

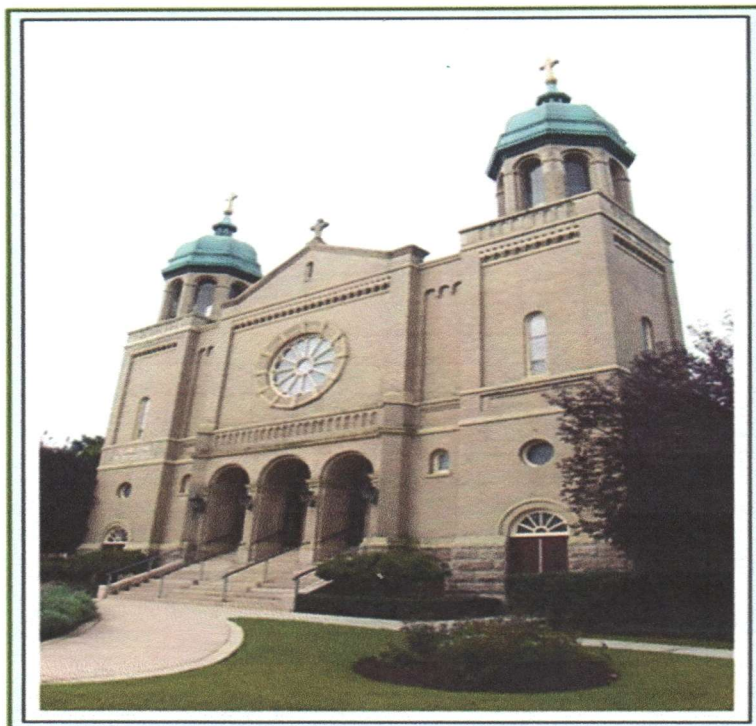
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Rectory Telephone: (203)748-8177 Web Page: [www.stjosephdanbury.org](http://www.stjosephdanbury.org)

**14th Sunday in Ordinary Time — July 5, 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](mailto: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



### **Saturday, July 4:**

8:00 AM Vocations to Married Life  
 4:00 PM Joseph, Joe & Catherine Valente  
 —Mr. & Mrs. Francis 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

### **Monday, July 6:**

12:05 PM Joan Malkin—Zilliox Family

### **Tuesday, July 7:**

12:05 PM Kenny McNerney—McNerney Family

### **Wednesday, July 8:**

12:05 PM Int. of Natalia Szurawski—Mom & Dad

### **Thursday, July 9:**

12:05 PM Frederick B. Locke—Daughter

### **Friday, July 10:**

12:05 PM Thomas Gansert—M/M Francis Sullivan

### **Saturday, July 11:**

8:00 AM Vocations to the Priesthood  
 for the Diocese of Bridgeport  
 4:00 PM Russell M. Novella—Wife & Family

### **Sunday, July 12:**

7:30 AM George Godfrey, Jr.—Godfrey Family  
 9:30 AM Dee Barrett—Brosz Family  
 11:00 AM Bethany Mass  
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

### **Requests for Sacraments and Home Visits:**

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



The Sanctuary Candle will burn  
 this week in memory of  
**Deceased Parishioners**

**Pastor's Corner for the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Praised be Jesus Christ!

On this Independence weekend where we come together to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of our nation, we give thanks to God for the principles upheld and promulgated by our nation's forefathers. The very first amendment of our Constitution establishes our freedom of religion. It prohibits the government from establishing a national religion, endorsing a specific faith, or favoring one religion over another. This ensures the government remains neutral regarding religion and acts as a separation between church and state. It also protects the liberty of individuals to practice their faith (or choose no faith at all) without government interference. In so many areas of the world, the faithful are prohibited from living out their faith publicly and to its fullest extent, whether that be through various forms of persecution or simply through cultural or societal pressures to forgo their faith. While our country is far from a Catholic oligarchy and even farther from perfect, this nation allows us to live out our faith in freedom.

We are seeing an unprecedented return to the faith in our country and even if these individuals are coming to know the faith and the person of Jesus Christ for the first time, I would assert that it is still a "return to the faith" because whether we know it or not, this country was founded as a Christian nation. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." These truths and rights could otherwise not be self-evident or unalienable without our God. The equality to which we owe each human person is given to us by God Himself and cannot be given nor taken away, but only violated or upheld. While not explicitly stated, it is undeniable that the principles upheld in our Constitution and our Declaration of Independence are founded on Christian ideals.

There are many threats that we may see in our culture today but if we see secularization of our country as a genuine threat, I would argue that it is not so much a threat from the top down as it is a threat from the bottom up. Our country allows us to live the faith so if the faithful truly live out their faith, a democracy could do nothing less than listen and obey the will of the people whose desire it is to live out the will of God. If we see corrupt systems, it is because it waits for you, the faithful, to join and remedy them. If we see corrupt politicians, it is because those offices are waiting for you, the faithful, to rise to the occasion and take on those roles as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. There is a separation between Church and State but there can be no separation between the State and the People; if those People remain faithful to God and to the Church, how can we not have the kind of country that God looks down upon with His loving approval. On this Independence Day Weekend, I want to wish you all the happiest Fourth of July and I hope that my love for this country is shared amongst all of you as well. God bless the United States of America and God bless all of you!

In Christ & Mary,  
Father Silva

## PARISH EVENTS

### WEEKLY HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION

Monday, July 6 7:00-8:00 PM

### SAFE ENVIRONMENT / VIRTUS TRAINING

July 15, 2026 9:00AM

Carmen Lucia Buck Faith Formation Building.

Please contact Brian Walsh at

[coachbrianw@gmail.com](mailto:coachbrianw@gmail.com) or

Safe Environment Coordinator

Maria Merino-Schweitzer

[maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org](mailto:maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org).

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES HOME ESSENTIALS GOODS COLLECTION

Weekend of August 22-23

After all Masses

*Details are coming soon.*

### 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 center 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](http://www.masstimes.org) to find a Catholic Church close to your vacation destination.



SAINT JOSEPH'S  
— SEMINARY AND COLLEGE —

St. Joseph's Seminary and College in Yonkers will be hosting a weekend contemplative symposium entitled,  
**"Francis and Dominic:  
A Mysticism of the Word in the World"**

Be inspired by an outstanding lineup of speakers and presenters such as Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre, Most Reverend James Massa, Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn, President/Rector of St. Joseph's Seminary and more!

**Date and Time: Friday, July 24-Sunday, July 26**  
**Location: Seminary of Immaculate Conception - Long Island, NY**

For more Information and registration:  
St Joseph's Seminary Event's Office -  
[sjs.events@dunwoodie.edu](mailto:sjs.events@dunwoodie.edu) or (914) 367-8201

### IMMACULATE HIGH SCHOOL'S 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

SEPT **28** 2026

RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB  
DANBURY, CT

### Immaculate High School's 37th Annual Golf Outing

Please join us on **Monday, September 28, 2026** at the beautiful Ridgewood Country Club. Enjoy a day of camaraderie on the course plus lunch, cocktails, dinner, exciting contests, prizes and raffles.

**11:30am - Registration & Lunch**

**12:30 - Shotgun Start**

Swing into action for a great cause and support the students of IHS!

For more information please contact Alumni & Events Director, Jeannie Demko at [jdemko@myimmaculatehs.org](mailto:jdemko@myimmaculatehs.org) or Golf Co-Chairs, Michael Anstett at [golfchair@myimmaculatehs.org](mailto:golfchair@myimmaculatehs.org) or Michael Gelson at [golfchair2@myimmaculatehs.org](mailto:golfchair2@myimmaculatehs.org).

## FAITH FORMATION

**Calendar** — The religious education calendar will be available soon. Classes are expected to begin on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 6 and 7, 2026. 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](mailto:CWeber@stjosephdanbury.org), so that we can note your account accordingly.

**Join the catechetical team!** For the new school year, we will need catechists, door/hall monitors, classroom aides, and substitutes! *As the first and foremost educators of your children, you are the ideal candidate for teaching your Catholic faith!* Plus, as a catechist, you will receive a tuition discount and ongoing training will be made available to you! All volunteers 18+ are required to complete Virtus training to be Safe Environment compliant. **We also are looking for teen mentors!** Teen volunteers must be in high school and already confirmed.

Please direct any questions to: [maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org](mailto:maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org).

**Safe Environment / Virtus Training** — We are hosting a Virtus training class on July 15, 2026, at 9:00am in the Carmen Lucia Buck building. For questions, please contact Brian Walsh at [coachbrianw@gmail.com](mailto:coachbrianw@gmail.com) or the Safe Environment Coordinator, Maria Merino-Schweitzer, [maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org](mailto:maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org).

**Faith Formation Office Hours** — While the Faith Formation office has closed for the summer and will reopen after Labor Day, we are available by appointment. Please contact the Director of RE by email: Maria Merino-Schweitzer [maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org](mailto:maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org).

Aunque la oficina de Educación Religiosa ha cerrado por el verano y reabrirá después del Día del Trabajo (Labor Day), estamos disponibles con cita previa. Por favor, comuníquese con la Directora por correo electrónico: Maria Merino-Schweitzer [maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org](mailto:maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org).

### Interested in Becoming Catholic?

**OCIA** (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults), is the process by which adults become fully Catholic through the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation.

If you are considering becoming Catholic, or are a baptized Catholic adult who wishes to prepare for First Communion and Confirmation, we invite you to join our OCIA program.

Sessions will begin in the Fall, and we will meet weekly.

St. Joseph's OCIA program includes sessions of education, discussion, questions & answers, and fellowship.

For more information, please contact Anne Leclercq at 203-748-8177, or

[anne.leclercq@stjosephdanbury.org](mailto:anne.leclercq@stjosephdanbury.org)

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## Parish Support

### Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings for the Week of 6/23—6/29/26

In process, will be published next week.

Weekly Offertory                      \$    0.00

Peter's Pence                         \$    0.00

◇ **This weekend's second collection is for our Monthly Collection.**

◇ **Next weekend's second collection is for the St. Joseph School Capital Projects Fund.**



**St. Joseph Parish has raised  
303 gifts worth \$105,845  
for our goal of \$98,000.**

**Thank you to all who have participated.**

### 2026 BISHOP'S APPEAL PRAYER

Almighty and ever-faithful Lord, we gratefully acknowledge  
Your mercy, and we place our trust in You.

Your Gospel proclaims the Good News to all  
radiant with Your glory and inviting us to rejoice.

Your love and guidance fill our hearts with joy.

May the Holy Spirit inspire us to respond to  
One in Christ, the 2026 Bishop's Appeal.

Bless us with generosity,  
that in love we may freely share our gifts with others.

Bless us with understanding, that we may recognize  
that everything we have is a gift from God.

Bless us with wisdom,  
that we may wisely use the gifts God has given us.

Bless us with a true sense of joy —  
the fruit of generous and grateful giving.

May Mary, Mother of God, be with us  
to inspire, guide and protect us.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



## SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

Website: [www.sjsdanbury.org](http://www.sjsdanbury.org)

Office 203-748-6615

*The mission of St. Joseph School is to nurture our students through academic excellence, character formation and loving service, in a safe, welcoming and faith-filled environment.*

**Enrollment is Open!!**

Email: [Admissions@sjsdanbury.org](mailto:Admissions@sjsdanbury.org)

### 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.

**The requirements to be a Sponsor are:**

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.
4. Sponsor Certificates will be issued during our Parish office hours, Monday-Thursday 9-4 and Fridays 9-12.
5. Please allow 1 week to process.

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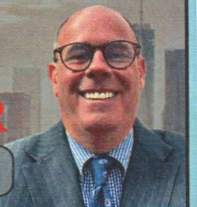
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