

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

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion March 29, 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



Saturday, Mar. 28:

8:00 AM Cecilia Guernsey—John Perry
 4:00 PM John Crowell, Jr.—Mom & Dad & Family

Sunday, Mar. 29: PALM SUNDAY

7:30 AM Francesca Mariani—Dick & Joyce
 9:30 AM Patrice Nadeau—St. Joseph School PTO
 11:00 AM George Shehl, Jr.—Shehl Family
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, Mar. 30:

12:05 PM Kathleen LiVolsi—Sandy Clouse &
 Leah Loschiavo

Tuesday, Mar. 31:

12:05 PM Int. of Linda Maiocco -Lawrence Cioffi

Wednesday, Apr 1:

12:05 PM Msgr. Harry Hale—M/M Frank Sullivan

Thursday Apr 2:

7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, Apr. 3:

3:00 PM Service of the Lord's Death on
 the Cross

Saturday, Apr. 4:

8:00 PM Solemn Easter Vigil

Sunday, Apr. 5: EASTER SUNDAY

7:30 AM Medlar & Casale Families
 —Sue & Vinny Casale
 10:00 AM Mikucki Family—Ron
 12:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



Please Pray for the Repose
 of the Souls of:

Mary Lou Mortimer
Joseph G. Ficocello



The Sanctuary Candle will burn
 this week in memory of

Josephine & Angelo Fiasco

Requested by:
 Antonietta & Family

Pastor's Corner for Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Holy Week is upon us, and this most sacred time is the most revered time for us Catholic Christians. The mysteries that have arrived after these long 40 days of Lent have prepared us for what is now before us. This Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, we recall Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem where the Jewish people threw palm branches at His feet, cheering, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, (even) the king of Israel (John 12:13)." This is a traditional way of showing great respect to the most revered of people as they enter your town, village, or city. We have the great luxury of foresight because we know how the story ends; what began as a triumphant entrance into the city of Jerusalem ended just five days later in our Lord's crucifixion. Jesus knows well their hearts and what awaits Him at the end of this most fateful of weeks. It might strike our hearts and minds why He would allow such a glorious occasion to occur with the very same people who would later that week put Him to death. We would do well to recall the previous Gospel accounts from these past two Sundays ("The Man Born Blind" and the "Raising of Lazarus") where Jesus tells His apostles clearly, that it might be for the glory of God! Revered or reviled...it can be for the glory of God. Those very same palm branches, which previously were a sign of glorious welcome into one's own region now represent something entirely different in our own Catholic world of artwork. Statues, stained glass windows, and paintings, all of which depict a saint who suffered martyrdom, are often depicted with the palm branch in hand or by foot. Palm branches were previously given by people to show their reverence toward their most welcome guest; now, those palm branches are laid at the feet of those who gave their life for the faith by the Lord Himself, as He welcomes them into their heavenly homeland. I pray that this week in particular is a source of great hope, consolation, and deep love for all who venture into its mysteries. No other week in the entire liturgical calendar year has more depth, variation, and rich traditions attached to its worship. Some may remark that those traditions are unnecessary, to which I would cautiously agree, but what may seem "unnecessary" to the uninitiated, is a source of richness for those whose hearts and minds are open to what those traditions are meant to draw our attention to: that which Christ did for us during this Holy Week. I hope that this week is an opportunity for you all to attend, both physically and spiritually, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil, because in doing so, by virtue of the liturgies that we celebrate on those holy days, you are transported back to the very first Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. Please know of my continued prayers for each and every one of you, most especially from the altar; whatever difficulties you may be encountering in your personal lives at the moment, I pray that the Lord may work an incredible resurrection in the days to come.

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva



PALM SUNDAY, March 28-29

4:00 PM Saturday Anticipatory Mass
7:30, 9:30, 11:00 AM & 5:00 PM Sunday Masses

MONDAY, March 30

12:05 PM Daily Mass
7:00—8:00 PM Weekly Holy Hour & Confession

TUESDAY, March 31

12:05 PM Daily Mass

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

12:05 PM Daily Mass

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 2

8:30-9:00 AM Morning Prayer
No 12:05 PM Mass
7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
The church will remain open after Mass for Adoration. The repository will be open until midnight.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3

8:30-9:00 AM Morning Prayer
12:00 PM Stations of the Cross
No 12:05 PM Mass
First Friday Adoration will not take place on Friday, April 3. First Friday Adoration will resume in May.
3:00 PM Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4

No 8:00 AM Mass
8:30-9:00 AM Morning Prayer
9:00-11:00 AM Confessions
No 3:00 PM Confession
8:00 PM Solemn Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

7:30, 10:00 AM & 12:00 PM Masses

HOLY WEEK PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon. Mar. 30-Thurs. Apr. 2 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
The Rectory Office will be closed on:
Friday, April 3 and Monday, April 6.

EVENTS

RECONCILIATION MONDAY

The Diocese will once again hold "Reconciliation Monday" during Holy Week.

Monday, March 30, 2026 from 3:00 to 9:00 PM
at these local parishes:

St. Peter: 104 Main Street, Danbury

St. Joseph: 163 Whisconier Road, **Brookfield**

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

For anyone interested in volunteering at St. Joseph Parish and/or St. Joseph School, we are hosting a **Safe Environment training session on Monday, March 30, 2026** from 10:00am to 1:00pm in the Carmen Buck Religious Education building. Please contact our Safe Environment Coordinator, Maria Merino-Schweitzer, at maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org to register.

Safe Environment Training is required of all volunteers in the Diocese of Bridgeport.



PEOPLE OF HOPE MUSEUM

VISITS FAIRFIELD COUNTY

APRIL 1 & 2

Wednesday, April 1 | 10:30 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday, April 2 | 2 pm - 6 pm

This is a nationwide storytelling initiative and traveling exhibit called **People of Hope: Faith-Filled Stories of Neighbors Helping Neighbors.**

Come and learn about the works of Catholic Charities, in an interactive setting, at Fairfield University behind the Mahoney Area.

Informational flyers are available at the side church entrance.

Parish Support

Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings

Weekly Offertory 3/17/26—3/23/26 \$ 8,238.00

ADULT BIBLE STUDY THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES - PART 2

All interested parishioners (and guests) are invited to participate in the upcoming session of our adult bible study program.

Acts, written by St. Luke, is the companion piece to his Gospel. The first half of Acts presents the Ascension of Jesus, the descent of the Holy Spirit, and the subsequent actions of St. Peter and the other Apostles as they converted people to Christianity in Jerusalem.

The second half of Acts concentrates on the conversion of St. Paul, his missionary trips to convert Gentiles, and his arrest and trip to Rome where he was tried, condemned and put to death. Throughout, it is inspiring to see the Holy Spirit in action among some familiar saints who are shown to be very human.

As we have in the past, we are employing a nationally known program “**Little Rock Scripture Study**”, published by The Liturgical Press. The study was divided into two sections. The first section (the first 15 chapters of Acts) was presented last Fall. The second section (Acts chapters 16 through 28) will be presented in April and May of this year.

The group meets each week to discuss the readings. Each session will take place on Tuesday, from 7:00 to approximately 8:30 p.m., in the Carmen Buck Religious Education Building. The meeting dates will be April 14, 21 and 28, and May 5. Each meeting will also be presented on Zoom. Zoom meetings will be recorded and can be viewed at a later time for those who are not able to attend the live classes.

Those who are just now joining the group for Part 2 may wish to purchase the books which give some commentary on the readings. For more information, to register for the program, or for information on obtaining books, please contact Deacon Bill Timmel at dadatim@yahoo.com, or (M-F 9-5) at 203-270-8300.

Saint Joseph Parish	
2026 Bishop's Appeal as of 3/20/26	
Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$98,000
Total Pledged:	\$47,595 (49%)
Donors to Date:	118 Donors



To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2026BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.

FAITH FORMATION

Congratulations to the Faith Formation Confirmation candidates, who presented a very impactful and deeply moving enactment of *The Living Stations of the Cross* on Friday, March 27th. Thank you for using your gifts to witness your faith so beautifully!

In addition, we want to thank the volunteer Directors, Mrs. Jessica Regan and Mr. Art Regan for their leadership and tireless efforts in ensuring the success of this year's presentation of the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord. A special thank you to the parent volunteers, Teresa Vegerano and Kelly Metichecchia, for their unwavering support and dedication to this ministry and to Ariana Vegerano, one of our teen mentors, for sharing her previous experience and for helping this year's Confirmation candidates.

Class Schedule: Our last class in March will meet on Tuesday, March 31, and our classes in April begin on Wednesday, April 1. Classes will not be meeting during the week of April 6 to 10, which is spring break for the Danbury Public Schools. Classes will resume, starting Tuesday and Wednesday, April 14 and 15, and will continue on Tuesdays, April 21 and 28, and Wednesdays, April 22 and 29.

Volunteering: For anyone, 18 years and older, interested in volunteering at St. Joseph Parish and/or St. Joseph School, we are hosting a **Safe Environment training session on Monday, March 30, from 10:00am to 1:00pm** in the Carmen Buck Religious Education building. To register, please contact our Safe Environment Coordinator, Maria Merino-Schweitzer, at maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org.

**New Day Bereavement Program
Spring Session registration now open
Tuesday afternoons 4:30 – 6:00pm
April 7 – June 2**

St. Mary Church, 26 Dodgingtown Rd., Bethel

www.Thegrief.org

Carolyn Killian - 203-404-0023



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



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Rose Marie Abramo
Kelli Barrett
Matthew Bernabe
Miguel Boni
Marie Bovaird
Ernestine Clark
Irene Clark
Chuck Daudt
Jonathan DeMarco
Edith Donald
Albert Docktor
Anita Edwards
Anand Gokhale
Marie Hallas
Henry James
Jessy Jos
P.M. Joseph
Gavin King
Dorothy Koellmer
Livio Malta
Catherine McCarthy
Eileen McCarthy

William Morrison
Michelle Mott
Nick Munoz
Victor Munoz
Marjorie Nodine
Theresa O'Connor
Joseph Parkis
Michael Pedicini
Joseph Ponmankal
Christine Preisser
Lilian Rivera
Catherine Robinson
Gael Sifuentes
Michael Skomro
Barbara R. Schirmer
George Schur
Jeanne Soraghan
Lorraine Squillante
MaryAnn Storms
Kenneth Towery
Rebecca Zaccardo

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

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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