

# THE PARISH OF SAINT CLARE

1244 Liberty Street, Braintree, Mass 02184  
Collaborative Office Telephone: 781-843-1332

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

Collaborative email: [parish@sfab.org](mailto:parish@sfab.org)

*Parish Hall is accessible to Handicapped via elevator*



## Parish Mission Statement

*May the Lord bind us together as a community of faith filled with His love. Let us go forth and spread His Good News as St. John preached: "Children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth." 1 John 3:18*

## Pastor

Rev. Paul T. Clifford

Email: [pclifford@sfab.org](mailto:pclifford@sfab.org)

## Parochial Vicar

Rev. Valanarasu Newton-Williamraj

[frvalan@sfab.org](mailto:frvalan@sfab.org)

## Deacons

Michael J. Cavanaugh

Joe MacDonald

## Finance and Operations Manager

Kevin Mercier

## Sunday Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:45AM, 10:15 AM, & 6:00 PM

Daily Mass: 8:00 AM Saturday

Holy Days: 4:00 PM Mass on the Vigil

9:00 AM & 5:30 PM

## Sacrament Of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 8:30-9:00 AM

Anytime by Appointment

Sacrament of Baptism: Sunday at 2:00 PM

Please call the collaborative office to register

## Sacrament of Marriage:

A minimum six months notice is required. Couples must participate in a marriage preparation program.

## Sacrament of the Sick and Communion Calls:

Please notify the Collaborative Office if anyone is hospitalized or unable to attend Mass because of illness, handicap or age.

Religious Education: 781-843-1332

On Hiatus

## Music Director:

Deacon Joe MacDonald

E-mail: [deaconjoe.sfasc@gmail.com](mailto:deaconjoe.sfasc@gmail.com)

Collaborative Office Manager—781-843-1332

Patty Kinnally—[pkinnally@sfab.org](mailto:pkinnally@sfab.org)

## Fr. Bill's Place:

First Tuesday of the month

Mary Glynn

## Al-Anon:

Meets in Parish Hall - Tuesdays at 10:30AM

**(Suspended due to Coronavirus)**

## Help for the Poor:

Pine Street Inn Society:

Brenda Flood 617-786-0402

## Holy Name Society: (Suspended due to Coronavirus)

Second Sunday of the month at the 7:45 AM Mass

## Boy Scout Troop #138:

Wednesday 7:00 PM

John Collier 781-843-3330

## Family & Tots Program: (Suspended due to Coronavirus)

Karen Mc Brine 961-3460

E-mail: [karensmusicklass@aol.com](mailto:karensmusicklass@aol.com)

## Prayer Shawl Ministry: (Suspended due to Coronavirus)

First Wednesday of the month

Lucille Barton 848-0626

## Braintree Catholic Women's Club:

**(Suspended due to Coronavirus)**

Second Wednesday of the month at 1:30 PM in the

Parish Hall

Carolyn Puleo 617-834-0726

## Bulletin Deadline:

All notices must be submitted to the Parish House by Monday 1 PM. You may email them directly to [stclare1@verizon.net](mailto:stclare1@verizon.net)

**Welcome To New Parishioners.** We want to know and serve you. If you are not registered, please fill out this form and present it to one of the priests or bring it to the rectory or place in the collection basket.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street/City/Zip

Do You Wish to receive Offertory Envelopes? Yes

Prayers are requested for the Parishioners of St. Clare Parish, for those who are hospitalized, for our deceased relatives and friends, and for the following intentions:

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 14, 2021</b>	
8:00AM	Luke Conboy	Anniversary
4:00PM	Robert Pollard	Anniversary
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 15, 2021</b>	
7:45AM	Fr. Tom Fitzgerald and Helena Lubin	Anniversary Healing
10:15AM	Phyllis Evans	Anniversary
6:00PM	Parishioners of St. Clare	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 21, 2021</b>	
8:00AM		
4:00PM	Arduino DiCenso	Memorial
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 22, 2021</b>	
7:45AM		
10:15AM	Fermina DiFonso	Anniversary
6:00PM		

**WE ARE THE STEWARDS ...**

<b>Offertory</b>	<b>\$5,197.00</b>
<b>Online giving</b>	<b>\$ 424.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,621.00</b>

The Altar Breads and Wine to be used at all Masses for the week of August 14—20 have been donated in loving memory of **John & Esther Collins**. The Sanctuary light will also burn in loving memory of **John & Esther**.

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

As always, we thank you for your ongoing generosity. The offertory is our primary means of meeting our Parish weekly operational expenses.



**From Archdiocese of Boston**  
Fr. C. Paul Rouse

**From St. Francis of Assisi**  
Leonard I. Torrey  
Michelle Richardi  
Eleanor B. Ward  
James P. Kelly

*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.*



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



*From the Archdiocese of Boston*

**Fall 2019 Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats - September 25, October 16 & November 20**

*“Project Rachel led me to a place of forgiveness and mercy. 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 participant. 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. Fall dates are September 25, October 16 and November 20 from 9 AM to 5 PM. 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).



All couples celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries in 2020-21 are invited to join Cardinal Seán O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap. The Mass includes a vow renewal and special blessing by the Cardinal. Couples can register at [bostoncatholic.org/familylife/anniversary-mass](http://bostoncatholic.org/familylife/anniversary-mass). For more information, please contact Emily Elliott in Family Life Ministry at [Emily\\_Elliott@rcab.org](mailto:Emily_Elliott@rcab.org).



*Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents Whose Children of any Age Have Died by Any Cause, No Matter How Long Ago.*

Losing a child under any circumstance is horrific. Focusing on the spirituality of the grieving process can help tremendously. Please join us. All are welcome.

**One-Day In-Person Spiritual Retreat** - August 14, 2021  
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Carver, MA

Weekend In-Person Spiritual Retreat - November 5-7, 2021

Miramar Retreat Center, Duxbury, MA

For more information or to register, call Diane at 800-919-9332 or go to [www.emfgp.org](http://www.emfgp.org).



*The Collaborative office will close at 12:00PM on Fridays through Labor Day.*



From  
Deacon Joe  
MacDonald

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a teaching that originates from the very earliest days of the Church. This doctrine was handed down first by oral tradition and then in writing. Manuscripts that told of the Assumption from the fifth century attest to this early belief. These manuscripts were found in various and distant locations and all have very similar accounts of the Assumption. Because these documents were so widespread, scholars believe that much older documents must have existed that spread the same information throughout the Roman Empire. It wasn't until 1950, that the Assumption was declared a dogma of the Church by Pope Pius XII.

"We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory."

Many of our Protestant brothers and sisters do not hold to this belief. Some, who are hostile to the Church, see the 1950 declaration as evidence that the Church changes its beliefs whenever it wants and that it demonstrates a perceived deification and worship of the Blessed Mother. Of course, we know this to be patently false. Mary herself said, "The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is His name." So, the Assumption of Mary is a work of God to His own glorification. It is a false accusation that we make a god out of Mary and that we worship her. Mary is a creature just like any of us, but, oh what creation she is. She is the perfect disciple, the mother of Jesus (God), whose heavenly role is to lead her children to Christ.

Many want to know where this doctrine is found in Sacred Scripture. Explicitly, you won't find it. The Gospels were written about the life of Jesus and end with the Ascension. The other books of the New Testament were written either as instructions to certain local churches or to promulgate the faith. So, the end of Mary's life would not be included in these books. But just as Scripture was first passed on as oral tradition, so too, the truth of the Assumption was passed on by oral tradition.

Implicitly though, there is evidence of the Assumption in Sacred Scripture. And the first reading proclaimed at Mass today is one of these. We see that Heaven was opened so that John could see what was there. And what did he see? He saw the Ark of the Covenant and then he sees a woman clothed with the sun, who gave birth to a male child destined to rule the nations. Sounds like Mary to me. One might speculate that John, who took Mary into his own home, (Jn 19:26) and was likely there at the end of her life might have actually witnessed the Assumption and

knew that she was in Heaven when he wrote Revelation.

But, the significance of the Ark cannot be overlooked. What did the Ark of the Covenant hold? Inside it contained the stone tablets with the commandments of God. (God's Word). There was Aaron's staff. (a sign of priesthood) And it held the manna that the Israelites ate in the desert. (The bread come down from heaven)

Who did Mary hold in her womb? Who did she nourish and love within her own body? It was Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God, the same Word God spoke at Creation. (Gen 1:3) It was Jesus the great High Priest (Heb 4:14-15) and it was Jesus the Bread of life (Jn 6:35) come down from Heaven which we miraculously receive each Sunday in Holy Communion.

The Ark in John's vision was not the one that was marched through the desert, sat in the Jerusalem temple and that disappeared centuries before the birth of Christ. No, what John sees is the Ark of the New Covenant – Mary, the Blessed Virgin, the Mother of God.

We celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary not as Mary's own accomplishment but as Christ's gift to His mother and a gift He will also accomplish in us when at the end of time when our bodies and souls will be reunited in the Kingdom of Heaven giving glory to God Who is Father, Son and Spirit.



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!**

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