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**BROOKFIELD, CT** 



**SEPTEMBER 28, 2025** 



# 26th Sunday

Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead." - Lk 16:31

#### **PARISH STAFF**

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163 Whisconier Road Brookfield, CT 06804

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\*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.

## WELCOME TO SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

#### YOU BELONG HERE

#### THIS WEEK @ ST. JOSEPH

IH	2 MFF	R @ SI. JUSEPH
Mon 29	7:45 AM 8:30 AM	Mass Morning Prayer
30	7:45 AM 8:30 AM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM	Mass Morning Prayer Confession & Adoration Knights of Columbus
Wed <b>01</b>	7:45 AM 8:30 AM	Mass Morning Prayer
Thurs 02	7:45 AM 8:30 AM	Mass Morning Prayer
<b>03</b>	7:45 AM 8:15 AM	Mass Eucharistic Adoration for Life
9 Sat 04	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 4:00 PM 4:30 PM 5:00 PM	Mass Respect for Life Rosary Confession Rosary for Persecuted Catholics Mass
9 Sun <b>05</b>	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



Join Us as We Pray for the Unborn and their Futures



UPDATE





Brookfield, CT



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

Sunday, Sep 28, 2025

#### TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Who's on your doorstep?

Long-standing images of the fires of hell owe much to the vivid description of the afterlife contained in a gospel story. A rich man (later sometimes named Dives) suffers tormenting flames after death because he ignored poor Lazarus on his doorstep throughout his life. Medieval artists loved to illustrate the story because of its drama and visual potential. But beneath all the fire and brimstone lies a clear and direct message: Living only for one's own wealth and comfort leads to a living hell. If we hope to rest in the bosom of Abraham, we need to pay attention to the Lazarus waiting at our doorstep.

Amos 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Luke 16:19-31 (138). "My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad."

#### Monday, Sep 29, 2025 FEAST OF MICHAEL, GABRIEL, AND RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS Choose your side

The Bible sometimes reads like a chapter from Dungeons and Dragons. In the apocalyptic passages of Daniel and the Book of Revelation we meet serpents, angels, ancient ones, prophets, and warriors. These characters are set against a backdrop of fire, war, struggle, truth, and deceit. Such images paint a picture of a God who takes sides. In reality the world is deeply interconnected, one in which we can see the human suffering on all sides of violent conflict. What image of God can convey the truth that God is for everyone? Or more to the point, how can we refocus our vision to understand that there are no sides but God's?

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 or Revelation 12:7-12ab; John 1:47-51 (647). "War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels battled against the dragon.

#### Tuesday, Sep 30, 2025

#### MEMORÍÁL OF JEROME, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Savor these words

Saint Jerome, brilliant biblical scholar, patron of librarians and translators, was fascinated by the meaning of words. Unlike many translators of his day, he favored use of what modern scripturescholar Father Leslie Hoppe, O.F.M. calls "dynamic equivalence." That is, Jerome sought to translate texts from their original Hebrew and Greek "sense for sense" rather than "word for word." Jerome's contributions to Catholics' understanding of the Bible are unsurpassed. But perhaps his most significant contribution was simply his love of the word. Spend some time today savoring the words and struggling with the meaning of scripture.

Zechariah 8:20-23; Luke 9:51-56 (456). "Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?

#### Wednesday, Oct 01, 2025

#### MEMORIAL OF THÉRÈSE OF THE CHILD JESUS, DOCTOR OF THE **CHURCH**

#### Spiritual bouquet

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, known as the "Little Flower," is one of the most popular saints, owing to her inspirational simplicity. She spent almost a decade of her short life cloistered as a Carmelite nun expressing her thoughts in writings that were eventually shared with the world. "Love proves itself by deeds," she wrote, "so how am I to show my love? Great deeds are forbidden me. The only way I can prove my love is by scattering flowers and these flowers are every little sacrifice, every glance and word, and the doing of the least actions for love." Scatter some flowers of loving deeds in

honor of this great saint.

Nehemiah 2:1-8; Luke 9:57-62 (457). "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the Kingdom of

#### Thursday, Oct 02, 2025 MEMORIAL OF THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS You've got a friend

Joan Wester Anderson has been writing about angels since 1989 after her son was mysteriously rescued from a devastating snow storm on Christmas Eve. That experience resulted in her first book of true stories of remarkable encounters with angels, Where Angels Walk. Since then, she has written many more books on the subject, and all of them offer spine-tingling, inspiring tales of ordinary people who have been rescued, healed, comforted, and sheltered by heavenly visitors. These amazing stories make the case that every one of us has a guardian angel. That's a proposition the church itself has made from the earliest times. Biblical scholar and Doctor of the Church Saint Jerome posited: "So valuable to heaven is the dignity of the human soul that every member of the human race has a guardian angel from the moment the person begins to be." It's nice to know we're not alone.

Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Matthew 18:1-5, 10 (458/650). "Their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father."

#### Friday, Oct 03, 2025

#### Models of what's possible

The biblical towns of Tyre and Sidon might bring to mind some modern-day big cities: prosperous, bustling, cosmopolitan—and spiritually hungry. Early in Jesus' ministry people from these distant port cities heard about the things Jesus was doing, and, though they were in some sense outsiders, they responded with more enthusiasm than many of those who were closer to Jesus. Jesus held up these "pagan" cities as models of what is possible when people express a genuine desire for spiritual nourishment. Respond to the gospel with enthusiasm, and your spirit will be rewarded.

Baruch 1:15-22; Luke 10:13-16 (459). "It will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you."

#### Saturday, Oct 04, 2025

#### MEMORIÁL OF FRANCIS OF ASSISI, RELIGIOUS Do what you need to do

If Saint Francis of Assisi knew that his band of brother-beggars would one day be called Franciscans, he'd probably laugh, or sigh. He never set himself up as a model. Indeed, he admonished his brothers: "We ought to be ashamed of ourselves; the saints endured but we who are servants of God try to win honor and glory by recounting and making known what they have done." Good deeds are ours to do, according to Francis. At the end of his life, he made that point abundantly clear: "I have done what was mine to do. May Christ teach you what is yours to do." Time to get doing. Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29; Luke 10:17-24 (460). "Although you have hid-

den these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike."

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What does a jack-o-lantern wear after it gets poked in the eye?

A pumpkin patch.

What's a tree's favorite drink? Root beer.

Why did the tiny pepper wear a sweater? Because it was a little chili.

Why did the tree decide to start taking art classes? She wanted to branch out.



Peace be with you!

One of the first lessons we learn when reading Bible stories from the Book of Genesis is that all of us are made in the image and likeness of God. Later, through the Gospels, we discover that God loves each of us unconditionally and always forgives the repentant soul. In this Sunday's Gospel reading from Luke, we hear the story of Lazarus—not Jesus' friend, but a beggar who sat outside the palace gate. The story reveals that the rich man was never cruel to Lazarus or treated him unfairly; rather, he committed a more egregious sin: he never noticed Lazarus or paid any attention to his plight. The lesson unfolds as both men die, and their situations are reversed in heaven.

Speaking of heaven, last Sunday's combined parish picnic with our sister parish St. Marguerite was truly "heavenly" in terms of weather, food, turnout, and attendees' comments. Best estimates suggest over 500 picnickers attended, along with our dedicated volunteers. God certainly let His light shine upon all who participated.

We owe a deep debt of gratitude to chairpersons **Mike Carneglia and Bill Gonch**, along with their many committee leads and vast array of volunteers. Of course, we also thank our home chefs who so generously provided the delicious dishes that made the event special once again this year. I would love to name every individual who works tirelessly each year to make this event so memorable, but that would fill the entire bulletin. Suffice it to say, **THANKYOU to all you selfless volunteers** whose only goal is to ensure everyone has a wonderful time. You were successful in achieving your goal!

Mark your calendars for our next event: the **Parish Appreciation Brunch** at Candlewood Inn on **Sunday, November 16, at noon.** This event will honor all our volunteers who work so hard throughout the year to make St. Joseph Church such a beautiful spiritual home for us all. See you there!





### THE LAMBS PROGRAM NEEDS YOUR



A note from Mikayla Taylor, a senior at New Milford High School and a lifelong parishioner of St. Joseph Church:

St. Joseph's has always been a special place for me. I grew up here, learning my faith and receiving my sacraments through the EDJE program, and later was blessed to be asked to co-teach the Lambs program.

The Lambs program allows those children who aren't yet old enough to be part of EDJE to have a place to learn about their faith in a manner that is more meaningful to their young minds. During the 9:00am Mass we help the children learn about Jesus and the Bible through age-appropriate readings, games, crafts, and of course, prayer. This not only gives them a place to learn but also helps prepare them to be future EDJE students.

Since the founder of our program stepped aside last year, I hope to keep this wonderful program thriving - and am **looking for someone to co-lead** with me this year and eventually take it over next season as I transition to the next phase of my education.

If you are interested or have any questions, please reach out to Father Chip who can put you in contact with me.

Thank you for your consideration







#### **EDJE STUDENT GOOD DEEDS**



"I cleaned up my younger brother's toys so my parents did not have to do it." Submitted by Oakley

"I did math work without complaining." Submitted by Madelyn

"I helped Oliver find his classroom." Submitted by David

"I donated clothes to children in Colombia." Submitted by Isabella



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

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

www.stjosephbrookfield.com/igniteyouth-ministry



If Friday Nights don't work for you but Sunday nights do, please check out

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Grade 2	Chapter 4: God Made Us & Assessment		
Grade 3	Lesson 4: The Promise of a Savior & Assessment		
Grade 4	Lesson 3: Turning Away from God & Assessment		
Grade 5	Lesson 3: Creator of Heaven and Earth & Assessment		
Grade 6	Lesson 3: Hidden Treasure & Assessment		



#### ST. MARGUERITE FALL FESTIVAL - VENDORS/CRAFTERS

Vendor/Crafter applications are being accepted for St. Marguerite's 33rd Annual Fall Festival being held on Saturday, November 8th, 9 am-4 pm. St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish is located at 138 Candlewood Lake Road in Brookfield. For information or an application, email fallfestival@stmarguerite.org





#### St. Joseph Children's Christmas Choir

Sign up now open, for children in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up

Rehearsals will take place at the church on Friday evenings, 5-6 PM, beginning October 17. The children will sing at the 4 PM Christmas Eve Mass.

For more information, or to sign your child up, please see Arianna Hanley after Mass.



Saturday, September 27 - St. Vincent de Paul

8:00 AM - David Buczek, reg. by Cindy Buczek

5:00 PM - James Legere, req. by Jim & Pat Tharrington

Sunday, September 28 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM - Steve Buhler, req. by Matt & Maureen Farrell & Family

9:00 AM - Richard Dimock, reg. by the Montgomery Family

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

Monday, September 29 - Sts. Michael, Gabriel, & Raphael

7:45 AM - Intentions of All Our Parishioners

Tuesday, September 30 - St. Jerome

7:45 AM - Catherine Conlon, req. by the Conlon Family

Wednesday, October 1 - St. Therese of the Child Jesus

7:45 AM - Alma Cherubim O'Connell, req. by the Sanchez-Uribe Families

Thursday, October 2 - The Holy Guardian Angels

7:45 AM - Patrick Valentino, req. by Alice Caccamo

Friday, October 3

7:45 AM - Robert Boyce, reg. by Larry & Judy Kish



Sunday Offertory: \$13,488.50 *Includes \$6,619.50 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



### Interested in bringing Bingo back to St. Joseph's?

Email bulletin@stjosephbrookfield.com. In your note, include whether you'd like to play Bingo, volunteer to help out at Bingo, or both!

#### **PARISH MINISTRIES**





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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