

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, Director of Religious Education
Ms. Patty Kinnally, Office Manager
Mr. Kevin Mercier, Business Manager
Ms. Dorothy Hughes, Receptionist
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, August 10, 2024

5:30PM Nancy and Pamela Gorman Anniversary

Sunday, August 11, 2024

9:00AM Francis H. Nehiley, Jr. 19th Anniv.

11:30AM Nora O'Sullivan Memorial

Monday, August 12, 2024

7:00AM Joseph Sheehan Memorial

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

7:00AM Sheila Timulty and Jesse Nowak Memorial

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Thursday, August 15, 2024

7:00AM

12:10PM Ann & Bill Weeden and Jack Cormier Memorial

5:30PM Sheila Connelly 1st Anniv.

Friday, August 16, 2024

7:00AM

Saturday, August 17, 2024

5:30PM Anne O'Brien 4th Anniv.
Hazel Hardigan 4th Anniv.
Denis O'Brien 5th Anniv.

Sunday, August 18, 2024

9:00AM Anna, Mario & James Berardinelli Memorial

11:30AM Andrew and Mary Mann 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!



Mass Intentions

St. Clare

Saturday, August 10, 2024

8:00AM Luke Conboy Memorial

4:00PM Sheila Timulty Memorial

Sunday, August 11, 2024

7:45AM St. Clare

10:15AM Pauline & Edward Powers Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

4:00PM

Thursday, August 15, 2024

9:00AM

Saturday, August 17, 2024

8:00AM

4:00PM Gordon Thomas Smith Memorial

Sunday, August 18, 2024

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM Carmela Barone 3rd Anniv.

6:00PM Thomas McDonagh 10th Anniv.
McDonagh Family Memorial

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.
- **AI-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.



WELCOME ARCHBISHOP HENNING!

As you well know by now, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has appointed Archbishop Richard Henning as the tenth bishop (7th archbishop) of Boston. This is an exciting time for the Catholic Church in the Boston Archdiocese! Cardinal Sean has been with us as Archbishop for 21 years. In that time he has led us through an incredibly painful period of clergy sexual abuse and then the reorganization of parishes in the aftermath. Archbishop Henning is currently the bishop of Providence. Originally from Long Island, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1992 for the Diocese of Rockville Center (New York). He has only been bishop of Providence for a little more than a year. He will take over as Archbishop on October 31 at what will no doubt be a grand celebration at the cathedral. Cardinal Sean will retire and will continue to live in Boston, though will likely spend much of his time in Washington DC which is where his Capuchin community lives just beyond the campus of Catholic University.

The Bread of Life Discourse continues in today's Gospel. Again, there have been several verses omitted between last week's reading and this week's. In those verses Jesus is explaining that He came down from Heaven to do His Father's will which, simply stated, is that He should raise up everyone on the last day. Today's Gospel reading picks up with "The Jews murmured about Jesus because He said "I am the bread that came down from heaven". Murmuring is a biblical motif for complaining or dissatisfaction. It is used here much in the way it was used in the Book of Exodus when the Israelites complained to Moses about being hungry while making their way to the promised land. In using the word "murmur" St. John wants to draw a connection between the two scenarios thus emphasizing that the Bread of Life ultimately amounts

to making our way to the Promised Land or what John calls eternal life.

Thursday is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Mother. As some of our parishioners will recall, in 1950 Pope Pius XII solemnly declared:

We pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory.

The recognition and celebration of this uniquely grace-filled event underscores our profession that Mary is the Mother of God. This is important as it proclaims that Jesus is fully God and fully human. In the early Church there was great debate as to the nature of Christ: was he half God, half human? Or was he God who merely appeared to be human or a human who was adopted by God to be His Son? One of the ways in which the Church came to clarity on such questions was by recognizing the vocation of Mary of Nazareth. Her Assumption into Heaven at the end of her natural life teaches us the power of Christ's Resurrection: namely, that we are to share in His glorified life. Mary, because she was without any sin, was allowed to share in her Son's glorified life at the moment of her death. So that mystery may be deepened in our hearts, the Church puts upon the obligation to participate in Eucharist that day. The Mass schedule is elsewhere in this bulletin.



Today, August 11, the Church celebrates the feast of one of our beloved patrons, **Saint Clare**. Technically, because August 11 falls on a Sunday this year, the feast is suppressed. However, in Churches named for her the feast is kept. So, at all the Masses celebrated at St. Clare Church today, St. Clare shall be remembered and honored. The parish picnic on September 22 will provide the occasion to celebrate both our patron saints as the date falls between the Feast of St. Clare on August 11 and Feast of St. Francis on October 4.

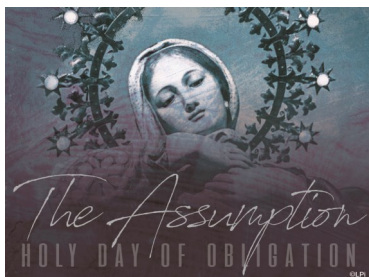
Chiara Offreduccio (the saint's baptismal name) was born on July 16, 1194 in Assisi. She was drawn to the teaching of the young friar Francis who was teaching a radical way of life. She embraced this lifestyle and eventually had other young women join her. They formed a convent and took on the practice of strict poverty. St. Clare wrote a "rule of life", the first monastic rule written by a woman. In March of 1212, she made a very public display of cutting her hair to indicate that she had given herself totally in obedience to God. She died on August 11, 1253.

AUGUST 11, 2024

Welcome to Cecil O'Brien!

I am pleased to tell you that we have hired Mr. Cecil O'Brien as the new facilities/security manager for the collaborative. As you well know, Bob Muldoon retired at the beginning of the summer after taking such good care of us for many years. Cecil (pronounced sess' el) has a contracting background and had his own business for many years. Clearly he is very knowledgeable about the inner workings of building maintenance and the like. Originally from Galway, Ireland, Cecil lives with his family in Wrentham. I look forward to working with him!

Fr. Bob



Thursday, August 15 is The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass schedule for the collaborative of St. Francis /St. Clare of Assisi is:

St. Francis of Assisi

Thursday, Thursday, August 15 7:00AM, 12:10 and 5:30PM

St. Clare

Wednesday, August 14 Vigil 4:00PM
Thursday, August 15 9AM



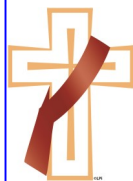
St. Clare
Ruth Spellman

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.



Silver Rose Program– The Braintree Knights of Columbus will pray the Rosary at Saint Francis of Assisi parish on Wednesday August 14th in the lower church hall at 6:30PM.

The Silver Rose program is a rosary centered occasion promoting the dignity of all human life and honors Our Lady of Guadalupe. We on the schedule to have the Silver Rose on this date as it travels through Massachusetts and then on to the next state. All are welcome to attend.



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

Have you ever thought of just giving up? You're tired, worn out, depressed and the sky is falling. I've been there myself and this is how Elijah felt sitting under that broom tree. He was worn and weary. He had a price on his head and was being pursued by those who wanted him dead. He fled into the wilderness and raised the white flag. He was giving up and he asked the Lord to take his life. The poor guy was out of gas. He laid down and prayed that God would take him in his sleep. It was better than being tortured by his enemies.

But God had other plans. The battle wasn't finished. The pagan gods and those who bowed to them had to be excised from Israel. Enter the angel, who gave him food for his long journey; one that, of course, would lead to victory for God. This food given by the angel made him strong enough and gave him the energy to complete the task at hand.

Here's the thing. We can either sit under a broom tree and wait to die like Elijah or we can call upon the Lord to help us live (even when the going gets tough).

God provides. He always does, even when it doesn't look that way. Scripture is full of laments about how bad things are going. But they always end in hope. One of my favorite passages from Morning prayer comes from the prophet Habakkuk. It's one of those "woe is me" episodes where he complains to God about all that is wrong with the world. But then in a moment of grace we hear this:

For though the fig blossom not,
and no fruit appears on the vine,

Though the yield of the olive fails
and the terraces produce no nourishment,

Though the flocks disappear from the fold
and there is no herd in the stalls,

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD
and exult in my saving God.

GOD, my Lord, is my strength. (Hab 3:17-19)

There is always hope.

I knew a woman who was diagnosed with a terminal illness. She had always been a half-empty glass kind of person but when she got the news of her illness she acted as though the glass was completely empty. She lived as though she had already died. She lived three more years, relatively

healthy until the very end. But she spent those three years under a dark cloud, never seeing any of the sunshine that came her way.

Contrast that with a friend I had years ago, he had cancer from childhood. He knew it wouldn't end well. But that kid never complained, and always lived his life to the fullest. He went to parties, camping trips, and retreats. He enjoyed every minute of his life. He lived every day until he died at 21. He was an inspiration.

What caused the difference in attitude between these two people who were both facing the end of their days? My friend with cancer had great faith and the woman did not. He went to Mass, Confession and Communion regularly while she stayed home. I'm sure he had his bad days, we all do, but he knew that those days were temporary; that life itself is temporary. It was a wisdom he obtained from God only through the adversity of his cancer. "Teach us O Lord to count our days, that we may have wisdom of heart." (Ps 90:12)

Like Elijah, the Lord feeds us as he did my young friend, not with hearth cakes and water but with the Bread come down from Heaven and the Cup of Salvation, the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Himself. This is the true food for our journeys. It's the Bread that gives us life, sustains us in hard times, gives us hope and joy and a sharing in the divine life of Christ so that we can go into the world to bring others to the mercy of God and to the hope of eternal life.

The Bread we eat every Sunday is no junk food. It's the best food; the most nourishing food and the cause of our delight. Regardless of what else is going on in our lives, even if it seems like the end of the world – it isn't. We can take the words of Habakkuk when all seems lost and use it as our own prayer:

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD
and exult in my saving God.

Where there is life there is hope. And where there is the Bread of Life there is perfect hope.



August 11 - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In this Gospel the love that Jesus reveals through the symbol of the cross is: self-giving, sacrificial, healing, forgiving, in solidarity with the weak, confident in the power of God.

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is next weekend, August 17—18. 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 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.**



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.



Join us for a Special Evening as we Celebrate what God has done, and how Faithful He has been to this Life-giving Ministry over the past 40 Years!

Thursday Evening, September 12, 2024—5:00 pm. Mass Celebration at St. Mary's

Church, 115 Crescent St., Quincy MA

Followed by Cocktails (cash bar) & Dinner Celebration at 6:00 pm., Granite Links Grand Ballroom, 100 Quarry Hills Drive, Quincy MA



Purchase Dinner Tickets at
ticketstripe.com/Friends40thAnniversary
RSVP by August 22, 2024



"I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; this is the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die." - Jn 6:48-50

Readings of the Week ©LPI

Readings for the week of August 11, 2024

- Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (9a)/Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-51
- Monday: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Mt 17:22-27
- Tuesday: Ez 2:8—3:4/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
- Wednesday: Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 18:15-20
- Thursday: *Vigil:* 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14/1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28
Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56
- Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Mt 19:3-12
- Saturday: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mt 19:13-15
- Next Sunday: Prv 9:1-6/Ps 34:2-3, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (9a)/Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58



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*

August 11 ~ Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Elijah was ready to give up, "This is enough O Lord. Take my life...", but God would hear none of it: "Get up and eat..." Our Gospel gives us the beautiful Bread of Life discourse, in which Jesus reminds us again that He is the Bread of Life and that "...whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." Do you hear some hints of last week's Gospel? When we are tempted to give up or stop trying to imitate Jesus, due of frustration, or discouragement, or the disapproval of others, remember that Jesus is here in the community and most importantly in the Eucharist, each week, waiting to feed us with himself, the Bread of Life. As God did with Elijah, He also invites us to "Get up and eat!"

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.



Catholic Night is returning to Fenway Park! Please see the link below for information on obtaining tickets.

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Catholicnight2>



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

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.



**PRAY FOR
VOCATIONS**



PUZZLE

Find and circle eight things that are different.



MISSION

The Hebrews often baked manna into little cakes. Ask your parents if you can make pancakes this weekend, and talk about how Jesus is like manna.



Sharing the Gospel

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus compared himself to manna. A long time ago God's people ate manna in the desert, because there was no other food to eat.

By sending manna falling from the sky every morning, God taught his people to trust him. Manna tasted good, and it kept them healthy. God took care of them and gave them all they needed. Then, hundreds of years later, God sent Jesus down from heaven, so people could have everlasting life with him.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus down from heaven so that we can look forward to living with you forever in heaven. Amen.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of manna falling out of the sky.

Mission for the Week

The Hebrews often baked manna into little cakes. Ask your parents if you can make pancakes this weekend, and talk about how Jesus is like manna.