

Braintree Catholic Collaborative



St. Francis Church

856 Washington Street
Braintree, Massachusetts

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:30PM
Sunday: 9:00, 11:30AM

Monday –Friday: 7:00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 12:30-2:00PM

St. Clare Church

1244 Liberty Street
Braintree, Massachusetts

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM
Sunday: 7:45, 10:15AM AND 6:00pm

Saturday: 8:00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 8:30-9:00am

Collaborative Staff

Rev. Robert M. Blaney, Pastor
Rev. Kevin P. Leaver, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Joseph MacDonald, Collaborative Deacon/
Music Director
Deacon James Waldron, Collaborative Deacon
Mrs. Karen Lane, Religious Education Coordinator
Ms. Patty Kinnally, Office Manager
Mr. Kevin Mercier, Business Manager
Mr. Robert Muldoon, Facilities Manager
Msgr. Robert W. Oliver, In Residence
Rev. Gerald Nebo, In Residence
Deacon Michael Cavanaugh, Senior Deacon

Contact Information

www.braintreecatholic.org
781-843-1332 | Fax: 781-848-0976

Collaborative Office and Mailing Address

856 Washington Street
Braintree, MA 02184

Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 9:00-4:00

Sacrament of Marriage

A minimum of six months notice is required. Please call the Collaborative Office to schedule an appointment prior to booking a venue.

Sacrament of Baptism

2nd Sunday of the month at St. Clare at 1:30PM
3rd Sunday of the month at St. Francis at 1:30PM
Please call the Collaborative to register

Sacrament of the Sick & Communion Calls

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

Bulletin Deadline

All requests must be submitted to the Collaborative Office by Monday at 1PM. Email to parish@sfab.org.

Mass Intentions

St. Francis of Assisi

Saturday, November 18, 2023

5:30PM Ronald Campanelli 1st Anniv.

Sunday, November 19, 2023

9:00AM Anthony H. Cataldo Memorial

11:30AM Richard Powers, Virginia Donovan and Albert Donnelly Memorial

Monday, November 20, 2023

7:00AM Mary J. Zanca 4th Anniv.

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

7:00AM Vera Tsunis Anniversary

Wednesday, November 22, 2023

7:00AM

Thursday, November 23, 2023

8:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Friday, November 24, 2023

7:00AM Antonino Parlavecchio Memorial

Saturday, November 25, 2023

5:30PM Dick & Mary Hamel Memorial

Sunday, November 26, 2023

9:00AM David Ringius 1st Anniv.

11:30AM Thomas J. Kelley, John M. Kelly, Jr. Memorial
And John M. Kelley, Sr.

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

Please remember our parishes when planning your estate. Thank you!



The Collaborative Office will close at 12 Noon on Wednesday, November 22nd and reopen on Monday, November 27th.

Mass Intentions

St. Clare

Saturday, November 18, 2023

8:00AM

4:00PM Darche & McCue Families Memorial

Sunday, November 19, 2023

7:45AM Leonard T. Connolly Family Memorial

10:15AM Domenic DeSantis Anniversary

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Thursday, November 23, 2023

8:00AM

Saturday, November 25, 2023

8:00AM

4:00PM Rees Irvine Memorial

Sunday, November 26, 2023

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM Julia Downing Memorial

6:00PM Lorraine Memorial

Info and events of note

- **St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry Open Thursdays at St. Francis from 10AM-12NN.** 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.
- **Collaborative Prayer Line...** To be placed (or to pray) on the parish prayer line, please call the Collaborative office.
- **Military Service...** If someone you know is deployed and you would like their info to appear on the blue board in the church, please call or email the parish office.
- **St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry Open Thursdays at St. Francis from 10AM-12NN.** 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.
- **Collaborative Prayer Line...** To be placed (or to pray) on the parish prayer line, please call the Collaborative office.
- **Braintree Knights of Columbus Council 1462...** Second Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM in St. Francis Church Hall.

Please call the collaborative office for more information.



I just read that music is made by the spaces between the notes. It's an interesting muse as so much of our lives are shaped by privations, that is to say, what is NOT there. For example, coldness is not a thing, it's the lack of thing. Similarly, darkness is not a thing, it's the absence of a thing, namely light. Only when we acknowledge a privation do we recognize what we need.

At the core of all we do as Christians is to render thanks to God. Our virtues and acts of charity are rooted in the Eucharist. Eucharist comes from a Greek word meaning "Thanksgiving". Every celebration of Eucharist is a ritual of thanking God. Why thank God? Giving thanks to God only makes sense when we recognize the privations in our lives. What is not there? It's here that we recognize what God gives us. What do we have that is of our own nature? Nothing, if we are honest with ourselves. All that we have ultimately comes from God and is given to us to help us live in God's presence.

Our national holiday this Thursday has us pausing from our daily lives to gather with loved ones to render thanks for the blessings we have received. People do this in many ways, but most often it involves a shared meal.

Our Christian act of thanksgiving, the Eucharist, is also a shared meal. We give God bread and wine, which represent the fruits of our lives. In turn, God revives them, transforms them in the Body and Blood and of His Son then gives them back to us for our sustenance.

Unless we recognize that we are in need, then we are not going to be a thankful people. We pride ourselves on being self-sufficient which can leave us thinking we have it all and are in need of nothing.

Eucharist prompts us to acknowledge the privations then rely on God's Providence for what we need.

God's choicest blessings to you and your families as you celebrate thanksgiving this week. I am thankful for this assignment to make my home among these two parishes and of course for the success of surgery and the incredible people I have met in recent weeks in the hospital and Regina Cleri.

Fr. Bob



"Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' " - Mt 25:20b-21

Readings of the Week ©LPI

Readings for the week of November 19, 2023

- Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/
Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21
- Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/
Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/
Lk 18:35-43
- Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Lk 19:1-10
- Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b
and 15/Lk 19:11-28
- Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/
Lk 19:41-44
- Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd,
11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48
- Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and
19/Lk 20:27-40
- Next Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6
(1)/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46



November is the month of Remembrance. The display boards at the front of each of our churches bear crosses with the names of all of the people who were buried from that church from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023. A special Mass of Remembrance for all of these people will be held THIS Tuesday, November 21st at 6:30PM in **St. Clare Church**. Invitations were mailed to members of all of these dearly departed this past week. Please keep the deceased and their loved ones in your prayers.



*From
Deacon Joe MacDonald*



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION—Led by Deacon Joe and Deacon Jay—Wednesdays from 7-8PM in St. Francis of Assisi Church. Church doors will open at 6:30PM.

BIBLE STUDY—Saint Jerome once said that “ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ.” We certainly always want to know Christ better. Deacon Joe’s bible study will continue on Saturday November 4th at 9:00 A.M. in Saint Francis Church Hall. This year we are studying the Gospel of Mark. Newcomers are welcome to join our group (see the group picture below).

CHOIR:

The Collaborative Choir will continue practicing Thursdays from 6:30 -8:00 PM. We will meet in the choir loft at Saint Francis. Please enter by the elevator doors.

As always we welcome new members to the choir. We especially need a few new men. Don't be shy and remember singing is praying twice!



WITH JOYFUL HEARTS,
WE WELCOME OUR
NEWLY BAPTIZED.

St. Clare

*Thomas William Gavin
Andre Matthew Hennessey
Hailey Rose Malone*



REMEMBER
in your prayers

St. Clare

Eileen Martin
Michael Devlin

St. Francis of Assisi

William London
Mary Mullen

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.



Thanksgiving
PRAYER

This Thanksgiving, let us remember all the good things, and people, who have come into our lives. We focus on thanking each one who has helped us, and ultimately thank God for the good gifts of this world.

Let us pray...

*God our Father,
Graciously accept from your humble people
a thankful heart and spirit.
Everything we have and are able to share with others
ultimately comes from your love of your creations.
Often we think that everything we have
is our own creation;
we ask you this day to create in us
a spirit of gratitude,
that we may always know
that all good gifts come from you.*

*We ask this through Christ our brother,
in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*



Mass Intentions

We are now booking Mass Intentions **through June 30, 2024**. To schedule a Mass or for further information please call the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332.



**BLESSED
ARE
THOSE
WHO
FEAR
THE
LORD.**

PSALM 128



Grades 1-8

Classes meet the week of November 19th

Classes meet Sunday, November 19th

No classes Tuesday, November 21st or Thursday November 23rd.

All classes meet at St. Clare

Grades 9—10+

Confirmation Classes for **Grades 9** meet THIS Sunday, November 19th 4:45PM at St. Clare

Confirmation Classes for **Grade 10** next meet Sunday, December 3rd 4:45PM at St. Clare

Classes are followed by the 6PM Mass. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend the Mass.



November 19 Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time: The good news of today's Gospel is the extravagance of what is being given us. All we need do is be faithful in "small matters." The cost of fidelity has no comparison to the reward given. When you give the furniture, household items and clothing you no longer use to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, you are sharing God's extravagant love.

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society of our collaborative is looking for additional volunteers to aid the poor in the area. The Food pantry is also looking for more help. If this is something you think you can help with please leave your name and contact information at the collaborative office.



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is THIS weekend, November 18-19. Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry. Some of the **Seasonal** needed items are: stuffing mix, gravy, cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes/yams, canned vegetables, bread mix (i.e. pumpkin, banana, etc.), pie filling, chicken or turkey broth. However, we are grateful for anything you wish to donate. If you forgot or prefer not to shop, please read the St. Vincent DePaul paragraph to learn how you can help.

Pantry donations can also be dropped off at the Collaborative office during normal business hours (M-F 9-4). **Blue envelopes are in holders on the back inside wall of the church. Please use them for your cash, check (written to St. Vincent DePaul with SFA on the memo line), or gift card—and place them into the collection basket or through the rectory mail slot. Thank you.**



Mass will be celebrated at 8:00AM on Thanksgiving morning in **BOTH** parishes.



The Annual Thanksgiving Toy Drive will be conducted at the 8:00AM Mass at ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI on Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 23). Please bring a new/unwrapped toy or game which will be presented during the offertory. These gifts will be distributed to needy children in our community.



Our Advent Giving Tree begins next Weekend (November 25-26) at St. Francis of Assisi. **Gifts should be returned no later than December 10th** for distribution. When considering your gift please keep in mind the following:

- * If you take a tag from the tree, please **look at it before you leave church** to be certain that you are willing and able to purchase at least some of the gifts listed there. If not—simply return it to the tree and take a different card that more suits your mindset and your budget. If someone has listed a basketball, please do not substitute a board game. (Seriously—this happens!)
- * Please check to see if the organization sponsoring the card has requested that you wrap the gift(s). If the tag says **do not wrap**, you can still help everyone involved in sorting and organizing by placing your purchase in a gift bag so that our volunteers can easily check the contents.
- * Please **securely attach the tag** you take from the tree to the outside of the bag or package. The tags are coded by color and number and we need them back so that your gift reaches the correct organization and recipient.

If you choose not to shop, **[do not take a tag]** gift cards (Target, WalMart, Amazon, Gas Stations, Game Stop, Movie Passes, Fast Food Restaurants, etc.) and monetary donations are always a good option. These can be used for any last minute requests for assistance that we receive (even after Christmas Day). Thank you for your thoughtfulness.



From the Archdiocese of Boston

November 19 ~ Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

God has given each of us different gifts. It is not the number of gifts that matter. What matters is how each of us uses the gifts God has given. God never demands from us what we do not have; but God does want us to use to the full the gifts which we do possess. Today's parable tells us that whatever talent/saintly quality we have, be it little or great, it is important to place it at the service of God. It may be helpful to reflect if you are putting your gifts at the service of God and others? And, if not, then to ask for the grace to be confident and generous with your time and talents.

A token of thanks for a lifetime of service

Religious sisters have been influential in so many areas within our Church and here in Greater Boston. Certainly, we know of their impact in Catholic education and health care services, but we have also seen them working and advocating at the forefront of challenging societal issues such as homelessness, immigration, environmental responsibility, and social justice. Together, they share a beautiful commitment to prayer, community, and ministry- and a humble obedience to the Holy Spirit.

Next week's collection helps provide for the needs of our nearly 1,500 Retired Sisters who have dedicated their lives to serving the Greater Boston area. This collection helps to provide for their needs, including health care and retirement expenses that are not covered by social security benefits. Every gift impacts the lives of these wonderful women and allows them to journey forward knowing they are blessed with the support and care that they need.

Next week, please let your hearts be guided to generously support them for their many years of service to Christ, to our communities, and to the greater Church.

The Archdiocese of Boston joins the United Nations in recognizing November 18 as the World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence. Child abuse is a far too frequent occurrence in our society. The numbers are staggering, and the lifelong impact can be profound. We must do all that is possible to intervene - preventing abuse, interrupting and reporting it when it is happening, and helping heal those who have been abused. As a diocese, we do this by screening and training our clergy, volunteers, and employees, and by training our youth how to recognize and respond to risks and get help when something is wrong. We provide targeted pastoral care for those who were abused by clergy or other representatives within our church to assist them with healing. We ask everyone to join these efforts through prayer, kind and compassionate outreach to those who are impacted by abuse, and full participation in our abuse prevention efforts. To learn more about how you can help, please contact the Office of Pastoral Support and Child Protection at 617-746-5995 or go to www.BostonCatholic.org

EVENTS SCHEDULE

Early Bird Special—Boston & South Shore Men's Prayer Gathering— **Welcoming Jesus into your heart for Advent Joy: Retreat for Men**

We will have a half day retreat on Sat. Dec. 2nd at the Oblates St. Joseph's Retreat Center— from 9:00 to 1:00 pm. Fr. Craig MacMahon, spiritual director with Oblates, will be our retreat master.

Details

- Registration - 8:30 to 9:00
- Start-time - 9:00
- Ends - 1 pm
- Mass - 11:30
- Lunch - 12:30
- Cost - \$50 - check made out to the Oblates of the Virgin Mary
- Food - very tasty continental breakfast buffet and lunch provided

Email Phil Plageman at jamet@comcast.net to register and get details about sending a check. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged for planning purposes – thanks!!!

St. Joseph Retreat Center

65 Father Carney Dr. (off Adams St.), Milton

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time "Give your heart to your spouse."

Proverbs 31:10-12: "When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls, Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life." Give your heart to your spouse. Give your spouse good things. Love your spouse always. Give your spouse a gift by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:

January 21-23, 2024 in Huntington, NY

February 9-11, 2024 in Huntington, NY

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Joe & Ginny Vatile at 978-870-5646 or <https://www.mema.org/>.





November 19, 2023 - 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

When I was a kid, I hated playing Monopoly because my siblings and friends always seemed to win. But worse was how it happened. Scared to risk my fake money on buying properties, I'd hold on to it. My opponents hungrily bought up the various real estate squares on the board. Then, inevitably, my poor, low-equity self would land on their spots, pay them rent, and my money would drain to zero. It seemed so unfair. The rich get richer, and the poor get poorer. I had to learn that monopoly money is meant to be spent. I was scared to lose some of it. So, I lost all of it.

How do we see what we possess? Jesus' parable about the talents is not really about economics but about the investability of everything he entrusts to us. How marvelous that everyone in the fable who places talents in the open market doubles their investment. The only one who doesn't is the man who fearfully buries his one talent. Jesus' success strategy for us seems to be, whatever we have, *get it out of our possession*. Risk it as quickly and as fully as we can.

You and I have precious gifts. We have valuable things to invest — time, talents, treasure. The Lord invites us to be brave and even somewhat reckless, to give as much away as possible. If we give it away in the direction of love and truth, it will grow. If we hold on to it in fear, the little we have will be taken away. Let me challenge you this week: find something in your life you're holding on to, and risk it by giving it away. It won't double if you hold on to it.

Father John Muir ©LPI

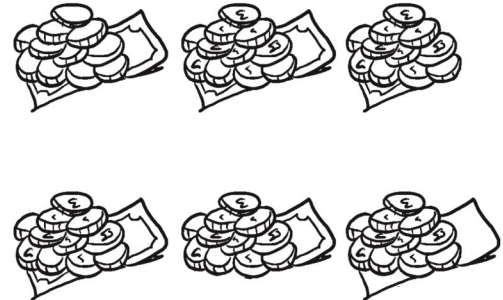


*From the Clergy and Staff
of the Collaborative.*



PUZZLE

Find the two that are the same.



MISSION

God has given your family money. Use some of it to buy food for a needy family.



Sharing the Gospel

You can choose to waste your time, your money and your special talents. You can be selfish with them, too. Or, you can use those gifts from God to spread good news about Jesus. When you choose to use your gifts for God, and he will fill your heart with joy.

Prayer

God, help me to use my time, my money and my special talents for you.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself helping a younger child learn how to tie their shoes.

Mission for the Week

God has given your family money. Use some of it to buy food for a needy family.