

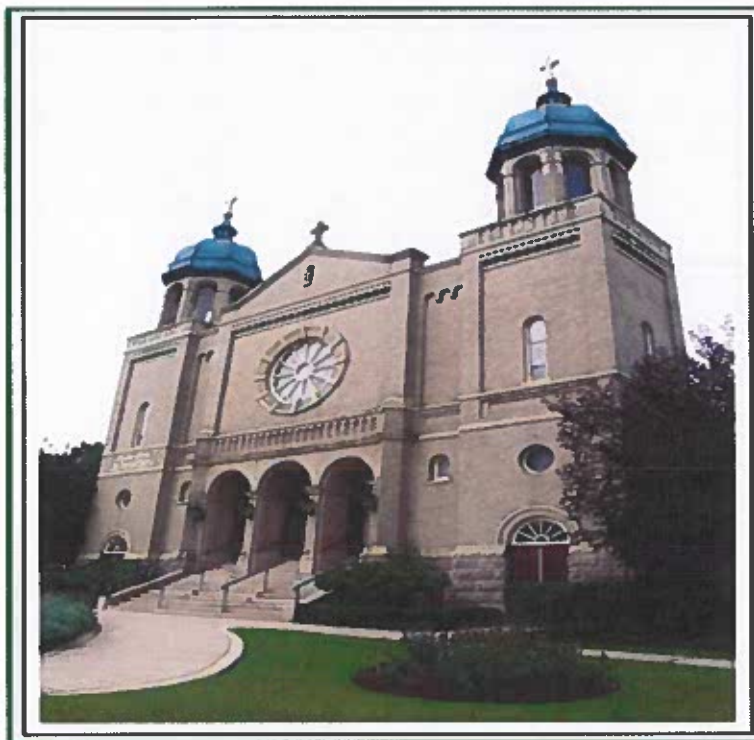
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN DANBURY

8 ROBINSON AVENUE, DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810-5517

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter **May 3, 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, 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

Monday, May 4:

12:05 PM Grace Ruggiero
 —Mike & Martha Palanzo

Tuesday, May 5:

12:05 PM Abouna Naji J. Kiwan
 —Cheri & John Jowdy

Wednesday, May 6:

12:05 PM Angelina DeVito—Ray & Maria

Thursday May 7:

12:05 PM Grace Ruggiero—Maggie & Phil Curran

Friday, May 8:

12:05 PM Cecelia Guernsey—John Perry

Saturday, May 9:

8:00 AM Intentions of our Parishioners
 4:00 PM Catherine Valente—M/M Frank Sullivan

Sunday, May 10:

7:30 AM Keith Capellaro —Capellaro &
 Whitehead Family
 9:30 AM Baby Bethea—Rose Latty & Family
 11:00 AM Bethany Mass
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



The Sanctuary Candle will burn
 this week in memory of

Abouna Naji J. Kiwan

Requested by: Cheri & John Jowdy

Pastor's Corner for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Christ has Risen, alleluia!

This past Wednesday, April 29th, we celebrated the feast day of Saint Catherine of Siena. This 14th century saint who is also a doctor of the Church and one of the patronal saints of all of Europe was born into a family with 24 siblings! During a most turbulent time in the history of the Church when there was great divide over who held the papacy, her influence with Pope Gregory XI was tantamount in his decision to leave Avignon, France for Rome. Her role in said negotiations was not over with mere advice to the pope but rather the Holy Father sent Saint Catherine to negotiate peace with the Florentine Republic. This is a very long-winded way of asserting that her influence in her own time was monumental and that influence did not come from fortune or fame, but from the real true source of power: God Himself.

Saint Irenaeus of Lyons once wrote, "The glory of God is man fully alive", while Saint Catherine of Siena once wrote, "Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire". Humanity fully alive is a reflection of the Divine Creator whose image is reflected in those who respond to God's invitation to holiness. When you live out your truest calling, to be saints, you are filled with something that no one and nothing in the world could fulfill. Without social media, television, movies, podcast, and modern-day streaming, she became, not only one of the most influential persons of her time period, but one of the most influential people to have ever lived! Why? How? It was precisely because of her holiness. From an early age she could have adopted the viewpoint of being just one of 25 children or sulked in the fact that she likely was not given the time and attention from her family that would have been possible if there were less children in the house, but she embraced the beauty of her large family and sought out the attention of her God.

How would the world look if each and every one of us sought out the attention of the Almighty every moment of every day? How aflame with Divine Love would the world be if we sought to be holy and faithful influencers rather than social media influencers? In a world so much concerned with affecting that which is beyond the scope of our control, Saint Catherine of Siena is an incredible example of what it means to truly embrace the calling that could come from God alone. May we all take up the mantle of embracing who God has called us to be above race, nationality, and whatever title the world seeks to put before us. May we all take seriously the call to be saints!

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva

PARISH EVENTS

GIFTS FROM BETHLEHEM

Olive Wood Vendor

May 2 & 3 after Masses

In the Church Hall

See narrative on this page

WEEKLY HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION

Monday, May 4 7:00-8:00 PM

HOLY FACE DEVOTION

Tuesday, May 5 7:00-8:00 PM

Adoration & Confession

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, May 5 7:00-8:00 PM

Carmen Buck Religious Ed Building

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus

McGivney Council 29

Saturday, May 9 9:00 AM—2:00 PM

In the Church Hall

MONTHLY COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, May 10

In the Church Hall after the 7:30 AM Mass



American
Red Cross



In Service to One, In Service to All.

Join us in answering the call to help others give blood!

Blood Drive

**Knights of Columbus
McGivney Council 29
St Joseph Church**

Held in the Hall
376 Main St
Danbury, CT 06810

**Saturday, May 9, 2026
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or
visit RedCrossBlood.org and
enter: KOC to schedule an appointment.

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

This coming **Tuesday, May 5, 2026**, we will be completing our study of the Acts of the Apostles as we discuss Chapters 25, 26, 27 and 28 of the class text. 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.

WATCH THIS SPACE for information on our next study which will commence in the Fall.

Gifts from Bethlehem

Olivewood Handcrafted from the Holy Land

A Traditional Art and Livelihood for Holy Land Christians

The handicrafts trade evolved as a cultural tradition of Christians in the Holy Land for many centuries. This indigenous form of art has since become an industry of great importance to the local people of the Holy Land who rely on it for livelihood, and to Christian pilgrims from all around the world whose holy pilgrimage can be memorialized for a lifetime in cherished olive wood or mother of pearl souvenirs. The olive wood carving market is the major source of income in the Bethlehem area. More than 65 percent of the income of the community in Bethlehem comes from this work.

In recent years, however, the holy crafts trade has suffered many hardships due to social and economic pressures. Because of a sharp fall in tourism and also as a result of diminishing numbers of craftsmen who leave their traditional trade and emigrate due to the difficult conditions in their homeland, the Holy Land handicraft market is facing serious danger, and so is the Christian community in the Land. Sixty five years ago the Christians represented more than 28% of the total population in the Holy Land, today they are less than 1.5%. The loss of Christians in the land of Christianity's birth will represent a tragedy of immeasurable proportions for the billions of Christians worldwide.

Thank you for your vital support for a Christian tradition and in protecting this very important culture and industry.

Parish Support

Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings for the Week of 4/21-4/27/26

Weekly Offertory \$ 7,687.00
Catholic Home Missions \$ 1,216.00


- ◊ This weekend's second collection is the **Monthly Collection.**
- ◊ Next weekend, May 10, the second collection is for **Mother's Day envelopes.**

St. Joseph Parish Respect Life Group

This weekend's bulletin flyer, *Saint Francis: Visionary of Life*, is sponsored by the St. Joseph Respect Life Group.

The group meets monthly on the second Thursday of each month, at 5:30 pm in the Carmen Buck Religious Ed Building.

Please contact Lani Gonzales at 203-512-1629, or lanijmg@live.com for information.



We welcome our newly baptized:


Emma Elise Revano
Mia Therese Russell
Nadia Alejandra Russell

Please keep them and their families in your prayers.



Wedding Banns

Austen Green and Teresa Hood – 1st Banns



Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of:

Christian Van Hise



Saint Joseph Parish	
2026 Bishop's Appeal as of 4/24/26	
Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$98,000
Total Pledged:	\$85,707 (87%)
Donors to Date:	225 Donors



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

2026 BISHOP'S APPEAL MINISTRY VIGNETTE: *The Guild of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*

The **Guild of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus** is a community of accompaniment that is very close to the heart of the bishop and is a vital component of *The One*. The Guild fosters expressions of Beauty as they pertain to our Catholic faith in hopes that encounters with Beauty Incarnate will stir one's heart into closer intimacy with Our Lord and Savior.

These expressions and opportunities stand on one (or more) of seven pillars: Sacred Art, Sacred Music, Literature, Architecture, Pilgrimage, Retreat and Eucharistic Adoration. The opportunities for encounter at times take the form of concerts of both contemporary and sacred music, artists fellowship, studies of Catholic literature, retreats for those engaged in fostering beauty in the Liturgy, and opportunities to learn about the historical, artistic, and theological aesthetics of art, architecture, and worship.

Your donation to the Bishop's Appeal will allow for so many to encounter the Author of Beauty in such a way to draw them close to his Sacred Heart to encounter Divine Beauty in its fullness.

To learn more please visit:
www.2026BishopsAppeal.org.
Thank you for your support.

Saint Francis: Visionary of Life

“Hold fast to the memory of our father and brother, Francis, for the praise and glory of Him who made him great among us and glorified him in the sight of the angels.”¹

Saint Francis, the poor man of Assisi, is a powerful model for us in building a world and culture that is authentically pro-life. This 13th century saint was a visionary of the radiant goodness of human life.

Early in Saint Francis’ conversion, he was riding through the countryside and came across a person suffering from leprosy. Despite being repelled by the appearance and smell, he came down from his horse and kissed the hand of the leper, who returned his kiss of peace, filling Francis with joy. He could see the invaluable dignity of every person, even amidst utter poverty, the disfigurement of disease, and the stain of sin.

Saint Francis is well-known for his radical imitation of Christ and his love for all creation. This is evident in his prayer, “The Canticle of the Creatures,” which praises God for all He has created: the sun, moon, and stars; wind, water, and fire. Francis proclaims that the created world reveals the glory of God himself. This is particularly true for the human person, created in the image of God, whose life from conception to natural death is to be honored and protected. Among all creation, the human person has the unique capacity to praise God, highlighting the distinctive dignity of human life.

Strikingly, Francis uttered his “Canticle” while lying half-blind on his deathbed. In welcoming “Sister Death,” Francis could no longer physically see the beauty of creation, yet still he praised God for the created world around him.

Oftentimes we, too, are blinded to the goodness of life. Our vision may be blurred by hardships such as poverty, fragility, or suffering, all of which Saint Francis experienced in his earthly life. In the



face of such challenges, Saint Francis is a powerful intercessor, opening our heart and eyes to the gift of life even in the most trying circumstances. Francis had a particular devotion to the Lord’s own vulnerability—in the manger, in the Eucharist, and on the Cross—highlighting God’s presence in the most defenseless among us.

Pope Leo XIV has decreed that for 2026 “a special Year of Saint Francis shall be proclaimed, in which every faithful Christian, following the example of the Saint of Assisi, shall become a model of holiness of life and a constant witness of peace.”² The taking of innocent human life through abortion, assisted suicide, and other acts of violence destroys peace in our world.³ We are called to be witnesses of peace by boldly proclaiming the dignity of the human person and working for the protection of all human life.

In this Year of Saint Francis, may he help us to see the beauty of life in all of creation, in particular, in the weakest and most vulnerable among us. Together, let us pray for the protection of human life and the courage to defend it.

“Most High, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command.”⁴

- Saint Francis’ “Prayer before the Crucifix”

¹ Angelo Cardinal De Donatis, “Decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary on the occasion of the Eighth Centenary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi, by which a special Jubilee Year is proclaimed, with associated Plenary Indulgences, 16.01.2026,” (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2026).

² *Ibid.*

³ Pope Leo XIV, “Address to Participants in the ‘One Humanity, One Planet’ Conference,” January 31, 2026 (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2026).

⁴ Armstrong, Regis J., O.F.M. Cap., J. A. Wayne Hellmann, O.F.M. Conv., and William J. Short, O.F.M., eds., *Francis of Assisi: Early Documents – The Saint* (New York, NY: New City Press, 2001), 40.



FAITH FORMATION

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.

203-778-1920



REMEMBER
in your prayers

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

Please support this upcoming event:
At All Masses June 6th & 7th



Knights of Columbus Council #29

FOOD DRIVE

Help us fill the bins in the vestibule at all Masses!

WE ARE COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

Dried beans (1 or 2-pound bags), Rice (1 or 2-pound bags), Pasta (especially spaghetti), Cooking oil, Tea and coffee, Baby food, Breakfast cereal (hot or cold), Condiments such as ketchup, mustard, mayo, vinegar, and hot sauce, Sugar, flour, and baking items such as cake mix, Any little luxuries or oddball items you yourself might like as a treat, Canned staple items such as tuna, soup, and vegetables are always welcome, as are mac & cheese, and pasta sauce

In partnership with:



At All Masses June 6th and 7th @ St. Joseph's Parish, Danbury



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

JUNE 10, 2026
RICHTER PARK GOLF COURSE

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW

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

— Since 2023 — 
FISHCADO
 FRESH FISH OVERNIGHT

Open 7 day a week with a variety of fresh fish and live seafood.
 Todos los día FRESHFISHCADO les ofrece mariscos fresco
 Place your order or stop in!
 397 Main St, Danbury
 203-616-5864 • 646-338-5230
 Plenty of parking
 FISHCADO  

WILLIAM RAVEIS
 REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • INSURANCE
 The Largest Family-Owned Real Estate Company in the Northeast
SUE FISHER
 — Realtor —
 C. 203.470.9291
 Sue.Fisher@raveis.com
 SueFisher.raveis.com
 48 Mill Plain Rd., Danbury, CT
 CHP Certified Homeownership Professional

William C. Timmel
 Attorney At Law, LLC
 Wills ~ Powers of Attorney
 Real Estate ~ Probate
 203-270-8300
 30 Church Hill Road, Newtown
 dadatim@yahoo.com

IF YOU LIVE ALONE You Need

MDMedAlert!™ As Low As **\$19⁹⁵** /mo.

✓ Ambulance ✓ Police ✓ Family
 ✓ GPS & Fall Alert

CALL NOW! 800.808.9294
 md-medalert.com




DOM'S DANBURY'S
GARDEN CENTER FIRST & LARGEST
 49 Padanaram Road • Danbury, CT
 DOM GENERALI
 (203) 744-6755 • www.domsgardencenter.com

Advertise in Our Church Bulletin!

Contact ILEANA VASQUEZ
 ivasquez@4lpi.com
 (800) 950-9952 x3105



WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS

They allow us to print this bulletin.
 Thank you!



Never miss our bulletin!

Subscribe 

Have our bulletin emailed to you every week.

Visit www.parishesonline.com



COMPLIMENTS OF



McKENNEY MECHANICAL
Comprehensive HVAC/R Solutions

JOWDY-KANE FUNERAL HOME

9 Granville Ave., Danbury
203-748-6262

PEMBROKE PUMPING SERVICE, INC.

Complete Septic & Sewer Services
Portable Toilet Rentals
203-746-1424 203-790-8975



BROOKFIELD TECHNOLOGY CENTER
ALL THINGS COMPUTER

Voice - Data - Cabling - Fiber Optics
Phone Systems - Servers - Firewalls - Wireless
203-775-5009
info@btcamerica.com | www.btcamerica.com
44 Old State Road, Unit 7, New Milford, CT 06776



Knights of Columbus
M'Givney Council #29
Home Parish: St. Joseph

KoC29.org 203-744-9562

Anne H. Lynn, M.S. CCC-A, FAAA
Licensed & Certified Clinical Audiologist
Diagnostic Hearing Evaluations
Hearing Aids, Repairs, Service
Custom Earmold Products
Participating w/most Health Ins.
203-304-9744
107 Church Hill Rd., Ste. 2E, Sandy Hook, CT
annehear711@gmail.com

BUZAID APPLIANCE

AND SCRATCH-N-DENT OUTLET
Norman Buzaid Owner
125 South Street, Danbury CT
203-743-6321
227 Federal Road, Brookfield CT
203-775-7066
www.BuzaidAppliance.com

92 Sandpit Road Danbury, CT

Carmines
PLUMBING
AIR CONDITIONING
HEATING
CT License # 302912 & 294993
203-791-8089
Owned & Operated by Carmine Iapaluccio

Green Funeral Home

Proudly Caring For Families Since 1935
Burials, Cremations, Pre-arrangements, Monuments and Inscriptions

57 Main Street Danbury, CT



203-748-2131

EVERY DETAIL REMEMBERED®

catholicmatch
Connecticut



CatholicMatch.com/CT

JF & ASSOCIATES
HOME IMPROVEMENT

203-617-9291
914-438-5346

Farez72@gmail.com

Kitchens • Bathrooms
Basements • Windows
Electrical • Plumbing



Serving breakfast all day
Open 24 hours
(203) 743-4004

126 South St, Danbury, CT 06810

Order delivery with



Fellow Parishioner, Happy to Help with Your Real Estate Needs



JOANNE VISOVSKY, Realtor

Licensed in CT & NY
914.548.2310

Joanne.Visovsky@cbrealty.com



PANADERIA, PESCADERIA, CARNICERIA, PRODUCE, DAIRY, CONGELADOS, CERVEZA

Tenemos productos importados de Latino America!
OPEN MON-SAT 7AM-9PM & SUN 8AM-9PM

La Placita Market

289 Greenwood Avenue, Bethel • 203-616-5967
Visit website: www.laplacitamarkets.com

La Placita Bethel Market

Does your organization need a newsletter?
We'll cover the printing costs!

Learn more at lpicommunities.com



INJURED?
RECOVER MORE WITH SKOR

1-844-FOR-SKOR www.skorlaw.com



Support Our Advertisers!



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Joseph, Danbury, CT

03-0283