

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

Summer Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00—4:00
Friday: 9:00—1:00

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, June 21, 2025

5:30PM Lorraine McGrath 4th Anniv.

Sunday, June 22, 2025

9:00AM Lillian & Joseph McCarthy, Catherine Murray and Irene Lynch Anniversary

11:30AM Daniel Crimmins Memorial

Monday, June 23, 2025

7:00AM Peter Bowler Memorial

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

7:00AM Ricard Fallon Memorial

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

7:00AM John O'Leary Memorial

Thursday, June 26, 2025

7:00AM

Friday, June 27, 2025

7:00AM St. John Seminary

Saturday, June 28, 2025

5:30PM Pauline Gardner and Robert Gardner 15th Anniv.
11th Anniv.

Sunday, June 29, 2025

9:00AM Mary McDonald Memorial

11:30AM John & Teresa Allen Anniversary



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, June 21, 2025

8:00AM James Burns Memorial

4:00PM Patricia A. & Daniel I. Ward Memorial

Sunday, June 22, 2025

7:45AM Kha Van Ho Memorial

10:15AM Joan Perkins Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Saturday, June 28, 2025

8:00AM Frances Woolf 1st Anniv.

4:00PM Peter, Joseph & Mary Tran Memorial

Sunday, June 29, 2025

7:45AM Kha Van Ho Memorial

10:15AM John Gately Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

The Bread & Wine and Sanctuary light for the week of June 21 through 27 were donated in loving memory of John F. Harkins.

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

Please call the collaborative office for more information.



Transubstantiation is the name of the mystery the Church gives to transformation of bread and wine into the **Body and Blood of Christ** during the Mass. In our culture we use the word mystery for a problem needing to be solved. In theology mystery refers to a reality beyond the limit of human intellect. This is not a “cop out” of a professed truth but rather an acknowledgement that the breadth of human reason cannot grasp the full reality of God. How ordinary bread and wine become Christ’s Body and Blood is therefore mystery. Nevertheless, it is part of the Church’s belief. More than a simple article of faith, the mystery of transubstantiation is the very source and summit of the entirety of our lives as Disciples of Christ. Guided by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the Church has come to the belief in its earliest days. Gathering the baptized to remember Christ’s Crucifixion and Resurrection by sharing bread and wine has been at the center of the Church’s activity since the days of the Apostles. The articulation of bread and wine transforming into Christ’s Body and Blood took centuries to develop.

Today’s **Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)** gives the Church to ponder the mystery of transubstantiation and the impact it has in our lives. Who would we be without the Eucharist? Where would we go without the Eucharist?

It is through the spoken words of the priest in the context of the Eucharistic Prayer that bread and wine are changed *substantially*. That is to say the physical properties remain unchanged but the essence of what it is changes radically. This happens in a similar way in Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders.

The reality of Transubstantiation is a mystery professed by the Church. An individual may struggle to accept this (we all do at some time I suppose) the profession of the Church carries us even when our faith is weak.

Moving the tabernacle at St. Clare Church

Today’s Solemnity provides a good opportunity to discuss the **tabernacle**. The tabernacle is the receptacle which holds the consecrated hosts which are Christ’s Body and Blood. We keep them outside for two reasons: first, so that Holy Communion may be brought to those who are sick are dying. Secondly we repose the Blessed Sacrament to foster a devotion to Christ who is physically present to the world through Sacramental signs. The word tabernacle

is from a Latin word meaning “tent”. In the years before the Temple was built in ancient Jerusalem, the Arc of the Covenant was kept in a tent which was dismantled and set up each time the Israelites moved, which was often. By keeping the Arc in a tent the Israelites had the sense that God was with them in a physical and mystical way.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, which is the document instructing us on how the Church should be set up and how Mass is to be celebrated does not mandate where in the Church the tabernacle is to be placed. What it says in GIRM #314, “The Most Blessed Sacrament should be reserved in a tabernacle in a part of the Church that is truly noble, prominent, conspicuous, worthily decorated and suitable for prayer.”

Before the Second Vatican Council the tabernacle was placed directly on the center of the altar so that the priest was saying the Eucharistic Prayer in front of the tabernacle. After the council, when the altar was pulled forward turning the priests to face the people, a place needed to be determined for the tabernacle. In some Churches it was simply left where it was as there would have been a new altar constructed allowing the priest to face the people. Other Churches moved the tabernacle to a side altar or chapel, as is the case in St. Clare Church. Over the years many parishioners have commented that they would like to see the tabernacle in the center of the sanctuary. Their reasoning is that when they enter the Church they want their act of devotion to be directed to Christ who is in the Center. In preparation for the renovation I questioned many people about the placement of the tabernacle. The response was unanimous that their preference is for it to be placed in the center.

All this to say, that as part of the renovation, the tabernacle will be placed in the center of the sanctuary directly under the Crucifix. The pink drape will be removed and stone-face backing will be put behind the Crucifix. New lighting will be installed to illuminate the Crucifix and tabernacle.

Can you contribute to the renovation?

I make a humble petition, at this time, for each household to consider what it is able to do to help with the cost of the renovation. The details of the costs were in last week’s bulletin. You can look at it by going to the collaborative web site. If you would like to make a contribution, simply place it in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket at any Mass. You can also give electronically by using the QR code in this bulletin or going to the collaborative web site.

This Tuesday is the **Midsummer’s Night Nativity!** This was a big day in the Church in years gone by. It marks the birthday of John the Baptist, who, as you

JUNE 22, 2025

recall in Luke's Gospel is six month's older than Jesus. There was a tradition that Mass be celebrated at sunset. In this way, Mass begins in daylight but ends in darkness (candlelight) so as to capture the spirituality of the Baptist which is "I must decrease so that He may increase". If you are able, please come for Mass Tuesday night at 8:00pm at St. Clare Church. We will begin Mass outside then process in to the Church which will be illuminated in candle light. After Mass there will be a light collation in the Church hall. What a great way to kick off the summer!

Next Sunday, June 29, is the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. Though celebrated every year, it only falls on a Sunday occasionally.

This year, however, is a rather special significance for the Archdiocese of Boston, as Archbishop Henning will receive the pallium from Pope Leo. The pallium is a vestment worn by the Pope and archbishops signifying the unity of the Church. I will write about the pallium in next week's bulletin. For those who are interested, however, the Mass from St. Peter's will be broadcast/livestreamed at 4:00am our time.

Fr. Bob



Confessions will not be heard at St. Francis of Assisi next Saturday, June 28th due to the Annual Braintree Independence Day Parade.

The Washington Street gate to the church parking lot will be closed that morning. Any parishioners who wish to park in our lots should enter via Tenney Road or Meadowbrook Road.

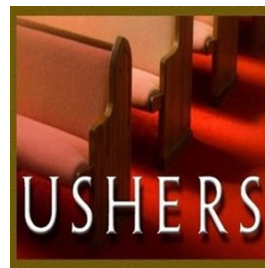


St. Clare

*Hayes Stephen Lambert
Owen Anthony Manganello
Jack Kenney Rose
Clodagh James Walsh
Sophia Bridget Walsh*

St. Francis of Assisi

*Kinsley Paul Hynes
Jack James Kelly*



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!



June 22: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Today we celebrate the gift of the Body and Blood of Christ we hear Jesus ask his disciples, "Why do you not give them something to eat yourselves?" And he shows them how by the multiplication of the five loaves and two fishes.

Today, as you donate to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul know that the multiplication of the loaves and fishes will happen again and the hungry will be fed.

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.**



Monday through Thursday: 9AM—4PM

Friday: 9AM—1PM

Closed Thursday, July 3rd and Friday, July 4th



Effective Sunday, July 6th the 6:00PM Mass will be moved to St. Francis of Assisi.

This week is the solemnity of Corpus Christi. Those words literally mean body of Christ! This celebration remembers the Last Supper that Jesus had with his apostles. The focus is not so much on the passion and death of Jesus, but that He is here among us for all time! Our First Communion classes learned about the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist this year. Next time you receive Holy communion, remember to talk to Jesus - He is always there for you!



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!



Below is a schedule of summer activities for students in grade 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

E
NCAGE

E
NCANCELIZE

JULY 2
AUGUST 6

Bible Study
St. Clare 6:30pm

E
NCAGE

E
NCANCELIZE

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

E
NCANCELIZE

E
NCANCELIZE

JUNE 20*
JULY 23
AUGUST 20

Friday--Parish WooSox Trip
SixFlags New England- Details soon!
Mini Golf-Details Soon!

E
NCANCELIZE

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

"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>





Then taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing over them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. They all ate and were satisfied. And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets.

Lk 9:16-17

Readings *of the Week*

Readings for the week of June 22, 2025

- Sunday: Gn 14:18-20/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 (4b)/
1 Cor 11:23-26/Lk 9:11b-17
- Monday: Gn 12:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20 and
22/Mt 7:1-5
- Tuesday: *Vigil:* Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab,
15ab and 17/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17
Day: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab,
14c-15/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80
- Wednesday: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7,
8-9/Mt 7:15-20
- Thursday: Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 or 16:6b-12, 15-16/
Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5/Mt 7:21-29
- Friday: Ez 34:11-16/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/
Rom 5:5b-11/Lk 15:3-7
- Saturday: Gn 18:1-15/Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50 and
53, 54-55/Mt 8:5-17
- Next Sunday: *Vigil:* Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/
Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19
Day: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7,
8-9/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19



St. Francis of Assisi

Doris Donahue
Michael Connelly
Paul Venuto

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

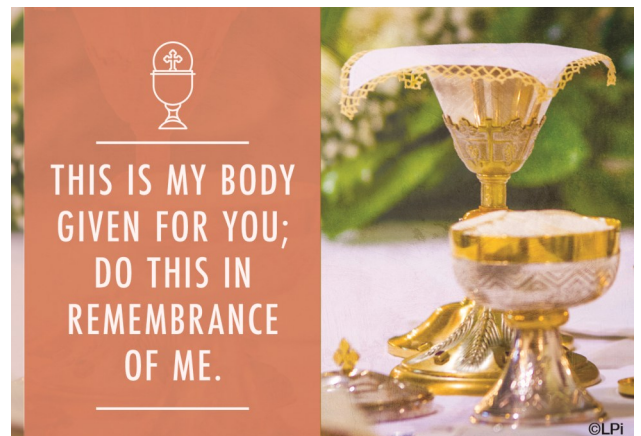
\$3640 land-only

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.





From the Archdiocese of Boston

June 22 ~Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood (Corpus Christi) Today, like every Sunday, we celebrate the mystery of our faith that forges our identity and strengthens us to be the very body of Christ that we receive. Celebrating the Body and Blood of Christ always calls us to do what he commanded: to share our lives as he did. The gift we receive and celebrate is the very center and heart of our church, the center and heart of our faith and our lives. So too, it must be the center and heart of our parish life. As we leave Mass today, having received Christ's body and blood, let us pray for our parish and ourselves be more and more Christ-like in all that we say and do.

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](#).

Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

What can I do to participate in the Jubilee Year?

A jubilee year is a time for forgiveness and renewal in our relationship with God. The theme of this year is about hope. Some ways you can participate are:

- Visit and pray at pilgrimage sites
- Join in the events around the archdiocese
- Revisit the fundamentals of our faith to bolster your hope in Jesus (Who is Jesus?, What did he do?, and Why does it matter?).
- Practice works of mercy and be signs of hope to those you encounter
- Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation more frequently throughout the year
- Share signs of hope on social media. Tag @BostonCatholic and use the hashtag #JubileeYear
- Talk to an acquaintance and get to know him/her better. If a friendship develops, share the reason for your hope in Jesus with that him/her.

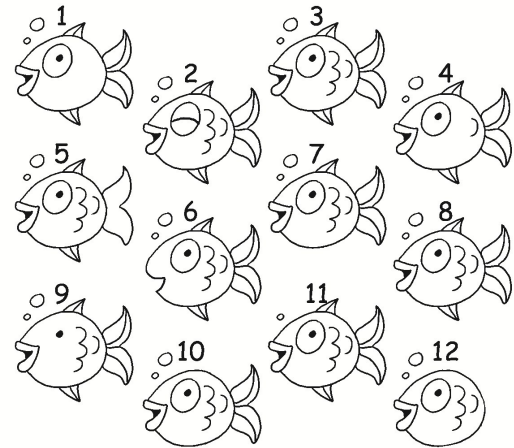


PRAY FOR VOCATIONS



PUZZLE

Find the identical fish!



ANSWER IS NUMBER THREE AND NUMBER EIGHT

MISSION

If God has blessed your family with plenty of food to eat, make sure you also give food to people who are hungry.



Sharing the Gospel

Jesus told his friends to give a whole crowd of people something to eat. All they had was a little fish and bread. How could they possibly feed all those people with so little food? God gave them what they needed to help other people. When you want to help other people, trust God to give you what you need.

Prayer

Dear God, with your power I can really help other people.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself sharing your lunch with a friend.

Mission for the Week

If God has blessed your family with plenty of food to eat, make sure you also give food to people who are hungry.