

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
Deacon Patrick Bruen, Seminarian Intern
Mrs. Karen Lane, Director of Religious Education
Ms. Patty Kinnally, Office Manager
Mr. Kevin Mercier, Business Manager
Mr. Cecil O'Brien—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, September 28, 2024

5:30PM Patrick Doherty 14th Anniv.

Sunday, September 29, 2024

9:00AM Patricia Allen & Jim Lannon 1st Anniv.

11:30AM Ellen White Anniversary

Monday, September 30, 2024

7:00AM

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

7:00AM Anna & William Polin Memorial

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

7:00AM Daniel Crimmins Memorial

Thursday, October 3, 2024

7:00AM

Friday, October 4, 2024

7:00AM Mary L. Hamel Memorial

Saturday, October 5, 2024

5:30PM Paul O'Reilly and Joseph & Anna Dunlea Memorial

Sunday, October 6, 2024

9:00AM Robert & Alice Kelley Memorial

11:30AM Edward, Barbara & Paul Murray Memorial and Kevin McLean

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, September 28, 2024

8:00AM Eland Poore Memorial

4:00PM Josephine Kokoros Morgan 1st Anniv.

Sunday, September 29, 2024

7:45AM Marie Reis Memorial

10:15AM Francesco Boncaldo Memorial

6:00PM Parishioner of the Collaborative

Saturday, October 5, 2024

8:00AM

4:00PM Rees J. Irvine 2nd Anniv.

Sunday, October 6, 2024

7:45AM

10:15AM William Crossen Memorial

6:00PM



- **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.





With the installation of our new archbishop just five weeks away, I thought I might use this bulletin column to highlight the beautiful and historical rituals by which this happens. Between now and then I will look at one aspect of the installation ceremony each week. First of all, context is needed. Our current archbishop, **Cardinal Sean O'Malley** has submitted his resignation and it was accepted by Pope Francis. Every bishop is required by Church law to submit his resignation to the Pope upon his 75th birthday. Cardinal Sean did this in 2019. As he tells the story, he was with the Pope for meetings on his 75th birthday and personally handed to him his resignation as Archbishop of Boston. Pope Francis handed the envelope right back to the Cardinal and said to hold onto for the time being. The Pope himself decides whether to accept the resignation and bases his decision on the bishop's health, willingness, state of the diocese, etc.

On August 5, Pope Francis accepted the Cardinal's letter of resignation from five years ago and at the same time named **Bishop Richard Henning** of Providence as the next archbishop of Boston. In making this appointment the Pope also asked Cardinal Sean to remain as the head of the Archdiocese until the time of the new Archbishop's installation, which will take place at a Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross on October 31. Halloween may seem an odd date for such an event however there are many schedules that need to be coordinated. Many of the bishops around the world, including Cardinal Sean, will be participating in part II of the Pope's Synod during much of October.

Once the Pope accepts the resignation of a bishop (or when a bishop dies) his diocese is considered "vacant". The technical term is *sede vacante*. The Pope himself makes the appointment of a bishop to a diocese. This is a very important detail in understanding how the Church is structured. As you recall from the Gospels, Jesus declared the Apostle Peter as the rock on which he would build his Church. After the Resurrection, Peter was looked to by the others as the leader of the community of believers and deferred to his authority. Peter eventually made his way to Rome where he was martyred through crucifixion (upside down). Upon his death, Peter was succeeded by a man named Linus who continued in Peter's ministry. He too was

martyred. Following Linus was Cletus. Cletus was followed by Clement. This continuity continues today in the person of Pope Francis who is the 265th successor to Peter. Like Peter, each of the other Apostles had successors who continued in their respective ministry. The bishops of the Church today are considered the successors of the Apostles. The fact that the successor of Peter is the one, and only one, who appoints the bishops all over the world is intended to demonstrate the unity of the Church. We are not a collection of ecclesial communities but rather one Church with Christ as the head. Among his many titles is the Vicar of Christ, which simply means he acts in the name of Christ on Earth. The idea that the Pope appoints all bishops also shows the relationship between bishops and their respective dioceses.

There are over 3000 bishops around the world. Of course the Pope cannot know all of them individually. He relies on his "nuncios" in each country. The Papal Nuncio to the United States is Cardinal Christophe Pierre. He lives and works at the nunciature in Washington, DC. From the diplomatic perspective, he serves as the ambassador for the Holy See to the United States. From the Church's perspective he is the Pope's liaison to all the bishops of the US. He is the one who would oversee the process of finding the right priest or bishop to fill a diocesan vacancy. This happens by soliciting names from priests and bishops, inquiring among people who would know a candidate, surfacing names from other bishops in a geographical area. He then submits names to the Congregation of Bishops at the Vatican who discusses and vets suggested names. The members of the congregation then submit recommendations to the Pope in order of preference. The Pope considers their recommendations then makes a choice: one of those nominated or someone else altogether. No one except the Pope and perhaps his closest advisors know the minutia details as to why one particular bishop was chosen.

When the Pope has made a decision, he notifies the congregation, who in turn, notifies the nuncio. It falls to him to call the bishop the Pope has chosen to inform him. (He would need a very good reason to say no to the Pope!) The nuncio then calls the bishop (or administrator) of the diocese which is vacant to inform him. There is then a discussion between the nuncio, retiring bishop and new bishop as to when and how the announcement is to be made as well as a date for the installation.

If any this is of interest to you, I am offering a presentation/discussion tomorrow (Monday) night on how the Church is structured. It will be at St. Francis Church hall 7:00-8:30. We will cover the above in more detail, as well as look at how the institution of the Church is organized and look at such topics as the difference between a bishop,

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

archbishop and cardinal.

What a great time we had last Sunday at the Collaborative Picnic! I am very pleased that so many parishioners were able to come. My thanks to everyone who worked to make it happen: Lisa Berardinelli, Karen Whitney, Karen Lane, Kim Kelley, Jen Walsh, Kathy Whalen-Giannandrea, Dawn DiMartino, Kate Waldron, Clare Burns, Sue Kelly, Patrick Hubbard, Cecil O'Brien, and Marta Fasano,

I am happy to welcome to the collaborative two seminarians who have been assigned here as part of their pastoral formation: Liam Warner, for the Archdiocese of Boston, and Adam Habershaw, Diocese of Providence. They are both in their first year of theology (third year for Liam and fifth year for Adam). They will be assisting in the confirmation program on Sunday evenings. They bring an enthusiasm of the faith which our confirmation candidates will find inspiring.

Fr. Bob



Braintree Collaborative Bereavement Group

Are you grieving the loss of someone close to you? If you are interested in talking about it, supporting others in their grief and being supported in yours, we are planning to meet every Saturday at 10:30 at St. Francis. This hour-long meeting will help you bring your suffering to the Lord and get to know others who are going through something similar.

Begins October 12th at St. Francis and will be weekly at 10:30 am.

No sign-up, no commitment, just come and find comfort.

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:7)



St. Francis of Assisi

Eileen Coleman

Jean Seferian

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.



Religious Education News

Week 1 is going great! The classes are discussing what prayer is and reviewing the "5 Finger Prayer". The groups are working on writing a RE mission statement that we will post in the St. Clare Church Hall and use to guide our Faith journey!

***Note to parents of grade 7&8 confirmation students:** We are going to push the start time of the Tuesday and Thursday classes to 5:15. This will allow for a smoother transition between the K-6 classes and the confirmation classes.

The Braintree Catholic Collaborative First Annual Picnic was a huge success! Many thanks to all the sponsors and volunteers who made it such a special event. There was delicious food by Fasano's Catering and wonderful fellowship -- what a marvelous way to bring our collaborative parishes together! The raffle prizes were terrific and Father Bob and Father Kevin even gave some extra prizes for answering trivia questions. The Braintree Fire Department brought a truck for people to learn about and explore. There were games and craft activities for kids of all ages! Finally, the gazebo displayed a beautiful shrine to our Patron Saints Clare and Francis of Assisi. Thank you to all who attended -- we look forward to planning the Second Annual Picnic for next year!





The Annual Blessing of the Animals in honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi will take place **Next Sunday**, October 6 at **1:00PM** at **BOTH St. Clare AND St. Francis**. Owners, pets, and pet-lovers are welcome to attend. In the interest of safety for all please keep your pets restrained or contained.

Bible Study

Our weekly Bible Study Meets on Saturdays at 9:00AM in St. Francis of Assisi church hall. We study the Gospel of Luke and then the Acts of the Apostles.

Please bring a bible and a pen or pencil.



CHOIR:

The Collaborative Choir practices Thursdays from 6:30-8:00PM in the choir loft at Saint Clare. As always we welcome

new members to the choir. We especially need a few new men. Don't be shy and remember singing is praying twice!

September 29 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In today's gospel Jesus tells his disciples: "Anyone who gives you a drink of water because you belong to Christ will not, I assure you, go without his reward." On September 27, the Church will celebrate the feast of St. Vincent de Paul. The members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are on the front line in laboring for the poor, they are among the first to know their real needs. **This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist families, providing food, and financial assistance for utility, rent and other bills. God Bless 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.**



Today is Priesthood Sunday. Please keep Fr. Bob, Fr. Kevin and Msgr. Oliver in your prayers. We thank them for their dedication to the Church and for all that they do for our collaborative.

If you interested in a quick and easy way to sign up for online giving for offertory, Grand Annual, Religious Education Tuition, etc. simply scan one the QR Codes below and it will direct you to the site. If you need assistance please call the office at 781-843-1332.





At that time, John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me." - Mk 9:38-39

Readings of the Week

Readings for the week of September 29, 2024

Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 (9a)/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
 Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50
 Tuesday: Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23/Ps 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8/Lk 9:51-56
 Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/Mt 18:1-5, 10
 Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/Lk 10:1-12
 Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Lk 10:13-16
 Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24
 Next Sunday: Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (see 5)/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12



October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Please join us Mondays, October 7, 14, 21, and 28 as we pray the Scriptural Rosary and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at 6:45PM in St. Francis of Assisi Church.



*From the
Archdiocese
of Boston*

September 29 ~ Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel is a lesson in tolerance, and one that many of us need to learn. We hear the apostle John wanting to silence someone who is not "one of us." Jesus reminds the disciples that every act of faith or kindness, even something as small as offering a simple cup of water to someone will be rewarded, when it is done in the name of Christ. Today, Jesus invites us to examine our actions and motives, and to "cut out" or stop whatever may lead us away from following Christ and to ask ourselves whether we are living up to what we profess as Christians. So we pray - lead us, oh God in the way of your truth.

Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats (9/28, 11/16) - Are you – or someone you know – seeking peace after an abortion? The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women experiencing regret from a past abortion to attend a *Come to the Waters of Healing* one-day retreat (9 am – 5 pm). Fall date Saturday, November 16. Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

CURSILLO - An Opportunity to Deepen Your Faith Men's and Women's Weekends. Cursillo is a short course in Christianity. It is an encounter with Christ in a small community of the Church, in order to deepen your own faith and strengthen your ability to be witnesses of Christ in the world.

The dates for the weekends are:

Women's Weekend: October 31 - November 3, 2024

Men's Weekend: December 5 - 8, 2024

The weekends run from Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon and are held at the Notre Dame Spirituality Center in Ipswich, MA. For information and registration, please check the Boston Cursillo website: www.bostoncursillo.org or email at bostoncursillo@gmail.com.

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass - 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.



PUZZLE

Find 10 differences.



MISSION

Pray for missionaries around the world who teach others about Jesus.



Sharing the Gospel

The disciples started to feel proud because they thought they were the "in" group of friends of Jesus. One day they saw a complete stranger working powerful miracles in the name of Jesus. The disciples told the stranger to stop because he was not part of their special group. The disciples should have encouraged him instead.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to work side-by-side with other people who love Jesus, no matter who they are.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself helping another Christian who does not belong to your church.

Mission for the Week

Pray for missionaries around the world who teach others about Jesus.

Upcoming EVENTS

St. Sebastian School Open House

Serving Boys Grade 7-12

Thursday, October 3, 2024 at 1191 Greendale Avenue, Needham, MA. To learn more and register go to stsebs.org/ visit..

Cardinal Spellman Open House

Thursday, October 24th, 6PM at 738 Court Street, Brockton, MA. To register or learn more visit Spellman.com/admission

Xaverian Brother High School Open House

Serving Boys Grades 7 through 12

Sunday, October 27, 9AM-12PM at 800 Clapboard Street, Westwood, MA. For information call 781-801-1633 or visit the website www.xbhs.com.

Discernment 101

Saturday morning talks, prayer, and community to explore God's will for your life

For single Catholic women ages 16-33 • 10:30-12:00 Eastern Time

SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
28	26	23	21
Embracing a Rhythm of Prayer (for the Long Haul)	Trusting God in an Age of Anxiety	Intro to Discernment of Spirits	Why Consecrated Life?

[Register](#) [Join us on Zoom at connect.pauline.org/discernment-101](https://connect.pauline.org/discernment-101)



WITH JOYFUL HEARTS,
WE WELCOME OUR
NEWLY BAPTIZED.

St. Clare

Callum Scott McNeil

Mark David Regan

Cole Nelson Woods