

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 31, 2025

5:30PM Kim and Maureen Lyons Memorial

Sunday, June 1, 2025

9:00AM Nunzio & Mary Sbordone and John Citerones Memorial

11:30AM John Townsend 1st Anniv.

Monday, June 2, 2025

7:00AM John & Catherine Davis Memorial

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

7:00AM John & Joseph Odenweller Memorial

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

7:00AM

Thursday, June 5, 2025

7:00AM

Friday, June 6, 2025

7:00AM Alice Beaulieu Memorial

Saturday, June 7, 2025

5:30PM Gaetano "Guy" Giannandrea 3rd Anniv.

Sunday, June 8, 2025

9:00AM Joseph & Genevieve McCarthy Memorial

11:30AM Patricia Hanson 5th Anniv.



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 31 2025

8:00AM Caroline Conboy Memorial

4:00PM Donald W. Fitzgerald Memorial

Sunday, June 1, 2025

7:45AM Kha Van Ho Memorial

10:15AM Vincent, Dorothy, John and Winnie Joyce Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Saturday, June 7, 2025

8:00AM Giuseppe Gioioso Memorial

4:00PM Cara Flaherty Brady 21st Anniv.

Sunday, June 8, 2025

7:45AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

10:15AM Antonio and Ben DiFonso Anniversary

6:00PM William & Doris Barron, Jean Delisle and Robert and Mark Hassan Anniversary

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

Please call the collaborative office for more information.





**The Council of Nicea
325-2025
The Creed**

A multi-part series on the history and meaning of the Nicene-Constantinople Creed which is used at Sunday Mass.

Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi. This is a Latin term which translates "the law of prayer is the law of belief". It is a guiding principle when writing Church documents or prayers, which, essentially implies that the words we use to describe God, or a theological concept, shape our understanding of God or theological concepts and thus our belief. A good example: at the conclusion of the penitential rite at Mass, the priest says, "may Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us of our sins and bring us to everlasting life." Hearing that week after week and year after year begins to shape how we think about God, namely, that God is all-mighty, so can do anything. Also, God can forgive sins and has the capability to admit us into life-without-end. In fact we take those attributes for granted. We do so because our beliefs about God have been shaped by the words we use at Mass.

I mention this in light of the Nicene Creed. The council, which produced the Creed (or rather its prototype), lasted about three months. Over three hundred bishops attended and discussed at length the questions of the day: namely, how could the Church talk about the Trinity? How could they explain the way in which the Father is related to the Son, and the Holy Spirit? We take this all for granted but in the fourth century there was not a consensus among Christians beliefs about God. There was a general idea but such ideas varied from one local Church to another. Such a lack of common understanding created great stress in the Church and also caused problems with the economy and governments. The Church needed unity in its beliefs. It was the Emperor Constantine who called for the council to bring harmony throughout the empire.

Though the council lasted three months, the discussions about the Trinity were going on for generations beforehand and after. The actual Creed which we use at Mass today didn't come about in its final form until some 56 years after the Council of Nicea during the Council of Constantinople. At both councils the bishops applied the principle of Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi. They had a sense that whatever they produced from the council would have lasting implications for Christians. They were thus very careful about their choice of words when talking about the Trinity.

Choice of words is very important in almost every culture. Think how things are described about every facet of common life. One news outlet can describe an event one way while another news outlet describes the same event in the completely different way. Each brings about a different understanding and thus beliefs. And more often than not, there are serious consequences based on those beliefs. It's not as if one is wrong and the other right, necessarily. They come at the event with different backgrounds, biases, and desired outcomes. This is certainly the case in the Church when it comes to social, theological and pastoral issues. The Creed, though, has been the foundation on which other conversations have taken place.

Next time you are reciting the Creed at Mass, consider for a moment how much work went into producing it.

Heartfelt Congratulations to our parishioners who were fully initiated into the Church through the anointing of the Holy Spirit in the **Sacrament of Confirmation** over the weekend! My profound thanks to Fr. Kevin and Karen Lane (and many others) who have worked diligently to provide the collaborative with a solid and substantial Confirmation program.

Deacon Patrick Bruen will be ordained to the priesthood next Saturday at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Detroit. I am looking forward to participating in the ritual of laying-on-of-hands at the ordination. Please offer prayers for Deacon Patrick this week. His plan is to return to Braintree in the Fall to offer a Mass of Thanksgiving.

This weekend are the parish meetings to discuss the **renovation project** of St. Clare Church sanctuary. Options for the meeting:

Sunday, after 7:45 Mass and 10:15 Mass

And Monday at 7:00pm.

All to take place in St Clare Church.

Also meeting this weekend are those interested in helping with the **community meal project**. This projects intends to provide a hot meal for anyone who needs it. Through the generosity of parishioners, we have been able to bring the kitchen at St. Francis Hall up to commercial standards. Now we need volunteers who would be willing to prepare and serve the meals. There is a meeting today (Sunday) at St. Clare Hall following the 10:15 Mass for those interested in learning about the project. For those who would like to go to both meetings, I encourage you to go to the community meal meeting. I can "catch you up" on the renovation meeting.

Fr. Bob

JUNE 1, 2025



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald



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. Deadline line to reserve tickets and a seat on the bus is THIS Monday, June 2nd.



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. **The Bereavement Group will break for the Summer after the meeting on June 21st. If you or someone you know are/is struggling with grief please call the office to arrange an in-person meeting.**

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
(Philippians 4:7)



REMEMBER
in your prayers

St. Clare

Daniel Lauria

Phyllis Murphy

Joseph A. Clougherty

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.



PROROME

A Spring 2026 Pilgrimage to Italy

Join Father Kevin Leaver on the Trip of a Lifetime

April 17 - 27, 2026

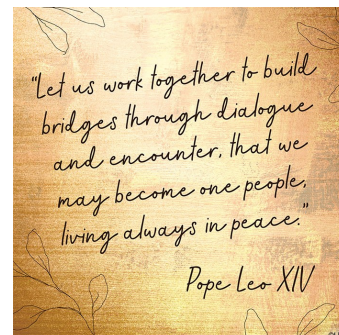
\$3640 land-only

We're excited to invite you and your family and friends on the trip of a lifetime next year. Not only will you see the new Pope and receive his blessing, but you also will walk in the footsteps of countless saints and martyrs, especially Saint Francis of Assisi and Clare of Assisi, our parish patrons. As the trip takes place during the 800th anniversary of the death of Saint Francis, a special focus on Franciscan saints will be placed, especially Saint Francis, Saint Clare and Saint Padre Pio.

The itinerary features two nights in Assisi, two nights in San Giovanni Rotondo, one night in Pompeii, and four nights in Rome. Daily Mass – the cornerstone of each day – will be complemented by a rich Catholic touring program designed to bring the pilgrims face to face with the great saints, martyrs, Eucharistic Miracles and cultural heritage of Roman Catholicism. Some highlights include St. Peter's Basilica, the Papal Basilicas, the Catacombs, the Vatican Museums, the Sanctuary of St. Michael, the Amalfi Coast, and many incredible saints, churches, basilicas and holy sites throughout Italy.

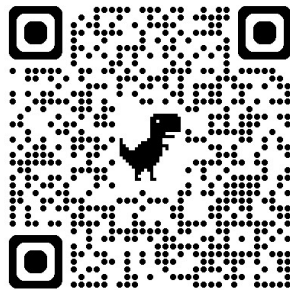
Roundtrip airfare and beautiful four-star hotels will be arranged. A ProRome tour manager will accompany the group throughout the course of the trip, and private bus transportation, Catholic tour guides, all tours and tickets, daily breakfast and either daily lunch or dinner are included in the price.

The cost is \$3640 land-only. Airfare from BOS will be available in late May 2025. Register now as the trip is filling quickly! For more information or to register please visit <https://prorometours.com/braintree/> or call ProRome Tours directly at (434) 953 1112.





The First Communion students made a class quilt. Each student decorated a square to symbolize their unique, individual friendships with Jesus that grew during their sacrament journey. Around the quilt are the sheep they decorated to represent their love for Jesus our Shepherd, who cares for us and helps us stay on the right path. The pictures from their First Communion Masses are also next to the quilt. Please come to the Religious Education Hall downstairs to see their beautiful work, and may we all continue to pray for the children as they continue to grow in their faith!



Our very FIRST Vacation Bible School at St. Clare Church Hall will be July 14-18! Registration is open, so click on the QR code here or on any of the flyers around the churches to register! The program is for kids entering kindergarten through grade 6, and students entering grade 7-12 are welcome to volunteer to help!

We're going on a Road Trip to 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) and experience twists, turns, and excitement as we face new challenges and find strength in God's presence on this unforgettable trip!



Our confirmation class is receiving the sacrament of confirmation this weekend! Please keep them in your prayers as they enter the next step in their spiritual journeys. We have reminded the students that confirmation is not an ending, but a new beginning, so we encourage them to continue to stay active in our collaborative!

Below is a schedule of summer activities for students in grades 7-12 - we look forward to a summer filled with faith and fun!

BRAINTREE CATHOLIC YOUTH

SUMMER WEDNESDAYS **2025**

STARTING JULY 6 THE SUNDAY 6 PM MASS IS MOVING TO ST. FRANCIS

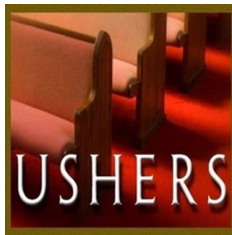
GATHERINGS FOR YOUTH AFTER MASS WILL ANNOUNCE THE WEEK PRIOR

E NCOUNTER	JUNE 25 JULY 30	Pizza & Prayer (Eucharistic Adoration) St. Clare 6:30pm
	Bible Study St. Clare 6:30pm	JULY 2 AUGUST 6 E NGAGE
E VANGELIZE	JUNE 28 JULY 14-18 AUGUST 13	Braintree Day Parade St. Francis 10:30am-end of Parade Vacation Bible School for Grades K-6 St. Clare 8:45AM-1:15PM How I share the Gospel Teen Witness Talk St. Francis 6:30pm
Friday-Parish WooSox Trip SixFlags New England- Details soon! Mini Golf-Details Soon!	JUNE 20* JULY 23 AUGUST 20	E NJOY

GRADES 7-12 WELCOME! **@BRAINTREECATHOLIC**



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.



We are looking for a couple of people to join our Team of Ushers at the 5:30 Mass at St. Francis of Assisi on Saturday evenings.

The responsibilities include arriving around 4:45 pm to help welcome the attendees, set out the bulletins and Pilots, and help with the collection and locking up, as needed. If you can help us out it would be much appreciated.

Please call Patty at the office if interested. Thank you!



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 Thursday, June 5, 2025 in St. Francis of Assisi Hall at 6:30 pm.

"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>



June 1: Ascension

Today as we celebrate the feast of the Ascension we are reminded that Christ's saving work on earth continues through his disciples... and now through us.

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and into the hearts of those who are poor.

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 Braintree Catholic on the memo line), or gift card—and place them into the collection basket or through the rectory mail slot. Thank you.**



"I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one." - Jn 17:22-23a

Readings Week of the

Readings for the week of June 1, 2025

Sunday: Acts 7:55-60/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/
Jn 17:20-26

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd,
6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/
Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a,
35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5,
7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12,
19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/
Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25

Next Sunday: *Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b
or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2,
24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30
(see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30,
31, 34 (see 30)/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13
or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23 or
Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26



From the Archdiocese of Boston

June 1 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter

Today's Gospel should be especially precious to us, for it is Jesus' prayer for us and for unity. He expresses his confidence in his disciples. Even though they didn't fully understand him; he knew that in a very short time they were going to abandon him in his hour of need. Yet to those very disciples he placed his confidence to spread his name throughout the world. The unity that Jesus prays for was not a unity of administration or organization. It was a prayer for a unifying love that binds us to one another in Christ. This love we have for Christ spills over into all our relationships and unites us as one! To whom might Jesus be inviting us, his disciples to bring share that unifying love?

World Apostolate of Fatima Annual Meeting in Honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (6/28)

The World Apostolate of Fatima of the Archdiocese of Boston will host its annual meeting in honor of The Immaculate Heart of Mary on June 28th from 9 AM - 3 PM at the Pastoral Center, Braintree. Fr. Elias Mary Mills, F.I. will present a talk on "The Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary - the messages of Our Lady at Fatima and Akita." For more information, please contact [Lorrain Allen](#) or visit the [website](#).

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

Why go to Mass this Jubilee Year?

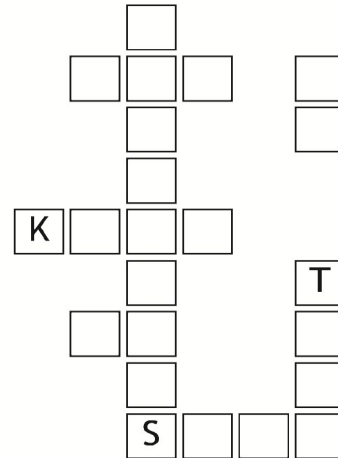
A Jubilee Year is for renewing and strengthening our relationship with God. At Mass, we receive Jesus in the Eucharist: body, blood, soul, and divinity. This communion gives us graces we need to live our Christian life. This Jubilee Year has hope as its theme. At Mass, we hear the Word of God and discover anew who Jesus is and why he is the source of our hope. Try going to Mass a little more often this year and see how your life could change.



PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

My followers know that you sent me.



MISSION

Plan a service project with children from another Christian church in your area. Collect food for a food pantry, or sing songs to the grandmas and grandpas in a nursing home.



Sharing the Gospel

If pieces are missing from a jigsaw puzzle, you cannot see the whole picture. If keys are missing from a piano, you cannot hear a whole song. When Christians do not work well together, the world cannot see how great and loving God is. Jesus prayed that all of us would stay close to God and to one another. Do your part. Encourage other Christians.

Prayer

God, I want the world to see how good you are. Help me to be good and loving to all Christians.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of you and other children from your church collecting food for the poor.

Mission for the Week

Plan a service project with children from another Christian church in your area. Collect food for a food pantry, or sing songs to the grandmas and grandpas in a nursing home.