

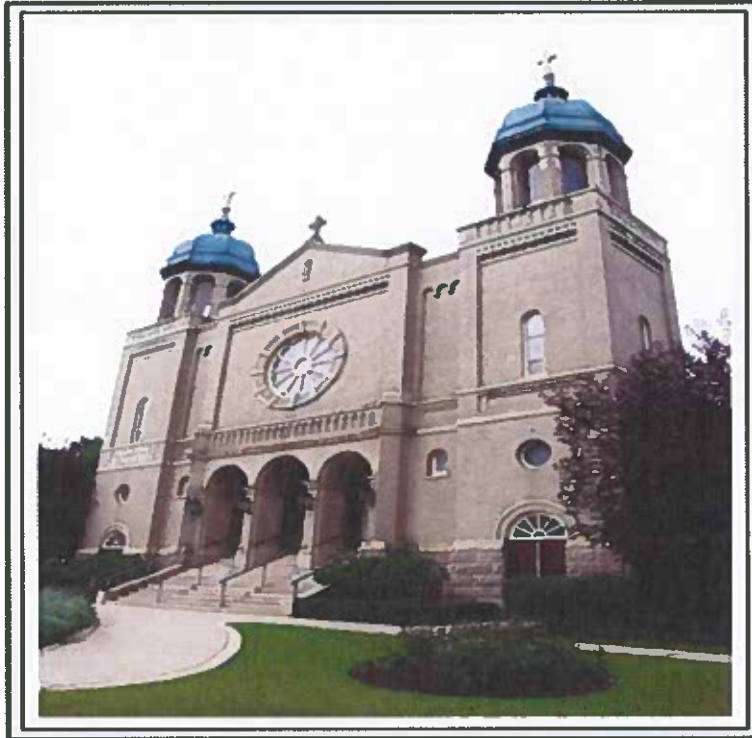
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN DANBURY

8 ROBINSON AVENUE, DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810-5517

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

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time — June 28, 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, June 27:

8:00 AM Vocations to the Religious Life
 4:00 PM Scott Sasso, Sr.—Family

Sunday, June 28:

7:30 AM Elizabeth Repko—Repko Family
 9:30 AM Int. of Marek Szurawski
 —Ania Szurawski
 11:00 AM Margaret Mahoney—Family
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, June 29:

12:05 PM Douglas Newsome—Mother

Tuesday, June 30:

12:05 PM Sam Jacobellis—Donald & Irene Ragatz

Wednesday, July 1:

12:05 PM Grace Perry—Son, John

Thursday, July 2:

12:05 PM Annellen Gleissner—Ron & Katrina Freier

Friday, July 3:

12:05 PM George Shehl, Jr.—Shehl Family

Saturday, July 4:

8:00 AM Vocations to Married Life
 4:00 PM Joseph, Joe & Catherine Valente
 —M/M Frank Sullivan

Sunday, July 5:

7:30 AM Medlar & Casale Families
 —Sue & Vinny Casale
 9:30 AM Int. of Natalia Szurawski —Parents
 11:00 AM Riccardo Potenziani
 —Donna & Kristen Palmer
 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 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Praised be Jesus Christ!

On Wednesday, June 24th, the Church celebrated the Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist. With the exception of Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary, there is no other commemoration in the liturgical calendar year that celebrates both the birth and the death of an individual. The typical tradition of the Church is to honor the saint on the day that they were "born" into heaven: the day that they died. Saint John the Baptist holds a special honor in having both his birth and his death commemorated with feast days. Jesus himself said, "Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist (Matthew 11:11)". Saint John the Baptist was the last of the prophets of the Old Testament and held the honor of fulfilling the prophetic role of Elijah in heralding the coming of the Messiah.

This solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist is held six months before Christmas, remembering the words of the angel Gabriel in his annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, where speaking of Elizabeth, Gabriel says, "this is the sixth month for her (Elizabeth) who was called barren (Luke 1:36)". This is also one of the eight major feasts in the liturgical calendar year that have proper vigil Masses: Christmas, the Epiphany of the Lord, Easter, the Ascension of the Lord, Pentecost, the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist, Saints Peter and Paul, and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In Eastern Christianity, they refer to Saint John the Baptist as Saint John the Forerunner, which is a title that indicates that the purpose of his ministry was to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus Christ, and they celebrate his feast day with an all-night vigil celebration.

Additionally, the tradition of this feast lines up around the time of the summer solstice (June 21, 2026) whereas the feast of the Nativity of Jesus (Christmas) lines up around the time of the winter solstice (December 21, 2026). Saint John the Baptist once said of Jesus, "He must increase, I must decrease (John 3:30)". At the time of the summer solstice, the days begin to get shorter and thus the light of day begins to lessen with each passing day; at the time of the winter solstice, the days begin to get longer and thus the light of day begins to increase with each passing day. The liturgical calendar and the feasts that we celebrate in honor of the nativity of our Lord and Saint John the Baptist are reflected in the light of day!

You may be asking yourself, "Father, why in the world are you writing about all of this? Who really cares and what does this have to do with a message that you wish to communicate to the people of this parish?" My answer, "Why not?!". Sometimes it is enough as Catholic Christians to share some of the beauty of the truths of our faith, the traditions of our Church, and the knowledge of why we do some of the things that we do! More often than not there is so much regarding our faith that it is easy to overshare out of excitement but today we can take solace in knowing that we can spend the rest of our lives learning about the truths of our faith and still only taste a fraction of that which is out there for us to encounter. My hope is that reflecting on the words of Jesus in our Gospel this weekend, that we all lose ourselves in the pursuit of all the ways that our Lord has chosen to reveal Himself to us.

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva

PARISH EVENTS

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Offices will be closed the
Week of June 29-July 3.

For urgent calls, please leave a message:
203-748-8177

CELEBRATE!

Fr. Silva's 10th Anniversary of Ordination
Sunday, June 28

Come join us after the 11:00 Mass honoring
Father Silva's 10th Anniversary of Ordination.
The Reception is in the Church Hall.

All gifts will go to the Adoration Chapel repair.

WEEKLY HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION
Monday, June 29 7:00-8:00 PM

CHURCH ACCESS

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 cen-
ter aisle), and for roof repairs. While the scaffolding
is in place, please enter the Church Hall through the
Main Street doors.

PLAN TO ATTEND MASS WHILE ON VACATION

Did you know that there is a service that can help
you locate a Catholic Church anywhere in the
United States?

Visit www.masstimes.org to find a Catholic
Church close to your vacation destination.



PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

God our Father in Heaven, you chose Mary as the fair-
est of your daughters; Holy Spirit, you overshadowed
Mary at the Annunciation; God the Son, you
became incarnate in the womb of Mary, your Mother.

In union with Mary, we adore you, the Most Holy
Trinity and acknowledge that you, Father, Son and
Holy Spirit, hold eternal dominion and authority over
all nations.

Most Holy Trinity, we place the United States of Ameri-
ca into the hands of Mary Immaculate in order that she
may present our country to you. Through her we wish
to praise and thank you for the great resources of our
land and for the freedom, which has been our heritage.

Through the intercession of Mary, have mercy on the
Catholic Church in the United States. Grant us peace.
Have mercy on our president and on all the officers of
our government. Grant us a fruitful economy born of
justice and charity. Raise up and protect all of our
families. Through the intercession of our Mother, have
mercy on the sick, the poor, the tempted, sinners on
all who are in need.

Above all, we ask Mary to intercede on our behalf that
you would protect our conscience rights and religious
freedom, upon which our country was founded.

Mary, Immaculate Virgin, Our Mother, Patroness of our
land, we honor you and give ourselves to you. Wrap
your mantel of protection around each of us and all
our fellow citizens. Protect us from all evil and harm.
Pray for us, that acting always according to your will
and the Will of your Divine Son, we may live and die
pleasing to God.

*Based on a Marian consecration by Patrick Cardinal
O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington, prayed in parishes
throughout the United States in November of 1959.*

FAITH FORMATION

Congratulations to all of the St. Joseph School and Religious Education children who received the sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, May 30, 2026!

Thomas Joseph Agnew
Giovanni Patrick Albury
Mia Adele Alfani
Bruce Martin Allen
Viviana Mary Almonte
Aaron Aaron Amendano
Jordana Guadalupe Amendano
Jonas Jerome Baldera
Emily Rita Bauco
Isaac Ignatius Bethray
Royce Carlos Castro
John Sebastian Cerullo
Sadie Gianna Cieslinski
Cameron Francis Crabbe
Luca Anthony DeMato
Tucker Patrick Denema
Isabella Serena Derosa
Gabriel Gabriel Despojado
Noah Sebastian Dickinson
Mia Elizabeth Erhartic
Emma Cecilia Ferencz
Matteo Miachael Fernandez
Matthew Sebastian Heron
Olivia Maria Hoffman
Angela Gabriel Jos
Liam Tarcisius Lapham
Hadley Margaret Larkin
Alexia Catherine Lekaj
Liam Joseph Leonardo
Cameron Gianna Lilley
Mathew Matthew Llivizaca
Sofia Gianna Loch
Halle Gianna Lounsbury

Gabriella Clare Martinez-Maya
Olivia Catherine Masella
Vincent Tarcisius Metichecchia
Tristan Sebastian Nelson
Cailyn Maria Nunes
Madelyn Cecilia Nunes
Lucy Rose O'Keefe
Robert Andrew O'Neill
Bruce Miachael Pires
Carter John Regan
Sophia Joan Remache
Alyssa Francis Reynoso
Ryan Carlos Rodriguez
Emily Teresa Russ
Sophia Maria Russ
Dylan Luke Salomone
Yuri Samuel Santos
Rylan Agnes Scherer
Julia Theresa Seyllon
Elizabeth Faustina Shehl
Rafael Michael Sousa Lopes
Gavin Sebastian Stabile
Heidy Jerome Sucuzhanay
Gemma Mary Suess
Delaney Guadalupe Tenecela
Logan Luke Thibodeau
Elias Ephrem Toledo
Eva Lea Vailati
Justin Matthew Vargas
Aubrey Teresa Vegerano
Mila Victoria Ventura
Brennan Michael Ward
John Joseph Zilliox

Calendar — The religious education calendar will be available soon. Classes are expected to begin on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 6 and 7, 2026. Please remind your children that faith formation is lifelong and continuous in the home. We encourage all of our families to attend Sunday Mass. Reception of the Holy Eucharist is the most important celebration of the Church—it is the source and summit of our lives as Christians.

The Enrollment Form for the 2026-27 religious education year has been sent by email and has been posted to our Parish website. **Register by Friday, July 31st for the early registration pricing.** Enrollment form and payment must be received on or prior to July 31st, either online or dropped off at our office (in-person or in the black mailbox outside of our offices). Enrollment forms alone cannot be accepted for the early registration pricing. If you pay online, please forward the confirmation receipt to CWeber@stjosephdanbury.org, so that we can note your account accordingly.

Faith Formation Office Hours — The Faith Formation office will close for the summer, starting June 25th, and will reopen after Labor Day. We will be available by appointment. Please contact the Director by email: Maria Merino-Schweitzer maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org.

Parish Support

Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings for the Week of 6/16—6/22/26

Weekly Offertory	\$ 8,060.00
Father's Day	\$ 2,937.00

- ◇ This weekend's second collection is for **Peter's Pence (Collection for the Holy Father)**.
- ◇ Next weekend's second collection is for our **Monthly Collection**.



**St. Joseph Parish has raised
296 gifts worth \$100,133
for our goal of \$98,000.**

2026 Bishop's Appeal — One in Christ

The Bishop's Appeal invites us to live out "The One," our diocesan vision of spiritual and pastoral renewal. United as One in Christ, we support ministries that accompany others in faith, reflect truth, beauty and goodness and serve those in need throughout Fairfield County.

Your contribution is a living sign of our unity and strengthens the mission of the Church. Gifts may be made using your parish's pledge materials or online.

As we continue our journey in life, may we walk One in Christ, accompanying one another and those most in need. Be assured of our prayers for you and your loved ones.

Make a gift today: 2026BishopsAppeal.org



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

Enrollment is Open!!

St. Joseph School has spots available for PreK-3 & 4 and Kindergarten. Please contact the office for details.

Email: Admissions@sjsdanbury.org

Job Openings Available at St. Joseph School!

Please consider joining our incredible team at St. Joseph School.

We have Paraprofessional/Aide positions available...full-time & part-time.

If interested, please contact Dr. Howe at LHowe@sjsdanbury.org

VOLUNTEERING:

For anyone, 18 years and older, interested in volunteering at St. Joseph Parish and/or St. Joseph School, **VIRTUS Safe Environment training (Protecting God's Children for Adults) is required.**

Please see the Diocese of Bridgeport website for information and sessions:

www.bridgeportdiocese.org/safe-environment

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