



6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another.”
- Jn 15:16-17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Prayer for Vocations

Almighty and eternal God, who in your great mercy hear our prayer, the harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few, we plead to you to send out laborers for your harvest. In your mercy, open the hearts of your servants whom you call to the priesthood to hear and respond. In your mercy, open our hearts that we may become a community that fosters greater vocations through our prayers and open support of those whom you call. Through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Sixth Sunday of Easter **St. Francis of Assisi Parish**

Adoration Schedule

Outside: Monday's after 12PM Mass,
Wednesday after 6:30PM Mass.

Window: Friday Night's from 8:30 PM ~ 9:30
PM.

Confessions are available at the end of each of these
times of adoration or by Appointment.

Come adore from your vehicles, all are welcome.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Mass Times ~ Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00AM, 10:30AM & 5:30 PM
(4PM & 10:30 AM are livestreamed each week)

Weekday Mass Schedule

Outdoor Mass from the rectory garage will take
place Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at
Noon and Wednesday at 6:30pm (**WEATHER
DEPENDENT!**)

Parish Office Hours

Monday—Friday: 9:00 AM ~ 12 Noon (The office is still closed to public but staff is working and available to answer your call.)

Administrator Rev. Seán Maher
Email Address: frmaher@saintfrancis.net

Permanent Deacon Deacon Mike Tompkins
deaconmike@saintfrancis.net

Assisting Clergy
Rev. William Sheehan, OMI
Rev. John Hanley, OMI
Rev. Jack Farrell

Parish Office 115 Wheeler Road
978-452-6611 P.O. Box 609
Dracut, MA 01826

Faith Formation Office
978-453-4460 *General Questions can
be directed to*

Parish Website info@saintfrancis.net
www.saintfrancis.net

Pastoral Staff

Director of Faith Formation/Communications
Jessica Keefe

jkeefe@saintfrancis.net

Coordinator of Faith Formation
Dawn Bastien

dbastien@saintfrancis.net

Business Manager

Andrea Sevigny

Businessmanager@saintfrancis.net

Music Director

David Keefe

Communications/Parish Events

Debbie Hovanasian

dhovanasian@saintfrancis.net

Morning Admin /Offertory Administrator

Christine Puopolo

Cpuopolo@saintfrancis.net

Facilities Department

Paul Barr

pbarr@saintfrancis.net

Ministry Coordinator

Joan Vinal

Joanvinal@comcast.net

Coordinator of Volunteer Outreach, Baptism & RCIC
for Children

Dr. Linda Trouville

ltrouville@saintfrancis.net



Mass Intentions for the Week Ahead



Saturday, May 8

4:00pm Parishioners of St. Francis Parish

Sunday, May 9

8:00am Annette Michaud ~ 28th Anniversary

10:30am Edward Jezak ~ 11th Anniversary

Yvonne & Arthur Saindon ~ Memorial

Karen Blatus ~ 4th Anniversary

Members of the Deceased Stansfield Family

Theresa Beliveau ~ Birthday Memorial

5:30pm

Monday, May 10

12:00pm Milton Asselin & Fred Marvel ~ Memorial

Tuesday, May 11

12:00pm Marianne Lafford ~ Memorial

Wednesday, May 12

6:30pm

Thursday, May 13

12:00pm Ross Puopolo ~ Birthday Memorial

Friday, May 14

12:00pm Antonio Medeiros ~ 15th Anniversary

Saturday, May 15

4:00pm James E. Heelon Jr. ~ Anniversary

Sunday, May 16

8:00am Parishioners of St. Francis Parish

10:30am Anna Courtemanche ~ 2nd Anniversary

Theresa Moore ~ Birthday Memorial

Manoel Lopes ~ Memorial

Bernadette Glatzback & Gerald Letendre ~ Memorial

5:30pm

Booking Mass Intentions

Please feel free to **CALL** the Parish Office to book a Weekday or Weekend Mass Intention. At this time we are booking Masses 6 months in advance. We have a decent number of openings available!

Mission Statement

Our mission at St. Francis of Assisi is to faithfully fulfill the teachings of Jesus Christ. Centered in the celebration of the Sunday Eucharist and the sacramental life of the Catholic Church, we strive to create an atmosphere of spiritual development. By reaching out and welcoming others, our faith community continues to provide dignity and improve the quality of life for all those we serve.



Appreciation Parade for Fr. Maher

We don't want to say good-bye, but we must. And, if we must, let's do so in a way that has Father feeling the love!

- Begin from the lower driveway, wind your way up around the church. Father will be greeting you all from the Plaza*
- We expect a crowd, so our “good wishes” need to be brief (and yes, we will let Father know that too!)*
- There will be a card drop-off along the route that will allow you to express more at length the impact Father has had on your life while at St. Francis (notes from the kids are encouraged!)*
- Please bring the kids to show their appreciation; they will make it extra fun and upbeat*
- “Irish” giveaways/favors from the Women's Connection for all who come by while they last!*
- We will do our best to move the line along quickly, so don't give up hope if the line is long*
- Decorating in the Irish theme is most welcome, but it's optional (we just want to see YOU!)*

Even if you plan to see Father at or after Mass on the 15th or 16th, we hope you will still join us in the parade as this is his official send-off, and we expect it to be FUN!



*Dia dhaoibh
Father Maher!*

God bless Fr. Maher

Weekend Readings & Mass Prayers

First Reading

When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, paid him homage. Peter, however, raised him up, saying, "Get up. I myself am also a human being."

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him."

While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word. The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God.

Then Peter responded, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?"

He ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

***The Word of the Lord,
- Thanks be to God***

Responsorial Psalm:

R. (cf. 2b) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Second Reading:

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.

Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.

In this way the love of God was revealed to us:

God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him.

In this is love:

not that we have loved God, but that he loved us

and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

***The Word of the Lord,
- Thanks be to God***

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel:

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father loves me, so I also love you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will

remain in my love,

just as I have kept my Father's

commandments

and remain in his love.

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing.

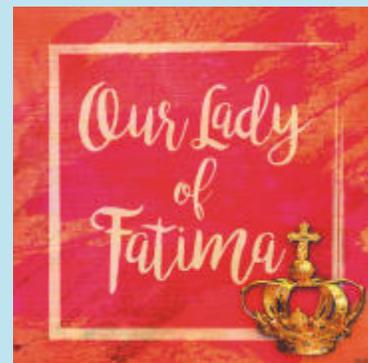
I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear

fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.

This I command you: love one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.





From our Administrator, Fr. Seán Maher

Hello folks,

The Lord be with you!

-We had a wonderful Mass to celebrate 25 years since this wonderful church was dedicated to serve God and His people in east Dracut. There are many beautiful prayers in that Mass, and I will repeat one of them: "O God, who year by year renew for us the day when this your holy temple was consecrated, hear the prayers of your people and grant that in this place for you there may always be pure worship and for us, fullness of redemption." May it always be so!

-This coming Thursday is Ascension Thursday, and we will have a vigil Mass on Wednesday evening at 6:30pm indoors (with audio to the parking lot) and the usual 12 noon Mass to the parking lot on Thursday. Normally, this is a Holy Day of Obligation in the Archdiocese but the COVID dispensation is still in place. However, with the vaccinations going up and COVID numbers coming down, and the excellent safety record in the church, we are encouraging (but not requiring) people to consider coming back to in person attendance.

-We have more children receiving Holy Communion for the first time this weekend and next weekend. Please pray that they may know Who they are receiving, and give Him thanks.

-We have two events for the *Inspiring Hope* Parish Capital Campaign this week: a Monday at 6:30pm online Zoom meeting, and 6:30pm Thursday evening in person gathering in the church itself (with a live-stream). Again we encourage participation of everyone, especially those who would like to donate to help maintain the physical building and the parish more generally. You should have received links to the sign-ups for both events in a constant contact email from me or Debbie. If not, please feel free to call the parish office Monday morning to signup.

-This bulletin column is being written quite late this week, and we just heard that Father Jerry (George) Hogan passed away. He was temporary administrator here for a while between Father Brian Mahoney's departure and my arrival, and is best known as the circus priest because of assignment by the US Bishops as chaplain to the circus community for a period of time every year. He was loving and loud and gregarious, and will be missed by many! May His soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

-Although we don't yet know who is coming here after me, or exactly when he will be coming, we are planning on next weekend, May 15/16, being my last weekend celebrating Masses here in order that I might have some vacation time before moving to the new parishes. The normal transfer date is June 1, but we don't know for sure if that is when it will happen yet.

Let's continue to keep all these things and people in our prayers.

God Bless,

Father Maher

stephen
MINISTRY

God's Love in ACTION

Thank you so much for celebrating in our St. Francis Stephen Ministry commissioning!

We have been preparing to put God's love into action - and now we need your help. YOU are a Lookout, who can share with others our mission!

Lookouts consistently watch for hurting people who might benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister. While you look for potential care receivers, keep these points in mind. • People all around you, in all areas of life, may be hurting and in need of care. It's just a matter of recognizing those needs when they arise. • Many hurting people are receptive to Stephen Ministry when it's offered to them. • People are unlikely to reach out and ask for help on their own—so lookouts need to actively seek and talk with potential care receivers

Do you know of someone who is hurting or struggling through job loss, divorce, grief, loneliness, health challenges, or some other difficult experience? Please reach out to one of our Stephen Leaders or Stephen Ministers, who can help you take the next right steps to provide him or her with confidential, one-to-one, Christ-centered care.

What Stephen Ministry Means to Me....

"I cannot express how excited and thrilled I am to be a part of Stephen Ministry. To be able to share the peace and love of God in my heart with someone who is hurting, so that they might also begin to feel God's loving, healing presence and peace, is truly mind-boggling and humbling. We can and will be God's instruments on earth, providing distinctively Christian caring, hoping to lead souls back to Him for the curing."

-M



DracutStephenMinistry@gmail.com
978-452-6611

MAY 9TH, 2021



Mother Teresa of Calcutta

HOMELESS MINISTRY

Happy Mother's Day! Now that the cold weather is behind us, our homeless ministry is in need of warmer weather clothing. In particular we are looking for men's clothing as we are very low on these items. Things such as: tee shirts, boxer underwear, shoes, sneakers or sandals-all sizes of the above are welcomed. Of course, we will gladly accept any women's clothing as well.

Tents, tarps, sleeping bags and toilet paper are needed year round. Of course, cash donations are always appreciated as these funds are used to purchase the food that we prepare for our monthly meal at the LTLC.

Should you have any questions or need further clarification about our ministry, please contact Jack Durocher at j_durocher@comcast.net or Roger Despres at chefrogerd@verizon.net

Thank you, and may God continue to bless you and your families.

Volunteers Needed for both our Cleaning & Welcoming Committee's

As we begin to think about summer approaching and our 2 teams working so hard to ensure we have a safe place to worship weekly we are finding ourselves in need of replacing and letting some of our very devoted volunteers take a well deserved break.

Are you available & interested in lending a hand?

Please contact Cyndie Bourassa to be added to either ministry. She can be reached via email at cyndiebourassa@gmail.com

We will train you!



Life Teen ~ Youth Ministry

Save the Dates!

We have 2 Life Nights left before the summer break.

Those dates are May 16th and May 23rd.

May 23rd will be our season finale so current 8th graders are welcome to join us. More details to follow in the next few weeks.

**Save
the
Date**




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