

# 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. 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, June 4, 2022

5:30PM Maddalena Leccese Anniversary

## Sunday, June 5, 2022

9:00AM John & Teresa Allen Memorial

11:30AM Patricia Hanson Anniversary

## Monday, June 6, 2022

7:00AM

## Tuesday, June 7, 2022

7:00AM Maryanne Banfield Spec. Intention

## Wednesday, June 8, 2022

7:00AM Alice Beaulieu Memorial

## Thursday, June 9, 2022

7:00AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

## Friday, June 10, 2022

7:00AM Joan Clark Memorial

## Saturday, June 11, 2022

5:30PM Jose & Mina Blandon Memorial

## Sunday, June 12, 2022

9:00AM Heather Fitzgerald Month's Mind

11:30AM Rosemarie Roche, Mary Tricomi  
And Philip D. Walling, Sr. Memorial

**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!**



**Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."  
- Jn 20:21-23**

## Readings for the week of June 5, 2022

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/Rom 8:22-27/ Jn 7:37-39

Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30/  
Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39

*Day:* Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/  
Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 6, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 17:7-16/Ps 4:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/  
Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: 1 Kgs 18:20-39/Ps 16:1b-2ab, 4, 5ab  
and 8, 11/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: 1 Kgs 18:41-46/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13/  
Mt 5:20-26

Friday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-16/Ps 27:7-8a,  
8b-9abc, 13-14/Mt 5:27-32

Saturday: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab,  
3cd-4, 5-6/Mt 5:33-37

Next Sunday: Prv 8:22-31/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2a]/  
Rom 5:1-5/Jn 16:12-15



If you plan to travel this summer or have the opportunity to sneak away for the weekend, here is something to place in your suitcase or your smart phone. To find the Mass closest to your location, visit [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org). When you make your reservations, please remember to reserve some time for the Lord. Summer blessings! **Be sure to call the parish you plan to attend to verify their Mass times. Be safe!**



*From  
Deacon Joe MacDonald*

Some years ago, many pastoral councils began to work on “mission statements” for their parishes. Scores of people, in countless churches, put a lot of hours into the composition of these “mission statements” and it baffles me – just a little bit. It baffles me because our “mission statement” was written over 2000 years ago by Christ himself. We just heard one version of that statement in today’s gospel.

“As the Father has sent me, I also send you.”

We heard the Lord say something similar and more direct last week when we celebrated the feast of the Ascension – This should really be a church’s mission statement, the one of every parish bulletin. It’s the last thing Christ said on earth and it was this:

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

You know what this means?

We are NOT a couch potato Church. We are sent. All of us have work to do. Our mission statement is all about mission. We are a missionary church.

Today’s gospel finds the disciples cowering in a locked room out of fear; fear that they might get labeled as one of “His” followers. But all they really accomplished was to place themselves in a kind of self-imprisonment where they were in danger of becoming the first-century equivalent of a couch potato.

But Jesus can’t be locked out, and he can’t be locked in either.

How often do we place ourselves in some kind of spiritual or religious self-imprisonment, locking out the world around us, fearful that we too might get labeled as one of “His” followers? The fear is justifiable too. The world is hostile to Christians, especially Catholics, even though that hostility may be more subtle than it was in the first century. We don’t want to be mocked or labeled as inflexible, or as following some ancient religion that has no connection to the modern world.

We are a lot like the disciples. Locked in our own fears and avoiding our own mission to go out and make disciples of all

us, that he loves us, and offers us salvation and fullness of life, peace and joy.

Jesus is speaking to us today, in the same way and with the same words he spoke to the disciples. He’s come to us through our own closed doors and says “Peace. I - send - you”

Jesus knew it wouldn’t be easy for the disciples and that it wouldn’t be easy for us either so he gave us something. A gift that would transform us, give us courage, give us enthusiasm and the desire to share what we ourselves have been given.

The feast we celebrate today, the feast of Pentecost, is all about God outpouring on the Church (on us – all of us) His very Spirit. We have within us the very life of the divine creator, the savior and sanctifier. That Holy Spirit spills forth in the Church with every gift, every tool needed for us, as Church, to accomplish our mission.

We were given that Holy Spirit at baptism and it was strengthened and brought to completion in us at our Confirmation. The same Holy Spirit abides in our marriages and our vocations, but sometimes we forgotten that or we forget how to recognize Him. Sometimes the Spirit lays dormant in us.

But just like the event we read about today the Holy Spirit can be poured out on us anew moving us from fear to courage; from impotence to action; from being voiceless to becoming orators for Christ.

The last thing the deacon says at Mass, the very last thing we hear at any Mass, echoes the words of Christ in today’s Gospel when the Lord offered the disciples peace and sent them into the world. The deacon says these or similar words, “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.” After every Mass we are sent! Sent not to watch our child’s baseball game; sent not to play soccer or eat at a restaurant or visit grandma, or go to school, although that’s exactly where we might find ourselves. Our mission is to bring Christ to that ballgame, bring Christ to the soccer field and the restaurant, to school or to grandma’s house.

If I could offer a suggestion today - let’s take the verse from today’s Gospel Acclamation home with us and make it our prayer this week.

“Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in us the fire of your divine love.”

So that when we hear the words “I send YOU!” We can respond with voices raised, walking shoes tied, and courage in our hearts to proclaim to the world in the Holy Spirit, no matter the cost, the truth - that Jesus Christ is Lord.





*St. Francis of Assisi*  
Gregory Coombs  
Richard Coombs  
Mason Franzosa  
Andrew Gibbobs  
Murphy Larkin  
Jarrod Guerriero

*St. Clare*  
Charlotte Tibets  
Taylor Sullivan



**St. Francis of Assisi**  
Joanna MacKinnon

**St. Clare**  
Patrick "Frank" Farrell

***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.***



The Braintree Knights of Columbus Council #1462 will meet at St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for June 14 at 7:00PM.



**Congratulations to all of the recent graduates from St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parishes.** May God bless you as you continue your journey to 1st grade, high school, college and/or the workforce.

## 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.



### Pentecost Sunday

Today as we celebrate Pentecost the Holy Spirit wants to make us advocates of God's presence to bring new life to others, especially those who do not know the love of God in their lives. **Your gift through the St. Vincent de Paul blue envelopes will help the poor to believe in the mystery of God's love for them.**

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.**



### BIKE DRIVE

If you have unused bikes in good condition please consider donating them to help people in need. Logan Quinn, St. Clare Boy Scout Troop, is working on his Eagle Scout Project and needs your help collecting bikes. These bikes will go to Whitney Academy, a non-profit organization that helps boys and young men that have psychiatric disorders. Drop off locations are:

St. Clare Parish, 1244 Liberty Street, Braintree  
Sunday, June 5 from 2-5PM

OR

First Parish Church, 330 First Parish Road, Scituate  
Sunday, June 5 from 2-5PM



*From the  
Archdiocese of Boston*

**June 5 ~ Pentecost Sunday**

Each Pentecost, we hear the story the Holy Spirit descending on the disciples and Peter's powerful speech witnessing to Christ. The scripture readings remind us that Pentecost is an event not just of the past but also of the present. We received the Holy Spirit at Baptism and Confirmation, when the Spirit poured out on us a variety of gifts to put at the service of others. The message is as clear and as relevant today as it was for Peter. Jesus is sending us to share the good news! If you are worried about what to say- rely on the Holy Spirit, who promises to give us what we need. "Come Holy Spirit; fill the hearts of your faithful!"

**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](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com).



**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 pf 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.

The following are a few of the many pictures Fr. Valan shared of his First Mass in his home parish in India.



The chariot entrance with his parents.



Celebrating Mass.



Fr. Valan with his mother and brother.





## June 5, 2022 - Pentecost Sunday


Even though Pentecost is rightly celebrated in late spring, the robust experience of a New England fall can provide a profound metaphor for reflection. A full expression of fall colors is beautiful to behold. But, with all of its majesty and beauty, the observer knows the experience of death is soon to come. Creation will be dark and barren for a while. Pentecost cannot be separated from the cross. Before God's transformative, life-giving power can bear fruit, we must first die.


Pentecost is all about leaving the lifeless dead wood behind and allowing God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to create something new. These Pentecost creations happen repeatedly over and over again. The birthing process of the Church is ongoing. God is always bringing life out of death and creating something where there was once nothing. That is why the fall is such an apropos metaphorical season for Pentecost. In order to really receive the gift of the Holy Spirit we have to die to what we once knew and what no longer works.

When fire and wind find their fullest expression, they are in no way gentle nor kind. They have the potential to level anything in their paths. We are experiencing great turmoil in our world, nation, and our Church. Whether the result of circumstance or the work of the Holy Spirit, much of what we knew to be normal and constant is changing. Common systems and institutional structures that may have worked for a time no longer do. When the old and familiar need to be left behind, God creates something new. Change and disorder do not need to be our enemies. They always bring opportunities for something exciting and new. What we need is untiring faith, firm hope, and perfect love.


What we need is for the Holy Spirit to enlighten us to see what is important and what we must do. *"O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there Thy cheerful beams."* (St. Augustine) If we experience joy, even in the midst of turbulence, then we will know we are exactly where God needs us to be. If not, then perhaps there is a lesson in the decaying leaves that graciously descend to the ground on a crisp fall day. ©LPi



 **PUZZLE**  
How many spirits can you count?



THE ANSWER IS FOURTEEN

 **MISSION**  
Pray to the Holy Spirit. Ask him to help you learn more about Jesus.



### Sharing the Gospel

The disciples must have missed spending time with Jesus after he went back to heaven. But they knew that the Holy Spirit would always be with them, helping them remember what Jesus taught them. The disciples kept learning about God and kept growing closer to him. The Holy Spirit will help you remember Jesus, too.

### Prayer

Dear God, thank you for sending the Holy Spirit.

### Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus washing his friends' feet.

### Mission for the Week

Pray to the Holy Spirit. Ask him to help you learn more about Jesus.

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