

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

AI-Anon:

Meets in Parish Hall - Tuesdays at 10:30AM

Help for the Poor:

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

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 June 18, 2022
 8:00AM Mark & Molly Roman Spec. Intent. & Family
 4:00PM Ellen Crowe

Sunday June 19, 2022
 7:45AM Jim & Mary Kelley Memorial
 10:15AM Catherine T. Farrell and 11th Anniv.
 Jennifer Farrell 4th Anniv.
 Patrick Farrell Memorial
 6:00PM William Barron 9th Anniv.
 Doris Barron 13th Anniv.
 Mark Hassan 3rd Anniv.

Saturday June 25, 2022
 8:00AM Mark & Molly Roman Spec. Intent. & Family
 4:00PM Roberta Colman & 4th Anniv.
 Robert Colman 6th Anniv.

Sunday June 26, 2022
 7:45AM Victims of Attack in Nigeria
 10:15AM Robert St. Jean 2nd Anniv.
 6:00PM Lianne Fleury-Casey Anniversary

The Altar Breads and Wine to be used at all Masses for the week of June 18-24 have been donated in loving memory of **Jim & Mary Kelley**. The Sanctuary light will burn in loving memory of **Ellen Crowe**.

Please see the inserted Financial Report for May, 2022.

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

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is THIS weekend, June 18-19. Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry **Some of the needed items for this month** are individual snack packs, small bottles of water, canned fruit, pasta, Knorr's or Lipton Sides (rice); soups; crackers; tuna fish; ketchup/mustard; oatmeal; Poptarts; tea bags/coffee, cleaning products; paper products, personal care items (i.e. adult diapers and wipes). However, we are grateful for anything you wish to donate.



St. Clare
 Gabriella Dianne Gorman
 Jordan Andrew Baker

St. Francis of Assisi
 George James Walsh

Marriage Banns

Derek Michael Bennett & Jennifer Anne Allard



St. Clare

*Jack Gately, Noah Gately, Alessandra Gorman
 Michael Guerriero, Mason LaRocca, Maeve Murphy
 And Ava Whelan*

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the following young people who were confirmed last Friday at St. Francis of Assisi! Please keep them in your prayers.

Molly Aubertine, Ava Blease, Keegan Bowles, Carolyn Burchill, Ava Burns, Margaret Butterfield, Stephen Cabral, Isabella Canelli, Margaret Carey, Ashlee Cobbett, Alison Curran, Dylan Curtin, Bridget Devine, Gabriella Diaute, Laura Donahue, Laura Dowd, Allie Fisher, Sophia Fitzgerald, Victoria Heidenreich, Claire Joyce, Madison Keddy, Margaret Kelly, Luke Lannon, Samantha Lydon, Ava MacDonald, Giulia Manna, Nora McLaughlin, Nicole McNamee, Caitlyn Moran, Jack Moran, Ava Nigro, Domenic Payzant, Annika Reilly, Fiona Reilly, Lauren Robey, Daniel Shaughnessy, Eva Surette, Natalie Svagdis, Emma VanderSlice, Anthony Volpe, Emma Walsh, Gregory Walsh and Calum Williams

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



St. Clare

Kathleen Cobb and Paul Carey

St. Francis of Assisi

Rita N. Murphy, Diane Wright, Kevin F. Butler, George Piasecki, Gaetano "Guy" Giannandrea, Jean Fletcher, John Vivona and Mary "Nancy" Cummings

Archdiocese of Boston

Fr. Raymond P. Kiley

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.





From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

As a young person enters the last years of high school and goes off to college it's common and healthy in many respects that they begin to break some of the bonds that tied them to their parents and begin to form their own views of the world – find their own place. Often, young people will also drift away from those moral and religious views that their parents hold dear.

I confess that I was one of these young people. During high school and my first few years of college I too drifted away from the traditions and truths that my parents handed on to me, but as an organ major at Boston Conservatory my “work” kept me at least in the church building.

One of the jobs I held back then was organist at St. Jerome's in Weymouth and as it happened a job opened up at one of the protestant churches down the street and so I found myself playing the 9:30 Mass at St. Jerome's and rushing down the street to the other church for their 11:00 service. This was pretty good for me because it gave me two different places to practice and as a music student practice time was very important. I spent a lot of time in both of these buildings.

The churches were different. The acoustics were different. The organs were different. The windows were different. The furnishings and decorations were different and you'd expect that. But there was another difference and I couldn't put my finger on it. Although both churches were empty when I went there to practice, the protestant church somehow seemed emptier. It was more like an empty hall and I didn't know why. It was a few years later, when by the grace of God my faith began to return, that I realized what the difference really was. I noticed a vigil lamp burning in the sanctuary of a Catholic Church, just like this one here, letting me know, as this lamp lets us know today, that we are not alone - that Jesus, the Christ, is present in the Eucharist reserved in the tabernacle. As a young man I knew in my heart, and felt His presence in my spirit. Even when I didn't know it in my mind, Jesus was still uniquely present to me when I practiced at St. Jerome's. He was present in a way unavailable to me in any other setting – speaking, calling.

Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist, became a focus of my prayer life. Today I often pray before the Eucharist. It's my favorite setting for prayer and the results are often powerful. I often come just for a “visit.” It's like spending time with a dear friend.

You know in the Hebrew Scriptures it was said that you couldn't look upon the face of God and live. That's why Moses saw a burning bush; it was a sign of God's presence. You couldn't even touch the arc of the covenant or enter the sanctuary of the temple. God was far off, untouchable, and transcendent. But God doesn't want to be distant, so

He became one of us. In Jesus Christ it became possible to gaze upon the face of God and live. And Jesus wanted to be certain that we would never have to be distant from Him again – so on the night before he died, he said the words we hear the priest pronounce at every Mass “This is my Body.” He didn't say it was a representation of His body, or a sign or symbol of his body. “This Is My Body.” A friend of mine had a bumper sticker on her car years ago that read: “God said it. I Believe it. And that settles it!” We didn't make this up; it came from the lips of Jesus. It came from the mouth of God, from the Word made flesh, and we can be sure of this truth. God is not distant from us any longer.

When we approach the altar at communion we reverence the Eucharist with a profound bow, because we know Jesus is truly present. We enthrone the body of Christ in our own hands – the same Christ who laid in a manger in Bethlehem; the same broken body of Christ Mary held close when he was taken down from the cross; the same body of Christ that is the whole Church. We receive the living God into our own bodies, becoming the tabernacle of His presence. We become what we eat. We are transformed, we are converted, we are recreated by the One that created all things in the beginning. We are changed. We become the body of Christ. How good is that? Yet many people, including Catholics, don't believe in the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

This is a fundamental difference between what our protestant brothers and sisters believe and what occurs in every Catholic Church throughout the world. We take the Lord at His word. “This IS my body. This IS my blood.” (Lk 22:19-20) “Unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood you will not have life within you.” (Jn 6:53)

We wonder how this can be and that isn't necessarily a bad thing. Reflection often leads to greater faith.

It's interesting that we often have little trouble accepting that water can be made wine; that three can be one; that Lazarus can be raised from the dead; that on Pentecost people miraculously heard Peter speaking in their own native tongues or that Jesus walked on water. Is it not also possible that the one who changed water into something else entirely, can do the same with bread and wine, changing them into His body and blood? Of course, He can. “With God, all things are possible.” (Mt 19:26) “If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.” (Jn 14:14)

Thomas couldn't believe that Christ rose from the dead until placed his hands into His wounds. But when he saw Jesus, his doubts were cast aside and falling to his knees spoke these words of faith “My Lord and My God.” (Jn 20:28) He learned an important lesson. Seeing isn't always believing – sometimes believing is seeing.

When we approach the Eucharist and the priest or other minister of communion holds up the Eucharist and says “The Body of Christ” as we answer “Amen” with our lips, may we also answer in our hearts, “My Lord and my God.”