

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

Saturday, May 17, 2025

5:30PM Heather, Garrett & Kathleen Fitzgerald Memorial

Sunday, May 18, 2025

9:00AM Catina Napolitano and Rita MacDonald Memorial

11:30AM Margaret "Peggy Folan and Clara Clements 1st Anniv. 1st Anniv.

Monday, May 19, 2025

7:00AM Angelo & Jennie Luccio Memorial

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

7:00AM William Zadroga Memorial

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

7:00AM

Thursday, May 22, 2025

7:00AM Melencio Navarro Memorial

Friday, May 23, 2025

7:00AM Ellen Ford Memorial

Saturday, May 24, 2025

5:30PM Daniel Crimmins Memorial

Sunday, May 25, 2025

9:00AM Victor & Angeline Valle Anniversary

11:30AM John Keaveney Memorial



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

Saturday, May 17, 2025

8:00AM Thomas and Daniel Eggers Memorial

4:00PM Thomas & Ruth Driscoll Memorial

Easter Sunday, May 18, 2025

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM Irene Barone Memorial

6:00PM Arthur & Jean Dalton Memorial

Saturday, May 24, 2025

8:00AM George & Carole Friedman Memorial

4:00PM Maria Soares and Maria Dalomba Memorial

Sunday, May 25, 2025

7:45AM Deceased Members Tran Family Memorial

10:15AM

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.



The election of our new **Holy Father Pope Leo XIV** has invigorated the Church around the world! So it seems to me anyway. I was surprised that he was elected but only because I thought, as many did, that an American would never be elected Pope. However I was not surprised about being surprised. More often than not, at least in modern time, the choice of the Pope has never been the one who was anticipated.

Pope Leo became Pope at the moment he accepted the outcome of the Conclave. Immediately, he has all the authority of the office as he has already received the Sacrament of Holy Orders as a bishop. This morning (Sunday) is his Mass of inauguration: a formal celebration to begin his pontificate. Of course, this takes place in the context of the Eucharist. Everything we do in our Catholic-Christian faith begins with the Eucharist and leads to the Eucharist.

There is one part of the inauguration Mass that I want to point out: the imposition of the pallium. This is a Mass vestment that is worn by the Pope and resident archbishops, around the neck. It somewhat resembles a yoke that is placed over an ox or bull. Like a yoke, the pallium represents the responsibility that is placed on the Pope. He will wear this at every public Mass he celebrates and is a constant reminder to him of what has been placed upon him. At the same time it should call out to us to unite with the Holy Father in prayer and mission. At the inauguration Mass, the pallium will be carried in procession from the altar over to the place where St. Peter is buried and carried in procession into St. Peter Square to be placed on the new Pope.

Interesting, the pallium is also worn by archbishops. These are given to new archbishops each year on the feast of Saints Peter and Paul which is June 29. Archbishop Henning will be going to Rome at the end of

June to receive the pallium from Pope Leo. I will write more about the pallium at that time.

Tuesday of this week marks the 1700th anniversary of the start of the Council of Nicea in the year 325. This was an ecumenical council, meaning that all the bishops of the world were invited. The agenda for the meeting was to determine how the Church would speak of the Trinity, namely what was the relationship between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. From this council came the foundation for the Creed which we say today at every Sunday Mass. The Council of Nicea lasted about three months in which time there was great debate over the fundamental elements of our faith. When you consider all Church teachings, statements, policies, precepts, encyclicals, exhortations, commentaries, canon laws, religious education manuals, catechisms of the past 1700 years...all of them are based on what was discussed at the Council of Nicea.

During the summer weeks, I will be using this column to write on various aspects of that council and the parts of the Creed.

6:00pm Sunday Mass moving to St. Francis Church

Having discussed with the Collaborative Pastoral Council and the Collaborative Staff, I have decided to move the Sunday 6:00pm Mass from St. Clare Church to St. Francis Church beginning on July 6. During this past year I have noticed that most of the people who frequent this Mass are not necessarily parishioners of St. Clare or St. Francis Parish. The 6:00pm Mass serves a wider group of the faithful over the South Shore. It is not tied to St. Clare Parish *per se*. I am happy that we can provide Mass at this time on Sunday afternoon. Whereas it is not tied to St. Clare Parish, it would be far more feasible to celebrate it at St. Francis Church. It is challenging to get people to help with opening the Church, serving as ushers/collectors and then help with locking up the Church. These responsibilities would be far easier to manage if the Mass were at St. Francis Church. My hope is that we could use the 6:00 Mass as an anchor, if you will, for a young adult and teen religious formation program.

I appreciate that making any change to a Mass schedule can be challenging for a parish. Hopefully this change will not be too upsetting to people's routines. I feel fortunate that we are able to maintain the schedule with seven Masses on Saturday evening/Sunday and am grateful to the parishioners whose generous service makes this possible.

Fr. Bob

MAY 18, 2025



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

Have you ever noticed the letters IHS near the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Saint Francis and wondered what it stood for.

Those letters are a monogram, that is a set of letters which stand for a person's name. It may also be called a Christogram when it designates a name for the Lord. For example in Greek the letters chi-rho was an abbreviation for the name of 'Christ.' The chi-rho looks like the letters X and P in English, So when you see XP, it is a Christogram for Christ.

Now if we take a look at "I" which is the Greek letter iota and "H" which is the Greek letter eta they are the first two letters for the name of Jesus. It was around the third century that the Greek letter sigma was added. Looking like our S it is the third letter in Jesus' name.

These Christograms were often placed on tombstones and doorposts of homes to designate that a Christian is buried or lived there.

Greek, especially in the Western Church, began to give way to Latin and the original meaning was lost. It then became a monogram for the Latin phrase Hominum Salvator, which means "Jesus Savior of Mankind."

Whichever meaning you like best, the important take-away is that we always give honor to the Holy Name of Jesus.

Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name.

That is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend.

of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. (Phil 2:9-11)



Family Fun Event

The collaborative is planning a "Family Fun Event!" On June 20th there will be a trip to Polar Park in Worcester to watch the WooSox play the Buffalo Bisons. Total cost for the trip is \$31 per person. This includes admission to the game and transportation. You can sign up using the QR code on the Flyer found at the doors of both churches or you can call the rectory to reserve your spot. There are only 50 spots and the tickets will go fast so don't wait. Children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or adult.



**The Braintree Catholic Collaborative
Kazoo Marching Band**

July 4th festivities will soon be upon us. This includes the annual Braintree 4th of July Parade on June 28th. We would like to have a little bit of fun this year. Instead of just watching from the side-lines, why not join in the parade.

We're looking for at least 20 adults (High School Students too) who'd like to have some fun acting a little silly and bringing a smile to the faces of people on the parade route. Does this sound like you? If so, you're just what we are looking for. We are forming a kazoo marching band to march in the 4th of July parade this year. If you'd like to join us, please contact the rectory and leave your name, phone number and an email. Deacon Joe will contact you with more information.



COMMUNITY MEAL: There will be a meeting for all persons interested in helping in any capacity in our new Community Meal ministry. We will outline the many ways in which you can help. This ministry will be heavily dependent on having enough volunteers so come and listen and ask whatever questions you might have regarding how you can be of service. It will be held Sunday, June 1, 2025 in St. Clare's Hall after the 10:15 Mass.



We are now booking Mass Intentions **through December 31, 2025**. To schedule a Mass or for further information please call the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332.

The First Communion Masses were absolutely beautiful. Congratulations and May God Bless all of our First Communicants! The word Eucharist means Thanksgiving and there really is so much to be thankful for! It was an honor to guide the children as they prepared for this most special sacrament!



In celebration of May, the month of Mary and Mother's Day, some of the First Communion children crowned the Blessed Mother statues at St. Clare and St. Francis. We are grateful to Jesus for sharing his mother with the world, and we are grateful for our own mothers - we hope everyone had a wonderful Mother's Day!



Our very FIRST Vacation Bible School at St. Clare Church Hall July 14-18! Registration will begin in late 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!



The weekend of May 10-11, 2024

St. Francis

Ashley Chan
Patrick Chan
Isla Fournier
Brendan Guerriero
Jordan Joyce
Maddox Lang
Morgan MacDonald
Summer MacDonald
Jacob Magyar
Kaylee Menjivar
Molly McDermott
Connor McKiernan
Jackson O'Brien
Jack Henry Ordway
Fiona Ryan
Richard Stedman
Kevin Timulty

St. Clare

Tyson Carey
Leia Cusack
Roisin Deery
Jeffrey Gabriel
Philip Griffin
Addison Jakaus
Julia Lonardo-Roy
Hailey Malone
Grant Melle
Jake Murphy
Martin Murphy
William Murphy
Caleb Ricci
Tiago Teixeira



Please join us **Monday** May 19 at 6:45PM, as we pray the Scriptural Rosary and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy in honor of our Blessed Mother. We will meet at St. Francis of Assisi church.



May 18: Fifth Sunday of Easter

In the Gospel today, Jesus says "I give you a new commandment: love one another....This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you show that you have love for one another, especially those suffering and poor, and that indeed you are the disciple of Jesus.



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is THIS weekend, May 17-18. Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry. 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.**



St. Francis of Assisi

Leo Starkey
Mary Catherine Toohey
Jane Kelley

St. Clare

Anthony Manganello

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)*



Jesus said, "My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another." - Jn 13:33a, 34a

notes of interest

From the
Archdiocese of Boston

May 18 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

In today's Gospel Jesus gives a simple command but one that we often find difficult to live by: "As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." Notice Jesus' words. We can't be content with being nice to others, simply saying that we love others. Our love must move from words to actions. We are to love others in the same way Jesus loves - with mercy, forgiveness and compassion! That is what is so needed in the world today. Imagine what life at home, in this parish and in the world would be like if each person were to take this command to heart. That is the mark of a disciple. That is what we are called to - to be loving as Jesus loves!

Readings Week of the

Readings for the week of May 18, 2025

- Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 (see 1)/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35
- Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26
- Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a
- Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8
- Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11
- Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17
- Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
- Next Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29

"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.

<https://braintreecatholic.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/BCC-MERCH-Order-Form.htm>

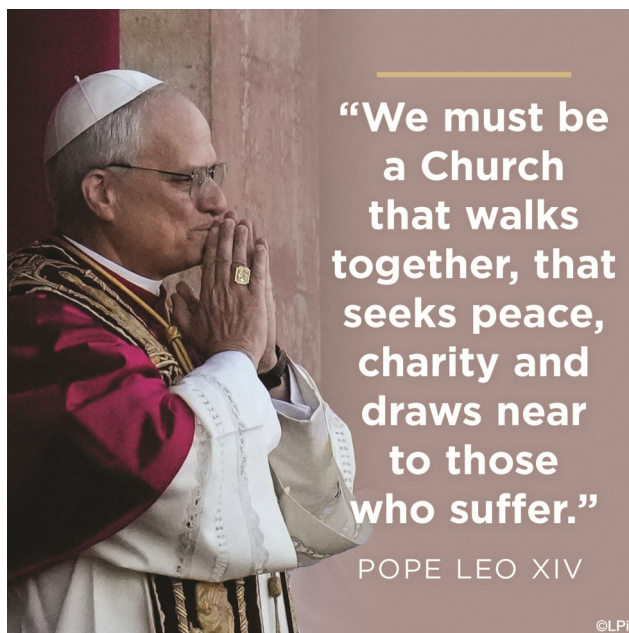
Into the Deep - Corpus Christi Procession by Sea (6/21-6/22)

Join Archbishop Richard Henning on June 21-22 as he brings Jesus in the Eucharist to the shores of the Archdiocese of Boston from Gloucester to South Boston over Corpus Christi weekend. For more information on the schedule of stops and masses for this historic procession, visit <https://bit.ly/IntoTheDeep2025>.

Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

How do I rediscover hope in Jesus Christ?

Hope comes from knowing Jesus Christ. You get to know him like the same way you get to know anyone: you talk to him. Prayer is essentially talking to Jesus. Take time this year to talk with Jesus. You can sit with him in Eucharistic adoration, listen to his words in Scripture, or use novenas and written prayers to help you find the words you want (the Book of Psalms is great for this!).



"We must be a Church that walks together, that seeks peace, charity and draws near to those who suffer."

POPE LEO XIV

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