

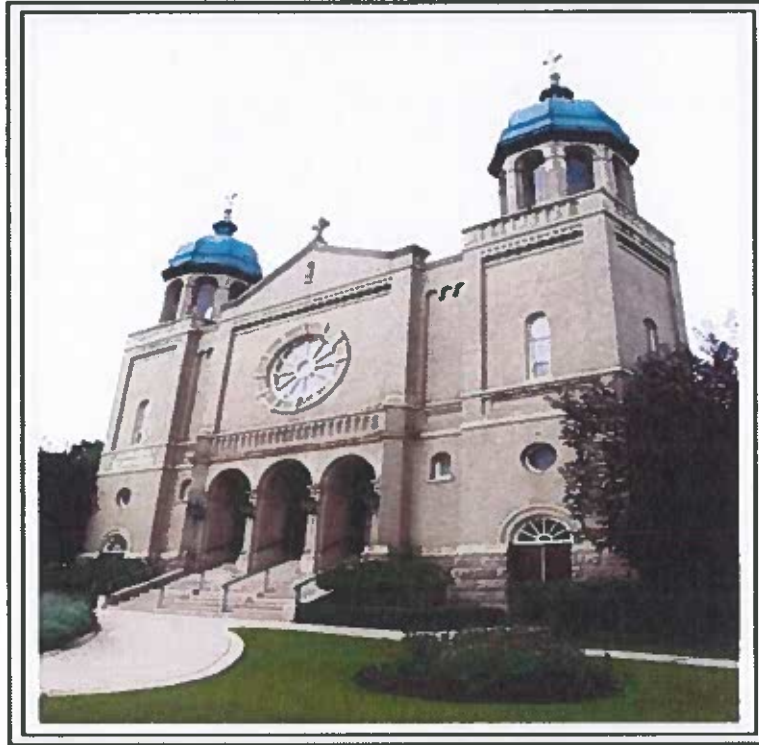
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN DANBURY

8 ROBINSON AVENUE, DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810-5517

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

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 23, 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 5:00PM

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 7:00pm—8:00pm



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
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

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, August 22:

8:00 AM Vocations to Married Life
 4:00 PM Frank Kovacs - Claire Anderson

Sunday, August 23:

7:30 AM Luigia Parisi - Children
 9:30 AM Joanne Bennett - SJS Faculty & Staff
 11:00 AM John Small - Brendan & Jeanne Spain
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, August 24:

12:05 PM Joseph Valente - M/M Frank Sullivan

Tuesday, August 25:

12:05 PM Michael Cossack - Nancy

Wednesday, August 26:

12:05 PM Tammy Palumbo - Lawrence Seavy-Cioffi

Thursday, August 27 :

12:05 PM Holy Souls in Purgatory - Nancy

Friday, August 28:

12:05 PM Immacolata Baldo - Noel Baldo

Saturday, August 29:

8:00 AM Vocations to the Priesthood for
 the Diocese of Bridgeport
 4:00 PM Fr. Naji Kiwan - Cheri & John Jowdy

Sunday, August 30:

7:30 AM Brian Michael Schelp
 - Salvatore & Camille Cioffalo
 9:30 AM Angelo & Blanche Masi
 - Ron & Katrina Freier
 11:00 AM Sean Michael Stutman - Parkis Family
 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



The Sanctuary Candle will burn
 this week for the
Intentions of John Elio
 Requested by: John Pepe

Pastor's Corner for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Praised be Jesus Christ!

The Carmen Buck building has been utilized for so many different ministries, services for the community, and even was a convent in its earliest days. The Buck Foundation has been instrumental in bestowing upon our parish grant money for the building's upkeep and operations. One of the many reasons why our parish offices are moving from the rectory to the Buck Building is precisely because the Buck Building has been a gift to the parish as a place for the community to gather. Please allow me in this week's Pastor's Corner letter to explain a number of the reasons why moving the parish offices to the Buck Building is the most prudential and pastoral decision for the parish community as a whole.

Among my first observations upon arriving to campus was that our parish offices have no handicapped access at all. There are steps that lead to all three of the rectory's entrances, making it impossible for our less able-bodied parishioners and visitors to visit our offices and speak face-to-face with myself or other members of our staff. The Buck Building's main entrance (the entrance facing the playground of our school and not the Main Street entrance) is a slight ramp and the entire main floor of the building will be accessible for all of our parishioners. The parish's main office, faith formation main office, and my office will all be on the first floor; we have even created a space for a "general use office" so that should you want to speak to another member of our staff who might be located on the second floor, they can meet you downstairs in that free office. There are also innumerable safety benefits to having all of our communities' interactions outside of the church happen under one roof.

Financial concerns are an ever-present reality in being a steward for any parish and I can say with certainty that even though our buildings may be old, the Buck Building is the most up to date, which will save the parish on costs such as heating/cooling, electricity, and so forth. The walls, windows, and HVAC system are much more up to date in the Buck Building than the rectory and will thus save the parish money in the long run. For many years, there have been unused rooms in the upstairs of the building and they have been converted to classroom spaces for our ever growing faith formation program as well as offices for all of our parish staff. This will also free up the use of our incredible library to be a place where parishioners can come and visit during office hours. The size of the rectory and the work that needs to be done will warrant further discussion and discernment with the parish as a whole but I do hope that in the future, we can fill these rooms with priests and seminarians once again!

The Carmen Buck Building was meant to be a place where our parish can serve the needs of the community and bring people together. Utilizing all of its space will allow even more of us to interact, work, and socialize with one another under one roof. If I had to give one main reason why the offices are moving out of the rectory, it would be that this move will give even more of us opportunities to interact with one another. I know that I would like to drop by the rosary ministry in between meetings in my office or to see the faith formation students as they pass through the halls on the way to their classrooms while I might be stuck in a diocesan meeting. In the future, we will even have a chapel here where it would be easier and more convenient for our parish staff and community as a whole to pray together. If you have questions, concerns, or observations, please do not hesitate to find me after Mass, send an email, or give me a call. I look forward to another step in our community growing closer together!

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva

PARISH EVENTS

Morning Glory Breakfast Program

A Food Service of Catholic Charities

Home Essentials Goods Collection

Saturday, August 22 & Sunday, August 23

The Morning Glory Home Essentials Program mission is to provide household supplies in a shopping-like experience to the financially disadvantaged residents of Danbury.

During the weekend of August 22-23, we will be collecting the following items for Morning Glory Home Essentials:

- Medium-sized liquid Laundry Detergent
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Toothpaste

Please place all donations in the marked boxes in the vestibule at the side entrance of the Church.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

WEEKLY HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION

Monday, August 24 7:00-8:00PM

Holy Hour is held every Monday evening.

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

"Sell Your Old Gold Fundraiser"

FOR THIS FUNDRAISER, YOUR CHECKBOOK STAYS HOME...
AND THIS TIME, YOU TAKE HOME THE MONEY!!!

Friday Sept. 18th 10 AM to 4 PM Rel. Ed. Bldg.

Saturday Sept. 19th 10 AM to 4 PM Rel. Ed. Bldg.

Sunday Sept. 20th 8 AM to 4 PM Rel. Ed. Bldg.

There, our good friend, Bob the gold man, will buy your "old gold" and hand you a check. Then, OVER 70% of whatever profits are made after the refining process, will be donated, in your name, to ST. JOSEPH PARISH !!!.

Any questions, please email: bob@libertygoldct.com

St. Joseph Annual Tag Sale September 11, 12, and 13, 2026

We are back and once again we are looking for donated items to sell at our **Annual Tag Sale**.

We appreciate your donations of the following:

- TOYS, GAMES
- DVDs, CDs
- KITCHEN & HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
- PUZZLES & BOOKS
- HOLIDAY DECORATIONS
- BEDDING
- BABY ITEMS
- LAMPS
- PICTURE FRAMES
- SMALL FURNITURE
- TOOLS & SMALL GARDEN EQUIPMENT
- COSTUME JEWELRY

DROP OFF TIMES:

You may **drop off** your donated items in the Church Hall (beneath the Church) on the following dates/times:

Friday, Sept. 4: 9:00a to 11:30a & 4:00p to 8:00p

Saturday, Sept. 5: 8:30a to 5:00p

Sunday, Sept. 6: 8:30a to 5:00p

Monday, Sept. 7: 8:30a to 5:00p

PLEASE NOTE that we do **NOT** accept any of the following items:

- Televisions
- Computer Equipment and Printers
- Typewriters
- Suitcases
- Sporting Equipment
- Clothes
- VHS or Cassettes or Vinyl Records
- Textbooks, Encyclopedias
- Coffee Table Books
- Car Seats

The Tag Sale will be held in the Church Hall on:

Friday, Sept. 11:

8:30a - 9:30a (Early Bird Admission is \$10)

9:30a - 3:30p Free Admission

Saturday, Sept. 12 9:30a - 3:30p

Sunday, Sept. 13 10:00a - 4:00p

Please contact Antonia Stalzer at 203-456-5170 with any questions.

Thank you for your support!

Parish Support

Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings

for the Week of 8/11–8/17/26

Weekly Offertory	\$ 9,049.00
Assumption of Mary	\$ 1,712.00
Air Conditioning	\$ 3,345.00

This weekend's second collection is a special collection for **Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Columbia Earthquake Relief**.

Following the 7.4 magnitude earthquake that struck western Columbia, Catholic Relief Services is working to respond to the widespread damage affecting communities throughout the region.

Many families are facing an urgent need for shelter, clean water, food, medical care, protection, and other essential assistance. Let us keep our brothers and sisters in Columbia in our prayers, especially those who have lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods. Please consider supporting our second collection for CRS Columbia Earthquake Relief. Online giving is also available on our parish website.



Saint Joseph Parish	
2026 Bishop's Appeal as of 7/31/26	
Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$98,000
Total Pledged:	\$111,680 (114%)
Donors to Date:	273 Donors



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



God's Freedom vs. Worldly Freedom:

**"How only the Cross and
Resurrection of Christ bestow
the most powerful freedom."**

Presented by Father Brian Gannon,
Pastor and Religious Assistant

Monday, September 21, 2026

at 7pm

St. Theresa School gym

55 Rosemond Terrace, Trumbull

Come and learn more about the
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For more information about the

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Mrs. Michelle Rowe, O.P.

Formation Director

orapronobis20@gmail.com

203 218 6882

Diocesan Wedding Jubilee Mass Saturday, October 3

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport will celebrate the **Annual Diocesan Wedding Jubilee Mass on Saturday, October 3, 2026 at 11:00 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Augustine in Bridgeport.**

Couples celebrating their **25th, 40th, 45th, 50th and more** years of marriage are eligible to attend. All couples who are recognized at the Mass will receive a commemorative certificate in recognition of this important milestone in their married life in addition to pictures with the Bishop. Sharon Colihan is coordinating the registration process for the Mass and is available to answer whatever questions you may have. She can be reached at Sharon.Colihan@diobpt.org or 203-416-1454 and she will provide instructions on how to register.

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.

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 on September 13.

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

Safe Environment - Virtus Training Class

St. Joseph Parish will be hosting a Virtus training class in the Church Hall on Thursday, September 17 at 5:00 PM. This session is open to all school parents and parishioners who have not yet completed the training. Please register in advance at the Virtus Online website www.virtusonline.org and create a new account by selecting the green link on the left side of the screen labeled First Time Registrant. Then, follow the instructions on the screen to begin the registration process. Select the Diocese of Bridgeport, and if you are registering to volunteer at the school, please choose "Saint Joseph School, Danbury, CT." If you are registering to volunteer in the church, please select "Saint Joseph Church, Danbury, CT." (Keep in mind that there are numerous St. Joseph Schools and Parishes within our Diocese. Please be sure to choose the ones in Danbury.) You will be asked to authorize a Background Check and to select a training session. From the various options, please select St. Joseph, September 17, with Brian Walsh listed as the facilitator. If you need assistance with the registration process or have any questions, please reach out to our Safe Environment Coordinator, Maria Merino-Schweitzer, at maria.schweitzer@stjosephdanbury.org, or our facilitator, Brian Walsh, at bwalsh@stjosephdanbury.org.

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