

SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

BROOKFIELD, CT

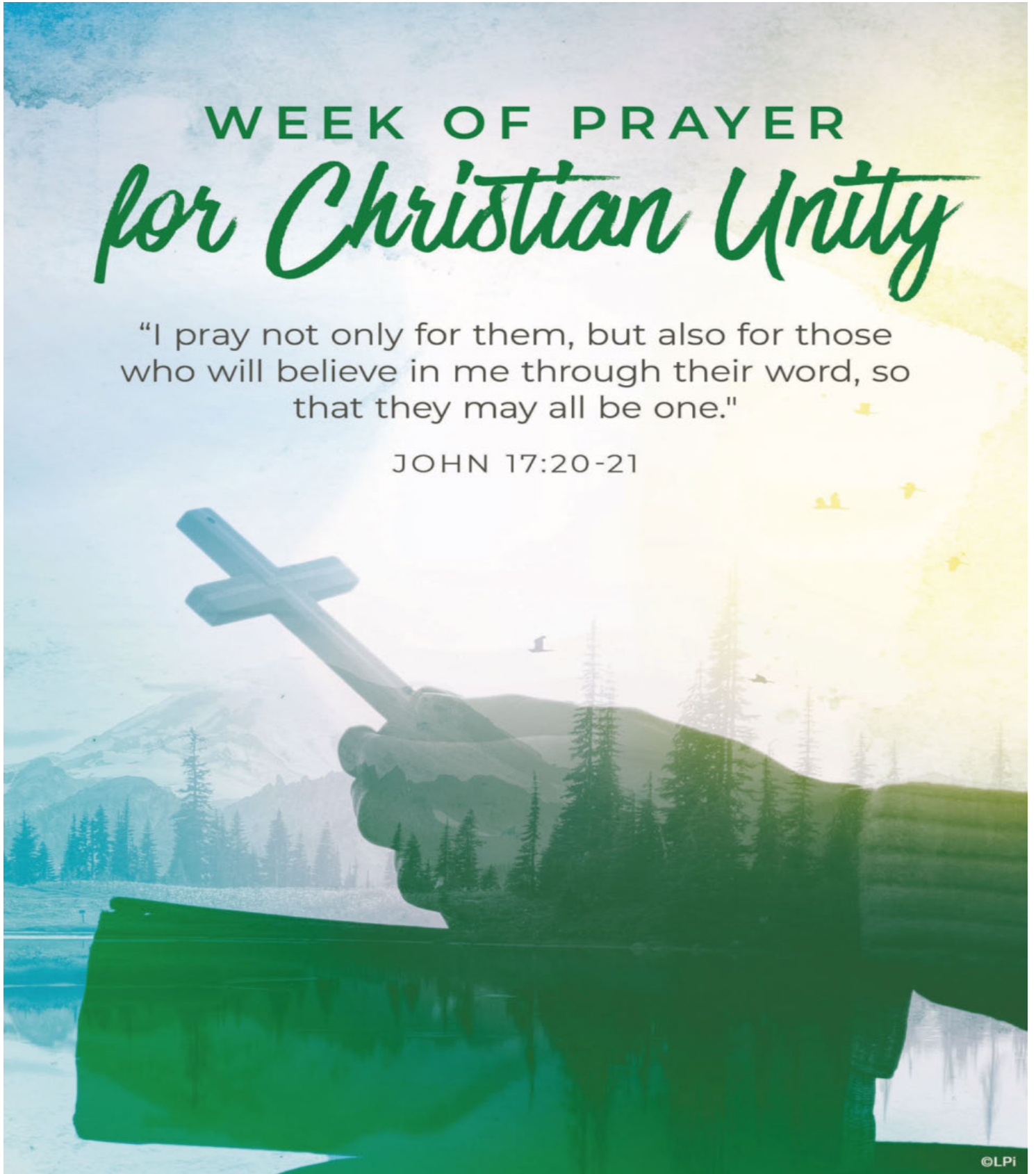


JANUARY 15, 2023

WEEK OF PRAYER *for Christian Unity*

"I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one."

JOHN 17:20-21





PARISH STAFF

Rev. George F. O'Neill, Pastor

Pastor@stjosephbrookfield.com

Rev. Lawrence F. Carew, Non-Resident Priest

FrCarew@diobpt.org

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Deacon Louis F. Howe, Sr., Facilities Manager

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Deacon Peter J. Kuhn

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Deacon William J. Shaughnessy

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Music Director@stjosephbrookfield.com

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Cantor@stjosephbrookfield.com

Renzo Ortega, United High School Ministry Coordinator

rortega@ctunitedyouth.com

PARISH OFFICE

Phone: 203.775.1035 Fax: 203.775.1684

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 – 8:00 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)

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM

Interested in becoming a Catholic? We'd love to have you!
Call the Parish Office to learn about our R.C.I.A. Program.

This Week @ St. Joseph*

MON 16	7:45am 8:30am	Mass Morning Prayer
TUES 17	7:45am 8:30am	Mass Morning Prayer
WED 18	7:45am 8:30am	Mass Morning Prayer
THUR 19	7:45am 8:30am	Mass Morning Prayer
FRI 20	7:45am 8:30am	Mass Morning Prayer
SAT 21	8:00am 4:00pm 5:00pm	Mass Confessions Mass
SUN 22	7:30am 9:00am 11:00am 6:00pm	Mass Mass - EDJE Grades 1-3 Mass UNITED - grades 9-12

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

THOSE FOR WHOM WE PRAY

FOR THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S HEALING, STRENGTH, AND COMFORT:

Jeff Moxham, Bill Font, Patty Breuer, Marcia Riordan, Fr. James Demko, Katherine Font, Theresa Van Thaden, Marty Doris, Earl Heibler, Kennedy Thomas, Catherine Conlon, John Donohue, William Morrison, Mike Doré, Wayne Tomascak, Peter Tomascak, Mary Beth Smith, 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

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. **The next class is scheduled for Sunday, 2/5/23, at 12:30PM.** Register with the Parish Office: 203.775.1035.

Marriage – Getting married in the Catholic Church takes time and preparation. Before setting a date, please contact the parish office to ask if your preparation will be with a local priest or deacon, at your parish, or through the Institute for Catholic Formation. Please note that formation should begin six months before your big day. Waiting too long to begin formation might delay your wedding.

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.**



Sunday, Jan 15, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Tend your inner lamp

Why do we take so many pictures of sunsets and sunrises? Why fill our homes with chandeliers, lamps, and candles? To the eye, light is incredibly attractive. It illuminates all that surrounds it, offering us not simply its own glow, but redeeming the whole environment swallowed by darkness and delivering it back to us. People who carry an inner light are similar. We're attracted to their aura, but even more so to how clear and bright reality appears when we're in their company. Saints attract others with their light long before the church bestows on them the customary halo. Let your light shine!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34 (64). *"I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."*

Monday, Jan 16, 2023

Help the dream awaken in all hearts and minds

Many people have today off from school and work in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Why not make it a "day on" instead? Spend at least a little time working for peace and justice today, as King did every day. This is the only federal holiday that is also designated by Congress as a national day of service. The Catholic Church has embraced King's call for racial equality. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "Racism and every form of discrimination ... must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design." Lift a hand to help in your community, and pray that love banish hate.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 2:18-22 (311). *"The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them."*

Tuesday, Jan 17, 2023

MEMORIAL OF ANTHONY, ABBOT

Make space for silence

The Apophthegmata Patrum is a 1,600-year-old collection of writings known as the Sayings of the Desert Fathers. These texts record the teachings of the earliest Christian monks, who congregated in the desert of Egypt. The wisest among these monks was Anthony the Abbot. He wrote: "Just as fish die if they stay too long out of water, so the monks who loiter outside their cells or pass their time with men of the world lose the intensity of inner peace." When Christianity became politically accepted—and martyrdoms ceased—Anthony sought the desert to experience a different kind of sacrifice. There he found silence and solitude, too. Seek God in silence today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 6:10-20; Mark 2:23-28 (312). *"Have you never read what David did when he was in need and he and his companions were hungry?"*

Wednesday, Jan 18, 2023

There's room in this big tent

Every camper knows that it's a stretch of the imagination to think that a four-person tent can really fit four people! You're lucky if two people and a backpack fit! In Catholic circles, however, tents have a different meaning. Instead of being short on space, this tent is expandable, able to include everyone, not just one or two. This image is core to the church's "Synod on Synodality" in which all Catholics, including the marginalized, give voice to their experience and together discern God's call. If you want more specs on this big tent, have a look at the USCCB website.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17; Mark 3:1-6 (313). *"[Jesus] said to the man with the withered hand, 'Come up here before us.'"*

Thursday, Jan 19, 2023

Come in from the cold

Christmas is over and Epiphany has faded. In much of the Northern Hemisphere, the days are cold and dark. This is when the warmth of the Christian tradition is more important than ever. Pope Francis has often encouraged Christians to practice their faith in warmth and kindness: "Let us light fires of fraternity around which people can warm themselves," he said at a 2022 meeting with migrants in Malta. That's advice we can all take to heart—and to hearth. Can you find a word or gesture today to add positive warmth to a wintry world?

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 7:25—8:6; Mark 3:7-12 (314). *"He had cured many and, as a result, those who had diseases were pressing upon him to touch him."*

Friday, Jan 20, 2023

Twelve is enough

Twelve months of the year. Twelve inches in a foot. Twelve numbers on the face of a watch. We certainly like our twelves. So does the church. The most famous of course is the 12 apostles, often simply called the Twelve. There's also the 12 days of Christmas and 12 fruits of the Holy Spirit. It's not just that 12 is a handy number for grouping things, it also carries symbolic value. It signifies completion or fullness. Twelve eggs, for example, means you have a full carton. And 12 apostles means the church has everything it needs to preach the Good News. Count your spiritual blessings—by the dozen!

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 8:6-13; Mark 3:13-19 (315). *"He appointed Twelve, whom he also named Apostles."*

Saturday, Jan 21, 2023

MEMORIAL OF AGNES, MARTYR

No has always meant no

As a young girl of 13 or 14, Agnes refused all suitors because she had betrothed herself to Christ. As punishment, she was taken to a brothel. One man attempted to violate her, only to be mysteriously struck blind—until Agnes restored his sight. Historical or not, this story reminds us that the scandal of child sex trafficking has always been, and still is, very much with us. Millions of girls and boys are kidnapped, bought and sold, exploited and violated for profit every year. You can help end childhood sex trafficking at the Save the Children and United Nations websites. Act in honor of courageous Agnes.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 9:2-3, 11-14; Mark 3:20-21 (316). *"Cleanse our consciences from dead works to worship the living God."*



Q: What is unique or different about the way Catholics read and are exposed to the Bible?

A: Catholics are exposed to Scripture primarily through the Sunday readings from a book known as the *Lectionary*. The *Lectionary* is a book of selected passages from the Bible set in the context of a liturgical season, such as Advent, Lent, or ordinary time. There are four readings assigned to any Sunday: the first reading (usually from the Old Testament), the responsorial psalm, the second reading (usually from a New Testament letter), and the Gospel reading.

These readings together give them a new context. The selected readings relate to one another in a unique manner that is not present in the Bible text itself. In close proximity to each other, these readings now have the opportunity to converse with each other in a way that would have not been possible before. A homilist pays attention to all four readings, preparing a reflection that speaks of this conversation among the readings, enabling us to zero in on what this unique combination of God's word has to say to us this particular Sunday.

Next time you attend Sunday liturgy, try reading the Scripture ahead of time and see how this new relationship among the readings addresses and challenges you to be a better Christian here and now.

January 15, 2023

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 49:3, 5-6 | 1 Cor 1:1-3 | Jn 1:29-34

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE



NEW 6-LESSON BIBLE STUDY BEING OFFERED THIS WINTER!
ROOTED AND RADIANT: A STUDY OF COLOSSIANS

Do you desire to learn more about God? Would you like to make authentic connections with other women? Consider joining St. Joseph's Women's Reflection and Prayer group for the newest *Walking with Purpose** program this winter. No previous Bible study experience is necessary.

In the **Rooted and Radiant** Bible study we'll learn the book of Colossians verse by verse. We'll seek to understand the challenges that faced the Colossians, recognizing that they are remarkably similar to our own challenges today. In a world increasingly plagued with confusion and chaos, you are invited to encounter the God of clarity and peace. Let Christ reveal Himself to you as He truly is and transform you into the woman that our world so desperately needs.

- **Tuesday evenings** 7:15 – 9:00, **beginning January 31**, in person or Zoom
- **Wednesdays mornings** 9:30 – 11:15, **beginning the following week, on February 8**, in person only

To register, email wwwpstjosbrookfield@gmail.com by Friday, January 27. Tell us whether you will be joining us on Tuesday evenings and how (in person or on Zoom), or on Wednesday mornings. We'll provide location or log-in details to registrants prior to the first meeting.

To order your book, go to www.walkingwithpurpose.com > Bible Studies > Adult Women, scroll down and select "Rooted and Radiant." If you have any questions about our program at St. Joseph, contact Barb Roeder at (203) 740-9428.

**Walking with Purpose is a Catholic Bible study whose mission is to help every Catholic woman and girl in America encounter Jesus Christ through their Bible studies.*

Adult Confirmation Class

Are you a practicing Catholic that hasn't had the opportunity to get Confirmed in the faith? Now you have your chance! The Institute for Catholic Formation, of the Bridgeport Diocese, is hosting a Confirmation Workshop on **Saturday, April 1, 9am to 12pm**. The workshop will help you discover all you need to know to prepare to celebrate this great sacrament.

The formation class will address a variety of topics and, upon completion, you will be advised on the paperwork needed for you to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. As a reminder, Confirmation is required to complete the Sacrament of Initiation. It is also necessary for those who wish to serve as a Godparent or Sponsor for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Baptism. Plus, it's recommended for those preparing for marriage. Once you complete this formation class and submit the paperwork, you will be able to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Caggiano at Pentecost, May 28, 2023 at a church in the diocese.

To register, and for more information, please go to: <https://formationreimagined.org/event/adult-confirmation-class-3-18-23/>

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

I'm not sure I've ever seen a dove close up. The dove is a powerful symbol for Jews and Christians alike, representing love and a deep sense of peace. The dove has special significance for Christians, as a sign of the Holy Spirit. In today's Gospel, John the Baptist testifies, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him ... He is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit." The Baptist further testifies that Jesus is the Son of God. The *catechism* (701) reminds us that John the Baptist not only paved the way for Jesus, but for all of us who followed: "The Spirit comes down and remains in the purified hearts of the baptized." Through our baptism, we can follow in the footsteps of John the Baptist by telling others about Jesus. The Holy Spirit will give us what we need in order to become messengers of love and peace to those we encounter.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

During his 1988 campaign, President George H.W. Bush used the phrase "a thousand points of light" to describe volunteers "spread like stars throughout the nation, doing good." This phrase came to mind as I listened to the reading from Isaiah, in which the Lord vows to make Israel "a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." John the Baptist baptizes with water to prepare the people for Jesus' coming. As we settle into the dark days of winter, today's readings challenge us to become points of light to others, leading them to Christ. How we do that will differ for each of us – praying for others, visiting an elderly relative, writing that letter we've been putting off. We may not be prophets like Isaiah and John the Baptist, but we have the gift of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to inspire us.

PRAY Today's psalm reminds me of the popular hymn, "Here I am, Lord." While I love the melody, the psalmist offers a simple spoken version that we can pray to point ourselves in the direction of Jesus each day: "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."



One Truth.
One Youth.



ELEMENTARY



MIDDLE SCHOOL



HIGH SCHOOL

Important News & Updates

The following students have completed their online work for the year:

- Tyler Buturla
- Jordan Barile
- Zachary Barile
- Evan Capone

EDJE Student Good Deeds

"I held the door for my friend," submitted by Harley.

"I said a prayer for my pet the night before he died," submitted by Clinton.

IGNITE: Every other Friday night @ 6:30PM for Grades 7 & 8

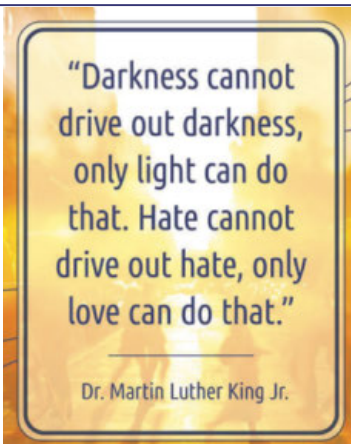
See the [SJC website](#) for registration forms and schedule.

UNITED: Sunday Nights @ 6:30PM for Grades 9-12

See www.ctunityouth.com for more information.

Looking for Young Adult Events & Information?

The diocesan website now features direct links to young adult groups throughout the diocese, young adult events, and resources. Please visit www.bridgeportdiocese.com for more information.



EDJE Online Work: DUE THIS WEEK

My Catholic Faith Delivered

Word of Life

Grade 1	Lesson 16: We Believe in Jesus	Chapter 14: The Baptism of Jesus and Our Baptism
Grade 2	Lesson 19: The Sacrament of Penance	Chapter 14: Confessing Our Sins
Grade 3	Lesson 16: Jesus Grows in Age and Wisdom	Chapter 14: The Sacraments of Healing
Grade 4	Lesson 16: An Invitation to Heaven	Not applicable
Grade 5	Lesson 16: Your Sins Are Forgiven	Not applicable
Grade 6	Lesson 16: The Beatitudes	Not applicable



Regina Caeli Academy: Touring Day January 16 at 10 A.M.

Come join our exciting mission to form the next generation of Catholics!

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Regina Caeli Academy (www.rcahybrid.org) provides a university-style hybrid™ education in the Catholic tradition. Pre K3 - 12th grade students attend Socratic classes in Brookfield two days a week and homeschool on the remaining days. Lesson plans are provided and optimized for in-home education.

Next tour day: Monday, January 16 at 10 A.M.

Events include a tour, classroom observation, and Q&A! RSVP to cvodola.fcc@rcahybrid.org



If January threw a parade would February march?

No, but April may!

How many seconds are in a year?

12! January second, February second, March second...

2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



MASS Intentions

Monday, January 16

7:45 AM - Joan Fanelli, req. by Jim & Pat Tharrington

Tuesday, January 17 - St. Anthony, Abbot

7:45 AM - William Howley Jr., req. by his family

Wednesday, January 18 - Week of prayer for Christian Unity begins

7:45 AM - Fern Rajcula, req. by her family

Thursday, January 19

7:45 AM - Intentions of All Our Parishioners

Friday, January 20 - St. Fabian, St. Sebastian

7:45 AM - Joan Hannan, req. by Peg Wolf & Family

Saturday, January 21 - St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

8:00 AM - Michelangelo & Rosalba Rizzo, req. by Maria Rizzo

5:00 PM - Mafalda L. Conte, req. by the Sollose Family

Sunday, January 22 - 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM - Darlene Benson, req. by Matt & Maureen Farrell

9:00 AM - Albaluz Uribe Ramirez, req. by the Sanchez-Uribe Family

11:00 AM - Edward McGuiness, req. by Ines Graziosa

Stay Warmer With Free Knight's Home Heating Firewood

- Being offered to help offset the higher cost to heat homes in the Brookfield Community.
- Contact fcbaJetAds@yahoo.com or call/text: 203-830-9075 to schedule your pick-up. After you leave your name, address & phone number, you will be called back with pick-up details.
- Pick-up days will generally be Saturday mornings unless otherwise arranged. (wear suitable gloves to load your vehicle)

Contributions are welcome to help support the Knights many charitable efforts. <https://candlewood-lake-council---knights-ofcolumbus.square.site/>

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS: Play That One Again

How many times have you sung the church song, "Here I Am, Lord"? If you grew up Catholic and are around my age (still 50!), the answer is more than you can count. The song that quotes various verses of Scripture is sung using guitar, piano, or organ, by cantors and choirs, in traditional and modern churches. It is truly a Catholic greatest hit of the modern Church. The question is how many times when singing the refrain have you really taken to heart what you were singing.

"Here I am, Lord; is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night." Like the biblical figure Samuel, we are responding to the call of God by asking for clarification that we are indeed the one being called. We then follow up the question with a profound statement: "I will go if You lead me." It is profound because we are pledging to our God that we are willing to go wherever He wants. We are accepting the challenge put forth in the U.S. Bishops' pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," to become mature disciples who respond to the call of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost. We have sung this pledge repeatedly for many years.

We never have any idea what God will call us to do and where to go. Sometimes the request can ask us for quite a lot. Hopefully, we respond like a mature disciple. If not, maybe we should reflect more the next time this song is played. The melody will not allow for the words, "I will see if I am busy and then decide to go if you lead me." Then again, I don't want to sing that to God, the source of all life anyway. Do you?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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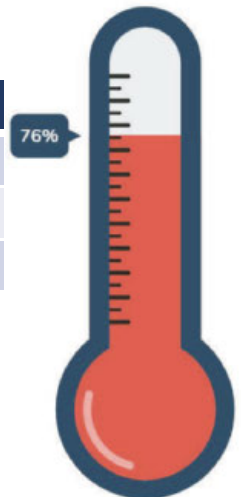


Sunday Offertory: \$11,208.00
Includes \$5,658.00 in Online Giving

St. Joseph 2022 Annual Collection

GOAL: \$150,000

Information as of 1/09/23	
Goal	\$150,000
Total Pledged	\$114,031
Donors to Date	310



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for your generosity

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 - 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
- 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 203.775.1035
Women's Reflection & Prayer Group - Mrs. Barb Roeder. . 203.470.3832
Outreach to Sick/Shut-In - Sr. Mary Ann Socha, CMGT .. 203.240.0757



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Psalm 91: 4
John 11: 25
Hebrews 12: 1-2

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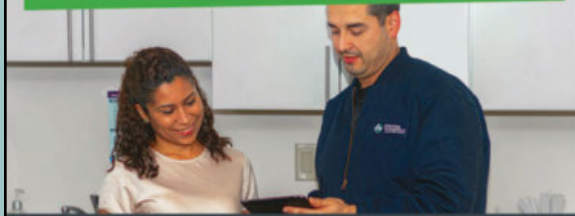
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