

# ***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)

## **Seventh Sunday of Easter — May 17, 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](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  
[profrobert52@gmail.com](mailto: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](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): 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 16:

8:00 AM Intentions of St. Joseph School  
 4:00 PM Michael J. Smith, Sr.  
 —M/M Frank Sullivan

### Sunday, May 17:

7:30 AM Caroline & Eugene Montalto  
 —Donna Montalto  
 9:30 AM John & Adelaide Pepe—John Pepe  
 11:00 AM Catherine Small  
 —Brendan & Jeanne Spain  
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

### Monday, May 18:

12:05 PM Herminia Ortiz—Efrain Ortiz

### Tuesday, May 19:

12:05 PM Scott Ragatz—Martin & Gloria Nissly

### Wednesday, May 20:

12:05 PM Int. of Linda Maiocco—Lawrence

### Thursday May 21:

12:05 PM Marion & John Doyle—Doyle Family

### Friday, May 22:

12:05 PM Bernie Campbell, Jr.  
 —Jannette Riego de Dios

### Saturday, May 23:

8:00 AM Susanna Gomez—Garcia  
 & DeLugo Family  
 4:00 PM Carmela & Louis Picchione &  
 John, Jr.—Mom, Dad & Family  
 6:30 PM Int. of O.C.I.A. Candidates

### Sunday, May 24:

7:30 AM Virginia Bromley  
 —Mike & Antonia Farkas  
 9:30 AM Francesca Mariani—Luisa Ferrante  
 11:00 AM Alfonso & Rosa Bottone—John Pepe  
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week in memory of

**Kathleen Timm**

Requested by: Son, Matthew

## **Pastor's Corner for the Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Christ has Risen, alleluia!

Why is it that in the United States, only the ecclesiastical Provinces of Boston, Hartford, New York, Philadelphia, and Omaha celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord on Thursday? There are likely many answers to this question, but the most honest answer is that there are many in the Church who believe that the people of God are not capable of making it to Mass more than once a week. There is already a rule that if a Holy Day of Obligation falls on a Saturday or a Monday (with the exception of Christmas and the Immaculate Conception), that the obligation is lifted, so what do we miss out on being encouraged to not keep these feasts where they actually fall in the calendar year or worse, to not hold them up with same degree of solemnity simply because it would mean coming to Mass more than once a week.

The very first novena was between the event of the Ascension of the Lord and the coming down of the Holy Spirit at the event of Pentecost. Following the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, the Apostles, our Blessed Virgin Mother, and the other Disciples gathered in joyful anticipation for the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to send down the Advocate. It may seem a trivial thing to care much about the difference between seven and nine days but it does, in fact, matter. How different is our world today than it was just 100 years ago, let alone 2,000 years ago, and if you have ever felt nervous, anxious, or alone, how much of a difference does just two days make! We have an opportunity that is afforded to just five ecclesiastical provinces throughout the entirety of the United States, to join our minds and hearts to those who, with undoubtedly anxious hearts, awaited the promise of Jesus for those nine days.

I firmly believe that every time we hear words such as "mandatory" or "obligation" in relationship to our faith, that they are just opportunities for all of us (myself included!) to encounter the truths about the world, ourselves, and the Lord. Every other aspect of our lives carry with them "mandatory" and "obligatory" actions. In love, in our jobs, in our families, in our schools, in our personal lives, etc... the mandatory moments are what build and sustain us so that the life-giving moments are made possible. There has always been a danger in trying to fit the faith into our lives rather than allowing the faith to transform our lives. I pray that our faith, with all of its mandatory and optional opportunities to encounter the Lord in a new and lasting way, is something that we allow to transform our lives so that we too can have the same kind of hope and prayer that must have sustained those who awaited the promises of Jesus after He ascended into heaven!

In Christ & Mary,  
Father Silva

## PARISH EVENTS

**WEEKLY HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION**  
Monday, May 18 Holy Hour **is Cancelled**

### MASS TIMES FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY:

**Sat. May 23:**

4:00 PM Vigil Mass

6:30 PM Vigil Mass - NEW MASS TIME for  
Pentecost only


**Sun. May 24:**

7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM

### OFFICE CLOSURE

**Monday, May 25**

Our Parish offices will be closed on **Monday, May 25th**, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.




**Knights of Columbus Council # 29**

# FOOD DRIVE

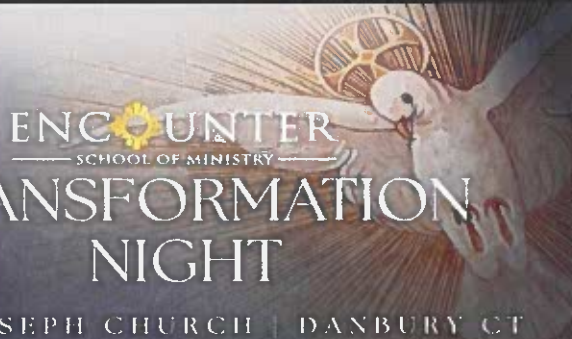
**Help us fill the bins in the vestibule at all Masses!**

**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**

ENCOUNTER SCHOOL OF MINISTRY FAIRFIELD COUNTY CAMPUS



## ENCOUNTER SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

# TRANSFORMATION NIGHT


SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH | DANBURY CT

*"Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind..."*  
Romans 12:2


<p><b>6</b> PM PRAISE &amp; WORSHIP LED BY: FERNANDO TORRES</p>	<p><b>7</b> PM SPECIAL SESSION FR JASON BROOKS</p>	<p><b>8</b> PM PRAYER MINISTRY OFFERED BY: Students of the Encounter School of Ministry</p>
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**May 29 | Fr. Jason Brooks**

*"Transformation through God's Dynamic Love"*  
Fr. Jason joined the Legionaries of Christ in 1994 and was ordained a priest at St. Mary Major's in Rome. Since moving to Michigan, he has been genuinely inspired by his involvement with Encounter Ministries and has developed a passion for helping people experience the healing power of the Holy Spirit through healing services and prayer ministry.



REGISTRATION IS FREE  
[ENCOUNTERSCHOOL.ORG/FAIRFIELD](http://ENCOUNTERSCHOOL.ORG/FAIRFIELD)



# Parish Support

## Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings for the Week of 5/5-5/11/26

Weekly Offertory                   \$ 9,186.00  
 Mother's Day                       \$ 3,426.00

- ◊ This weekend's second collection is for the **Catholic Communications Campaign.**
- ◊ Next weekend's (May 24) collection: **Maintenance Fund**

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| Saint Joseph Parish               |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| 2026 Bishop's Appeal as of 5/1/26 |                |
| Bishop's Appeal Goal:             | \$98,000       |
| Total Pledged:                    | \$90,381 (92%) |
| Donors to Date:                   | 238 Donors     |



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

## Give Us This Day

If you currently subscribe to the **Give Us This Day** publication, the **June** books are available after Masses. Please see an Usher after Mass for your book.

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## Wedding Banns

**Austen Green and Teresa Hood – 3rd Banns**

### 2026 BISHOP'S APPEAL MINISTRY VIGNETTE: *The Seton Collaborative*

The Seton Collaborative is a new diocesan nonprofit created to strengthen our parishes and schools by transforming how they operate so they can better serve their communities and support both academic excellence and spiritual growth.

By identifying efficiencies, standardizing and automating processes, sharing best practices, developing staff, and leveraging economies of scale, the Seton Collaborative helps ministries focus more fully on their mission of forming disciples and educating future generations.

The mission of the Seton Collaborative is to promote growth and innovation in schools and parishes by contributing expertise, creativity, resources, and capital to drive renewal across the Diocese of Bridgeport.

As Bishop Frank J. Caggiano reminds us, "For the Church to be renewed, we must unlock the talents that have been given to us. And for the Church to grow, we need to collaborate." Through the Bishop's Appeal One in Christ, your support makes this vital work possible. Learn more at [2026BishopsAppeal.org](http://2026BishopsAppeal.org) Make your gift to the Bishop's Appeal today! Visit: [2026BishopsAppeal.org](http://2026BishopsAppeal.org) #2026BishopsAppeal #DioceseofBridgeport

## 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**

### PRE-BAPTISM CLASS:

**The next pre-baptism class will be held on  
Sunday, June 7 at 1:00 PM.**

Pre-baptism class is required for all parents who would like to have their child baptized at St. Joseph Church.

Class is required before a baptism is scheduled.

Class meets in the Religious Ed Building.

Please call the office to register: 203-748-8177



**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  
Levi Newsome  
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 if you have an update to our listing, so that we may keep it current.*

**203-748-8177**



## 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)

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:SJSGOLFOUTING@SJSDBANBURY.ORG)

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