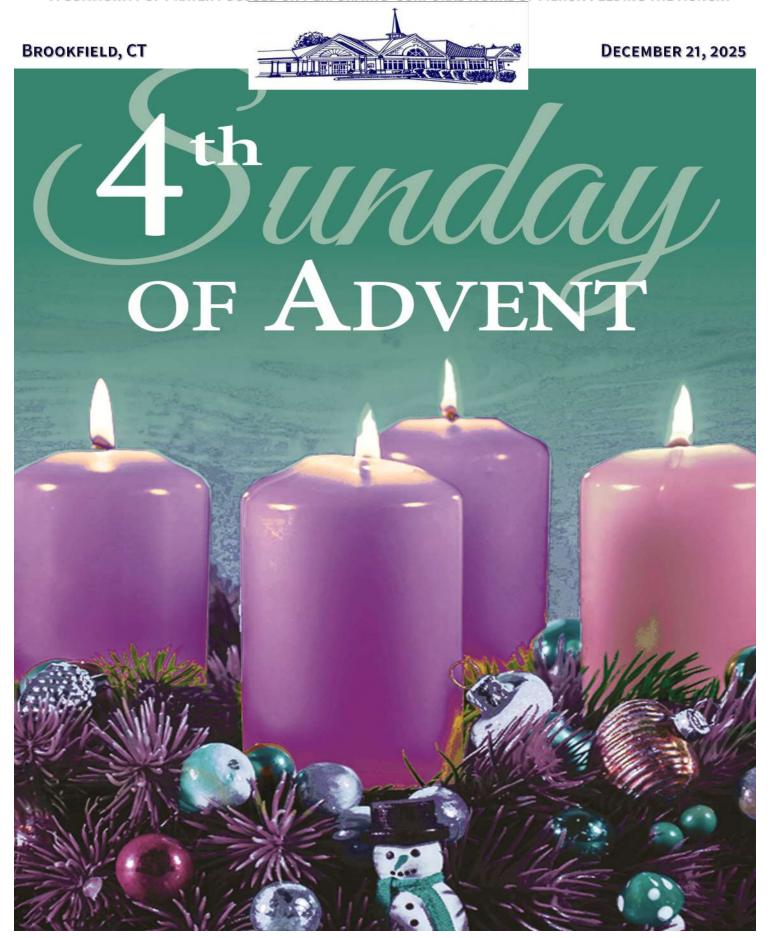
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Web Site: www.stjosephbrookfield.com Email: ParishSec@stjosephbrookfield.com Hours: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Monday thru Friday* Emergencies: (203)209-4908

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.

WELCOM TO SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

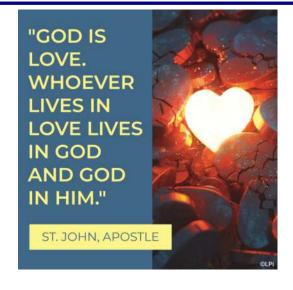
YOU BELONG HERE

THIS WEEK @ ST. JOSEPH

Mon 7:45 AM 8:30 AM Morning Prayer 7:45 AM Morning Prayer 8:30 AM 7:00 PM Confession & Adoration 7:15 PM WRAP Advent Study 7:45 AM Morning Prayer 8:30 AM Christmas (Children's) Mass 4:00 PM 6:30 PM Christmas Mass 10:00 PM Christmas Mass Thurs 7:30 AM Christmas Mass 11:00 AM Christmas Mass 7:45 AM 8:15 AM 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 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.



Brookfield, CT



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

Sunday, Dec 21, 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O RADIANT DAWN)

Oh, what a beautiful morning! Today we name the Messiah "O Radiant Dawn, Sun of Justice, Splendor of Eternal Light!" Anyone whose morning commute includes a sunrise or who has risen early to watch the sun come up knows why primitive peoples and even our oh-so-sophisticated selves find godliness in a sunrise. At the Easter Vigil we sang "May the Morning Star which never sets find this flame still burning! While Christmas lights have been shining for weeks, today we can think of them explicitly as a reminder of God's gift of Light to the waiting world. We remember poet Gerard Manley Hopkins' wonderful "Oh!" at the sight of "God's grandeur" and this great renewal: "Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs / Because the Holy Ghost over the bent / World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings."

Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24 (10). "O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness.

Monday, Dec 22, 2025

A real superpower

Remember when we were kids and we used to play king of the hill? It was an important part of our social learning that the strongest among us would dominate. The same game is played out in world politics as nations rise and fall. The story of Christmas reminds us that Jesus is the world's only real superpower, though the nations play their games of supremacy for a time. History reduces all empires to dust, but the reign of God endures forever. "Christ has dominion over all creatures," says Doctor of the Church Saint Cyril of Alexandria, "a dominion not seized by violence nor usurped but His, by essence and by nature." Pay homage to the King of All by humbly serving others as he would

1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56 (198). "O King of all nations and keystone of the Church; come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!"

Tuesday, Dec 23, 2025

Embrace the gift of love

We end our observance of the O Antiphons today with praise for Emmanuel, our savior. "God is not distant: he is 'Emmanuel,' Godwith-us. He is no stranger: he has a face, the face of Jesus," pro-claims Pope Benedict XVI in his 2010 Christmas address. "This message is ever new, ever surprising, for it surpasses even our most daring hope." The one who is to come satisfies all of our greatest longings. We need look no further. All our fretting and straining for answers comes to an end with the birth of Christ. Are we ready for such good news? Can we let go of all the things we often think will bring us happiness—money, recognition, power, beauty, health and embrace the simple, searing gift of love?

Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66 (199). "O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!"

Wednesday, Dec 24, 2025

Final preparations

It is no accident that scripture references the birth of John the Baptist on the day before we commemorate the birth of Jesus. John represents the culmination of Jewish prophetic hope for the Messiah, and his birth offers a fitting climax to the Advent season. John's father, Zechariah, sings praises on the occasion of his son's birth. Zechariah's song, or canticle, is recited daily during the morning prayer of the church's Liturgy of the Hours. It serves as a lovely closing refrain to the Advent season, our time to prepare for the

coming of the Lord. Have you made yourself ready to be guided by God's compassion "into the way of peace"? Morning: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79 (200). "You will go before the Lord to prepare his way."

Thursday, Dec 25, 2025

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS) Live in the moment of Christmas

Today we celebrate the day God entered God's own creation by becoming human. How can we authentically honor this day? One way is to notice and truly relish our own experience of being human. So often we hurry through the hours, heedless of the many sensations to be enjoyed. This Christmas may we wake up appreciating the delicious warmth of our beds, the sparkle of our decorations, the aroma of our holiday meals, the laughter of family and friends gathered, the words and music of Christmas liturgy, the taste of the Word made flesh, the glory of the child in the manger, the everlasting embrace of love. At the end of the day, we will know something of what Emily Dickinson meant when she wrote, "To live is so startling it leaves little time for anything else."

Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (14); Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 (16). "Today a Savior is born for us, Christ the Lord.

Friday, Dec 26, 2025

FEAST OF STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR

The power and the glory

Saint Stephen's Day, commemorating the first Christian martyr, is celebrated the day after Christmas, serving as a reminder that just as the naked cross looms above the empty tomb, so also its shadow falls across the crib—Jesus' and our own. It is into human experience that the Christ is born, an experience that knows death, violence, and cruelty but a humanity also capable of love so true as to lay down life for a friend. Stephen was "filled with grace and power." It was a power we often forget we possess. It is the power of love, our greatest gift, that gives us the wisdom and strength to endure the worst that life can bring. How will you use your power in the coming year?

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22 (696). "Stephen, filled with grace and power, was working great wonders and signs among the people.'

Saturday, Dec 27, 2025

FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST

When we receive a piece of news, often our first impulse is to think, "I can't wait to tell ...!" We are social creatures, hardwired to live in community with other people, sharing our sorrows and our joys. Moreover, sharing has mathematical properties: It divides and multiplies. When we share bad news, our burden is lessened, and when we share good news, our happiness increases. Of course, the reverse is also true: When we don't have someone with whom to share our stories, sorrows increase and joys are diminished. As Saint Teresa of Calcutta once observed, "Loneliness is the most terrible poverty." Who do you know to be lonely? Take time to listen to their good news.

1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8 (697). "We are writing this so that our joy may be complete."

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The Christmas Story

Luke 2: 1-14

n those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled.

This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

While they were there, the time came

for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and

keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and

> they were struck with great fear.

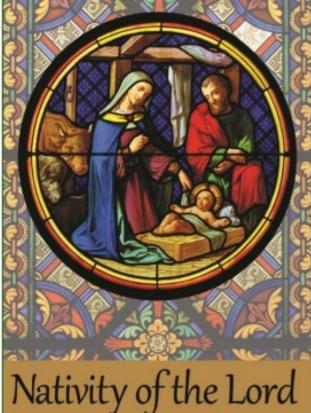
The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.

"And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying

in a manger."

And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests."





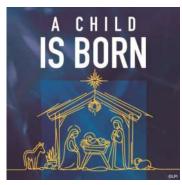
Father O'Neill and the St. Joseph Church Staffwish you and your families a very blessed, and merry Christmas!

December 21, 2025 Page 4











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 15: Let us Pray & Assessment	
Grade 3	Lesson 14: Meeting Jesus in Confession & Assessment	
Grade 4	Lesson 13: King David & Assessment	
Grade 5	Lesson 13: The Holy Family & Assessment	
Grade 6	Lesson 13: The Sacred Flame & Assessment	





Warm Winter Wear Donations ends January 6 to support the working poor and homeless in our community.

We need: New hats, gloves, scarves, and coats for kids ages 10-18. Gently used coats and outerwear will also be accepted.

Donation receptacles, decorated by our Ignite Youth, will be located in the vestibule for donation drop off.





Monday, December 22

7:45 AM - Lorraine Malone, req. by the McKenney Family

<u>Tuesday</u>, <u>December 23 - St. John of Kanty</u>

7:45 AM - Intentions of All Our Parishioners

Wednesday, December 24

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

4:00 PM, 6:30 PM, 10:00 PM - Christmas Masses

<u>Thursday</u>, <u>December 25 - Nativity of the Lord</u>

7:30 AM, 11:00 AM - Christmas Masses

Friday, December 26 - St. Stephen

7:45 AM - Marion Baumgarten, reg. by Jim & Pat Tharrington

Saturday, December 27 - St. John

8:00 AM - Mary & Peter Terzano, req. by Liz Terzano

5:00 PM - James Legere, req. by Ginette & Joe McCloskey

Sunday, December 28 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

7:30 AM - Walter Rogg, req. by Matt & Maureen Farrell

9:00 AM - Joaquin Uribe, reg. by the Sanchez Uribe Family

11:00 AM - Al Kost, req. by Pat DeKoskie & 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, Teresa Von Thaden, Kevin Elston



Rebecca Roos & Mark Vetter

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 Avt 3802	
Marriage Scheduling/Prep	203.775.1035	
	203.113.1033	
Prayer & Devotion	202 470 4500	
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	
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Parish Council – Mr. Andy Pacuk, Chairman	917.514.5974	
Finance Council – Christopher T. Raines, Chairman	203.775.1035	
Other Ministries & Organizations	20011.012000	
8 th Station Bereavement Ministry		
Mrs. Mary Shaughnessy	203.775.9138	
	203.775.4836	
Mrs. Pat Tharrington		
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	



The Sunday Offertory information was unavailable due to an early publisher deadline and will be included in the next bulletin.

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.





ANNUAL APPEAL

The Saint Joseph Annual Collection is underway. Over the years your generous financial support has been one of our greatest

blessings.

Our Finance & Parish Councils have earmarked the proceeds of this 2025 Annual Collection for a particular project, the cost of which, as in past years, exceeds what can be funded through the regular weekly offertory. This year, our plan is to replace all the flooring in the church, both the seating area and the sanctuary, as well as the narthex and hallways.

Please take a moment to prayerfully consider your support of this project. Thank you for your continued faith, love, and generosity.

Give Now by scanning the code and going to the St. Joseph Parish Annual Collection tile.



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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