# THE PARISH OF SAINT CLARE

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

Parish Hall is accessible to Handicapped was levelor

Collaborative email: parish@sfab.org



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: 7:45AM, 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 Collaborative Office Manager—781-843-1332

Patty Kinnally—pkinnally@sfab.org

## Fr. Bill's Place:

First Tuesday of the month

(Suspended due to Coranavirus)

## Al-Anon:

Meets in Parish Hall - Tuesdays at 10:30AM

(Suspended due to Coranavirus)

Help for the Poor:

Pine Street Inn Society:

(Suspended due to Coranavirus)

Holy Name Society: (Suspended due to Coranavirus)

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 Coranavirus)

Karen Mc Brine 961-3460

E-mail: karensmusicklass@aol.com

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

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 serv	ve 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 pla	ace in the collection basket.
Name:	Phone:

Street/City/Zip

Do You Wish to receive Offertory Envelopes? Yes

ST. CLARE PARISH BRAINTREE

**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>January 22, 2022</b>	
8:00AM	Unborn Children	
4:00PM	Frank, Patrick and	Memorial
	Marion Hynes	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 23, 2022</b>	
7:45AM	Parishioners of St. Clare	
10:15AM	Louis Napolitano	Anniversary
	David Napolitano	Memorial
6:00PM		
Saturday January 29, 2022		
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>January 29, 2022</u>	
Saturday 8:00AM	<u>January 29, 2022</u>	
	January 29, 2022 Brian Sampson	Memorial
8:00AM	•	Memorial
8:00AM 4:00PM	Brian Sampson	Memorial 7th Anniv.
8:00AM 4:00PM Sunday	Brian Sampson  January 30, 2022	
8:00AM 4:00PM <b>Sunday</b> 7:45AM	Brian Sampson  January 30, 2022  Gerald Ridge, Sr.	7th Anniv.
8:00AM 4:00PM <b>Sunday</b> 7:45AM	Brian Sampson  January 30, 2022  Gerald Ridge, Sr.  Deceased Brothers K of C	7th Anniv.
8:00AM 4:00PM <b>Sunday</b> 7:45AM	Brian Sampson  January 30, 2022  Gerald Ridge, Sr.  Deceased Brothers K of C  Braintree Council 1462	7th Anniv. Memorial

## WE ARE THE STEWARDS ...

Offertory	\$ 3,888.00
Online giving	\$ 514.00
Total	\$ 4,402.00

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

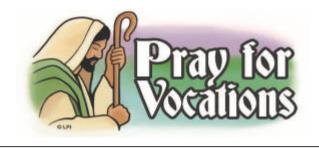
As always, we thank you for your ongoing generosity. The offertory is our primary means of meeting our Parish weekly operational expenses.



St. Francis of Assisi Carolyn E. Vaughan Domenico Federico

Archdiocese of Boston
Fr. Paul Phinn

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. Please note this meeting os for students only.

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 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Confirmation will be celebrated sometime in June, 2022.



First Communion classes also begin THIS week. An email from Karen Lane, Program Coordinator, with dates and times was sent to families with students in Grade 2. If you did not receive this email please contact Karen at klane@sfab.org. Classes will be held on Sundays 11:15-12:15; Tuesdays 4:00-4:00PM and Thursdays 4:00—5:00PM.



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



Thank you to everyone who responded to our Food Pantry Appeal. The next Food Pantry collection will be the weekend of February 19-20, 2022. Donations are gladly accepted at anytime by drop-off at the Collaborative Office, 856 Washington Street.





# From Deacon Joe MacDonald

I often use the story we hear in today's gospel when I preach at Baptisms. I'll typically combine it with the story from Matthew where we find people bringing their little children to Jesus, so that He could touch them. We might wonder why anyone would bring their children to be touched by an itinerant preacher. I can only surmise that at some point they might have heard of Jesus from someone else, or listened to Him preach at some point, or they may have witnessed a miracle of some kind. Each one had their own reason and because of that they had come to believe that to be touched by Christ was to be touched by God – not an easy leap of faith for Jewish people in the first century.

Two thousand years later parents continue to bring their children to be touched by Christ, to be touched by God and that is why they bring them to the church for Baptism.

But what does the Isaiah prophesy have to do with it?

The passage reads, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me." We receive that same Spirit at Baptism.

It continues, "because He has anointed me." We are anointed twice at Baptism. Once as a sign that we have received the strength of Christ and next we are anointed as members of His body, as prophet, priest, and king with Christ.

And finally, it says that "He has sent me." And we are sent as well. We can't think for even a minute that we aren't sent. It's the whole purpose of receiving the Spirit and being anointed. It is what our word "Mass" means, literally "to go out". It has the same meaning and root as our word mission. We see it as the conclusion of something. "The Mass is ended. Go in peace." We respond, "Thanks be to God." But we say this not because we are happy that something is over but because we have been filled with grace and blessings and so can fulfill our mandate to bring Christ to the world around us when we go back to our homes, schools and workplaces.

And so, like Christ, are anointed to do something that is, to bring glad tidings to the poor, to announce liberty to captives; give sight to the blind; to heal the broken hearted; feed the hungry; clothe the naked; and speak up for the oppressed and those who have no voice. The list goes on. Having heard God's word and having been fed with the Body and Blood of Christ we are charged to go forth from this church building and touch God's children with the love, compassion, healing, and knowledge of Christ. And when we do this, then we can also declare with Christ, "Today this scripture passage is fulfilled."



## January 23, 2022 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Human history reveals many periods where people lost a sense of God's transcendence. It may even be argued that human beings have been wandering and lost more than they have been at home and focused. Human nature being what it is, we struggle with who God really is — the God of our salvation history or the "gods" of human constructs. Relying on our own designs and pursuits, we forget that we really are meant to listen to One upon whom the Spirit of the Lord rests, Jesus Christ, and not to ourselves. That same history that reveals our fickleness and infidelity also reveals God's constancy and faithfulness. God always finds us.

As people wander and fumble to find their way, God is there bringing them back to holiness and giving them the assurance of His presence. We have to allow God's Word, God's life, to touch us and change us. It can make us more flexible and attentive to the sacred in all facets of life so that every day is one that is holy. Every day is a time when fulfillment is possible for one's soul. Jesus stood before those gathered in the synagogue as the fulfillment of words of promise that were echoed long ago. God doesn't forget. He always comes for us.

Now it is time to remember to go to God. Sometimes our lives are so confused and tangled that it is difficult to see the Word and hand of God. But when we realize, deep within, the depth of friendship God offers to us it really has the power to turn sadness to joy. The promise is fulfilled. Going frequently to God's Word, allowing ourselves to be enriched and rejuvenated, and pondering the certainly of God's fidelity and promise permanently transforms us. We will be more aware of the sacred and the holy and less invested in things that pull us away. ©LPi



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