

THE PARISH OF SAINT CLARE

1244 Liberty Street, Braintree, Mass 02184
Parish House Telephone: 848-7480/848-7540 • Fax: 781-356-8380
www.stclarebraintree.org



Parish Hall is accessible to Handicapped via elevator



Theresa Scalo '95

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 S. Sughrue

Email: FrPaul1@verizon.net

Deacon

Michael J. Cavanaugh

Faith Formation Office

Email: faithformation2@verizon.net

Business Office

Email: stclaret@verizon.net

Sunday Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30 AM

Daily Mass: 9:00 AM Wednesday through Saturday

Holy Days: As Announced

Sacrament Of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 3:00-3:45 PM

Anytime by Appointment

Sacrament of Baptism: 2nd Sunday at 1:00 PM.

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 Parish House if anyone is hospitalized or unable to attend Mass because of illness, handicap or age.

Music Director:

Kathy Clancy 849-9219

Faith Formation: 781-848-7481

Debbie Clancy, Grades K-5

E-mail: FaithFormation4K25@verizon.net

Anne Marie Tranfaglia, Grades 6, 7, 8

E-mail: FaithFormation4628@verizon.net

Mike Panciotti, Grades 9 & 10

E-mail: FaithFormation4910@verizon.net

Fr. Bill's Place:

First Tuesday of the month.

Mary Glynn 781-640-8528

AI-Anon:

Meets in Parish Hall - Tuesdays at 10:30AM

Alcoholic Anonymous:

Twelve Step & Twelve Tradition - Meets in Parish Hall

Conference Room Fridays 8:00-9:00 PM

Dave: 617-413-3430

Help for the Poor:

Dave Wallace 848-3585

Coffee House:

Brian Manning 380-8709

Pine Street Inn Society:

Second Thursday of the month

Joan McCarron 848-0813

Holy Name Society:

Second Sunday of the month at the 8:30 AM Mass.

Boy Scout Troop #138:

Wednesday 7:00 PM

Ed Fruth 843-9854

St. Clare Social and Event Activities Coordinators:

Marybeth Moriarty 356-4842

Family & Tots Program:

Karen McBrine 961-3460

Bulletin Deadline:

All notices must be submitted to the Parish House by Monday 1 PM. You may email them directly to Debby115@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:

SATURDAY, December 19

4:00 PM Robert & Gerard Joyce Memorial
 Annette & Joseph Horan..... Anniv

SUNDAY, December 20

8:30 AM Claire L. Hickey.....10th Anniv
 10:00 AM Alfred O'Connor.....Birthday Memorial
 11:30 AM Thomas Griffin.....20th Anniv

WEDNESDAY, December 23

9:00 AM Sanctuary Fund

THURSDAY, December 24

4:00 PM In memory of those for whom Christmas Flowers
 were donated
 6:00 PM Francis Fabiano.....9th Anniv

FRIDAY, December 25

8:30 AM Jose & Logrezia Barone.....Memorial
 Josephine & Zachary Ruffini.....Memorial
 10:00 AM George, Ruth & Peter Thompson.....Anniv

The Gospel today tells of the Virgin Mary, pregnant herself, hurrying off to help her cousin Elizabeth. The model of good stewardship, she who had given herself to bear the Savior gave her time and love to others as well.

We welcome Marisa Cristina Di Vito, William James Gibson, Samantha Jean Kay, and Isabella Rose Rotondo as our newest members of our faith through Baptism. We pray God will bestow upon them many spiritual blessings throughout their life.

New Altar Server: We welcome **Keegan Boyle** who is a new member of those who serve at St. Clare Parish. He served for the first time last week and did a fabulous job. We hope that he will enjoy many more opportunities to Serve God at the altar. Others who wish to join him are most welcome!

Ministers of Holy Communion: All those who presently visit people in the home, hospital, or nursing home are asked to kindly call the Parish House and inform us of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of those whom you visit. This is important to us in order that we may update this vital information.

Our Monthly Food Collection will be next weekend of **December 26 & 27**. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Advent Wreath Lighting Prayer

This Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Advent

The fourth candle is lit and the following prayer is said: "Almighty and loving God, soon the whole world will celebrate the birth of your Son Jesus. Even as we rejoice in our remembrance of his birth at Bethlehem, we find greater comfort in his promise to come again. May our preparations for this wondrous season remain with us, increase in us, and become as much a part of us as our breathing and our heartbeat. Then may we say, "Come, Lord Jesus, we are ready." Amen.

The Altar Breads & Wine to be used in all the Masses this week have been donated in loving memory of **Anna & Henry Sullivan**.

The Sanctuary Light will burn December 19 – December 25 in loving memory of **Rose & Joseph Sullivan**.

WE ARE THE STEWARDS ...		
and this is how we live our stewardship		
Offertory	(December 12 & 13)	\$6,504
Grand Annual		\$52,388
Thank you for your ongoing generosity		

At all our Christmas Masses, our only collection will be to support the retirement, medical and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all our priests, thank you.

Advent & Christmas Schedule

Advent Daily Mass: Wednesday – Saturday, 9:00 AM

Advent Confessions: Saturday: 3:00-3:45 PM

Christmas Eve Masses, December 24th: 4:00 PM - Fr. Paul and 6:00 PM - Fr. Paul Kilroy

Christmas Day Masses, December 25th: 8:30 AM - Fr. Bob Jones and 10:00 AM Fr. Paul

Christmas Greeting

Merry Christmas to everyone from the entire parish staff! We are delighted that you've joined us for worship on this great feast, and we hope that you'll return to pray with us often. As a church community, we offer lots of services to our members in addition to our weekly worship. If you have moved into the area, we invite you to become a member. Feel free to call the parish office at 781-848-7480 or email us at stclare1@verizon.net if you would like to join, or have questions about our parish. May Christ be born in your heart anew this day, and may His Spirit grow in you throughout the New Year!

Liturgical Roles

Lectors:

December 19 & 20

4:00 PM.....T. English
 8:30 AM.....B. McGrath
 10:00 AMR. Moran – E. Moriarty
 11:30 AMJ. McCarthy

December 24 & 25

4:00 PM.....M. Dalton – G. Cahill
 6:00 PM.....C. Mahoney
 8:30 AM.....B. Gawron
 10:00 AM.....J. Collier

Eucharistic Ministers:

December 19 & 20

4:00 PM..... D. Hoffman, M. Cahill, J. Dente, M. Ryan
 8:30 AM..... B. Welch, J. Barrett, C. Vitagliano, I. Supple
 10:00 AMB. Carr, B. Little, J. & A. Sheehan
 11:30 AM.....J. Donovan, I. Barone, Deacon Mike & Claire

December 24 & 25

4:00 PM.....J. Walbridge, M. Cahill, D. Hoffman, B. Carr
 8:30 AM.....J. & F. Buonopane, M. & D. Picewick
 10:00 AM.....J. & A. Sheehan, M. DeSantis, M. Smith

Liturgy & Literature

“Five Ways to Making Christmas a Way of Life”, Liguorian, December, 2009: 1. Be sacraments of God’s love 2. Expand the Circle of Love 3. See God in all People 4. See God in ourselves 5. See God in all living things. When this occurs, Christ is born anew, not just in Bethlehem, but throughout the world.

Prayerfully, Fr. Paul

Feast Day of St. Stephen is Saturday, December 26: All we know of St. Stephen comes from Chapters 6 & 7 in the book of the Acts of the Apostles. It tells us that the 12 Apostles appointed Stephen to help serve widows who were Hebrew speaking Christians in order to ensure an equitable distribution of bread. He was described as a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit. St. Stephen died with courage, total trust and forgiving love, stoned to death because he confronted the rulers who opposed the Holy Spirit.

The Pope Speaks: Mary teaches people to treat others with respect. On December 8th the Pope said that the statues, paintings and mosaics in the Churches, public squares and street corners shrines should help the city’s visitors and residents to treat each other with respect. He made his remarks travelling to the heart of Rome’s shopping center to a statue of Mary near the Spanish steps. The mother of God teaches us to open ourselves to the action of God, to see others as he sees them, starting from the heart. We need to look upon people with mercy, love and infinite tenderness, especially those who are abandoned, despised, and exploited. Each human story is a sacred story and as such demands ultimate respect. This should be remembered when people are exploited in news media by reason of an indiscretion and or crime. Pollution of the earth needs to be purified, but all the more so does human nature whose faults and weaknesses prevent acknowledgment of one another with a smile.

Additional names of those remembered by flowers on the Christmas altar: Shuck-Sullivan Families, Eleanor L. Guilbault, Florence Pierce, Anne Smith, Nana & Pa Christian, Grandma & Grandpa Cavallaro, Uncle Melvin, Dr. Edward Jerdon USN (ret), Stella Jerdon, Robert Farrell, Carolyn Durgin, Helen & Joseph Rochon, Don Fisher, Mary Lou Corbett, Edward J. Caton, Feeley & McKeon Families, Massimo & Vincenza D’Alessandro, Tommaso Gioioso, Harry G. Reimels, Molloy & Murphy Families, Mr. & Mrs. John G. Murphy, Jane Coleman, W. Joseph Baker, Ann Tosone, William E. Dean, Jr., Alice E. O’Keefe, The Dean Family, The Walsh Family, John & Chris Dryer, Charlie & Helen Ames, Julie Mansfield, Rebecca Jerome, Walsh & Francis Families, Walter Niemiec, Catherine Mahanna, Margaret Cook Menz, Leo E. Cook, Leo E. Cook, Jr, John Clougher Family, Morgan Patrick McLaughlin Family, The Doyle Family, The Halley Family, Domenic Marinili, Frank Libertini, Dennis A. Mitchell, Pete Mitchell, Valerie Mitchell, Carla Vitagliano Ambrose, Patricia M. O’Brien, John A. Bernasconi, Donnellan Family, Ann E. Twohig, Mr. & Mrs. James Sheerin, Helen Bench, David Fall, The Canavan & Calabro Families.

Poor Boxes: Don’t forget to do your part by “feeding” the poor boxes! This money helps to feed the guests at Pine Street Inn and Fr. Bill’s Place. Your pennies are donated to the Catholic Daughters for purchasing cribs for Friends of the Unborn.

Faith Formation

There will be no Faith Formation classes during Christmas week and school vacation (from December 20 - January 3). All classes will resume on Monday, January 4. We wish all of our teachers, students and their families a joyous and blessed Christmas, and an enjoyable, safe school vacation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Faith Formation Office at 781-848-7481 or email:

Debbie Clancy (Gr K - 5): Faithformation4K25@Verizon.net

Anne Marie Tranfaglia (Gr 6-8): Faithformation4628@Verizon.net

Mike Panciotti (Gr 9 & 10): Faithformation4910@Verizon.net

Elevator: Please know that we have an elevator to transport us from the Church to the Hall and back to the Church again. Please make use of it. It can help prevent issues related to accidents on the stairwells as took place last week to Mary Foley. Please pray that she may recuperate well.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet on Monday, **December 21** at 7:15 PM at St. Francis of Assisi Church Hall. Following the meeting there will be a Christmas party with fun and games. Please bring a gift to swap (under \$10.00). All ladies welcome. Hope to see you there!

Jubilee Pictures: Pictures depicting the building of St. Clare Parish have been generously donated to us by Ted Furlong, son of Andrew and Ida, recently deceased. The pictures were taken by his uncle, Charles “Buddy” Furlong. We are grateful for these historic images which are the only pictures available of the building of St. Clare Church. They may be viewed at the Parish House by those who are interested.

Affordable Housing Lottery: 165 Pond Street, Braintree. Single Family home, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, will be sold January 8, 2010. Income and assets limits will apply. Applications are available at Braintree Town Hall. The deadline for application submission is Tuesday, **January 5th**, 4:00 PM. Further information provided at a seminar at the Braintree Housing Authority, on Thursday, **December 10th**, 6:30-7:30 PM.

Coats for Kids, Adults & Babies, Too: Collecting now through January 8 - sponsored by Anton’s Cleaners. Please leave the coats behind the Parish Garage in a large box. Accepted: warm winter jackets, gently used, good quality, coats that you would give a friend. All sizes needed. Many thanks!

We have received numerous thank you letters these past few weeks from various charities we have reached out to with our support (namely, Pine Street Inn, Cathedral High School, My Brother’s Keeper, Homes for Our Troops, and St. Anthony’s Shrine). There is never enough room to print all the notes individually, but please know that your generosity and kindness is greatly appreciated by all.

CatholicTV Christmas Programming: CatholicTV will intersperse Advent and Christmas programming with their regular schedule especially from December 21 until New Year’s Eve. All day Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and December 26, CatholicTV will become ChristmasTV for 72 hours of non-stop specials.

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