

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 15, 2024

5:30PM Ann & Tom Glynn Anniversary

Sunday, June 16, 2024

9:00AM All Fathers Living and Deceased Memorial

11:30AM All Fathers Living and Deceased 2nd Anniv.

Monday, June 17, 2024

7:00AM James & Mary Kelley Memorial

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

7:00AM Barbara Medici Memorial

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Thursday, June 20, 2024

7:00AM Gaetano & Italia Giannandrea Memorial

Friday, June 21, 2024

7:00AM Maria Paz Navarro Anniversary

Saturday, June 22, 2024

5:30PM Basil J. Boudreaux and Mary Boudreaux 3rd Anniv. 6th Anniv.

Sunday, June 23, 2024

9:00AM Joana DaSilva Baptista Memorial

11:30AM Maureen & Tim Lyons 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!



Brandon Tyler Hall & Cara Leigh Sacchetti III

Robert Connelly & Marisa Woods II

Mass Intentions

St. Clare

Saturday, June 15, 2024

8:00AM Barbara J. Leaver Month's Mind

4:00PM Roberta and Robert Colman Memorial

Sunday, June 16, 2024

7:45AM All Fathers Living and Deceased

10:15AM All Fathers Living and Deceased

6:00PM All Fathers Living and Deceased

Saturday, June 22, 2024

8:00AM Mary Larner Memorial

4:00PM George & Patricia O'Brien Memorial

Sunday, June 23, 2024

7:45AM Stephen R. Ivens Memorial

10:15AM Joseph Sheehan Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative



•**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.



Pope Francis has issued a formal papal bull (announcement) called *SPES NON CONFUNDIT* in which he formally announces to the world that Christians are called to a **jubilee year** in the year 2025. The first of the jubilee years was held, I believe, in the year 1300 by Pope Boniface VIII. The idea being that a jubilee year was a time of forgiveness to absolve sins and debts. It is rooted in Sacred Scripture that every seven years a plot of land would be given a “year off” from producing a harvest so that the soil could have time to replenish important nutrients. This carried over to the concept of a *week of seven years* which comes out to fifty years. Every fifty years our Jewish ancestors would mark a period of reconciliation in which they would have a “fresh start” with God. Those who participated were reminded of God’s providential care and could realign themselves in the right relationship with God.

The Catholic Church embraced this concept with jubilee years. I am not sure how frequent they were initially, but in our time they come every 25 years. In addition, the Pope can call for a jubilee year for a particular reason. You may recall that Pope Francis called for a jubilee year in 2016 to celebrate the power of God’s mercy. Pope St. John Paul II had a jubilee year in 1983 to mark the 1950th anniversary of Christ’s crucifixion. Although we do not know for certain the year of Christ’s crucifixion, the Gregorian calendar used today through much of the world is based on the premise that the birth of Christ was the start of the clock, so to speak. In other words, the current calendar is said to have started at Christ’s birth which was 00/00/0000 on the calendar. We now know, through biblical scholarship and advancement in keeping time that we were approximately six years off. Nevertheless, for the purposes of jubilees we stick with the Gregorian calendar.

These are examples of “extraordinary” jubilee year. Ordinary jubilee years are celebrated every 25 years, thus the last being the year 2000. You may recall that much of the world was absorbed with Y2K, the Pope, some world leaders and celebrities were calling on wealthy nations to forgive the debts of poorer nations, to give them a fresh start.

The start of the jubilee year is marked with the dramatic image of the Pope opening the “Holy Door” to St. Peter’s Basilica. If you are looking at the front of St. Peter’s, it the farthest door on the right. Normally the door is sealed

up with bricks on the inside. Only during a holy year are the bricks removed and the door is open.



As he opens the door, the Holy Father prays for the outpouring of God’s mercy. Millions of pilgrims will pass through the Holy Door asking for God’s mercy. This leads to the primary way in which a jubilee is commemorated: pilgrimage, to travel from one’s home to seek out the opportunity to be in right relationship with the Lord. Of course, the vast majority of Christians will not travel to Rome to enter the Holy Door. I would imagine that the Cardinal will be designating a “Holy Door” in Boston (probably at the Cathedral) for a local pilgrimage. We would likely have a collaborative pilgrimage to the Holy Door at some time during the jubilee. You might consider a pilgrimage to a shrine such as the National Shrine in Washington, Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge or Salem, North American Martyrs in Auriesville, NY. Many will go to one of the major Marian Shrines throughout the world. I am co-leading a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, Ireland in August 2025. If you are interested in the details you can check them out at <https://www.206tours.com/cms/dcnhunt/ireland/>. It’s an eight-day trip which includes Dublin, Rock of Cashel, Glendalough, Killarney, Galway and culminating with the celebration of Mass at the site of the apparition of the Blessed Mother in 1879.

The ultimate purpose of jubilee is not to travel somewhere necessarily, but to receive God’s mercy and start anew. It’s worth giving some thought as to how you would like to do that during the jubilee year.

A blessed Father’s Day to all of the Dad’s of the parish! We remember especially those father’s who have gone before us in faith.

Fr. Bill Sheehan, OMI will offer a brief (30 minute) spiritual conference following the 7AM Mass on Wednesday, June 19. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

The Midsummer’s Night Nativity (birthday of St. John the Baptist) will be held at 8:00PM on Monday, June 24th at St. Clare Church. We hope to see you there.

Fr. Bob



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

Jesus frequently taught using parables. A parable is a simply a story used to illustrate a divine truth or a moral/spiritual message. These often seem cryptic, especially to twenty-first century ears. But we have the tradition of the Church that has been reflecting on these parables for centuries going back to the roots of its existence to help us. Jesus used parables in order that the listener might take time to reflect on what he said, to chew on it; meditate on it; wrestle with it and come to a deeper understanding.

Let's wrestle with the first parable we heard in today's Gospel (Mk 4:26-29). It's only four verses, just three short sentences. But there is a lot there. Jesus tells us what the kingdom of God is like. It is like a man who sows seeds. Who is this "man"? The man represents God. The next thing we learn in the same sentence is that what God does is a mystery. The seed grows beneath the soil. How does that happen? Today science has come a long way, and we can explain how it happens scientifically. But to those listening to Jesus in the flesh this wasn't the case. The "man" would "sleep and rise night and day and the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how." It was a mystery to them. We've all heard the phrase "God works in mysterious ways." All of this waking and sleeping happened over some period of time. God is patient. He's not in a hurry. God knows that what He does will bear fruit when the time is right.

We know that the "man" represents God the Father but what does the seed represent? The seed is the Word – the Word of God which set creation in motion. It is the Word made flesh who dwelt among us. The seeds are the words of Jesus that takes root in our hearts.

Saint Gregory the Great put it this way:

The maturing grain signifies our increase in virtue. First, the seeds of good intentions are sown; these gradually bring forth the blade of repentance and ultimately the mature ear of charitable works. When established in virtue, we are made ripe for God's harvest.

God was patient with the seed. God is patient with us too. Christ has planted the seed of divine love within us. The seed of faith. Like an ember that burns within us waiting to catch fire and burn brightly as light for the world. So that we too can undertake the most charitable of works – planting the seed of faith in others. If God is patient with us, then we should be patient with ourselves and with others. Not every ear of corn matures at the same time. They're not all ready for harvest

the same day. The same is true of all of us. We are all growing in our faith and in our love for God and one another each at a different pace until we take our last breath. Just because God is patient with us, we should always strive to bring ourselves closer to the Lord every day of our lives, always growing in grace, sanctity, and maturity of faith.

Many of us worry about our friends or family members who may have strayed from the Church. Maybe science has become their god. Some may just be a little lazy, too occupied with the mundane things of the world to care about the spiritual. Some have fallen into drug use that casts a dark pall over the memory that they are in fact children of God. Whatever the case may be let's not despair.

A wise deacon, John Manion, told this story about faith to our class as we were preparing for ordination. It too was a parable of sorts. I hope I do it justice. John grew up in Ireland and as the family went to bed at night, they would let the fire in the fireplace go out. In the morning, his mother would be the first out of bed to prepare breakfast. One day John was up as well, and he watched his mother go over to the fireplace which appeared lifeless. But she took the poker and began stirring around in the fragments left from the night before. Lo and behold she stirred up an ember hidden beneath the residue. It caught hold of what unburnt wood was left and the fire started anew to which she added more fuel until the room was again aglow with the warmth of a roaring fire.

John explained that faith is like that. Even when we think that someone's faith is completely gone, dead as it were. Deep inside there is still an ember of the grace received at baptism, or a relic of God's word just waiting to be stirred up again until the fire of God's love is again burning brightly. So never despair, God is patient, and our prayers are powerful. "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God." (Jn 14:1)





St. Francis of Assisi

John Townsend
Robert O'Gara
Teresa Valle

St. Clare

Debbie Clancy
Edith Plummer
Paul & Ruth Curtis

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.



St. Francis of Assisi
Maeve Tully McGerigle

St. Clare
Rose Maureen Buckley
Wesley Carmine Quintiliani
James Paul Zmudzien
Kennedy Ann Zmudzien



Two electronic car keys were found the weekend of May 11-12.

A Magnificat was found in St. Francis after the 9:00 Mass on Sunday, May 19.

If you believe any of these items may belong to you, or someone you know, please call the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332.



June 16 - Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time:

In the Gospel, Jesus says: "This is how it is with the reign of God. A man scatters seed on the ground. He goes to bed and gets up day after day. Through it all the seed sprouts and grows without his knowing how it happens."

Through your almsgiving you are sowing seeds that grow far greater than you know. The money placed in the St. Vincent de Paul blue envelopes bring Christ love and compassion to the poor.



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is THIS weekend, June 15-16. Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry. Some of our needs are: toilet paper; cereal, canned fruit, instant potatoes, rice sides, Pop-Tarts, and canned chicken. 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 BCC on the memo line), or gift card—and place them into the collection basket or through the rectory mail slot. Thank you.**



If you plan to travel this summer or have the opportunity to sneak away for the weekend, here is something to place in your suitcase or your smart phone. To find the Mass closest to your location, visit www.masstimes.org. When you make your reservations, please remember to reserve some time for the Lord. Summer blessings! **Be sure to call the parish you plan to attend to verify their Mass times. Be safe!**

HAPPY Father's DAY

"God our Father, We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; May they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own Fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; May they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

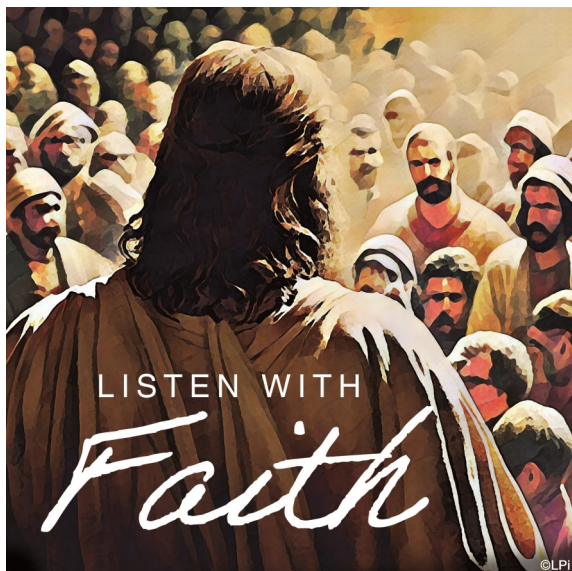
We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen"

Prayer source Lordcalls.com

Closed for the Holiday

The collaborative office will be closed on Wednesday, June 19th.



"This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land...Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come."

- Mk 4:26, 28-29

Readings Week

Readings for the week of June 16, 2024

- Sunday: Ez 17:22-24/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a)/2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-34
- Monday: 1 Kgs 21:1-16/Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7/Mt 5:38-42
- Tuesday: 1 Kgs 21:17-29/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16/Mt 5:43-48
- Wednesday: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/Ps 31:20, 21, 24/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday: Sir 48:1-14/Ps 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7/Mt 6:7-15
- Friday: 2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20/Ps 132:11, 12, 13-14, 17-18/Mt 6:19-23
- Saturday: 2 Chr 24:17-25/Ps 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32, 33-34/Mt 6:24-34
- Next Sunday: Jb 38:1, 8-11/Ps 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31 (1b)/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41





From the Archdiocese of Boston

June 16 ~ Eleventh Sunday

Jesus used parables as an important teaching tool. The growth of seeds, when sown or planted grow slowly, miraculously. Today's parable about seeds being sown reminds us about our role in the work of evangelization. Our good deeds and words are sown like seeds. God takes our good actions that have been sown and makes them grow producing fruit. Our parishes will not grow if we shy away from sharing our faith with others. Imagine what our communities of faith would be like if each one of us shared our faith with one person, who in turn shared their faith with one person, and on and on... This is how evangelization builds up the Kingdom of God: sharing stories of God's work in our lives, of prayers asked for and answered, of responding to Jesus in another. Share the "mustard seed" of your faith and watch to see how it will grow!

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.



SCAN HERE to
make your gift
or visit



bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate4

We are pleased to share that St. Clare has raised \$48,083 and St. Francis has raised \$60,857 toward our 2024 Catholic Appeal goal. More importantly, 165 St. Clare families (**95% of 2023 total**) and 201 St. Francis families (**86% 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. You can scan the QR code above or use the link below to donate online.

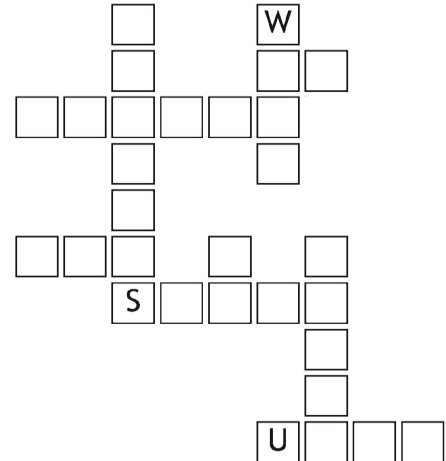
<https://bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate1/>



PUZZLE

Fill this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Jesus used stories when he
spoke to the people.



MISSION

Memorize John 3:16 this week. Let God's love sink into your heart. Treasure what you learn from Jesus.



BECAUSE VIBRANT
CHURCHES MATTER

Sharing the Gospel

Think of how much you have grown since you were born. To see you now, it is hard to imagine you ever wore baby clothes. God's kingdom started out small, and it keeps growing, too. God's kingdom needs people like you to love Jesus and to learn from him. Let God's word sink into your life. As you grow closer to Jesus, God's kingdom will grow.

Prayer

Jesus, help me learn from you and love you, so that God's kingdom will grow.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself reading your favorite Bible story about Jesus.

Mission for the Week

Memorize John 3:16 this week. Let God's love sink into your heart. Treasure what you learn from Jesus.