

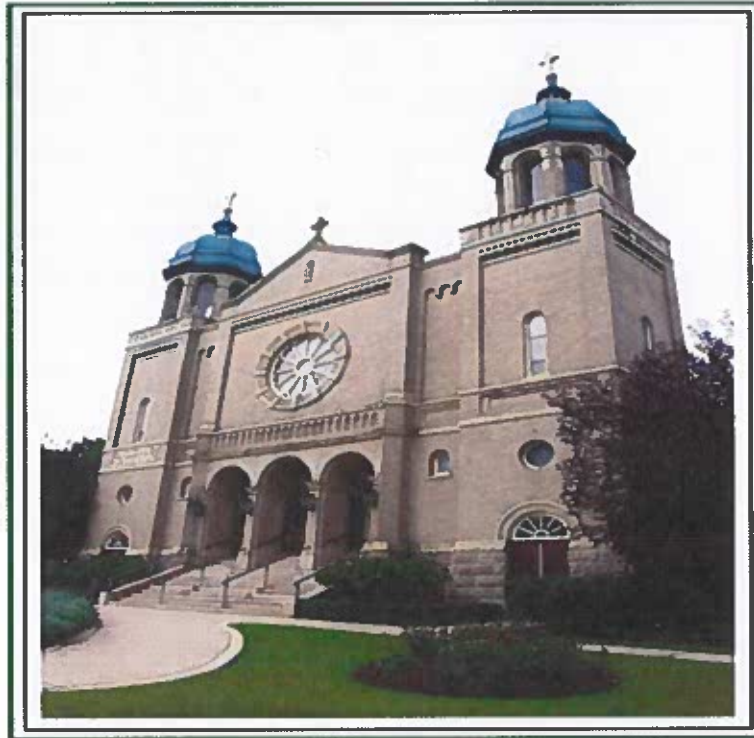
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter April 26, 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
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 Chirido 203-470-0444
 Respect Life Group:
 Lani Gonzales 203-512-1629
 Scouts (Boy): John Zilliox 203-770-3454

Requests for Sacraments and Home Visits:

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

Saturday, Apr. 25:

8:00 AM Vocations to Married Life
 4:00 PM Carmela & Louis Picchione &
 John Crowell, Jr.—Mom & Dad & Family

Sunday, Apr. 26:

7:30 AM Francis & Evelyn Howley —Family
 9:30 AM Frank Valente—Schneider Family
 11:00 AM Alfonso & Rosa Bottone—John Pepe
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, Apr. 27

12:05 PM Int. of Edward Palumbo
 —Lawrence Cioffi

Tuesday, Apr. 28

12:05 PM Ethel M. Gaffney—Peg Gaffney

Wednesday, Apr. 29:

12:05 PM Kathleen Carol LiVolsi—Doyle Family

Thursday Apr. 30:

12:05 PM Frank Cuttita—LaGratta Family

Friday, May 1:

12:05 PM Pa John Egejuru Agu—Fr. Silva

Saturday, May 2:

8:00 AM Vocations to the Priesthood for
 the Diocese of Bridgeport
 4:00 PM Francesca Mariani
 —Lagarto & Mikucki Families

Sunday, May 3:

7:30 AM Medlar & Casale Families
 —Sue & Vinny Casale
 9:30 AM John J. Walsh—Schneider Family
 11:00 AM Stephen Shepherd—Family
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



The Sanctuary Candle will burn
 this week in memory of

Betty & George A. Repko

Requested by: George, Jim & Deanna

Pastor's Corner for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Christ has Risen, alleluia!

Our parish is preparing for an incredibly special occasion; while it is not unique to our parish in Danbury because, traditionally held during the month of May (the month of the year dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mother, Mary), parishes all over the world are also preparing their young ones to receive their First Holy Communion, it is nonetheless of unique importance for those children as well as their families to make ready their hearts to receive the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ for the very first time. This Saturday, May 2nd, is First Holy Communion for a large number of our young ones. We certainly pray for their openness to the reception not only of Jesus' physical Body and Blood, but also for an openness of heart to receive all the graces that flow from this reception.

This yearly occasion provides all of us with a beautiful opportunity to reflect on our own reception of Communion. In the Gospel today, Jesus says to His disciples, "But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out... I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture...". If Jesus is the gate by which we are saved, His Body and Blood, received in its fullness when we receive worthily at Holy Communion, are the physical means of the Lord's words.

There are so many ways that we can more impactfully receive Holy Communion. The truth is, it is so very easy to fall into the routine of receiving this greatest gift and in doing so, we all fail (myself very much included!) to utilize those graces. Especially for those who frequent Holy Communion by attending daily Mass, the enemy of our soul is always at work to distract us or worse, to get us to forget, each time we receive, of He who is in front of us. While we are always physically capable of walking up in line and consuming our Lord, we must be humble enough to know when we are capable of receiving the graces from worthy reception of the Blessed Sacrament. Do we have any mortal sins on our soul? Have we gone to confession at least in the last year? Are we receiving in a posture (both mentally as well as physically) that says, "I know Who I am receiving right now"?

It is a difficult task in today's modern and overly scheduled world to ensure that we never forget the profundity of the reception of Holy Communion but there are many ways to aid us in doing the best we can...which is all God really asks of us! Have we made time to pray before Mass begins? Do we stay after the final hymn to make a prayer of thanksgiving because our Lord is still physically inside of us (you are the tabernacle after having received Holy Communion!) or are we walking out before the final hymn has even concluded? Are we calling to mind intentions, both for others and even for ourselves, as we walk forward in line for Holy Communion? There are many ways to continually call our hearts to attention to ensure that the reception of Jesus' Body and Blood showers down those infinite graces that He makes available each time we receive Him with a worthy heart. I hope that both you and I daily make that same effort to accept Jesus' invitation to walk through that gate, leading not only to eternal salvation, but to a life worth living. God bless and please keep those young men and women in your prayers as they prepare themselves to receive the greatest gift the world has ever known: our Lord Himself.

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva

PARISH EVENTS

WEEKLY HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION

Monday, April 27 7:00-8:00 PM

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, April 28 7:00-8:00 PM

Carmen Buck Religious Ed Building

BOY SCOUT TROOP 33 OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, April 30 7:30-9:00 PM

Carmen Buck Religious Ed Building

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, May 1

Immediately following the 12:05 PM Mass
and ending at 8:00 PM.

PRE-BAPTISM CLASS

Sunday, May 3 1:00 PM

Carmen Buck Religious Ed Building

Class is required for parents prior to scheduling a
baptism. Please call the Office to register:

203-748-8177

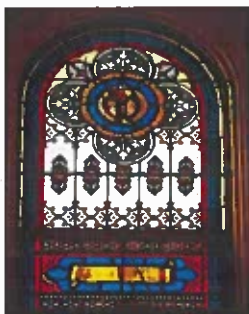
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

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McGivney Council 29

Saturday, May 9 9:00 AM—2:00 PM

In the Church Hall



Scaffolding is installed along the side of the church. It is needed in connection with the restoration of the clerestory windows (windows above the church center aisle), and for roof repairs. While the scaffolding is in place, please enter the Church Hall through the Main Street doors.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY GROUP THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES - PART 2

The group is under way.

This coming **Tuesday, April 28, 2026**, we will be discussing Chapters 22, 23 and 24 of Acts of the Apostles. We meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Buck Religious Education Center. New participants are always welcome, even on a drop in basis just to see what we're doing. Feel free to contact Deacon Bill Timmel for details.

Email: dadatim@yahoo.com or telephone at (Daytime): 203-270-8300 or (Eve): 203-426-3474.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 33

April

30

2026

LEARN NEW THINGS



CHALLENGE YOURSELF



OPEN HOUSE

GO ON ADVENTURES



MAKE NEW FRIENDS



Boys ages 11-17 along with parents/guardians are invited
to come learn more about Scouting!

Are you the parent of a younger boy, in grades K to 4,
that wants to get involved in scouting?

We are looking to start a Cub Pack!

For more information

call/text John Zilliox 203-770-3454.



7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH -
CARMEN BUCK CENTER -
MAIN ST. DANBURY



Scouting
America

Parish Support

Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings for the Week of 4/14-4/20/26

Weekly Offertory	\$ 7,478.00
Music Ministries	\$ 2,415.00

Update to our April 26 weekend collections:

- ◊ The second collection is for the **St. Joseph School Capital Projects Fund.**
—> *Please make checks payable to St. Joseph School.*
- ◊ Please place offerings for the **Catholic Home Mission Appeal & Black & Indian Missions** into the baskets by the church entrances.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATE GUIDELINES

Our Parish receives many requests for Sponsor Certificates from people who have been asked to be a Godparent at a Baptism or a Sponsor at a Confirmation. This Certificate verifies that you are an active Catholic, a member of this parish and eligible for this honor.

Being a Godparent or a Sponsor is a profound spiritual responsibility which entails witness and commitment and there are several requirements:

1. The Godparent/Sponsor is to be more than sixteen years of age.
2. (S)He is to have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation and live a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken.
3. If married, the Sponsor/Godparent must have been married according to the laws of the Church.
4. Is neither the father nor the mother of the person.

For the Pastor to issue a Sponsor Certificate:

1. You need to be a currently registered member of our parish.
2. You worship here regularly.
3. You are requesting the Sponsor Certificate for **yourself**. Please do **not** ask a parent, spouse or other person to do this for you.

Please call the Rectory at 203-748-8177 (Option #2) **at least 2 weeks in advance** of when a Sponsor Certificate is needed, to allow for processing.



Saint Joseph Parish	
2026 Bishop's Appeal as of 4/17/26	
Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$98,000
Total Pledged:	\$85,382 (87%)
Donors to Date:	224 Donors



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



Formed by the Word, Sent on Mission

As the Diocese continues its journey through The One, new efforts are **bearing fruit in the renewal of preaching and biblical formation**. The St. Jerome Center for Preaching and Biblical Studies has been established to strengthen the proclamation of God's Word and to help clergy and lay faithful grow in confidence, understanding, and faith.

Through opportunities such as participation in national conferences and ongoing formation, deacons and others are being equipped to **preach with clarity and conviction, fostering deeper encounters with Christ** within our parishes. This initiative is already enriching diocesan life by encouraging discipleship, evangelization, and a greater love for Sacred Scripture.

The Bishop's Appeal plays a vital role in supporting this work, helping advance The One's mission to lead all people closer to Christ through truth, beauty, and goodness.

Please prayerfully consider a gift to the Bishop's Appeal. More information is available at: 2026BishopsAppeal.org

FAITH FORMATION

Calendar: In April, we will continue meeting on Tuesday, April 28, and on Wednesday, April 29.

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.



REMEMBER
in your prayers

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

Jim McNerney
William Morrison
Michelle Mott
Nick Munoz
Victor Munoz
Marjorie Nodine
Joseph Parkis
Michael Pedicini
Joseph Ponmankal
Christine Preisser
Lilian Rivera
Catherine Robinson
Barbara R. Schirmer
Gael Sifuentes
Michael Skomro
Jeanne Soraghan
Lorraine Squillante
Kenneth Towery
Jim Wheeler
Rebecca Zaccardo

Please pray for our parishioners who have requested prayers, and those currently in nursing homes, hospitals, or confined to their homes.

Please call the Parish Office with updates.



Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of:

Emilie McCarthy



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

OPEN ENROLLMENT

St. Joseph School is pleased to announce that Open Enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year is now underway for Pre-K3 through 7th Grade.

Please contact us to check availability.

Tours available.

Email us at: Admissions@sjsdanbury.org

ST JOSEPH SCHOOL ANNUAL

GOLF TOURNAMENT 2026

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JUNE 10, 2026

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