

# SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

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

BROOKFIELD, CT



JULY 27, 2025



## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." - Lk 11:9



**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

Fax: 203.775.1684

Web Site: [www.stjosephbrookfield.com](http://www.stjosephbrookfield.com)Email: [ParishSec@stjosephbrookfield.com](mailto:ParishSec@stjosephbrookfield.com)

Hours: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Monday thru Friday\*

Emergencies: (203)209-4908

Mail: 163 Whisconier Road  
Brookfield, CT 06804GPS 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**

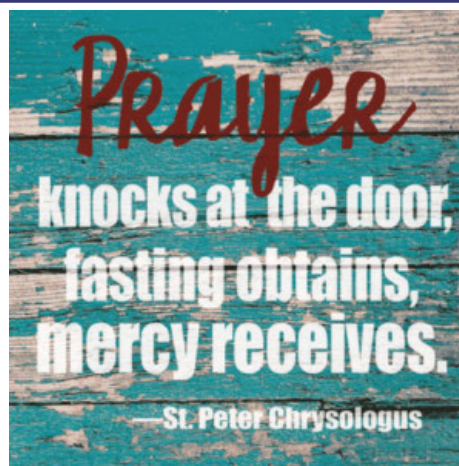
Tuesday: 7:00-8:00 PM (With Eucharistic Adoration)

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***WELCOME**

TO SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

**YOU BELONG HERE****THIS WEEK @ ST. JOSEPH****Mon  
28**7:45 AM Mass  
8:30 AM Morning Prayer  
6:30 PM Picnic Meeting**Tues  
29**7:45 AM Mass  
8:30 AM Morning Prayer  
7:00 PM Confession & Adoration**Wed  
30**7:45 AM Mass  
8:30 AM Morning Prayer**Thurs  
31**7:45 AM Mass  
8:30 AM Morning Prayer**Fri  
01**7:45 AM Mass  
8:15 AM Eucharistic Adoration for Life  
6:30 PM Movie Night: Blues Brothers**Sat  
02**8:00 AM Mass  
4:00 PM Confession  
4:30 PM Rosary for Persecuted Catholics  
5:00 PM Mass**Sun  
03**7:30 AM Mass  
9:00 AM Mass  
11:00 AM Mass  
12:30 PM Pre-Baptismal Class**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 27, 2025**

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Celebrate our perfect parent**

In 1994 President Clinton signed a congressional resolution setting aside the fourth Sunday of July as Parents' Day for "recognizing, uplifting, and supporting the role of parents in the rearing of children." Embracing this day is easy for those of us who have or had loving parents, but for those of us who didn't experience great parenting, we may find it hard to feel uplifted. Surely, however, we can all celebrate the fact that we have a perfect divine parent who has loved us unconditionally and cared for us unceasingly since before we were born.

*Genesis 18:20-32; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13 (111). "If you . . . know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"*

**Monday, Jul 28, 2025**

**How does your garden grow?**

Jesus uses the parable of the mustard seed to illustrate that when the reign of God takes root even from the smallest seed, it will grow to great size. But is that what most of us want? Do we really hope to see the establishment of God's reign—where the lowly are lifted up and the mighty are brought to their knees? Scripture scholar John Dominic Crossan points out that in Mediterranean areas the mustard bushes that sprout from tiny mustard seeds are considered weeds—a nuisance to any garden. Hmm . . . how many of us find God's ways an irritant to our best-laid plans? God's reign is messy when judged by worldly standards. Weeds are welcome.

*Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34; Matthew 13:31-35 (401). "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed . . . It becomes a large bush."*

**Tuesday, Jul 29, 2025**

**MEMORIAL OF MARTHA, MARY, AND LAZARUS**

**Martha has her moment**

Martha, Mary, and their brother Lazarus were close friends of Jesus. Martha has come down to us as the original "Type A" personality, the busy one in Luke's gospel who has trouble sitting still when Jesus visits. But she also was a woman of great courage and faith. Even in the face of her profound grief at having lost her brother, she was unshaken in her faith that Jesus was the "resurrection and the life." When a loss of a loved one leaves us feeling devastated, Martha's witness can bring strength and hope that death does not have the last word.

*Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; John 11:19-27 or Luke 10:38-42 (402/607). "I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God."*

**Wednesday, Jul 30, 2025**

**We are more precious than we know**

Jesus' metaphor that the kingdom of God is a "pearl of great price," so precious that a person would sell all their possessions to have it, may seem extreme. However, Jesus is not giving out financial advice. He is putting a fine point on a truth he has utter confidence in: that God and God's reign of love is all that matters. Often, it's only when we are pushed to the brink and confronted with losing it all that we realize the "pearl" in our midst. Think about it. Jesus laid down his life for us. We are pearls of great price to him. Breathtaking, isn't it?

*Exodus 34:29-35; Matthew 13:44-46 (403). "The Kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls."*

**Thursday, Jul 31, 2025**

**MEMORIAL OF IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST**

**Get in the spirit of giving**

The spirit of giving doesn't come naturally to all of us. Saint Ignatius, the founder of the Jesuits, had a prayer for that, as he did for most things: "Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God, teach me true generosity. Teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give without counting the cost, to fight heedless of wounds, to labor without seeking rest, to sacrifice myself without thought of any reward, save the knowledge that I have done your will." When the giving gets tough, the tough get on their knees and pray for wider hearts. *Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; Matthew 13:47-53 (404). "Whenever the cloud rose from the Dwelling, the children of Israel would set out on their journey."*

**Friday, Aug 01, 2025**

**MEMORIAL OF ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BISHOP, DR OF THE CHURCH**

**Anything not divine must go**

Skeptics abound. Those who retain their faith are tempted toward the fringes: a severe expression of religion that either lacks mercy or embraces a laxity that makes everything seem relative and even irrelevant. Does that sound like a description of our generation? Actually, it's how many described the 18th century that saw the rise of the Enlightenment but also severe economic inequalities and class divisions. In that divided age, Saint Alphonsus Liguori became the champion of a simple focus. "The heart of man will never find true peace, if it does not empty itself of all that is not God." In our own divisive age, that remains good advice.

*Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Matthew 13:54-58 (405). "On each of the seven days you shall offer an oblation to the LORD."*

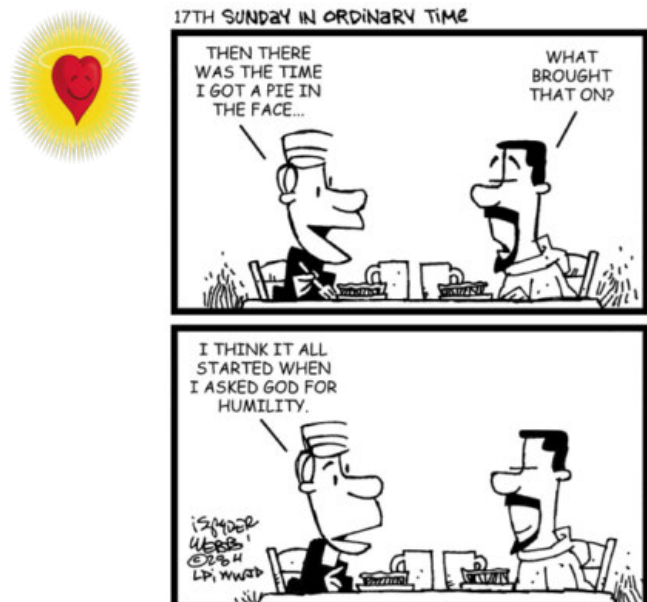
**Saturday, Aug 02, 2025**

**Fight against fear**

When word came to King Herod about Jesus and his ministry, Herod mistook him for John the Baptist come back from the dead. Perhaps Herod's error grew out of a fear that John had returned to haunt him or seek revenge of some kind for his murder at Herod's command. Fear can lead people to many kinds of misjudgments: avoiding problems, damaging relationships, not speaking out, holding back from taking steps to go forward in life. Muster the courage to fight your fear. This simple prayer to Jesus from 20th-century Trappist monk Thomas Merton may provide some strength: "I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."

*Leviticus 25:1, 8-17; Matthew 14:1-12 (406). "Mighty powers are at work in him."*

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Peace be with you!

Last week we listened to the Gospel story of Martha and Mary welcoming Jesus into their home for some hospitality. St. Luke records that Martha, who was busy doing many things in preparation for Jesus' visit, while Mary sat at Jesus' feet to listen to his words. Martha, obviously frustrated, asks Jesus to tell Mary to help her. Jesus' response was somewhat unexpected because we might think Martha had a point. Both women were welcoming Jesus into their home, and Mary seemed to have dismissed her responsibilities to enjoy Jesus' company. Jesus tells Martha that she is anxious about many things that don't have eternal consequences, whereas Mary has chosen to enlighten her soul with His presence, and it is her right (and Martha's, for that matter) in the order of priorities at the moment—and it will not be taken from her.

In our Gospel this weekend, the apostles ask Jesus to teach them how to pray like Him. This is reflective, in a sense, of what Mary knew instinctively and what Martha needed to learn. Prayer needs to be the leading edge or the tip of our spear in life when it comes to setting our course each day toward heaven and our eternal reward. So, go and spend time at Jesus' feet in our Holy Family Adoration Chapel and listen to him teach you how to pray from your head to your heart! But how to start, you may ask? Listen closely to this week's Gospel as Jesus shows us all how to begin.

*Father O'Neil*

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### The Violinist: Stories of Solanus Casey | Based on a True Saint

The Violinist is a must-watch documentary that chronicles the inspiring life of a humble Capuchin friar known for his deep faith, simplicity, and profound impact on those he served. Featuring personal stories from the people who knew Bl. Solanus, the film showcases his remarkable ability to inspire others, sharing heartwarming anecdotes about his modest lifestyle and passion for playing the violin.

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2. GET TICKETS AFTER MASS ON THE WEEKENDS OF JULY 19, JULY 26, AND AUGUST 2
3. SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS

**RAFFLE DRAWING WILL TAKE PLACE  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16**

REMEMBER, HALF OF OUR TICKET SALES FUNDS REMAIN WITH OUR PARISH.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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**PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES**

**The Support of Your Business is Greatly Appreciated**

Erica Johnson from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. It is the support of the business community that helps to make our church thrive. Please consider purchasing a print and/or digital ad as your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

**Church bulletin advertising** is a cost-effective way to advertise 52 times per year and show support for your local community; in turn, parishioners will support you!

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## EDJE NEWS & UPDATES

Registration for our 2025-2026 Religious Education Program closed as of June 30<sup>th</sup>. If you missed the enrollment period and wish to register, please call the office (203-775-1035) and ask to speak to Pat or Kathy. We will be happy to forward a registration form to you. Late registrations, submitted after the enrollment period closed on June 30<sup>th</sup>, will incur a late fee.

**IGNITE for Grades 7 & 8**  
Friday Nights during the school year

For more information, registration, and calendar, go to:

[www.stjosephbrookfield.com/ignite-youth-ministry](http://www.stjosephbrookfield.com/ignite-youth-ministry)

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**Summer Friday Movie Nights**  
@ the  
**HOLY FAMILY PAVILION**  
6:30 PM

**AUG 1**

**THE BLUES BROTHERS**  
2 HOURS, 13 MIN  
RATED R

Jake and Elwood Blues—fresh out of jail—embark on a chaotic, music-filled mission to save the orphanage where they were raised. With car chases, soul classics, and unforgettable characters, The Blues Brothers is both hilarious and heartfelt.

At its core, The Blues Brothers is a story about redemption, loyalty, and answering a higher call. Jake and Elwood declare they're "on a mission from God," and their journey—despite its absurdity—raises questions about divine purpose, forgiveness, and using one's talents for good.

**AUG 8**

**PADDINGTON**  
1 HOUR, 35 MIN  
RATED PG

Join Paddington, a polite and lovable bear from Peru, as he finds a new home in London with the Brown family. Full of heart and humor, Paddington is a delightful story that celebrates kindness, hospitality, and the courage to embrace those who are different.

Paddington's journey reminds us of the Christian call to welcome the stranger, show compassion, and see the good in others. His joyful spirit and good intentions—even when things go hilariously wrong—mirror the virtues of mercy, family love, and hope.

**No fee, just come and enjoy!**



# MASS Intentions

## Monday, July 28

7:45 AM - Helen McCarthy, req. by Betty Stahl

## Tuesday, July 29 - Sts. Martha, Mary & Lazarus

7:45 AM - Intentions of All Our Parishioners

## Wednesday, July 30 - St. Peter Chrysologus

7:45 AM - Pauline Lock, req. by Betty Stahl

## Thursday, July 31 - St. Ignatius of Loyola

7:45 AM - Lisa Giallanza Sweeting, req. by the Vitetta Family

## Friday, August 1 - St. Alphonsus Liguori

7:45 AM - Stephanie Schmiedel, req. by Pat Smith

## Saturday, August 2 - Sts. Eusebius of Vercelli & Peter Julian Eymard

8:00 AM - Thomas Buckley, req. by the Seeley Family

5:00 PM - Christine Gallagher, req. by Kathy Legere

## Sunday, August 3 - 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM - Marcia Riordan, req. by Matt & Maureen Farrell

9:00 AM - Patrick Kaiser, req. by JoAnne & Rich Lanza

11:00 AM - Emily Sabatini, req. by Gino DaMasco

## 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



## SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTIONS

*Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week  
In Memory of Ann Florio, at the  
request of Richard & Donna Horree*

## 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  
RCIA ..... 203.775.1035  
Scheduling Baptisms - Mrs. Rita Golaszewski. . . 203.775.1035, ext. 3802  
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<sup>th</sup> 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



**Sunday Offertory: \$14,270.50**  
*Includes \$7,433.50 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.



### 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 beautiful 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!**

## Bereavement Ministry

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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Psalm 91: 4  
John 11: 25  
Hebrews 12: 1-2

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