

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
Mrs. Karen Whitney, 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, 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

Monday, November 18, 2024

7:00AM Maria Vu Anniversary

Tuesday, November 19, 2024

7:00AM Joan DiBernardini 1st Anniv.

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

7:00AM

Thursday, November 21, 2024

7:00AM Vera Tsunis Anniversary

Friday, November 22, 2024

7:00AM Leonard T. Connolly Family Anniversary

Saturday, November 23, 2024

5:30PM Joannie Hill Anniversary

Sunday, November 24, 2024

9:00AM John Minton Kelley, John Minton Kelley, III and Thomas J. Kelley Memorial

11:30AM Eileen Romeo 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 16, 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.

Saturday, November 23, 2024

8:00AM Stephen Devine Memorial

4:00PM Darche & McCue Families Memorial

Sunday, November 24, 2024

7:45AM Maureen Watson 1st Anniv.

10:15AM Domenic DeSantis Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

The Bread & Wine for the week of November 16th through 22nd were been donated in loving memory of The Leonard T. Connolly Family. The **Sanctuary light** will also burn in their 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.
- **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 Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM in St. Francis Church Hall.

Please call the collaborative office for more information.



I am away on retreat this weekend. Church law (Canon Law) requires that a priest make a spiritual retreat every year. So serious is this requirement that the priest has to inform his bishop that he has completed the requirement. I am fascinated by the fact that the practice of an annual retreat is in Church law in the first place! Why would something like a retreat need to be included as a precept? It came out of a period of history in the Church where priests (and popes and bishops too) had moved away from the role as spiritual leader. Priesthood had become very secularized and priests, perhaps because they were educated for the most part, took up civil responsibilities. In the reforms of the priesthood by some of the great saints like Charles Borromeo (16th century, bishop of Milan), priests were brought back into a lifestyle that was consistent with the mission of the Church. You can well imagine the challenge this brought about and so it is no wonder that practices like annual retreats made their way into Canon Law.

The section of canon law in which the retreat requirement is found has to do with the overall holiness of priests. Priests should strive for holiness of life so that they may reflect Christ to those entrusted to his care. Along with retreats, the section also requires priests to pray the Liturgy of the Hours every day (five times a day to be exact). You will sometime see priests reading from a book called a breviary, which contains Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Night Prayer etc. More often than not, these days you will see the priest reading intently from his smart phone as there is an app for Liturgy of the Hours!

Along with retreats and Liturgy of the Hours is the requirement for celibacy, that a priest does not marry. This requirement is worth a bulletin column someday, but for now it is all part of the requirement that priests lead lives that strive for holiness. Frequent confession is mentioned as well.

Having said that priests are required to make an annual retreat, the law does not specify what kind of retreat or its length. Most priests I know take a week or so each year for an extended period of prayer, reflection, spiritual reading and rest. Some retreats involve a daily meeting with a spiritual director. Other kinds involve spiritual conferences around a particular theme. Still others are in silence while some involve an opportunity for fraternal fellowship with other priests.

I have made all kinds of retreats in 32 years. This year is a silent retreat in which I will be reading and praying about what Christ is asking of me as a disciple. It's a rather broad concept, to be sure. However, I am writing this before I leave and history has shown that whatever my intentions at the beginning of retreat the Lord often has something else in mind!

May I ask for a remembrance in your prayers these days. I'll be back midweek.

Fr. Bob



Out of courtesy to Archbishop Henning and Fr. Wargovich, please avoid parking in or blocking any of the driveways by the rectory or garage at St. Clare. 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.



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 Sunday, November 3rd at St. Clare. The Mass at St. Francis of Assisi will be held Sunday, November 24th at 11:30. Invitations were mailed to family members of all of these dearly departed. Please keep the deceased and their loved ones in your prayers.



Sean Talbot & Melanie Ruazol

NOVEMBER 17, 2024



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

Don't you just love to hear about the end of the world? All those scary stories. Look out! The sky is falling!!

Could it be that something else, besides the end of the world, is also at play here in today's Gospel? Way back in verses 1 and 2 Jesus predicts the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem. That prophecy was fulfilled in 70 A.D. when the Romans marched in to quell a revolt and leveled the temple. It would never be rebuilt. The only thing left of the ancient temple is the western wall. Today we call it the wailing wall.

Certainly, this would have unnerved the disciples so Peter, James, John, and Andrew approached Jesus to ask, "When will this happen and what signs will there be?" He tells them not to be deceived by false prophets or impersonators claiming to be Christ – hold fast to the faith.

There will be wars and rumors of wars, nations will rise against nation and there will be famine and earthquakes and persecution. He warned that they would be arrested and beaten. Even families would turn on each other handing them over to death. Why? Because of His Name. These things may have already been happening in Mark's own community. So, when we take a look at the world today we might be tempted to think it's happening now! The end *is* near! But there have always been wars, nations and kingdoms have always risen up and fought each other. There have always been earthquakes and volcanoes and famine and every other kind of disaster in the world. The only difference is that because of modern communication with radio and television we see and hear about it happening every single time. We can become overwhelmed with fear and anxiety. Be not afraid.

Another sign would be when they see "an abomination standing where he should not." Actually, the emperor Caligula wanted to be worshiped as a god throughout the empire and wanted a statue of himself built in the Jewish temple to be worshiped there. This was something the Jews could not tolerate. Jesus tells them to flee. Don't take your coat or anything, just run from what's coming – The Romans who came to destroy the city and the temple.

It is at this point that Jesus pivots and talks about the end times. The sun won't shine, there won't be anymore moonlight, stars will fall from the skies. This sounds just awful, but these images are found often in the Old Testament and the New. It's called apocalyptic writing or apocalyptic literature. We shouldn't necessarily take it literally but should

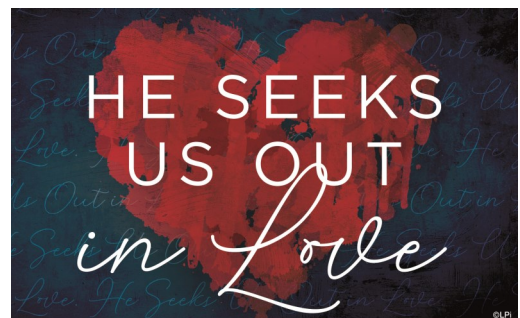
take the warnings seriously.

Jesus refers to Himself here, as He often does, as the son of man but have you ever wondered where that came from? It came from the prophet Daniel some five hundred years before the birth of Christ. It reads (the brackets are mine): As the visions during the night continued, I saw coming with the clouds of heaven One like a son of man [Jesus]. When he reached the Ancient of Days [God the Father] and was presented before him, He received dominion, splendor, and kingship; all nations, peoples and tongues will serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, his kingship, one that shall not be destroyed. (Dan. 7:13-14)

Jesus is coming at the end of time as that Son of Man with power and glory and His angels will be sent to gather His people from every corner of the world. Frankly, that's not something to be scared of. We shouldn't be afraid of his coming, not now, not ever. When he comes for us, it will be a good thing, a wonderful thing, a joyous thing if we have followed him faithfully in this life. We don't know when that great coming will be. It might be tomorrow, or it might be a thousand years from now. The one thing we do know is that at the end of our own lives He will come for us. We need to be awake and ready and live Godly lives whether that time is soon or far away.

"But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day the Lord is coming." (Mt 24:36,42)

In a couple of weeks, we are going to enter the season of Advent when we look forward with boundless joy to the coming of Jesus at Bethlehem. Many of us can remember the time we first experienced the coming of Christ in our own lives and the joy that came with it. During Advent We will also anticipate the Lord's coming at the end of time and although the language of the Scriptures may seem ominous, His final coming should also fill us with joy for the Kingdom that is prayed for at Mass every day will come in its fullness when there will be no more tears or illnesses or distress. Let's continue to pray for that day to come with joyful anticipation.



Religious Education News

Many thanks to all who attended our Veteran's Day celebration! We began with a special prayer, and then the students led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to our homemade flag. They set up "America's White Table," which is a table to honor all those who serve. The kids described the significance of each item as they placed them on the table. Mr. Leo Egan taught us about the V.F.W., and reminded us about 5 words, that may seem small, but are so very important - - THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE! Finally, the kids handed out soldier prayer cards for everyone to put in a special place at home and pray for our military. The table and soldier cards are still downstairs in the St. Clare church hall if anyone would like to see it and take a card. May God Bless America, and all of our Veterans.



Class Schedule for the Week of November 17th

Grades K-6 Sunday, November 17 at 11:15AM
Tuesday (11/19) & Thursday (11/21) 4:00PM
Grades 10 Sunday, November 17 at 4:45PM followed
by the 6:00 Mass
Grades 7 & 8 Tuesday (11/19) & Thursday (11/21) 5:15PM

Super Saturday Workshop for Grades 9 & 10
Saturday, November 23rd 10:00AM followed by the 4:00
Mass



November 17– 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time: The Gospel predicts end times; our challenge though is to live faithfully now. When we live in conformity to the Word, hearing Jesus' words and living them out, the future holds no fear for us. **As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul blue envelopes, know that you are hearing the words of Jesus and living them out.**



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is THIS 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. Francis of Assisi

James MacGillivray
Mary Kathleen Starck
Elaine Pimental

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.



“Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” - Mk 13:30-32

Readings Week of the

Readings for the week of November 17, 2024

Sunday: Dn 12:1-3/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/
Heb 10:11-14, 18/Mk 13:24-32

Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/
Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/
Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: Rv 5:1-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and
9b/Lk 19:41-44

Friday: Rv 10:8-11/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111,
131/Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: Rv 11:4-12/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/
Lk 20:27-40

Next Sunday: Dn 7:13-14/Ps 91:1, 1-2, 5 (1a)/
Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37



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)

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 are pleased to announce that we will be able to have the Advent Giving Tree Program in BOTH parishes this year.

Thank you to those who answered to call to assist with this program.

The Giving Trees will be placed in the churches the Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend (November 30th). The organizations that will be helped this year are the Marge Crispin Center for children, The Marge Crispin Center for Seniors, Braintree High School Special Needs Program, Friends of the Unborn, Alliance Health Care and Affinity Health Care (formerly Braintree Manor).

Please see next week's bulletin for more information.



Troop 138 Holiday Wreath Fundraiser

All proceeds go directly to fund activities for the Scouts.

Wreaths are assembled by our scouts and volunteers.

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>



From the Archdiocese of Boston

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE AND HEALING FOR PREGNANCY & INFANT LOSS

The Pro Life Office and Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston will sponsor a *Mass of Remembrance and Healing for Pregnancy and Infant Loss* on **Wednesday, November 20th at 7:00 p.m.** at Bethany Chapel in the Pastoral Center (66 Brooks Drive, Braintree). Celebrant and homilist will be Rev. J. Bryan Hehir, Secretary for Health & Social Services of the Archdiocese of Boston. A light reception and opportunity for Sacramental Reconciliation (Confession) will also be available after Mass. A special invitation is extended to parents, grandparents and siblings who grieve the death of children as a result of miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion or early infant death. These losses may be recent or extend over many years. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

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.

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

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

shaken	glory	chosen
clouds	angels	leaves
power	gather	heaven

shknae	<u>s</u>	<u>h</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>k</u>	<u>e</u>	<u>n</u>
gthrae	—	—	—	—	—	—
chsnoe	—	—	—	—	—	—
cldsou	—	—	—	—	—	—
glryo	—	—	—	—	—	—
hvneea	—	—	—	—	—	—
pwroe	—	—	—	—	—	—
angsl	—	—	—	—	—	—
lvseea	—	—	—	—	—	—

MISSION

Invite a friend to come to church with you. Share a meal together, and talk about the promise Jesus made about heaven.



Sharing the Gospel

Today's Gospel reading gives us both a warning and a promise. One day Jesus will come back, so we need to be ready. For those of us who follow God to the end, Jesus promises to take us to heaven. So live every day like you are going to meet Jesus. One day you will.

Prayer

Dear God, keep me close to you until I live with you in heaven.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of angels bringing you to heaven.

Mission for the Week

Invite a friend to come to church with you. Share a meal together, and talk about the promise Jesus made about heaven.