

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, November 9, 2024

5:30PM Lauren Dyer 3rd Anniv.

Sunday, November 10, 2024

9:00AM Mary & Donald Broughton and
Winston & Adele Marks Memorial

11:30AM Kathleen Crimmins Healing

Monday, November 11, 2024

7:00AM

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

7:00AM

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

7:00AM Connie McEleney Memorial

Thursday, November 14, 2024

7:00AM Stacie Casey Memorial

Friday, November 15, 2024

7:00AM Irene Lund Anniversary

Saturday, November 16, 2024

5:30PM Gaetano "Guy" Giannandrea Memorial

Sunday, November 17, 2024

9:00AM Marjorie Broughton Memorial

11:30AM Marie, Anthony & Doreen
Lomasney and
Edward Fitzmaurice 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!



We are now scheduling Mass Intentions **through June 30, 2025**. To schedule a Mass or for further information please call the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332.

Mass Intentions

St. Clare

Saturday, November 9, 2024

8:00AM Tom Lerner, Sr. & John Lerner Memorial

4:00PM William Little Sr., Miriam Little
and Brian Little Memorial

Sunday, November 10, 2024

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM Fermina DiFonso Memorial

6:00PM Giuseppe Gioioso Month's Mind

Saturday, November 9, 2024

8:00AM Marie Walbridge Memorial

4:00PM Loretta Barron, Clara Columbus,
David Ferrairo, Caz Sadowski and
John Gabriel Memorial

Sunday, November 17, 2024

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM Virginia Donovan 10th Anniv.

6:00PM Jeanne Messaline 2nd Anniv.

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 Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM in St. Francis Church Hall.

Please call the collaborative office for more information.



Given that the first day is All Saints and the second day is All Soul's, in Catholic Culture the **month of November is dedicated to praying for the dead**. We pray for the dead precisely because we firmly believe that there is more to life than just our time in this world. Since we are both physical and spiritual, death to our bodies does not mean that our lives are over. Christ came to proclaim the Kingdom which is not simply about the here-and-now. Nor is it simply about the life hereafter. Life in Christ, which is eternal, begins at Baptism and does not end!

It is important to pray for the dead as they are still part of the Church. And whereas we do not know to what extent they are with the Lord, prayers on their behalf can only help their cause. At the same time, praying for the dead keeps us focused on our own destiny, God's mercy, and the special bonds that have been forged in our lives on earth.

For years I have heard people speak of how deeply moved they were during a Catholic funeral. The opposite is true too. Some have shared experiences at Catholic funerals that were so disappointing and embarrassing. No question: there is much at stake when it comes to handing over our loved-ones! The Catholic funeral rites are very rich in symbol, ritual and tradition. They are meant to help carry us through grief to the threshold of hope. A funeral celebrated well can do this affectively.

First and foremost, a funeral Mass is an act of worship. It is focused on the act of redemption of Jesus by dying on the cross. During the Mass, the prayers speak of the deceased's life and death in the context of Christ' death and Resurrection. It is also a time in which the Church prays for God's mercy upon the deceased. As the Church on earth, we have an obligation to pray for the dead just as the saints in Heaven have an obligation to pray for us. We can easily dilute the funeral Mass by making it overly sentimental, focusing on the life of the one who has died. Though that is important to a degree, it is not the primary purpose of celebrating a funeral Mass. As we pray at the end of a funeral "Into your hands O Father of Mercies, we commend the soul of our brother/sister in the sure and certain hope that together with all who have died in Christ he/she will rise with him on the last day."

We have put together a **new funeral protocol for St. Francis and St. Clare Parishes**. You can find it on the collaborative website. On the menu at the top of the page

click "ministries". Scroll down to "Funeral Planning Guide New"

A couple of items worth mentioning. First is the Words of Remembrance will be at the beginning of the funeral Mass. Cardinal Sean gave permission for this a number of years ago and it is now being adopted in many parishes. Words of Remembrance at the beginning of Mass gives insight into the deceased's life, especially for participants who may not know the person. Also it helps the priest who is leading the funeral. Most of the funerals I celebrate I did not know the deceased or may only have met them at the end of life. Having heard the Words of Remembrance myself, I feel that I can minister to the family in a better way. It is worth mentioning that Words of Remembrance are not required. I sometimes think that families feel pressured to have someone speak. Though certainly appropriate, it is not necessary.

Also, Words of Remembrance are not a formal eulogy. A eulogy is a reflection on the whole of the person's life, a memorial, if you will, unto itself. Some families may find a eulogy helpful in their grief. This is best done at a wake service or at the gathering/lunch after the funeral Mass. Words of Remembrance are intended to be an opportunity for the family to express thanks to those who are at the Mass and have supported them in their loss. This may include an anecdote but should not be an attempt to capture the whole of the deceased's life.

We are accustomed to asking family members to proclaim one of the Scripture readings. Often, this is emotionally difficult for family members. As an option, volunteer lectors from the parish are happy to offer the readings for the funeral Mass.

If families are looking for opportunities for more participation in the funeral Mass, the new funeral protocols offer some suggestions.

Thanks to all who participated in the prayer service last Monday on the **eve of the national election**. Sixty people gathered to pray a national Rosary which, for those of us not familiar with it, was a powerful way to pray.

Let me express again my thanks to all who have made a contribution to the **Grand Annual Collection** thus far. It's not too late!

Tomorrow (Monday) we honor those **men and women** currently serving in our military or who have done so in the past. Despite the rhetoric about how the military should be funded, trained or missioned, at the end of the day it is our own citizens who volunteer to serve. We owe them our respect, gratitude and prayers. **God bless our veterans!**

Fr. Bob

NOVEMBER 10, 2024



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

I'll start this one off with a disclaimer: I like lawyers. 99.99% of them are looking out for the best interests of their clients.

Now that we have that out of the way we can talk about the scribes who were both theologians and lawyers. Now while there must have certainly been some very upstanding scribes, it seems Jesus thought they were in the minority. He was well aware of what was in their hearts, and he knew the kinds of things they did which in today's society might get them disbarred.

The first problem Jesus has with them is that they were in it all for show. They wanted to be recognized and honored and of course they were always well-dressed (better than most of the people they didn't care about). They also liked to recite long prayers. It wasn't like they went home and did it quietly with no one around. Nope, they did it publicly and loudly so that everyone who passed by would notice them. It would be like one of us standing at the entrance of the South Shore Plaza saying the Rosary so that everyone would know what we were doing. Now, let me be clear there is nothing wrong with praying the Rosary anywhere we want. But if we are doing it aloud for show – shame on us. It profits us nothing!

So far, they are not doing anything other than being prima donnas. People would likely see right through that and shake their heads. But here is the thing that would get them disbarred in today's legal system, they would "devour the houses of widows."

These scribes would have themselves appointed trustee to the estates of widows and take a portion or all of it for themselves. It is a well-known principle in the Old Testament that Lord himself would protect widows and orphans and the underdog. Here is an example:

The LORD protects the resident alien,
comes to the aid of the orphan and the widow,
but thwarts the way of the wicked. (Psalm 146:9)

So, either they weren't the experts in the law and theology that they claimed to be, or they were deliberately taking advantage of the underprivileged for their own personal gain contrary to what God demands. It could land them in hot water if they were unrepentant.

I love what happens next. Jesus and his disciples are outside the temple treasury. (Temples in the ancient world would often serve as treasuries or banks.) In the temple there would have been a trumpet shaped receptacle for the deposit of

offerings. The sound of the coins would make a noise as they dropped in. The rich would make a lot of noise as their money dropped. Jesus was observing everything when a widow came in and deposited two small copper coins. In contrast to offerings of everyone else her meager contribution would have made a tiny sound like clink-clink which would have certainly turned heads perhaps to look down on someone so poor. And of course, she really had put in more than anyone else would have because she gave all she had.

It's no coincidence that the widow's story is told here. She may have been one of the widows cheated by the scribes in the first place. My friends, let's not use our faith for personal gain. Let's not look for places of honor or show off our "exemplary religious piety." Let's not be stingy with our gift of time, talent, and treasure. It is the Lord who gives us everything we have, we ought to be willing to give it back to him generously even to death. Remember what we heard last week: love God and love our neighbor, and we will not be far from the Kingdom of God.



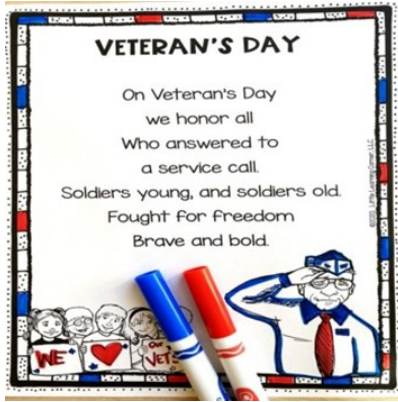
Out of courtesy to Archbishop Henning and Fr. Wargovich, please avoid parking in or blocking any of the driveways by the rectory or garage. Two spaces by the garage will be reserved for Deacon Joe, providing music, and the priest saying the Mass who are shuttling between the two Churches.

Also, please be sure that all parish/collaborative mail is sent to 856 Washington Street, Braintree, MA 02184.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

- ~ K-6 classes meet this week; however, there are no grade 7/8 classes.
- ~ Grade 9 class meets on November 10, and Grade 10 class meets on November 17.
- ~ Please keep the 10th graders in your prayers as they are preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in December!



Last week we talked about Veterans and ways to honor them. We thank Veterans for protecting our country and for the sacrifices they make for us. May God Bless America and all of our Veterans!



November is the month of Remembrance. The display boards at the front of each of our churches bear crosses with the names of all of the people who were buried from that church from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024. A special Mass of Remembrance for all of these people was held last Sunday, November 3rd at 10:15AM at St. Clare and will be held Sunday, November 24th in St. Francis of Assisi. Invitations were mailed to family members of all of these dearly departed. Please keep the deceased and their loved ones in your prayers.



Braintree Collaborative Bereavement Group meets 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. 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)



November 10—32nd Sunday in Ordinary

Time: In today's Gospel Jesus tells us: "I want you to observe that this poor widow contributed more than all the others who donated to the treasury. They gave from their surplus wealth, but she gave from her want, all that she had to live on." **Ask yourself "Am I only giving from my surplus wealth?" and then put your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul poor box so that those who are suffering will be able to know God's love and care.**



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is next weekend, November 16—17. Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry. Some of the **Seasonal** needed items are: **stuffing mix, gravy, cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes/yams, canned vegetables, bread mix (i.e pumpkin, banana, etc.), pie filling, chicken or turkey broth.** 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).



St. Clare
Joan Legg

St. Francis of Assisi
Matthew L. Ellsmore
Robert Ravino

Archdiocese of Boston
Fr. Corey Bassett-Tirrell
Fr. Charles R. Kinsella

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.



A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents. Calling his disciples to himself, he said to them, "Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury." - Mk 12:42-43

Readings Week of the

Readings for the week of November 10, 2024

Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44
 Monday: Ti 1:1-9/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 17:1-6
 Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Ps 37:3-4, 18 and 23, 27 and 29/Lk 17:7-10
 Wednesday: Ti 3:1-7/Ps 23:1b-3a, 3bc-4, 5, 6/Lk 17:11-19
 Thursday: Phlm 7-20/Ps 146:7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Lk 17:20-25
 Friday: 2 Jn 4-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/Lk 17:26-37
 Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 18:1-8
 Next Sunday: Dn 12:1-3/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Heb 10:11-14, 18/Mk 13:24-32

★ **GOD BLESS** ★
OUR VETERANS!

Thank you to all have served our country. May God bless you and all of the families who sacrificed for our freedom.

The Collaborative Office will be closed on Monday, November 11th in observance of Veterans' Day.

SEASONAL HAPPENINGS

Mass will be celebrated at 8:00AM on Thanksgiving morning in BOTH parishes.

The Annual Thanksgiving Toy Drive will be conducted at the 8:00AM Mass in BOTH PARISHES on Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 28). Please bring a new/unwrapped toy or game which will be presented during the offertory. These gifts will be distributed to needy children in our community through the Marge Crispin Center.

Christmas Giving Tree

We would like to be able to have a Giving Tree in **BOTH PARISHES**. In order to do this we **NEED HELP**. We are looking for **1 more coordinator from EACH Parish**. The coordinator would be responsible for printing the tags for the tree, collecting and distributing the gifts to the organization prior to Christmas. If you are willing and able please contact Patty in the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332 or pkinnally@sfab.org.

We are also looking for some additional local organizations to assist. If you know of any please let us know so that we can contact them to determine their needs.



Troop 138 Holiday Wreath Fundraiser

All proceeds go directly to fund activities for the Scouts.

Wreaths are assembled by our scouts and volunteers.

Pre-Order by November 1st for last year's prices!

Wreaths will be available for pick up or delivery by Saturday, November 30, 2024

NEW! Online ordering at <https://troop-138-braintree-ma.square.site>

Questions? Contact Jenn at 508-414-2262





From the Archdiocese of Boston

Diaconate Inquirer Program—The Archdiocese of Boston is beginning its Inquirer Program for men interested in becoming deacons with over a dozen meetings across the Archdiocese. For more information, please go to BostonDiaconate.org and click on the "News" tab.

Navigating "the Change": A Workshop by Women for Women (11/13) - Join retired OB/GYN, Dr. Patricia Jay and certified NFP instructor, Amy Dyke, as they discuss how to navigate the changes of the female body throughout perimenopause and menopause. Throughout this virtual workshop, they will walk us through the biology and theology of our femininity and the beauty of new beginnings that "the Change" brings us. Register at bit.ly/NavigateTheChange

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.

Men's Weekend: December 5 - 8, 2024

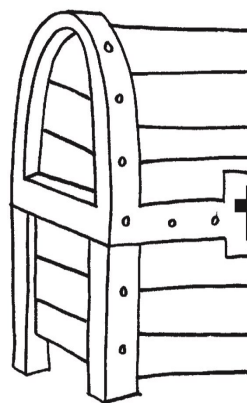
The weekends run from Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon and are held at the Notre Dame Spirituality Center in Ipswich, MA. For information and registration, please check the Boston Cursillo website: www.bostoncursillo.org or email at bostoncursillo@gmail.com.

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

Complete the picture.



MISSION

If you have a piggy bank, take money out and give it to God next Sunday. Shhhh! Remember to give it to God quietly.



Sharing the Gospel

God wants us to be humble, and he wants us to share our blessings. So many people Jesus met were proud, and they thought they deserved special treatment. Other people were rich, but they took what they wanted first and gave God what was left. The poor widow in today's Gospel got it right. She quietly gave to God all she had.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to quietly give you the best of all that you have given me.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of the poor widow who trusted God with her whole heart.

Mission for the Week

If you have a piggy bank, take money out and give it to God next Sunday. Shhhh! Remember to give it to God quietly.