

Braintree Catholic Collaborative



St. Francis Church

856 Washington Street
Braintree, Massachusetts

Mass Schedule

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

Monday –Friday: 7:00AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: **12:30-1:30PM**

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
Msgr. Robert W. Oliver, 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 **1:00PM**
3rd Sunday of the month at St. Francis at **1:00PM**
Please call the Collaborative Office 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, June 1, 2024

5:30PM Francesco Boncaldo Month's Mind

Sunday, June 2, 2024

9:00AM Nunzio & Mary Sbordone and Kay Connolly Memorial

11:30AM John & Teresa Allen Anniversary

Monday, June 3, 2024

7:00AM Kenzie Barrera Memorial

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

7:00AM John & Joseph Odenweller Memorial

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Thursday, June 6, 2024

7:00AM Barbara Leaver Memorial

Friday, June 7, 2024

7:00AM

Saturday, June 8, 2024

5:30PM

Sunday, June 9, 2024

9:00AM Joseph & Genevieve McCarthy Memorial

11:30AM Gaetano "Guy" Giannandrea 2nd Anniv.

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!



We are now scheduling Mass Intentions through December 31, 2024. If you are interested please call the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332.

Mass Intentions

St. Clare

Saturday, June 1, 2024

8:00AM Caroline Conboy Memorial

4:00PM Maria Dalomba Memorial

Sunday, June 2, 2024

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM John Gately 9th Anniv.

6:00PM Peter Forbes Spec. Intent.

Saturday, June 8, 2024

8:00AM Alice Beaulieu Memorial

4:00PM Cara Flaherty Brady 20th Anniv.

Sunday, June 9, 2024

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM Antonio DiFonso & Ben DiFonso Memorial

6:00PM William & Doris Barron and Jean Delisle & Mark Hassan Memorial

The Sanctuary Light for the week of June 21st through 7th will burn in loving memory of Richard A. Flynn.

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.
- Al-Anon ...** Tuesdays at 10:30 in St. Clare Church Hall
- Boy Scout Troop #138 ...** Wednesdays at 7:00PM in St. Clare Church Hall.—Contact John Collier at 781-843-3330
- 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.

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY)



The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, otherwise known as Corpus Christi.

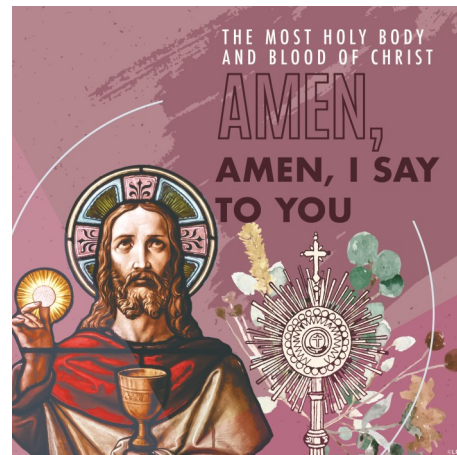
Historically, whenever the Church wanted to teach or emphasize a particular tenant of the faith, it created a feast. Think of the feast of the Annunciation to teach about the mystery of the Incarnation; Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, to teach about the two natures of Christ; All Saints to teach of the goal of Baptism and power of redemption. In our own time Pope St. John Paul II instituted the Feast of Divine Mercy on the Sunday following Easter as an opportunity to focus on God's desire for reconciliation. Just a few years ago Pope Francis instituted the Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church to show the role of the Blessed Mother in the overall mission of the Church. Such feasts often meant a day off from work, gathering for Mass and a chance to hear a sermon on what the feast was emphasizing. Long before the concept of the "weekend" and before unions which help to regulate the number of hours that could be worked, people relied on the Church to establish feast days in order to get a day off from work.

So, what is Corpus Christi meant to teach us? Transubstantiation: the mystery of bread and wine being transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Much of the scriptural foundation of this mystery can be found in the sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel, known as the Bread of Life discourse. Interestingly, given the cycle of the Sunday Gospels, this summer we will be hearing the Bread of Life discourse during the Sunday Masses in August.

It's hard to say at what point in early Church history that Christians would have articulated that the Eucharist was, in fact, Christ's Body and Blood. This understanding came about over many generations. This is not to say that in the early Church that Christians did not believe in real presence. It's just that they were not yet able to articulate the belief. The way in which we understand the mystery of transubstantiation today is a credit to St. Thomas Aquinas during the 13th century. The entirety of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit is contained in the consecrated bread and wine. The Blessed Sacrament is not a mere symbol of Christ's Body and Blood but is, in substance, Christ's Body and Blood. How is this possible? Certainly God who raised Christ from the dead could make Himself present in earthly elements.

There is so much written on this mystery. Whatever I could write here is so inadequate. Remember though, ultimately the mystery is beyond the limits of human intelligence. We can certainly talk about it, describe it and can grasp parts of it. The Eucharist is meant to sustain us in our earthly journey toward God and not to be figured out as an intellectual conquest.

When you consider everything there is to consider about the Catholic Church, teachings, beliefs, precepts, canon laws, history, hierarchy, works of charity...it all comes down to the Eucharist. This is our identity as a faith community because the Eucharist is the Risen Christ extended in time and space.



Opportunities to serve the parish

We are in need of some folks who would be willing to spend an hour or so each month doing a deep cleaning of the sanctuary at both St. Francis and St. Clare Church. The Church is regularly cleaned, however, dust builds up, candle wax drips, glass gets streaked. We need folks who can attend to the "finer things" when it comes to cleaning. Let me know if you are able to help. Perhaps we could get more than one team who would be willing to do this.

Fr. Bob





From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

This is a difficult statistic for a Catholic to hear. Only 44% of Catholics believe that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist; that the Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of Christ. How can this be, that more than half of Catholics reject one of the key tenants of the faith.

Why should we believe this truth? This week I'm going to prove this by using scripture. In another column I'll prove it through history and personal experience.

First, Jesus said it and it caused quite a stir among the people and even his followers.

To put things in perspective Jesus had just fed four thousand men not including women and children. And many were saying that Jesus was truly the prophet. Not just any prophet but THE prophet, the messiah.

Whatever Jesus was doing he was winning hearts.

Then the crowd asked him to prove that he was the Messiah. I would think that feeding all those people would be sign enough, but he pressed him "Moses gave us bread from heaven, what are you going to do." Jesus responded, "I am the bread. I came down from heaven."

At this point, the people started to grumble. Jesus doubled down, "the bread I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." (Jn 6:51)

They continued to have a tough time with what he was saying. He doubled down again! "The bread that I give is my flesh."

The crowd began to argue "how can he give us his flesh to eat."

Jesus triples down. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. (Jn 6:55-56)

Now he's gone too far, and people are beginning to leave – lots of them. Now if he were a modern politician running for president or senate and losing a large part of his constituency, he'd have called them all back, "I misspoke." "It's just a metaphor, just a symbol." Everyone would have felt better and all would be right with the world. But Jesus let them go. If you were trying to start a big movement or political uprising or a new religion, you wouldn't do that. You'd say whatever you needed to for the votes unless it was true, and you didn't want to water down the truth. He meant what he said.

At the last supper he answered the crowd's question: "how can he give us his flesh to eat." He took bread and said, "This is my body." He took the wine and said, "This is my blood." It was the ultimate multiplication of the loaves for all people of all time. He never said this was a representation of my body and blood. He said "IT IS." The Apostles took him at his word. They continued to offer his Body and Blood to the nations and handed down the authority to do this through His Church.

There can be three views of Jesus:

1. He was who he said he was (God)
2. He was mentally ill and could have claimed to be Caesar.
3. He was a fraud, a charlatan, a liar, a bad man.

Even the harshest critics of Christianity will admit that Jesus was a good man and there is no evidence that he was mentally. This leaves only one possibility, he was the Son of God, the second person of the Blessed Trinity, both human and divine. And with God all things are possible.

For so many people its easy to believe Jesus changed water into wine; he cured the man with a withered hand; he opened the eyes of the blind and ears of the deaf; He even raised the dead to life. Why is it so hard to believe that Jesus can be truly present in the Eucharist.

My friends we have to double down on our faith, triple down. We must believe in the true presence, and we must promulgate this to our children, to our relatives and friends and to the world because this bread is life for the world.



We would like to thank our Collaborative Choir for all the hard work that they do week after week to bring our collaborative the best music possible. This Sunday is their last week singing at Mass as they take a break for the summer. They will return again in September. Thanks again.



First Holy COMMUNION

*St. Clare
Amelia Tibets*



REMEMBER
in your prayers

St. Francis of Assisi

Lucille Brett
Margaret Folan

St. Clare

Ann McGrail

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.



June 2 - Corpus Christi:

Today as we celebrate the gift of the Body and Blood of Christ let us pray for those who are hungry, malnourished and starving.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help those who are hungry.

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.**



Brandon Tyler Hall & Cara Leigh Sacchetti I



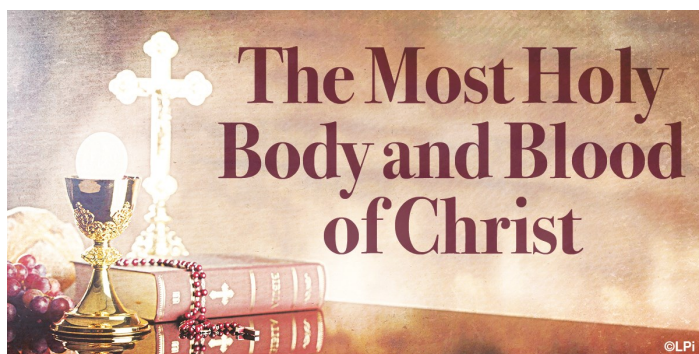
While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many."

Readings *of the Week*

- Mk 14:22-24

Readings for the week of June 2, 2024

Sunday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18 (13)/Heb 9:11-15/Mk 14:12-16, 22-26
Monday: 2 Pt 1:2-7/Ps 91:1-2, 14-15b, 15c-16/Mk 12:1-12
Tuesday: 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14 and 16/Mk 12:13-17
Wednesday: 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/Ps 123:1b-2ab, 2cdef/Mk 12:18-27
Thursday: 2 Tm 2:8-15/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Mk 12:28-34
Friday: Hos 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9/Ps 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Eph 3:8-12, 14-19/Jn 19:31-37
Saturday: 2 Tm 4:1-8/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 2:41-51
Next Sunday: Gn 3:9-15/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7bc)/2 Cor 4:13—5:1/Mk 3:20-35





From the Archdiocese of Boston

June 2~ Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

This weekend we celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi – the Body and Blood of Christ. The Eucharist is central to our life of faith and is the precious gift given to us by Jesus. At the Passover meal of the Last Supper, Jesus took the bread; blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and now He gives it to us, his disciples. Each time we gather for Mass and receive the Body and Blood of Christ we are sent forth to be the Body of Christ to others. Before leaving Mass today, pause for a moment and ask for the grace to be Christ's presence to all whom you meet -family, friends and co-workers.

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass (11/3)

All couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, or 50th wedding anniversaries or another special milestone are invited to a celebratory Mass on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 3:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston. Couples will renew their marriage commitment and receive a special blessing. Family and friends are invited to attend. To register, visit bit.ly/CelebrateAnniversary. For more information, please email Emily Elliott at marriageprep@rcab.org or call 617-746-5756.



FORWARD *in* FAITH

We are pleased to share that St. Clare has raised \$48,083 and St. Francis has raised \$60,267 toward our 2024 Catholic Appeal goal. More importantly, 165 St. Clare families (94% of 2023 total) and 201 St. Francis families (85% of 2023 total) have joined in to support our parish campaign. Thank you to all who have helped make our campaign a success. If you have yet to give, we need your help! **The parish rebates are based on the percentage of donors (2023 vs. 2024.). If we don't reach the participation goal we forfeit out rebate.**

Please give today to help us reach goal by June 30th. Watch for your letter in the mail or make a gift using the QR code below or by returning an in-pew envelope available at the Church exits. On behalf of Cardinal Seán O'Malley and all who will benefit from your generosity, thank you for your support.



PRAY FOR
VOCATIONS



June 2, 2024 - The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

The best way to understand the Eucharist is to recall God's long, careful teaching process beginning in the Old Testament. This week in Exodus 24, we learn the basic pattern. Moses reads the dictates of God's law to the people, who profess their allegiance to it. Then Moses takes representatives of Israel's twelve tribes and splashes the sacrificed blood of animals in two directions: on the altar and on the people. It's clear and serious business: clear, because the participants are entering a blood-bond with God Himself; serious, because the dead animals symbolize the life-and-death stakes at play.

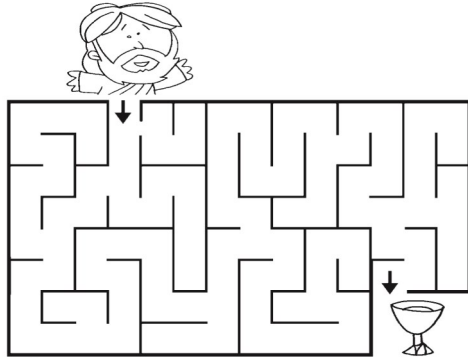
Many centuries later, God uses the experience at Sinai to teach us something new. At the Last Supper, like a new Moses, Jesus proposes to "pour out" blood as a new covenant. It will land on the altar of the cross and the lips of his disciples. They have promised to be obedient to him who is God's law in flesh. This renews and elevates the breathtaking romance God wants with His people, unfolding from Sinai to this Supper. The Body and Blood of Christ is the sacrificial action whereby this covenant is strengthened.

How hopeful that, like us, the Israelites and the apostles repeatedly fail to live up to their promises and discover that the blood of the covenant continually renews and refreshes them. Today the blood of Christ faithfully flows, to unite and renew, moving us forward toward where our great teacher is taking us. This week, we should say a renewed "amen" to God who so carefully teaches us how to be one with Him in this new covenant.

— Father John Muir ©LPI

PUZZLE

Find your way from Jesus to the cup.



MISSION

Using the concordance found at the back of your Bible, look up the word "Passover." As a family, write down the verses, find them in your Bible, and read them out loud. Sometimes Jesus is referred to as the Lamb of God, or the Lamb sacrificed for our sins. Talk about how Jesus took our sins away when he died on the cross.



Sharing the Gospel

Ever since the night Moses led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt, God's people remembered that special night with the Passover meal. They ate flat bread, just as the Israelites did the night they left Egypt. They drank wine, remembering the lamb's blood that saved the Israelites from the Angel of Death. Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples. As they ate, Jesus taught his disciples that, under God's new agreement, his own body and blood would save them.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to be truly thankful for the way Jesus gave up his own body and blood to save me from my sins. Amen.

Something to Draw

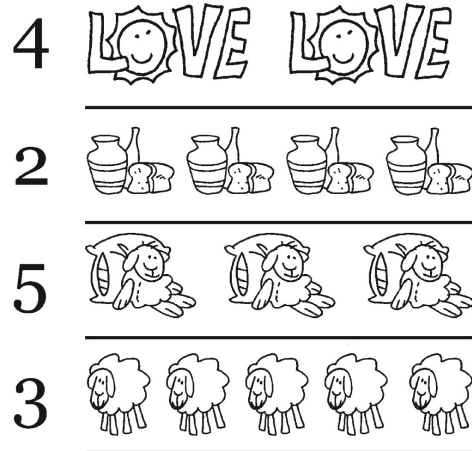
Draw a picture of Jesus serving wine and flat bread to his disciples. (Flat bread looks a little bit like pita bread.)

Mission for the Week

Using the concordance found at the back of your Bible, look up the word "Passover." As a family, write down the verses, find them in your Bible, and read them out loud. Sometimes Jesus is referred to as the Lamb of God, or the Lamb sacrificed for our sins. Talk about how Jesus took our sins away when he died on the cross.

PUZZLE

Count the objects in each group. Draw lines to match the groups with the right number. Then color in all the pictures.



MISSION

I will share a can of my favorite soup with the hungry.



GROWING WITH THE Gospel

CYCLE B

COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.

