



Saint Joseph's Parish

*Serving the People of North Brookfield,
Oakham and New Braintree*

Church: 296 North Main Street
North Brookfield, MA 01535

PARISH STAFF

Administrator

Rev. Joseph D. Rice
W. Brookfield residence phone: 508.867.6469

Associate Pastor

Rev. Donald C. Ouellette
E. Brookfield residence phone: 508.867.3738

Parish Secretary

Mary Jo Hevy

Religious Education

Coordinator

Lynne Losurdo

Music Director

Eva Brown

Bulletin Editor

Phyllis Casey

Safe Environment

Coordinator

Christie Driscoll

Parish Office: 28 Mt. Pleasant St., N. Brookfield, MA 01535

Tel. (508) 867-6811 Fax (508) 867-7756

Email: saintjosephrectory@verizon.net

Religious Education Center: 30 West Main St., West Brookfield

Phone: (508) 867-4460

Lynn Losurdo (Grades preK-5) llosurdo1@gmail.com

Mary Gershman (Grades 6-11) religiouseducationst.john@gmail.com

Parish Website: www.stjosephsnbma.org

Adoration and Prayer: Thurs. afternoons 3:00 - 4:00 PM

First Fridays Mass at 8:30 AM at St. John's, adoration to follow.

Rosary:

Weekdays: Mondays, Tuesdays, 8:05 AM, before the daily Mass.

Visits to the Church:

*Our church will be open on Mondays through Fridays
from 7:30am to 5pm for private prayer and adoration.*

Visitation of the Sick:

If you or a family member are housebound and would like to receive Communion, please call the rectory. If you know of someone from the parish who is in the hospital and would like a visit from one of the priests, please let us know.

Sacrament of the Sick:

This is administered periodically. You can also call the rectory for an appointment.

Parish Registration:

If you are new to the parish, please call the rectory to register.

Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):

Adults who are interested in becoming members of the Catholic faith are invited to join the RCIA.

Please call the rectory for information.

Food Pantry:

First Thursday of the month 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Third Thursday of the month 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Bereavement Committee: Carole Ryback (508) 867-8728

St. Joseph's Cemetery: Douglas Fedler (508) 867-6811

Bulletin Deadline: Please submit bulletin entries in writing to the rectory by Monday at 9:00AM.

Weekend Masses— Sundays: 8:30AM and 11:00AM

Weekday Masses

Mondays, Tuesdays: 8:30AM at St. Joseph's Parish

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays:

8:00 AM at Sacred Heart Church, W. Brookfield

Thursdays, Fridays: 8:30 AM at St. John's, E. Brookfield

Confessions (Reconciliation)

Saturday at @ 3:00 PM at St. John the Baptist, E. Brookfield

1st Fridays of the month at 9:00 AM at St. John's

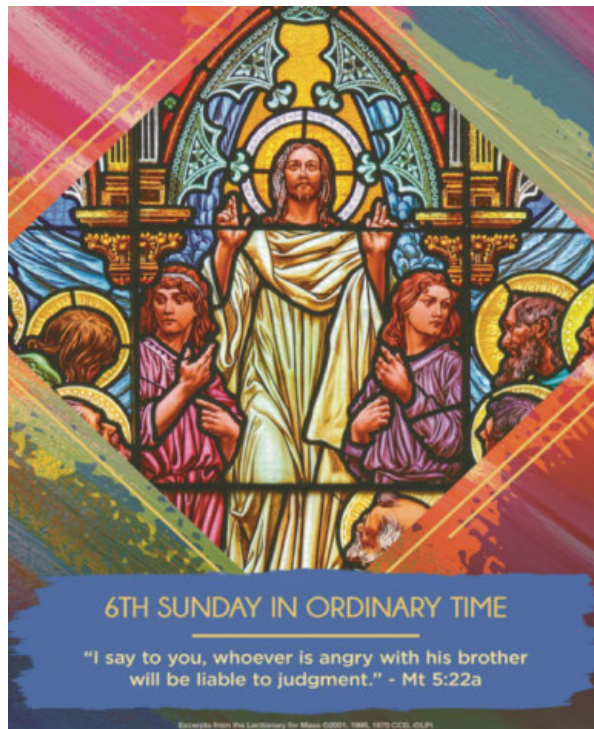
1st Saturdays of the month at 9:00 AM at St. Joseph's
or by appointment.

Baptisms

Please call the parish office for arrangements.

Marriages

Arrangements should be made 1 year in advance.



Parish Mission Statement

As individuals and families, our mission as the parish community of Saint Joseph is to live fully the call of Jesus Christ, to be the People of God by giving witness to the Gospel, passing on our Catholic tradition, strengthening the spiritual life of parishioners and serving those in need. We are committed to being an active, welcoming, and supportive community, proclaiming Christ's teaching through word and deed.

**Sat., Feb. 11, 2023**

4:00 pm Mass at St. John's, E. Brookfield

5:00 pm Mass at St. Mary's, Brookfield

Sun., Feb. 12, 2023

8:00 am Mass at Sacred Heart, W. Brookfield

8:30 am Mass at St. Joseph's, N. Brookfield

Joanne Cournoyer,
req. by Carole Ryback

10:15 am Mass at Sacred Heart, W. Brookfield

10:30 am Mass at St. John's, E. Brookfield

11:00 am Mass at St. Joseph's, N. Brookfield

Perry George,
req. by his family

5:00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart, W. Brookfield

Mon. Feb. 13, 2023

8:00 am Mass at Sacred Heart, W. Brookfield

8:30 am Mass at St. Joseph's N. Brookfield

Sean C. Connolly,
req. by Catholic Association of Foresters**Tue. Feb. 14, 2023**

8:00 am Mass at Sacred Heart, W. Brookfield

8:30 am **Shirley Barry,**
req. by Ron & Diane Houle**Wed. Feb. 15, 2023**

8:00 am Mass at Sacred Heart, W. Brookfield

Thurs. Feb. 16, 2023

8:30 am Mass at St. John's

Fri. Feb. 17, 2023

Mass at St. John's

Sat. Feb. 18, 2023

4:00 pm Mass at St. John's, E. Brookfield

5:00 pm Mass at St. Mary's, Brookfield

Sun., Feb. 19, 2023

8:00 am Mass at Sacred Heart, W. Brookfield

8:30 am Mass at St. Joseph's, N. Brookfield

Fr. Richard Carey (7th anniv.),
req. by the parish

10:15 am Mass at Sacred Heart, W. Brookfield

10:30 am Mass at St. John's, E. Brookfield

11:00 am Mass at St. Joseph's, N. Brookfield

Anna Zelnia (1st anniv.),
req. by her family

5:00 pm No Mass at Sacred Heart, W. Brookfield

Love Demands Extraordinary Things

It's often said that the Catholic Church lays heavy rules on her members, rules that can almost seem impossible. Mass every Sunday? No lying *ever*? Sexual purity *all the time*? I recently said to some non-Catholic friends that more than fifty adults were baptized at my parish at the Easter Vigil. One responded spontaneously with shock, "Why would anyone do *that*?" In other words, why would someone willingly place themselves in a system with such demanding and rigorous rules?

Of course, no one in the history of religions is more demanding and rigorous than Jesus himself. In the Sermon on the Mount, he says you have to be holier than pharisees or you're out. He says if you call someone a fool, you go to fiery Gehenna. He says you can't even look at a woman with lust or you're guilty of adultery (which was punishable by death). To top it all off, he says you can't even get divorced and re-married. Doesn't he know these are basically impossible demands? What world is he living in?

The new one, actually. He is the new world. Jesus' words aren't meant to condemn. They are meant to signal something new, a restored humanity. Jesus doesn't just give external laws; he gives us his Holy Spirit to internalize the law through love. He wants to fill us with his love. That's what the Church exists to do. Love demands extraordinary things. The "demands" of the Church only make sense because she is filled with Jesus' love. That wildly demanding love is why we are Catholic.

— Father John Muir
©LPi

Readings for the week of February 12, 2023

Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 (1b)/1 Cor 2:6-10/

Monday: Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37
Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21/
Mk 8:11-13Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b
and 9c-10/Mk 8:14-21Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-
19/Mk 8:22-26Thursday: Gn 9:1-13/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-
23/Mk 8:27-33Friday: Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15/Mk
8:34—9:1Saturday: Heb 11:1-7/Ps 145: 2-3, 4-5, 10-11/Mk 9:2-
13Next Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-
13 (8a)/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48

If you would like a record of your 2022 contributions for tax purposes, please call the Church Office at 508 867-6811 and we will provide a copy.

St. Joseph's Parish January Booster Club Winners1st Prize - Robert Buron \$1002nd Prize - Maureen Wesolaski \$503rd Prize - Mary Jo Hevy - \$254th Prize - Florine Martel - \$25*~Word of Life~*

"Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together." USCCB, Married Love and the Gift of Life



May the Choirs of Angels Lead You Into Paradise

Our parish community would like to offer our prayerful support for Phyllis Casey, who passed away last week. She served as our bulletin editor, Eucharistic minister, and was involved in other ministries. She had worked at Quaboag Health Care in the Activities Dept. Her funeral was held this past week here at St. Joseph's. We offer her family, friends, and parishioners our heartfelt condolence and prayers.



The schedule for this year's Ash Wednesday, February 22 is:
 8:30 am St. Joseph, North Brookfield
 9:00 am Sacred Heart, West Brookfield
 5:30 pm Sacred Heart, West Brookfield
 7:00 pm St. John, East Brookfield



There will be a special collection at the Mass for the retired priests of our Diocese at these Masses. This is a different from the Retirement Fund for Religious, which is held in December. Thank you for your support.

**Stations of the Cross
Fridays during Lent**

- 2/24 St. Joseph @ 6 pm
 3/3 St. John @ 9 am & Sacred Heart @ 6 pm
 3/10 St. Joseph @ 6 pm
 3/17 St. John @ 9 am & Sacred Heart @ 6 pm
 3/24 St. Joseph @ 6 pm
 3/31 St. John @ 9 am & Sacred Heart @ 6 pm
 4/7 St. John @ 3 pm

Vocations Reflection

Catholics believe marriage to be a sacrament. By this we mean that the faithful love of husband and wife is a sign of Christ's lasting love for us. On this World Marriage Day, let us pray that those who are married seek to bring each other closer to heaven each day.



Date Feb. 19	Lectors	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sun. 8:30 AM	Tabby Leblanc	Larry Walter	Joanne Ford
Sun. 11:00 AM	Rose Benevenuti	Sophia Hearnlaye	Peter Losurdo

Weekend Collections

Feb 5, 2023

Weekly collection needed to meet expenses	\$ 2,950.00
General collection	\$2,271.00
Monthly fuel collection	\$85.00
Catholic Free Press	\$40.00
Total weekly collection	\$2,396.00
Overage/(under)	\$ (554.00)
Monthly Renovation Coll.	\$410

Thank you for your continued support !

Special Collections

Feb. 11 & 12 Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Feb. 18 & 19 Fuel Donation

~Stewardship~

"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (MATTHEW 5:20)

The Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it's the love that you have in your heart, for God and others, that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules to the letter and not out of love, does not necessarily put you on the path to heaven. Attending Sunday Mass and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of being a modern day Pharisee.

Indoor Yard Sale/Bake Sale in Worcester

St. Christopher Parish 950 West Boylston St., Worcester will be holding an Indoor Yard Sale & Bake Sale in their church hall on **Saturday, March 18 from 9 am -3 pm**. Individual 8-foot tables may be reserved for a non-refundable fee of \$25 – or two tables for only \$40. All proceeds support the parish. Contact Liz Knott at 508-852-2348 or by email at knotte@charter.net to reserve a table or for more info.

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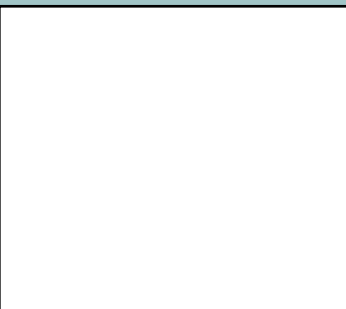

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