

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. Valanarasu Newton-Williamraj, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Joseph MacDonald, Permanent Deacon/Director of Music

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 six months notice is required. Please call the Collaborative Office to schedule an appointment prior to booking a hall.

Sacrament of Baptism: Sundays at 2:00 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.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 21, 2022

5:30PM John Reid Anniversary

Sunday, May 22, 2022

9:00AM Fr. Philip Zingarelli Memorial

11:30AM Josephine & Louis Anzaldi Memorial

Monday, May 23, 2022

7:00AM Albert A. Augenti Anniversary

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

7:00AM Daniel J. Mahoney Memorial

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

7:00AM

5:30PM Linda Nagle 1st Anniv.

Thursday, May 26, 2022

7:00AM

12:10PM Robert "Bob" Lewis Spec. Intention

Friday, May 27, 2022

7:00AM

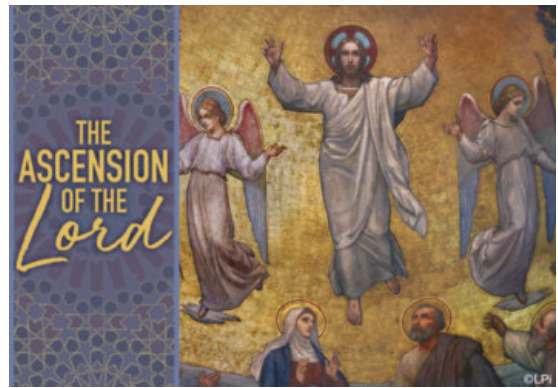
Saturday, May 28, 2022

5:30PM John Keaveney Memorial

Sunday, May 29, 2022

9:00AM Giovanna & Giovanni D'Amato Memorial

11:30AM Crimmins & Brady Family Memorial



Thursday, May 26 is The Ascension of the Lord, a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass schedule for the collaborative of St. Francis /St. Clare of Assisi is:

St. Francis of Assisi

Wednesday, May 25 Vigil 5:30PM
Thursday, May 26 7:00AM, and 12:10PM

St. Clare

Wednesday, May 25 Vigil 4:00PM
Thursday, May 26 9AM and 5:30PM



Jesus said to his disciples: "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." - Jn 14:26-27a

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

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



Please join us **THIS Monday** at 6:45PM, as we pray the Rosary in honor of our Blessed Mother. We will meet at St. Francis of Assisi church.

Readings for the week of May 22, 2022

Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [4]/ Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29
Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26—16:4a
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: *Ascension*: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53
Friday: Acts 18:9-18/ Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/ Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28
Next Sunday: Acts 7:55-60/Ps 97:1-2, 6-7, 9 [1a, 9a]/ Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/Jn 17:20-26



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

What are we doing here?

It may seem obvious. We are here to go to mass. Duh! Well, yes that is a good answer. Maybe the question should be, what is Mass? What is the Liturgy? What are the Sacred Mysteries? Is it enough just to go to Mass or to attend Mass?

The very word Liturgy comes from the Greek and means public works or a work that is done for the people or in the people's name. Every town and city has a public works department that maintains roads, parks, beaches, drainage, signage and other activities that benefit the citizens of a particular area.

In the Catholic understanding, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "it means the participation of the People of God in the works of God." (CCC 1069) This participation in the works of God refers not only to the "celebration of divine worship but also to the proclamation of the Gospel and to active charity." (CCC 1070) In our liturgical celebration we share in "Christ's priesthood (worship) which is both prophetic (proclamation) and kingly. (Service of charity)

The liturgy is our participation in the prayer of Christ to the Father.

In the worship of ancient Israel was structured as an imitation of Heavenly worship. This is not what we do. We do not imitate the heavenly Liturgy – we participate in it. You can see this for yourself in the Catechism of the Catholic Church par 1089-1090. We also see it in the words of the Preface:

"...And so, WITH angels and Archangels, WITH Thrones and Dominions, and WITH all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory as without end we acclaim:" We then sing the Holy, Holy, Holy. The Church is very precise in its use of language, and what we don't see is just as telling as what we do. We do not see the words "like" or "as." We don't sing "like" the Angels" we sing with them.

You may have heard this before, that the Church desires that we strive for full, active and conscious participation in the Sacred Liturgies (Mass). The first thing that comes to mind is something along the lines of participating in the prayers, and gestures of the Mass like standing, kneeling and bowing. You could also consider singing the hymns,

songs and antiphons and acclamations as full participation. You'd be right to think this but only partly right. What we really want to participate in, fully, actively and consciously is in the Paschal Mystery, that is, the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ. Our singing, our prayers and participation in the antiphons and acclamations help us to fully participate in that Paschal Mystery, that Liturgy of Heaven.

Some years ago I was hosting a liturgical workshop in my parish. The speaker was a priest who was the director of the Liturgy Committee for the Diocese. He studied Sacred Liturgy in Rome. I remember he talked about the hymn "Were You There?" He put it like this: Were you there when they crucified the Lord? "Yes, he answered, every time I go to Mass." Were you there when they laid him in the Tomb? "Yes, he answered again, every time I go to Mass." And we are there too every time we go to Mass. And we are there at the Last Supper and when He stood before Pilate. We are there when He was scourged and the crown of thorns placed on His head. And we are there when He rose from the tomb every time we go to Mass. At each and every Mass we participate in Christ's suffering, death and resurrection and at every mass we participate in the heavenly Liturgy.

We all want to go to Heaven don't we? At each celebration of the Mass we get a taste of Heaven, which we all long for, because by Christ's gift we mystically transcend time and space to be with Christ on Calvary and with Him, the saints and hosts of heaven in the Heavenly Liturgy.

ASCENSION
of the Lord

LIVE THE LITURGY -
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Pope Francis states, "The Ascension does not point to Jesus' absence, but tells us that he is alive in our midst in a new way. He is now in the Lordship of God, present in every space and time, close to each one of us." God is present in every space and time. There is nowhere that God cannot be found and nothing that God cannot use to reveal his presence and intent to us. The neighbor who gets under our skin, the demanding coworker we see every day, the person at the supermarket who is rude to us, the elderly person we met on our daily walk who seemed so disheveled, the perfect sunrise that greeted us in the morning, and the wonderful aroma and taste of our first sip of coffee. All can be used by God to awaken us, humble us, and bring us to a heightened sense of His presence. We are given opportunities, always and everywhere, to live in the fullness of Christ. With hearts enlightened by these "God moments," we can anticipate that day when we are all fully and eternally one with Christ. This promise is what allows us to live with joyful hope! ©LPi



St. Francis of Assisi
Samuel Louis Andronico

St. Clare
Nolan Joseph Hamilton



St. Francis of Assisi

Patricia Petrilli
Jean Penny
Walter Adams
Heather Fitzgerald

St. Clare

Edward Murphy
Giovanni Pellegrino

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.



May 22: Sixth Sunday of Easter

In the Gospel today, Jesus says to us: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you."

In the month of May, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought the love and care of Jesus to the poor by assisting families, providing food, utility and rent bills, etc. Thank You!

Pantry donations can be dropped off at the St. Francis of Assisi rectory during normal business hours (Monday through Friday 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. Thank you.**



Portincula Chapel, a National Shrine at Cardinal Cushing Centers, Route 53, Hanover, MA is offering the Following:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet and Rosary—3:00—6:00PM on First Fridays, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2 and October 7 2022.

Candlelight Vigil Rosary to Honor Our Lady of Fatima every 13th of the Month; May through October, 2022—7:00-8:00PM. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; Roary—Benediction.

Please come to experience the Blessings for this special devotion as we join together with others to offer thanks to our Lady of Fatima for mediation for the whole world through God's Grace.

Devotions sponsored by St. Mary of the Portincula & Mary Queen of Peace Orders of Franciscan.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples will explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Joe & Ginny Vatele at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwwmema.org/>.

Jesus tells us "Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." Do something great for your relationship. Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences: June 24-26 in Huntington, NY (Long Island)



Year of the EUCHARIST



JESUS IS HERE

Archdiocese of Boston Eucharistic Congress
SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2022 8:30AM – 6:00PM
TSONGAS CENTER, LOWELL, MA

Cardinal Seán O'Malley invites all the Catholic faithful in the Archdiocese of Boston and surrounding dioceses to join him in closing the Year of the Eucharist with a daylong Eucharistic Congress, Jesus is Here.

A core tenet of the Catholic faith is that the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ is made truly present in the Eucharist. But belief in the True Presence has waned in recent years, even among Catholics. And that's a concern—because as Cardinal Seán teaches, "it is in the Eucharist where we find our true identity." **Jesus is Here** is an opportunity for us to deepen our understanding of the mystery of Jesus' presence with us—by listening to powerful talks on the Eucharist, by receiving Jesus in the Eucharist at Mass, and by adoring Him in a time of adoration and worship.

7:30am	Doors Open, Exhibitors Available
8:30am	Welcome, Music, & Celebration of Mass
10:15am	Break & Visit Exhibitors
10:45am	Session 1 – Featuring Deacon. Harold Burke-Sivers & Bishop Daniel Flores
12:15pm	Lunch Break & Visit Exhibitors
1:30pm	Session 2 – Featuring Bishop Robert Barron
2:30pm	Break & Visit Exhibitors 3:00pm Session 3 – Featuring Jackie and Bobby Angel
4:00pm	Eucharistic Adoration & Procession through Lowell
6:00pm	Eucharistic Congress Concludes *

Confessions will be available at the following times: 7:30-8:30am, 10:15am-1:30pm, 2:30-3:30pm.

If you are interested in attending as member of our collaborative, please contact the collaborative office at 781-843-1332 or pkinnally@sfab.org.



From the
 Archdiocese of Boston

May 22 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter

In our first reading, we hear more about the growing pains of the early Church. The Apostles were creating something new ~ a community of believers, disciples of Jesus Christ. There was confusion and discussion about who could be a disciple and differing opinions about what was essential to being a follower of Jesus. We hear those same discussions even today. However, first Christian did not let differences stand in their way or create divisions among them. They relied on the Spirit's prompting and on Jesus' words "Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid." The message today is rely on the Holy Spirit – the Advocate – who is still with us.

Fiat, a gathering of women interested in learning more about religious life, cordially invites you to the next meeting on Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. (ET) on Zoom. The topic is: "What Do Sisters Do?" 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.



Post-Abortion Healing Retreats

"My spirit was broken and as far as I knew beyond repair. I was consumed with feelings of remorse. During the retreat, I realized the lasting impact of forgiveness. I knew God had forgiven me, and now I needed to forgive myself." – A Project Rachel Retreat Attendee.

The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a *Come to the Waters of Healing* one-day retreat. Spring date is June 4. Locations are confidential. Limited to ten participants per retreat. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com





May 22, 2022 - 6th Sunday of Easter

Jesus tells his disciples, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you." The peace that Jesus gives is far different than the kind that comes from the absence of war, conflict, or affliction. The peace that God offers is found alongside suffering and hardship, not necessarily in their absence. St. Teresa of Avila offers us a bit of wisdom regarding peace: *"May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise, and love. It is there for each and every one of us."*

In order for us to experience the divine peace that Jesus offers, we have to allow God's presence to settle into our bones! It is only when this happens that we can be truly taught by the Holy Spirit to discern the true path to peace and find ourselves with untroubled hearts. The world and our lives are so unpredictable and changeable. If we look for a source of lasting and real peace only there, our search will never be satisfied. Something will always unsettle and disturb us. The Jewish disciples could really relate to what Jesus was saying about peace (shalom). They already knew that it was more a matter of achieving wholeness and wellbeing than anything else.

Wholeness and wellbeing are precisely what is uncovered when we begin to really see and know the height, depth, and breadth of God's presence and promise. The elegance of God's Divine life flows through our blood and the marrow in our bones. It is that close and deep. As we breathe in and exhale God's life, peace becomes what we know within and what is exhaled out. This remains in the midst of intense conflict, persecution, suffering, rejection, and even death.

©LPI



PUZZLE

Copy the picture square by square.

MISSION

I will invite a friend over to play. I will share and take turns.



Sharing the Gospel

Jesus wants you to love him so much that you will always do what he asks. Jesus knows that if you put God first, you will have peace. Instead of wanting more toys, you will be happy to share them. Instead of wanting to get your own way, you will enjoy taking turns. You will feel good helping other people.

Prayer

Dear God, change my heart so that I want to put you and other people first.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself giving one of your own toys to a child who has none.

Mission for the Week

I will invite a friend over to play. I will share and take turns.

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