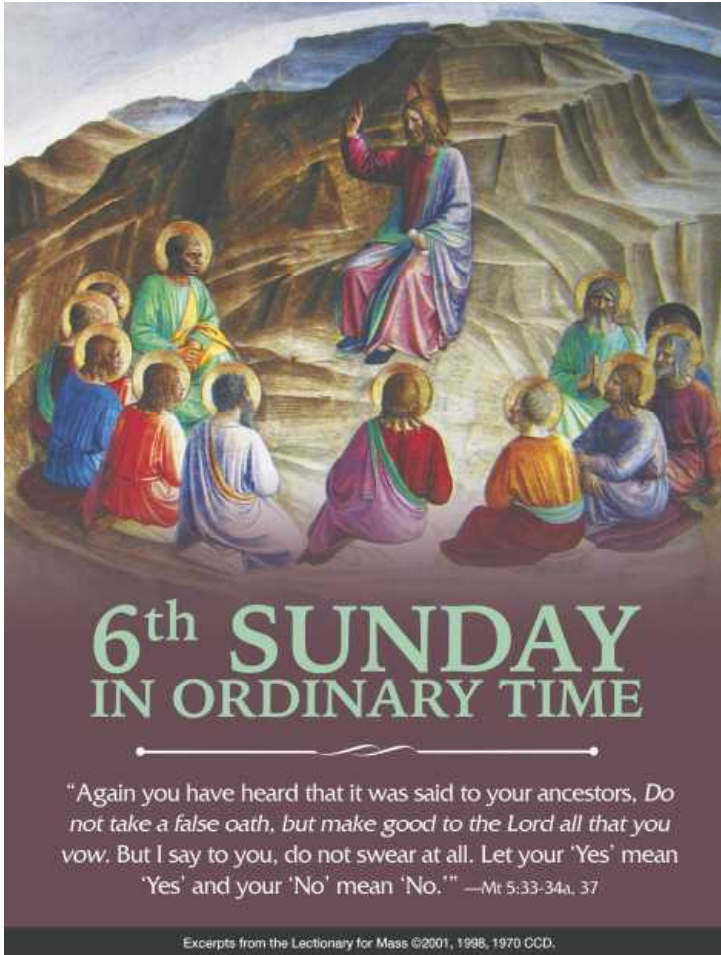


SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

BROOKFIELD, CT

FEBRUARY 16, 2020



6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes' and your 'No' mean 'No.'" —Mt 5:33-34a, 37

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

What You Need to Know . . .

- ⇒ *Men's Retreat at Holy Family (Page 3)*
- ⇒ *Diocesan Ministry Day & White Mass (Page 3)*
- ⇒ *40 Days for Life Lenten Vigil (Page 4)*
- ⇒ *Bishop's Scholarship Fund (Page 4)*
- ⇒ *SJCA Registration, Raffle, Alumni Event (Page 3)*
- ⇒ *United Youth (Page 4)*
- ⇒ *Pilgrimage to Poland with Fr. Karol (Page 4)*
- ⇒ *Magnificat Information Meeting (Page 5)*
- ⇒ *President's Day Schedule (Page 5)*

Continuing Activities . . .

- ⇒ *Sunday - Coffee & Donuts - After 9 AM Mass - Parish Ctr*
- ⇒ *Morning Prayer (Lauds) - After 6:45 & 8:45 Masses; Saturday after 8 AM Mass*
- ⇒ *Monday - Lectio Divina - 5:30 PM - Rectory Mtg. Room*
- ⇒ *Tuesday - Adoration & Reconciliation—7 PM*
- ⇒ *1st Saturday - "Flash Mob" Rosary for Life after 8 AM Mass*

PARISH STAFF

Rev. George F. O'Neill, Pastor
Pastor@stjosephbrookfield.com
Rev. Karol Ksiazek, Parochial Vicar
Fr.Karol@stjosephbrookfield.com

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DcnJeff@stjosephbrookfield.com

Deacon Louis F. Howe, Sr.
DcnLou@stjosephbrookfield.com

Deacon Peter J. Kuhn
DcnPeter@stjosephbrookfield.com

Deacon William J. Shaughnessy
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Rita Golaszewski, Parish Secretary
RitaG@stjosephbrookfield.com

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PatSmith@stjosephbrookfield.com

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Music Director@stjosephbrookfield.com

Arianna Carlo, Choir Director
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 Hours: 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Friday

Mass Schedule: Saturday Vigil – 5:00 PM
Sunday-7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 AM; 5:00 PM
Monday-Friday - 6:45 AM & 8:45 AM
Saturday - 8:00 AM Only

Confessions: Tuesday: 7:00-8:00 PM
Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

1st Sunday of the Month, 3:45-4:45 PM for the Unborn
Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 PM for Youth and Vocations

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Ms. Pamela Fallon, Director of Education
Phone: 203.775.2774 Fax: 203.775.5810
pfallon@sjsbrookfield.org



THOSE FOR WHOM WE PRAY

FOR THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S HEALING, STRENGTH AND COMFORT: Anthony Rigoglioso, Greg Licalzi, Msgr. Thomas Powers, Fr. Nick Cirillo, Dino Capilupi, and Alberta Gregus .

FOR THE PROTECTION AND SAFE RETURN OF THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Joshua Jugler, Michael Ayala Lopez, 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.**

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

“GLUTEN-FREE” HOSTS

St. Joseph Church has a limited supply of low-gluten communion hosts available for those *with a gluten allergy* (not dietary preference). While often referred to as “gluten-free,” the hosts actually contain 0.01% gluten in order to conform to liturgical standards. Please advise a priest or deacon before Mass if you wish to receive the low-gluten host.

IMPORTANT HOSPITAL INFORMATION

Parishioners entering Danbury Hospital as patients are urged to contact the St. Joseph Parish Office – (203)775-1035 – if they wish to be visited by a member of St. Joseph’s clergy during their stay. Hospital chaplains will continue to visit patients who identify themselves as Catholic when being admitted.



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

People are not property. We cannot exchange them at will or simply use them for our own designs and purposes. What does the word “commitment” mean to you? We can begin to understand its meaning by looking at some synonyms: dedication, devotion, allegiance, loyalty, faithfulness, fidelity, and bond. Commitment is primarily about relationship, and Jesus is all about relationships. How our lives affect others, how we treat our brothers and sisters, how we resolve conflict, and how we view the vows of marriage. Jesus’ teachings on obeying the commandments, murder, reconciliation, marriage, divorce, and adultery all stem from the sacredness of commitment. All of this has a God connection.

We can easily see one another as interchangeable and dispensable. We treat so much of our lives this way. What works today may not be what I want tomorrow. We search and search for the right thing only to find our hearts still restless in the end. Is real happiness achievable this side of the grave? Sometimes we expect too much out of others and want our relationships to fill a hole that we must figure out how to fill ourselves. Any seasoned married couple will tell you that their love for one another changes as time passes. Even though the understanding of romance changes as life changes, the dedication, devotion, allegiance, loyalty, faithfulness, and fidelity all remain and even deepen.

Some relationships can be hurtful, and God does not want us to live with abuse or pain. Also, how a relationship develops is sometimes out of our control, and we become the victim of someone else’s decision. But we can’t be self-focused in our relationships and see them exclusively as self-fulfilling ends. We are companions on life’s journey with varying depths of relationships being enjoyed by all who are with us along the way. We have the freedom to choose. God asks us to do so wisely, with right judgment and thinking.



Sunday, Feb 16, 2020

6TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
Embrace a larger ethic

The Ten Commandments make for a simple lesson plan when teaching children how to behave. By contrast, the Sermon on the

Mount isn't for Sunday-school kids. Jesus lays down grown-up challenges with breathtaking clarity. In a similar way, modern church teaching can take our breath away with its demands, as in this statement from *Brothers and Sisters to Us*: "Today's racism flourishes in the triumph of private concern over public responsibility, individual success over social commitment, and personal fulfillment over authentic compassion." Can we let go of the me-first culture and more truly become the Body of Christ?

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 15:15-20; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37 (76). *"We speak a wisdom to those who are mature, not a wisdom of this age."*

Monday, Feb 17, 2020

SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER

Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us

The Servites helped popularize a special form of Rosary prayer that's dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows. Called simply the "Rosary of the Seven Sorrows"—and not to be confused with the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary—this form of devotional prayer recalls seven instances when Mary suffered. Mary's "Seven Sorrows" are: the prophecy of Simeon, the flight into Egypt, the loss of the Child Jesus in the temple, Mary's meeting of Jesus during the Way of the Cross, the Crucifixion, the taking down of Jesus' body from the cross, and the burial of Jesus. The devotion became widespread during the Black Plague of the 1300s; more recently, it's associated with an apparition of Mary to one of the victims of the 1994 Rwandan genocide. It's a reminder that Our Mother is with us always, even and especially during tragedy.

TODAY'S READINGS: James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13 (335). *"He sighed from the depth of His spirit."*

Tuesday, Feb 18, 2020

Higher ground

Catholics believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the sacrament of the Eucharist. In the words of Saint John Damascene: "The bread and wine are not a foreshadowing of the Body and Blood of Christ—by no means!—but the actual deified Body of the Lord." Catholicism teaches that Christ is literally and wholly present—body, blood, soul, and divinity—in what you receive and adore, through a process called transubstantiation that occurs by the power of the Holy Spirit and the instrumentality of the priest during Mass. The Eucharist is the "source and summit of the Christian life," the Church says—let it take you higher!

TODAY'S READINGS: James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21 (336). *"Watch out, guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod."*

Wednesday, Feb 19, 2020

Be a doer

"Religion" has a bad name these days. Among other things, hypocrites, extremists, and institutional sin have caused many to reject organized religion—what Christians would simply call "the Church." Even so, secular people everywhere admire members and leaders of organized religion when their lives reflect radical love. That may be why two movies have already been made of the life of Fred Rogers, the kindly Presbyterian minister who produced *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*. By extending unconditional love in word and deed, Rogers was what James in today's first reading called a "doer." Be the doer of an act of Christian charity and bring authenticity to your religion.

WEDNESDAY'S READINGS: James 1:19-27; Mark 8:22-26 (337). *"Religion that is pure and undefiled . . . is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world."*

Thursday, Feb 20, 2020

Threading the needle

Can you be rich and be Christian? The author of the Letter of James speaks challenging words about wealth and poverty, and in this he is not alone. The biblical witness is filled with warnings about the dangers of great wealth. The rich man went away sad, not ready to part with his wealth for the sake of the Kingdom. On the other hand, both Job and Abraham were wealthy men who loved God more than their wealth. It is a question of priorities. If you have been blessed with wealth, consider it a loan from God. Your task is to accomplish as much good for as many as possible with that wealth.

TODAY'S READINGS: James 2:1-9; Mark 8:27-33 (338). *"Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom . . . Are not the rich oppressing you?"*

Friday, Feb 21, 2020

The cost of commitment

The recently canonized Henry Newman was born on this date in 1801. Criticized by both liberals and conservatives, he disliked hierarchical triumphalism, but found bedrock truth in Catholicism. In fact, he gave up social support in the Church of England to convert. Because he upheld the laity's role, the primacy of conscience, and the intellectual life, he's called a forefather of Vatican II. Today is also the feast of Southwell, a Jesuit and poet who ministered secretly in England when it was forbidden, under the reign of Queen Elizabeth I—and died in 1595 for his faith. Read a bit about both of their lives to learn what integrity means.

TODAY'S READINGS: James 2:14-24, 26; Mark 8:34—9:1 (339). *"What could one give in exchange for his life?"*

Saturday, Feb 22, 2020

FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE

The successors of Peter

This isn't the feast day of a piece of furniture. "Chair" holds the meaning of a person presiding over a meeting or a group. In this case, "chair" refers to the office of Saint Peter, who presided over what would become the early Church. It's interesting to note that technically speaking, popes do not succeed each other, e.g., Francis did not succeed Benedict. Rather all popes are the successors of Saint Peter. He is not only the proto-pope, he is the eternal pope who presides over the Church through the popes of history. Pray for our pope. The whole world is his parish.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19 (535). *"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church."*

Here's to Your Health

As the flu season continues in Connecticut, and in response to concerns over the coronavirus, St. Joseph Church is temporarily suspending the distribution of the Blood of Christ at Communion time. In addition, parish clergy and Eucharistic Ministers will sanitize their hands with Purell immediately prior to distributing the Body of Christ.

Men's Retreat at Holy Family

The St. Joseph Parish Men's Retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford, CT, is scheduled for March 6 to 8. The retreat begins with a buffet dinner from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening and concludes Sunday with the celebration of Mass at 10:45 a.m. followed by a hot brunch at noon. Families of retreatants are most welcome to attend the Sunday Mass and brunch at no extra charge. Pete Brady, the

Handy Dandy Handyman, is offering a carpool service leaving St. Joe's at 5 PM on Friday and returning after the Sunday brunch.

This year's retreat theme is "Our Deepest Longing." We spend our time and energy on the necessities of everyday life, which hold so many things that are beyond our control. But what is it that we are longing for in the deepest way? What is our passion in life? This year at Holy Family, we will explore that deep longing planted in our hearts by God - a longing for peace, for wholeness, and for relationships that give us joy and lift us up. Come away and rest awhile to find and pursue your deepest longing, and by doing so, may you experience how God is longing so deeply for you, too.

The retreat offering is \$325 - more if you can, less if you can't. Pick up a registration form this weekend after mass or register online at www.holyfamilyretreat.org.

SAVE THE DATE: *The St. Joseph's Women's Retreat at Holy Family will be held April 17-19, 2020*

DIOCESAN NEWS



Calling all parents, liturgical ministers and anyone who wants to learn more about their faith. Join us for **Diocesan Ministry Day** on Saturday, March 7, at All Saints School in Norwalk. More than tree dozen workshops are planned; Bishop Caggiano will celebrate Mass, and international singing sensation Tony Melendez will lead our music for the day. More information is available online at www.formationreimagined.org. Don't miss this great opportunity to grow in your faith.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Bishop Caggiano cordially invites all health care professionals and all who serve the sick to the **27th Annual White Mass & Brunch** to be held Sunday, March 22, at 9:00 AM at St. Joseph Church in Danbury. Mass will be followed by brunch at the Ethan Allen Hotel, 21 Lake Avenue Extension, in Danbury. Seating is limited so please register no later than March 16 at www.bridgeportdiocese/2020whitemass.

SJCA NEWS!



Registration is now online for the 2020-2021 School year! *Now offering bus services to Danbury and New Fairfield residents and carpool services to surrounding towns. Brookfield residents will still have access to the public-school bus to SJCA.* Please contact Lisa Sweeting at lsweeting@sjsbrookfield.org or 203-775-2774, to schedule a private tour of the school or to have your child experience a shadow day at the school. Visit our website at www.sjsbrookfield.org.

SJCA SPRING GATHERING RAFFLE!

Grand Prize - \$2,500
2nd Place Prize - \$1,000
3rd Place Prize - \$500

The Grand Prize drawing will take place on Saturday, April 4, 2020 at SJCA's Annual Spring Gathering. (You need not be present to win.) All proceeds support the school's academic and enrichment programs as well as school operations.

TICKETS PRICED AT \$25 EACH

Purchase Tickets Online at:
<https://forms.diamondmindinc.com/sjcaraffle1920>

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6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





Sunday Offertory (Feb. 8-9) \$10,745.00 *

* Includes average weekly electronic contributions of \$4,250

Bishop's Scholarship Fund Applications Open Now

Foundations in Education is now accepting applications for the Bishop's Scholarship Fund. All families who have a child



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or children registered, or are new applicants, in a Diocesan-sponsored Catholic elementary school in Fairfield County (Grades K-8) and are in financial need of tuition assistance are encouraged to apply through FACTS online, www.FACTSmgmt.com/aid.

Consideration may be given to families with multiple elementary school-aged children.

The mission of the Bishop's Scholarship Fund is to help families afford a Catholic education. In the past year, the BSF awarded nearly \$2.8 million in aid to families in Diocesan elementary schools in Fairfield County.

For further information, contact Theresa Sciallo at (203) 416-1509 or visit www.foundationsineducation.org/bishops-scholarship-fund/.

ST. JOSEPH YOUTH

St. Joseph has joined both St. Rose Newtown and St. Mary Bethel in forming United Youth Ministry. United is a place where youth can find community and encounter their faith.

8th Grade United

Save the Date for our next 8th Grade United: Friday, March 13th

Any Q's about middle school ministry contact: jdonovanym@gmail.com

United High School

United youth ministry meets every Sunday evening at St. Rose 6:00pm-8:30pm

Any Q's about high school ministry contact: rortega@strosechurch.com

Check out our new website!

www.ctunitedyouth.com



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Danbury Location: Public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood, 44 Main Street
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Fr. Karol — (203)775-1035

ksiazek_karol@yahoo.com OR

Greg Dembowski — (203)733-7209

gregdembowski@yahoo.com



SPACE IS LIMITED! SIGN UP TODAY!



Monday, February 17 - *President's Day Holiday Observed*

8:00 AM - Fredric Maupin, req. by Mary & Mark Blake

Tuesday, February 18

6:45 AM - James McCabe, req. by the Conlon family

8:45 AM - Assunta Morante, req. by the Errichiello family

Wednesday, February 19

6:45 AM - Elizabeth Tomascak, req. by her daughter, Betty

8:45 AM - Gaetana Fallo, req. by Joanne Cullen

Thursday, February 20

6:45 AM - Intentions of our Parishioners

8:45 AM - John Ksiazek, req. by Margaret McCabe

Friday, February 21

6:45 AM - Mary and John Marcsisin, req. by Jeanette Van Dorp

8:45 AM - Burr and Margaret Young, req. by Joan Cushnie

Saturday, February 22 - *Chair of St. Peter the Apostle*

8:00 AM - Anthony Fontana, req. by Lisa & Roger Prinz

5:00 PM - James Lappin, req. by his family

Sunday, February 23 - *7th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

7:30 AM - Frank Gurski, Jr., req. by Cathi Sullivan

9:00 AM - Alfredo C. Porta, req. by St. Joseph staff

11:00 AM - Richard DiPalo, req. by Margaret McCabe

5:00 PM - Marguerite Scaglione, req. by Christina Fegen

WINTER WEATHER REMINDER
 When Brookfield schools are closed, *both*
 weekday morning Masses are cancelled.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Mass at 8:00 AM
Parish Office Closed

Magnificat Information Meeting

Come and listen and learn about Magnificat's Triumphant Heart of Mary Immaculate Chapter—A Ministry to Catholic Women. Hear from our Service Team and Ministries on how rewarding it is to be a part of such a ministry, and perhaps take the opportunity to help and support our chapter. We're excited to share with you how this ministry has impacted our lives.

When: Saturday, February 22, 10 AM to Noon

Where: St. Stephen Church, 6948 Main Street, Trumbull, CT 06611 (Route 25, just north of the Connector)

Information: Call Carol Flynn—(203)775-3875

Register/RSVP: magnificatthmi@gmail.com

Light refreshments will be available.

These will Tickle Your Punny Bone

- ★ The roundest knight at King Arthur's Round Table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
- ★ A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
- ★ No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
- ★ The dog that gave birth to puppies near the side of the road was cited for littering.
- ★ Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
- ★ Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
- ★ Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
- ★ Two hats were hanging on a rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other, "You stay here. I'll go on a head."
- ★ The short fortune-teller who escaped from jail was a small medium at large.
- ★ Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says, "Dam."
- ★ A hole was found in the wall at a nudist camp. Police are looking into it.
- ★ Did you hear about the Tibetan monk who refused Novocain for his root canal? He wanted to transcend dental medication.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Liturgy

Altar Servers203.775.1035

Choir Director - Arianna Carlo203.775.1035

Faith Formation and Sacraments

Religious Education Coord. - Ms. Pat Smith203.775.1035, ext. 107

RCIA203.775.1035

Scheduling Baptisms – Mrs. Rita Golaszewski . . .203.775.1035, ext. 101

Marriage Scheduling/Prep203.775.1035

Prayer & Devotion

Men's Retreat – Mr. Peter Brady203.740.1243

Women's Retreat – Mrs. Barb Roeder203.740.9428

Men of St. Joseph – Mr. Carl Monti203.740.9544

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

Knights of Columbus – Mr. Patrick Jennings203.240.2425

Mary-Martha Ministry – Mrs. Pat Font203.775.2335

Women's Reflection & Prayer Group – Mrs. Barb Roeder .203.740.9428

Outreach to Sick/Shut-In – Sr. Mary Ann Socha, CMGT ..203.794.1486

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