

# ***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](http://www.stjosephdanbury.org)

## **Feast of the Holy Family. December 28, 2025**



**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.

**MASS INTENTIONS****Bulletin Blurb for the  
Feast of the Holy Family****Saturday, Dec. 27:**

8:00 AM Michael J. Smith—M/M Frank Sullivan  
4:00 PM Dec. of Cesca & Farrah Families—Family

**Sunday, Dec. 28:**

7:30 AM Ralph Burdick—M/M Frank Sullivan  
9:30 AM Edison Marques Pires—Family  
11:00 AM Robert Allan Riego de Dios  
—Jannette Riego de Dios  
5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

**Monday, Dec. 29:**

12:05 PM Souls in Purgatory—Lucas Family

**Tuesday, Dec. 30:**

12:05 PM Norma Gonzalez—Family

**Wednesday, Dec. 31:**

12:05 PM Rose Ross—Friend  
4:00 PM Betty & Jack McCarthy—Children

**Thursday Jan. 1:**

9:00 AM Intentions of Parishioners  
12:05 PM Ronaldo Flores—Marta Estrada  
7:30 PM Kathleen LiVolsi—Maria & Ray Bento

**Friday, Jan. 2:**

12:05 PM Giuseppe Ferraro—Wife

**Saturday, Jan 3:**

8:00 AM Open intention  
4:00 PM Mary & Cornelius J. Sullivan—Family

**Sunday, Jan 4:**

7:30 AM Medlar & Casale Families  
—Sue & Vinny Casale  
9:30 AM Natalina Rullo—Maria Rullo & Deni Rullo  
11:00 AM Alexander Okupna—Szurawski Family  
5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Praised be Jesus Christ!

A very Merry and Blessed Christmas to you all! I sincerely hope that you all had a joyous Christmas celebration surrounded by family and friends, giving all praise and glory to the newborn King. Additionally, I hope that this celebration of our Lord's birth into this world has not yet concluded. There is much debate in our society as to when the proper time to take down decorations and remove the Christmas tree is to be completed by; rather than ask what best practices and what the social norm is, let us turn towards the proper celebrations as given to us by our faith and the incarnational way in which we celebrate it. We celebrate for eight days (or the Octave) the celebration of Christmas as is evidenced by the prayers of our Mass, namely, the Gloria, which has been omitted for the entirety of the Advent season. That being said, properly speaking, the Christmas season extends from the Christmas Vigil through the Baptism of the Lord, which is celebrated on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. Prior to the Second Vatican Council and the changing of the liturgical calendar, Christmas (or Christmastide) would have lasted 40 days and concluded with Candlemas, or the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. You may be thinking, "Father, who cares?!" and you are free to ask that valid question, but my response would be, "Let's leave our decorations up for 40 days! " Christmas, unlike any other Christian holiday, seems to be a celebration that even secular culture is excited about (albeit, at times, for the wrong or imperfect reasons). Decorating according to the proper celebrations themselves, such as not putting the Magi into your Nativity scenes until the Feast of the Epiphany on January 6 (because they have not yet arrived!) or leaving your Christmas decorations up until we celebrate Candlemas on February 2<sup>nd</sup> both point towards the reality that we do not simply celebrate some vague truth. What we celebrate, with joyful and heartfelt praise, is something that truly occurred in history.



The Sanctuary Candle will burn  
this week in memory of

**Kenneth & Frances Ruppell**

Requested by Daughter, Brenda

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God really did become Incarnate at the “fiat” of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Jesus really was born into the world, and the newborn King was truly greeted by three kings from the east. While the timing of when we put up and when we take down our decorations may not be the most important act of evangelization the world has ever known, I would argue that every act of evangelization has the power to spark one more conversation with an eternal soul that may be reaching out for that which you and I share and hold most dear: a love of Jesus Christ and His Church. May this (entire) Christmas season be filled with blessings and an ever greater chance to encounter the Lord in a more profound way for whom we meet!

In Christ & Mary,  
Father Silva

### NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Our Parish Office will be closed on  
Thursday, January 1  
and Friday, January 2  
for the New Year's Holiday.

The Office will re-open on  
Monday, January 5 at 9:00 AM.



Please Pray for the Repose  
of the Souls of:

**Angelina DeVito**  
**Melissa Doreson**  
**Kayleigh Rose Cordoano**  
**Andoniello DePietro**

## Order of Mass for the Lord's Day Feast of the Holy Family

### Processional Hymn

**#702 “Once in Royal David's City”**

**First Reading:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 \*

**Resp. Psalm:** Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

**Second Reading:** Colossians 3:12-21

**Gospel Acclamation:** Colossians 3:15a, 16a

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

### Offertory Hymn

**#448 “Away in a Manger”**

### Communion Hymn

**#691 “Of the Father's Love Begotten”**

### Recessional Hymn

**#434 “Angels We Have Heard on High”**

**\*Readings & Gospel:** Today's Missal: pp. 41-43

**Hymns:** *St. Michael Hymnal*

## DAILY MASS READINGS:

### Monday, Dec. 29

1 John 2:3-11 / Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 /  
Luke 2:22-35

### Tuesday, Dec. 30

1 John 2:12-17 / Psalm 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 /  
Luke 2:36-40

### Wednesday, Dec. 31

1 John 2:18-21 / Psalm 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 /  
John 1:1-18

### Thursday, Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary

Numbers 6:22-27 / Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 /  
Galatians 4:4-7 / Luke 2:16-21

### Friday, Jan. 2

1 John 2:22-28 / Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 /  
John 1:19-28

### Saturday, Jan. 3

1 John 2:29-3:6 / Psalm 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 /  
John 1:29-34

## PARISH EVENTS

### HOLY HOUR and CONFESSION

Monday, December 29, from 7:00-8:00 PM



### MASSES FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Wed. December 31 Vigil: 4:00 PM

Thurs. January 1: 9:00 AM, 12:05 PM, 7:30 PM

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, January 2

following the 12:05 Mass until 8:00 PM

### PRE-BAPTISM CLASS

Sunday, January 4 at 2:00 PM

in the Religious Ed Building

Please call the Rectory Office to register.

### HOLY HOUR and CONFESSION

Monday, January 5, from 7:00-8:00 PM

### HOLY FACE DEVOTION

Exposition and Confession

Tuesday, January 6, from 7:00-8:00 PM

## Saint Monica's Prayer Group

Praying for Our Children's Intentions

*"Nothing is lost when you entrust it to God in prayer."*

- Inspired by St. Monica



🕒 When: January 13 @ 8:45am/4pm  
January 14 @ 4pm

🏠 Where: St Joseph Church  
8 Robinson Ave, Danbury

🌿 Who: All parents, grandparents,  
godparents, and those who  
have a child's name in their  
hearts. *Children are always  
welcome*



What to Bring: Your prayer intentions  
and an open heart

Our Children's prayer intentions will be collected  
from their classrooms and placed on the altar as we pray

*Saint Monica's Prayer Group meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday  
and Wednesday. Sessions are held Tuesdays at 8:45 a.m. (after  
morning drop-off) and 4:00 p.m. (during Religious Ed),  
and Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. (during Religious Ed).*

For more information, contact:

📞 Nikki/914.980.0129

### 2026 Calendars

Our 2026 calendars are available  
at the Church entrances.

Many thanks to our Patrons:  
the **Knights of Columbus McGivney Council #29**  
for providing our Parish Calendars this year.

We are most appreciative of their generosity.





## SAINT JOSEPH PARISH CONTACTS

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

### Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings

December 9-15	\$ 6,384.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 1,922.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 1,863.00

### ~~~~~ Offertory Online Giving

Online Giving is an easy, safe, and convenient way to support St. Joseph Church. You can manage your giving or give a one-time gift right from your phone or from the comfort of your own home, using your preferred credit card or bank account.

To enroll, visit our church website [www.stjosephdanbury.org](http://www.stjosephdanbury.org) and click on the Online Giving tab (on the right) to create an account. Your support helps sustain our parish year-round, and also helps to simplify the related administrative support.

If you do participate in online giving, and do not wish to receive offertory envelopes by mail, please contact the Parish Office: 203-748-8177 or [recstjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto:recstjoseph@yahoo.com)

### ~~~~~ Mass Intentions

If you pay for Mass Intentions online, please call the office to schedule the Mass, before scheduling payment through Online Giving. We can confirm that the dates are available, and ensure that your request is properly recorded.

### 2026 Mass Intentions

Intentions are available for Masses in 2026. Please stop in to the Office, or call 203-748-8177 to request a Mass. Sanctuary Candle intentions are also available.

Mass intention: \$20  
Sanctuary Candle \$25

**Parish Office:** Tel. (203) 748-8177  
Email: [recstjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Chirido 203-470-0444  
Respect Life Group:  
Lani Gonzales 203-512-1629  
Scouts (Boy): Gerald Gibson 203-797-1788

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Information about our Parish Groups can be found on the Parish website  
[www.stjosephdanbury.org](http://www.stjosephdanbury.org)  
Parish Life tab: *Ministries & Organizations.*

## FAITH FORMATION

**On behalf of the Faith Formation catechetical team, we pray that you had a Peaceful and Blessed Christmas, and we wish you all of God's Blessings throughout the New Year!**

Today, we honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. During the Christmas season, we tend to experience hectic schedules, so when we hear the story of the nativity, we are reminded that, because Jesus was born as one of the poor, Jesus identified with the poor. As we celebrate the great mystery of God becoming flesh and living among us, we remember that through his Incarnation, by taking on our humanity, God wanted to transform us. Therefore, let us remember to think about why we celebrate this season. Let us think about the struggles that the Holy Family faced when Christ was born and ensure that we recall our commitments and responsibilities to the members of our families. In addition, when we celebrate this Christmas season, let's incorporate our remembrance and prayers for those who may be far from home, those who live in fear, and those who live in need.

**No classes** until Tuesday and Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

**The Faith Formation Office** will be closed during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

**Regular 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.



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



## SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

Website: [www.sjsdanbury.org](http://www.sjsdanbury.org)  
Office 203-748-6615

**Dr. Louis Howe, Jr., Principal**  
[lhowe@sjsdanbury.org](mailto:lhowe@sjsdanbury.org)

**School Advisory Board:** Mrs. Jeanne Spain

**Parent Teacher Organization:**

Mrs. Katie Duncan [ptopresident@sjsdanbury.org](mailto: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](http://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