SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH A COMMUNITY OF PRAYER FOCUSED ON PERFORMING CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY: FEEDING THE HUNGRY

BROOKFIELD, CT

JULY 6, 2025

• 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

'THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND.'

ACTO AVA

PARISH STAFF

Rev. George F. O'Neill, Pastor Pastor@stjosephbrookfield.com **Rev. Lawrence F. Carew, Non-Resident Priest** FrCarew@diobpt.org Msgr. Robert E. Weiss, Non-Resident Priest MsgrWeiss@diobpt.org Deacon Jeffrey J. Font DcnJeff@stjosephbrookfield.com Deacon Louis F. Howe, Sr., Facilities Manager DcnLou@stjosephbrookfield.com Deacon Peter J. Kuhn DcnPeter@stjosephbrookfield.com Deacon William J. Shaughnessy BillShaughnessy703@gmail.com Rita Golaszewski, Parish Secretary RitaG@stjosephbrookfield.com Patricia Smith, Religious Education Coordinator PatSmith@stjosephbrookfield.com Kathy Bailo, Religious Education Assistant KathyBailo@stjosephbrookfield.com Grace Zaloski, Ignite Youth Ministry Coordinator Grace.Zaloski@stjosephbrookfield.com Christine Blonski, Bookkeeper chrisblonski@stjosephbrookfield.com David Kendall, Director of Music MusicDirector@stjosephbrookfield.com Arianna Hanley, Choir Director Cantor@stjosephbrookfield.com Renzo Ortega, United High School Ministry Coordinator rortega@strosechurch.com

PARISH OFFICE

Phone: 203.775.1035 Web Site: www.stjosephbrookfield.com Email: ParishSec@stjosephbrookfield.com Hours: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Monday thru Friday* Emergencies: (203)209-4908

Mail: 163 Whisconier Road Brookfield, CT 06804

GPS Address: 1 Obtuse Hill Rd Brookfield, CT 06804 *CLOSED HOLIDAYS AND HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday – 8:00 AM Saturday Vigil – 5:00 PM Sunday - 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 AM Monday-Friday - 7:45 AM

All Masses live-streamed on the Parish Website

CONFESSIONS Tuesday: 7:00-8:00 PM (With Eucharistic Adoration) Saturdays: 4:00-4:45 PM

Interested in becoming a Catholic? We'd love to have you! Call the Parish Office to learn about our O.C.I.A. Program.

*To add parish events, to the calendar, contact Bulletin@stjosephbrookfield.com

Saint Joseph Church

WELCOME TO SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

YOU BELONG HERE

THIS WEEK @ ST. JOSEPH

Mass

Mass

Mon 7:45 AM 8:30 AM

7:45 AM

8:30 AM

7:00 PM

7:00 PM

7:45 AM

8:30 AM

7:45 AM

8:30 AM

7:45 AM

8:15 AM

10:30 AM

Mass Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer

Mass Morning Prayer Confession & Adoration Knights of Columbus Meeting



Tues







Mass Eucharistic Adoration for Life VBS Kids Mass



8:00 AM 10:00 AM 4:00 PM 4:30 PM 5:00 PM

Mass Bereavement Ministry Meeting Confession Rosary for Persecuted Catholics Mass



7:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Mass 11:00 AM Mass

PRAYING FOR PEACE AND REPARATION

We invite you to stay at the end of Sunday Mass – following the closing hymn – and join us in praying three "Hail Mary's" for Peace: in our World, in our Families and in our Hearts. We also pray the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel, for healing and reparation in our Church. The Prayer to St. Michael can be found on the back inside cover of the St. Augustine Missal.





Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow-a day at a time.

Sunday, Jul 06, 2025

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Do some heavy lifting A homilist once said, "The church serves the kingdom of God. It is not the kingdom of God." The church is not all of the kingdom but the best way to it. And God's kingdom is already here. Jesus taught it is among us but not quite complete. God plays a central role in bringing the kingdom to its fullness, of course, but we disciples have to do some of the heavy lifting, too, to move toward a time when evil does not get the last word; sinners who seek it receive forgiveness; the suffering of those who are poor wanes; and everyone takes up God's offer of new life forever. It's a pretty good deal. How are you proclaiming and working toward it?

Isaiah 66:10-14c; Galatians 6:14-18; Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9 (102). "Yet know this: the kingdom of God is at hand."

Monday, Jul 07, 2025

When in doubt

Some people seem to be born with the gift of deep faith. They appear to have an intuitive grasp of the spiritual side of life and to know God is always with them. The rest of us must endure long periods of doubt and uncertainty that are only occasionally interrupted by brief moments of spiritual clarity. Saint John of the Cross advises us to "Live in faith and hope, though it be in darkness, for in this darkness God protects the soul." Ask yourself, "Where am I on the continuum between faith and doubt?" Is it possible that the Lord is with you and you don't know it? Ask God to shine his light into your darkness.

Genesis 28:10-22a; Matthew 9:18-26 (383). "Truly, the Lord is in this spot, although I did not know it!"

Tuesday, Jul 08, 2025

Wrestle with your fears and doubts

When you think of an encounter with God, what's the first image that comes to mind? Wrestling? Maybe not, but it's a powerful biblical image. Think of Jacob, who grappled with the angel of God. At the time, Jacob feared for his life because he was in dangerous territory. Would God remain with him in his hour of need? For Jacob, a crisis of faith followed. So did a wrestling match. How often do we wrestle with God? In illness, financial hardship, and other troubles, we may try to lash out at God or try to negotiate. A monk once told author Nikos Kazantzakis that he wrestled with God. "With God!" Kazantzakis exclaimed. "And you hope to win?" The monk replied. "I hope to lose." Pray that in your next battle with God, despite feeling bruised and battered, you emerge with greater self-knowledge and stronger faith.

Genesis 32:23-33; Matthew 9:32-38 (384). "But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go until you bless me."

Wednesday, Jul 09, 2025

A tough job but everyone has to do it

We tend to think that the word apostle—which means "one who is sent"-appears only in the gospels, yet the term is also used in Saint Paul's letters to mean "one who has seen the risen Lord and has been commissioned to proclaim the Resurrection." And in fact all believers in Christ are commissioned to evangelize. As Pope Saint John Paul II says, "No believer in Christ, no institution of the Church can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples." But spreading the Good News is no easy task. The early disciples were scoffed at, scolded, beaten, and tortured for delivering a message that frightened and confused many even as it liberated and heartened a few. Prepare for blowback as you fight the good fight.

Genesis 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Matthew 10:1-7 (385). "Jesus sent out these Twelve after instructing them."

Thursday, Jul 10, 2025 Turn the tables

The Israelite Joseph had it tough as the second youngest in a family of 12 brothers. Picked on and resented because he was his dad Jacob's favorite, Joseph is sold into slavery by his brothers. The next time he meets up with his brothers, years later, the tables are turned. Joseph is in a position of power, and his brothers are the vulnerable ones. It wouldn't have taken much for Joseph to tap into feelings of hurt, betrayal, and rage and respond measure for measure. But instead, he draws on love and reacts with kindness and an outpouring of generosity. We, too, have that capacity for a love that is bigger than hurt. Remember that the next time a family resentment challenges you.

Genesis 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Matthew 10:7-15 (386). "It was really for the sake of saving lives that God sent me here ahead of you.

Friday, Jul 11, 2025 MEMORIAL OF BENEDICT, ABBOT What it takes to follow the Rule

Saint Benedict's famous Rule was originally written as a guide for those living in monastic communities he had founded or had gathered around him. Ever since, though, the Rule of St. Benedict has been a source of guidance and inspiration for many people seeking to live more faithful Christian lives. "This message of mine is for you," Benedict wrote in the prologue to the Rule, "if you are ready to give up your own will, once and for all, and armed with the strong and noble weapons of obedience to do battle for Christ the Lord." All it takes is a simple, "Here I am, Lord" to be ready to follow the rule.

Genesis 46:1-7, 28-30; Matthew 10:16-23 (387). "There God, speaking to Israel in a vision by night, called, 'Jacob! Jacob!' He answered, 'Here I am.'

Saturday, Jul 12, 2025

MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Keep it simple

Today is National Simplicity Day in honor of the birth of Henry David Thoreau, a 19th-century U.S. transcendental philosopher and author. "Our life is frittered away by detail," says Thoreau in Walden, "Simplify, simplify!" As we enter into the dog days of summer that advice is welcome. But remember that same advice as work and family obligations heat up come fall. Living simply takes effort and strict attention. As Carmelite nun Saint Thérèse of Lisieux insists, "Our Lord needs from us neither great deeds nor profound thoughts. Neither intelligence nor talents. He cherishes simplicity." Where will simplicity lead you? Perhaps where it led Saint Oscar Romero: to live "simply and justly in solidarity with the poor." Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Matthew 10:24-33 (388). "Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."

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14 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





Peace be with you!

The cavalry has arrived! Welcome back, Fr. Reagan Fernandes. Father Reagan will be with us for two months after returning from his academic year in Rome. He is studying at The Pontifical Theological Faculty Marianum, the only institution of higher education offering a Licentiate and Doctorate with a specialization in Mariology. Father Reagan has registered for a Doctorate in Sacred Theology with a specialization in Mariology. Since last fall, he has attended courses covering various topics in Mariology, including the Dogmas of the Assumption, the Immaculate Conception, and Mary in the Scriptures. This year, he will begin researching and writing his doctoral dissertation. Clearly, we have a soon-to-be-renowned scholar in our midst!

We officially launched our 5000 Hours for Life program last week, and I'm encouraged by your participation. I'll provide a running total in the bulletin every few weeks. As a reminder, when you spend time in prayer in the Adoration Chapel for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death by Divine design, and for special grace for women facing decisions about unplanned pregnancies, you contribute to this initiative. Please remember to record your prayer time in the logbook at the chapel entrance.

You may have noticed activity in the baptistry area with the installation of new flooring. Our goal is to make the space where our children are welcomed into the Church special and beautiful. A new baptismal font, donated in memory of a parishioner who sadly passed away earlier this year, is being crafted and will be delivered in a few weeks. More information about the donor will be shared when the font arrives.

God love you!

Father O'heily

Devotions, *Explained!* St. Michael Prayer

The prayer to St. Michael invokes the protection of the archangel Michael in the ongoing spiritual battle for the souls of all mankind. This prayer was composed by Pope Leo XIII and its use was instituted in 1886 at the end of Low Mass, a tradition which continued until the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council. A popular story regarding its origin claims that the Pope wrote this prayer after having a vision of demonic spirits descending on Rome.

Michael is mentioned as one of God's seven archangels in the Book of Enoch and is presented by Revelations 12:7-12 as the warrior angel who cast Satan from heaven. He is therefore traditionally venerated as a protector against the forces of evil and a guardian of the Church.

The Prayer to St. Michael is still commonly said at the end of the rosary and by some parishes after the conclusion of Mass. *©LPi*



Dear Josephites,

It is with deep gratitude and heartfelt joy that I write to you as I return once again to St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Being back in this warm and faith-filled parish community brings great comfort and happiness. I have fond memories of the two months I spent here last summer and I'm truly looking forward to reconnecting with all of you during my two-month stay this summer.

It has been a full year since I returned to Rome to continue my theological studies. Many of you will remember that I spent two wonderful months here last summer, during which I had the privilege of praying with you, celebrating the sacraments and sharing in your daily lives. That time left a lasting impression on my heart and I am so thankful to be back among familiar faces.

Since my return to Rome last fall, life has been a busy and fruitful journey. My classes resumed in October, and the rhythm of study quickly took hold—lectures, readings, assignments, exams and the ongoing challenges of academic life. Being a priest-student is both a humbling and enriching experience. It is a unique gift to continue deepening my understanding of the faith, not only for my own formation, but so that I may better serve the People of God wherever I am called.

This past year has also been deeply significant for the Church as we entered into the Jubilee Year, proclaimed by the Holy Father. The Jubilee officially began on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024, and will conclude on January 6, 2026, the Feast of the Epiphany. With the theme *"Pilgrims of Hope,"* this Holy Year invites all of us — clergy, religious, and laity alike — into a season of spiritual renewal, pilgrimage, reconciliation and hope.

Being in Rome during this Jubilee has been a profound experience. The city is filled with pilgrims from around the world, each bringing their faith, their prayers and their longing for God's mercy. It is moving to see so many people walking through the Holy Doors, attending Mass, going to confession and seeking spiritual renewal. In the midst of the crowds and the bustle, there is an unmistakable sense of sacred purpose.

What strikes me most is the visible witness of hope that so many of these pilgrims carry with them. Despite the challenges of our world — conflict, suffering, uncertainty — so many faithful continue to seek Christ with open hearts. Their presence is a testament to the enduring power of faith and it has inspired me deeply in my own vocation.

Now, as I spend the summer once again with this wonderful parish, I hope to walk with you in this season of grace. Whether in the sacraments, in conversation, or simply in shared prayer, I look forward to reconnecting with each of you. Please continue to pray for me, as I hold all of you in my daily prayers as well.

Let us continue this journey together—as true *Pilgrims of Hope*, trusting in the Lord who walks always beside us.

God Bless! Fr. Reagan Fernandes sfx

July 6, 2025





Monday, July 7 7:45 AM - Genevieve Chenis, reg. by friends Tuesday, July 8 7:45 AM - Intentions of All Our Parishioners Wednesday, July 9 - St. Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions 7:45 AM - Joe, Fern, & Peter Rajcula, req. by family Thursday, July 10 7:45 AM - Daniel C. Castagna, req. by Betty Stahl Friday, July 11 - St. Benedict 7:45 AM - Sean Young, req. by the D'Ostilio Family Saturday, July 12 8:00 AM - Anita Dembiczak, req. by June Schutz 5:00 PM - Ann Florio, reg. by Donna & Richard Horree Sunday, July 13 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:30 AM - MaryJane Amabile, req. by Joe Moore 9:00 AM - Leonard Fernandes, req. by The Canney Family 11:00 AM - John O'Keefe reg. by Rita & Gene Golaszewski



Sunday Offertory: \$11,369.50 Includes \$6,009.50 in Online Giving

We are very grateful for your weekly support of our parish—thank you so much for your generosity. May God Bless You now and always.

If you'd like to try Online Giving, simply scan the code to donate today.



THOSE FOR WHOM WE PRAY

FOR THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S HEALING, STRENGTH, AND COMFORT: Baby Albert Docktor, Johnathan Iamartino, Wendy Ricard, Fr. Joseph Pettit

DADICH MINISTDIES

PARISH MINISTRIES		
	Liturgy	
	Altar Servers	203.775.1035
	Choir Director - Arianna Hanley	203.775.1035
	Faith Formation and Sacraments	
	Religious Education Coord Ms. Pat Smith 203.775	.1035, ext. 3807
	RCIÁ	203.775.1035
	Scheduling Baptisms – Mrs. Rita Golaszewski 203.775.	
	Marriage Scheduling/Prep	203.775.1035
	Prayer & Devotion	
	Men's Retreat – Jeff Roeder	203.470.1506
	Women's Retreat – Mrs. Barb Roeder	203.470.3832
	Men of St. Joseph	
	Jim Steffen	203.775.8676
	George Lauri	203.775.1531
	Men's Ministry Meeting - Mr. Andy Pacuk	917.514.5974
	Parish Councils and Administration	
	Parish Council – Mr. Andy Pacuk, Chairman	917.514.5974
	Finance Council – Christopher T. Raines, Chairman	203.775.1035
	Other Ministries & Organizations	
	8 th Station Bereavement Ministry	
	Mrs. Mary Shaughnessy	203.775.9138
	Mrs. Pat Tharrington.	203.775.4836
	Mary-Martha Ministry – Mrs. Pat Font	203.775.1035
	Women's Reflection & Prayer Group – Mrs. Barb Roeder .	203.470.3832
	Outreach to Sick/Shut-In – Sr. Mary Ann Socha, CMGT	203.240.0757

Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes Restoration Project & Ongoing Maintenance

A tranquil place of prayerful solace, tucked into a small parcel right here in Brookfield since the 1940's, our beautifl grotto is in need of major improvements. Restoration activities are already underway. If you'd like to contribute to the project or ongoing maintenance, scan the QR code at the bottom



Come visit the Grotto: Rt. 25, just north of the Brookfield Library on the right hand side.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Coping with the loss of a loved one can weigh us down physically, emotionally and spiritually, but it is not a journey we need to walk alone.

St. Joseph's 8th Station Bereavement Ministry offers comfort and help during the grieving process.

This group meets the 2nd Saturday of each month, at 10:00 AM in the Parish Center. The sessions are led by Mary Shaughnessy and Patricia Tharrington.



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