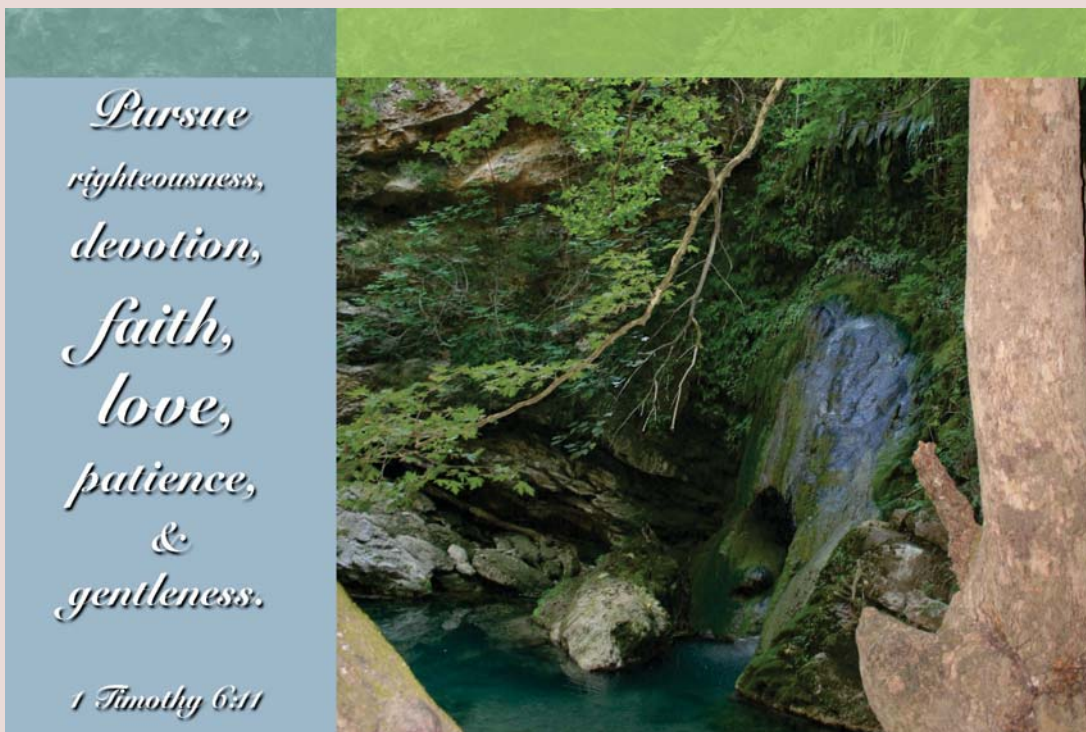


Braintree Catholic Collaborative



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, October 4, 2025

5:30PM Mary Hamel Memorial

Sunday, October 5, 2025

9:00AM Marty Murphy 22nd Anniv.

11:30AM Len Civittolo Memorial

6:00PM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Monday, October 6, 2025

7:00AM Lucy Ngugi Googhee Spec. Intent.

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Thursday, October 9, 2025

7:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

Friday, October 10, 2025

7:00AM James J. Whalen,
Colleen Whalen-Berman and
Randall Berman Memorial

Saturday, October 11, 2025

5:30PM Paul O'Reilly and
Anna & Joseph Dunlea Memorial

Sunday, October 12, 2025

9:00AM Patrice McAndrew Kelly 2nd Anniv.

11:30AM Edward Marks 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.



If anyone missed the annual Financial Report that was in the bulletin recently, it is available online at the Collaborative website, under the "About" heading and under Financial Reports.

Mass Intentions

2S. Clare

Saturday, October 4, 2025

8:00AM Charlene Chen Month's Mind

4:00PM Rees J. Irvine 3rd Anniv.

Sunday, October 5, 2025

7:45AM Marie Reis Memorial

10:15AM Paul & Regina Centauro,
Christine & Robert Gannon,
Regina Bernoe and Mary Gannon Memorial

Saturday, October 11, 2025

8:00AM Parishioners of the Collaborative

4:00PM Robert W. Osgood 1st Anniv.

Sunday, October 5, 2025

7:45AM Alice & Robert Kelley Memorial

10:15AM Julia Folan Downing and
Mary & Mark Folan 6th Anniv.
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.



Michael Coyne & Sara Senesac I



PREPARING FOR MASS

Saint Charles Borromeo, when serving as Cardinal-Archbishop of Milan in the 16th century, was confronted by one of his priests who complained that when celebrating Mass his mind was filled with thousands of thoughts that distract him from what he was doing. I can certainly relate to that as there are times when I am distracted from what I am doing at the altar! St Charles responded to the priest by asking him what he was doing just prior to the Mass? Often, distractions at Mass come for all of us when we enter into it as simply one more task of the day.

I thought it would be helpful to use this space over the next few weeks to discuss **how to prepare ourselves for Mass**. Given its importance, it seems to me that we want the time spent at Church to have a spiritual benefit.

So many times over the years people have told me that they don't go to Mass regularly because they don't get anything out of it, or it simply doesn't seem to be pertinent. To be sure, the value of the Mass does not depend on whether any of us get anything out of it. Hopefully, even saying that will provide a context for preparation. The Mass is the *Paschal Mystery*, that is, Christ's death and Resurrection, extended in time and space. Regardless of how focused we are, (even the priest) the Mass is the source and summit of all Christian activity. Even if the priest is guilty of sin, distracted, doubtful; even if the Mass is celebrated poorly or sloppily, it remains the center of the life of the Church. Christ is made present, body, soul and divinity! Remembering this when coming to Mass should provide some consolation as the Eucharist is ultimately the work of the Holy Spirit.

Thinking about what St. Charles said to his priest, the question is worth pondering: what we are doing just prior to Mass? Those who arrive early to Church or have spent time in prayer earlier in the day will speak of how enriched they are by the Mass. Not surprising, those running in at the last minute or after Mass begins often come with many distractions and find it difficult to be fully engaged.

St Ignatius spoke to his young Jesuit novices about what he called "remote preparation" and necessary for prayer. I think this includes Mass as well. Remote preparation means what we do to anticipate the celebration of the Mass in the days leading up to Sunday. I usually begin on Monday by looking at the readings of the Mass for the upcoming Sunday. Doing this helps my prayer throughout the week. May I suggest that you look at the Scripture readings sometime before coming to Mass on Sunday (Saturday evening). They can be found conveniently at the US Bishops website uscbb.org. On that site you will see a button on the opening page for the daily readings. Simply click on the date and the readings come right up. I am fond of an app called iMissal which works much the same way. Click the desired date on the

calendar and the readings of the day will appear. There many printed worship aids that some parishioners find helpful such as Magnificat, This Is the Day, The Word Among Us.

Being familiar with the particular readings of a Mass before coming to Church will definitely help to focus your mind on what will happen at Mass. There is a group of men from the parish who meet each Saturday morning to look at the readings together and discuss (any men of the parish are most welcome! Saturday mornings, 8:30 in St. Clare Parish Hall). I find being able to discuss the readings with others an excellent way to help get in the proper mind-frame for what I will be doing at Mass. I encourage you to try such a practice.

COMMUNITY MEAL

So many parishioners are involved in our monthly **community meal**. I am so grateful to all of them for giving of their time to make this initiative work. In particular, I am profoundly grateful to our leadership team who have been working for the past six months to make this happen: co-chairs Dawne Hamel and Kathy Whalen-Giannandrea, Deacon Jay Waldron, Joe Watson and Dawn DiMartino. We are very fortunate to have their leadership in guiding the whole process of putting this ministry together. We are in need of a few more volunteers who are able to do the cooking. If able and interested, speak with me, one of the team members or call the office.

BLESSING OF PETS

Yesterday (Saturday) was the feast of one of our patron saints Saint Francis of Assisi. Given that he was so aware of the beauty of creation, he is considered the patron saint of animals. In his honor we are happy to have the Blessing of pets at both St. Clare and St. Francis Church at 1:00.

Fr. Bob



You are invited to a Massachusetts Citizens for Life
South Shore Chapter Workshop
Practical Help for Those at Risk
The Challenges to the Sanctity of Life in Massachusetts

Saturday, October 18, Noon-4PM
Resurrection Parish
1057 Main Street, Hingham
RSVP (508)631-2287





From Deacon Joe MacDonald

Some time ago, when I could sleep on the ground without needing a crane to lift me back to my feet, my family and I went camping in Maine with my good friend Deacon Steve Butrick and his family. Deacon Steve is the master of campfires. I dare say that no one can work a campfire like Deacon Steve. One night, the fire began to wane as we sat by its light keeping warm, and it looked like it might go out. My impulse was to add more fuel to the fire, to gather more wood and pile it onto the small flame. But that would have deprived what fire was left of oxygen and snuffed it out. Steve on the other hand went over with a metal rod and poked at it and gently stirred the wood that was already there. In seconds we had a blazing fire again from something that appeared to be dying.

This is what Saint Paul is telling us to do. Stir up the flame of God's gift. Take what little faith we think we have and stir it up – we will once again be ablaze with love for God, His Church and His people.

When we stir up that flame of faith it will spread from us like the Easter Vigil Fire, one to another, until that little candlelight sets the whole church aglow with hope and the darkness of hopelessness vanishes.

When we stir up that flame, we'll be able to hear clearly the Lord's voice tell us, "Don't just stand there do something!" and we'll live his message of love, and we'll overcome evil with good; hatred and anger with forgiveness; hunger and homelessness with our generosity. There won't be one lonely, rejected or forgotten person in our midst because we'll see them for who they are – children of our very own Father – our brothers and sisters made in God's image; and the Church would be renewed not by our anger and complaint but by our commitment to do God's will.

Bible Study

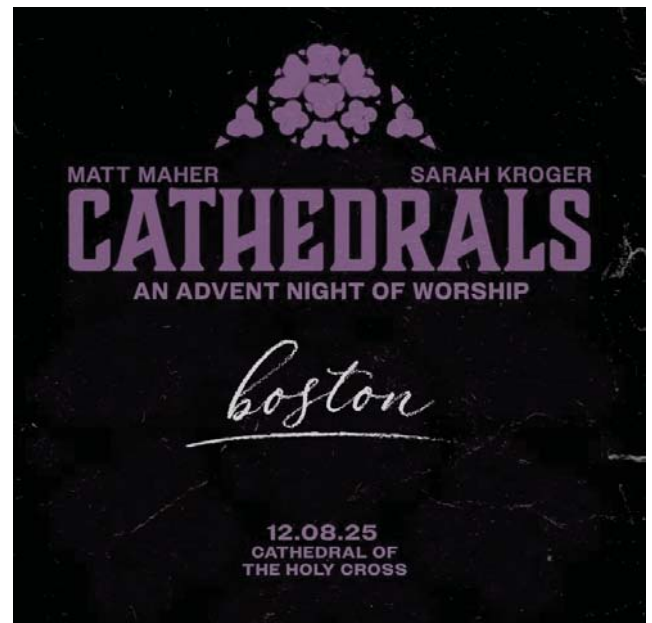
Our Bible Study group will resume Saturday morning October 11 at 9:00 in Saint Francis Church Hall. This year we will be looking at the Book of Genesis, the very first book of the Bible. We will explore questions like: Did God really create the world in 6 consecutive days? What was the original sin? Were Adam and Eve real? Who wrote Genesis? Come and join us for lively conversation as we explore this important, often misunderstood scriptural text. All are welcome even if you can't make it every single week.

Collaborative Adult Choir

The Choir begins a new season this week. Everyone is welcome to join us. If you are high school age to a ripe old age and everything in between and you like to sing or if you play an instrument we would love to have you join us. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00 P.M. We will be practicing at Saint Francis Church and singing at the 10:15 Mass at Saint Clare Church.



As your Senior Deacon, I say thank you to everyone who had a part in my 25th celebration of Ordination, and the memorial mass for Claire. I know well that many hands make light work, and I appreciate all of your efforts. Just as my homily acknowledged a transformation of our sanctuary in dazzling white, I can only hope that over the years, Claire and I demonstrated that light for others, to see the Glory of God, who is Light. *Deacon Mike*



Sponsored by International Justice Mission

Come join us for a special night of worship at Cathedral of The Holy Cross! This event is a time to gather together as a community and celebrate the season of Advent through music, prayer, and reflection. Let's come together to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. All are welcome to attend this evening of praise and worship.

The CATHEDRALS tour is proudly sponsored by International Justice Mission. There are more people enslaved now than at any other time in history – 50 million children, women and men are subjected to various forms of trafficking, slavery and violence. Our friends at International Justice Mission are creating lasting change with the help of people like you and us. For tickets go to:

<https://www.itickets.com/events/484244>

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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



The RE classes learned all about our patron Saint Francis this week. The students watched a video and learned some really interesting facts. Did you know that his first name was actually Giovanni? His father gave him the nickname Francis because of his love for the country of France! Also, St. Francis started the tradition of Nativity scenes at Christmastime. After a trip to the Holy Land, he was inspired to make a live representation of the birth of Jesus. We learned another prayer written by him and used all the new things we learned to create mini posters.

Saint Francis, Pray for us!



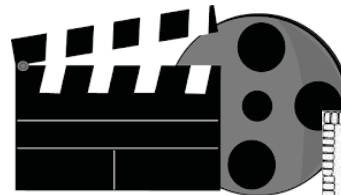
Halloween Costume Drive

- * Interfaith Social Services is collecting new Halloween costumes for children served by their food pantry and who otherwise may not get a costume
- * There will be a box in each church and in the RE Hall to place donations
- * Deadline = October 10



October 30 School Half Day Event

- * Come to the RE Hall at St. Clare Church from 12:30-4:00 after Braintree Schools' early dismissal
- * We will watch a Halloween movie - bring a snack and drink!
- * We will work on a project for All Saints Day!



Blessing of Pets will take place THIS Sunday at 1:00PM at both churches. All are welcome. For the safety of all please keep your pets restrained or contained.



Come cook with us! Do you have experience in food service preparation and cooking and looking for a way to make a meaningful impact in your community. Then the Community Meal Ministry is looking to meet you. If you are ServSafe certified that's great. If not, we can assist you in preparing for and taking the ServSafe exams in its Kitchen Manager and Allergen programs, as well undergo choke saver training (Heimlich maneuver). Please call the Collaborative Office to leave your contact information and someone will get back to you.



Bereavement

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 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
Mario DiScipio
Rose Orlandella

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.



October 5: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel Jesus tells his disciples, "When you have done all you have been commanded, say: We are unprofitable servants; we have only done what we were obliged to do."

This week, please help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to bring the love and mercy of Jesus to those who feel left out and abandoned, for indeed we are only doing "what we are obliged to do".

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.**

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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>

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Guilherme Borro Barbosa, Fr. Michael Grzesik, Magnus
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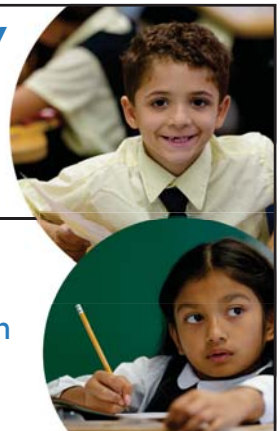
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"Be a Servant" Matthew 20:26



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