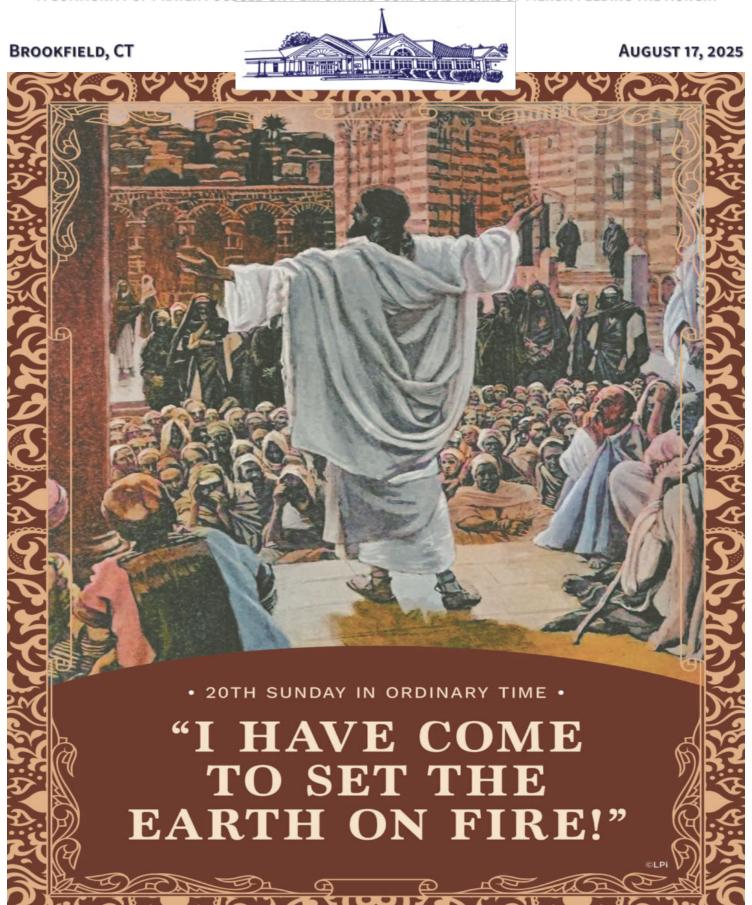
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Emergencies: (203)209-4908

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 SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

YOU BELONG HERE

THIS WEEK @ ST. JOSEPH

Mon 7:45 AM Mass 8:30 AM Morning Prayer 6:30 PM Picnic Meeting 7:45 AM Mass

8:30 AM 7:00 PM

Morning Prayer Confession & Adoration

Wed

7:45 AM Mass 8:30 AM Morning Prayer

Thurs

7:45 AM Mass 8:30 AM Morning Prayer

7:45 AM Mass 8:15 AM Eucharistic Adoration for Life 6:30 PM Movie Night: The Addams Family Mass - Holy Day of Obligation 7:00 PM

8:00 AM Mass 4:00 PM Confession

4:30 PM Rosary for Persecuted Catholics

5:00 PM 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.



Prayer Campaign: Sanctity of Human Life

Join Us as We Pray for the Unborn and their Futures





734 visitors



Brookfield, CT Page 2



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

Sunday, Aug 17, 2025 TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Make no small plans

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire," says Saint Catherine of Siena. But who is it that God wants you to be? The search for that answer is what the church calls the "process of discernment." At various points in our lives, each of us must pause to ask: Where am I being called? What will ignite a fire within me—and set the world ablaze? As you determine your fiery course, consider this exhortation from Pope Francis: "We Christians were not chosen by the Lord for little things; push onwards toward the highest principles. Stake your lives on noble ideals. Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10; Hebrews 12:1-4; Luke 12:49-53 (120). "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!"

Monday, Aug 18, 2025

Check your security system

Why does having many possessions stand in the way of our spiritual freedom? If that is the case, why do we go to such great lengths to acquire things, and why is it so difficult to part with them, even when their usefulness to us is long gone? Perhaps it's because we all need something we can hold onto, and holding onto things we can see and touch is certainly an understandable response to insecurity. But ultimately perishable things will fail to deliver the hoped -for security, as each of us learns sooner or later in life. Our relationships with God and our fellow human beings are the only sources of security that can endure. As spiritual giant Thomas Merton put it, "In the end, relationships save everything." Judges 2:11-19; Matthew 19:16-22 (419). "He went away sad, for he had many possessions."

Tuesday, Aug 19, 2025

Believe in the big picture

"With God all things are possible" is surely one of the most wellknown of Jesus' statements. It's short, optimistic, and, most important, we want it to be true. But when we look at the world around us, the words of the ancient Israelite Gideon more likely capture what's on our minds, "If the Lord is with us, why has all this happened?" What Gideon didn't know and we forget is that God holds the entire picture of creation, while we see only a very small piece. It's like viewing a corner of a painting and wondering why we can't make sense of the whole canvas. What's a believer to do? Believe. Believe in a loving, merciful God who makes all things possible. That's what Gideon did.

Judges 6:11-24a; Matthew 19:23-30 (420). "Alas, Lord GOD, that I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face!"

Wednesday, Aug 20, 2025

MEMORIAL OF BERNARD, ABBOT, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Cultivate your calm

Bernard of Clairvaux, a French abbot of the 12th century, had a profound influence on the course of Catholicism at a time of great strife and intrigue in the church. He reformed monastic life, brought Marian devotion to the forefront of popular piety, and mediated between princes and popes. He was also instrumental in the founding of the Knights Templar, who came to embody the medieval ideal of a Christian knight. Amid the tumult of his age, he held fast to the conviction that the "three most important virtues are humility, humility, and humility." Our own time is no less turbulent. Perhaps a touch of Saint Bernard's contemplative spirit—and his humility—could help us find calm today

Judges 9:6-15; Matthew 20:1-16 (421). "Go into my vineyard, and I

will give you what is just."

Thursday, Aug 21, 2025

Turn the table on tyrants

The concept of freedom is intrinsically linked with the struggle against tyranny. In the Lincoln-Douglas Debates, Abraham Lincoln explores two principles that, he says, have stood face to face from the beginning of time: the common right of humanity and the divine right of kings. It is an eternal push and pull of right and wrong, of a spirit that says, "You toil and work and earn bread, and I'll eat it." Whether in the context of a ruler or enslaver, "it is the same tyrannical principle," says Lincoln. Jesus describes a different type of reign where the king invites every one to the table and defies norms by making the last first and the first last. This upside-down world is the one our Baptism in Christ calls us to

Judges 11:29-39a; Matthew 22:1-14 (422). "Behold, I have prepared my banquet."

Friday, Aug 22, 2025 MEMORIAL OF THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BL. VIRGIN MARY The royal we

Though Mary was never crowned Queen of Heaven in scripture, she has long reigned as queen in the hearts of the faithful. Still, the question remains: In what way is her queenship real? Mary's royal stature holds meaning for us, apart from whatever it signifies in the divine realm. "She is a most tender and kind Queen," writes Saint Alphonsus Liguori, "eager to help us in our miseries. So much so that the church wants us to call her a Queen of Mercy." We, too, are invited to be a holy and royal people, shaped by divine mercy and loving-kindness. What Mary already possesses is a vision of what we can be. Give yourself and others the royal treatment. Start with a touch of love.

Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Matthew 22:34-40 (423). "Your people shall be my people, and your God my God."

Saturday, Aug 23, 2025 MEMORIAL OF THE BL. VIRGIN MARY

Mary, most honored

You may be familiar with the 16th-century Litany of Loreto, which gathers wonderful images of Mary such as Mother Admirable, Mystical Rose, Tower of Ivory, Gate of Heaven, and Morning Star. Saint Francis of Assisi in the 13th century had a similar litany, his "Salutation of the Virgin," which hails Mary as Christ's Palace, Tabernacle, Home, and, perhaps the most striking, Mary as "Virgin made church." Mary is the model for Christian discipleship. "Let it be done unto me according to God's word," she prays. Listen to Mary. She is always directing us toward her son, saying again and again, "Do what he tells you."

Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Matthew 23:1-12 (424). "The greatest among you must be your servant."

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Peace be with you!

I didn't catch any fish, but that's all right because I don't like fish anyway (unless they're from Pepperidge Farm!).

THANK YOU, MSGR. WEISS AND FR. REAGAN, FOR COVERING FOR ME.

I saw this article online on a site called Church Pop, and I thought, with the weekly increase in attendance of the faithful for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, this would be a good review of the power of this sacrament when done properly. Enjoy!

The Simple Checklist for a Great Confession: 5 Things Every Catholic Should Know By Luisa Restrepo

A good confession requires courage, sincerity, humility, and a true desire to be reconciled with God.

Below are some signs of a good confession, along with tips for improvement if you're still unsure about how to approach it:

1) Examine your conscience sincerely.

Am I doing it right? Take time before confession to reflect on your actions, thoughts, and what you've failed to do. Use tools such as the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, or a set of examination questions to guide your reflection. Setting aside a few minutes each day for self-reflection will make each confession clearer and more thorough. Do I need to improve? If your examination of conscience is rushed or superficial, you may forget important sins or overlook patterns of behavior that keep leading you into the same sins.

2) Sorrow for our sins (contrition).

Am I doing it right? Be sorry for having offended God—not just out of fear of punishment, but out of love for Him and a desire to grow in that love.

Do I need to improve? If your main concern is avoiding hell or preserving your image, your focus is still on yourself rather than on God.

3) Confess with clarity and honesty.

Am I doing it right? Once you've prepared, find a priest and a confessional. Confession is a dialogue in which the priest listens and offers guidance and counsel. Name your sins without justifying, hiding, or downplaying them.

Do I need to improve? Deliberately omitting a serious sin renders the confession invalid. If you feel embarrassed, remember that the priest acts *in persona Christi* (in the person of Christ) and he, too, goes to confession.

4) Complete your penance.

Am I doing it right? Carry out the penance the priest assigns as soon as possible, with a spirit of reparation and reconciliation.

Do I need to improve? If you forget or delay, do it as soon as you remember, even if some time has passed.

5) Have a firm purpose of amendment.

Am I doing it right? Even if you might fall again, approach confession with the genuine intention to change your habits and avoid situations that lead you to sin.

Do I need to improve? If you confess without any real desire to change, your confession loses sincerity and becomes empty.

A quick self-check before you leave the confessional:

- Did I prepare with prayer and a thorough examination of conscience?
- Was I honest and clear about my sins?
- Did I feel sincere repentance?
- Do I truly want to change and avoid sin?
- Did I complete my penance?

The Sacrament of Confession restores the grace lost through sin, strengthens us for the journey ahead, and keeps us humble and ready to follow God's plan for our lives.



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Christine.Errichiello@gmail.com for more information.











August 17, 2025 Page 4

One Truth. One Youth.



EDJE NEWS & UPDATES



Registration for our 2025-2026 Religious Education Program closed as of June 30th. 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 30th, 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/igniteyouth-ministry



UNITED: Sunday Nights @ 6:30PM for Grades 9-12

www.ctunitedyouth.com

Wedding Jubilee Mass

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport will celebrate the Annual Diocesan Wedding Jubilee Mass on Saturday, October 4th at 11:00 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Augustine in Bridgeport.

Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 45th, 50th and more years of marriage are eligible to attend. All couples who are recognized at the Mass will receive a commemorative certificate in recognition of this important milestone in their married life in addition to pictures with the Bishop.

Sharon Colihan is coordinating the registration process for the Mass and is available to answer whatever questions you may have. She can be reached at Sharon.Colihan@diobpt.org or (203) 416-1454 and she will provide instructions on how to register.



20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME







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



AUG 22

THE ADDAMS FAMILY

1 HOUR, 39 MIN RATED PG-13



They're creepy, they're kooky, and they love each other deeply. The Addams Family is a fun, spooky comedy that follows a quirky but tight-knit family navigating the world in their own unconventional way.

Beneath the gothic humor and eccentric style lies a touching story about loyalty, family values, and staying true to who you are. The Addamses may be different—but their fierce love, hospitality, and unity remind us of the beauty of family in all its forms.

AUG 29

THE SECRET OF ROAN INISH

1 HOUR, 43 MIN RATED PG



Set on the misty coast of Ireland, The Secret of Roan Inish follows young Fiona as she uncovers the mystical secrets of her family's past and the legend of the selkies—seals who become human. This enchanting tale blends folklore, family love, and the healing of broken connections.

With breathtaking scenery and a gentle pace, this beautiful story celebrates the mystery of creation, the strength of family bonds, and the hope of restoration. It's a film that nourishes the imagination and the soul.

No fee, just come and enjoy!

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Monday, August 18

7:45 AM - Mae Bailey, req. by family

Tuesday, August 19 - St. John Eudes

7:45 AM - Intentions of All Our Parishioners

Wednesday, August 20 - St. Bernard

7:45 AM - Joe, Fern, & Peter Rajcula, req. by family

Thursday, August 21 - St. Pius X

7:45 AM - Jack O'Keefe, req. by Phil & Nancy Hynes

Friday, August 22 - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:45 AM - Dan Castagna, req. by Doug & Debbie Tricarico

Saturday, August 23 - St. Rose of Lima

8:00 AM - Sally Ann Gallagher, req. by Ed Goodwin

5:00 PM - Frank Greco, req. by the Greco Family

Sunday, August 24 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM - Ross Joseph Brezovsky, req. by Ann Gilligan **9:00 AM** - Walter Dixon, req. by the Montgomery Family

11:00 AM - Sally Gallagher, reg. by Pat & Jim Tharrington



Sunday Offertory: \$12,203.50
Includes \$4,812.50 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.

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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 For the Intentions of Dennis & Sheila Brooks, on their 60th Wedding Anniversary

PARISH MINISTRIES

<u>Liturgy</u>	
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
Praver & 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



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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