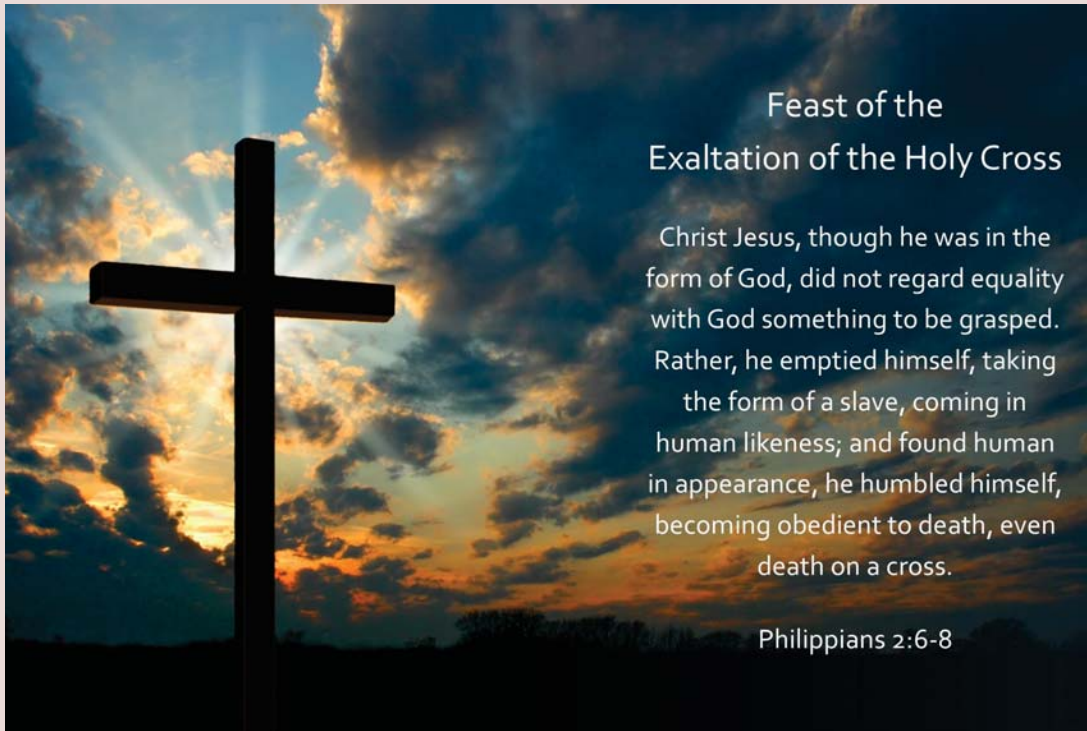


Braintree Catholic Collaborative



Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:6-8

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, September 13, 2025

5:30PM Ellen White Anniversary

Sunday, September 14, 2025

9:00AM Pasquale & Benedetta Compagnone Memorial

11:30AM Louie & Catherine Luccio and Louis Luccio, Jr. Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative Memorial

Monday, September 15, 2025

7:00AM Robert & Natalie Faherty and John & Mary Faherty Memorial

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

7:00AM Special Intention

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

7:00AM Joseph & Rose Faherty Memorial

Thursday, September 18, 2025

7:00AM

Friday, September 19, 2025

7:00AM Dick Hamel Memorial

Saturday, September 20, 2025

5:30PM Thomas & Helen Reynolds Memorial

Sunday, September 21, 2025

9:00AM Paul Agnew 2nd Anniv.

11:30AM Frank & Mary Gaviani, Gino & Irene Croatti and Jean Schohan Croatti 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, September 13, 2025

8:00AM Vera Sullivan Casey and Bill Sullivan Memorial

4:00PM Robert McDermott Memorial

Sunday, September 14, 2025

7:45AM

10:15AM Mary Sawyer Memorial

Saturday, September 20, 2025

8:00AM Frederick Mitchell Memorial

4:00PM Claire Cavanaugh and Deceased Members of the Hamrock Family 8th Anniv Memorial

Sunday, September 21, 2025

7:45AM

10:15AM Giuseppe Gioioso 1st 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.



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS



The Nicene Creed

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

I have enjoyed preparing the articles for the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicea which set into motion the articulation of the faith in what we call the Nicene Creed. The series concludes today with a few thoughts.

The Creed was created in a tumultuous time in history. Given the lack of a speedy communication system, there was a sense of isolation that we simply cannot grasp. As a result, as the message of the Gospel spread there was no comprehensive articulation of the faith. Some people believe one thing about Jesus Christ while people in another land believed something different. This caused an economic stress in the empire which prompted the emperor to call all the bishops together to figure out, once and for all, what the Church believed about God. In the summer of 325 many of the bishops met to discuss and argue over very important truths. They produced an outline of a Creed which would take on its current form over fifty years later. With the promulgation of the Creed there was a clearly stated articulation of the what the Church believed and, therefore, to what each member was bound to be true.

When struggling with your own faith, it might be helpful to pray the Creed remembering that when you have trouble believing, the Community of Faith believes for you. In other words, you are bound to Christ and His Body by the truths articulated in the Creed. To take a deeper dive into any of the tenants of the Creed, I suggest using the Catechism of the Catholic Church which goes into every aspect of the Creed in great detail. It also includes Scriptural and other references for further reading.

The Creed was the product of what is called an *ecumenical council* which is the highest teaching office in the Church. It is therefore infallible, that is without error. It is binding to all the members of the Church. Though some people may find that burdensome, I find it liberating. Why? Because I don't have the pressure of having to make sense of it in order to believe it. The Church, into which I am baptized, carries me in belief. Any tenant of the Creed doesn't depend on me and my limited mental capacity to understand. When reciting or praying with the Creed, it's important to keep that fact in mind. Faith is bigger than my

ability to understand and my desire to believe.

Fr. Bob



Deacon Mike Cavanaugh will be honored at the 4:00 Mass next Saturday, September 20th in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of his Diaconate Ordination. A reception will follow in the church hall. Please join us in congratulating Deacon Mike and thanking him for his dedicated service to our Collaborative.

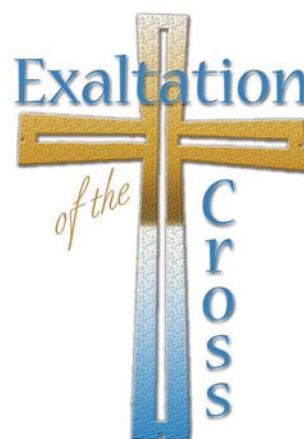
SCRIPTURE READINGS 2025 YEAR C

SUNDAY Sept 14	Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
MONDAY Sept 15	1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
TUESDAY Sept 16	1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17
WEDNESDAY Sept 17	1 Tm 3:14-16/Psalm 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35
THURSDAY Sept 18	1 Tm 4:12-16/Psalm 111:7-8, 9, 10/Lk 7:36-50
FRIDAY Sept 19	1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3
SATURDAY Sept 20	1 Tm 6:13-16/Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15
SUNDAY Sept 21	Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

Pilot Bulletins



Saturday, September 27th —A Day of Recollection for Women at St. Clare. Details to follow.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS

Sunday, September 7 was a truly special day! During the 10:15 am Mass, Father Bob blessed the backpacks of the children, and gave them a backpack blessing tag to put on their bags. Many teachers and even our new superintendent Mr. Mac, also received backpack blessing tags for their bags! We pray for a wonderful school year filled with learning, fun, and growth!



After the Mass, Father Bob offered a blessing for the dedication of our new Saint Carlo Acutis Teen Room in the Religious Education Hall! Lydia, one of the teens who helped to paint the room this summer, did the ceremonial ribbon cutting to open the room for all to see.



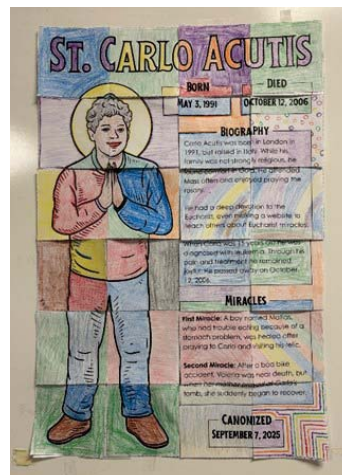
There were lots of activities for the kids, including a collaborative poster and a story wheel. The kids also reflected on their own journeys to sainthood!



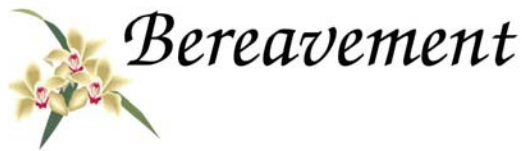
The Teen room has books, puzzles, and board games for students to use and borrow. There is a bulletin board with some quotes by St. Carlo, and a mural that represents his life. It is exciting to learn about the life of St. Carlo and make connections to our own lives (for example, he played soccer, went hiking with his dog, and played video games just like kids today!)



All were invited to write a prayer to St. Carlo on a post-it note which were later placed on the wall surrounding his portrait.



Classes begin next week. Please see the Collaborative website Braintreecatholic.org for information about full schedule and registration.



Braintree Catholic Collaborative Support Group

Are you grieving the loss of someone close to you? If you are interested in talking about your grief and need support in your grief healing, we are again beginning our bereavement classes. They will be every Saturday at 10:30AM at St. Francis of Assisi church hall. The hour-long meeting will help you bring your suffering to the Lord and also allow you to know others who are going through something similar.

Meetings will begin Saturday, October 4 and will meet weekly from 10:30—11:30AM.

No sign-up or commitment, just a place to come and find comfort.

"What we once enjoyed and deeply loved we can never lose, for all that we loved deeply becomes part of us."

Helen Keller

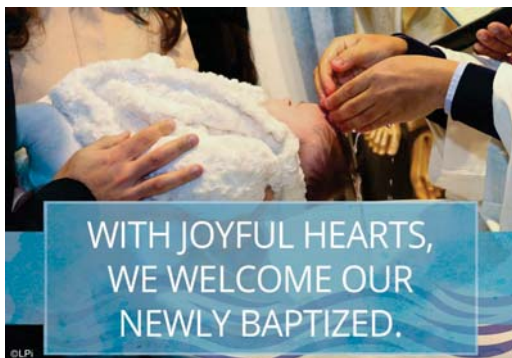
REST IN PEACE

St. Francis of Assisi

Thomas Mahoney

Gerald "Jake" Giacobbe

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.



St. Francis of Assisi

Luna Mary Boudreau



September 14: Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

Today's Gospel reminds us of God's great love for each of, a love so great that He sent His son not to condemn the world, but to save it, so that we might have eternal life.

Is there a neighbor or friend of yours who is in temporary need because of a loss of a job or an illness? Please leave a message for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul...we want to help!



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is next weekend, September 20-21. 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.**

Weekly email from the Collaborative

We recently heard that some of you are not receiving the weekly email and bulletin which is sent out every Friday. If you are not, but would like to, please call the office at 781-843-1332 or email pkinnally@sfa.org so that we can be sure that we have the most accurate information for you.

"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.

CURSILLO - An Opportunity to Deepen Your Faith

The Cursillo is a "short course in Christianity" that begins on a Thursday evening and concludes Sunday afternoon. Each Cursillo weekend is an encounter with Christ in the Catholic tradition in a small community of the Church, in order that Christ's love and grace can be brought to every aspect of our daily Catholic life.

The Archdiocese of Boston Cursillo Weekends are held at: The Notre Dame Spirituality Center 30 Jeffrey's Neck Rd, Ipswich MA 01938.

For more information go to: www.bostoncursillo.org or call: Chris Graf 617-332-5548.

The date for the upcoming Mens Cursillo Weekend: October 2-5, 2025.



CROSSWORD

(Most answers are in today's readings)

CLUES ACROSS

1. Another name for a snake
5. An untruth 6. Opposition; I fight _____ you 7. If a serpent did this to you, it would harm you 9. Great prophet of Israel 10. Refusal 12. Opposite of in 13. Country with pyramids 14. Come _____ once 15. Everlasting

Last week's wordsearch

S	H	O	U	S	E	G	J	S	D	L	H
T	W	L	O	V	E	U	N	K	I	T	M
P	A	I	D	G	E	I	W	O	N	N	E
S	R	W	C	F	I	L	N	Q	R	I	G
A	N	R	B	K	A	T	M	P	E	F	O
L	C	O	H	M	E	C	H	U	R	C	H
M	T	N	U	L	J	D	K	O	Z	A	U
S	R	G	Q	L	I	S	T	E	N	X	Y
W	W	O	R	D	G	Z	C	F	W	V	D
P	V	B	S	X	A	Y	K	N	E	E	L

CLUES DOWN

1		2		3		4	
					5		
6							
						7	
			8				
	9						10
						11	
12				13			
14			15				

1. Someone owned by someone else 2. A way for travel 3. A place where young snakes are hatched 4. Smash completely 7. We must _____ good Christians 8. Wilderness without water 9. Short for mountain 11. Not closed

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TRUE or FALSE ?

1. The Israelites set out on the Red Sea road, towards Mount Hor.
2. The people complained against God and Moses.
3. The people were bitten by scorpions.
4. Moses made a serpent out of silver.
5. Whoever had been bitten and looked at the serpent was healed.
6. Time and again, God turned back his anger.
7. Jesus humbled himself to come in human likeness, as a human being.
8. The name of Jesus in itself requires no respect.
9. Jesus was lifted up on the cross like the serpent in the desert.
10. God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it.

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

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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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