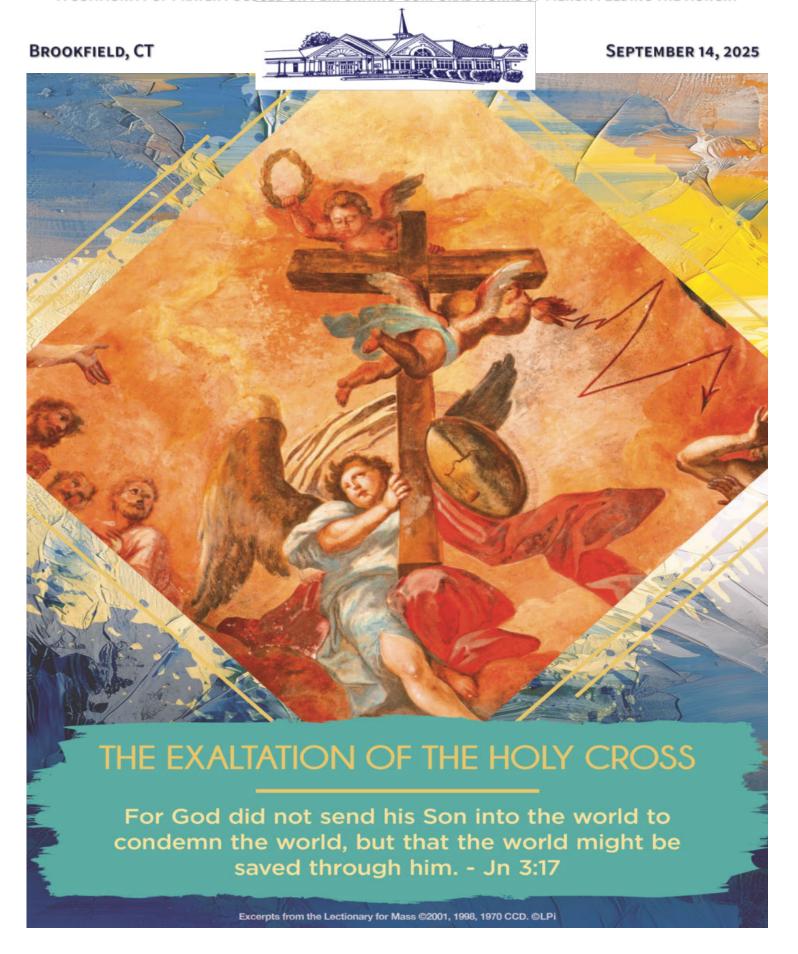
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Mail:

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 8:30 AM

Morning Prayer

12:00 PM Respect for Life Meeting

Tues

7:45 AM 8:30 AM 7:00 PM

Mass Morning Prayer

Confession & Adoration Knights of Columbus 7:00 PM

7:45 AM Mass

8:30 AM Morning Prayer

7:45 AM 8:30 AM

Mass

Morning Prayer

7:45 AM 8:15 AM

Mass

Eucharistic Adoration for Life

8:00 AM Mass 4:00 PM Confession

4:30 PM Rosary for Persecuted Catholics

5:00 PM Mass

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

Mass Mass 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



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1,178 visitors



Brookfield, CT Page 2



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#### Sunday, Sep 14, 2025

#### FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS Understanding cross culture

It's not always easy to face the things that hurt us or our loved ones. So why would we lift up the cross, honoring that which symbolizes pain and the death of Jesus? As Christians we choose to face the cross. In doing so we confront not only the reality of suffering and death but also the hope and belief in new life, in that "something more" of salvation. And somehow in facing our pain, instead of pretending it isn't there or whitewashing the reality, there is acknowledgement of our vulnerability. We become open to healing. The exaltation of the cross is not only a reminder of Jesus' death but of his Resurrection. It is an invitation to lift up our own pain and find in it a path to healing and wholeness. Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17 (638). "So must

the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

## Monday, Sep 15, 2025 MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Seven ways to know Mary

Pop quiz on Catholic tradition: Name the "seven sorrows" in the life of the Virgin Mary. OK, time's up! While all seven may not have come to mind quickly, here's a tip: They're all found in gospel passages. Today is a good day to read and ponder them: the Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:34); the Flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13); the Boy Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:43); the Way of the Cross (Luke 23:27); the Crucifixion of Jesus (John 19:26); the Descent from the Cross (John 19:39); the Burial of Jesus (Luke 23:55).

1 Timothy 2:1-8; John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35 (443/639). "He said to his mother, 'Woman, behold, your son.'"

#### Tuesday, Sep 16, 2025

#### MEMORÍAL OF CÓRNELIUS, POPE, AND CYPRIAN, BISHOP, MARTYRS United in welcome

Cornelius and Cyprian are remembered and celebrated together because of their united efforts to welcome people back into the church. At the time (ca. 250) there was rancorous and strident debate over how and even whether to allow "sinners" to rejoin the Christian community. One group advocated severe punishment and often permanent excommunication. Cornelius and Cyprian, on the other hand, pushed for leniency grounded in the forgiveness modeled by Jesus. Ostracism can never lead to oneness and wholeness. In honor of Cornelius and Cyprian we might ask ourselves, "In what ways have I excluded others, even briefly, and how can I make amends?"

1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17 (444). "God has visited his people."

#### Wednesday, Sep 17, 2025

#### Allow wisdom in

When the wisdom of God comes calling at your door, it's always a good idea to receive her—and, oh yes, Hebrew scripture compares holy wisdom to a woman. The smart person allows wisdom to enter their life because she comes from God, has always been with God, and embodies God's creative power and teaching (Torah), three pretty important things. Saint Paul called Christ the wisdom of God, as have Christian saints and scholars ever since. "When we speak about wisdom, we are speaking of Christ," said Saint Ambrose, the fourth-century bishop of Milan. How can you entertain wisdom today?

1 Timothy 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35 (445). "Wisdom is vindicated by all her children."

#### **Thursday, Sep 18, 2025**

#### Take bold steps to break barriers

As much as society creates and perpetuates divisions and privileges based on gender, color, orientation, ability, income, religion, Christians must be equally persistent in breaking those barriers, just as Jesus did. Jesus' actions were often condemned as audacious and rebellious. But he was actually modeling reciprocity and inclusivity. In a 2022 speech on welcoming people with disabilities, Pope Francis explained that Christ's gaze on the people he met was "a gaze of tenderness and mercy above all for those who were excluded. For this reason, every time the Christian community transforms indifference into proximity, and exclusion into belonging, it fulfills its prophetic mission." What part will you play in advancing this audacious mission of universal welcome?

1 Timothy 4:12-16; Luke 7:36-50 (446). "If this man were a prophet, he would know who and what sort of woman this is who is touching

#### Friday, Sep 19, 2025

#### What will you leave behind?

We've all heard the adage, "You can't take it with you." Although it's a true statement, it's not a very inspiring one. Another way to say the same thing is to ask, "What will you leave behind?" Consider the wisdom of the ancient Greek statesman Pericles: "What you leave behind is not what is engraved on stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others." What stories and witness will you bequeath to your heirs? Saint Paul urges us to "compete well for the faith" and pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. That would be quite a legacy for the next generation. 1 Timothy 6:2c-12; Luke 8:1-3 (447). "For we brought nothing into the world, just as we shall not be able to take anything out of it."

#### Saturday, Sep 20, 2025 MEMORIAL OF ANDREW KIM TAE-GÖN, PRIEST, AND PAUL CHÖNG HA-SANG, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS Cultivate a death-defying faith

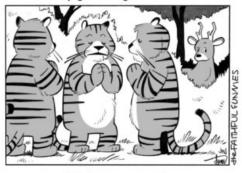
While an underground and prohibited faith in Korea, Catholicism had taken root among laypeople 12 years before a priest arrived in 1836. Some 4,000 Catholics had learned the faith from pamphlets smuggled in from China. Catholics in Korea faced many hardships in those years, including the martyrdom of today's saints, but they kept their faith alive until finally gaining religious freedom in 1883. When the desire is there, faith is possible under all kinds of circumstances. Stay strong in your faith as you deal with hardship in your own life. For inspiration, remember the words of Saint Paul Chông Ha-sang when he was asked to renounce his faith: "I have told you that I am a Christian, and will be one until my death."

1 Timothy 6:13-16; Luke 8:4-15 (448). "Some seed fell on good soil, and when it grew, it produced fruit a hundredfold."

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"What does the tiger say to his friends before they go hunting for food?"



"Let us prey."



The Bible tells us to pray in every circumstance; don't forget that God is always here, listening, and loving!



Peace be with you!

This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. "Exaltation," a celebratory word, and "Cross," a word often associated with suffering, seem very contradictory, indeed. And to the unenlightened, that would be a correct assumption, but to enlightened Christians, these words belong together and, in fact, are quite complementary and a source of humble gratitude and love. In the Gospel reading from John, we hear how the instrument of Jesus' suffering, the Cross, was and is the ultimate source of His victory and our salvation and healing.

We are just a week away from our Annual Family Picnic, and there are many punch-list items being addressed by the Picnic Committee. If you have a minute after Mass, please stop by the sign-up tables in the Narthex and see if there is any way you might be able to lend a hand. You can purchase tickets at the table on the other side of the Narthex for a discount, as well. Again, I want to thank Mike and Bill and the rest of the Picnic Committee for all their efforts again this year.

Our Parish Council President, Andy Pacuk, is working hard arranging the schedule for our church flooring project, which will begin in mid-October. We will be having carpet and tile installed, so the church itself will be in disarray. We will need to move the Masses into the gym for a few weeks while this project is completed. I will have more on that next week.

Our E.D.J.E. Religious Education program is well underway again this year. Please keep our little ones in your prayers as they learn about Jesus and their faith. We appreciate all our regular 9:00 a.m. Mass attendees who graciously step back to allow us to run our wonderful Mass-based program. By the time these children receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in sixth grade, they will know the Mass and their prayers, which will serve them very well later on in life.

Lastly, by popular acclaim from our older IGNITERS who are now in high school, our very successful IGNITE Youth Group is now expanding to 7th–12th grades. Check the bulletin for more info.

God love you!







The Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin

The Seven Sorrows of Mary is a traditional Catholic devotion featuring meditations on sorrowful episodes in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Join us in prayer as we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.

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(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

#### The Cross is Not Negotiable

"Holiness isn't for wimps," Mother Angelica famously said. "And the cross isn't negotiable, sweetheart — it's a requirement."

I love Mother Angelica, and I love this quote. Following God is *tough*, and to do it you have to make a decision to *be tough*, to endure tough things — and ultimately, to love the toughness of it all, because within that struggle God meets us with mercy and salvation.

But in light of today's readings, I think Mother Angelica would forgive me for tweaking her words a tiny bit.

Holiness is for wimps, because the cross isn't negotiable.

When the unfaithful among the Israelites were bitten by the serpents, they were healed by looking upon the instrument of their suffering: the serpent itself, mounted on Moses' staff. With a literary flourish that puts Homer and Shakespeare to shame, God inverts that primitive symbol. To heal us, he invites us to look upon the cross — the sacrifice which achieved our redemption.

Jesus came here to die on that cross for us. For the wimps. Because we couldn't do it ourselves, even if we tried. We couldn't right all of our wrongs, not if we had a million years to do it. We would keep screwing it up. We would keep failing. We're wimps; that's what we do.

But the cross — the cross is a magnificent invitation to something more. Divinity Himself, assuming the cloak of flesh and the weight of sin, so that when we look at the cross we might recognize ourselves. So that we might see what we have been, what we are, what we could be.

And none of it is negotiable. ©LPi







#### **EDJE NEWS**



Congratulations to our 5th grader Lian Illescas who has completed his online work for the 2025-2026 year!

EDJE ONLINE WORK DUE SEPTEMBER 21		
My Catholic Faith Delivered		
Grade 1	Lesson 2: Heaven is Our Home & Assessment	
Grade 2	Chapter 2: The Blessed Trinity & Assessment	
Grade 3	Lesson 2: God Created the World & Assessment	
Grade 4	Lesson 1: The Fall of Man & Assessment	
Grade 5	Lesson 1: I Believe & Assessment	
Grade 6	Lesson 1: God Gives Us the Law & Assessment	



IGNITE for Grades 7 −12 Friday Nights during the school year

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

www.stjosephbrookfield.com/igniteyouth-ministry



UNITED: Sunday Nights for Grades 9-12

www.ctunitedyouth.com







Monday, September 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows

7:45 AM - Intentions of All Our Parishioners

Tuesday, September 16 - Sts. Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian

7:45 AM - Gertrude Steffen, req. by Jim Steffen

Wednesday, September 17 - St. Robert Bellarmine & St. Hildegard

7:45 AM - Deacon John & Margaret Sullivan, req. by Mike & Cathi

Thursday, September 18

7:45 AM - Rosemary Conroy, req. by Ray Conroy

Friday, September 19 - St. Januarius

7:45 AM - August Kiefer, req. by Marie & Patrick Dillon

Saturday, September 20 - Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang

8:00 AM - Patricia Accardo, req. by the Conlon Family

5:00 PM - James Legere, req. by Sue & George Herman

Sunday, September 21 - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM - Eugene Cassavechia, req. by Matt & Maureen Farrell

9:00 AM - Lorraine Malone, req. by Pat McKenney

11:00 AM - Jack O'Keefe, req. by Phil & Nancy Hynes & Family

#### **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 Patty Ricco, at the request of her family.

#### **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: \$10,773.50
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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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