

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 18, 2024

5:30PM Joanne Perpetua Memorial

Sunday, May 19, 2024

9:00AM Kenneth Logan 10th Anniv.

11:30AM Philip Walling, Sr. Memorial

Rosemarie Roche and
Mary Tricomi and
Roseanne Walling Healing

Monday, May 20, 2024

7:00AM Daniel Crimmins

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

7:00AM David Almeida Month's Mind

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

7:00AM Melencio Navarro Anniversary

Thursday, May 23, 2024

7:00AM Joseph Sheehan Memorial

Friday, May 24, 2024

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Saturday, May 25, 2024

5:30PM Nicholas & Loretta Cristiani and
Jack & Joan Daly Memorial

Sunday, May 26, 2024

9:00AM Donna Daly 10th Anniv.

11:30AM John Keaveney Memorial

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 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

Saturday, May 25, 2024

8:00AM

4:00PM Phyllis & Avanti Quintiliani Memorial

Sunday, May 26, 2024

7:45AM Joseph Dodier & Cleante Ceva Memorial

10:15AM Irene Barone 1st Anniv.

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

The Bread & Wine for the week of May 18th through 24th were been donated in loving memory of Larry Rochon. The **Sanctuary light** will also burn in Larry's memory.

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 word **Pentecost** means fifty and refers to the fiftieth day after the Resurrection of Christ. Our Tradition holds that on the fiftieth day the Holy Spirit came upon the Blessed Mother and the Apostles giving birth to the Church. Truth to be told, Pentecost was a reference to the Jewish feast of *Shavuot*. This important feast occurred seven weeks and one day (hence Pentecost) after the first Sabbath of Passover. Historically it was a harvest celebration when the first fruits of the season would be offered to God in the Temple. After the destruction of the Temple by the Romans in the year 70, there was no longer a place to offer first fruits so the feast shifted to the reception of the Torah (first five books of what we call the Old Testament). To this day, many Jewish people will stay up all night on Shavuot reading the Torah. Implied in this feast is a renewal of the covenant that God established with Noah, that is, that he would not destroy the earth again, thus connecting salvation history with the produce of the earth.

This is context in which Christ sent the Holy Spirit. After the Ascension of the Lord, the Apostles made their way back into Jerusalem to pray, reflect and wait for the “Advocate” which Christ had promised. With everyone in Jerusalem they would have been celebrating the Shavuot when suddenly “there was a sound like a strong, driving wind” Not knowing exactly what was happening, the Apostles immediately leave their confines and go onto the streets of Jerusalem boldly speaking of Jesus. The striking element of this, however, is that there were many visitors in Jerusalem because of the feast. Each person was able to understand what was said of Jesus in his/her respective native language.

I like the comingling of the Christian Pentecost with the Jewish Pentecost. As people were flocking to the Temple to offer the first produce of the season as a token of thanksgiving, God offers the people the “produce” of the Resurrection, which is the Holy Spirit.

One of the strong indicators of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the early Church is that no one who walked with Jesus during his public ministry was grieving over his absence. It's not as if anyone of them were wondering “if only Jesus were still here” or “what would Jesus do if he were with us?” The Holy Spirit makes the reality of the Risen Christ a reality among us. This is how it was possible for St. Paul to encounter the Risen Christ some time after the Ascension. The Holy Spirit, which gives life to the Church, makes an encounter with Christ real in the way in

which He was when walking among the Apostles.

Many of Paul's letters attest to the power of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit comes in the form of particular charisms or gifts: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear-of-the-Lord. The Spirit gives us these same gifts in the Sacrament of Confirmation. They are not given in equal measure to each person, however. They are given to correspond with our God-given vocation, that is what God asks each of us to make of our lives. In other words, God gives to each person what is needed to be faithful to what He is asking of us.

We had two beautiful **celebrations of Confirmation** last weekend. Heartfelt congratulations to the 76 parishioners who received the Holy Spirit and were fully initiated into the Church! If you, or someone in your family beyond the 10th grade, have not received Confirmation, please let Fr. Kevin or myself know. We would be very happy to work with you so that you can request the Sacrament!

Big news in Religious Education

I am very happy to announce that **Mrs. Karen Lane** has accepted the full-time position as Director of Faith Formation for St. Francis and St. Clare Parishes! She has coordinated the religious education program for the past couple of years and has done so in an exceptional way. I feel it's important that we make a greater investment into religious training of our children and support of their families. After the celebration of the Mass, teaching our children the faith is our biggest priority. Karen is well known to so many parishioners and in the wider community. Having taught in the parish school here for a number of years she knows so many of our families. In this new role, Karen will continue to run a religious education program for the two parishes. Also she will provide support and resources to their families.

Trip to Ireland

I have been invited to be the spiritual director on a **pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock** in County Mayo, Ireland, August 14-23, **2025**. It is open to anyone. You can check out the itinerary:

www.206tours.com/dchunt/ireland

Fr. Bob

SORRY...
WE'RE 
CLOSED

The Collaborative office will be closed on Wednesday, May 22nd for a Staff Day of Retreat.



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

We often hear about celebrities who make these “confession” interviews on TV or write books, and they reveal some deep dark secret or medical condition.

Well, I’m going to make my own confession. I’m going to tell you about a condition I suffer from. It’s one of those things no one ever wants to talk about. It’s very common; in fact, I’m sure I share this malady with people here this morning. If there is a family with three children, one of them is at high risk for this condition. Are you ready?

I suffer from something called middle child syndrome. For those among you who are first born or last born in the family, middle child syndrome usually results in a person feeling left out, ignored, unappreciated. That’s because the oldest and the youngest always get the attention.

That is, I think, how most of us treat the Holy Spirit – like a middle child. For most of us, the Holy Spirit is underappreciated. We rarely pray to the Holy Spirit. We ignore Him and it’s easy to see why. Jesus after all was human. We can put a face on him. The Father, well all of us have an understanding of what father means and we’ve got those paintings at the Vatican showing the Father as an old man with a beard.

But the Holy Spirit? It’s hard to wrap our heads around that. How can we have a relationship with someone we can’t experience with our senses? We can’t see him. We can’t touch, taste or smell him. And we used to call him the Holy Ghost – Yikes!

But we really do need to come to know the Holy Spirit. We need to understand that He is every bit as important as the Father and the Son. He is just as much God. And He is with us, just as much with us, as Jesus and the Father.

Who is the Holy Spirit? The Spirit is our inspiration and guide. The Holy Spirit is the one who brings us to understanding and reveals the truth to us. The Holy Spirit makes us holy and is the one who moves our love into action.

I’ll tell you this, when I find out I’m preaching on a certain Sunday and I look at the readings, I usually don’t have a clue where I might go with it. Until I bring the scripture to prayer. And then something comes to me. Then I can work with it. I can assure you that when I’m through I wonder where it came from. It comes from the prompting of the Holy Spirit, at least if it’s a good homily. I’m certain we have all had similar experiences if we take the time to notice.

- That good deed that we never expected to do – Holy Spirit.
- The opportunity to be with someone in need – Holy Spirit
- The desire to be with God in prayer – Holy Spirit
- That unexpected feeling of joy or peace even when things are at their worst – Holy Spirit.

- The ability to have faith when everything seems at a loss – the Holy Spirit.
- When we love even when we aren’t loved back – Holy Spirit.

Fire in the Old Testament was a sign of God’s presence. Moses noticed the burning bush on the mountain and was moved to go see what it was. The story of that first Pentecost tells us about tongues of fire coming upon each of the disciples gathered in that upper room. The fact that this flame came and rested on each believer tells us something that also affects our lives and our faith. Those people in the upper room were all the believers that were in the world at that time and the Holy Spirit was given to each one. That same spirit has been given to each of us through baptism and confirmation and fills the hearts of the faithful with the POWER of His divine love. By the way, the Greek word used for power can also mean dynamite. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit and that power comes from Divine Love, and that is spiritual dynamite! It was Divine Love that filled that upper room as it fills this church today. It was Divine Love that caused each pilgrim in Jerusalem to hear Peter in his or her own language. It was Divine Love that converted the hearts of those who heard that message. And it is Divine Love that moves each of us to God’s service.

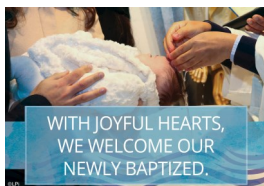
Shortly after the Lord’s own Baptism, His first public act as recorded in scripture was to go to the synagogue where he picked up a scroll and read these words. (Is 61:1-2)

“The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God, to comfort all who mourn.” Then he said, “Today this scripture passage has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

My friends because of our own Baptism and Confirmation we can take that same scripture and say with confidence that this passage is also fulfilled in us. We can say, with Christ, that the Spirit of God is upon US. He has sent US to bring good news. He has sent US to heal the broken hearted. He has sent US to proclaim liberty and freedom to captives. We are sent by God’s Holy Spirit to bring comfort to those who mourn; healing to those who are sick; to prophesy; to preach; to teach; to be the presence of Christ in a world that is hungry for His presence.

Because the Holy Spirit dwells in us, we can walk out the doors of this church today with a sense of mission. And to fulfill that mission we need the guidance and prompting of the Holy Spirit. Let me suggest that we take the gospel acclamation we heard today and personalize it and make it our own. Make it part of our daily prayer. Let’s call on the Holy Spirit, that forgotten and neglected third person of the

Blessed Trinity, "Come Holy Spirit, fill the heart of your faithful one and enkindle in me the power of your divine love."



St. Clare

Mia Suzanne Walsh



Steven Mann & Meghan McLaughlin III



St. Francis of Assisi

Richard A. Ridlon

William F. Murphy

St. Clare

Frances Buonopane

Michelle Goode

Archdiocese of Boston

Fr. Ronald Gomes

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.



May 19 - Pentecost: Today as we celebrate Pentecost the Holy Spirit wants to make us advocates of God's presence to bring new life to others, especially those who do not know the love of God in their lives. **This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able bring the love of God to the poor by assisting families, providing food, Assistance with utility and rent bills, etc. Thank You!**

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is this weekend, May 18-19. Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry. 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.**



"I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me." - Jn 16:12-14a

Readings *of the* Week ©LPI

Readings for the week of May 19, 2024

- 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
- Monday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34
- Tuesday:** Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23/Mk 9:30-37
- Wednesday:** Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11/Mk 9:38-40
- Thursday:** Jas 5:1-6/Ps 49:14-15ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20/Mk 9:41-50
- Friday:** Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12/Mk 10:1-12
- Saturday:** Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-2, 3 and 8/Mk 10:13-16
- Next Sunday:** Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22 (12b)/Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16-20





St. Clare

Lily Bartoloni
Oisin Fitzgerald
Martin Frazer
Ava Lucia
Teagan O'Connor
Sawyer Oniskey
Harry Scully
Timothy Auclair
Vincent Fasoli



St. Francis of Assisi

Teddy "Sebastian" Aveni
Ella "Veronica" Barry
Caitlin "Elizabeth" Beaucage
Leah "Marie" Blease
Joseph "Michael" Bousaleh
Luca "Peter" Buccini
Devyn "Deborah" Burke
Peter "Francis" Canelli
Joseph "Sebastian" Carroll
Sofia "Cecilia" Cataquet
Kayla "Marie" Cocca
Isabel "Therese" DeLuca
Timothy "Patrick" Evans
Justin "Michael" Guerriero
Matthew "Vincent" Hanlon
Zachary "Jerome" Heidenreich
Erin "Margaret" Hernandez
Ciara "Brigid" Holland
Dante "Sebastian" Horsman
Aidan "Paul" Hough
Madison "Teresa" Hussey
Kevin "Matthew" Joyce
Edward "Patrick" Kendall
Sean "Matthew" Lydon, Jr.
Mason "Richard" Mastrogiacono
Joseph "Anthony" McDonald
Audrey "Catherine" Ormsby
Andrew "Joseph" Perfetti
Claire "Eleanor" Sampson

Daniel "Luke" Shalgian
Cooper "Christopher" Shea
Molly "Sofia" Trainor
Joseph "Joseph" Vu
Jason "Patrick" Williams
Ryan "Patrick" Zelano

St. Clare

Victoria "Brigid" Barry
Natalie "Mary Magdalene" Calheta
Bianca "Catherine" Chiaramida
Jack "Sebastian" Coen
Cian "John" Crawford
Adriana "Mary" Crowley
Shannon "Rita" Dawley
Sophia "Catherine" Degulis
Madeline "Mary" Dever
Matthew "Sebastian" Dever
Kyle "Michael" DeWitt
Flynn "Michael" Foley
Ana "Rose" Garcia-Trujillo
Jackson "Christopher" Garvey
Sofia "Veronica" Guarino
Drew "Paul" Hourin
Molly "Sheila" Hume
Brian "Christopher" Kelliher
Kate "Brigid" King
Luke "Matthew" Long
Ella "Mary" MacDonald
Francesca "Rose" Mazzini
Erin "Joan" McCarthy
Niamh "Clare" McGowan
Kaelyn "Isidore" McLoughlin
Addison "Marie" Meade
Alexa "Mark" Moore
Matthew "Timothy" Morelli
Evan "Maximilian Kolbe" O'Connor
William "Sebastian" O'Leary
Molly "Gianna" O'Shea
Ashlee "Ruth" Pepdjonovic
Cameron "Sebastian" Quigley
Mya "Mary" Ranieri
Sophia "Elizabeth" Rotondo
Caroline "Colette" Snyder
Liam "Thomas" Sweeney
Molly "Anne" Titley
Bridget "Emma" Walsh
Ciara "Anne" White
Aiden "Joshua" Zahn



**Come Holy Spirit,
Enlighten me with your
love.**



From the Archdiocese of Boston

May 19 ~ Pentecost Sunday

"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love." The reading from the Acts of the Apostles is evidence that the gifts of the Holy Spirit were at work in the disciples and motivated them to speak about Jesus. They caught the fire of God's love and spoke openly about the wondrous things God had done. Take a few moments in prayer this week to consider some of the wonderful things God has done in your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to kindle in you the fire of God's love that was given to the disciples on that first Pentecost. Then, like the disciples go forth and share that good news of God's love with others.

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.



We are pleased to share that St. Clare has raised \$46,673 and St. Francis has raised \$59,022 toward our 2024 Catholic Appeal goal. More importantly, 165 St. Clare families (**93% of 2023 total**) and 201 St. Francis families (**84% 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.**

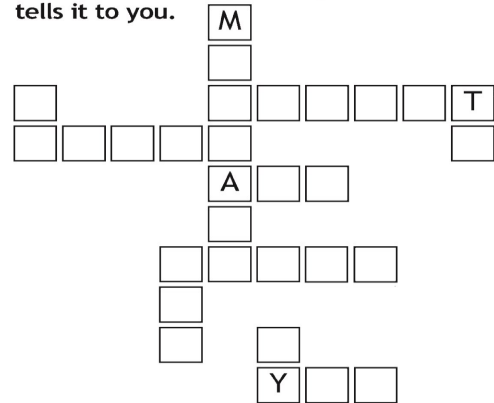
Please give today to help us reach goal by June 30th. Watch for your letter in the mail or make a gift using the QR code below or by returning an in-pew envelope available at the Church exits. On behalf of Cardinal Seán O'Malley and all who will benefit from your generosity, thank you for your support.



PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

The Spirit takes my message and
tells it to you.



MISSION

Before you sit down to read a Bible story, ask God to send his Spirit to help you. When you listen carefully to God's word, the Spirit can send you a special message from Jesus!



BECAUSE VIBRANT
CHURCHES MATTER

Sharing the Gospel

One day one of your best friends may move away, and you won't see him every day. You can still stay close to your friend by talking on the phone, writing letters, or sending e-mail messages. Jesus knew he would be leaving. He would not see his friends every day. Jesus promised to send his Spirit to them. When they were confused, the Spirit would show them the truth. When they missed him, Jesus would send them messages by the Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit, Jesus could always stay close to his friends.

Prayer

God, thank you for sending your Spirit so I can stay close to Jesus, too.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of God's Spirit whispering in your ear.

Mission for the Week

Before you sit down to read a Bible story, ask God to send his Spirit to help you. When you listen carefully to God's word, the Spirit can send you a special message from Jesus!