

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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 19, 2025



REV. ERIC W. SILVA, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

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

SATURDAYS 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM, 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM



Saint Joseph Church is wheelchair accessible at the church side entrance. Parking is located at the side of church.

MASS INTENTIONS**Saturday, Oct. 18:**

8:00 AM In thanksgiving to St. Joseph—Sonia

4:00 PM Int. of Ania Szurawski—Rosemarie Latty

Sunday, Oct. 19:

7:30 AM Franco Potenziani—Wife, Teresa

9:30 AM Albert J. Baldelli—His Daughters

11:00 AM Krystyna Szetella—Christine & Stanley
Zieminski

5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, Oct. 20:

12:05 PM Vincent Keilty—Family

Tuesday, Oct. 21:

12:05 PM Mary Lou & Brian Vaughn—Family

Wednesday, Oct. 22:

12:05 PM Int. of Fr. Nick Pavia—Nancy

Thursday Oct. 23:

12:05 PM Joe Valente—M/M Frank Sullivan

Friday, Oct. 24:

12:05 PM Gayle Bragaglia—Aunt

Saturday, Oct. 25:

8:00 AM Marcelle Saint Jean—Fr. Silva

4:00 PM Mr. & Mrs. R. Ferrante—Daughter

Sunday, Oct. 26:

7:30 AM Fred Preston, Jr. (25th Anniv.)—Family

9:30 AM Thomas Newsome—Wife

11:00 AM Erin Schembri—Christine & Stanley
Zieminski

5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



The Sanctuary Candle
will burn this week in memory of
Albert J. Baldelli
Requested by his Daughters

***Wedding Banns*****Zachary Jacobellis and Kathryn Coward –1st Banns**

Bulletin Blurb
for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Praised be Jesus Christ!

In addition to the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Catholic Church in the United States and beyond celebrates World Mission Sunday. On the second to last Sunday in October each year, we recommit ourselves to the mission that Jesus Christ has commissioned every single baptized person for: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations...". While not all of us are called by God to leave our homes and venture out to spread the Gospel in foreign lands, this commission of Jesus to His disciples was not only for those who physically leave their homes, jobs, and families behind. This Great Commission is for all of us.

Saint T  r  se of Liseux is one of the patron saints of missionaries and yet she lived the entirety of her consecrated life as a cloistered Carmelite Nun. She had a missionary spirit and would often find herself praying fervently for those who are in Africa, Asia, or the Americas. Financial support is only one way in which we can join the missionary work taking place all throughout the world and while it may seem that in the 21st century, that work may be less evident or less necessary, be reminded of the simple fact that there have been more martyrs for Jesus Christ in the last 100 years than the past 1,900 years combined! Pope Leo has written his first Apostolic Exhortation entitled *Delexi Te* in which he writes: "I share the desire of my beloved predecessor that all Christians come to appreciate the close connection between Christ's love and his summons to care for the poor." I hope and pray that we all share the same sentiment and live out, whether we are at home or away, that Great Commission mandated to us all.

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva

Requests for Sacraments and Home Visits:

For a communion, confession, and/or anointing homebound visit, please call the Parish Office:
203-748-8177

PARISH EVENTS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Tuesdays, in October & November, 7:00 PM

The group is under way. This coming Tuesday, October 21, 2025, we will be discussing Chapters 3 through 5 of The Acts of the Apostles, as set forth in the class text. We meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Buck Religious Education Center. New participants are always welcome, even on a drop in basis just to see what we're doing. Feel free to contact Deacon Bill Timmel for details. Email: dada-tim@yahoo.co, or telephone at (Daytime): 203-270-8300 or (Evenings): 203-426-3474.

CCW WARM WEATHER DRIVE

Nov. 15-16 & Nov. 22-23



St. Joseph Council of Catholic Women is asking for your help in collecting **NEW socks, mittens/gloves and scarves** for adults and

children in need. As cold weather approaches, we would like to collect these items which will be distributed through Dorothy Day House. Used items cannot be accepted. Labeled bins will be at the entrances of the church on the weekends of **Nov 15-16 and 22-23**.

Save the Date!

THE TWELVE VOICES OF CHRISTMAS

On **12/14/25 at 2:00 pm** in St. Joseph Church, Danbury, *The Twelve Voices of Christmas* production will be presented. Please join us in hearing from those most intimately connected with the birth of our Lord.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

In the month of November, we remember our beloved deceased family and friends. In their honor, we inscribe their names in a *Book of Remembrance*. **Beginning Oct. 18** you may enroll loved ones online on a form on our church website. If you prefer, you can submit a card that is available in the side vestibule. **Please submit names by October 31.**

Order of Mass for the Lord's Day 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Processional Hymn

#647 "O Christ, Our Hope"

First Reading: Exodus 17:8-13 *

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 12:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

Gospel Acclamation: Hebrews 4:12

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

Offertory Hymn

#420 "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Communion Hymn

#509 "Draw Near and Take the Body of Thy Lord"

Recessional Hymn

#674 "O Love of God"

***Readings & Gospel: Today's Missal: pp. 65-66**

Hymns: St. Michael Hymnal

DAILY MASS READINGS:

Monday, Oct. 20

Romans 4:20-25 / Resp. Luke 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 / Luke 12:13-21

Tuesday, Oct. 21

Romans 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21 / Psalm 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 / Luke 12:35-38

Wednesday, Oct. 22

Romans 6:12-18 / Psalm 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8 / Luke 12:39-48

Thursday, Oct. 23

Romans 6:19-23 / Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6 / Luke 12:49-53

Friday, Oct. 24

Romans 7:18-25a / Psalm 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93-94 / Luke 12:54-59

Saturday, Oct. 25

Romans 8:1-11 / Psalm 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 / Luke 13:1-9



2020
SHEPHERDS
AFTER MY
OWN HEART

SEMINARIAN & VOCATIONS DRIVE

SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS & YOUNG MEN CALLED TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Bulletin Blurb for October 4-5

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FUTURE PRIESTS

Thanks be to God, we have 37 seminarians preparing for the priesthood! The cost for this formation is more than \$70,000 annually which breaks down as follows:

- 35% Tuition
- 19% Room & board
- 21% Health insurance
- 15% Other living expenses
- 10% Summer programs & mission trips

Our seminarians are intensely focused on spiritual growth, academic excellence, human maturity, and pastoral service. Your support allows them to focus on preparing to serve as good and holy priests!

We also have an excellent plan to further increase priestly vocations in our diocese, including:

- Revitalized Vocation Team
- Parish Vocation Ministries
- Called by Name Campaign
- Regional Discernment Groups
- St. Andrew Dinners
- Discernment Retreats

Our Vocation Team's overall strategy is to identify and accompany young men as they hear and respond to God's call.

Bishop Caggiano has asked all parishioners to be especially generous to ensure happy, healthy, holy priests for the future of the Church. Please give at www.bridgeportpriest.org/give



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Parish Support

Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings

October 11-12 \$ 7,351.00

This weekend's second collection is for
World Mission Sunday

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

The Pontifical Mission Societies USA
"Missionaries of Hope among the Peoples"

"The Pontifical Mission Societies are the primary means for awakening missionary responsibility among all the baptized (and for) supporting ecclesial communities in areas where the Church is young," Pope Leo XIV

Celebrated every year on the second-to-last Sunday of October, World Mission Sunday is the day when Catholics around the world unite the support the missionary work of the Church. Established by Pope Pius XI in 1926, it remains the only annual global collection that directly supports the 1,124 mission territories where the Church is young, struggling, or persecuted. On this day, every parish, in every diocese, in every country, joins in prayer and giving to ensure that missionaries can continue their vital work—building churches, forming priests, supporting catechists, and serving communities in need.

www.PontificalMission.org/wms

SEMINARIANS & VOCATIONS DRIVE

This weekend, baskets are at the church entrance, for donations to the Diocese of Bridgeport Seminarian & Vocation Drive. You can submit your donation pledge card, as well as cash/check offerings to the drive. Please make checks payable to *Diocese of Bridgeport*.



ANNUAL BISHOPS APPEAL

Saint Joseph Parish

2025 Bishop's Appeal as of 10/10/25

Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$98,000.00
Total Pledged:	\$81,801
Donors to Date:	299 Donors



To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2025BishopsAppeal.org call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.



RETREAT FOR SINGLE WOMEN AGES 18-35

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Dr. Louis Howe, Jr., Principal

lhowe@sjsdanbury.org

School Advisory Board: Mrs. Jeanne Spain

Parent Teacher Organization:

Mrs. Katie Duncan ptopresident@sjsdanbury.org



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Please pray for our parishioners who have requested prayers, and those currently in nursing homes, hospitals, or confined to their homes.

Rose Marie Abramo

Kelli Barrett

Matthew Bernabe

Marie Bovaird

Ernestine Clark

Irene Clark

Chuck Daudt

Albert Docktor

Melissa Doreson

Anita Edwards

Anand Gokhale

Marie Hallas

Henry James

Jessy Jos

P.M. Joseph

Gavin King

Dorothy Koellmer

Livio Malta

David McCann

Catherine McCarthy

Eileen McCarthy

William Morrison

Michelle Mott

Victor Munoz

Marjorie Nodine

Theresa O'Connor

Ethel Pancotti

Joseph Parkis

Michael Pedicini

Joseph Ponmankal

Julie Potenziani

Christine Preisser

Art Regan

Catherine Robinson

Michael Skomro

Barbara R. Schirmer

George Schur

Jeanne Soraghan

Lorraine Squillante

MaryAnn Storms

Kenneth Towery

Rebecca Zaccardo

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
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: Ryan Moore 203-744-9562

Men's Faith Group: Mark Azzara 203-947-4012

Lay Carmelites: Diane Chirido 203-470-0444

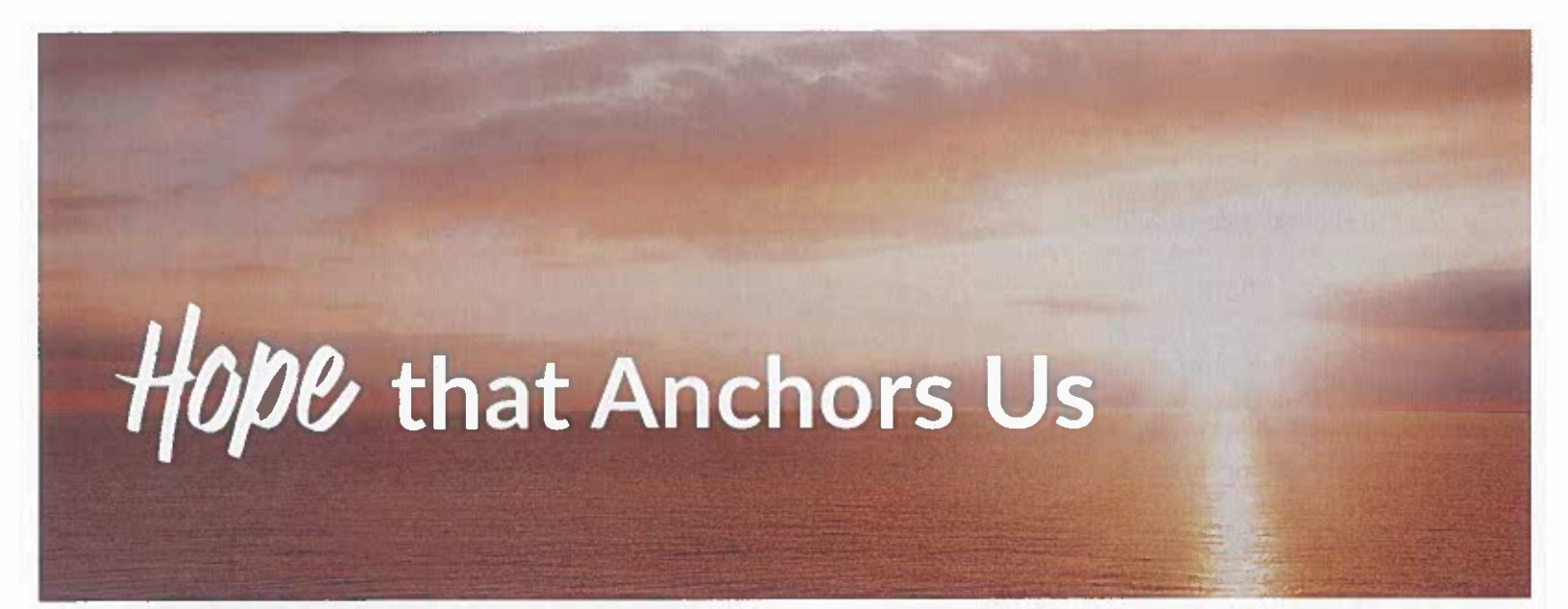
Respect Life Group:

Lani Gonzales 203-512-1629

Scouts (Boy): Gerald Gibson 203-797-1788

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



Hope that Anchors Us

Facing the end of life, whether for ourselves or someone we love, can stir fear, sadness and deep questions about what lies ahead. Yet, in these moments, we are called to cling to a hope far greater than anything this world offers. Christian hope is not just a wish for things to improve; it is a certainty, rooted in a person who will never fail us. Our hope rests in the One who guarantees it—Jesus Christ, who holds our future in His hands.

So how do we truly live out this hope, especially when suffering weighs heavy?

Let us use the letters of the word “hope” to reflect more deeply on the assurance Jesus has given us.

Holding Fast to Christ

Our hope is not in vague ideas but in Jesus Christ: God who took on flesh, loved us to the end, and conquered death. When life’s final chapter feels uncertain, He remains our sure and steadfast anchor. We are held by a God who keeps His promises. “The mystery of the Redemption of the human person is in an astonishing way rooted in the loving involvement of God with human suffering. That is why we can entrust ourselves to God and to convey this certainty in faith to the person who is suffering and fearful of pain and death.”¹

Overcoming Death

Through His resurrection, Jesus Christ, overcame death and gave us the hope of joining Him in eternal life. Eternal life is a relationship with our Lord who does not die, who is Life and Love itself. “Death is a decisive moment in the human person’s encounter with God the Savior.”² Thanks to the grace of Christ, death is not the end of life but a promise of communion with God. This is the glorious future awaiting us, and the great hope that steadies us even now when we are suffering.

Persevering in Solidarity

The Gospel is not just information; it transforms. It changes our life and enables us to act. Since we know who holds our tomorrow, we can face today’s fears with courage. This hope reshapes how we face suffering. It means living our final days not in despair, but with joy, offering our pain as prayer and witness.

This hope is not just for us; it is a light we pass to others. In hospice rooms, family conversations, and quiet acts of care for others, we become living reminders that no life is beyond God’s reach. “The scene of the Cross provides a way of understanding that even when it seems that there is nothing more to do there remains much to do, because ‘remaining’ by the side of the sick is a sign of love and of the hope that it contains.”³ Together, we can build communities anchored in solidarity that no illness or grief can destroy. We believe that every human

life, to the very last breath, has inestimable value and demands our protection and care.

Embracing Suffering

Jesus did not just observe human suffering—He entered into it. Our God chose to become like us! Love Himself chose to suffer with us, and that changes everything. Even when we feel alone, He is there, whispering, “I am with you.” Our suffering becomes meaningful when united to Christ’s suffering on the Cross. When we unite our pain with His, it becomes a share in God’s redeeming work, a mystery where our deepest wounds become vessels of grace. This is the scandal of our faith: a God who did not spare Himself so that we would know we are never abandoned.



Isaiah the prophet tells us, “They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength” (Is. 40:31). In life’s hardest moments, let us fix our eyes on our Lord Jesus Christ. He walks this path with us, redeems our struggles, and promises a dawn where every tear is wiped away. May His hope light our way, guiding us and our loved ones to our heavenly home with Him.

¹ *Samaritanus bonus*, Conclusion.

² *Ibid*, V, 10.

³ *Ibid*, II.

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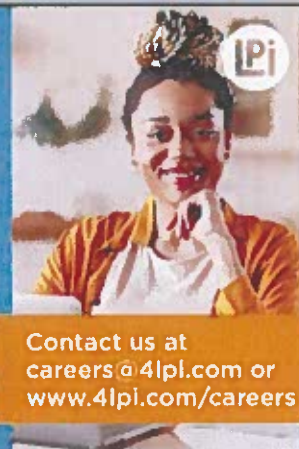
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