

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: Following the 8AM Mass

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

Holy Saturday, April 19, 2025

8:00PM Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

9:00AM *Alleluia!*

11:30AM *He is Risen*

Monday, April 21, 2025

7:00AM

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

7:00AM Jack & Nellie McDonough Memorial

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

7:00AM

Thursday, April 24, 2025

7:00AM

Friday, April 25, 2025

7:00AM

Saturday, April 26, 2025

5:30PM Daniel Crimmins Memorial

Sunday, April 27, 2025

9:00AM Sharon Ellsworth 4th Anniv.

11:30AM St. John's Seminary



If you are interested in the Online Giving option for either parish to simplify your weekly contributions, please contact the collaborative office or scan the QR code below.



Mass Intentions

St. Clare

Holy Saturday, April 19, 2025

8:00AM No Mass

4:00PM No Mass

Easter Sunday, April 13, 2025

7:45AM *Alleluia!*

10:15AM *He Is Risen*

6:00PM **No Mass**

Saturday, April 26, 2025

8:00AM Special Intention Healing

4:00PM Dante Varrasso 8th Anniv.

Sunday, April 27, 2025

7:45AM Deceased Member of Tran Family Memorial

10:15AM Chris Donovan 20th Anniv.

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

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.

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



Paschal Mystery

Though we call today Easter in which we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ, today is the third day of the *Sacred Triduum*, the “three days” in which Christians commemorate the events in the life of Jesus Christ that brought salvation to the world. There is no resurrection without suffering and death. Since the most ancient of days, the Church has always seen this as one great event called the **Paschal Mystery**: the dying and rising in Christ.

We don't know the exact date or the exact year in which Jesus was crucified. There was a different way of marking time back then and more importantly, it never occurred to early Christians to record such information. For them, every Sunday was a celebration of the Paschal Mystery. The idea of an annual event never entered their minds. Furthermore, their understanding of Christ's return in glory was that it would happen in their lifetime. Therefore the Sunday Mass became the primary act of worship and thanksgiving that characterized Christian life.

We do know that Jesus' suffering death and Resurrection happened during the Jewish feast of Passover. In fact, Jesus and the Apostles were in Jerusalem for Passover. Many of the details of His Passion are tied directly to the prayers and rituals of the feast. So closely linked is the Paschal Mystery with the Jewish Passover that we often call the Triduum the *Christian Passover*. In the Jewish faith, Passover celebrates the rescue of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt by the act of God sending an angel to strike down the first born of every household, except those homes marked with the blood of the sacrificial lamb. The angel simply “passed over” those homes, sparing their lives and ultimately setting them free from Pharaoh. In the Christian Passover we celebrate the mystery by which Christ “passed over” from death to life. The image of Jesus dying on the cross becomes a symbol of the death over which God triumphed in raising His Son from the dead.

Our celebration today isn't simply about what happened to Jesus but also its significance for us. We who are baptized are promised a share in Christ's Resurrection. That is to say, God's plan for salvation is that we are to share in the new life that Resurrection provides.

For this reason, all Easter Masses include a renewal of Baptism. After the Gospel proclamation and homily, the priest invites us to state aloud our renunciation of sin and what we believe about God. After that, he sprinkles the congregation with holy water to renew the grace of Baptism

in each one of us.

A long-standing custom in the Archdiocese is that the collection at all Easter Masses is used to support our retired and infirmed priests. We have approximately 250 “senior” priests who depend on the generosity of the faithful for their needs. Over the years, the money collected at Easter and Christmas has been invested and managed so that we can provide for these men of faith. They entered the priesthood with the hope that the members of the Church would support them for the whole of their lives. I am fortunate to know almost all of our senior priests. They are heroes in my estimation having given their lives to care for millions over the decades. The priests who so beautifully ministered to my family in times of need and taught me in the seminary are in the later years now and no longer able to work full time in a parish assignment. Having said that, at the same time many of our parishes continue to offer Mass and the sacraments precisely because we have the addressed assistance of senior priests who go back to parishes on the weekends. Could I ask you to make a donation to their care? All proceeds in the Easter collections go to our Clergy Trust, the trust we established to care for senior priests as well as those who are not able to offer full time ministry because of health issues. In their name, thank you!

Fr. Bob



From
*the Clergy and Staff of
the Braintree Catholic Collaborative*

APRIL 20, 2025



The women who had come from Galilee with Jesus took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. - Lk 24:1b-3

Readings of the Week

Readings for the week of April 20, 2025

- Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12
- Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15
- Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18
- Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35
- Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48
- Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14
- Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15
- Next Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31

Closed for the Holiday

The collaborative Office will be closed on Monday, April 21st in observance of Patriot's Day.

Good luck and God speed to all who are running (or working at) the 2025 Boston Marathon.



WITH JOYFUL HEARTS,
WE WELCOME OUR
NEWLY BAPTIZED.

St. Francis of Assisi
Selena Rosa Leitao



REMEMBER
in your prayers

St. Francis
Rosemary French

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.



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)



PRAY FOR
VOCATIONS

Religious Education News

Last Friday was the Easter Movie Night! It was great to have fun activities that help us to remember the true meaning of Easter!

The children made decorations that had an Easter egg on the outside, and opened up to reveal a cross on the inside. We talked about different symbols of Easter and what they mean, for example, how eggs are a symbol of new life.



Next was Part 1 of the Easter Egg Hunt where the 4 teams had to find all of their team color eggs...



Then, the teams opened up their eggs to find puzzle pieces, and the race was on to put together an Easter puzzle! All 4 teams finished their puzzles, and everyone had a lot of fun working together!



We ended the night with an Easter movie, and an indoor picnic of pizza, popcorn, and cookies!



Plans are underway for our very FIRST Vacation Bible School at St. Clare Church Hall July 14-18! Registration will begin in May, so please stay tuned!



We're going on a Road Trip! We will discover God's presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together. We will "travel" to exciting destinations through engaging stories from the Navigators' Guide (the Bible.) Travelers will dive into timeless tales of faith from the Old and New Testaments. They will experience twists, turns, and excitement as they face new challenges and find strength in God's presence on this unforgettable trip!



April 20: Easter Sunday

Today as we celebrate the feast of Easter, like Mary Magdalene and the Disciples we find the challenge of also seeing and believing the resurrection. **As you put your gift into the St. Vincent de Paul blue envelope you help those who are poor and hungry to “see and believe” in the Resurrection.**

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY

is THIS weekend, April 19-20. Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry. Some of the much needed items are Peanut Butter; Jelly; Pasta; Canned Chicken; Instant Potatoes; Canned Fruit; Condiments; Salad Dressing; Paper Towels; Personal Care Items (i.e. toothbrushes/toothpaste, deodorant etc.); Laundry Detergent and Soap. 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.**



“CHURCH MERCH”



We are pleased to make available for purchase Braintree Catholic Collaborative Gear! For the time being we have three items: crew neck sweatshirt for \$45, fleece jacket for \$50 and hoodie for \$50, but we hope in the future to have more items available! You can order these items by filling out and dropping off the order form (located at the entrances of the churches or at the link below) at the Collaborative Office or Call Fr. Kevin at the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332.



From the Archdiocese of Boston

Easter Sunday

Christ is Risen! Christ is truly Risen! This ancient Christian greeting expresses the foundation of our Easter joy and our singing the praises of God. As you gather in Church and around the family table this day, I wish every blessing for you and yours. I pray that you always know this Easter truth that we are not alone in a cold universe. Rather we are enfolded in the arms of a loving Father. He Who created life now shows His power to renew and restore life. May that life be yours now and in eternity.

Archbishop Richard Henning

Mass with Persons with Disabilities and the Deaf (4/27)

In celebration of Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope, the Archdiocese of Boston invites you to a special Mass honoring persons with disabilities and the deaf community. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Richard Henning on Sunday, April 27th at 1:30 PM at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston. This Mass will include sensory-friendly space, ASL interpreters, Braille and large print worship aides, and a designated drop and pick up location. Participants and their families have an opportunity to serve at the liturgy. For more information or to register, contact Family Life Consultant Emily Elliott at 617-746-5756 or visit <https://bit.ly/JubileeMWPWD-DC>.

Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats (5/10)

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. Spring dates are Saturday, March 15 and Saturday, May 10. Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

April 20 ~ Resurrection of the Lord

“We are witnesses of all that he did” and “He commissioned us to preach to the people” these are words from today’s reading from the Acts of the Apostles. The witness we need to give is about Christ’s saving action in our own lives, the good that came from our Lenten practices, the deepening commitment we feel to being faithful disciples! Pray for the courage to be like Peter and Mary Magdalen, who ran to tell others, “I have seen the Lord!” To whom might we run to tell that we also have seen the Lord in our lives? Doing so won’t just be news; it will be *Good News*. Share it!



April 20, 2025 - Easter Sunday
John 20: 1-9

When I was a young boy, my parents told me about their wedding. Then a few years later, they showed me my mother's wedding dress and my dad's suit. It was astonishing to see and touch garments that connected me to the event that led to my existence. Of course, I already believed they were married based on their word. But these holy garments made the event real and tangible for me.

Something like this is at play when St. John reports encountering in Jesus' tomb, **"the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place"** (John 20:7). Those two separate cloths, for his head and for his body respectively, meant a great deal to St. John and to the early Christians. Some years after the resurrection, there surfaced reports of two cloths with unusual characteristics, one bearing the image of a crucified man's body, another smaller one with the image of a wounded man's face. Some call them the Shroud of Turin and the Veil of Manoppello; they both can be seen today.

These two cloths have a long and complicated history, and scholars debate aspects of them. If you're curious, I encourage you to read about them. To be clear, I believe in the resurrection of Jesus because of the testimony of eyewitnesses and the gift of faith in the Church. Nevertheless, seeing these two mysterious cloths have made the life-giving event of Jesus' resurrection more real and tangible for me. Maybe they will for you, too.

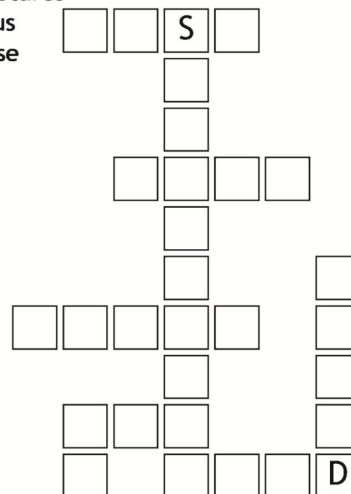
— Father John Muir ©LPi



PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

The Scriptures
 said Jesus
 would rise
 to life.



MISSION

Bake Resurrection Cookies with your family tonight. You can find the recipe online at <https://www.aroundmyfamilytable.com/resurrection-cookies/>



Sharing the Gospel

It was very early in the morning on Sunday. The tomb stone was rolled away. Jesus was gone. All that was left inside were the strips of linen cloth. When John and Peter saw it, they were amazed. They did not understand all the promises the prophets wrote about Jesus yet. However, they knew he was alive. He had risen from the dead!

Prayer

God, I thank you for bringing Jesus back to life.

Something to Draw

Draw how surprised Peter and John were when they saw Jesus' empty tomb.

Mission for the Week

Bake Resurrection Cookies with your family tonight. You can find the recipe online at <https://www.aroundmyfamilytable.com/resurrection-cookies/>