

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 23, 2025

5:30PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Sunday, August 24, 2025

9:00AM Brian Sampson Anniversary

11:30AM Frances Salvucci Memorial

6:00PM Peter J. Forbes Memorial

Monday, August 25, 2025

7:00AM Raymond, Wanda & Helena Memorial
Warkasket and Evelyn Lambert

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

7:00AM

Wednesday, August 27, 2025

7:00AM

Thursday, August 28, 2025

7:00AM Mary Hamel Anniversary

Friday, August 29, 2025

7:00AM Sandra Rober and Arthur Torrey Healing

Saturday, August 30, 2025

5:30PM Ann Fiore Memorial

Sunday, August 31, 2025

9:00AM Genevieve McCarthy & Anne Dooley Memorial
3rd Anniv.

11:30AM David & Marie Parr Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative 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, August 23, 2025

8:00AM Rev. James Lerner Memorial

4:00PM Thomas H. Byron 4th Anniv.

Sunday, August 24, 2025

7:45AM

10:15AM Manuel Dalomba and Elizabeth Soares 1st Anniv.
Memorial

Saturday, August 30, 2025

8:00AM Elizabeth & Mary Manning and James Walsh Memorial

4:00PM Arduino DiCenso Memorial

Sunday, August 31, 2025

7:45AM Daniel Crimmins and Kathleen Crimmins Memorial
Healing

10:15AM John Twomey Memorial

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.



Casey Elijah Kelly & Kimberly Robin Morgan III



The Nicene Creed

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

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

The four adjectives to describe the Church are called the *Four Marks of the Church*. In professing our faith, we state quite boldly that part of what we believe is the Church. The Church is not an earthly entity such as a club or political party. It is the presence of Christ on earth. That's a bold statement, I know, but it is an essential part of the Creed. We call the Church the *Mystical Body of Christ* as it allows the Risen and Ascended Christ to be in the world through the community of the faithful. As is written in Matthew 18, *where ever two or three are gathered in my name I am with them*.

We use four words to characterize the Church.

One To say the Church is one simply means there is only one Church. Granted, the Church is divided. Last week I mentioned the Schism of 1054. Then there was the Reformation and establishment of Protestant communities since the 16th century. Some Protestant communities recognize that there are many Churches: in some cases each individual community comprises a Church which can decide for itself what exactly to believe in order for worship. When we profess the Creed at Sunday Mass we are making a bold proclamation that there is only one Church. Therefore, our activity as disciples of Christ is to reunite what has been divided.

Holy To say the Church is holy implies that it is not merely a human construct but is ultimately of God. The Church is both divine and human. If it were not, there is no way that it could have survived for 2000 years. Therefore the very way we care for and participate in the life of the Church is an expression of our care and love for God.

Catholic. This word means universal and signifies that the Church is meant for all people. How often this point is debated. There are some members of the Church who feel that membership in the Church should be for those who follow all the precepts of the Church. Others would say that because God loves all people that anyone can be in the Church. What does the Church say about this? Christ came to save all people from the power of sin and death therefore everyone can be a member of the Church. Initiation into the Mystical Body is through Baptism, Confirmation and Holy

Eucharist. These provide God's grace to live a life worthy of the call we have received. We have to accept, though, that there are some people who want know part of the Church or who believe that they can be part of God's Kingdom without the Church. If this were possible, the Church would have died out years ago. There is no other way to salvation than Christ! Plain and simple. The Church is Christ's Body extended in time and space. Obviously, this makes for a lively discussion. However, this is only a bulletin column meant to shed light on the Creed.

Apostolic. The Church was established by Jesus Christ who commissioned His Apostles to Baptize, preach and forgive sins in His name. They, in turn, commissioned other Apostles, who, in turn, commissioned other Apostles. You get the idea. Our Church today is what was established on the day of Pentecost by Peter and the other Apostles after receiving the Holy Spirit. The bishops of the Church are the successors of the Apostles. By saying we believe in a Church that is Apostolic we are claiming that the history and heritage of the past 2000 years, and what is to come in the future, are all part of the Church.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

"Silver Rose Program- The Braintree Knights of Columbus **will hold the silver rose prayer service & rosary in the lower church hall of St. Francis at 12:45pm on August 31st**

The Silver Rose Program is a Rosary centered occasion promoting the dignity of all human life and honors Our Lady of Guadalupe. **The parish community is invited to attend and join with us in this service as the Silver rose continues it's pilgrimage through the Northeast before returning to Mexico"**

SCRIPTURE READINGS 2025 YEAR C

SUNDAY Aug 24	Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
MONDAY Aug 25	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a+9b/Mt 23:13-22
TUESDAY Aug 26	1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mt 23:23-26
WEDNESDAY Aug 27	1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32
THURSDAY Aug 28	1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-4, 12-13, 14+17/Mt 24:42-51
FRIDAY Aug 29	1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1+2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mk 6:17-29
SATURDAY Aug 30	1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30
SUNDAY Aug 31	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14



*From Deacon
Joe MacDonald*

Enter by the narrow gate. What does that mean? And what are we entering? The answer, I think, is found in today's Gospel acclamation:

"I am the way, the truth and the life," says the Lord; "no one comes to the Father, except through me." (John 14:6)

It is obvious that Jesus is the narrow gate, and that gate leads to the Kingdom of God. The question arises, "How do we enter this gate?" The Lord himself gave us the way – the Sacrament of Baptism. This is the first step toward the Kingdom. The Lord tells us today that many will try to enter but will not be strong enough. To enter we must be strong enough and willing enough to follow Christ and resist temptations. There is some effort needed on our part.

Today many of us go to fitness centers in order to remain strong and healthy. This is an important endeavor. We need to take care of the bodies that have been given to us as a gift from our loving Father. But we also need to keep our faith strong by daily prayer, frequent reception of the Sacraments and reading the Scriptures.

There are people in this parable that arrive after the door after it's been locked and aren't allowed to enter. "I don't know you," the master said. "But we ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets." He may have taught in their streets, but did they listen? Did they learn anything? This is when things get harsh, "Depart from me you evildoers!" The door won't always be open. The gate does close.

Who is all this addressed to? Back in verse 10, which we don't read today, Jesus had healed a woman who had been crippled for eighteen years. You'd think there would be nothing to criticize, except that Jesus did this on the Sabbath which won Him the scorn and criticism of the leaders of the synagogue.

The scribes and Pharisees and religious leaders were always jealous of Jesus to the point of wanting him dead. But Jesus would not stop preaching even to them. But their hearts were closed. They were going to enter the kingdom and no one else. Certainly not the gentiles. They harbored great malice toward them simply because they were not Jews. Jesus clearly objected to this way of thinking as we saw in the parable of the Good Samaritan.

And so, nothing would sting more for these men (or make them more angry) than to hear Jesus say that they would see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in

God's kingdom but they themselves would be cast out. Why? Because they were hypocrites. They were the first to receive the invitation to God's kingdom but didn't RSVP and so it would be gentiles from all four corners of the world that would be let in and be seated at the heavenly banquet.

We need to look at our own lives and attitudes and not just offer lip service to our faith. We can't be hypocrites like those first century leaders. The door won't always be open to us. At the end of our lives, we don't want to be the ones standing on the outside looking in. So, let's make sure we are strong in our faith and strong in our love for God and each other and may our prayers always include those who risk not entering by the narrow gate.



*St. Francis of Assisi
Clara Michelle Bezreh
Luca Michael Camobreco
Avielle Renee Teixeira
Estella Faye Querzoli
Maverick Martin Querzoli
Gabrielle Noelle Querzoli*

**REST IN
PEACE**

St. Francis of Assisi
Marie A. Young
George E. Billotte, Jr.
David Good

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.

Labor Day

The Collaborative Office will be closed Friday, August 29th through Monday September 1st in observance of Labor Day.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

The St. Francis School community had a reunion last week! Students, teachers, family, and even the school mascot "Wolfie" attended!



After enjoying some delicious snacks and wonderful conversation, everyone headed over to take a look at the school. The students enjoyed peeking into their old classrooms!



Lots of memories were recalled, like concerts and plays on the school stage!

Many students took the opportunity to sit in the Principal's and Secretary's desks!



Are you ready for a new Religious Education Year?

The schedules will be announced soon! 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. Feel free to email Karen Lane with any questions or concerns at klane@sfab.org Looking forward to an awesome year of faith, learning, and fun!

Please mark your calendars for some very special events:

Sunday, September 7

- During the 10:15 Mass at St. Clare we will have the Backpack Blessing! All students, teachers, and staff 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, and officially unveiling the Carlo Acutis Teen Room!



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





August 24: Twenty- first Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us to "strive to enter through the narrow gate." Our call to be disciples and to follow Jesus demands that we learn to live for the sake of others.

In the month of August, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist families, providing food, financial assistance for utility and rent bills, etc. Thank You!

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.**



The 2nd Annual Collaborative Picnic is scheduled for Sunday September 14th at St. Clare. Tickets are on sale after all Masses **THIS** weekend. The picnic will run from 11AM-3PM. Tickets \$20, free for children under the age of 8. This includes the barbecue luncheon, beverages and dessert. If you have any items you would like to donate for raffle/door prizes please contact the Collaborative Office.

"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>



From the Archdiocese of Boston

Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats

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. Fall dates are Saturday, September 27 and Saturday, October 18. Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact *Project Rachel* at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

Hope for Life Conference (10/4)

The Hope for Life Conference will be held on Saturday, Oct. 4th at the Track at New Balance in Brighton from 8 AM-4 PM. All are invited to this special event featuring *The Chosen's* Jonathan Roumie, Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart, Mass by Archbishop Henning, music by the Vigil Project, and much more. The event is a collaboration of the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office, the Daughters of Mary of Nazareth, and the Men of Divine Mercy Prayer Group. Please join us in honoring the sanctity and beauty of life. For more information and tickets, visit hopeforlifeboston.com.

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass (10/26)

All couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, or 50th wedding anniversaries or another special milestone are invited to a celebratory Mass on Sunday, Oct. 26th at 3:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston. Couples will renew their marriage commitment and receive a special blessing. Family and friends are invited to attend. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/WeddingAnniversaryMass2025>. For more information, please email Emily Elliott at marriageprep@rcab.org or call 617-746-5756.



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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