

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 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

Monday, June 24, 2024

7:00AM

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

7:00AM

Thursday, June 27, 2024

7:00AM

Friday, June 21, 2024

7:00AM

Saturday, June 29, 2024

5:30PM Pauline & Robert Gardner Anniversary

Sunday, June 30, 2024

9:00AM Prung Dao Memorial
11:30AM Laurie Melchionda 4th 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!



*Robert Connelly & Marisa Woods III
Thomas Michael Coakley & Kayleigh Ann Clancy I*

Mass Intentions

St. Clare

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

Saturday, June 29, 2024

8:00AM

4:00PM Mary Walsh 1st Anniv.

Sunday, June 30, 2024

7:45AM Ellen Tocci 13th Anniv.
10:15AM Robert St. Jean 4th Anniv.
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.



Tomorrow (Monday) is the Midsummer's Night Nativity, the feast commemorating the birth of John the Baptist, of whom Christ said "there is no greater man born of a woman". To celebrate the birth of the "forerunner" of Christ, there will be a Mass at sunset at St. Clare Church. We will actually begin at 8:00PM, though the actual sunset is 8:24.

Typically in Catholic Tradition we celebrate the death of a saint as it recalls their "birth" into eternal life, that is, when they actually became a saint, in the strict sense of the word. Only for two saints do we celebrate their birth: John the Baptist, of course, and the Blessed Mother. Given their unique role in salvation history, both their earthly birth and heavenly birth are recalled.

June 24 falls in the opening days of summer so why the "midsummer" moniker? In generations past, the solstices and equinoxes marked the middle of the season rather than the beginning, as we do today. Thus summer began around May 10, Autumn around August 10, etc.

The actual date of John the Baptist's birth is not known to us as ancient Jews did not mark birthdays. That was considered a pagan practice. However, we know from St. Luke's Gospel that John was six months older than Jesus. When the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary of Nazareth he mentioned that her cousin Elizabeth was "in her sixth month...for nothing is impossible for God". Therefore, in the Church's calendar, the Annunciation of Christ's birth was placed at the beginning of Spring, and, subsequently, the birth of Jesus follows nine months later on December 25. (We realized in the 16th century we were off by a few days in calculating the solstices and equinoxes). Given that time frame, the birth of John the Baptist is placed at June 24.

Mass on this day can be celebrated at anytime, of course. There is an ancient tradition of celebrating Mass at the time of sunset. The idea being that his birth marks the time when daylight begins to decrease. Mass begins in the daylight but concludes in darkness. The simple time of the Mass captures John's spirituality that "I must decrease so that He, the Lord, may increase" A common struggle with all disciples of the Lord Jesus is that we tend to stand in our own light rather than the light of Christ. The Midsummer's Night Nativity serves to remind the members of the Church to allow your own light to diminish so that the light of Christ may be seen by all.

The theme of light was seen in the practice of lighting bonfires on the Midsummer's Night Nativity. There would be music and dancing around the fire. There was an Irish superstition that held that in the light of the Midsummer's Night Nativity bonfire you could see who would pass away in the forthcoming year. (Thankfully the Lord has assured us that "no one knows the hour nor the day") On the day after the bonfire the ashes were scattered over the crops as a way of praying for a bountiful harvest. Another tradition holds that this feast would come after the first haying of the season. Some of the hay would be brought to the Mass then kept to line the manger at the following Christmas, thus linking the two nativities.

On Wednesday of this week the collaborative staff and council members will be partaking of the diocesan safety and security program. My hope is for us to be guided in best practices for ensuring a safe environment for all who come into the Churches. I will let you know what comes of it.



Words in the bulletin are inadequate to express appropriately the profound thanks of the St. Francis and St. Clare Parishes to Mr. Bob Muldoon who, for many years, has taken care of the properties, the buildings and the people who make their spiritual home there. Bob is retiring at the end of this week. As he has said to me, and to many others, though finishing up with the daily job, he is not going anywhere. Bob remains a very active member of the parish who will continue to offer his services (which are great and many!) whenever needed. I am very grateful to God for all he has done for the parishes, and me personally during this past year. He has enriched the lives of all of us through his attentive care of the properties. In doing so has given us an example of faithful discipleship.

Fr. Bob



**PRAY FOR
VOCATIONS**



WITH JOYFUL HEARTS,
WE WELCOME OUR
NEWLY BAPTIZED.

St. Francis of Assisi
Braxton John Canavan
Tessa James Lavey
Sloan Rose Reaney



REMEMBER
in your prayers

St. Clare
Ellen O'Toole
Kevin Reilly

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.



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.



We are now scheduling mass Intentions through December 31, 2024. We have a very limited number of weekend opening for the summer and Fall Masses are filling up quickly.



June 23 - Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time:

In the Gospel today, Jesus calms the sea and then asks the disciples "Why are you lacking in faith." In our life's journey, we also must learn to believe in God's presence and to trust in his care.

This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to continue show God's love and care to others by assisting families, providing food, and assistance with utility and rent bills.

Pantry donations can 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.**



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter:
Twelfth Sunday In Ordinary Time:**

2 Corinthians 5:14-17: "The love of Christ impels us. He indeed died for all, so that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come."

As a couple, we can be transformed and become a new creation in Christ. Check out a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience today. It will help your relationship and teach you tools to love one another. This will transform your marriage. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:

August 2-4, 2024 in Portland, CT

September 20-22 in Huntington, NY

October 18-20 in Sunapee, NH

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 at or <https://www.mema.org/>



"Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Quiet! Be still!" The wind ceased and there was great calm. They were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?" - Mk 4:38c-39, 41

Readings Week of the

Readings for the week of June 23, 2024

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

Monday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/ Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11/Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday: 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3/Ps 119:33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40/Mt 7:15-20

Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/ Mt 7:21-29

Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/ Mt 8:1-4

Saturday: *Vigil:* Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/ Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19
Day: Acts 12:1-11/34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Next Sunday: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13 (2a)/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/ Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43



A Summer Prayer

Long warm days...

The pace of life slows...

A time for picnics and rest in the shade...

Lord, help me to rest awhile

in the cooling shade of your presence.

Slow down my restless heart and fill me

with gentle compassion for all your people. Amen.

– Author unknown



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!**



From the Archdiocese of Boston

June 23 ~ Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Today's gospel, the story of the storm at sea, describes an experience that is all too real. The disciples wake Jesus, because they are overwhelmed with fear, their faith tested. Fear isn't something that happened only once for the disciples, nor does it happen only once for us either. The greatest enemy of peace is fear and worry, for ourselves, about the unknown future, about those we love. When we recall the presence of Jesus, our peace will be restored - even in the wildest storms of life. In times of fear and distress, let us confidently call on Jesus, asking, "Jesus, increase my faith."

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

SCAN HERE to
make your gift
or visit



"Every gift to the Appeal, no matter the amount, has meaning and purpose, and every gift plays an integral part in the vital mission of the Archdiocese of Boston." - Cardinal Seán O'Malley
bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate4

We are pleased to share that St. Clare has raised \$53,623 and St. Francis has raised \$63,042 toward our 2024 Catholic Appeal goal. More importantly, 165 St. Clare families (**96% of 2023 total**) and 201 St. Francis families (**90% 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/>



June 23, 2024 - 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Right now, you and I are only worried about one of only two things: wind or water. Bear with me. This week we hear the account of the terrified disciples waking Jesus in a sea-storm. He chastises them for their lack of faith, and then, **"rebuking the wind, he said to the sea, 'Quiet, be still!'"** He rebukes the wind and stills the water. In the Bible wind and water represent the two most fundamental poles of our experience of creation. Wind means heaven, spirit, that which gives identity, unity, order, light. Water stands for earth, variation, potential, that which can be drawn into identity, darkness, chaos.

Too much "wind" is when things get way too rigid, abstract and ideological — when we face oppressive leaders and tyrants, when we get addicted to our own way of doing things, when our attention is too narrowly focused on one thing. Too much "water" is excessive novelty, passivity, indifference, and chaos — when our attention is too broadly diffused on many things, when things seem to be crumbling without direction into the dark abyss. We know both terrifying experiences all too well.

The point of the miracle is that God in Christ is the One who brings final cosmic harmony between these two vital but threatening forces. He ultimately does so from the wood of the cross, when he breathes forth the wind of his spirit and pours forth the water from his side to establish a new creation, filled with harmonious peace. When the wind and water are out of control, trust him.

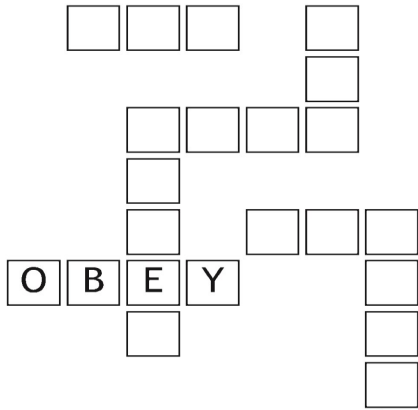
Father John Muir ©LPI



PUZZLE

Fit the Gospel message into the empty squares:

Even the wind and waves obey him!

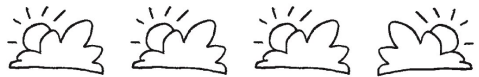


MISSION

Sit down with your family, and read Mark 4:35-41 out loud. Then talk about the things you are afraid of. Pray to God, ask for help, and believe that God is stronger than any problem you have.

PUZZLE

Circle the pictures that are **facing** the **same** way. Then color in all the pictures.



MISSION

If your friend is afraid, ask God to make the fear go away.

Sharing the Gospel

The disciples of Jesus had a very scary night, because their faith was not very strong yet. They were crossing the sea in their boat, just as Jesus asked them to do, when a huge storm came up. Their boat was filling up with so much water they thought they would all die. When they woke Jesus up, he simply spoke to the wind and the waves, and the storm stopped completely. Now they were really scared. Who was Jesus, anyway? The wind and waves listened to him!

Prayer

Dear God, sometimes I feel afraid, too. Help me to remember that you are stronger than any problem I have. Amen.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus telling the wind and the waves to be quiet.

Mission for the Week

Sit down with your family, and read Mark 4:35-41 out loud. Then talk about the things you are afraid of. Pray to God, ask for help, and believe that God

