

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, July 6, 2024

5:30PM Daniel Crimmins Memorial

Sunday, July 7, 2024

9:00AM Marty Murphy 21st Anniv.

11:30AM Ann & Bill Weeden and Jack Cormier Memorial

Monday, July 8, 2024

7:00AM

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Wednesday, July 10, 2024

7:00AM

Thursday, July 11, 2024

7:00AM Kathleen Crimmins Spec. Intent.

Friday, July 12, 2024

7:00AM

Saturday, July 13, 2024

5:30PM Mary T. Sullivan Anniversary

Sunday, July 14, 2024

9:00AM James McCarthy 1st Anni

11:30AM Frances and Eileen Vitale 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!



Thomas Michael Coakley & Kayleigh Ann Clancy III

Mass Intentions

St. Clare

Saturday, July 6, 2024

8:00AM

4:00PM Dominic Marinilli 17th Anniv.

Sunday, July 7, 2024

7:45AM John & Chris Dryer 35th Anniv.

10:15AM Robert Murphy 1st Anniv.

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Saturday, July 13, 2024

8:00AM Mark Fitzsimmons Memorial

4:00PM Arlene McDonough 12th Anniv.

Sunday, July 14, 2024

7:45AM Elzie Rice Memorial

10:15AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

6:00PM Edwina Moscaritolo Memorial

The Bread & Wine for the week of July 6th through 12th were been donated in loving memory of Domenic Marinilli. The **Sanctuary light** will also burn in Domenic'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 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.



Last week, a group of 46 parishioners participated in a safety training program for the churches in our collaborative. The program is offered to all the parishes and schools in the Archdiocese. It focuses on best practices on how to keep churches secure and parishioners safe in the event of an intruder who wants to disrupt a Mass. Yes, it is sad that we even need to think this way, however, there have been many instances in houses of worship throughout the country where such attention is warranted. Participating in the program was our collaborative staff, ushers, collaborative council members and finance council members. Also, I invited parishioners I have met with a law enforcement background. The training was helpful and encouraging. From this meeting, we are putting together a safety committee that will be meeting over the coming months to do a full safety assessment of the two properties and then make recommendations for safety protocols for the parishes to implement. I will keep you apprised of developments.

I have volunteered our parishes to be part of a pilot program with the development office of the Archdiocese to use a prototype of a smartphone app to increase options for contributing to the collaborative. Fewer people carry cash these days and many people simply do not write checks. Since our offertory system is built on cash and checks we will be financially strained if there is not other ways to give. The collaborative offers an electronic offertory option through the website braintreecatholic.org. (I've been using it and can say it's quite simple!) A relatively small number of parishioners use the electronic option. If we could get more parishioners to enroll in this option there would be a handsome increase in our overall offertory. My hope with the app is to provide more options for people. The app should be ready to launch by the end of the summer at which time I would speak with parishioners about its value and encourage folks to consider giving electronically.

A warm and enthusiastic welcome to Mrs. Karen Lane who joins the collaborative staff this week as full-time Director of Faith Formation! Karen has been a long-time parishioner as well as teaching in St. Francis School for many years. Since the pandemic, she has been helping to coordinate the religious education classes and sacramental preparation for our children. What was apparent when I arrived last summer

was the urgent need to invest in the faith formation of our families. We needed someone who could do this in a full-time capacity. Karen's training in education, experience in the classroom, enthusiasm, concern for the formation of children and deep faith have been a genuine blessing for the collaborative. I am so happy that she has accepted the invitation to come on full time and look forward to working with her in this new capacity!

On the weekend of July 20/21 our parishes welcome Sr. Leonore Coan from the Sisters of Notre Dame who will be speaking at all the Masses that weekend on behalf of the Propagation of the Faith. Each year every parish in the archdiocese is asked to host a missionary who speaks about the work of the Church in other cultures. Sr. Leonore has long been involved with the Sisters of Notre Dame various projects in developing nations to build basic infrastructure.

It has been a year this week since Fr. Kevin and I have began here at St. Clare and St. Francis. And what a wonderful year it has been! I really feel at home here and am so grateful to the parishioners for the warm welcome and support during my surgery last October. Having been out of parish ministry for eleven years I am been deeply moved by people's encouragement and patience. I am grateful to God for the people I have met and am very excited for the year ahead and the grace-filled possibilities before us!

Fr. Bob



St. Francis of Assisi

Claire Fabrizio
Lorraine Palmer

St. Clare

Timothy Croke

Archdiocese of Boston

Fr. John "Jack" E. Schatzel

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.





From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

It wasn't easy being the priest, Ezekiel. Israel had forsaken the Covenant and turned away from the Lord. As punishment the Babylonians, under king Nebuchadnezzar, defeated Israel and had the royal family exiled to Babylon along with all the highfalutin' members of the upper class. Unfortunately for our hero Ezekiel, this meant him as well.

But Ezekiel was not like the others he still listened to God. He wasn't rebellious. He still kept the Covenant and God took notice. One day, while he was minding his own business, doing whatever exiled priests of the day would do, he started having visions – weird ones. He saw four living creatures. They had human form except they had four faces and four wings with hands beneath each wing. The faces were of a human, a lion, an ox, and an eagle. I think that a vision like this might cause all of us to question our sanity and rush off to find a good psychotherapist! Of course, then we'd have to tell the therapist that God spoke to us, and that we are now a prophet of the Most High. Cue the men in the white coats.

But none of this frightened Ezekiel. He knew how God worked. Visions weren't such a big deal back then. He wasn't even afraid when God told him the people wouldn't listen and that they were rebellious or that it would be dangerous. He went anyway.

Today's Gospel acclamation comes from Luke 4:18 but this quote by Jesus is what he had read from the prophet Isaiah.

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because He has anointed me; He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and release to prisoners; To announce a year of favor from the Lord and day of vindication by our God, to comfort all who mourn; To place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes; To give them oil of gladness in place of mourning; a glorious mantle instead of a listless spirit." (Is 61:1-3)

After Jesus had read this in the midst of the synagogue He looked out at the congregation and declared that He was the fulfillment of that prophecy. The people did not take kindly to that statement. In fact, they tried to toss Jesus off a cliff! If you say and do what God wants you to say and do, you're going to get some push back. Just as Ezekiel was warned some 750 or so years earlier.

I know that most of us don't remember this, because we were so young, but God called us too – at our baptisms. And he didn't call us to do anything less than what He called Ezekiel to do and what Jesus did.

At our baptism, the Holy Spirit came upon us; we were called to be witnesses to the Gospel; in Christ we share His ministry as prophet. With Him, we are beckoned to reach out to the poor, the broken hearted, the captive and bring comfort to the people. That's the easy part.

We are also mandated to go to those who are rebellious. Those who don't know Jesus or who don't want to know Him. We are sent to call out to the sinner and lead them to a life of holiness. And we should expect push back. That's the reward of every good prophet. Many of the prophets suffered hardships we won't even come close to – thank God. But how often do we cower, even within our own families and fail to bring the Good News even to those we love because of a little pushback.

We have become a timid people (not all, but many) and there is no need to be. How many times have we heard in sacred scripture that we shouldn't be afraid? It is one of the most often heard phrases in all of scripture. When we sing "Be Not Afraid" are we getting the message? When God asks, "Whom shall I send?" and we sing "Here I am Lord" do we mean it?

Let's start with a baby step. Try to invite just one person to come to Mass with you, someone who always sleeps in on Sunday morning and doesn't even think that there is something they should be doing on the Lord's Day. Be a bit of a nag and continue to invite them even when they say no thanks. That's being a baby prophet but gradually we can all grow up in our faith and in courage and be the powerhouse prophets we were meant to be – not afraid of anything!





July 7 - Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary

Time: In today's Gospel the people ask: "How is it such miraculous deeds are accomplished by his hands?" Because of your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

many "miraculous deeds" are accomplished for the poor.

This week put a gift in the St. Vincent de Paul blue envelope, knowing that through your kindness someone who is suffering will be touched by God in a miraculous way.

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.**



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.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: 14th Sunday In Ordinary

Time: Mark 6:1-6: "When the sabbath came Jesus began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished. They said, Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands?" God can and will give you wisdom and you will be able to do mighty deeds. Trust God. With the wisdom from God and prayer, you can enhance your couple relationship. Check out a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience today. It will enrich 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://wwwmema.org/>.



When the sabbath came he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands!" - Mk 6:2

Readings *of the Week*

Readings for the week of July 7, 2024

- Sunday:** Ez 2:2-5/Ps 123:1-2, 2, 3-4 (2cd)/
2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a
- Monday:** Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-3,
4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 9:18-26
- Tuesday:** Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6,
7ab-8, 9-10/Mt 9:32-38
- Wednesday:** Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5,
6-7/Mt 10:1-7
- Thursday:** Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b,
15-16/Mt 10:7-15
- Friday:** Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14
and 17/Mt 10:16-23
- Saturday:** Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/
Mt 10:24-33
- Next Sunday:** Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14
(8)/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk 6:7-13



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

July 7~ Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We hear in the readings today that people were not open to the words and works of those who were prophets, and that included even Jesus. God describes the people Ezekial is being sent to as “people with obstinate hearts.” In the gospel, Jesus is being rejected because he was a carpenter and the “son of Mary.” Nonetheless, Ezekial and Jesus continued to follow the word God spoke to them, not giving up on their mission. We may be tempted to think we’re not up to the task of being a disciple or think ourselves unworthy of the call or perhaps even realize that the person with an obstinate heart is ourselves! Resist those temptations and remember instead, our baptism gives us the grace to be Christ’s presence and to witness to his saving grace.

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.

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 for more information or call Emily Elliott in Family Life at 617-746-5756.



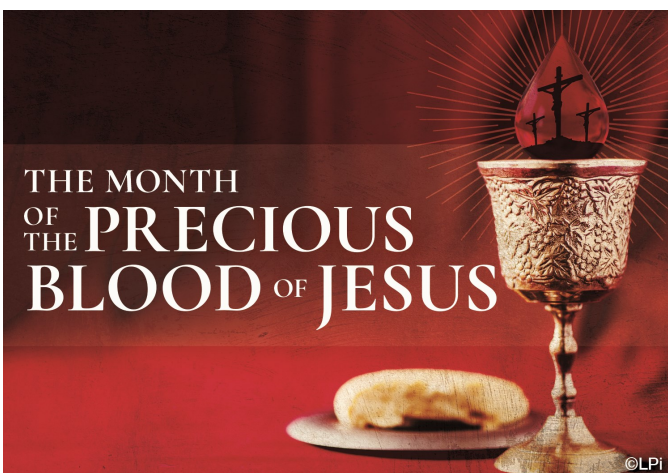
July 7, 2024 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Recently I watched a bunch of YouTube videos on how to optimize willpower in the face of weakness. The message was: do not accept your weakness. Crush it. Dominate it. In one video, however, at the end of a rant by a willpower coach, the muscular stoic admitted, “You’ll never actually get what you want, no matter how hard you try.” Amazingly, he admitted that willpower alone is not sufficient for us weak-willed humans.

What does God want us to do with our weaknesses, if crushing them with willpower won’t work? For example, what should I do with my tendency to arrogance and self-isolation? Or my procrastination? Or my intellectual and physical limitations? Or my selfishness?

The counter-intuitive answer is clear in this week’s words from St Paul, “**I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses in order that the power of Christ may dwell in me** (2 Cor. 12:9).” Boast of our weaknesses? Paul isn’t promoting weak-mindedness or laziness. Rather, he perceives that Jesus loves us not despite our weaknesses but because of them. Boasting of our weakness means claiming human will is not all we have. It means turning to God whenever we feel weak, which—let’s face it—is almost all the time. When we do, we learn to love our weaknesses, because it’s there that we meet the strength of Christ. This week, I challenge us to find ways to boast not in willpower but in weakness.

— Father John Muir ©LPI



Kids Corner



PUZZLE

Unscramble words from today's Gospel reading:

Jesus
taught
wisdom

power
miracle
town

prophet
heal
faith

Jesus	<u>J</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>u</u>	<u>s</u>
pwero	—	—	—	—	—
phetrop	—	—	—	—	—
fathi	—	—	—	—	—
tnow	—	—	—	—	—
wisomd	—	—	—	—	—
taghtu	—	—	—	—	—
mirclea	—	—	—	—	—
hale	—	—	—	—	—



MISSION

Read today's Gospel with your family. Talk about ways that people sometimes turn Jesus away. Pray together, asking God to keep you close to Jesus.



BECAUSE VIBRANT
CHURCHES MATTER

Sharing the Gospel

Have you ever felt left out? Jesus did. In today's Gospel, Jesus visited his relatives and old friends. These were the people he grew up with, the people who knew him the best. All of a sudden Jesus was not acting like he used to. They heard that Jesus was healing people, raising people from the dead, and telling evil spirits to leave. Jesus was even teaching about God's kingdom, like he really knew what he was talking about! Well, Jesus' old friends and neighbors did not like it one bit. How sad for them. God's own Son wanted to help them, but they didn't want it.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to listen to you and to accept the help that you want to give me. Amen.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus visiting his old friends.

Mission for the Week

Read today's Gospel with your family. Talk about ways that people sometimes turn Jesus away. Pray together, asking God to keep you close to Jesus.



Scenes from the Braintree 4th of July Parade

