

Braintree Catholic Collaborative



St. Francis of Assisi Church

856 Washington Street
Braintree, Massachusetts

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:30PM

Sunday: 9:00, 11:30AM and
6:00PM effective July 6, 2025

Monday –Friday: 7:00AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 12:30-1:30PM

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
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
Rev. Wellington Oliveira, 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

St. Clare of Assisi Church

1244 Liberty Street
Braintree, Massachusetts

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM

Sunday: 7:45, 10:15AM

Saturday: 8:00AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: Following the 8AM Mass

Summer Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 9:00AM-4:00PM
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, August 9, 2025

5:30PM Nancy and Pamela Gorman Memorial

Sunday, August 10, 2025

9:00AM Francis H. Nehiley, Jr. 20th Anniv.

11:30AM Broughton & Dorgan Family Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Monday, August 11, 2025

7:00AM Christine Duane and Deceased Family Members Memorial

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

7:00AM

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

7:00AM James O'Hare Memorial

Thursday, August 14, 2025

7:00AM Mary Odenweller and Patricia Musgrove Healing

Friday, August 15, 2025

7:00AM

12:10PM Ann Fiore Memorial

5:30PM

Saturday, August 16, 2025

5:30PM Denis O'Brien and Anne O'Brien and Hazel Hartigan 6th Anniv. 5th Anniv.

Sunday, August 17, 2025

9:00AM Elisabetta & Lilla Candelieri Memorial

11:30AM Ann & Tom Glynn Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative



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, August 9, 2025

8:00AM Luke Conboy Memorial

4:00PM William Bill Joyce 1st. Anniv.

Kerry Marie Joyce and Deceased Memorial

Members of the Joyce Family

Sunday, August 10, 2025

7:45AM Kha Van Ho Memorial

10:15AM Eileen Romeo & Bruno Scanga Memorial

Saturday, August 16, 2025

8:00AM

4:00PM Patrick Flanagan, BPD Memorial

Sunday, August 17, 2025

7:45AM

10:15AM Carmella Barone 4th Anniv.

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.



Frederick C Boughton, Jr. & Julieanne M. Flowers III

Lauren Riley and Jeeva Jacob II

Casey Elijah Kelly & Kimberly Robin Morgan I



The Nicene Creed

A summer series marking the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicea

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

Ascend simply means to “go up”. According to St. Luke’s *Acts of the Apostles* that’s exactly what Jesus did after a period of time following the Resurrection. Such a description denotes that Heaven is up and so we figure hell, then, must be down. At a time when the earth was understood to be the center of the universe, the up and down of afterlife made sense. If not up, then where exactly is heaven? It’s not a matter of where, as if plotted on a map. Heaven is the fullness of God’s presence. It’s easy to say that it is in another dimension. The ancient Greeks understood that Heaven is *reality* in its fullest sense. What we know of life is a lesser sense of reality. Some would describe the universe as a shadow of the fullness of reality. God is not part of creation but is completely other. It’s hard to grasp what that means. At the very least it means that there is a kind of abyss between the life we live and the reality of God. This abyss has been transcended in the Incarnation, when God took on our human nature in the person of Jesus born of the Virgin Mary. The Ascension closes up the abyss, if you will, to make it possible for us to share in the full reality of God, which ultimately means eternal life.

To say that Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father emphasizes the relationship between the Father and Son. To sit at the right hand was the greatest place of honor implies the Father’s total confidence, affection, and love for that child.

*He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.*

The Paschal Mystery, that is the act by which God saved the world in the death and Resurrection of His Son, transcends time as there is “more to come”. Because we have free will, and thus can choose something other than God, the Kingdom of God is not yet complete. If you think about it, the Kingdom of God requires a separation of those who have accepted God’s invitation to eternal life from those who have not. We call this The Last Judgement. The 25th chapter of Matthew’s Gospel states that “when the Son of

Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with him...and all the nations will be assembled before Him. And He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. To the sheep he will say *Come you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the Kingdom prepared for you.* To the goats He will say *Depart from me you accursed, into the eternal fire.* Sounds harsh. This is figurative language, of course, but captures the essence of final judgement: Christ honors the choices we have made and will not force His love or the Kingdom upon anyone. Christ continues to labor through the workings of the Holy Spirit to draw all people unto Himself. No person is to be denied the love of Christ and the opportunity for the Kingdom. Christ is for all people, even those who have not heard of Him or been brought up to believe.

For disciples of Christ it is hard to accept that anyone would not choose the Kingdom. There are people throughout the world, however, who have chosen to reject Christ and want no part of the Kingdom of God. They demonstrate by their actions and lifestyle that they want to go their own way, most usually one of self determination. They are not necessarily evil, but make choices based on what is for the advancement of their own pleasure, wealth, fame or wealth. The Good News which Christ preached, and the Church continues to speak, is that there is ALWAYS the opportunity for conversion...even until a person’s last breath. No one is condemned by their past! Regardless of our personal history, Christ is always ready and desiring to embrace us!

For your prayerful consideration, may I suggest reading the 25th chapter of Matthew and the 6th chapter of John for how judgement works and how we prepare for eternal life.

Tomorrow (Monday) is the **Feast of St. Clare of Assisi**, one of the patron saints of our collaborative. Mass for the feast in most appropriate. Though not a holyday, per se, the feast has a special meaning for the parishioners of our two parishes. If not Mass, may I encourage you to offer prayers this day for the collaborative, remembering especially, those who are ill, dying, grief-stricken, or living in despair. This gives me the opportunity to express my gratitude for all the wonderful people who make up the faith communities of our two parishes. I thank especially our many volunteers and benefactors who make the work of our parishes possible.

Heartfelt welcome to **Father Leo Shea** of the **Maryknoll Missionaries** who is visiting the parishes this weekend on behalf of the Propagation of the Faith. As you well know, every year each parish is asked to host a missionary preacher to help connect our experience of Church with the wider mission. In generations past, people would pack Churches to listen to the stories of

missionaries. Long before internet and television, it is how many Catholics came to learn about other parts of the world. The visit of the missionary was a big deal in a local community.

There will be a second collection today to support the work of the Maryknoll Missionaries.

Friday is the **Solemnity of the Assumption** of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Given Mary's unique role in both the Incarnation and Paschal Mysteries, she was taken immediately into Heaven at the end of her earthly life. She already shares in the glory of the Resurrection. It is most appropriate to render thanks to God for Mary's participation in salvation by participating in the Mass. For this reason, the Church has designated this a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass schedule is elsewhere in this bulletin.



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Friday, August 15 is The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass schedule for the collaborative of St. Francis /St. Clare of Assisi is:

St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, August 15 7:00AM,
12:10 and 5:30PM

St. Clare

Thursday, August 14 Vigil 4:00PM
Friday, August 15 9AM



St. Francis of Assisi
Gabriella Corinne Lane



Monday—Thursday 9AM—4PM
Friday 9AM—1PM
Closed Friday, August 29th.

MISSION APPEAL—As part of the annual Missionary Co-Operative Program Rev. Leo Shea, MM representing The Society of the Propagation of the Faith, will speak at all Masses this weekend. The Society for Propagation of the Faith is one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies represented here in the Archdiocese of Boston. Father Shea will share stories of the missions and help us build a spiritual connection to others whose daily lives may be very different from ours. The Society of the Propagation of the Faith is the official mission agency of the Catholic Church dedicated to assisting and supporting laypeople, priests, and religious in their evangelizing missionary work. Envelopes are in the pews for this weekend's **second collection**. You can also take the envelope home to mail your gift in, visit www.propfaithboston.org to donate, or use this QR code. Please be sure to identify our parish so that we are credited for your gift.



May our hearts and ears be opened by the Holy Spirit to support and pray for all missionaries and people they serve in the missions.

"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.html>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS



The new Religious Education Year is starting soon! The schedules are being finalized and will be announced on the website in late August. If you haven't yet registered for classes, please go to the Faith Formation page of the Collaborative Website at <https://braintreecatholic.org/faith-formation/> where you can print out the registration form. After you fill it out, you can return it by dropping it in the collection basket at any Mass or mail it to the Collaborative Office at 856 Washington Street. Looking forward to an awesome year!



We have some terrific things planned in September, so mark your calendars!

Sunday, September 7

- During the 10:15 Mass at St. Clare will be the Backpack Blessing! All students and teachers (as well as our new superintendent!) are welcome to bring their backpacks/computer bags to be blessed and receive a special tag for their school bags!
- After the Mass we will have a Family Faith Gathering in the Hall from 11:15-12:15. We will be celebrating the canonization of the first millennial Saint - Carlo Acutis!
- We will also have the official unveiling of the Carlo Acutis Teen Room in the Hall on September 7. We are grateful to some Xaverian Brother High School students who spent a day last week helping to paint the room to get it ready!



Sunday, September 14

- After the 10:15 Mass at St. Clare will be the Second Annual Collaborative Picnic! There will be a visit from the Braintree Fire Department, lots of activities and crafts for kids, and even some raffle items especially for kids! Join us for a fun day!

Sunday, September 21

- During the 10:15 Mass at St. Clare will be the Blessing of the Catechists! Being a catechist is a wonderful way to share your time and talent in our collaborative. New Catechists are needed, so please email Karen Lane at klane@sfab.org if you are interested!



- During the Mass the Children's Choir will be back! We are looking for some more singers! We meet at 9:45 each Sunday. There is no commitment necessary so you can come whenever you are available! Please email Karen Lane at klane@sfab.org if you are interested in joining us!
- After the Mass will be the first Sunday RE Class in the Hall!

TRUE or FALSE ?

1. The eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him.
2. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed.
3. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob lived in a town.
4. Abraham's wife, Sarah, was sterile.
5. Abraham's descendants were not numerous.
6. Jesus told his disciples not to be like servants.
7. Blessed are those servants who are vigilant.
8. Even if the master of the house knew when the thief was coming, he could do nothing.
9. Jesus likened himself to a bridegroom returning from a wedding.
10. Jesus told his disciples to relax while waiting for him to come.

ANSWERS

1 true, 2 true, 3 false, 4 true, 5 false, 6 false, 7 true, 8 false, 9 true, 10 false.



August 10: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In this Gospel, Jesus says "Sell your belongings and give alms. Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven that no thief can reach nor moth destroy."

Please help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul bring respite and hope to the elderly who are not able to find relief from the summer heat, and you will indeed find "an inexhaustible treasure in heaven!"



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FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is next weekend, August 16-17. 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.**



Community Meals

After listening to our volunteers, the **Community Meal Ministry** has reconsidered and now happily welcomes our youth to volunteer for this new ministry. Young parishioners aged 13 or over will serve as volunteers-at-large and be assigned duties consistent with our needs and their abilities on the night of their service. If interested, please call the Collaborative Office and leave your name and contact information, including an email address.



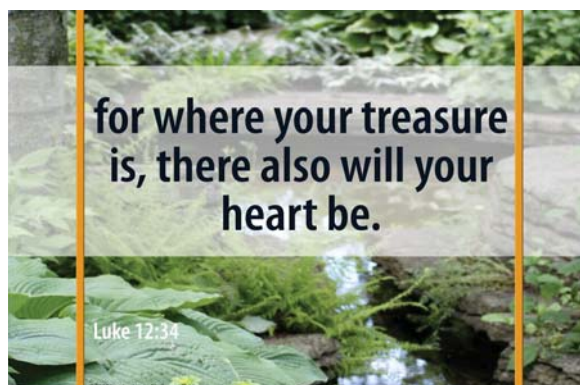
The **2nd Annual Collaborative Picnic** is scheduled for Sunday September 14th at St. Clare. Tickets will go on sale after all Masses beginning the weekend of August 23rd. More information to follow in future bulletins. If you have any items you would like to donate for raffle/door prizes please contact the Collaborative Office.

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.

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.



We are pleased and honored to provide this bulletin for the Braintree Catholic Collaborative of Saint Clare and Saint Francis of Assisi.



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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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"Be a Servant" Matthew 20:26



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