

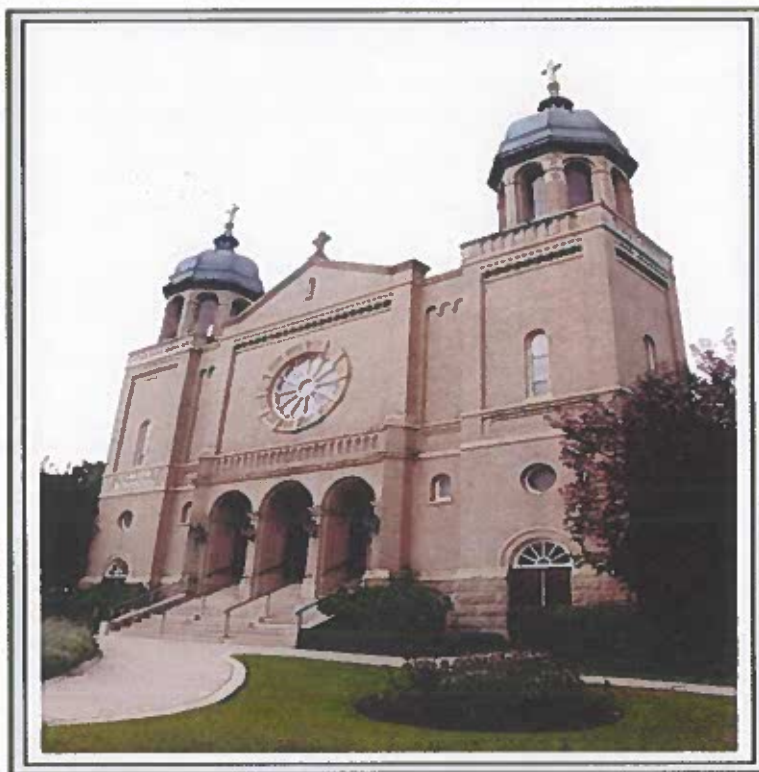
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN DANBURY

8 ROBINSON AVENUE, DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810-5517

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

1st Sunday of Advent, November 30, 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

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH 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.

MASS INTENTIONS**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

Monday, Dec. 1:

12:05 PM Michael T. Cossack—Nancy

Tuesday, Dec. 2:

12:05 PM Anthon DeLeon—Wife, Zobia

Wednesday, Dec. 3:

12:05 PM Mr. & Mrs. B. Cefaloni.—Family

Thursday Dec. 4:

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

Friday, Dec. 5:

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

Saturday, Dec. 6:

8:00 AM Margaret Gansert—M/M Frank Sullivan

4:00 PM James Deakin—Family

Sunday, Dec. 7:

7:30 AM Patricia Tribble—Family

9:30 AM Maria Bragaglia—Sister

11:00 AM Intentions of Parishioners

5:00 PM Jack & Jeanette Dinho—Family



The Sanctuary Candle will burn
this week in memory of

Joseph Valente

Requested by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Sullivan



Please Pray for the Repose
of the Soul of:

Laura Cahill

Bulletin Blurb for the First Sunday of Advent

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Last week we included a bulletin insert that included encouragement to try and make daily Mass a part of your Advent preparations in anticipation of the Lord's birth. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that Mass is the perfect prayer because it makes present the actual Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of the same Jesus Christ whose birth we wait with joyful anticipation to celebrate. For all of those who make this a regular part of your life of prayer, we all, including myself, can even perfect that practice of attending daily Mass more and more with each Mass we participate in. If Mass is indeed a prayer (which it is!), and prayer is simply a conversation with God, it is advantageous for all of us to try and apply the same logic to how we attend Mass and participate.

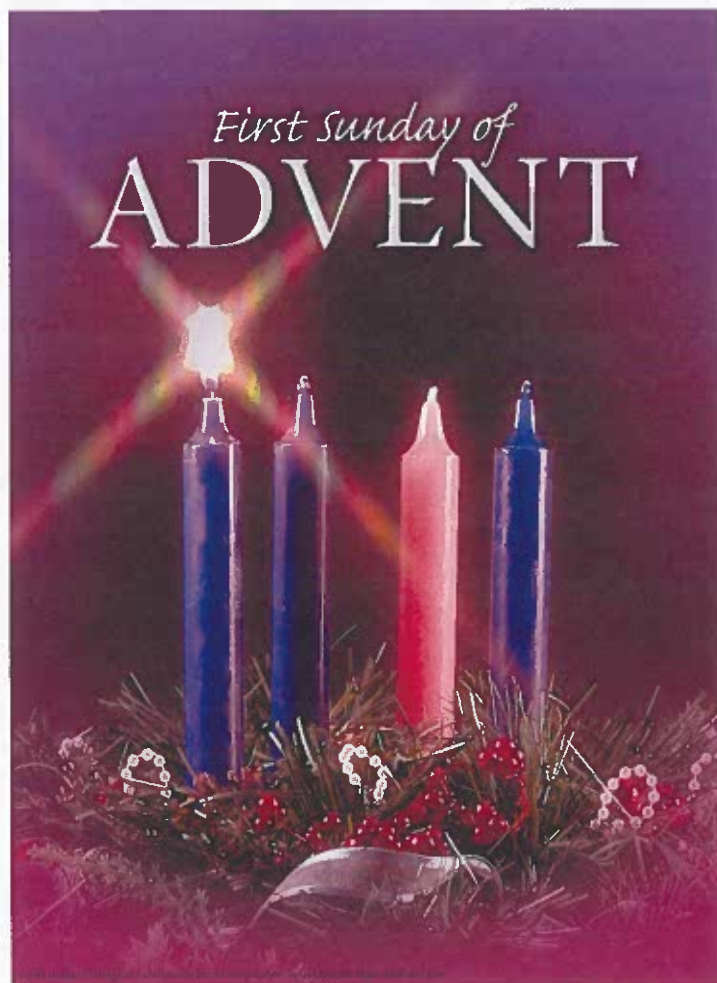
Here are a few tips that may make your prayer all the more efficacious when attending daily Mass (or any Mass). Firstly, try and make silence before and after Mass; before Mass, to prepare your mind and heart to enter into the sacrifice on calvary and afterwards to thank God for having received Him (or if you did not receive Holy Communion, to have consoled Jesus for having been present at His crucifixion). Secondly, try and attend Mass as if it were the first time you have ever attended. It is always important to try to, as best we possibly can, know what is going on during the Mass, but sometimes instead of performing the actions of Mass (i.e., responding, standing, sitting, kneeling), it looks more like we are waiting to respond. If prayer is a conversation, then we should be listening attentively to what God is saying through the words of the Mass, rather than just simply waiting to respond or for the next action to take. Thirdly, try your best to respond with the rest of the congregation. When we sing, the melody keeps us from going too fast or going too slow; in the same light, we should treat our responses at Mass. This was certainly part of the mindset of the second Vatican Council in changing the Mass from Latin into the vernacular.

Continued on next page.....

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As a priest, I celebrate Mass sometimes multiple times a day and I myself (along with every other priest) always run the risk of treating the Mass as mere actions or having a "task-oriented mind". In that light, please receive these tips as suggestions much more than any sort of criticisms because a parish who worships together (well!), stays together! Be assured of my prayers, especially from the altar, as we begin this sacred Advent season together.

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva



**Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Monday, December 8**

Mass Schedule: 9:00 am, 12:05 pm, 7:30 pm
Confession from 6:00—7:00 pm

Order of Mass for the Lord's Day 1st Sunday in Advent

Processional Hymn

#554 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5 *

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel Acclamation: Psalm 85:8

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:37-44

Offertory Hymn

#556 "Hark! A Herald Voice is Calling"

Communion Hymn

#593 "Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All"

Recessional Hymn

#489 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

***Readings & Gospel:** Today's Missal: pp. 17-19

Hymns: St. Michael Hymnal

DAILY MASS READINGS:

Monday, Dec. 1

Isaiah 4:2-6 / Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7,
8-9 / Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday, Dec. 2

Isaiah 11:1-10 / Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 /
Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday, Dec. 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Isaiah 25:6-10a / Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5-6 /
Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday, Dec. 4

Isaiah 26:1-6 / Psalm 118:1 & 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a /
Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday, Dec. 5

Isaiah 29:17-24 / Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 /
Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday, Dec. 6

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 / Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 /
Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

PARISH EVENTS

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.

HOLY FACE DEVOTION

Tuesday, December 2, from 7:00-8:00 PM

Exposition and Confessions

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, December 5

Following 12:05 pm Mass until 8:00 pm

PRE-BAPTISM CLASS

Sunday, December 7, 2:00 PM

In the Religious Ed Building. Class is required before scheduling a baptism. Please call the Rectory Office to register.

"THE TWELVE VOICES OF CHRISTMAS"

Sunday, December 14, 2:00 PM

Presentation followed by Christmas Hymns

St. Joseph Church's GIVING TREE

Please join our annual giving project, to support local service agency clients.

Choose an Angel: Angel tags for the Giving Tree are in baskets in the Church. Please photograph your tag, or write down the information (at least the Letters & Number code (such as "#DCF46"), so that we can look up the information if the Angel tag is lost.

Please wrap gifts 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(s), to allow the agencies to know who the gift is for.

LEAVE GIFTS in the marked bins in the church vestibules. They will be collected daily.

Please bring wrapped gifts to by:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10th

QUESTIONS / NEED HELP? Please contact

Patricia Targett & Bob Bloomberg at

860-463-4427 or pdac03@yahoo.com

Advent By Candlelight

A ladies night of fellowship, refreshments,
music and more

Sunday, December 7th

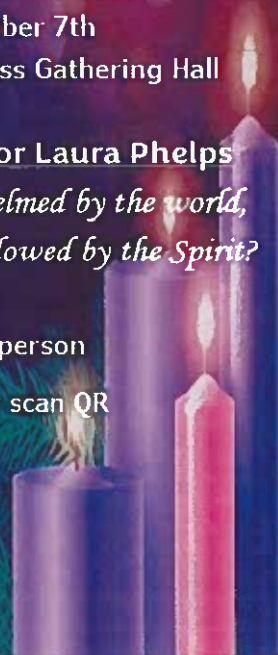
5-8pm at Monsignor Weiss Gathering Hall

Guest Speaker & Author Laura Phelps

*"Say NO to being overwhelmed by the world,
and YES to being overshadowed by the Spirit?"*

Cost: \$25 per person

Register on Church website or scan QR
code by 12/3/25



GIFTS OF JERUSALEM

December 13 & 14

In the Church Hall after Masses

Holy Land Gifts

After Mass on December 13 & 14, there will be a display of handmade wood carvings available for purchase, including nativity scenes, crucifixes, rosaries, depictions of the Last Supper, and many other beautiful religious articles.

Due to ongoing conflict in the region, many Christian families in Bethlehem are struggling to make a living. Holy Land Gifts supports over 100 Christian families by helping them sell their traditional olive wood crafts and religious items. When you purchase one of these meaningful gifts, you provide much-needed support to artisans in the Holy Land, enabling them to care for their families and sustain their work with dignity despite the challenges they face.

Thank you for helping to preserve the Christian presence in the land of Jesus' birth. May God bless you!



**Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure
Worship Offerings**

November 11-17 \$ 8,005.00

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**Second Collection:  
December 7**

Next weekend's Second Collection is for  
the **regular Monthly Collection**

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Please Give to Support Our Retired Priests

Retirement does not end a priest's ministry. They continue to celebrate Masses and funerals when local pastors are away. Some are confessors and mentors for our younger priests. Some serve as chaplains for Catholic organizations. In short, retired priests stay connected to the families they have served for decades. *Their pastoral presence remains a gift to the diocese.* As one priest remarked: "I'll never retire from being a shepherd." Please give to support our retired priests at vianneytrust.org

This weekend 11/30:

Please return in-pew pledge cards to the baskets in church this weekend. You can also mail them to the St. John Vianney Trust Office at the Diocese of Bridgeport.

**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
profrobfer52@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

~~~~~

Information about our Parish Groups can be found on the Parish website  
[www.stjosephdanbury.org](http://www.stjosephdanbury.org)  
Parish Life tab: *Ministries & Organizations.*

## FAITH FORMATION

**Today is the first Sunday of Advent.** During the Advent season, we prepare our homes and ourselves for the coming of the Lord. In today's Gospel, we hear that Jesus tells his disciples that many people will be unprepared, so he reminds his disciples that they always need to be ready for the day of the Lord. Remembering that as a family, the domestic church, one of our roles is to help one another to be better Christians, so that we can be prepared for the day of the Lord.

**During the month of December,** Faith Formation 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.

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

**Faith Formation Office Hours:** Mon to Wed 9-4, Thurs 9-12:00 noon, Closed on Fridays



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

Please pray for our parishioners who have requested prayers, and those currently in nursing 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  
Gael Sifuentes  
Michael Skomro  
Barbara R. Schirmer  
George Schur  
Jeanne Soraghan  
Lorraine Squillante  
MaryAnn Storms  
Kenneth Towery  
Rebecca Zaccardo



## SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

Website: [www.sjsdanbury.org](http://www.sjsdanbury.org)  
Office 203-748-6615

**Dr. Louis Howe, Jr., Principal**  
[lhowe@sjsdanbury.org](mailto:lhowe@sjsdanbury.org)

**School Advisory Board:** Mrs. Jeanne Spain

**Parent Teacher Organization:**

Mrs. Katie Duncan [ptopresident@sjsdanbury.org](mailto:ptopresident@sjsdanbury.org)

## 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](http://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

## 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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