

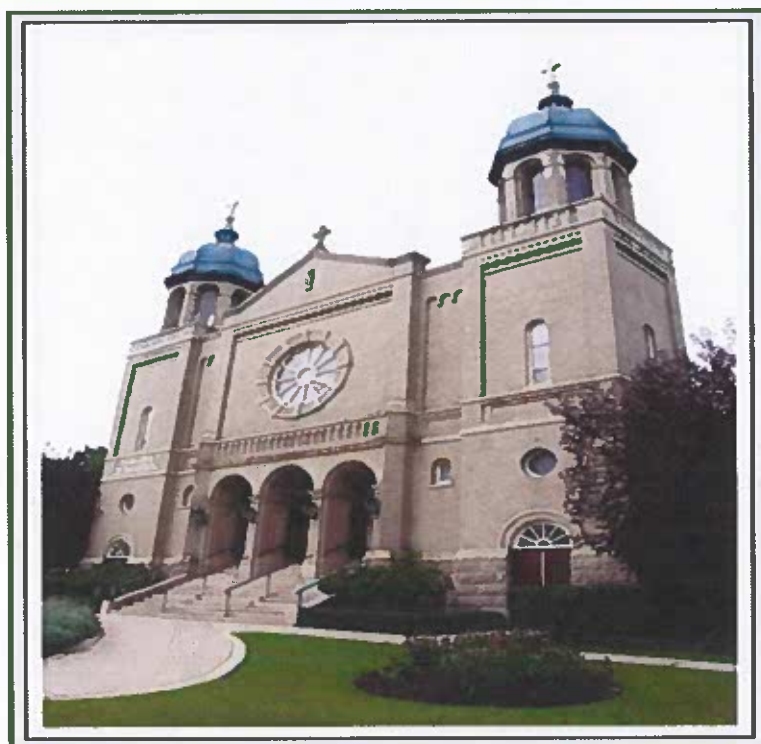
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN DANBURY

8 ROBINSON AVENUE, DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810-5517

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

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time — July 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–Thur 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 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: Dan Alvarez 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, July 25:

8:00 AM Intentions of St. Joseph School
 4:00 PM John Masi—Michele & Family

Sunday, July 26:

7:30 AM Giuseppe Parisi—Children
 9:30 AM Int. of Ania Szurawski
 —Rose Latty & Family
 11:00 AM Robert McNiff—Family
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, July 27:

12:05 PM Carmella Scozzafava
 —M/M John Scozzafava

Tuesday, July 28:

12:05 PM Joseph Duff—M/M Frank Sullivan

Wednesday, July 29:

12:05 PM Rose Ross—Donald & Irene Ragatz

Thursday, July 30 :

12:05 PM Joseph Mannino
 —Peter & Deborah Creighton

Friday, July 31:

12:05 PM Angela DeVito—M/M Frank Sullivan

Saturday, August 1:

8:00 AM Vocations to the Religious Life
 4:00 PM Dee Barrett—Cesca Family

Sunday, August 2:

7:30 AM Medlar & Casale Families
 —Sue & Vinny Casale
 9:30 AM Raina Spasova—Hristina Veleva
 11:00 AM Bethany Mass
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



The Sanctuary Candle will burn
 this week in memory of

Mackenzie Newsome

Requested by: Mother & Grandmother

Pastor's Corner for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Praised be Jesus Christ!

It cannot be understated how incredibly beautiful, spacious, and varied our nation is. I am certain that many people have grown tired of hearing me drone on about this country's grandeur but at the risk of repeating myself ad nauseum, my three weeks away provided for some much deeper reflection on what we have here in this country. After driving through 14 different states the realization that befell me was that our nation's landscape is as diverse as its people and their culture. From the rolling hills of Pennsylvania and West Virginia to the grassy plains of Oklahoma and Texas, it felt, at times, as though each state was in and of itself, its own country. "How could this all be one single nation?" was a consistent thought that ran through my mind...and yet, it is.

There will forever be legitimate complaints, critiques, and criticisms about this nation and its impact on the world. Many of those critiques are warranted and all of them are certainly necessary for a deeper and more introspective people, without which, there can be no change or growth as a nation. While we as a people must constantly be looking closely at how we can better serve this nation's people, I think it a sorrowful blunder to not also dwell intently on that which does make our nation unique and wonderful. At the risk of this column becoming a diatribe aimed at those who would denounce our country every step along the way, allow me to point out something that struck me at some point in the 6,500 or so miles of this trip: there was not one hour that passed where I did not see, in some form or another, a church.

Every long and winding road had near or far off in the distance a church steeple that stood out along the horizon. Whether it was in the foothills of the Appalachian mountains or the tallgrass prairies of Oklahoma, a beacon of Christ's presence in this country stood before the backdrop of some of the most beautiful scenery in God's created world. As the sun rose or set, it seemed to set on a country that was littered with Christ's church and thus, His people. Sons and daughters of the Heavenly Father for generations built, maintained, and passed down the holy places where Christ would be worshiped by all in that community. People who farmed for a living, worked in steel mills, investment bankers, and even the homeless all had the opportunity to praise their God as private individuals but also as a community.

After having traveled throughout the world, I will tell anyone who is willing to listen (and even those who try not to!) that this country is still the most incredible and hopeful place that I have ever been. Regardless of political affiliation and gripes with public policies, it must be stated that what was created by those generations before us must be appreciated and preserved, even if it must be improved. Our God has blessed us abundantly with a nation that does not simply permit us to worship, but to live out our faith beyond the confines of the walls of our churches.

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva

PARISH EVENTS

WEEKLY HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION

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

Holy Hour is held every Monday evening.

PRE-BAPTISM CLASS

Sunday, August 2 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 contact the Parish Office to register.

203-748-8177

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, August 7

Eucharistic Adoration is held on the **first Friday** of each month, immediately following the 12:05 PM Mass and ending at 8:00 PM.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, August 22 9:00AM—2:00PM

In the Church Hall

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council #29

www.redcrossblood.org/give

SAVE THE DATES:

ST. JOSEPH PARISH TAG SALE

Drop-off Dates:

Friday, Sept 4—Sunday, Sept. 6

Tag Sale Dates:

Friday, Sept. 11—Sunday, Sept. 13

SELL YOUR GOLD FUNDRAISER

Friday, Sept. 18—Monday, Sept. 20

ANNUAL MASS TO HONOR OUR LADY OF KNOCK

Saturday, August 15th 12:00 PM

The Andy McGann Comhaltas branch and the Danbury LAOH are presenting their annual Mass to honor Our Lady of Knock on Saturday, August 15th at 12 pm **at St. Peter's R.C. Church, 104 Main Street in Danbury, CT.** Music and readings will be in Irish and English. All are invited to attend! There will be a reception with light refreshments following the Mass downstairs in the St. Peter parish hall - all are welcome, and there is no charge - free will donations will be gratefully accepted!



DINE TO DONATE! FUNDRAISING NIGHT



10% DONATION NIGHT

Support Danbury Knights of Columbus McGivney Council #29 by presenting this flyer to the Danbury, CT location and Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of your total food purchases to Danbury Knights of Columbus

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Valid Tuesday, August 18
3:00 - 10:00pm



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Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings

for the Week of 7/14—7/20/26

Weekly Offertory \$ 7,340.00
Co-Op Mission Sunday \$ 2,209.00

- ◇ **This weekend's second collection is for the Religious Education Subsidy.**
- ◇ **Next weekend's second collection is for Monthly Collection.**

PILGRIMAGE

Accompany Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano and Chris McMahon on a 4 day pilgrimage to Mexico City.

This life-changing pilgrimage will take place from Friday, October 9 - Monday, October 12, 2026.

- ◆ Experience the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe — the most visited Marian shrine in the world.
- ◆ See the miraculous tilma of St. Juan Diego (an image created by God) and attend a pilgrim Holy Mass with the Bishop at the Basilica.
- ◆ Go to Tepeyac Hill where the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Juan Diego and see so much more.
- ◆ Next, travel to the Sisters of Mary at the World Villages for Children (WVC) Girlstown in Chalco, Mexico, to witness how the Sisters are transforming the lives of impoverished children in the most desperate circumstances through education, faith formation and vocational training.

Act Fast! Limited Space Is Available.
Register online by **September 9, 2026** at:
<https://worldvillages.org/events/caggiano>

For tour inquiries email:
pilgrimages@worldvillages.org or
Call: 1-800-662-6316



Saint Joseph Parish	
2026 Bishop's Appeal as of 6/30/26	
Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$98,000
Total Pledged:	\$110,929 (113%)
Donors to Date:	272 Donors



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

The Annual Bishops Appeal is at 90% of our overall goal of \$8 million.
Thank You to all who have pledged or made gifts.

Here is an example below of how your gift can help to support the diocesan ministries and programs:

For more than a century, Catholic Charities of Fairfield County has offered a wide range of social services to the greater Fairfield County community. The need for these services continues to surge as rising food prices, a shortage of affordable housing, and limited access to mental health care increasingly impact low-income and homeless families.

Thanks to the time, talent, and treasure of so many parishioners around the Diocese, Catholic Charities of Fairfield County continues to be one of the largest private social service providers in Connecticut, helping throughout the 23 towns in the Diocese. The agency's mission is to help the needy and most vulnerable in our County to permanently improve their lives. Catholic Charities provides supportive services that enable families to rise out of poverty, overcome barriers, and achieve self-sufficiency and independence.

Your gift to the Diocese of Bridgeport Bishop's Appeal will assist Catholic Charities in serving our most vulnerable neighbors. To learn more please visit: www.2026BishopsAppeal.org.
Thank you for your support.

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, 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.

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.

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.

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



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Kelli Barrett
Miguel Boni
Marie Bovaird
William Carasquillo
Ernestine Clark
Irene Clark
Chuck Daudt
Patricia Deakin
Jonathan DeMarco
Albert Docktor
Edith Donald
Anita Edwards
Anand Gokhale
Marie Hallas
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Eileen McCarthy
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Victor Munoz
Marjorie Nodine
Joseph Parkis
Michael Pedicini
Joseph Ponmankal
Christine Preisser
Lilian Rivera
Catherine Robinson
Barbara R. Schirmer
Gael Sifuentes
Jeanne Soraghan
Lorraine Squillante
Kenneth Towery
Jim Wheeler
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Please pray for our parishioners who have requested prayers, and those currently in nursing homes, hospitals, or confined to their homes.

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