

THE PARISH OF SAINT CLARE

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

www.braintreecatholic.org

Collaborative email: 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

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Valanarasu Newton-Williamraj
frvalan@sfab.org

Deacons

Michael J. Cavanaugh
Joe MacDonald

Finance and Operations Manager

Kevin Mercier

Sunday Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:45 AM, 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

Collaborative Office Manager—781-843-1332

Patty Kinnally—pkinnally@sfab.org

Fr. Bill's Place:

First Tuesday of the month

(Suspended due to Coronavirus)

Al-Anon:

Meets in Parish Hall - Tuesdays at 10:30 AM

(Suspended due to Coronavirus)

Help for the Poor:

Pine Street Inn Society:

(Suspended due to Coronavirus)

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: karenmusicklass@aol.com

Prayer Shawl Ministry: (Suspended due to Coronavirus)

First Wednesday of the month

Lucille Barton 848-0626

Braintree Catholic Women's Club:

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

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:

<u>Saturday</u>	<u>January 15, 2022</u>	
8:00AM		
4:00PM	Avanti Quintiliani	Anniversary
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>January 16, 2022</u>	
7:45AM		
10:15AM	Parishioners of St. Clare	
6:00PM		
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>January 22, 2022</u>	
8:00AM	Unborn Children	
4:00PM	Frank, Patrick and Marion Hynes	Memorial
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>January 23, 2022</u>	
7:45AM		
10:15AM	Louis Napolitano	Anniversary
	David Napolitano	Memorial
6:00PM		

WE ARE THE STEWARDS ...

Offertory	\$ 3,414.00
Online giving	\$ 1,289.00
Total	\$ 4,703.00

The Sanctuary Light for the week of January 15-21 will also burn in loving memory of **Ruth L. Barkowski**.

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.



- St. Clare*
- Matthew Grealish*
- Linda Varroso*
- St. Francis of Assisi*
- June T. McNaught*
- Kathleen R. Coletta*
- Cesar Ilagan*
- Virginia M. Roberts*
- Margaret Werra*
- Joan Callahan*
- Archdiocese of Boston*
- Fr. A. James Bertelli*

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 Confirmation program for students in Grade 10 will begin NEXT Sunday, January 23, 2022. This will be a **mandatory meeting** beginning in St. Clare Church Hall. Meeting will begin at 5:00PM concluding with the 6:00PM Mass.

Confirmation preparation will be a hybrid model. There will be monthly in-person meetings and self-guided on-line instruction. Full details will be presented at the meeting on January 23rd.

Confirmation will be celebrated sometime in June, 2022.



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY resumes next weekend! Thank you to everyone who so faithfully supports our pantry with donations of non-perishable food, personal items, cleaning supplies, and paper products.

In recent months we have had an increased request for paper products (toilet paper, paper towels and Kleenex), cleaning supplies and toiletries. These are items that can not be purchased with Food Stamps. Thank you for your consideration.



We are now booking Mass Intentions through Sunday, September 11, 2022. To schedule a Mass or for further information please call the Collaborative Office at 781-843-1332.



The Collaborative Office will be closed on Monday, January 17th in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Stay healthy, safe and warm.



From
Deacon Joe MacDonald

Do Whatever He Tells You.

We have one of those home water coolers. It holds a 5-gallon jug of water. When it's empty I take it to a store that has a spring water dispenser outside, I put my quarters in and get the jug filled. Do you know how much that jug of water weighs? It weighs 42.7 pounds. I don't know how many of you think that's heavy but I sure do. In fact, I loathe carrying it back to the car and into the house. I almost always need help to lift it, turn it upside down and place it in the cooler without spilling it all over the place.

What does this have to do with today's Gospel?

We've heard the story of the Wedding Feast at Cana hundreds of times. So many times, in fact we don't even think twice. Often, the words just flow over us and we miss some of the more interesting details.

Mary told the servants at the wedding "Do whatever he tells you." That's great advice even today.

Jesus noticed that there were 6 water jugs and he told them to fill those with water. Now this is the part I bet we never think about. To have a jug or container large enough to hold 30 gallons of water, each of those jugs had to weigh at least 60 pounds. I think that in itself is pretty heavy and I'm sure awkward to move around. And we don't think about what it would have entailed to fill those jugs. They didn't have faucets with running water. They had to drag those 60+ pound jugs to where the water was and it wasn't in the next room. Then, they had to bring those jugs now filled with water back to Jesus.

I'll do the math for you. A gallon of water is 8.54 pounds times 30 per clay container is 256 pounds, plus 60 for the weight of the clay jug for a grand total of 316 pounds per jar. In all they had to move 1,896 pounds of water from the village well to the place of the wedding. I bet they were muttering to themselves "Why did we listen to this guy?" But they did what they were asked and when they were done, they laid down their burden in front of the Lord.

Usually, we hear this passage and don't think twice about what it involved. We don't think of what it meant for the servants. We rarely think of the burdens that those who serve us bear. Jesus didn't ask those men to do something easy. He asked them to do what was hard. And when they did, Jesus provided wine for the wedding. He just didn't provide wine – he provided great wine. He didn't just give them enough, he gave them an abundance of wine, more than enough. Again, I'll do the math for you – he gave them 180 gallons of wine. That would be about 36 of the 5-

-gallon jugs I use for my cooler.

Today, Mary instructs us in the same way: "Do whatever he tells you." But be prepared, he may tell us to do something hard.

This are some of the things Jesus asks us to do:

"Be not afraid" (sounds easy unless you're in the midst of a pandemic); "Come follow me"; "Love one another"; "Love your enemies (What!);" "Do good to those who hurt you" (That's crazy talk); "Turn the other cheek"; "Forgive"(seriously?); "Eat this bread"; "Drink this cup"; "Do this in memory of me"; "Take up your cross"; "Go and make disciples of all nations"; "Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

I maintain that none of this is easy. But if Jesus is asking us to do things that are hard let's remember that when the Father asked him to do something hard – he did it. "Not my will but your will be done."

When we do all that he tells us, Jesus takes what is ordinary and creates something extraordinary. Water becomes wine, broken bodies are healed, bread becomes his body and wine his blood. Sinners become saints and eternal life crushes the grip of death.

If only we had ears to hear and eyes that see, we might finally understand what marvels we could witness if only we listen and obey our Blessed Mother when she says; "Do whatever he tells you."



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and are seven sessions on weekdays from 7:00pm to 9:30pm. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. 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://wwmema.org/>. Allow God to strengthen, renew, rekindle and even transform your marriage sacrament. Take time for your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience.

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