

SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

BROOKFIELD, CT



JANUARY 23, 2022



3rd Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor."
- Lk 4:18a*



PARISH STAFF

Rev. George F. O'Neill, Pastor

Pastor@stjosephbrookfield.com

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rortega@ctunitedyouth.com

PARISH OFFICE

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Web Site: www.stjosephbrookfield.com

Email: ParishSec@stjosephbrookfield.com

Mail: 163 Whisconier Road

Brookfield, CT 06804

Office Open 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Monday thru Friday

Emergencies: (203)209-4908

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday – 8:00am

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)

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM

This Week @ St. Joseph*

MON 24	7:45am	Mass**
	8:15am	Morning Prayer**
TUES 25	7:45am	Mass**
	8:15am	Morning Prayer**
	7:00pm	Confession & Adoration
	7:15pm	WWP group: Reclaiming Friendship
WED 26	7:45am	Mass**
	8:15am	Morning Prayer**
	9:30am	WWP group: Living in the Father's Love
THUR 27	7:45am	Mass**
	8:15am	Morning Prayer**
FRI 28	7:45am	Mass**
	6:30pm	Ignite Night (7th/8th graders)
SAT 29	8:00am	Mass**
	4:00pm	Confession
	5:00pm	Vigil Mass
SUN 30	7:30am	Mass**
	9:00am	Mass** —EDJE Grades 1-3
	11:00am	Mass**

*To add parish events, contact Bulletin@stjosephbrookfield.com

**Live streaming available via the Parish website

THOSE FOR WHOM WE PRAY

FOR THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S HEALING, STRENGTH, AND COMFORT: Catherine Conlon, John Donohue, Maureen Marlowe, Mike Doré, Cyril Tomascak, Peter Tomascak, Mary Beth Smith, Kelly Jennings, Joseph Buzcek, Theresa Fuller, Frank Bonacci, Theresa Van Thaden, Katheen Travis, John Rooney and Alberta Gregus .

FOR THE PROTECTION AND SAFE RETURN OF THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: James Dillon, Joshua Hanley, Joshua Jugler, Michael Ayala Lopez, Kurt Mann and Michael Moreira.

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.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism – The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Sundays at 12:30 PM. A Pre-Baptism class is required for both parents prior to the Baptism of their first child. Register with the Parish Office: 203.775.1035.

Marriage – Weddings generally are celebrated on Friday evening or Saturday afternoons and must be scheduled at least six months in advance. **Please do not make final arrangements for your reception prior to contacting the Parish Office.**

The Diocese of Bridgeport offers formation for couples who wish to be married in the Catholic Church. Formation is available online in English and in person in Spanish. For more information, please visit <https://formationreimagined.org/marriage-prep-reimagined/>.

R.C.I.A. – Interested in becoming a Catholic? Call the Parish Office.



Sunday, Jan 23, 2022

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

Those aren't fighting words

Most fights don't start with a punch, but with a word. That's because words are among the most powerful forces on the planet. Ideas divide or unite a society. Insults scar, just as kind words can heal. Our sacred story contained in scripture is a word meant to make the world whole. Pope Francis asks us to honor the word of God this Sunday. We begin by symbolically enthroning the Bible in our homes today: putting it in a place of honor. This reminds us of the deeper enthronement of God's word in our hearts. Make room for one Bible verse every day.

TODAY'S READINGS: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30; Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21 (69). *"Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."*

Monday, Jan 24, 2022

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS DE SALES, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

God, our shield and our strength

We live in tumultuous times for sure. But the world has been topsy-turvy before. Saint Francis de Sales lived during the religious, political, and social upheaval of the Protestant Reformation. And he became known for his gentleness and patience in the face of it. Leave it to him, the patron saint of writers, to pen a prayer that is timeless balm for troubled souls: "Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow and every day. Either he will shield you from suffering, or he will give you unflinching strength to bear it. Be at peace, then, put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations . . ." A balm for these troubled times.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10; Mark 3:22-30 (317). *"If a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand."*

Tuesday, Jan 25, 2022

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL, APOSTLE

Harden not your heart

Paul has always been a controversial figure. Before becoming a Christian, he was a persecutor of Jesus' followers. Paul's biblical words advising women to be submissive to their husbands have been alternately obeyed, rejected, and reinterpreted. But the word "conversion" on this feast reminds us what Christian life is about. The Catechism of the Catholic Church quotes Saint Ambrose on the "two conversions" in Christian life—one of them a one-time event and the other ongoing. "There are water and tears, the water of Baptism and the tears of repentance." What parts of your life still require repentance?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Mark 16:15-18 (519). *"Jesus . . . appeared to you on the way by which you came, that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."*

Wednesday, Jan 26, 2022

MEMORIAL OF TIMOTHY AND TITUS, BISHOPS

Stay the course

Evangelizing and living the gospel demands much of us. Saints Timothy and Titus serve as examples to us of holding fast to the faith among difficult circumstances. Friends and companions of Saint Paul, they ended up becoming bishops and leaders of the early church. They helped Paul to spread the gospel during those difficult early years. Timothy paid the ultimate price for encouraging others to embrace the emerging Christian faith. Reflect on the ways you choose to follow Jesus Christ and embrace his mission despite the challenges and difficulties it presents.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5; Mark 4:1-20 (520; Gospel 319). *"[T]hose sown on rich soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit thirty and sixty and a hundred-fold."*

Thursday, Jan 27, 2022

MEMORIAL OF ANGELA MERICI, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER

Wise counsel for the overwhelmed

On this memorial of Saint Angela Merici, 16th-century founder of the Ursuline Sisters, it makes sense to recall one of her many insights into faith-filled living. She advised the overwhelmed thus: "Do not lose heart, even if you should discover that you lack qualities necessary for the work to which you are called. He who called you will not desert you, but the moment you are in need he will stretch out his saving hand." May you find that saving hand when you reach the end of your rope.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 7:18-19, 24-29; Mark 4:21-25 (320). *"Is a lamp brought in to be placed under a bushel basket or under a bed, and not to be placed on a lampstand?"*

Friday, Jan 28, 2022

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST, RELIGIOUS, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Root yourself in honesty

G.K. Chesterton once said of philosopher and theologian Thomas Aquinas, "Being himself resolved to argue, to argue honestly, to answer everybody, to deal with everything, he produced books enough to sink a ship or stock a library." We could use a little more Thomas in our media, especially social media, because today we're not always sure if things are actually true or merely "internet true." For Thomas, honesty was key to communication. He considered it beautiful, honorable, and a reflection of moral goodness itself. May we take to heart his commitment to honesty in all of our communication.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Mark 4:26-34 (321). *"Once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade."*

Saturday, Jan 29, 2022

Sea of hope

Alonzo Ketcham Parker, a 19th-century travel writer, called the Sea of Galilee "a fifth gospel" due to the amount of biblical history that occurred on its shores. It is the site where Jesus performed many of his most renowned miracles, such as walking on water, calming the storm, and feeding the multitude. Villages and settlements dotted the shore in Jesus' day, and most of Jesus' followers probably gained their livelihood and nourished their families from its bounty. The nourishment continues every time we read the vivid accounts of biblical drama that occur on the holiest of seas. Dive in!

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mark 4:35-41 (322). *"He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Quiet! Be still!' The wind ceased and there was great calm."*

IMMACULATE HIGH SCHOOL NOW ACCEPTING FRESHMAN AND TRANSFER APPLICATIONS

The Admissions Committee is now accepting applications on a rolling basis. Visit www.immaculatehs.org/admissions to learn more about scheduling a tour or applying for admission. Freshman applicants are required to take the High School Placement Test (HSPT) - please register for the January 28 exam at www.immaculatehs.org/hspt.

Questions? Call (203) 744-1510 x148 or email admissions@myimmaculatehs.org.

SAVE THE DATE: IMMACULATE'S 17TH ANNUAL GALA

Immaculate High School presents "Together Again on Broadway" on Saturday, March 26, 2022, 6pm - 11pm.

Location: Amber Room Colonnade, 1 Stacey Road, Danbury, CT 06810.

For more information, please visit www.immaculatehs.org/gala or contact Alumni & Events Director, Jeannie Demko at jdemko@myimmaculatehs.org or (203) 744-1510 ext. 158.



January 23, 2022 | Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 | 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27 | Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Do you ever find yourself feeling like you are at the cusp of something remarkable? Like you are witnessing an incredible, historic, athletic, or aeronautical feat? I wonder if that's what it was like for the followers of Jesus when he began his public ministry: "News of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all." In today's Gospel, Jesus reads the words of the prophet Isaiah that are effectively a "job description" of his mission: glad tidings to the poor, liberty of captives, sight to the blind, freedom for the oppressed. What Isaiah prophesied, Jesus claims to fulfill. He thus inaugurates his public ministry with a claim that is straightforward, bold, true, and of great consequence. Today, by virtue of our baptism, we are part of the body of Christ and share in that mission. Whatever our backgrounds, abilities, or talents, we each have something to contribute to building up one another and the Church. And with the help of the Holy Spirit, we, too, can be bold in our own proclamation of Jesus Christ as Lord.

PRAY Yesterday on the liturgical calendar was the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. As members of the body of Christ, let us join our voices with the universal Church and pray a Pro-Life Rosary each night this week. The USCCB Prayers and Devotions page is a good resource.

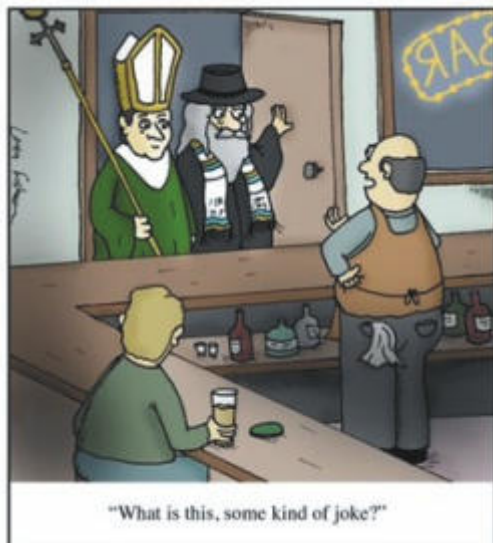
Grocery Giggles

A grocer put up a sign that read "Eggplants, 25¢ each - three for a dollar."

All day long, customers came in exclaiming: "Don't be ridiculous! I should get four for a dollar!"

Meekly the grocer capitulated and packaged four eggplants. The tailor next door had been watching these antics and finally asked the grocer, "Aren't you going to fix the mistake on your sign?"

"What mistake?" the grocer asked. "Before I put up that sign no one ever bought more than one eggplant."
- bestfunnystories.com



GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We've heard the phrase "Don't sell yourself short." Social media aside, many of us tend to focus on our shortcomings: We may wish we could run faster, be better at our jobs, have a cleaner home, in general, "get it together!" Truth is, we're all works in progress. That's what I love about Paul's Letter to the Corinthians. He reminds us that each one of us - whatever our strengths or weaknesses - is part of the body of Christ. God loves us with our imperfections, not in spite of them. As such, each of us has indispensable value and much to contribute to the mission of the Church. As we move into the week ahead, today's readings invite us to place ourselves at the service of the Church and one another. Beyond that, we can invite others to join us by recognizing that God values the talents - and foibles - that each of us brings to his service.

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Curiosity Corner

Q: Is it right to sue someone? Isn't it a way of getting revenge?

A: Revenge is inflicting harm for harm's sake, the idea of an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, and then some. There is often a fine line between justice and mercy, between compensation and forgiveness. Unfortunately, things can happen to us that cause harm, suffering, and damage, regardless of people's intentions. When someone is hurt, especially in such a way that special care or treatment is required, the cost of that care needs to be paid.

In a perfect world, those with special needs, handicaps, or disabilities would find the help and care they need, including those who are injured or hurt. But justice is not always forthcoming, and people are not always fair. So, using the legal system to right a wrong is sometimes the only option.

In some cases, it is the only way that people can get the help they need and deserve. However, frivolous lawsuits, or 'fishing for money' is not only unfair, but immoral as well. The law is there to protect people and making use of it when necessary is a good thing.

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Important Info and Reminders

Religious Education Parent Meeting

If you were unable to attend a parent meeting please call the Parish Office before the end of January to set up a meeting with Father O’Neill.

First Reconciliation & Communion

This year’s First Reconciliation will take place on Saturday, April 2nd at 9:00 a.m. First Communion will be Saturday, May 7th at 10:00 a.m. We will have rehearsal for First Communion on Friday, May 6th at 5:00 p.m. in the Church. For more information please see Pat Smith’s email sent January 12th.

EDJE ONLINE WORK DUE THIS WEEK

	My Catholic Faith Delivered	Catholic Brain
Grade 1	Unit 4 Assessment	Lesson 16 - Confirmation
Grade 2	Chapter 2 – Making Up for Our Offenses	Lesson 16 - Confirmation
Grade 3	Unit 4 Assessment	Lesson 16 - First Commandment of God
Grade 4	Unit 4 Assessment	Lesson 16 - First Commandment of God
Grade 5	Unit 4 Assessment	Not Applicable
Grade 6	Unit 4 Assessment	Not Applicable

Take a look at the good deeds some of our EDJE students have been busy doing:

“I helped my mom make food for people who are hungry,” submitted by Cooper.

“EDJE ABOVE THE REST”

Congratulating these students for completing their online work for the year:

- ★ Harley Caccamo
- ★ Genevieve Ellard
- ★ Rory Stanton

The following students have completed their work through the end of February and beyond:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| ★ Isabella Boniello | ★ Emma Hoffman |
| ★ Amelie Bonnefoy | ★ Ryan Jordan |
| ★ Saddle Caccamo | ★ Noelle LeJava |
| ★ John-Anthony Campanaro | ★ Logan Mastropaolo |
| ★ Michael Campanaro | ★ Kathleen Pena |
| ★ Emily Canney | ★ Evelyn Schettino |
| ★ Zoe Centeno | ★ Alexander Torres-Galvez |
| ★ Caeli Donovan | ★ Aryana Torres-Galvez |
| ★ Joseph Ferraro | ★ Nia Torres-Galvez |
| ★ Brody Hazzard | ★ Brandon Yager |
| ★ Heidi Hernandez | ★ Cooper Zaloski |

Thinking your child might need a little more faith-based direction, faith-based friendships, and faith-filled fun?

It’s not too late to come to one of our fantastic youth groups!

Ignite: for 7th & 8th graders

UNITED: for high schoolers

Check out the SJC website for more info.

Registration is free; the experience will be priceless.



Monday, January 24 - St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Dr. of the Church

7:45 AM - Intentions of All Our Parishioners

Tuesday, January 25 - Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle

7:45 AM - Ellen Krebs & Family, req. by Christine & Bob Eginton

Wednesday, January 26 - St. Timothy & St. Titus, Bishops

7:45 AM - Tyler Nuzback, req. by Elizabeth & Don Burr

Thursday, January 27

7:45 AM - Assunta & Vincenzo Verlezza, req. by Anne Verlezza

Friday, January 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Religious & Dr. of the Church

7:45 AM - Rita DeSanctis, req. by Laura Young

Saturday, January 29

8:00 AM - Ann & Jim Best, req. by Anne Verlezza

5:00 PM - Mary Skelly, req. by Terry & Michael Johnson

Sunday, January 30

7:30 AM - Peter Gallagher, req. by Matt & Maureen Farrell

9:00 AM - Patrick Terrett, req. by Bill & Maryanne McGee

11:00 AM - Linda & Steven Gans, req. by Mary Emanuele



SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTIONS

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for the Intentions of Ken Tharrington. Requested by Jim & Pat Tharrington.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Liturgy

Altar Servers 203.775.1035
 Choir Director - Arianna Carlo 203.775.1035

Faith Formation and Sacraments

Religious Education Coord. - Ms. Pat Smith 203.775.1035, ext. 107
 RCIA 203.775.1035
 Scheduling Baptisms - Mrs. Rita Golaszewski. . . 203.775.1035, ext. 101
 Marriage Scheduling/Prep 203.775.1035

Prayer & Devotion

Men's Retreat - Mr. Peter Brady 203.740.1243
 Women's Retreat - Mrs. Barb Roeder 203.470.3832
 Men of St. Joseph
 Jim Steffen 203.775.8676
 George Lauri 203.775.1531

Parish Councils and Administration

Parish Council - Mr. Andy Pacuk, Chairman. 917.514.5974
 Finance Council - Mr. Frank Cavalea, Chairman. 203.482.5563

Other Ministries & Organizations

8th Station Bereavement Ministry
 Mrs. Mary Shaughnessy. 203.775.9138
 Mrs. Pat Tharrington. 203.775.4836
 Mary-Martha Ministry - Mrs. Pat Font 203.775.2335
 Women's Reflection & Prayer Group - Mrs. Barb Roeder. . 203.470.3832
 Outreach to Sick/Shut-In - Sr. Mary Ann Socha, CMGT .. 203.794.1486



Sunday Offertory. \$10,576.50
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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
Plant Your Works in the Word

One of the things about Scripture is that even the smallest word and shortest phrase can be critical to the overall message. When you take a quiet moment to rest with the Word, you find how quickly the most mundane sentence can reach out and grab you, pulling you into a deeper contemplation of some truth you hadn't even considered until then.

But we often fail to act as the Israelites in the Book of Nehemiah, standing before the Water Gate "listening attentively." Whether it's at Mass during the Liturgy of the Word or at home poring over the Bible, time after time we find ourselves less mindful than we could be. Our ears accept the sounds of the words and our eyes glance over the shape of the letters.

But are we mindful — truly?

The best answer is hopefully at least sometimes. There are always tasks to be completed, problems weighing on our minds that we can't quite give over to God. We lose ourselves in these things instead of in Scripture. We "clock in" with Bible reading instead of "diving in."

We can never forget that the words of the Lord are spirit and life. They are the soil that quickens the seed of all stewardship. There is no mindfulness, no prayer, no graciousness, no gratitude or accountability or sense of commitment unless there is the Word.

So let us pray today for mindfulness, that our every action will be grounded in the law of God — giving it true spirit and life.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Undone: Freedom for the Feminine Heart will be held at St. Pius X Parish in Fairfield, CT March 31 – April 2, 2022. Register online for either experience at www.jpjihealingcenter.org.

Scholarships, student and missionary discounts available. Contact JPJIRetreatFairfieldCT@gmail.com for more information.



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Psalm 91: 4
John 11: 25
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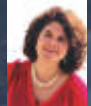


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