

THE PARISH OF SAINT CLARE

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

www.braintrecatholic.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 you can do so online at www.braintrecatholic.org. Or if you prefer, you can also 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	September 17, 2022	
8:00AM		
4:00PM	Mother Teresa	Memorial
Sunday	September 18, 2022	
7:45AM	Stephen Browne	Memorial
10:15AM	William Blake	5th Anniv.
6:00PM	Parishioners of St. Clare	
Saturday	September 24, 2022	
8:00AM	Daniel Gillis	Memorial
4:00PM	Anna Buttarò	1st Anniv.
Sunday	September 25, 2022	
7:45AM		
10:15AM	Patrick Doherty	12th Anniv.
6:00PM	Michael Kaplan	10th 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.



October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Please join us Mondays, October 3, 10, 17 and 24 as we pray the Rosary at 6:45PM in St. Francis of Assisi Church.



Boy Scout Troop 138 Fundrive - 9/24/22

Help us by cleaning out your closets, we both benefit !! We are collecting:

Clothes - men's, women's and children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles - bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods - kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knickknacks, toys, games, and small electronics

Books, Cd's, Dvds

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly packed boxes for small household goods.

All items must be clean and in **SELLABLE** condition.

Drop off 10 am- 2pm at the garage at St. Clare

Any questions please contact Kathy LaRosee at kathy4933@gmail.com or 781-738-5953

Thank you in advance for your support.



Grades 1-6

An email was sent out this past week regarding this program. This information can be found on the Collaborative website—www.braintreecatholic.org.

Highlights include:

Registration—Form available on website. Download and complete on line - save and email to klane@sfab.org

Parent Meetings—Tuesday, September 20 and Thursday, September 22 at 7PM—St. Clare Church Hall

Kick-off Event—Sunday, October 2 at St. Clare after the 10:15 Mass (see enclosed flyer)

Meeting for Potential Catechists – Monday, October 3 (more information to follow)

Classes begin—the week of October 16

Grade 9-10

Mandatory Parent meeting (1 parent)—Sunday, September 25th at 5:00PM in St Clare Church Hall.

Registration—Please scan the QR code below (or on the website) complete and submit this information



Classes begin—Sunday, October 16th at 5PM at St. Clare followed by the 6PM Mass.



*From
Deacon Joe MacDonald*

There's an old adage which states "there is nothing new under the sun." If I mention Bernie Madoff; Martin Shkeli (The Big Pharma CEO who raised the price of his company's prescriptions by 8000%); the politician's son who made millions in Russian and Chinese industries he knew nothing about; even Martha Stewart of all people; are names we'd immediately recognize as being associated with notorious financial scandal.

Jesus presents us with similar business shenanigans in today's Gospel and the very fact that He used a story with this subject matter indicates that the people listening to him were as familiar with folks who schemed, cheated, and otherwise weaseled themselves into cushy lifestyles as we are. "There is nothing new under the sun."

What we have here is a manager who, while the boss isn't looking, helps himself to some of the company's profits and at the same time saddles his master's business associates with unfair and unlawful overcharges. So, it's not very surprising that the boss comes back and says, "YOU'RE FIRED!"

This isn't unexpected. We'd have fired him too. The surprise comes later when our friend the weasel comes up with a fall-back position, a plan B, and although this too includes some mischief and slight of hand, this time the boss says, "You're hired back!" It seems his boss wasn't so much concerned about having a thief on his staff as he was with who he was stealing from! Now he sees just how slick the steward is and wants him on the right team. They were both weasels. They were savvy in the ways of the world. They knew how to take care of number 1.

You know we're a little like that too. We know how to make a good life for ourselves. We're concerned about our Financial Plans. We want to prepare for our retirements and our children's education and the Lord tells us today that's OK. We live in the world and we gotta eat. At the same time, we need to have some perspective. With all the things we busy ourselves with and all the stuff we accumulate are we as prudent in seeking God or are we filling ourselves with things than just can't satisfy?

Here-in lies the challenge of today's Gospel, to look inside ourselves and answer honestly do we put a fraction of the effort into seeking a relationship with God as we do planning our financial portfolios. In a society that spends on average four hours a day watching television, and up to 35 hours a week playing video games how much time do we give to Christ? We feed our children a diet of non-stop activity, but do we feed them or ourselves on the Word of God of which the prophet Jeremiah wrote "When I found your words I devoured them. They became my joy and the happiness of my heart."

Jesus tells us this morning, as he told that crowd long ago, that "The children of this generation are more adept at accumulating wealth than the children of light with seeking holiness." It was true then and it's true now. There is nothing new under the sun.

But how do we seek holiness? How do we come to know God? How do we nurture our relationship with Christ?

In the Gospels we find Jesus doing many things, but only one activity was called his custom and that was prayer. For Jesus Christ, going off by himself to pray was habitual. My friends if prayer is that important to the Son of God how much more important it must be for us.

- Prayer is where we taste the goodness of the Lord.
- Prayer is where our relationship with Christ grows and is nourished.
- It's where we listen for God's voice and where we hear the Lord speak to us in the quiet of our hearts.
- Prayer is where we discover that we're not in this alone.
- It's in prayer that we learn that God is not like Donald Trump on the apprentice waiting to jump out at us and shout "You're Fired" but God is the Good Shepherd who goes out looking for us and carries us home because we can't get there ourselves; God is the loving Father in last week's Gospel waiting for our return,

watching, and who eagerly comes out to meet us with open arms not to condemn but to say "Welcome home," "I missed you. I love you." and prayer is where we can gaze into the eyes of God and say, "I love you too."

One morning, while I was on retreat several years ago, I left the retreat house to pray outside. There was a nest of mockingbirds above the door of the retreat house and as I sat there a single bird flew across the lawn. It started flying in huge circles in front of me. It would dip and swoop and climb and turn. I was reminded of that feeling of exhilaration you get on a roller coaster or when your car goes over that unexpected drop in the road. It occurred to me that this bird wasn't hunting or looking for food. It seemed to be playing. It was simply taking delight in flight. It seemed to take delight in simply doing what God made it to do – to fly!

We're made for something too. We were made to know God, to love God, and praise God, and though we might think otherwise, this isn't foreign to us. We were made in God's image and likeness. We desire God (whether or not we realize it). Scripture speaks to us of it. The psalmist writes "My soul thirsts for you Lord, like the desert thirsts for rain," and "Like a deer longs for running streams so I long for you," Saint Augustine said it beautifully when he wrote "You inspire us, O Lord, to delight in praising you, because you made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

We live in a world where everyone specializes. We can fall into the trap of thinking that prayer is a specialized occupation – the lone realm of priests, deacons or religious and not our own, but no one can taste the goodness of the Lord for us. Our relationship with Christ is our own. There are no designated hitters or place kickers in the spiritual life.

- And so, if we want to have delight in our lives – then Pray!
- Even, if we feel ourselves unworthy of God's love – Pray!
- If we are grieving – Pray!
- If we feel abandoned or rejected, so did Christ and he prayed.
- If we are angry and disappointed in our leaders – Pray all the more!
- If we are lost and have no direction, if we are in harm's way and face our own mortality – Pray!
- If we are joyful or thankful, if we are filled with love and we're on top of the world – Pray!
- If we want to find delight in our lives that wells up in us like an unending stream of life-giving water then in every circumstance of our lives we must pray, as Saint Paul tells us – constantly.

Because when we pray the most wonderful effect occurs in us. God takes our hearts, hardened like stone by the hatred and cynicism of the world and gives us new hearts; hearts of flesh made for love alone. He gives us his very own heart, the heart of Christ.