SMA Fathers' missionary work). For more information contact Rev. Brendan Darcy at 781-326-3288 or Pat & Josie Casey at 781-329-0530

Early Bird Special—Men's Prayer Gathering

Next Meeting is Saturday, May 21 from 7-8:30AM. Mass and Homily: Receive the Kingdom Like a Child: Humility & Simplicity with Fr. Vincent Daily, Pastor, St. Gregory the Great, Dorchester. Meeting will be held at St. Mary of the Hills Lower Church, 29 St. Mary's Road, Milton.

A **community rosary** will be held on the grounds of St. Clare's Parish on Sunday May 29, 2016 beginning at 9:30AM. Everyone is invited to attend. We will gather outdoors at the Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary and water fall. In the event of inclement weather, we will gather in the sanctuary. The community rosary will be led by the Knights of Columbus Braintree Council as part of the 5th Sunday Rosary Program. A supply of rosary rings and prayer cards on how to pray the rosary will be available.



May 15 ~ Pentecost Sunday

Happy Birthday to us! Pentecost Sunday is called the birthday of the Church. "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim." We, here, today, are the fruit of this proclamation. And, 2,000 years later, the New Evangelization calls each of us to be open to, and cooperate with, the Holy Spirit working in us. We are called to proclaim the good news of salvation in words and deeds – not preaching, but simply telling others how God has worked in our lives. It is up to us to cooperate with the Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

The Archdiocese of Boston Black Catholic Choir will be hosting the 21st annual concert on Sunday, May 22, 2016 at 4:30 pm. The event will take place at St. Katharine Drexel Parish, 517 Blue Hill Avenue, Grove Hall, MA. For more information, please contact The Office for Black Catholic Ministries: Ldesroses@rcab.org.

JESUS IN BOSTON

All Young Adults and College Students are invited to join us on Friday, June 3rd @ 7:30pm for our monthly "Jesus in Boston" event. This month, we will be at Sacred Heart Church in Boston's North End. This is a great way to strengthen your interior life through the sacraments and to meet new people spending time in fellowship with other Catholic young adults. Join us for Eucharistic adoration, Mass, Confession, great food and even better people! For more information please email Mike Drahos at MDrahos@rcab.org.

Readings for the Week of May 15, 2016

Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39

Extended Vigil: Gn 11:1-9/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/ Ez 37:1-14/Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39

Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34/ Rom 8:8-17 or 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/ Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26 or Jn 20:19-23

Monday: Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8-10, 15/Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-11, 23/Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6-11/Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Jas 5:1-6/Ps 49:14-20/Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12/ Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-3, 8/Mk 10:13-16

Next Sunday: Prv 8:22-31/Ps 8:4-9/Rom 5:1-5/ Jn 16:12-15