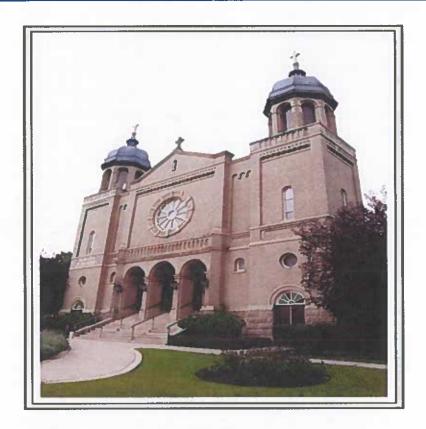
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Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, November 23, 2025



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



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Nov. 22:

8:00 AM Justin O'Reilly—Nephew, Liam 4:00 PM Danielle Kornhaas—Doyle Family

Sunday, Nov. 23:

7:30 AM Christine Gremler—M/M Frank Sullivan 9:30 AM Carolyn Victory-Moore & McElroy Families 11:00 AM Robert LeFebvre—Family 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, Nov. 24:

12:05 PM Anthony Abramo—Nancy

Tuesday, Nov. 25:

12:05 PM Dolores Barrett—Family

Wednesday, Nov. 26:

12:05 PM Barbara & Desmond Fernandez—Family

Thursday Nov. 27: Thanksgiving Day

9:00 AM Rose Godfrey—Godfrey Family

Friday, Nov. 28:

12:05 PM Ralph Burdick—Mr. & Mrs. Frank Sullivan

Saturday, Nov. 29:

8:00 AM Christine Gremler—M/M Frank Sullivan 4:00 PM Betty & Jack McCarthy—Family

Sunday, Nov. 30:

7:30 AM Vincenza Seiler—Hood Family 9:30 AM Eugene Berkowitz—Vieux Family 11:00 AM Justin O'Reilly—Nephew, Paul 5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners



The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week in memory of Antonietta Cefaloni

Requested by the Cefaloni Family

OFFICE CLOSURE:

Thursday, November 27 & Friday, November 28

Our Parish Offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Bulletin Blurb for the Solemnity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Advent is just a week away and the importance of preparing for the season is upon us! Advent has a two-fold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight. Advent is a time to recall the cry of the early Christians: "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Maranatha!), so we call upon Him in our hearts by preparing for His birth as best we possibly can.

How do we do this? Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving. We are giving out Magnificat Advent companions which highlight the readings as well as provide beautiful daily meditations to raise your eyes towards heaven in joyful anticipation of Our Lord's birth. Implementing some form of mortification such as a fast from foods, forms of media, technology, or music, align our whole person towards the celebration that has yet to come on December 25th. In this season, much is spent on decorations, gifts, celebration, and feasts, so why not make a generous gift towards the Church or another institution or charitable work, if for nothing else, to be reminded of the truth of why this celebratory season exists in the first place: Jesus Christ's birth! Each year it is typical to fall into a routine of some sort but let this year be different than the rest. Enter into Advent if it were your first Advent, as if it were your last Advent, as if it were your only Advent.

In Christ & Mary, Father Silva

MAGNIFICAT Advent Companion

devotional books are available by the church side entrance, for our parishioners. Please take one. This spiritual guide is designed to enrich your Advent experience with daily reflections, prayers and meditations.

WELCOME to Advent at Saint Joseph's!



We hope you'll take advantage of these opportunities to grow in faith and to make straight the paths of the Lord before Christmas

Advent Adoration

An hour of peace and quiet each Monday during the busiest time of the year! Quiet time for prayer before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, with confessions available. The Monday evenings of Advent (Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22) from 7 - 8 p.m.

Come to Daily Mass

Mass is celebrated each weekday at 12:05 p.m., Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. on Saturday Mornings.

Make a Good Confession this Advent

Additional Reconciliation times during Advent:

The Monday evenings of Advent (Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22) from 7 to 8 p.m. We will have additional Confessions on Tuesday, December 23 from 6 – 8 p.m. Our normal confessions times are 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. and 3 – 3:45 p.m. every Saturday.

'Tis the season to make some time for peace and prayer to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ at Christmas

> The Parish of Saint Joseph 8 Robinson Avenue Danbury, CT 06810 www.stjosephdanbury.org

Three Simple Advent Tips

by Tom and Caroline McDonald

Advent makes us grateful to be Catholic: It is full of beautiful, ancient traditions unique to our faith — an ideal time to instill a yearning for Christ in our kids, and in all of us.



During Advent, we can experience with our children what it was like to be an Old Testament people, longing for a Savior. We can teach our children lessons about patience and learning to wait. Seeing our children's excitement and joy about Christmas can renew our own love for Jesus. How can we not take the time to celebrate this Church season? Here are five easy things we've done over the years in our home:

- 1. Put an Advent wreath on your dinner table and light it each night for dinner. Don't let this age-old tradition only be seen in Church on Sunday! The wreath symbolizes more than just the four weeks of Advent; the four candles can also represent the 4,000 years man was on earth before the Savior was born. The kids can take turns lighting and blowing out the candles. We usually say a short prayer like, "Come, Lord Jesus, be born in our hearts."
- 2. Do active works of mercy to prepare for the Savior.

 Advent is a time of preparation, and we all need tangible ways to prepare spiritually for the birth of Jesus. Put up a small manger somewhere in your home or outside, and each time any member of the family does something for the love of Jesus, he or she can put a strand of hay in the crib. It's a blessing to see the manger get fuller and fuller for Jesus as Christmas nears. Don't put Jesus in until Christmas Eve! We've also seen some families do a similar version of this with paper chains that they then use to decorate the Christmas tree.
- 3. Do something spiritual for yourself.

 Can you add in a short prayer time or Bible reading each morning during Advent or perhaps even a daily Rosary? It just might turn into a great habit. Take advantage of any spiritual happenings in your parish, too. Pray that Christmas will bring you a new zeal and deeper love for Christ this year.

PARISH EVENTS

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL MONTHLY COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, November 23

After 9:30 AM Mass in the Church Hall All are welcome.

CCW WARM WEATHER DRIVE November 22-23

St. Joseph Council of Catholic Women is collecting **NEW hats, socks, mittens/gloves and scarves** for adults and children in need. Donated items will be distributed through Dorothy Day House. Used items cannot be accepted. Labeled bins are at the church entrances for your donations.

Knights of Columbus Council 29 Food Drive Weekend of November 22-23

Collecting Food Items to benefit the Daily Bread Food Pantry. Items being collected: Boxed stuffing mix ~ Cranberry sauce ~ Jarred or canned gravy ~ Dried beans (1 or 2 lb bag) ~ Rice (1 or 2 lb bag) ~ Pasta ~ Cooking oil ~ Tea ~ Coffee ~ Baby food ~ Cereal ~ Condiments ~ Sugar ~ Flour ~ Cake mix ~ Canned tuna ~ Soup ~ Canned vegetables ~ Pasta sauce. Place donations in bins at church entrance.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH GIVING TREE

November 22—December 8

Please take an Angel Tag, and purchase a gift, to help support clients of our local service agencies. Details are on the next page.

HOLY HOUR & CONFESSION

Monday, December 1, from 7:00-8:00 PM
Beginning on December 1, St. Joseph Church will have a monthly Holy Hour & Confessions on the first Monday of each month from 7:00-8:00pm.

"THE TWELVE VOICES OF CHRISTMAS"

Sunday, December 14 at 2:00 PM

Experience with us the telling of the story of that first Christmas from the perspective of the twelve voices intimately connected with the birth of Jesus, our Lord. There will be Christmas carols sung after the show, led by Mr. Robert Fertitta, Director of Music and Organist.

Order of Mass for the Lord's Day Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Processional Hymn

#551 "Hail, Redeemer, King Divine"

First Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3 *

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 Second Reading: Colossians 1:12-20 Gospel Acclamation: Mark 11:9, 10

GOSPEL: Luke 23:35-43

Offertory Hymn

#731 "Rejoice, The Lord is King"

Communion Hymn

#746 "Shepherd of Souls"

Recessional Hymn

#800 "To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King"

*Readings & Gospel: Today's Missal: pp. 78-79

Hymns: St. Michael Hymnal

DAILY MASS READINGS:

Monday, Nov. 24 St. Andrew Düng-Lac, Priest and Companions, Martyrs

Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20 / Resp.: Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 / Luke 21:1-4

Tuesday, Nov. 25

Daniel 2:31-45 / Resp.: Daniel:3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 / Luke 21:5-11

Wednesday, Nov. 26

Daniel 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28 / Resp.: Daniel 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 / Luke 21:12-19

Thurs, Nov. 27

Daniel 6:12-28 / Resp.: Daniel 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 / Luke 21:20-28

Friday, Nov. 28

Daniel 7:2-14 / Resp.: Daniel 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81 / Luke 21:29-33

Saturday, Nov. 29

Daniel 7:15-27 / Resp.: Daniel 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87 / Luke 21:34-36

St. Joseph Church's GIVING TREE

The Angel tags for St. Joseph's Annual "Giving Tree" project are in the baskets in Church.

Please consider taking an Angel for you/your family or sharing an Angel with someone else, to help fulfill the wishes of our neighbors in need! The agencies tell us that in may cases, these gifts may be the *only ones* that people will receive for Christmas. Last year, our Parish made a difference in the lives of over 300 of our Danbury-area neighbors. Agency information is on the Parish website.

HOW THE GIVING TREE WORKS: Each local agency/organization identifies their clients (Adults and/or Children) who are in need, and assists them in making their holiday "wish lists". Each desired gift is listed on an Angel tag for someone to select and purchase the gift.

- o CHOOSE AN ANGEL: Angel tags for the Giving Tree are in baskets in the Church. Please remember to take a photo of, write down the tag information, or at least the Letters & Number code (such as "#DCF46") for any Angels you choose in case you lose your Angel. We can look up all of the information you need by the code, etc...
- o HOW TO PREPARE GIFTS: Gifts should all be wrapped unless otherwise noted on each Angel. If you purchased more than one gift for the same person, please either tie those gifts together or put them all together in a gift bag. The recipient's name on the Angel tag should be visible and tag securely attached to the gifts/gift bag please-this is important, because it will allow us, as well as the agencies to know who the gifts are for.
- o WHERE TO LEAVE GIFTS: Wrapped gifts can be brought to Church any day during regular Church hours and should be left in/next to the marked bins in the Church vestibules (side & Main St).

 They will be collected daily.
- O DEADLINE FOR BRINGING WRAPPED* GIFTS
 TO CHURCH: **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER

10th ** please, so that agencies have enough time to distribute them before Christmas.

o **QUESTIONS / NEED HELP? If you have any questions or need any assistance with anything, please contact via Text/Phone/ Email to Patricia Targett & Bob Bloomberg at 860-463-4427 or pdac03@yahoo.com and they would be more than happy to assist you!

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

Rev. Eric W. Silva: frsilva@diobpt.org

Parish Office: Tel. (203) 748-8177

Email: recstioseph@vahoo.com

Office Hours: Monday-Thurs 9:00AM-4:00PM

Friday 9:00AM-12:00PM

PARISH REGISTRATION

Parish Registration

Welcome! If you wish to register with St. Joseph Parish, please complete a registration form and submit it to the Parish Office.

- Registration can be done online through our parish website, on the Newcomers tab: www.stjosephdanbury.org
- Or, you can stop into the office and complete a form.
- Please introduce yourself to Fr. Silva.

You can help to keep our information current:

Please notify the Parish Office of address changes, new phone numbers and email addresses, so that we may have current information on file.

Requests for Sacraments and Home Visits:

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



Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings

November 15-16 \$ Will be published in next week's bulletin.

- This weekend's Second Collection is for the Health and Welfare Fund for the Retired Priests of the Diocese of Bridgeport.
- This weekend, we also have baskets by the church entrances, to accept contributions to assist St. Joseph School.

Faith of Our Fathers: Supporting Our Retired Priests

Today, Bishop Caggiano is asking for generous donations to **the Saint John Vianney Trust**, which provides housing, medical care, and compassionate assistance for the retired priests of our diocese. Why give? Just as families care for aging parents, we Catholics must care for our spiritual fathers. Our diocese has more than 70 retired priests, and healthcare costs have risen dramatically, necessitating increased financial support. Especially for our elderly and vulnerable priests, this is our opportunity to show love, tenderness, and mercy. Please give in honor of the priests who have served you throughout your life: vianneytrust.org.

Pledge cards are available in the pews. Please mail your card to the Saint John Vianney Trust, or you can return your pledge card in church at Mass, the weekend of November 30. Collection baskets will be provided.



November 2, 2025 Feast of All Souls

Dear Friends in Christ,

In every age of the Church, the Lord has provided faithful shepherds—men who have offered their lives so that others might encounter Christ in the sacraments. Over the decades, our priests have baptized our children, witnessed our marriages, comforted us in times of grief, and nourished us with the Eucharist.

Our parish priests have been true spiritual fathers, and as they age, it is our duty to care for them with the same generosity they have shown us. To meet this responsibility, our diocese has established the St. John Vianney Trust, an independent non-profit with the sole mission of caring for our senior and infirm priests in the Diocese of Bridgeport.

It is important to recognize that retirement does not end a priest's ministry. Senior priests continue to celebrate Mass, hear confessions, and offer pastoral guidance wherever they are needed. Our diocese has more than 70 priests past retirement age, a number that is projected surpass 100 priests within 15 years.

Despite dramatically rising healthcare costs, our diocese is committed to providing care for our older priests, but we need more financial resources to do so. Your generosity will ensure that these faithful men, many of whom serve well into their eighties, can continue to minister and live their remaining years with dignity

Scripture reminds us to "honor your father and mother" (Ex 20:12), and that "kindness to a father will not be forgotten" (Sir 3:14). This principle certainly applies to our earthly fathers, but it is equally true of our spiritual fathers—our parish priests. And so I invite you to give generously to the Faith of Our Fathers campaign.

Finally, please join me in praying for our beloved priests who have passed away, as well as those who are in the autumn of life. As their strength wanes, our support must grow stronger.

With sincere gratitude,

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano

+haneix caggiano

Bishop of Bridgeport

Learn more at vianneytrust.org

FAITH FORMATION

On behalf of the Faith Formation catechetical team, we wish you all a blessed and bountiful Thanksgiving holiday!

NO classes during the last week of November. **During the month of December**, our classes will meet on Tuesdays, December 2, 9, and 16, and on Wednesdays, December 3, 10, and 17. No classes during the last two weeks of December.

For anyone interested **Advent Resources**, including calendars in English and Spanish, are available online at: https://formationreimagined.org/advent-resources -2025/

Faith Formation Office Hours — Monday to Wednesday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and Thursdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. The office is closed on Fridays.



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

Please call the Parish Office with updates.

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

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Michelle Mott

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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

Monthly School Mass

Today, Sunday, November 23, St. Joseph School Students will participate in the:
9:30 AM Sunday Mass.

Coffee hour will follow in the Church Hall.
All are invited to join in worship and fellowship with our parish & school community.

St. Mary School, Bethel, CT is looking for individuals interested in substitute teaching this school year on an as needed basis (not daily). Qualifications for this position are a background check, VIRTUS training and a Bachelor's degree.

We are also looking for part-time employees on a regular schedule for our AfterSchool Club, (after school care for our students). Hours are 2pm-5:30pm on days school is in session.

For information about either of these opportunities, please email the school office at principal@stmarybethelct.org

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



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