

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 of Lent, March 8, 2026



REV. ERIC W. SILVA, PASTOR

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
profrobert52@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 Chirido 203-470-0444
 Respect Life Group:
 Lani Gonzales 203-512-1629
 Scouts (Boy): John Zilliox 203-770-3454

Information about our Parish Groups can be
 found on the Parish website
www.stjosephdanbury.org
 Parish Life tab: *Ministries & Organizations.*



Saturday, Mar. 7:

8:00 AM Vocations to the Priesthood
 for the Diocese of Bridgeport
 4:00 PM Scott Sasso, Sr.—Family

Sunday, Mar. 8:

7:30 AM Patricia Kendziorski—Coffee Hour
 9:30 AM Catherine Valente—Family
 11:00 AM Giovanni Carriero—Linda & Bill Corso
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, Mar. 9:

12:05 PM John & Adelaide Pepe—John Pepe

Tuesday, Mar. 10:

12:05 PM Joanne Bennett—Maggie & Phil Curran

Wednesday, Mar. 11:

12:05 PM Carmen L. Buck—Fr. Scott

Thursday Mar. 12:

12:05 PM Cyprian LaPastina, Sr.—Fr. Silva

Friday, Mar. 13:

12:05 PM Kathleen LiVolsi
 —Norma & John Campbell

Saturday, Mar. 14:

8:00 AM Catherine Valente—Family
 4:00 PM John Masi—Michele & Family

Sunday, Mar. 15:

7:30 AM Pasquale Perry—Son, John
 9:30 AM Dolores Barrett—Ray & Maria
 11:00 AM Juan Ramirez—Family
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



The Sanctuary Candle will burn
 this week in memory of

Catherine Valente

Requested by:
 Family

Pastor's Corner for the Third Sunday in Lent

Praised be Jesus Christ!

On the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays in Lent, we celebrate what is called the "Scrutinies". These three powerful rites are for the Elect (those preparing for Baptism at Easter). While the rite itself will be celebrated at the 11am Masses on these three Sundays, it affords all of us the opportunity to understand and pray for the very graces that we are asking God to bestow on all those who are preparing to receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil this year. The first scrutiny is this weekend, and it focuses on conversion, using the story of the Samaritan woman at the well. The second scrutiny, on the fourth Sunday of Lent, is focused on spiritual sight and healing, using the story of the man born blind. The third scrutiny is focused on resurrection and new life, using the story of the raising of Lazarus. Recognizing and acknowledging our own sinfulness, seeing with the eyes of God, and receiving new life by the grace of God. The rites themselves even include a prayer of exorcism for the candidates. If you are expecting something out of a movie, then you may be sorely disappointed coming to our 11am Masses these three weekends because while we firmly believe in the demonic and demonic influence, the prayer of exorcism is not only about the expulsion of the demonic, but it is also a prayer of protection from the demonic. Every baptism has a prayer of exorcism in the rite, every time our holy water is blessed, I use the formal prayer of exorcism for both the salt and the water, and each time I bless a home, I invoke a particular prayer of exorcism. God has worked in and through the Church to give us these beautiful and very powerful rites because they are both efficacious in and of themselves, but also because they leave a lasting impression upon us, if we are open to listening and receiving those words. This season of Lent is a powerful, yearly, time of profound conversion for all of us, but the Lord wishes us to be a necessary part of that lasting conversion experience. Please join me in a particular way these next three weeks in praying for all of those men and women who will receive their sacraments of initiation at both the Easter Vigil as well as at Pentecost. May these moments of incredible grace lead to a lifetime of intimate union with the Risen Lord!

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva

A new faith resource for our parishioners:

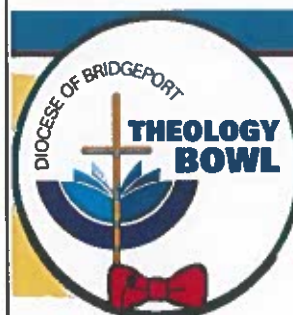
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Theology Bowl Championship Tournament

All are welcome to watch!

March 14th 10 am—1:15 pm
Immaculate High School
73 Southern Blvd, Danbury CT

Students from Catholic schools test their knowledge of theology. Come support our students!

PARISH EVENTS

MONTHLY COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, March 8

In the Church Hall after the 7:30 AM Mass

WEEKLY HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION

Monday, March 9 from 7:00-8:00 PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, March 13 from 5:00-6:00 PM

(And all Fridays in Lent)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY

Friday, March 13 from 5:30-7:30 PM

In the Church Hall

CCW IRISH SODA BREAD SALE & RAFFLE BASKETS

Weekend of March 14-15

In the Main St Vestibule After Masses

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (CCW) MEETING

Monday, March 16

1:00 PM in the Rel. Ed. Building



Lenten Fish Fry



FRIED FISH & FRIES
MAC & CHEESE
COLE SLAW
ROLLS
BEVERAGES
DESSERT

MARCH 13TH

5:30 - 7:30 PM

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH,

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376 MAIN ST.

ADULTS - \$15

KIDS SENIORS - \$10

MAX FAMILY COST OF \$45

SAVE YOUR
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BELOW!



St. Joseph's Council of Catholic Women (CCW) Presents:

St. Patrick's Day Irish Soda Bread Sale + 7 Big Beautiful Raffle Baskets

Weekend of March 14 & 15

In Main Street Vestibule After All Masses

Irish Soda Bread — Back by Popular Demand!

\$7.00 each for both Plain and Seeded

7 Big Beautiful Raffle Baskets:

For the Ladies—Spa Day Basket

For the Men—Tools & Spirits Basket

For the Soul—Spiritual Reflection & Study Basket

For the Family—#1 Mangia! Mangia! Italian Basket

#2 "Dai, pizza!" - "Come on, pizza!" Italian Basket

#3 Buon Appetito! Italian Basket

For the Irish in Us All—St. Patrick's Day Basket

Raffle Tickets are \$5 each and 3 for \$10

We look forward to seeing you!

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: March 10 @ 8:45am/4pm

March 11 @ 4pm

🏠 Where: see details below

🌿 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



Due to Church Maintenance, this month's morning session on 3/10 will take place in the Carmen Buck Religious Ed Building. Afternoon sessions on 3/10 & 3/11 will take place in the Parish Hall, below the church.

For more information, contact:

📞 Nikki/914.980.0129

Parish Support

Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings

February 24-March 2 \$ 9,526.00
Monthly Offertory \$ 5,228.00

Loaves & Fishes donations are accepted throughout Lent.



2026 Bishop's Appeal St. Joseph Parish Goal: \$98,000

As of 2/27/26, St. Joseph, Danbury raised gifts worth \$14,640 bringing the parish to 15% of its \$98,000 goal.

We are hopeful that 100% of our registered households will respond to the 2026 Bishop's Appeal.

Each gift matters.

Funds pledged or gifts over our goal, by June 30, will be returned to St. Joseph Parish.

Pledge cards are available in the side vestibule. Please complete a pledge card and submit it to the Diocese, or to the Parish Office. Make checks payable to *Bishop's Appeal*. You can make online pledges and payments on the Diocese of Bridgeport website: 2026bishopsappeal.org

When contemplating your level of sacrificial giving, please consider using the Pledge Plan or making a recurring monthly gift. Pledging will allow a greater sacrifice by extending the payment of your gift through December 31, 2026.

Many organizations will match gifts to Catholic Charities of Fairfield County and the Bishop's Scholarship Fund. Please contact (203) 416-1312 for more information.

To learn more please visit:
www.2026BishopsAppeal.org

ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL Ministry Vignette: Young Adult Spotlight



Growing up in a deeply faith-filled family, **Emma Ratnaval** always longed for life-long community in Christ. After college, a friend invited her to a **Young Adult Ministry** event, an unexpected blessing that reunited her with peers who also desired holiness and authentic Catholic friendship. Through choir, Bible studies, faith discussions, and even joyful events like skating and dancing, she found a place where young adults support one another, pray together, and boldly live out their faith. The ministry has allowed her to use her gifts—music, leadership, hospitality—to glorify God and inspire others to pursue Christ wholeheartedly. The Bishop's Appeal helps sustain ministries like Young Adult outreach, creating spaces where **young Catholics encounter Christ, form lasting communities, and grow as one Church.** Her journey is a reminder that when young adults unite in faith, the Lord brings joy, strength, and renewed hope to our parishes.

Make your gift to the Bishop's Appeal today! Visit:
2026BishopsAppeal.org

FAITH FORMATION

Lent is a season for repentance. It is a season during which we are called to reflect upon and to live deeply the promises of Baptism. Many of us have photos and other mementos of the Baptisms of our children and other family members, which provide us with an opportunity to look back, reflect, and talk about the importance of Baptism. In today's Gospel, we hear about the conversation between Jesus and the woman from Samaria at the well. Jesus and the Samaritan woman have a lengthy conversation about water, and he uses the image of water, a resource necessary for survival, to describe himself. In addition, Jesus knows the woman's sin and forgives her. The woman comes to know Jesus as the Messiah and, as a result, invites others to meet Jesus.

The well and the conversation about water immediately recall for us the Sacrament of Baptism. When we were baptized, we were like the woman at the well: we came to know Jesus, the Living Water, and we were sent to invite others to drink from this well that never runs dry. As the Samaritan woman was converted and sent on a mission because of the conversation about water, we too are converted and sent by our Baptism to preach the good news of Jesus to others. (Sunday Connection, LP)

Our last classes in March continue meet on Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24, and 31, and on Wednesdays, March 11, 18, and 25.

Please join us on the **2nd Tuesday and Wednesday of each month during Religious Ed**, as we come together to pray for our children and their intentions. Our **St. Monica Prayer Group** will meet this month on March 10th and 11th in the Parish Hall (church basement) at 4pm. For additional details, please refer to the flyer in this bulletin.

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 SCHOOL

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

Dr. Louis Howe, Jr., Principal

lhowe@sjsdanbury.org

School Advisory Board: Mrs. Jeanne Spain

Parent Teacher Organization:

Mrs. Katie Duncan ptopresident@sjsdanbury.org

**ST JOSEPH
SCHOOL ANNUAL**

**GOLF
TOURNAMENT
2026**

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JUNE 10, 2026

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GOLF COURSE**

**FOR QUESTIONS OR TO HELP CONTACT DENIS:
SJSGOLFOUTING@SJSDBANBURY.ORG**

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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