

THE PARISH OF SAINT CLARE

1244 Liberty Street, Braintree, Mass 02184
Collaborative Office Telephone: 781-843-1332

www.braintreecatholic.org

Collaborative email: parish@sfab.org

Parish Hall is accessible to Handicapped via elevator



Parish Mission Statement

May the Lord bind us together as a community of faith filled with His love. Let us go forth and spread His Good News as St. John preached: "Children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth." 1 John 3:18

Pastor

Rev. Paul T. Clifford
Email: pclifford@sfab.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Valanarasu Newton-Williamraj
frvalan@sfab.org

Deacons

Michael J. Cavanaugh
Joe MacDonald

Finance and Operations Manager

Kevin Mercier

Sunday Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:45 AM, 10:15 AM, & 6:00 PM

Daily Mass: 8:00 AM Saturday

Holy Days: 4:00 PM Mass on the Vigil
9:00 AM & 5:30 PM

Sacrament Of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 8:30-9:00 AM

Anytime by Appointment

Sacrament of Baptism: Sunday at 2:00 PM

Please call the collaborative office to register

Sacrament of Marriage:

A minimum six months notice is required. Couples must participate in a marriage preparation program.

Sacrament of the Sick and Communion Calls:

Please notify the Collaborative Office if anyone is hospitalized or unable to attend Mass because of illness, handicap or age.

Religious Education: 781-848-7481

For Grades 2 and 10 Only

Music Director:

Deacon Joe MacDonald

E-mail: deaconjoe.sfasc@gmail.com

Collaborative Office Manager—781-843-1332

Patty Kinnally—pkinnally@sfab.org

Fr. Bill's Place:

First Tuesday of the month

(Suspended due to Coronavirus)

Al-Anon:

Meets in Parish Hall - Tuesdays at 10:30AM

(Suspended due to Coronavirus)

Help for the Poor:

Pine Street Inn Society:

(Suspended due to Coronavirus)

Holy Name Society: (Suspended due to Coronavirus)

Second Sunday of the month at the 7:45 AM Mass

Boy Scout Troop #138:

Wednesday 7:00 PM

John Collier 781-843-3330

Family & Tots Program: (Suspended due to Coronavirus)

Karen Mc Brine 961-3460

E-mail: karensmusicklass@aol.com

Prayer Shawl Ministry: (Suspended due to Coronavirus)

First Wednesday of the month

Lucille Barton 848-0626

Braintree Catholic Women's Club:

Second Wednesday of the month at 1:30 PM in the Parish Hall
Carolyn Puleo 617-834-0726

Bulletin Deadline:

All notices must be submitted to the Parish House by Monday 1 PM. You may email them directly to stclare1@verizon.net

Welcome To New Parishioners. We want to know and serve you. If you are not registered, please fill out this form and present it to one of the priests or bring it to the rectory or place in the collection basket.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Street/City/Zip

Do You Wish to receive Offertory Envelopes? Yes

Prayers are requested for the Parishioners of St. Clare Parish, for those who are hospitalized, for our deceased relatives and friends, and for the following intentions:

Saturday	April 16, 2022	
8:30PM	Easter Vigil	
Sunday	April 17, 2022	
7:45AM	Alleluia	
10:15AM	He Is	
6:00PM	Risen!	
Saturday	April 23, 2022	
8:00AM		
4:00PM	Dante Varrasso	5th Anniv.
Sunday	April 24, 2022	
7:45AM	Robert & Jean Barrett	Memorial
10:15AM	John J. Clougher	Memorial
6:00PM	Ruth Driscoll	1st Anniv.

If you are interested in the Online Giving option to simplify your weekly contributions, please contact the collaborative office or visit our web site.



St. Francis of Assisi
Jean McPhee

St. Clare
William R. Cushing, Sr.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Easter Prayer of Thanksgiving

Good and gracious heavenly Father, we come before you on this Easter Sunday with full and grateful hearts for the gift of the Paschal Mystery that you showed us in the life, death, and resurrection of your Son, our brother by adoption, Jesus Christ.

Bless us and all those who profess belief in your saving love.

Bless also those who have yet to profess belief in you. You are God for all.

We ask all this in Christ's name. Amen.



JESUS IS HERE

Archdiocese of Boston Eucharistic Congress
SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2022 8:30AM – 6:00PM
TSONGAS CENTER, LOWELL, MA

Cardinal Seán O’Malley invites all the Catholic faithful in the Archdiocese of Boston and surrounding dioceses to join him in closing the Year of the Eucharist with a day-long Eucharistic Congress, Jesus is Here.

A core tenet of the Catholic faith is that the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ is made truly present in the Eucharist. But belief in the True Presence has waned in recent years, even among Catholics. And that’s a concern—because as Cardinal Seán teaches, “it is in the Eucharist where we find our true identity.” *Jesus is Here* is an opportunity for us to deepen our understanding of the mystery of Jesus’ presence with us—by listening to powerful talks on the Eucharist, by receiving Jesus in the Eucharist at Mass, and by adoring Him in a time of adoration and worship.

7:30am	Doors Open, Exhibitors Available
8:30am	Welcome, Music, & Celebration of Mass
10:15am	Break & Visit Exhibitors
10:45am	Session 1 – Featuring Deacon. Harold Burke-Sivers & Bishop Daniel Flores
12:15pm	Lunch Break & Visit Exhibitors
1:30pm	Session 2 – Featuring Bishop Robert Barron
2:30pm	Break & Visit Exhibitors
3:00pm	Session 3 – Featuring Jackie and Bobby Angel
4:00pm through	Eucharistic Adoration & Procession Lowell
6:00pm	Eucharistic Congress Concludes *

Confessions will be available at the following times: 7:30-8:30am, 10:15am-1:30pm, 2:30-3:30pm.

If you are interested in attending as member of our collaborative, please contact the collaborative office at 781-843-1332 or pkinnally@sfab.org.



The collaborative Office will close at 12:00PM on Good Friday, April 15 and re-open Tuesday, April 19.

Good luck and God speed to all who are running (or working at) the 2022 Boston Marathon.



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

Have you ever watched a movie or a television show and wonder about one of the minor characters? I might be a little weird for this, but I'm the kind of person that would like to get into the head of one of those people. What is their life like when they aren't on screen? I don't mean their real life, the life of the actor, I want to know what their character's life is like. What kind of work do they do? What do they do when they get home from work? Do they have families and what are those relationships like? Do they like to garden or golf? Are they Type A personalities or Type B? For example, sometimes I'd think about Brooks Hatlen from the Shawshank Redemption and wonder about what his life was before prison or what it was like for him in prison, beyond the few onscreen moments that only give a glimpse of his personality.

I'm certainly not the only one who thinks like this. Many writers do as well, look at all the spinoffs. Someone was obviously wondering what the Big Bang theory's Sheldon Cooper must have been like as child and so we have the spinoff, Young Sheldon.

I do the same thing with characters in scripture like the rich young man that went away sad (Mark 10:17-22) or Simon of Cyrene. (MT 27:23, MK 15:21 and Luke 23:26).

This week, Holy Week, Joseph of Arimathea has been in my head. He appears briefly in all four Gospels (MT 27:57-61, MK 15:42-47, LK 23:50-54 and JN 19:38-42) after the crucifixion. We know very little about him except that he was a good and just man; he was a secret follower of Jesus; he was a member of the Jewish Council and did not agree that Jesus should be condemned. He also had some measure of wealth. Oh yes, and he gave his own tomb to Jesus. Other than that, we never hear about him again.

But as I mentioned – he's in my head. I wonder what happened to Joseph in the days after the crucifixion, especially on Easter Sunday.

Of course, the Easter story is a familiar one to us. We know that early on Easter morning the women went to the tomb and found that it was empty. We know that they ran back to tell the apostles who were cowering in the upper room. Peter and John, of course, ran to the tomb to see for themselves. After that, word must have spread like wild-fire among the Lord's followers – including Joseph of Arimathea.

What was going through his head? What did he do? I know what I would do if someone just told me that the guy buried in my tomb had risen. I'd be like Peter and John and run right over there.

There is a scene in "The Christmas Carol" when the ghost of Christmas Future brings Scrooge to a cemetery and makes him look into a grave. Horrified, he realizes that it is his own grave and his own body before him. Scrooge's grave was dark and hopeless.

That is not what Joseph experienced. I think that something particularly remarkable must have occurred to Joseph, because he wasn't just looking into the empty tomb of his friend. Joseph of Arimathea saw his *own* grave – and it was empty! He saw the stone that would have sealed *his* fate rolled away. Imagine looking into your own tomb – and unlike Scrooge, finding it empty. Joseph might have been the very first person to understand fully that Christ's resurrection was not just the return of Jesus from the dead but it was a victory over death for him personally and for all of us. Like Joseph we can look into our own graves and not find the hopelessness of death but an empty tomb filled with light and the sure and certain hope of new life.

That's the beauty of Easter. It's both the promise and the reality of what we celebrate, that death has no more power over us. We are no longer slaves to death because just as the Red Sea was tossed aside so that Moses could lead his people from slavery to freedom, so too the stone that would have kept us captive to sin and death has been tossed aside so that we can live in freedom as children of God, through the saving act of Jesus Christ.

My friends, Christ has died and He has also risen. He has paid a ransom for our freedom. He has stripped death of its victory and because of that the cemetery will not be our final address – because the stone has been rolled away.

If death itself has no more power over us then what can we fear? What can possibly have a hold on us now?

Can the weight of our grief and sorrow – no because *that* stone has been rolled away.

Can the darkness of our depression or anxiety? No, because *that* stone has been rolled away.

Can the pain of rejection and betrayal? No, because *that* stone too has been rolled away.

Can we be held back any longer by our illnesses, disabilities or suffering - Absolutely not, because *that* stone has been rolled away.

The stone that kept us enslaved has been pushed aside. Our own graves have been opened. Stepping out of the tomb into the light is the hard part.

Christ's rising from the dead and our rising with him changes everything. We are no longer "Woe is me people." We are ALLELUIA people. We are "Jesus is Lord" people. We are "shout it from the rooftops" people, because nothing can ever separate us from the Love of God again.