

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, 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

Monday, October 7, 2024

7:00AM Kathleen Crimmins Healing

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

7:00AM Memorial

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

7:00AM

Thursday, October 10, 2024

7:00AM Colleen Whalen Brennan Memorial

Friday, October 11, 2024

7:00AM James J. Whalen Memorial

Saturday, October 12, 2024

5:30PM John Hill Anniversary

Sunday, October 13, 2024

9:00AM Julia Folan Downing and
Mark & Mary Folan Memorial

11:30AM Harold Hamilton & Suzanne Kent 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, October 5, 2024

8:00AM

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

Sunday, October 6, 2024

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM William Crossen Memorial

6:00PM

Saturday, October 12, 2024

8:00AM

4:00PM Mary E. Cahill 4th Anniv.

Sunday, October 13, 2024

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM Patricia A. Barry 1st Anniv.

6:00PM Paul & Regina Santoro, Robert, Christine, Mary & Patrick Gannon, Regina Verone and Garth & Jean Finney Memorial



- **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.



This week, I am continuing with an overview of the **installation ceremony and liturgy for Archbishop Richard Henning**. On the appointed date and time, which is October 31st at 2:00PM, Archbishop Henning is to present himself at the front door of the mother Church of the Archdiocese, Holy Cross Cathedral on Washington Street in Boston's South End. Surrounded by his priests and deacons, he will knock on the front door asking to be let in. Cardinal Sean and Cardinal Pierre, the Pope's ambassador to the United States, will be inside the cathedral and will open the door. The new archbishop will walk in and will be met by the rector of the cathedral, Msgr. Kevin O'Leary, who will present him with a crucifix. The crucifix will be the one hanging in the Blessed Sacrament chapel of the cathedral and has a relic of the actual cross on which Christ was crucified. As the story goes, it was given to the underground Catholic community in Boston in the late 18th century by a priest who claimed he was sent by the pope to support them in their faith, as Catholicism was banned in Massachusetts. Since they had the relic, when it came time to build a Church some years later it was appropriately named Holy Cross. In 1808 when Boston was designated as a diocese in its own right and given a bishop, the cathedral was subsequently called Holy Cross, which it is to this day.

The new archbishop will reverence the crucifix then be handed an aspergillum (holy water sprinkler) which he will use to bless the people with holy water recalling their baptism. It's worth noting that as the new leader of the archdiocese takes possession of the archdiocese, his first act is to remind us that we are brothers and sisters of Christ by virtue of our baptism.

After this ritual the solemn procession begins. It is estimated that given the large number of bishops, priests and deacons, as well as ecumenical representatives from other Christian communities, it will take Archbishop Henning about 30 minutes to make his way to the altar. More on the installation next week.

By now, or in the next day or so, all registered members of both parishes will have received my letter asking for your participation in the **Grand Annual Collection**. This is an extremely important endeavor and I humbly ask that you give it serious consideration. I am grateful for the many ways in which parishioners support the parishes. This

request is important as over recent years we have come to rely greatly on this collection for our financial stability.

In honor of **St Francis**, whose feast day was on Friday (October 4th), we will hold the **Blessing of Animals** at both Churches beginning at 1:00. If you have pets, bring them for a blessing! Having done this for many years I am always intrigued what kind of animals come for the blessing. The most intriguing was a llama!

The **Collaborative Council** will be meeting later in the week. I rely greatly on this group of parishioners from both parishes to help me think through the many questions and issues that face us as a faith community. What a blessing they are! On this agenda for this week's meeting is a follow up conversation on what to do with the school building. Hopefully there will be some proposals that come from their great ideas. Also we will receive an update on the start of religious education classes and the safety and security assessment on both properties.

Never one to rush the seasons, I am mindful that it won't be long before we start planning for Christmas. Are there any parishioners who enjoy decorating and would like to **help decorate** one of the Churches for Christmas??? Please let me know.

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)

OCTOBER 6, 2024



*From
Deacon Joe MacDonald*

Everyone knows that the Pharisees were opposed to Jesus. They considered Him a heretic and a false teacher who was leading the people astray. Jesus also exposed their hypocrisy and threatened their power over the people. They wanted Him eliminated, gone, dead, but they were afraid of the crowds because Jesus had become very popular. Mark's Gospel today begins with verse 2 of Chapter 10 but what is found in the first verse is important to the context of the Pharisees' attempt to trap Jesus.

So, what is found in that first verse?

"He set out from there and went into the district of Judea [and] across the Jordan." (Mk 10:1)

Jesus had entered Judea, the territory that was governed by Herod. Herod already had the Baptist imprisoned and eventually beheaded because John opposed Herod's unlawful marriage to Herodias. If only the Pharisees could trick Jesus into saying something that would sound like He also opposed Herod's marriage it might cause Herod to arrest Jesus and do their dirty work for them.

So, when they ask Jesus about divorce Jesus answers their question with a question. "What did Moses say?" That Pharisees responded that Moses permitted divorce calling to mind this scripture:

"When a man, after marrying a woman, is later displeased with her because he finds in her something indecent, and he writes out a bill of divorce and hands it to her, thus dismissing her from his house." (Deuteronomy 24:1)

We can note here that divorce was not allowed for any reason but only for something considered indecent. There were limits. Jesus then explained that this was not what God intended from the beginning and He comes up with a Scripture of His own. Remember that Jesus also used Scripture against the Devil when He was tempted in the desert.

"God created mankind in his image; in the image of God, he created them; male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:27)"

And

"That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body." (Genesis 2:24)

And with this Jesus repeals the old Mosaic Law and restores God's original intent, "Therefore what God has joined together

no human being must separate." God created marriage!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes marriage this way:

"The intimate community of life and love which constitutes the married state has been established by the Creator and endowed by him with its own proper laws.... God himself is the author of marriage." The vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator. Marriage is not a purely human institution despite the many variations it may have undergone through the centuries in different cultures, social structures, and spiritual attitudes. These differences should not cause us to forget its common and permanent characteristics. Although the dignity of this institution is not transparent everywhere with the same clarity, some sense of the greatness of the matrimonial union exists in all cultures. "The well-being of the individual person and of both human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life." (CCC 1603)

Jesus has avoided falling into the trap. He delivered the truth about marriage while avoiding Herod's attention. Someone should have sent the Pharisees a memo: "Don't try to win a debate with Jesus. You're going to lose."

Back "in the house" the disciples also began to ask questions. Jesus, now in a position to speak more freely, speaks bluntly to them. "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." Hence, divorce and remarriage are prohibited in the New Covenant.

This of course leads to much anxiety for committed Catholics in today's society. The Church wants to be clear that some situations are so untenable that civil divorce might be the only solution.

"The separation of spouses while maintaining the marriage bond can be legitimate in certain cases provided for by canon law. If civil divorce remains the only possible way of ensuring certain legal rights, the care of the children, or the protection of inheritance, it can be tolerated and does not constitute a moral offense." (CCC 2283)

And

"It can happen that one of the spouses is the innocent victim of a divorce decreed by civil law; this spouse therefore has not contravened the moral law. There is a considerable difference between a spouse who has sincerely tried to be faithful to the sacrament of marriage and is unjustly abandoned, and one who through his own grave fault destroys a canonically valid marriage." (CCC 2386)

We must be clear that civil divorce in itself does not necessarily constitute a sin. Divorced Catholics, contrary to what many believe are free to receive Holy Communion. They are not excommunicated. They remain in good standing as long as they do not remarry (without a declaration of nullity.)

If you are divorced or considering divorce and want to continue to follow Christ and His Church, this might be a troubling time for you. We encourage you to take the time to meet with a priest or deacon who can guide you through the spiritual struggles that come with the trauma of divorce. And who, if you wish, can guide and counsel you through the annulment process. As Scripture has told us many times "do not be afraid." We are not here to judge but to heal.

Bible Study

Our Bible Study has resumed. This fall we are studying the Gospel of Luke. We covered chapter 1 last week. This week we will look at chapters 2-3. All are welcome even if you can't make it every week we're glad to have you.



CHOIR:

The collaborative Choir rehearses weekly every Thursday evening from 6:30 - 8:00. Through the last week of November we will be singing the 10:15 Mass at St. Clare and meet at Saint Clare Church choir loft. New members are always welcome. We would also love to have someone who plays flute, violin or some other instrument join us. Give Deacon Joe a call at the Collaborative Office if you are interested.



October 6-Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time:

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples, "Let the children come to me...for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

This week, please help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to bring the love and mercy of Jesus to children who are hungry and cold.

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.**



Grades K-6 meet Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday at 4:00PM
Grades 7 & 8 meet Tuesday and Thursday at 5:15PM
Grade 10 meets Sunday at 4:45PM. Followed by the 6:00 Mass.

Grades 9 meets **NEXT** Sunday, October 13th at 4:45PM.
 All classes meet at St. Clare



St. Clare

Giuseppe Gioioso

St. Francis of Assisi

Joan E. Coady

Mary P. Morrissey

Christopher Hanson

Archdiocese of Boston

Fr. Richard E. McQuade

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.



*Edward Francis Coffey & MaryAlice Elaine Walsh
 Craig Ryan Kelly & Luara Horta DosSantos*

Boy Scout Troop 138: Clothing & Book Drive

The seasons are changing...it's time to clean out your closet, for a good cause! The Troop will have bins available to drop off your bags or boxes of gently used clothes, coats, shoes and other fashion accessories as well as books and media. This fundraiser helps support our boy scouts activities for the coming year. Final drop off time is Saturday October 19th from 8am-10am. Thank you in advance for your support of our troop!



He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female." - Mk 10:3-6

Readings *of the Week*

Readings for the week of October 6, 2024

- 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
- Monday:** Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and 10c/Lk 10:25-37
- Tuesday:** Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Lk 10:38-42
- Wednesday:** Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Lk 11:1-4
- Thursday:** Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 11:5-13
- Friday:** Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 11:15-26
- Saturday:** Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 11:27-28
- Next Sunday:** Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 (14)/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27



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*

Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreat (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.

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.



PUZZLE

Unscramble words from today's Gospel reading:

Jesus
Moses
law

husband
wife
married

divorce
papers
joined

Jssue	<u>J</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>u</u>	<u>s</u>	
marrdie	—	—	—	—	—	—
dvrcoie	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mssoe	—	—	—	—	—	
hsbndua	—	—	—	—	—	—
jndoie	—	—	—	—	—	—
wfie	—	—	—	—	—	
lwa	—	—	—	—	—	
pprsae	—	—	—	—	—	—



MISSION

Pray for kids you know who have been hurt because their parents are not living with each other. Ask God to heal their broken hearts.



Sharing the Gospel

In the beginning, when God created Adam and Eve, he created marriage to be good and holy. God wanted husbands and wives to love God and to help one another. Because of sin, some marriages started to fall apart. Divorce is difficult for everyone. God always wants marriage to be good and holy.

Prayer

Dear God, help people who are married to love you and care for each other.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Adam and Eve helping each other in the Garden of Eden.

Mission for the Week

Pray for kids you know who have been hurt because their parents are not living with each other. Ask God to heal their broken hearts.



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



The Annual Blessing of the Animals in honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi will take place **THIS 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.