

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, May 11, 2024

5:30PM Heather, Kathleen and
Garrett Fitzgerald Memorial

Sunday, May 12, 2024

9:00AM Kitty Lezynski Memorial

11:30AM All Mothers Living and Deceased

Monday, May 13, 2024

7:00AM

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

7:00AM

Thursday, May 16, 2024

7:00AM Margaret "Marge" Varraso 6th Anniv.

Friday, May 17, 2024

7:00AM

Saturday, May 18, 2024

5:30PM Joanne Perpetua Memorial

Sunday, May 12, 2024

9:00AM Kenneth Logan 10th Anniv.

11:30AM Philip Walling, Sr. Memorial
Rosemarie Roche and
Mary Tricomi

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 booking Mass Intentions **through December 31, 2024**. To schedule a Mass or for further information please call the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332.

Mass Intentions

St. Clare

Saturday, May 11, 2024

8:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

4:00PM Ruth Driscoll 3rd Anniv.

Sunday, May 12, 2024

7:45AM All Mothers Living and Deceased

10:15AM Catena Napolitano Anniversary

6:00PM All Mothers Living and Deceased

Saturday, May 18, 2024

8:00AM

4:00PM John F. Mahoney Memorial

Sunday, May 19, 2024

7:45AM Dodier Family Thanksgiving

10:15AM Larry Rochon 12th Anniv.

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

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.





Mother's Day provides an opportunity to consider the roll of Mary as Mother of the Church. Pope Francis actually created a feast day in honor of Mary under this title. It falls on the day after Pentecost, which is next Sunday, so the Feast of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church is Monday, May 20.

Pope Benedict pointed out that during the Second Vatican Council that Mariology (the branch of theology that studies Mary) was moved into Ecclesiology (the branch of theology that studies the Church). In other words, to study Mary is to study the Church, and vice versa. The Pope said *The Church is like Mary. The Church is*

- *virgin and mother*
- *immaculate and carries the burdens of history.*
- *assumed into heaven.*
- *learns that Mary is the mirror reflecting the Church*
- *a person in Mary*

Mary on the other hand is not an isolated individual, who rests in herself. She is carrying the mystery of the Church!

As we honor our mothers today with tokens of affection, we do the same for the Mother of the Church. She, of course, is included by name at every Mass. At the conclusion of the 10:15 and 11:30 Masses this weekend we will hold the crowning of the Blessed Mother using the sacred images of her outside of the two Churches.

Blessings to the mothers of our parishes on this special day. May they know the affection and gratitude of their children for their many sacrifices of love. Also, as we honor them, we remember our mothers who have gone before us in faith. We commend them to the mercy of God.

The Annual Catholic Appeal is still underway. If you have not yet made a gift or a pledge, may I encourage you to do so? The money collected goes to help the operating costs of central ministries which directly provide support for our parishes. Examples of this are legal counsel, human resources and benefits, tribunal court and canonical affairs, background screening and safety training. Our collaborative could never afford to pay for such serves "ala carte". There are also offices that care of for overarching needs of the archdiocese that rely on this appeal such as vocations, ongoing formation of priests, deacons, pro-life and child advocacy. This appeal and the Grand Annual are two very important endeavors we take up each year. Can you help?

Heartfelt congratulations to our parishioners who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend! Parish confirmations give me a sense of the excitement the Apostles felt when they would baptize large numbers of people in the early days of the Church. For them and for us, bringing people, especially younger people, into the fullness of the Catholic faith is a moment in parish life that provides us with hope for the future. Our confirmandi have the gifts of the Holy Spirit! As a faith community it falls to all of us to encourage them to use these gifts and support them as they navigate their lives in a very secular and somewhat religiously hostile society.

The finance council of St. Francis Parish and St. Clare Parish will hold a combined meeting this week. On the agenda is a review of the audit report, review of third quarter income and expenses and preparing budget for the next fiscal year.

We are "in the queue" for the electrician to come and install the electrical wiring and speakers for the **new organ**. Deacon Joe has used the new organ for a wedding and a funeral thus far, relying on it's inbuilt speakers. It's not quite ready yet for a full Church. Hopefully soon!

Next Sunday we bring the Easter season to a close with the **Solemnity of Pentecost**. In the hierarchy of days in the Church's calendar, Pentecost ranks third behind Easter and Christmas. The Acts of the Apostles tell us that the Holy Spirit descended on the Blessed Mother and Apostles as tongues of flame. Red is the color of the day, therefore. May I encourage you to wear a bit of red to Church for Mass next Sunday?

Please do not park in the "reserved for clergy" spaces near the front door of the rectory.

These spaces are needed for the priests and deacons who are shuttling back and forth from St. Francis to/from St. Clare's Church on Sunday mornings. There are only two spots. With a tight Mass schedule, reserved spots help the clergy to do this in a more timely manner.

Fr. Bob



*From the
Clergy and Staff of the
Braintree Catholic Collaborative*



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

Things were pretty busy last week, and I didn't get a chance to write a column even though I promised you an update on the new organ at St. Francis. But I will rectify that now. We took delivery on Tuesday April 30 and it was placed in the front of the church on the CVS side and in front of the Blessed Mother statue. Only one bench needed to be removed. Placed here the organist has a clear line of sight to the ministers at the altar, the cantors, the choir, and the start of weddings and funerals.

You may notice that this instrument doesn't look exactly the same as the picture we showed you a few weeks ago. The one we have at St. Francis has an additional feature that the other photo did not – internal speakers. Which means that for smaller celebrations when the main speakers may be too much, we can use the internal speakers which aren't as powerful. I have in fact played a couple of small funerals using the new organ and I can attest to the fact that it works perfectly. We are not planning on using it at Sunday Masses until it is completely installed, and you can hear it for the first time in its full glory.

In addition to the all the features of any great pipe organ this instrument includes something called "Genesys voices." (I kind of like the biblical play on words) These voices include 227 additional stops for the organ, orchestral instruments (violin, trumpets, clarinets, pianos etc.) that offer a clear advantage over other instruments.

We are now waiting for an electrician to come and install a grounded outlet to protect the delicate electronics and also to run about 2000 ft. of cable through the floor by the organ, into the ceiling in the hall and up to the choir loft where the main speakers are located. At this point the Allen Organ people will come and hook everything up. One last step will be to "voice" the instrument to the acoustics specific to our church so that its full magnificence can be heard by all.

There are a few ancillary elements that we didn't consider. Although the organist has optimal line of sight the bench is located behind the speakers from the new sound system which makes it difficult to hear the cantor, priest, or reader. We will have to place a monitor closer to the organ. Lastly, we will need to install a microphone jack close by so that we can use the new mixer currently in the choir loft and microphones for the choir and any soloist.

I thought that, as they say, a picture is worth a thousand words, you may like to see the installation and not just read about it. Here are some photos from April 30th.

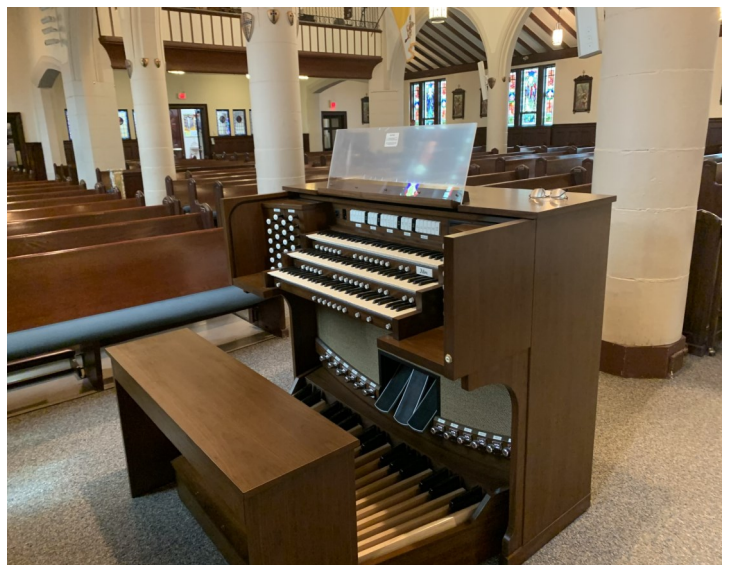
The organ coming off the truck.



Off the elevator



A beauty to behold.





St. Francis of Assisi
Ava Grace Donovan
Israel "Izzy" Alicea
Mary Keogh

Archdiocese of Boston
Fr. John R. Mulvehill

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.



Steven Mann & Meghan McLaughlin II



May 12 - Seventh Sunday of Easter:
When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and into the hearts of those who are poor.

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is next weekend, May 18-19. Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry. Some of our needs are: toilet paper; cleaning products and laundry detergent. 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.

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Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying: "As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world. And I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth." - Jn 17:18-19

Readings *of the Week*

Readings for the week of May 12, 2024

- Sunday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 (19a)/1 Jn 4:11-16/
Jn 17:11b-19
- Monday:** Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/
Jn 16:29-33
- Tuesday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Jn 15:9-17
- Wednesday:** Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19
- Thursday:** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26
- Friday:** Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19
- Saturday:** *Morning:* Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/
Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25
- Nest Sunday:** *Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/
Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 (see 30)/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15





From the Archdiocese of Boston

May 12 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter

Listen closely to today's gospel. We are listening to an intimate moment of prayer between Jesus and his Father. Take note, Jesus is praying for us! He asks God to protect us, to keep us from evil and consecrate us in the truth. His prayer is full of love and care for each and every one of us. We can be confident that God hears the prayer of Christ. What is asked of us that we trust that God does indeed give us the graces we need. Take some quiet time today to listen again to Jesus' prayer for you and then speak to him from your heart.

Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents

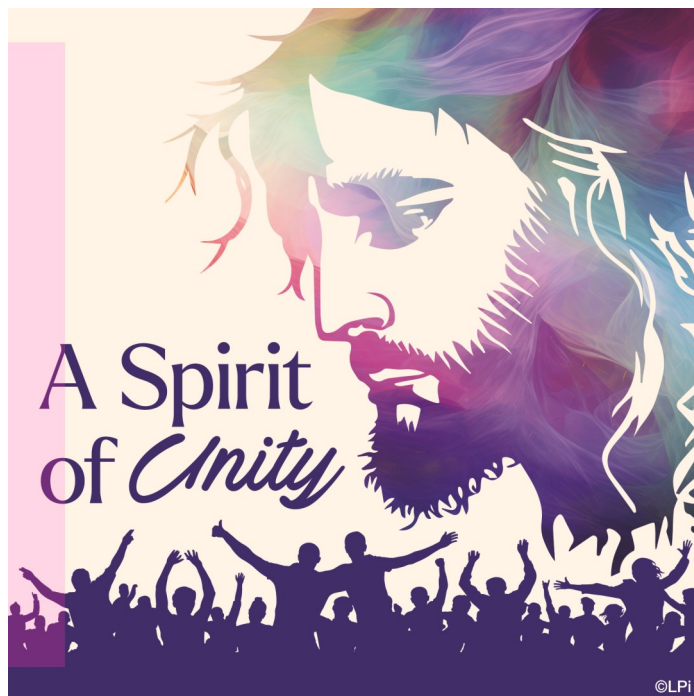
The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents serves the spiritual needs of parents whose children of any age have died by any cause. This one-day retreat gives parents the opportunity to concentrate on their individual spiritual journey through the grief and come to know the promise of Jesus and eternal life.

Saturday, June 1st, 2024—9:30am - 7:30pm

Mary Queen of Apostles Parish, St. James Church Hall
(150 Federal Street Salem, MA 01970)

The retreat is open to parents of any age, who lost children at any age and by any means (including abortion, miscarriage, suicide, and overdose). Participants must register and will be contacted by retreat leaders with additional information. To register, visit mqoa.org/emmaus or leave a message for Dr. Christine Williams at 978-594-7780.

Catholics throughout the Archdiocese are asked to partner with one another to support their parish and the many outreach ministries by contributing to the Catholic Appeal. I am pleased to share that St. Clare has raised \$46,673 and St. Francis has raised \$59,022 toward our 2024 Catholic Appeal. **More importantly 164 parishioners (92% of 2023 total) from St. Clare and 197 parishioners (83% of 2023 total) for St. Francis of Assisi have participated in our collaborative campaign.** Our heartfelt thanks to all who have helped make our campaign a success so far. If you have not had the opportunity to support the Appeal yet, I invite you to make your gift today to help us reach our goal. Pick up an envelope at the back of the church or make an on-line donation at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org. **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.** Your participation in our Appeal is appreciated by our parish and all those who are served by the ministries funded by the Appeal that moves **us Forward in Faith** in support all of our parishes, schools, and communities. Thank you.

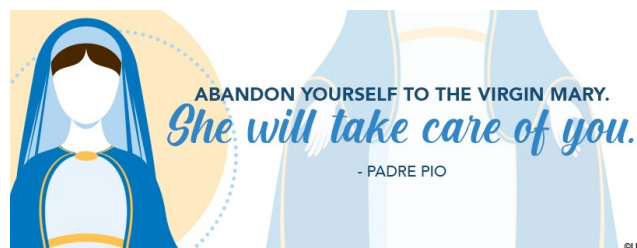


May 12, 2024 - 7th Sunday of Easter

A few months ago, I had the singular privilege of a private meeting with Pope Francis. We were a small group of pastors, composed largely of non-Catholics. The Holy Father wished to discuss our work for Christian unity. The phrase I remember him saying with greatest frequency was: *Tutti dentro*. It means, "Everyone in." He clearly wanted us to emphasize that the Church is made for the whole human race, not a select few. At the center of his concern was unity. We are all brothers and sisters, he said multiple times. The Church's primary longing is for everyone to join Her.

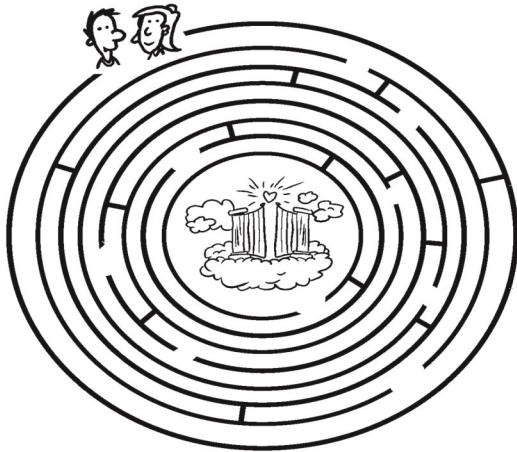
This longing is at the heart of this Ascension feast day. We hear the longest recorded prayer of the one whom Pope Francis represents. Jesus' concern is unity, praying to the Father, **"that they may be one, even as we are one"** (John 17:11). The deep unity of all people in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit is what Jesus most desires. It is what he ascends to accomplish.

Do we have this same burning desire in our hearts, too? Or do we see Christian unity as an unrealizable dream? Or worse, as something that threatens our own narrow tribal interests? This feast is a wonderful time to consider our attitude toward Christian unity, and to commit to do whatever we can to foster it. It is the Pope's desire because it is that of Jesus — and it should be ours, too.



PUZZLE

Find the path to Heaven.



MISSION

Make a card for each of your teachers. Color a picture on the cover. Write a nice message on the inside. Thank your teachers for helping you learn, and sign your name. Then deliver your cards with a smile.



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



7th Sunday of Easter • John 17:11b-19

Sharing the Gospel

Every day when you are in school, your teachers help you learn. You get better at following directions. You get better at listening. You get better at remembering what you learned. Over the school year, your teacher gets you ready for the next grade. In today's Gospel, Jesus prayed for his friends. Jesus spent the last three years teaching his friends how to follow God and how to love others. His time to teach was almost over. Jesus prayed that his friends would stay close to God. Jesus asked God to protect them as they shared his teachings with the whole world.

Prayer

God, help me to learn all that I can from Jesus and my teachers.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of someone who teaches you about Jesus.

Mission for the Week

Make a card for each of your teachers. Color a picture on the cover. Write a nice message on the inside. Thank your teachers for helping you learn, and sign your name. Then deliver your cards with a smile.

