

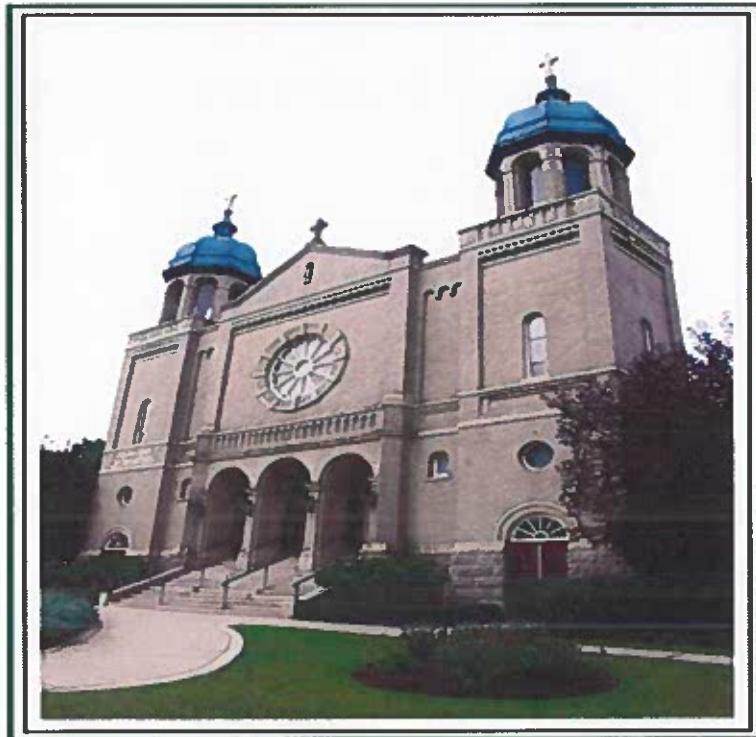
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN DANBURY

8 ROBINSON AVENUE, DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810-5517

Rectory Telephone: (203)748-8177 Web Page: www.stjosephdanbury.org

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 25, 2026



**REV. ERIC W. SILVA, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR
DEACON WILLIAM C. TIMMEL, J.D.
MR. ROBERT FERTITTA, B.A., M.A., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

MASSES

SATURDAY ANTICIPATORY MASS — 4:00 PM

SUNDAY — 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 AM AND 5:00 PM

DAILY WEEKDAY — 12:05 PM

SATURDAY — 8:00 AM

(MASS TIMES IN GREEN ARE ALSO LIVE-STREAMED)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM, 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM

HOLY HOUR AND CONFESSIONS

MONDAY EVENING 7:00 PM—8:00 PM



Saint Joseph Church is wheelchair accessible at the church side entrance. Parking is located at the side of church.

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH CONTACTS

Rev. Eric W. Silva: frsilva@diobpt.org

Parish Office: Tel. (203) 748-8177

Email: recstjoseph@yahoo.com

Office Hours: Monday–Thurs 9:00AM-4:00PM
Friday 9:00AM-12:00PM

Office Manager: Carol Shepherd

Parish Manager: Anne Leclercq

Liturgical Ministries / Music:

Altar Servers: Fr. Silva

Extraordinary Ministers; Readers: Anne Leclercq

Ushers: George Godfrey 203-748-8177

Director of Music & Organist: Mr. Robert Fertitta
profrobfert52@gmail.com 203-722-8425

Saint Joseph Faith Formation 203-778-1920

Director: Maria Merino-Schweitzer

Secretary: Cintia Weber

O.C.I.A. Anne Leclercq 203-748-8177

Parish Organization Contacts

Parish Corporation Trustees:

Gerald Palanzo, Jr., M.B.A.

Barbara Whitlock, M.S.

Parish Council: Mary Ellen Ryer 203-748-3256

Finance Committee Chairperson:

Lisa Schneider 203-746-5223

Catholic Charities of Northern Fairfield County

Board Member:

Dr. Roger LaGratta rlagratta@comcast.net

Council of Catholic Women:

Antonia Stalzer 203-456-5170

Knights of Columbus: Ryan Moore 203-744-9562

Men's Faith Group: Mark Azzara 203-947-4012

Lay Carmelites: Diane Chirdo 203-470-0444

Respect Life Group:

Lani Gonzales 203-512-1629

Scouts (Boy): Gerald Gibson 203-797-1788

Information about our Parish Groups can be found on the Parish website

www.stjosephdanbury.org

Parish Life tab: *Ministries & Organizations.*



Saturday, Jan 24:

8:00 AM Intentions of Parishioners
4:00 PM Joan Malkin—Didi & Rudy Asistin

Sunday, Jan 25:

7:30 AM Leslie Jaber—Her Brothers
9:30 AM Theresa Baldelli—Daughters
11:00 AM Jack & Carolyn Otto
—Ron & Katrina Freier
5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, Jan. 26:

12:05 PM John & Adelaide Pepe—John Pepe

Tuesday, Jan. 27:

12:05 PM Dee Barrett
—Brendan & Jeanne Spain

Wednesday, Jan. 28:

12:05 PM Margaret “Peggie” Kolenski
—Dorothy George

Thursday Jan. 29:

12:05 PM Mr. & Mrs. Mario Tomaino
—Friend of the Family

Friday, Jan. 30:

12:05 PM Rizalina Turla—Martin Family

Saturday, Jan 31:

8:00 AM Intentions of St. Joseph School
4:00 PM Joan Malkin—Didi & Rudy Asistin

Sunday, Feb 1:

7:30 AM Medlar & Casale Families
—Sue & Vinny Casale
9:30 AM Int. of Ray & Maria Bento
—Ellen Smith
11:00 AM Bethany Mass
5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week in memory of
Theresa Baldelli
Requested by her Daughters

Bulletin Blurb for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Praised be Jesus Christ!

This Third Sunday of Ordinary Time marks the beginning of Catholic Schools Week! Our own parish of Saint Joseph has a rich history; it opened on September 7, 1924, with 185 boys and 110 girls enrolled, being staffed by seven Sisters of Mercy. Much has changed, not only in our own school but in Catholic Schools as a whole. With the decline in religious Sisters and Brothers to educate and form young men and women at Catholic Schools around the country, costs increased drastically in order to be able to provide a fair wage to those lay teachers who came to the rescue. Now, it seems that all over the country, Catholic Schools in many areas are in grave jeopardy of closing or merging with neighboring Catholic Schools. The reasons vary with lack of enrollment and financial instability as two chief factors. I believe that a lot was lost in the post-conciliar years when these schools lost their religious communities. This is not to say that those lay teachers who staff our schools are doing a worse job because that certainly is not the case (just ask anyone who remembers their experiences with “those nuns” at whatever school they attended as a child!). Rather, I think much was lost by way of charism when these schools are no longer run and taught by religious communities whose charisms were the very bedrock of the identity of these schools. The Sisters of Mercy were not only a visible example for all those children who were formed and taught in our schools but those Sisters’ vows of poverty, chastity, obedience, and a fourth vow of service, were the grounding by which we not only imparted great knowledge of the truths of this universe, but imparted that very example day in and day out, of Christ working tangibly through women who gave their very lives to be as well as serve Christ. This much I know to be absolutely true: Catholic Schools inevitably fail when they try to match the public and private secular schools in technology, sports, etc... Our foundation, our “selling point”, and our greatest gift to those who make the sacrifice to send their children to Catholic Schools is our Catholic Faith, which must be imparted on these younger generations without being watered down by a culture that says that if we do not provide what these other secular institutions are providing, then we will close. The most “successful” and growing Catholic School Programs across the country are undeniably those that are unabashed about their Catholic Faith. We must trust that if God wills that our school and all the other Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Bridgeport stay open, it is because we remain faithful to what so many past generations of sacrificial religious sisters and brothers have sought to impart above all else: Jesus Christ and His Church. Please join me in praying fervently, not only for our own Catholic School but for all the Catholic Schools around the world as they struggle in these modern times. God bless all of you and especially all of our Catholic School teachers, administrators, and volunteers, without which, there could be no Catholic education.

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva

PARISH EVENTS

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
Sponsored by KofC Council #29
Saturday, January 24, from 9:00 AM-2:00 PM
In the Church Hall

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, January 25 from 10:30 AM-12:30 PM

HOLY HOUR and CONFESSION
Monday, January 26, from 7:00-8:00 PM

PRE-BAPTISM CLASS
Sunday, February 1 at 1:30 PM
In the Religious Ed Building
Please call the Rectory Office to register.
Class is required prior to scheduling a baptism.

MASS TO HONOR ST. BRIGID
Sunday, January 31 at 11:00 AM

The Andy McGann Comhaltas branch and the Danbury LAOH are presenting their annual Mass to honor St. Brigid on Saturday, January 31st at 11 am at St. Peter's R.C. Church, 104 Main Street in Danbury, CT. Music and readings will be in Irish and English. There will be a reception hosted by the Danbury LAOH in the parish hall with light refreshments following the Mass. All are invited to attend!



**OPEN
HOUSE**
PreK 3 through 8th Grade

St. Joseph School
Danbury, CT

January 25th @ 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

Sign up @
SJSDanbury.org/home

Or Scan the QR Code



Marriage Help Program: January 30-Feb 1

A happier marriage in the new year is possible! If you want to improve your marriage this local program can help. Retrouvaille®, a Catholic-based ministry, provides tools to help you communicate better, resolve conflicts, and rediscover a loving marriage. The next local weekend starts January 30th. For information, call confidentially 1(860) 837-0447, email helds4marriage@gmail.com or go to our website www.helpourmarriage.org.

**Give Us
This Day.**

If you currently subscribe to the **Give Us This Day** publication, the **February** books are available after Masses.

Please see an Usher at the side entrance after Mass to receive your books.



Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings

January 13-19 \$

School Subsidy Aid \$

Will be published in next week's bulletin

This weekend's **second collection** is for
CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Share the Faith **THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA**

The bishops of the United States established the annual Collection for the Church in Latin America as a practical expression of unity and love for their brothers and sisters in Central and South America and the islands of the Caribbean. For more than 60 years, supporting pastoral ministries that strengthen the Church in the present day and help it pass on the Gospel to future generations.

One of the most important ways that Catholics share our faith with future generations is by supporting the formation and seminary education of men who have answered God's call to the priesthood or diaconate. In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 149 priestly seminarians and 69 permanent deacons at the São José Archdiocesan Seminary received support through the Collection for the Church in Latin America to help cover education tuition and spiritual retreat expenses, as well as the cost of food. Your support for this special collection helps prepare these men for lives of serving others through their preaching and celebration of the sacraments. For more information about how donations help the Church in Latin America,

Please keep our parishioners in prayer, especially those on our sick listing, the homebound, their families and caregivers.



Bishop Caggiano's 2026 Bishop's Appeal Message

My Dear Friends,

I come to you with a joyful and grateful heart, for the Holy Spirit is working powerfully in our midst. Over the last few years, you have heard me say that we are in the work of renewal — of bringing new life, both individually to our own discipleship and collectively to our common life as a Church.

Well, now we're beginning to see the fruits of those efforts, and those fruits are growing. Our Mass attendance is up 22 percent in the last three years. We have more seminarians than we've had in 30 years ... and much more.

This is the moment for us to continue to apply ourselves so we can do even more. For that, I need your help in supporting the ministries that are the foundation of our Church and in funding the new initiatives that are giving further and even greater life to our Church.

My friends, I urge you to open your heart and ask what it is that we can do as our next step in supporting what the Lord is doing. I am always grateful for your generosity, so please consider a sacrificial gift in support of the 2026 *One in Christ* Bishop's Appeal, which will allow the renewal to continue to grow. Then, we can become the light to those around us, and to all people, who will see the light that you and I have found in Jesus Christ.

Thank you and please give generously so that we can continue the good work that God has begun with you and me.

Thank you and may God bless you.

Sincerely in Christ,

frank caggiano

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport

FAITH FORMATION

In today's Gospel, we hear about how Jesus began his ministry, calling people to *repent*. Jesus persuaded Peter, James, and John to turn their lives around and follow Him. Similarly, he calls each and every one of us to turn around our lives and make following Him our most important priority. We experience the Kingdom or the Reign of God whenever we allow Jesus to reign as the most important thing/person in our lives. Nevertheless, creating a balance between our daily life activities and the call from Jesus to follow Him may require that we change some of the priorities of our own family life. As we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say the words "thy kingdom come, thy will be done." With these words, we are asking Jesus to help us *repent* and to turn away from what we want and to embrace what He wants for us. (Sunday Connection, LP)

Our last classes in January will meet on Tuesday, January 27, and on Wednesday, January 28.

During the month of February, our classes will meet on Tuesdays, February 3, 10, and 24, and on Wednesdays, February 4, 11, 18, and 25. (Danbury Public Schools are closed on Tuesday, February 17. **Although we do not have class on 2/17, we ask that you please join us for Ash Wednesday Mass on February 18 at 4:05pm.**)

In February, our Confirmation students will begin rehearsing for the presentation of the *Living Stations of the Cross*, scheduled for Friday, March 27, at 7pm in the church.

Faith Formation Office Hours — Monday to Wednesday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and Thursdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. The office is closed on Fridays.

Saint Joseph Faith Formation Office:

203-778-1920

Director: Maria Merino-Schweitzer

Secretary: Cintia Weber

Holy Hour and Confessions

**Weekly on Monday evening
7:00 PM—8:00 PM**



SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

Website: www.sjsdanbury.org
Office 203-748-6615

Dr. Louis Howe, Jr., Principal
lhewe@sjsdanbury.org

School Advisory Board: Mrs. Jeanne Spain

Parent Teacher Organization:

Mrs. Katie Duncan ptopresident@sjsdanbury.org

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons.

Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call.

May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

PARISH REGISTRATION

Parish Registration

Welcome! If you wish to register with St. Joseph Parish, please complete a registration form and submit it to the Parish Office.

- ◊ Registration can be done online through our parish website, on the *Newcomers* tab: www.stjosephdanbury.org
- ◊ Or, you can stop into the office and complete a form.
- ◊ Please introduce yourself to Fr. Silva.

You can help to keep our information current:

Please notify the Parish Office of address changes, new phone numbers and email addresses, so that we may have current information on file.

Requests for Sacraments and Home Visits:

For a Communion, confession, and/or anointing homebound visit, please call the Parish Office:
203-748-8177

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