

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, June 18, 2022

5:30PM Alice Kelley Anniversary

Sunday, June 19, 2022

9:00AM Deacon Henry & Patricia Welch Memorial

11:30AM Paul Rober, Sr. & Paul Rober, Jr. Memorial

Monday, June 20, 2022

7:00AM John & Joseph Odenweller Memorial

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

7:00AM Maryanne Banfield Spec. Intention

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

7:00AM Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Thursday, June 23, 2022

7:00AM

Friday, June 24, 2022

7:00AM

Saturday, June 25, 2022

5:30PM Maureen & Tim Lyons Anniversary

Sunday, June 26, 2022

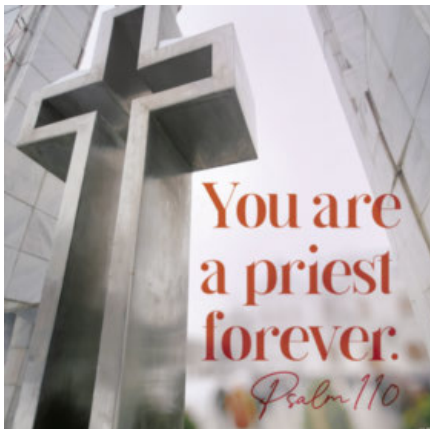
9:00AM Rinaldo & Anna Ventresca Memorial

11:30AM Michael & Sheila Lydon Memorial

Please see the inserted Financial Report for May, 2022.

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!



Then taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing over them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. They all ate and were satisfied. And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets. - Lk 9:16-17

Readings for the week of June 19, 2022

Sunday: Gn 14:18-20/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/
1 Cor 11:23-26/Lk 9:11b-17

Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5,
12-13/Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/
Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11/Mt 7:6,
12-14

Wednesday: 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3/Ps 119:33, 34,
35, 36, 37, 40/Mt 7:15-20

Thursday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/
Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

Friday: Ez 34:11-16/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/
Rom 5:5b-11/Lk 15:3-7

Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5,
6-7, 20-21/Lk 2:41-51

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8,
9-10, 11/Gal 5:1, 13-18/Lk 9:51-62

Marriage & Banns

Steven Chester Wakelin & Michelle Elizabeth O'Brien



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. 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!**

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

As a young person enters the last years of high school and goes off to college it's common and healthy in many respects that they begin to break some of the bonds that tied them to their parents and begin to form their own views of the world – find their own place. Often, young people will also drift away from those moral and religious views that their parents hold dear.

I confess that I was one of these young people. During high school and my first few years of college I too drifted away from the traditions and truths that my parents handed on to me, but as an organ major at Boston Conservatory my "work" kept me at least in the church building.

One of the jobs I held back then was organist at St. Jerome's in Weymouth and as it happened a job opened up at one of the protestant churches down the street and so I found myself playing the 9:30 Mass at St. Jerome's and rushing down the street to the other church for their 11:00 service. This was pretty good for me because it gave me two different places to practice and as a music student practice time was very important. I spent a lot of time in both of these buildings.

The churches were different. The acoustics were different. The organs were different. The windows were different. The furnishings and decorations were different and you'd expect that. But there was another difference and I couldn't put my finger on it. Although both churches were empty when I went there to practice, the protestant church somehow seemed emptier. It was more like an empty hall and I didn't know why. It was a few years later, when by the grace of God my faith began to return, that I realized what the difference really was. I noticed a vigil lamp burning in the sanctuary of a Catholic Church, just like this one here, letting me know, as this lamp lets us know today, that we are not alone - that Jesus, the Christ, is present in the Eucharist reserved in the tabernacle. As a young man I knew in my heart, and felt His presence in my spirit. Even when I didn't know it in my mind, Jesus was still uniquely present to me when I practiced at St. Jerome's. He was present in a way unavailable to me in any other setting – speaking, calling.

Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist, became a focus of my prayer life. Today I often pray before the Eucharist. It's my favorite setting for prayer and the results are often powerful. I often come just for a "visit." It's like spending time with a dear friend.

You know in the Hebrew Scriptures it was said that you couldn't look upon the face of God and live. That's why

Moses saw a burning bush; it was a sign of God's presence. You couldn't even touch the arc of the covenant or enter the sanctuary of the temple. God was far off, untouchable, and transcendent. But God doesn't want to be distant, so He became one of us. In Jesus Christ it became possible to gaze upon the face of God and live. And Jesus wanted to be certain that we would never have to be distant from Him again – so on the night before he died, he said the words we hear the priest pronounce at every Mass "This is my Body." He didn't say it was a representation of His body, or a sign or symbol of his body. "This Is My Body." A friend of mine had a bumper sticker on her car years ago that read: "God said it. I Believe it. And that settles it!" We didn't make this up; it came from the lips of Jesus. It came from the mouth of God, from the Word made flesh, and we can be sure of this truth. God is not distant from us any longer.

When we approach the altar at communion we reverence the Eucharist with a profound bow, because we know Jesus is truly present. We enthrone the body of Christ in our own hands – the same Christ who laid in a manger in Bethlehem; the same broken body of Christ Mary held close when he was taken down from the cross; the same body of Christ that is the whole Church. We receive the living God into our own bodies, becoming the tabernacle of His presence. We become what we eat. We are transformed, we are converted, we are recreated by the One that created all things in the beginning. We are changed. We become the body of Christ. How good is that? Yet many people, including Catholics, don't believe in the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

This is a fundamental difference between what our protestant brothers and sisters believe and what occurs in every Catholic Church throughout the world. We take the Lord at His word. "This IS my body. This IS my blood." (Lk 22:19-20) "Unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood you will not have life within you." (Jn 6:53)

We wonder how this can be and that isn't necessarily a bad thing. Reflection often leads to greater faith.

It's interesting that we often have little trouble accepting that water can be made wine; that three can be one; that Lazarus can be raised from the dead; that on Pentecost people miraculously heard Peter speaking in their own native tongues or that Jesus walked on water. Is it not also possible that the one who changed water into something else entirely, can do the same with bread and wine, changing them into His body and blood? Of course, He can. "With God, all things are possible." (Mt 19:26) "If you ask anything in My name, I will do it." (Jn 14:14)

Thomas couldn't believe that Christ rose from the dead until

placed his hands into His wounds. But when he saw Jesus, his doubts were cast aside and falling to his knees spoke these words of faith "My Lord and My God." (Jn 20:28) He learned an important lesson. Seeing isn't always believing – sometimes believing is seeing.

When we approach the Eucharist and the priest or other minister of communion holds up the Eucharist and says "The Body of Christ" as we answer "Amen" with our lips, may we also answer in our hearts, "My Lord and my God."



St. Francis of Assisi
George James Walsh

St. Clare
Gabriella Dianne Gorman
Jordan Andrew Baker



St. Clare
Jack Gatefy
Noah Gatefy
Alessandra Gorman
Michael Guerriero
Mason LaRocca
Maeve Murphy
Ava Whelan



St. Francis of Assisi
Rita N. Murphy
Diane Wright
Kevin F. Butler
George Piasecki
Gaetano "Guy" Giannandrea
Jean M. Fletcher
John Vivona
Mary Cummings
St. Clare
Kathleen Cobb
Paul W. Carey
Archdiocese of Boston
Fr. Raymond P. Kiley

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.

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the following young people who were confirmed last Friday at St. Francis of Assisi! Please keep them in your prayers.

Molly Aubertine
Ava Blease
Keegan Bowles
Carolyn Burchill
Ava Burns
Margaret Butterfield
Stephen Cabral
Isabella Canelli
Margaret Carey
Ashlee Cobbett
Alison Curran
Dylan Curtin
Bridget Devine
Gabriella Diaute
Laura Donahue
Laura Dowd
Allie Fisher
Sophia Fitzgerald
Victoria Heidenreich
Claire Joyce
Madison Keddy
Margaret Kelly
Luke Lannon
Samantha Lydon
Ava MacDonald
Giulia Mannetta
Nora McLaughlin
Nicole McNamee
Caitlyn Moran
Jack Moran
Ava Nigro
Domenic Payzant
Annika Reilly
Fiona Reilly
Lauren Robey
Daniel Shaughnessy
Eva Surette
Natalie Svagdis
Emma VanderSlice
Anthony Volpe
Emma Walsh
Gregory Walsh
Calum Williams

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY is THIS weekend, June 18-19. Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry **Some of the needed items for this month** are individual snack packs, small bottles of water, canned fruit, pasta, Knorr's or Lipton Sides (rice); soups; crackers; tuna fish; ketchup/mustard; oatmeal; Poptarts; tea bags/coffee, cleaning products; paper products, personal care items (i.e. adult diapers and wipes). However, we are grateful for anything you wish to donate. If you forgot or prefer not to shop, please read the St. Vincent DePaul paragraph to learn how you can help.



June 19: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

Today we celebrate the gift of the Body and Blood of Christ we hear Jesus ask his disciples, "Why do you not give them something to eat yourselves?" And he shows them how by the multiplication of the five loaves and two fishes. **Today, as you donate to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul know that the multiplication of the loaves and fishes will happen again and the hungry will be fed.**

Pantry donations can also 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.**

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.



From the Archdiocese of Boston

June 19 ~ Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood (Corpus Christi)

Today, like every Sunday, we repeat the celebration that forges our identity and strengthens us to be the very body of Christ that we receive. Celebrating the Body and Blood of Christ always calls us to do what he commanded: to share our lives as he did. The gift we receive and celebrate is the very center and heart of our church, the center and heart of our faith and our lives. So too, it must be the center and heart of our parish life. As we leave Mass today, having received Christ's body and blood, let us pray for our parish and ourselves be more and more Christ-like in all that we say and do.



"God our Father, We give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; May they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own Fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; May they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen"

Prayer source Lordcalls.com






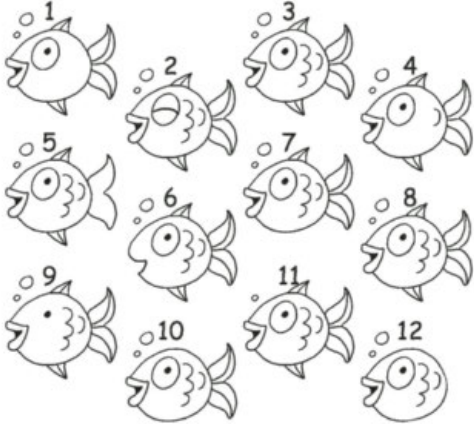
June 19, 2022 - The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Jesus went to those most in need. He forgave the sinner, ate with the outcast, defended, and fed those who were poor and hungry. He worked for true justice, risked being unpopular, willingly accepted suffering and death, and always stayed connected with his Abba, Father. Jesus also consistently reminded folks that God's compassion, love, and mercy trump everything, even the law. This is the Christ that the Eucharist calls us to be. As we look around our churches, our towns and cities, and our world, there are many people who need to see the face and body of Christ. Some of those most in need may be right within our families. But it is always in the poorest of the poor and those most vulnerable that we find the greatest need. There are many who cannot function on their own. When the gift of the Eucharistic Christ takes root in our hearts, we can more readily see the face of Christ in others.


Many people are vulnerable. Highest on that list are the homeless. They show us the face of Christ. Whatever the cause, to have no place to go and no place to call home takes a toll on the human spirit. For Jesus when there were hungry people, they were fed. God asks us to do the same ... feed people. There are many who are hungry physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Gifted by the Eucharistic presence of Christ, we can bring them Christ. Who are the hungry around us and how can we feed them?

When someone is hurting, you comfort them. When someone is hungry, you feed them. When someone needs clothes, you provide them. When someone is cold, you warm them. When someone is in prison, you visit them. With over a million people who are homeless and over a quarter of them children, it is important to ask the question, "why?" and strategize for ways to lessen or alleviate the problem. Nevertheless, we are not off the hook for responding to the immediate needs that present themselves at our doors. Whether a person's current station in life is self-imposed or the result of being victimized, they are sacred vessels. We cannot lock the door and send them away and still believe we bear the Eucharistic presence of Christ. It doesn't work like that. ©LPi

 **PUZZLE**
Find the identical fish!



ANSWER IS NUMBER THREE AND NUMBER EIGHT

 **MISSION**
If God has blessed your family with plenty of food to eat, make sure you also give food to people who are hungry.



Sharing the Gospel

Jesus told his friends to give a whole crowd of people something to eat. All they had was a little fish and bread. How could they possibly feed all those people with so little food? God gave them what they needed to help other people. When you want to help other people, trust God to give you what you need.

Prayer

Dear God, with your power I can really help other people.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself sharing your lunch with a friend.

Mission for the Week

If God has blessed your family with plenty of food to eat, make sure you also give food to people who are hungry.

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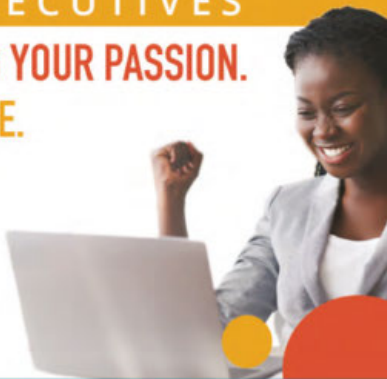
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