ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

A community focused on performing corporal works of mercy



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND

Saturday
8:00am, 5:00pm
Sunday
7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am

CONFESSION

Tuesday
7:00-8:00pm
Saturday
4:00-4:45pm

WEEKDAY

Monday
7:45am
Tuesday
7:45am
Wednesday
7:45am
Thursday
7:45am
Friday
7:45am

OCTOBER 25, 2026

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH!

We're so glad you're here!

Whether you are joining us for the first time or are part of our parish family, we pray that you feel welcomed and encouraged as we pray together.

May you experience God's presence, find encouragement in His Word, and leave renewed in faith and hope.

163 Whisconier Road Brookfield, CT 06804 | www.stjosephbrookfield.com | Phone: 203.775.1035

WELCOME!



MASS INTENTIONS

MON., OCT. 26

7:45am Cielo Uribe Sanchez, req. by the Sanchez-Uribe Family

TUES., OCT. 27

7:45am Rosaline Nwachukwu, req. by Shirley Nwachukwu

WED., OCT. 28: Sts. Simon & Jude

7:45am Frank Ferrante, req. by the McGorty Family
Barbara Reinen Martinez, req. by family

THURS., OCT. 29

7:45am Louis Scotti, req. by Anna Verlezza

FRI., OCT. 30

7:45am August Kiefer, req. by George & Agnes Stutsky
Roberta O'Hara, req. by Mary O'Hara-Nicholas

SAT., OCT. 31

8:00am Vincent Nelson, req. by family

5:00pm Keith Font, req. by Steven Pisani & Andrew Sidoti

SUN., NOV. 1: All Saints

7:30am Rosemary Garvey, req. by the Castellano Family

9:00am Jean O. Simard, req. by the Montalto Family

11:00am Eugene Golaszewski, req. by Pat Smith

THOSE FOR WHOM WE PRAY

For those in need of God's healing, strength, and comfort. Please scan the QR code to share a prayer intention or pray for those in need.

PASTOR NOTE

I am reflecting on last Sunday's Pastor Note, where I spoke about the arrival of the Feast of the Donning of the Winter Mittens. It's now Tuesday, and it's 75 degrees and beautifully sunny. Fall can be fickle, so I truly thank the Lord for this magnificent day.

What do you think is the greatest of all the commandments? Jesus' response was not the first one that came to mind for me. I would have responded with the first commandment: "I am the Lord your God, and you shall have no strange gods before me." Jesus' answer was much more encompassing: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If you think it through, if the Lord my God loves everyone unconditionally, that is a pretty high bar for us mere mortals to follow. The only way we could ever attempt such a thing would be to pray for the humility we need to be able to see others as He sees them and to be humbled by what we've witnessed. He loves us all in spite of our weaknesses, but more importantly, including them.

We are making progress on the St. Joseph Memorial Garden. After the second weekend of offering niches after the Sunday Masses, we have 39 people who have shown interest or have left a deposit on a niche. I truly believe that this will be a wonderful addition to our parish community, allowing people to be laid to rest next to the place where so many prayers were offered and holidays celebrated over the years. Rose Hill, when tastefully and beautifully manicured, will be a quiet and serene backdrop for loved ones to visit and pray for their family member or friend. Please think about your final resting place and prayerfully consider if our St. Joseph Memorial Garden might be the proper place.

Father George O'Neill

OUR STAFF AND CONTACTS

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Pastor@stjosephbrookfield.com

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MsgrWeiss@diobpt.org

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DcnLou@stjosephbrookfield.com

Deacon
Dcn. Peter J. Kuhn
203.775.1035 | DcnPeter@stjosephbrookfield.com

Deacon
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Director of Music
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Choir Director
Arianna Hanley, Cantor@stjosephbrookfield.com

Ignite Youth Ministry Coordinator
Grace Zaloski, Grace.Zaloski@stjosephbrookfield.com

FORMATION & SACRAMENTS

Baptism, Marriage, OCIA
Call the Parish Office at 203.775.1035
203.775.1035

Religious Education
See Staff section above

Altar Servers
Call the Parish Office at 203.775.1035

ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

Parish Council
Andrew Pacuk, Chairman 917.514.5974

Finance Council
Christopher T. Raines, Chairman 203.775.1035

MEN'S MINISTRIES

Retreats
Tom Wall 203.417.6037

Men of St. Joseph
Jim Steffen 203.775.8676
George Lauri 203.775.1531

Knights of Columbus
Greg Dembowski 203.733.7209

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Retreats, Women's Reflection & Prayer Group
Mrs. Barb Roeder 203.470.3832

Mary Martha
Mrs. Pat Font 203.775.1035

SUPPORT & COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

8th Station Bereavement
Mrs. Mary Shaughnessy 203.775.9138
Mrs. Pat Tharrington 203.775.4836

Outreach to Sick & Shut-In
Sr. Mary Ann Socha, CMGT 203.240.0757

Sandwich Angels
Mrs. Pat Tharrington 203.775.4836

Casseroles for the Hungry
Jen Conlon 203.775.1035

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE
WEEKEND OF OCT 10-11

Collection Basket	$8,261.00
Online Giving	$5,208.50
Weekly Total	$13,469.50

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Donating online is easy! Simply aim your phone camera at the QR code and follow the link. Thank you for your support.

Thank you so much for your generosity.
May God bless you now and always.



WEEKLY READINGS

Sunday, Oct 18, 2026
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
The greatest of these is love
They asked Jesus which was the greatest commandment of all the commandments of God. In answer, he quoted them a line from one of the most well-known Jewish prayers, the Shema: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." Jews say the Shema in the morning and evening, before reading the Torah on Sabbaths and festivals, and at the end of the holiest day of Yom Kippur. Jesus added another commandment: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." To do God's will is to love God and one another with everything you have. It's really as simple as that.
Exodus 22:20-26; 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40 (148). "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

Monday, Oct 26, 2026
Love works weekends
Jesus was a bit of a scofflaw and it made the leaders of the synagogue crazy. Like the ultimate bureaucrat who says, "Sorry, but this isn't the right day" or, "Too bad, you filled out the wrong form—no help for you today," rule keepers do not like rule breakers. But Jesus shows that God wants to relieve us of our burdens, not add to them. Jesus was forever pointing out that laws were made for humankind, and not humankind for the laws. Love is the rule that trumps all else. How might you extend love and service to another this week?
Ephesians 4:32-5:8; Luke 13:10-17 (479). "Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ."

Tuesday, Oct 27, 2026
Time to do an image search
The creative process can be maddening, as writer's block attests. But evidently Jesus didn't have this problem. Day after day he came up with rich images for the reign of God: seeds and weeds, dragnets and householders. The daily work of fishers, farmers, and women in the kitchen remind him of the Kingdom. Surely Jesus had the mother lode of examples right before his eyes, watching the woman who made his early home what it was. Pope John Paul II added a "kingdom of God"—or luminous mystery—to the Rosary to remind us that we don't have to go far to see God's reign in action. Look around your own household or place of work: Where do you see God's reign being revealed?
Ephesians 5:21-33; Luke 13:18-21 (480). "To what shall I compare the Kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of wheat flour."

Wednesday, Oct 28, 2026
FEAST OF SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES
Ten—no, make it twelve
OK, say you're Jesus. (For most of us, this is a big stretch.) And say it's your task to choose the friends who are going to be with you for the rest of your life, literally, right up to the last meal. You're going to share a common purse, work and play and pray together. You'll get to share a joke with this bunch, too, not to mention the struggles and the tears. How do you make such a momentous decision? Jesus chose prayer as his method of discernment. When faced with serious choices, prayer is the key. As Padre Pio said, "Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God's heart."
Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 6:12-16 (666). "He spent the night in prayer to God. When day came, he called his disciples to himself, and from them he chose Twelve."

Thursday, Oct 29, 2026
A mother's love
Most of us are used to calling God our Father, as Jesus did. But others have written about the mothering nature of God as well. Julian of Norwich, a 15th-century English mystic, developed images of God functioning as both father and mother of creation. She also called Jesus our Mother, for he feeds us out of his body as a mother does her offspring. Isaiah may have been first to consider how God resembles the mother eagle who encourages her nestlings to independent flight. Jesus himself spoke of the urge to protect the unwitting people of Jerusalem as a hen gathers her chicks. Become aware of the motherly embrace of God in your life. Then offer that nurturing grace to others.
Ephesians 6:10-20; Luke 13:31-35 (482). "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."

Friday, Oct 30, 2026
All in good time
"How sour sweet music is / When time is broke and no proportion kept / So is it in the music of men's lives." In this passage from Richard II, William Shakespeare was commenting on the critical ingredient of time in our lives: the necessary pauses and silences that keep everything from happening at once. Sometimes the most critical ingredient in a venture—whether it's a new career, a cake in the oven, or our own spiritual journey—is time. Today is a day to practice patience with ourselves for being wherever we are right now, and for not yet having arrived where we want to be.
Philippians 1:1-11; Luke 14:1-6 (483). "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus."

Saturday, Oct 31, 2026
Sitting in the humble seat
Humility is an often-misunderstood virtue. Some might think it's the opposite of pride. But author Nilton Bonder wisely points out that humility is the "equilibrium point" between pride and a total lack of self-esteem, both of which involve self-absorption. Humility is simply learning to "get out of the way" and allow God to act in and through us. As an old proverb has it, humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less. Begin by doing something thoughtful for someone else today. Then humbly pray for an increase of humility.
Philippians 1:18b-26; Luke 14:1, 7-11 (484). "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, ... go and take the lowest place."

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH NEWS

EDJE ONLINE WORK DUE THIS WEEK

Grade 1	Ch. 6: A Sad Story & Assessment
Grade 2	Ch. 6: Becoming a Child of God & Assessment
Grade 3	Ch. 6: The Prophet Moses & Assessment
Grade 4	Ch. 5: The People of Israel & Assessment
Grade 5	Ch. 5: Made in His Image & Assessment
Grade 6	Ch. 5: The Holy Name & Assessment



IGNITE YOUTH GROUP

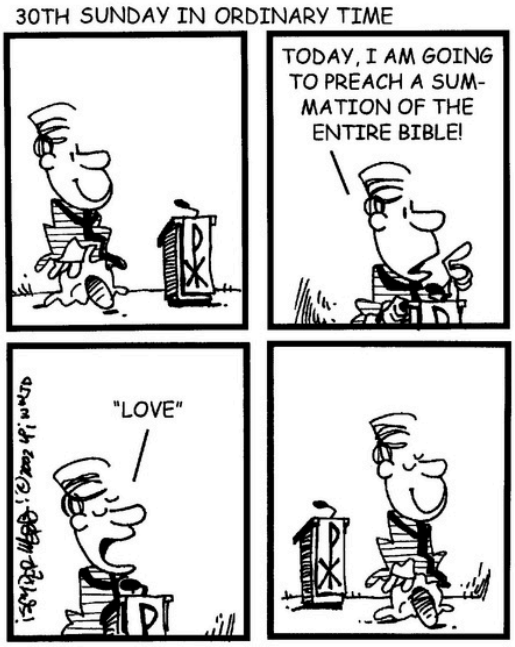
GRADES 7-12, FRIDAY EVENINGS

Youth Group is where faith meets real life! Students in grades 7–12 take what they've learned in Religious Education and put it into practice through games, service, conversations, challenges, and community. It's a place to build friendships, ask questions, grow in faith, and discover what it looks like to live out what we believe.

For more information, as well as the full Ignite calendar, please go to:
www.stjosephbrookfield.com/ignite-youth-ministry



"A joyful heart is good medicine..."
Proverbs 17:22





CHURCH & DIOCESAN EVENTS



SAVE THE DATE

ST. JOSEPH PARISH APPRECIATION BRUNCH

Why? It's a way for us to celebrate and thank all of our wonderful parishioners and their families for all you do to support St. Joseph Church throughout the year.

When and where? Sunday, November 22, 12:00-2:00pm at the Candlewood Inn, 506 Candlewood Lake Road, Brookfield.

Who's invited? Our spiritual family. All St. Joseph parishioners and their immediate family/household members.

What else? There is no charge for the brunch. Reservations are not necessary; drop in any time between 12:00pm and 2:00pm.

SAINTS, SOULS & SWEETS EVENT

Our Young Families Ministry is hosting a All Saints celebration with a Trunk or Treat Twist! See page 5 for details.

THIS WEEK @ ST. JOSEPH

Scan the QR code to go to our online calendar of events.

MASS OF REMEMBERANCE NOVEMBER 6 @ 7:00 PM

The Mass is intended to remember family members who have died in the past year.

If you wish to have a loved one remembered at the Mass, please contact Rita in the Parish Office at 203-775-1035.



Invitations to the Mass have been mailed to the families of loved ones whose funerals were celebrated at St. Joseph over the course of the year.

SJC 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.

ST. JOSEPH Garden
MEMORIAL GARDEN & COLUMBARIUM
St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

A PLACE FOR PRAYER & REMEMBRANCE

St. Joseph Church is developing plans for a Catholic Memorial Garden and Columbarium on parish grounds, near the church. This special space would provide our parish families with a dignified, sacred place for prayer, remembrance, and the inurnment of cremated remains.

We invite you to learn more about this new opportunity for St. Joseph families. Representatives will be available after Masses to answer questions, share information about the project, show renderings of the proposed layout and design, and provide a nonbinding household interest form.

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