

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

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
Mrs. Ronna Petrilli, Religious Education

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 Collaborative 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 Collaborative Office to register.

Sacrament of the Sick and Communion Calls: Please notify the Collaborative 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)

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 15, 2021

5:30PM Eleanor Sarcia Memorial

Sunday, May 16, 2021

9:00AM Jean M. McNamara Anniversary

11:30AM Monteforte Family & John Audette Memorial

Monday, May 17, 2021

7:00AM Marge Varraso Anniversary

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

7:00AM

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

7:00AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Thursday, May 20, 2021

7:00AM Robert Clifford Memorial

Friday, May 21, 2021

7:00AM

Saturday, May 22, 2021

5:30PM John Reid Anniversary

Sunday, May 23, 2021

9:00AM Alfred Santosuosso Anniversary

11:30AM Albert A. Augenti Anniversary

Thank you for your offerings for the last weekend:

Percentage of offertory by Envelope/EFT 92%.

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

Collection Report

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 5,163.00
Offertory/Loose	\$ 672.00
EFT Weekly Average	\$ 1,914.67
Total Offertory	\$ 7,749.67

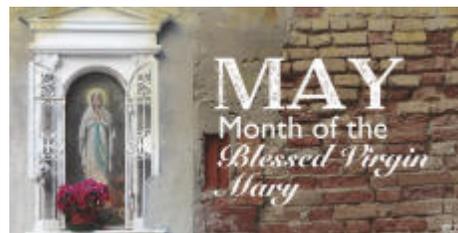
PLEASE REMEMBER ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH WHEN PLANNING YOUR ESTATE. Thank you!



Fr. Shawn will be leaving us to become the co-administrator of St. Jude Parish in Waltham. **His new assignment will begin on June 1, 2021.** Fr. Shawn has been a blessing to our collaborative. We will surely miss him. Please join us in wishing him well after the following Masses:

Saturday, May 22 after the 8:00AM at St. Clare
 Saturday, May 22 after the 5:30PM at St. Francis
 Saturday, May 29 after the 4:00PM at St. Clare
 Sunday, May 30 after the 6:00PM at St. Clare

Location of these gatherings is dependent on the weather.



Please join us **THIS Monday** night (and again May 24) at 6:45PM, as we pray the Scriptural Rosary followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in honor of our Blessed Mother. We will meet **(in person)** at St. Francis of Assisi church. In keeping with the COVID protocols please remember to wear your mask and sit in the marked pews.



Reminder to parents—If you were unable to make the First Communion parent meetings last Monday, please contact the collaborative office at 781-843-1332 to arrange a meeting time to learn about the process and pick up the materials.





From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

I wasn't sure what I would write about this week. I had a choice, Pentecost which comes next week or something that came from prayer. I chose that which came from prayer.

"Christ once raised from the dead, will never die again. Death has no more power over him."

This comes from one of the often-chosen readings for funerals. It is also a reading from Morning prayer and comes from St. Paul's letter to the Romans chapter 6 verse 9. Death has no more power over him. This is born out in Christ's resurrection; an event so momentous that we celebrate it not just on a single day but a season seven weeks long. It is attested to by the Apostles who saw him, ate with him and were taught by him for many days after the resurrection. Death could not keep him buried beneath the earth but saw him ascend in glory to Heaven, the feast we celebrated on Thursday.

That same scripture also says "If we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him." Death has no more power over Christ and therefore if we live with him, it has no more power over us either.

The Apostles who suffered persecution and execution knew this. The early Church knew this. St. Stephen, the first Martyr, knew this as he was being stoned to death. They all knew that death, as real as it was, had no more power over them. And so, they spoke the truth fearlessly whatever the cost.

In his Canticle (Lk 1:73-75) Zechariah (John the Baptist's father) declared God's promise to Abraham, that we would be "free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship Him without fear, Holy and Righteous in His sight all the days of our lives."

What does it mean to be freed from the hands of our enemies? What does it mean to worship Him without fear? What does it mean to be holy and righteous in his sight?

Who is the enemy, Rome? No, the enemy is the one who wants to do us harm, the one who would like to destroy our souls and lead us from God.

What does it mean to worship Him without fear? For the early Christians it meant fear of persecution and death. How can we be free of fear under those circumstances unless "death has no more power" over us.

We have nothing to fear if we live a life in Christ. Christ won the victory and in His divine love shares the fruit of that victory for us.

Let us live fearlessly for Christ, professing our faith in Him with confidence and courage just as the Apostles and Martyrs did in ages past and continue to do to this very day.

And now a little something about Pentecost. I came across a teaching series on YouTube from Renewal Ministries that I thought would be worthwhile to share. There are 7 sessions each lasting about a half hour, It is called "[As by a New Pentecost.](#)" If the link doesn't work go to this web address: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XInMGh3LNx0>

In any event we should all be preparing for Pentecost and asking the Holy Spirit to fill, renew and release the power and grace we received at Baptism and Confirmation. Perhaps we can pray the Sequence from Pentecost every day this week opening our hearts to the Spirit moving within us.

Come, Holy Spirit, come!
And from your celestial home
Shed a ray of light divine!
Come, Father of the poor!
Come, source of all our store!
Come, within our bosoms shine.
You, of comforters the best;
You, the soul's most welcome guest;
Sweet refreshment here below;
In our labor, rest most sweet;
Grateful coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.
O most blessed Light divine,
Shine within these hearts of yours,
And our inmost being fill!

Where you are not, we have naught,
Nothing good in deed or thought,
Nothing free from taint of ill.
Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour your dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away;
Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.
On the faithful, who adore
And confess you, evermore
In your sevenfold gift descend;
Give them virtue's sure reward;
Give them your salvation, Lord;
Give them joys that never end. Amen.



Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying: "As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world. And I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth." - Jn 17:18-19

Readings for the week of May 16, 2021

- Sunday: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 [19a]/1 Jn 4:11-16/ Jn 17:11b-19
- Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab [33a]/Jn 16:29-33
- Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a
- Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn 17:11b-19
- Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn 17:20-26
- Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/Jn 21:15-19
- Saturday: *Morning:* Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/ Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/Jn 21:20-25
- Next Sunday: *Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/ Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39
Extended Vigil: Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/ Dn 3:52, 52, 53, 55, 56 or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

Check out our new collaborative website—www.braintreecatholic.org.



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
Albert Varraso
Mary Cusack*

*Archdiocese of Boston
Fr. George G. Hogan*

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.



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.



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.*



May 16 - Seventh Sunday of Easter:

Today as we celebrate the feast of the Ascension we are reminded that Christ's saving work on earth continues through his disciples...and now through us.

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and into the hearts of those who are poor.



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Fiat, a gathering of women interested in learning more about religious life, cordially invites you to the next meeting on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. (ET) on Zoom. The topic will be **Community Life**. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sr. Marian Batho, CSJ at marian.batho@csjboston.org or 617-746-2025 for more information and the link to the meeting.

May 16 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter

Listen closely to today's gospel. It is as if we are eavesdropping on Jesus at prayer. Notice that he is praying for you! He is asking God to protect you, to keep you from the evil one and to consecrate you in the truth. Take some quiet time today to listen again to Jesus prayer for you. Have confidence that God hears Christ's prayer, that he is with you and strengthens your discipleship.

JESUS aCROSS the Border College Night Worship and Trivia May 21, 2021—7:30 p.m.

Saint Mary of the Assumption—3 Linden Place, Brookline, MA

Our "In-Person" College Night is back! Prepare yourselves for an epic night of Catholic worship, Mass, and a Trivia social. Join us and invite Jesus to enter deeply into those formative college years. Don't forget to represent your current, former, or favorite college with your best college gear. The worship event will begin with Adoration, Confession, Praise & Worship music, and a special Young Adult Mass celebrated by Boston's Assistant Director of Vocations and Boston University graduate, Fr. Michael Zimmerman at the St. Mary of the Assumption in Brookline, MA. Afterwards we'll kick off a night of digital trivia! As a friendly reminder, please be sure to wear a mask in respect of our neighbor and practice social distancing throughout the event.

Please fill out the registration form, found on our Facebook page or website, so that we may prepare for you. Walk-ins are welcome. Parking: There is street parking available.

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/>

[JESUSaCROSStheBorder](https://www.facebook.com/JESUSaCROSStheBorder)

Website Registration: <https://www.jesusacrosstheborder.org/upcoming-events>



May 16, 2021 - 7th Sunday of Easter

God remains where love remains. When a believer realizes without doubt that God is love, it is a powerful moment. Being able to place our resurrection trust in this fundamental truth allows us to experience God's presence in all of our experiences: the good and the bad, positive and negative, life enriching and destructive events we encounter. It is no wonder that St. Paul so accurately tells us that it is love that endures all things and lasts. How can God not endure or ever fade away? Because he is God, Jesus also guarded and protected his disciples as the endearing shepherd who always had their best interest at heart.

If we become too immersed in the world, we lose touch with these deeper realities. We can become so preoccupied with preserving what we have created or think that we need, forgetting that it is not building our city that really matters, but God's. Jesus clearly did not belong to the world and, by virtue of his resurrection, he tries to get us to understand that we do not either. The truth brings us to other worldly, more divine places and takes our eyes off of the concerns that often captivate our fears and storm our senses.

Life can easily erode our faith. Think of your life over the last couple of weeks. What challenged your faith and distracted your divine glance? Even being overly stimulated with technology and social media can erode our sense of confidence and cause us to forget who we really are. We need to distance ourselves from the world in order to experience the joy that Christ offers. The world will never like the word of God. It is too challenging and too perplexing. The world mistakenly believes that it can survive on its own. It is a mistaken judgment that may cost people a lot in the end. It is all so very simple: God remains when we love one another. If in all the business of our lives and all that each day brings, the good and the bad, we follow the call and path of love, we will walk with God. There is nothing to fear and anxiety finds no home.

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Sharing the Gospel

Every day when you are in school, your teachers help you learn. You get better at following directions. You get better at listening. You get better at remembering what you learned. Over the school year, your teacher gets you ready for the next grade. In today's Gospel, Jesus prayed for his friends. Jesus spent the last three years teaching his friends how to follow God and how to love others. His time to teach was almost over. Jesus prayed that his friends would stay close to God. Jesus asked God to protect them as they shared his teachings with the whole world.

Prayer

God, help me to learn all that I can from Jesus and my teachers.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of someone who teaches you about Jesus.

Mission for the Week

Make a card for each of your teachers. Color a picture on the cover. Write a nice message on the inside. Thank your teachers for helping you learn, and sign your name. Then deliver your cards with a smile.

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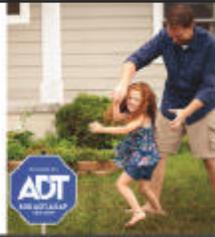
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