

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

856 WASHINGTON STREET, BRAINTREE, MA 02184

**Collaborative Office Phone: 781-843-1332 • Fax: 781-848-0976**

**Website: [www.braintreecatholic.org](http://www.braintreecatholic.org)**

**Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**



**Pastoral Staff:** Rev. Paul Clifford, Pastor  
Rev. Shawn Carey, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Mr. Joseph MacDonald, Permanent Deacon/Director of Music  
Mrs. Diane Hopkins, Religious Education, 781-848-3238  
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli, Religious Education, 781-848-3238

**Collaborative Office:** Mr. Kevin Mercier, Business Manager  
Miss Patty Kinnally, Office Manager

**Mass Schedule:** Saturday Evening – 5:30 PM  
Sunday – 9:00 and 11:30 AM  
Weekday – Monday thru Friday 7:00 AM

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday – 12:30 to 2:00 PM  
Other times by appointment.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** A minimum of ten months notice is required. Please call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment prior to booking a hall.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** First and Third Sunday of the month at 1:30 PM.  
Please call the Parish Office to register.

**Sacrament of the Sick and Communion Calls:** Please notify the Parish Office if anyone is hospitalized or unable to attend Mass because of illness.

**Community Meetings:** School Hall Alcoholics Anonymous – Friday 8:00 PM  
**(Suspended due to Coronavirus)**

**Food Pantry:** Thursdays – please call the Parish Office one day in advance.

# Mass Intentions

**Saturday, April 10, 2021**

5:30PM Albert Donnelly Anniversary

**Sunday, April 11, 2021**

9:00AM Francesco & Anthony Candelieri Memorial

11:30AM Frank Mahoney Memorial

**Monday, April 12, 2021**

7:00AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

**Tuesday, April 13, 2021**

7:00AM Maureen Rocks Spec. Intention

**Wednesday, April 14, 2021**

7:00AM Angelo & Jenny Luccio Memorial

**Thursday, April 15, 2021**

7:00AM Genevieve Blake Month's Mind

**Friday, April 16, 2021**

7:00AM Nicholas DeAngelo Month's Mind

**Saturday, April 17, 2021**

5:30PM Mary Hill Anniversary

**Sunday, April 18, 2021**

9:00AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

11:30AM Michael J. Richardi Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for the last weekend:

**All contributions for Easter Sunday,  
April 4, 2021 were for the Support of the  
Clergy Retirement Fund.**

**Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT 87%.**

**If you are interested in the Online Giving  
option to simplify your weekly contributions,  
please contact the parish office.**

## Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 8,890.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 1,739.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 2,403.33
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$13,032.33</b>

**PLEASE REMEMBER ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH  
WHEN PLANNING YOUR ESTATE. Thank you!**



In the Jubilee Year 2000, [Pope John Paul II](#) proclaimed that from that year forward the Second Sunday of Easter would be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. This was proclaimed at the Canonization Mass of St. Faustina Kowalska, who worked throughout her life to make all aware of the merciful love of God. St. Faustina (1905–1938) was born and raised in Poland. Following a vocation to religious life, she was accepted by the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy.

In her years in the convent, St. Faustina heard a call from God to make God's mercy known to the world so that the world may more fully receive God's healing grace. St. Faustina promoted the Chaplet of Divine Mercy which consists of the recitation of prayers to the Eternal Father with the use of the rosary for the sake of Christ's sorrowful passion.

The Chaplet is prayed as follows:

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and the Apostles' Creed.
2. On the Our Father beads, recite the following:  
*"Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."*
3. On the ten Hail Mary beads, say the following:  
*"For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."*
4. Repeat step two and three for all five decades.
5. Conclude by reciting three times:  
*"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."*

When celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday, the faithful are called to reflect more personally on the graces won through the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In this way their hearts may be more fully aware of the mercy of God for them personally and for the sake of the world.

*From Loyola Press*



*From  
Deacon Joe MacDonald*

When the Covid-19 pandemic hit us like a hammer last year, I remember thinking "this isn't the end of the world." The sun was still going to rise in the east and set in the west. Winter would still turn into spring and spring into summer. The sky was not falling and it wasn't going to be this bad forever. I wasn't afraid of the virus. I knew this disease would not be victorious.

How did I know this? Because of what we celebrated last Sunday and will continue to celebrate for the next seven weeks. The victory won for us by Jesus Christ by his death and resurrection.

For many, last years shut down and stay at home orders and isolation felt overwhelming. It was a kind of death. But this year, we have a vaccine, limits put upon us are finally being lifted and so we are also experiencing a kind of resurrection.

We are beginning to see it at Mass on Sunday. Some of the restrictions are beginning to be loosened, even if just a little bit.

We've seen it coming slowly but surely. Music, something we've done without for months at a time has come back, even if the congregation was told not to sing. But even that has changed!

Beginning last Sunday, we can all participate in singing at least certain parts. I would call them the most important parts. We are once again being encouraged to sing the responses and acclamations of the Mass.

Certainly, this includes:

The Penitential Rite

The Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mystery of Faith

Amen

Lamb of God

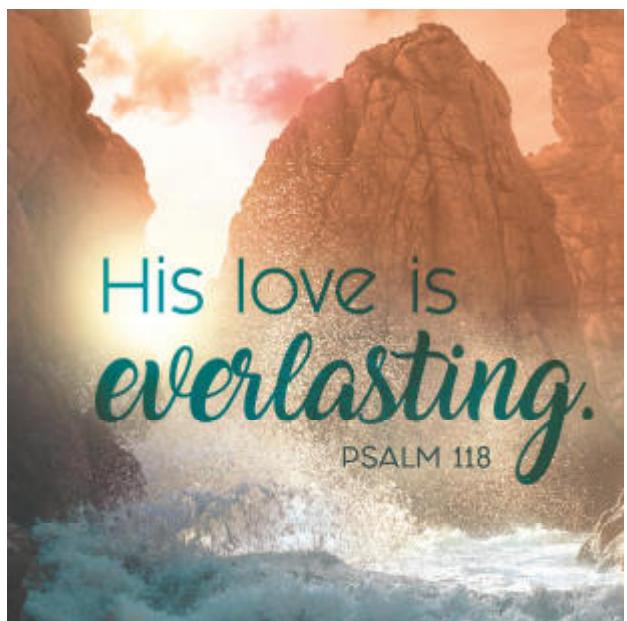
Now although we aren't supposed to be singing the hymns or the Gloria or the Psalm responses, there isn't anyone going around pointing an accusing finger either. Use your own judgement. Most of all, lets be joyful in this Easter season and relish the little resurrections as they show themselves to us. "Sing with Joy to the Lord all you lands, serve the Lord with Gladness." (Ps 100)



***Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." - Jn 20:26b-27***

**Readings for the week of April 11, 2021**

Sunday:	Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-3
Monday:	Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]/Jn 3:1-8
Tuesday:	Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/ Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday:	Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/Jn 3:16-21
Thursday:	Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/Jn 3:31-36
Friday:	Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/Jn 6:1-15
Saturday:	Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/ Jn 6:16-21
Next Sunday:	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48





**Sunday Masses continue** with limited seating to provide safe social distancing for all in attendance. We remind you: You must **book a seat(s) for the Mass** you want to attend. There are two methods for booking a time. You may only book times for yourself and members of your household.

**On-line booking** is found at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a45a5a722a4f49-braintree> (regular weekend Mass)

#### Phone Booking

- “ Dial 781-843-1332 and Press 3
- “ Follow recorded instructions
- “ Provide your Name, Phone#, Church, Mass Time and the total # of household members coming to Mass. Hang up after you are done with your message

#### The cut-off times for Mass Reservations are as follows:

- 2:00PM Saturday for the Saturday evening Masses
- 10:00PM Saturday for the Sunday morning Masses
- 2:00PM Sunday for the Sunday evening Mass

**You are required to wear a mask at all times** in accordance with COVID-19 Order No. 31. You do not have to wear a mask if you have a medical or disabling condition that prevents this. Children under 2 do not require a mask; Children ages 2-5 is up to parental discretion.



#### St. Francis of Assisi

Ronald Bonigli  
Flavia Romano  
Eleanor Kelley

#### St. Clare

Ralph Fagan

**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.**



If you are a registered parishioner who utilizes the parish envelope system or the online giving option and would like a copy of your total contributions for 2020 please call the collaborative office at 781-843-1332. If you do not currently utilize the parish envelope or EFT/online giving system, but would like to; or if you have any questions regarding your statement, please contact Patty Kinnally in the collaborative office.

## Parish Info and events of note!!

- **St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry** Open Thursdays 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. Please call the parish office for more information.
- **Parish 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. If you are aware of needed updates to the board, please let us know that as well. Thank you.



The Braintree Catholic Women's Club has two \$1,000 scholarships available to high school seniors who are graduating this year (2021). One will be awarded to a Braintree High School Senior and the other to a Braintree senior graduating from a Catholic high school. Notices have been sent to all participating schools. Please contact your Guidance Department to request an application regarding these scholarships, or call Mrs. Margaret Hart, Scholarship Chairperson at 781-849-1755. The deadline for applying for these scholarships is April 17, 2021.

**Early Bird Special -Boston & South Shore Men's Prayer Gathering—Next meeting Saturday, April 17, 2021, 7:00-8:30 AM;** Remote Meeting by Zoom; BYOC – Bring your own coffee!! The topic is **St. Joseph – a role model for**



**Men – Part 2.** There was so much interest in St. Joseph at our March session that we are doing St. Joseph Part 2. There is no greater human model for us men than St. Joseph. Join us for a few YouTube videos by experts on St. Joseph, followed by group discussion. St. Joseph helped Jesus grow up, provided for and protected Jesus and Mary, and endured hard times with great faith. St. Joseph can inform all of us in our Christian manhood. Please join us. The Zoom meeting link will be sent out by email a few days before the meeting. If you want to be added to the distribution list, email me, Phil Plageman, at [jamej@comcast.net](mailto:jamej@comcast.net). God bless you all and hope your Lent is off to a good start!!

**Check out our new collaborative website—[www.braintreecatholic.org](http://www.braintreecatholic.org).**



*From the  
Archdiocese of  
Boston*

**Fiat**

Fiat, a gathering of women interested in learning more about religious life, cordially invites you to the next meeting on April 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. (ET) on Zoom. There will be a Panel Discussion on the Various Stages of Formation. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sr. Marian Batho, CSJ at [marian.batho@csjboston.org](mailto:marian.batho@csjboston.org) or 617-746-2025 for more information and the link to the meeting.

**April 11 ~ Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday**

The scriptures today continue to call each of us to bear witness to the Resurrection of Christ. In the gospel, Thomas moves from doubt to faith. We all identify with that journey! Those times when your doubt gave way to faith, did you exclaim with Thomas, "My Lord, and my God"? Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. Pray that your words and actions will reflect faith, mercy and peace to those around you. Your witness may be just what someone needs to see in order to move from doubt to faith!



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and are seven sessions on weekdays from 7:00pm to 9:30pm. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call at or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>. Like in the gospel today, sometimes our minds need to be opened to know what God has done for us, and what he wants for us in our marriage. Deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, rekindle your romance and renew your sacrament by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience on

Mondays/Thursdays May 3-24

Thursdays/Mondays Jun 3-24

## MASS SCHEDULE

We are now booking Mass Intentions through Sunday, June 27, 2021. To schedule a Mass or for further information please call the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332. Please do not leave this information on the Mass Reservation line.



**April 11, 2021 - 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)**

-What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. "Mercy is the heart of God," Pope Francis tells us. The image of a heart has been used to point to the very life source of a person as it is the organ that allows life to flow through our veins and sustain us. Mercy is the heart of God. Imagine this dynamic, powerful, compassionate, piercing, embracing, loving, propelling, penetrating, absorbing, and enveloping, transforming presence of God flowing into the very depth of our souls. It is God's mercy that allows blood to flow through our veins. It is God's mercy that forms every atom of our being and leads us to what is true. God's mercy reveals all superficiality and falsehood, and lays bare all distortions, empty promises, weakness, and sin.

"Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope," Pope Francis continues. God's all forgiving, compassionate love is with us. When we finally believe and accept that Christ's resurrected transfigured presence resides with us, we then find within us a strong confidence to accept life's imperfections and disappointments and move on. Every day is a new adventure in new life. God leaves the past behind and opens doors to the future. It doesn't matter how many mistakes we made yesterday. All that matters is what we do tomorrow and what we learn along the way. It is so easy to remain tethered and mired in the past, but there is no need to do so. God is all about tomorrow and the work God has yet to do in our lives.

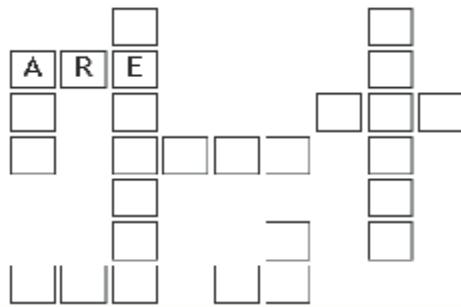
Mercy gives birth to hope. Hope for the greatest of sinners and hope for the worst of disasters. There is nothing God cannot do and nothing God cannot fashion. After all, everything we know and treasure was once nothing, and look what God did with the nothing God had! The resurrected Christ stands before us with nail marks in his wrists and wounds on his body as a testament that not even injustice, suffering and death can trample over and destroy God's mercy. What have we to fear? Why do we keep ourselves from peace? Our lack of faith prevents us from going forward and fully receiving the holiness God desires to breathe upon us. Breathe in God's mercy, allow the wind of God's presence to kiss all of your sins and caress all of your fears. Exhale peace. ©LPI

# Kids Corner

## PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Thomas replied, "You are my Lord and my God!"



## MISSION

Talk to God about a friend who does not believe in Jesus. Ask God to give you the right words to say about Jesus. Then ask God to help you be patient.



### Sharing the Gospel

In today's Gospel, Thomas had a hard time believing his friends. Jesus was alive! They saw Jesus! Well, Thomas could not believe it. He needed proof. Thomas wanted to see Jesus for himself. Thomas wanted to touch Jesus' scars on his hands and his side. Once Thomas did that, then he would believe. You may have doubting friends like Thomas. Be patient with them. Do not get angry with them. Love them instead, and gently tell the truth about Jesus. Ask Jesus to open their hearts, so they can believe in him, too.

### Prayer

God, help me to be patient with my doubting friends. Show them that Jesus is their savior, too.

### Something to Draw

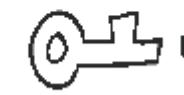
Draw a picture of yourself playing with a friend who does not believe in Jesus.

### Mission for the Week

Talk to God about a friend who does not believe in Jesus. Ask God to give you the right words to say about Jesus. Then ask God to help you be patient.

## PUZZLE

Find the matching shadow.



## MISSION

I will ask Jesus to help me and my family when we are afraid.



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