

# 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](http://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](mailto:parish@sfab.org).

# Mass Intentions

## St. Francis of Assisi

### Saturday, July 20, 2024

5:30PM Katherine & Gus Murphy Anniversary

### Sunday, July 21, 2024

9:00AM Joseph McCarthy Memorial

11:30AM James Carey Memorial

### Monday, July 22, 2024

7:00AM Kirkpatrick Family Memorial

### Tuesday, July 23, 2024

7:00AM Eleanor, Tom & Terry Leaver Memorial

### Wednesday, July 24, 2024

7:00AM Lauren Coughlan 5th Anniv.

### Thursday, July 25, 2024

7:00AM Celia, Henry & Linda Chaet Memorial

### Friday, July 26, 2024

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

### Saturday, July 27, 2024

5:30PM Thomas Glynn Anniversary

### Sunday, July 28, 2024

9:00AM Joe & Mary Monti, Joseph Monti, Jr. Memorial  
Paul Monti, Rita Monti-Hammersted,  
Jared Monti, SFC and Jack Riley

11:30AM Patrice McAndrew Kelly Memorial

If you are interested in the Online Giving option for either parish to simplify your weekly contributions, please contact the collaborative office.



# Mass Intentions

## St. Clare

### Saturday, July 20, 2024

8:00AM

4:00PM Antonio, Maria & Anna Tempesta Memorial

### Sunday, July 21, 2024

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM Barbara Medici Memorial

6:00PM Rose Boncaldo 1st Anniv.

### Saturday, July 27, 2024

8:00AM Helen Doran Memorial

4:00PM Bill Fennell Memorial

### Sunday, July 28, 2024

7:45AM Peggy Folan Memorial

10:15AM Thomas Byron 3rd 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 Wednesday of the month (July and August only) at 7:00PM in St. Francis Church Hall.
- **Holy Name Society** will meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month following the 7:45 Mass at St. Clare beginning September, 2024.

Please call the collaborative office for more information.



I am very pleased to welcome to our parishes Sister Leonore Coan, a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur. Every year each parish in the archdiocese is asked to sponsor a missionary appeal. We do this primarily to help our parishioners have a deeper appreciation for the work of the Church in other parts of the world. Secondly, it is an opportunity to raise some funds to help that particular mission, and thirdly is an occasion to intercede to God on behalf of members of the Church in other places. Such a practice dates back to the early days of the Church and is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles and pastoral letters of St. Paul.

The Sisters of Notre Dame were founded by St. Julie Billert in the early 19th century to educate girls from economically deprived families. My guess is that many of our parishioners were educated by the SND's at some point in their young lives. They are an essential part of the history in Boston and currently in numerous countries still educating in classrooms. They are also involved in prenatal care, helping to build basic infrastructure in small villages throughout the African continent and caring for those being held in detention at the border. Sr. Leonore will speak at all the Masses this weekend (except the 6:00pm) to share with us the kinds of things in which the SND's are involved. There will be a second collection to support their mission.

Sr. Leonore herself is a native of Peabody. I had the very good fortune of working with her when I was a newly ordained priest and she was the principal of the parish school at St. John's in Peabody. She has spent her religious life in teaching, school administration, congregation ministry and for many years the Mission Appeal Director for the congregation. It is a special joy for me to welcome her to St. Clare and St. Francis Parishes.

### **Bread of Life Discourse**

Join us Monday night!

For the next five Sundays the Gospel reading is taken from the sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel known affectionately as the "Bread of Life Discourse". Once every three years in the "B" cycle of the lectionary, we pause in the continuous reading of St. Mark's Gospel to focus on the Bread of Life Discourse. Given that Mark's Gospel is relatively short, it is easiest fit here. What is so significant that we should hear it at all? This chapter of John's Gospel forms the foundation of our theology of the Eucharist. Every

three years the Church focuses on the discourse to help deepen our understanding of the significance of Eucharist to our faith.

**Tomorrow night (Monday)** I will offer an overview of the Bread of Life Discourse in St. Francis Church hall 7:00-8:30 for anyone who would like to come. This will be an informal presentation and discussion on these passages and how they impact our lives today. It would be helpful to have read John chapter 6 beforehand.

The attempted assassination of former President Trump last Saturday has certainly shaken our country. What has been written on social media, the press, talk shows, and conversation with friends underscores the fragility of our lives as well as the tension across the nation. To think that a problem can be resolved by an act of violence is abhorrent. Our Christian faith tells us that we are better than this. Whatever a person thinks of another person in regards to politics, religion, or any other place of human interaction will not find a resolution when turning to violence. By violence I not only mean a violent act but also of profane language. How much pain and division is caused by words!; written and spoken! For some people there will be a tendency to run to their religious beliefs to seek refuge from all the tension. Others will want to compartmentalize religious beliefs and political views, never allowing the two to touch. I was reminded today of what was put forth in the Declaration of Independence: *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed*

The purpose of our government is to secure our God-given rights. What we have does not come from our government but rather from God. Our government exists to protect what has been given to us. We all have different opinions about how the government ought to do that. Not surprisingly, I feel strongly that government and Church should work together to provide for the good of a nation. Perhaps this is a fantasy on my part but I think to the extent that our faith and world view are integrated then we have an opportunity for peace. By keeping parts of ourselves separate from each other we become overly invested in our own opinion and will expend great energy and cost to protect our opinion even it means violence.

### **Fr Valan**

Fr. Valan will be visiting the parish with his family the weekend of August 10/11. He will celebrate the 4:00 Mass

at St. Clare on August 10 and the 11:30 Mass on August 11 at St. Francis.

### Pilgrimage to Ireland

I heard this week that 33 people have signed up for the pilgrimage to Ireland in August 2025. Given the size of the motor coaches, we are capping the cohort to 40. If you are interested more information can be found at <https://www.206tours.com/cms/dcnhunt/ireland/>

**Fr. Bob**



**St. Francis of Assisi**

Edward Marks

**St. Clare**

Winifred Marron

**Archdiocese of Boston**

Fr. James F. Rafferty

***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. Clare**

*Ellie Margaret Jenkins*

**St. Francis of Assisi**

*Xander James Filleti*

*Cian Thomas Healy*



**From**  
**Deacon Joe MacDonald**

In last week's Gospel (Mk 6:7-13) Jesus sent out the Twelve two by two. It was a kind of training mission, and He gave them plenty of ammunition. He gave them authority! Authority even over unclean spirits. And they started on their way "Hi Ho! Hi Ho! It's off to work we go!" Two by two they went in all kinds of directions. They had to have had faith even if it wasn't mature faith yet. I imagine they were also a little bit (or a lot) nervous. "What if we fail? What if we make fools of ourselves? What if we get attacked?" All they had was clothes on their backs and the authority Christ gave them.

And they did not fall flat on their faces. They preached and cured the sick and expelled demons. They didn't have to worry about success because like the prophets we have been hearing about, God does the work. God makes it happen.

This week's Gospel tells us what happened next. (Mk 6:30-34) Now they've come back, and they gather with Jesus and began to tell Him about everything that had happened. These days I think we'd call it a debriefing. Jesus of course recognized they would surely be tired after their mission and suggested going to a secluded place to rest. You could say they were going on a retreat. There were so many people coming to see them they couldn't even grab a bite to eat. So, they got in a boat and left. The people realized where they were going and ran ahead to meet them when they arrived. There really is no rest for the weary. If I were in that boat looking forward to a quiet respite and came across that crowd waiting for us, I'd be pretty upset. I might even say something I'd regret later.

But not Jesus. His heart was in a different space. He recognized the desperation in their faces; the need for hope in their lives; the need for leadership that wouldn't fail them and the need to be touched by God. Christ saw this and loved them. His reaction, unlike what mine would have been, was compassion not frustration.

They needed a shepherd and Jesus was going to step up to the plate and give them one.

The past few weeks have been about being sent. It can be a frightening prospect. But by virtue of our Baptism that is exactly what we are – sent. Over the past few weeks, we've seen Ezekiel and Amos being sent as well as some others I've mentioned in previous columns. But the fact is that every Christian is sent. Even the word we use for our liturgical

worship “Mass” says this. “Ite Missa est.” This is Latin for “it is sent.” What is this “it” if not the whole Church? It is what we say at the very end of Mass. Of course, we don’t often hear this Latin phrase. Today we translate it “Go forth (be sent) the Mass is ended” or “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord” or “Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.” To all this we acclaim “Thanks be to God.” Why are we thankful? Certainly not that this boring hour is over. It’s not about our eagerness to get on with what really matters in our lives. We are thankful that having been fed at the table of God’s Word and the table of the Eucharist. We have been given the grace, the strength, and the will to accept the mission to proclaim and glorify God by the way we live. We’ve come to know Him. And knowing Him is to love Him and when we love someone, we serve them.

We can be full of self-doubt, fear, apprehension. We don’t have to be perfect! We just have to go. I’ll conclude with this quote from Saint John Henry Newman:

*"A man would do nothing if he waited until he could do it so well that no one could find fault. To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often. Growth is the only evidence of life."*



This August, swing by the Braintree Stop & Shop at 316 Grove Street and grab a Bloomin’ 4 Good Bouquet for just 10.99. For every bouquet sold, \$10 goes toward the Braintree Catholic Collaborative Food Pantry.



### July 14 - Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In the Gospel today we see how Jesus sent his Apostles out two by two. From the beginning of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, members visit in pairs “two by two”, those who are poor and needy in their homes. It is there, in the family setting, that Vincentians listen, offer humble advice, and render assistance.

**Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?**



**FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY** is THIS weekend, July 20-21. 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, 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 SFA on the memo line), or gift card—and place them into the collection basket or through the rectory mail slot. Thank you.**

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](http://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!**



***When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. - Mk 6:34***

## Readings of the Week

### Readings for the week of July 21, 2024

- Sunday: Jer 23:1-6/Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 (1)/  
Eph 2:13-18/Mk 6:30-34
- Monday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2,  
3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
- Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8/  
Mt 12:46-50
- Wednesday: Jer 1:1, 4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15  
and 17/Mt 13:1-9
- Thursday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3,  
4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28
- Friday: Jer 3:14-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/  
Mt 13:18-23
- Saturday: Jer 7:1-11/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a, and 8a, 11/  
Mt 13:24-30
- Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Ps 145:10-11, 15-16,  
17-18 (see 16)/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15



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



*From the  
Archdiocese  
of Boston*

### July 21 ~ Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

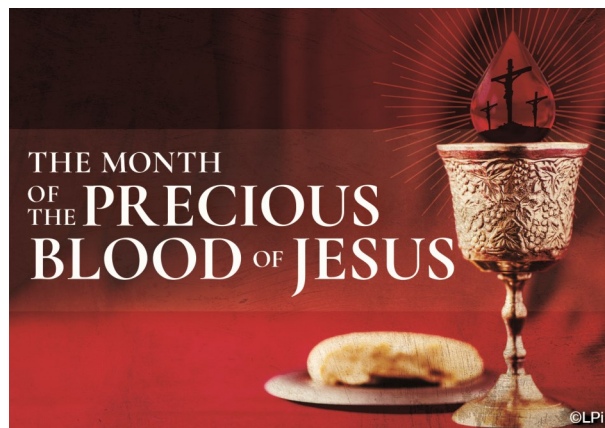
Today's gospel picks up is the "next episode" from last weeks with the disciples coming back to report to Jesus about all they had done in his name. Jesus takes them away from the crowd to rest and to share about their experiences. He is showing them the importance of having a rhythm to their lives – a balance between work and activity. Coming into the presence of God is where the psalmist says, we find rest, are safe, our souls are refreshed, and we get recharged with spiritual energy to resume our activities. How will we shoulder life's burdens if we have no relationship with him who is the Lord of all good life? How can we do God's work unless in God's strength? The answer is clear! By taking time in quietness in the presence of God and being nourished at the table of the Lord that we are able to go forth to love and serve the Lord.

### 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](https://bit.ly/CelebrateAnniversary). For more information, please email Emily Elliott at [marriageprep@rcab.org](mailto:marriageprep@rcab.org) or call 617-746-5756.

### A Celebration of Convalidation

If you and your spouse desire holy matrimony in the Catholic Church, you are invited to convalidate your marriage through your parish or at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston during World Marriage Week on Sat. February 8, 2025 at 6PM with Bishop Mark O'Connell and Bishop Cristiano Barbosa. A celebration of convalidation is an opportunity for couples married outside of the Church to enter a marriage covenant in the Catholic tradition. The Cathedral ceremony will be available in the various languages of the couples present. Visit [bit.ly/CatholicConvalidation](https://bit.ly/CatholicConvalidation) for more information or call Emily Elliott in Family Life at 617-746-5756.





Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary encourages prospective candidates between 30 and 60 years to discern a possible vocation to Priesthood.

We host **"First Friday Visits"** where men discerning the priesthood are invited to join the Seminary community for prayer, fellowship, and dinner. These brief and informal evenings begin at 5:00 PM and conclude by 7:30 PM. During their visit here, the men will join the community for Holy Hour and Evening Prayer, followed by dinner with the seminarians and an opportunity to tour the Seminary. If a candidate wishes to speak with a priest faculty member during his visit, we will arrange for that as well. There is also the option to attend virtually via the Chapel live-stream link of evening prayer followed by a Zoom meeting. The Zoom meeting link is available once registered.

Please encourage men that you know to avail themselves of this opportunity. Join us:

**Friday, September 6, 2024**

If you know of a man interested in pursuing a possible vocation or who may benefit from a visit to Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary, please have him reach out to Msgr. William Fay.

Rev. Msgr. William P. Fay  
Professor of Philosophy and Theology  
Pope St. John XXIII Seminary  
Office: 781-899-5500 x127  
E-Mail: [FirstFriday@psjs.edu](mailto:FirstFriday@psjs.edu)

### 43rd Annual Lawn Party to benefit Seminarians

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston is hosting its 43rd Annual Lawn Party on Wednesday, September 25th, at 6:00 P.M., on the grounds of the seminary. This premiere fundraising event is hosted by His Eminence, Seán Cardinal O'Malley, OFM Cap. with Mary Anne and Dan Lagan as Chairpersons. The evening will include a reception and dinner with music. The proceeds from the Lawn Party help to keep tuition costs affordable. For ticket information, please call the Pope St. John XXIII Development Office at 781-899-5500, or visit <https://psjs.edu/lawn-party>. You can make a difference and encourage the vocations of these men through your support of the Lawn Party.



## PUZZLE

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

PLACE  
APOSTLES  
ALONE

GOING  
BOAT  
CROWD

SHEPHERD  
PEOPLE  
TEACHING

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | T | G | E | R | T | H | A | O | S | P |
| E | A | L | O | N | E | L | R | T | U | E |
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| E | S | V | R | T | I | G | T | H | Y | L |
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| N | L | U | G | T | B | U | T | S | R | M |
| T | E | A | C | H | I | N | G | Y | O | A |
| P | S | O | C | L | W | C | O | I | W | N |
| G | A | S | H | E | P | H | E | R | D | T |

## MISSION

Spend some alone time with Jesus tonight. If you get interrupted because someone else needs help, that's okay. Go help, and then come back to your alone time with Jesus again.



### Sharing the Gospel

Have you ever just wanted to be alone for a while? Jesus and his disciples knew what that felt like. They wanted to be alone to talk and rest, but crowds of people were surrounding them. Even when Jesus and his disciples tried to slip away unnoticed, people followed them anyway. They arrived only to find more crowds of people. This was certainly not the quiet time they had planned on. Being patient and kind, Jesus gave up what he wanted, and he began to teach the crowds.

### Prayer

Dear God, thank you that Jesus gave up what he wanted, just so he could help other people. Help me to follow his example. Amen.

### Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus surrounded by large crowds of people.

### Mission for the Week

Spend some alone time with Jesus tonight. If you get interrupted because someone else needs help, that's okay. Go help, and then come back to your alone time with Jesus again.