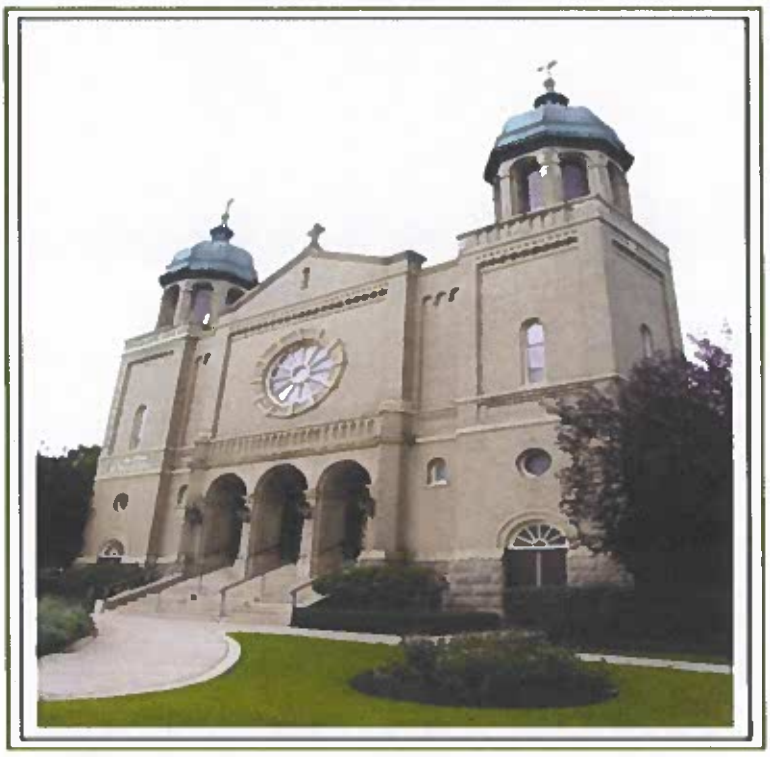
SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN DANBURY

8 ROBINSON AVENUE, DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810-5517
Rectory Telephone: (203) 748-8177 Web Page: www.stjosephdanbury.org

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

November 22, 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
Business 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 203-748-8177
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 Chirdo 203-470-0444
Respect Life Group:
Lani Gonzales 203-512-1629
Scouts (Boy): John Zilliox 203-770-3454

Mass INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 21:
8:00 AM Vocations to the Religious Life
4:00 PM Abouna Naji J. Kiwan
- Cheri & John Jowdy

Sunday, November 22:
7:30 AM Patrick Joseph Hoyer
- Theresa & Joseph Bromley
9:30 AM Robert LeFebvre - *Children*
11:00 AM George Shehl, Jr. - *Shehl Family*
5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Monday, November 23:
12:05 PM Marie Iozzo - *Olivia Shapiro*

Tuesday, November 24:
12:05 PM Int. of Jim Wheeler - *John Pepe*

Wednesday, November 25:
12:05 PM Henry Stalzer - *Ron & Katrina Freier*

Thursday, November 26: Thanksgiving Day
9:00 AM Greta Simone-Alain - *Daughter*

Friday, November 27:
12:05 PM Rose Godfrey - *Godfrey Family*

Saturday, November 28:
8:00 AM Vocations to Married Life
4:00 PM Christine Gremler
- M/M Frank Sullivan

Sunday, November 29:
7:30 AM Mary Crew - *Jim & Cathy Smith*
9:30 AM Michael Hearty
- Ann-Marie Swantek
11:00 AM Henry Stalzer - *Virginia Powers*
5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners

Requests for Sacraments and Home Visits:

For Communion, Confession, and/or Anointing homebound visit, please call the Parish Office: 203-748-8177



The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week for

Intentions of Lynn

Requested by:
Family Friend

Pastor's Corner for the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Praised be Jesus Christ!

In 1925, Pope Pius XI instituted the Feast of Christ the King, and its institution was meant to be an emphasis on the true kingship of Jesus Christ and a direct response to the global threat of atheism and secularism after the first World War. After the fallout of World War I, political uprisings spread throughout Europe as power dynamics shifted. The Greco-Turkish War (1919-1922) resulted in the collapse of the Ottoman Empire and during that war many atrocities occurred on both sides. In the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, the Bolshevik regime, led by Vladimir Lenin, instituted an official state campaign nicknamed "The Red Terror", which lasted from 1918-1922. During that short four years, it is estimated that this particular communist regime put to death somewhere between 50,000 to hundreds of thousands of people who opposed its political and ideological agenda, after which, the Soviet Union officially formed in 1922.

As evidenced by countless political uprisings and national atrocities happening all over the globe, it is clear to see why Pope Pius XI at the time would be inspired to shed light on the reality that Jesus Christ is King, not only over our hearts, but over the entire universe! Constitutions of many countries throughout the world explicitly name God as the ruler over their land. The complete opening text of the Preamble to the Constitution of Ireland reads: "In the Name of the Most Holy Trinity, from Whom is all authority and to Whom, as our final end, all actions both of men and States must be referred, We, the people of Éire, Humbly acknowledging all our obligations to our Divine Lord, Jesus Christ, Who sustained our fathers through centuries of trial..." Our own Preamble to the Declaration of Independence reads: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

While the language of our constitutions may acknowledge the supremacy of God's reign over our lands, our laws, and our governments, we know that because we, as a society, fail to allow Him to reign over our lives, this inevitably leads to the downfall of His reign over all else that governs our society. Before we can seriously enact laws that point to the Father's reign, we must allow Him to reign over our own homes and in our daily lives. Whenever traveling abroad, I am astonished how quickly natives of whichever country I am in are able to deduce that I am an American; without speaking, they know, almost instinctively, that I am from the United States of America (it might be the American Flag sewn onto my luggage!). Would that everyone we encounter know who reigns over our lives by simply walking past us on the street and by the way we conduct ourselves throughout the everyday moments of our lives.

Whether we know it or not...whether we like it or not, Jesus Christ is the King of the entire universe. We all have the duty of living in such a way that shows to all whom we meet who the ruler of our lives is. May we all strive to usher in a new era of peace in our homes, our parish, our city, and in our country under the loving protection of our One, True, King: Jesus Christ!

In Christ & Mary,
Father Silva

PARISH EVENTS

St. Joseph Church's GIVING TREE

Beginning this weekend, November 22, we will have the annual **Giving Tree,** a project that helps to fulfill the wishes of a local child, adult or senior in need, who may not otherwise receive a gift for the holidays.

Angel tags are available in baskets at the church entrances. Please consider taking one and purchasing the gift.

The Giving Tree benefits these agency clients:
Amos House ~ Birthright of Greater Danbury ~ Danbury Youth Services ~ Interfaith AIDS Ministry ~ Havencare Hancock Hall & Filosa ~ State of CT Dept of Children & Families

Sing for the Lord: New Adult Choir Forming!

We are excited to announce the formation of a new adult choir to enrich our parish liturgies!

All voice types and experience levels are welcome. No formal music training required, just a love for sacred music and a desire to serve our parish.

To express interest and learn details, please contact Kateri Lock at katerilock@gmail.com or 475-206-3120.

Rehearsals on Thursday nights 7:00-8:15PM

HOLY HOUR & CONFESSIONS

Monday, November 23
from 7:00-8:00 PM

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS

Thursday, November 26
9:00 AM

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Wednesday, December 3
6:00-7:00 PM in the Church

TWELVE VOICES of CHRISTMAS

Please join us once again for St. Joseph's Church Players Fourth Presentation of **The Twelve Voices of Christmas**; a unique drama written by Woodrow Kroll where we meet and hear from the major characters of the story of Christ's birth.

Sunday, December 13, 2026
at 2:00 PM in the St. Joseph Church.

Save the date
and invite family and friends!

Any questions? Please call Cheryl Fusco at 203-482-1202.

PARISH SUPPORT

Stewardship of Time, Talent, & Treasure

Worship Offerings
for the Week of 11/3–11/9

Collections	2026	2025
To be published next week	$	$

This weekend's 2nd collection is for:
Faith of Our Fathers **Fund for Our Retired Priests.**

Faith of Our Fathers: Supporting Retired Priests

This weekend we honor the "Faith of Our Fathers" by contributing to the care of retired priests. Our priests have shared our joys and sorrows and nourished our faith through the sacraments. Now we can help care for them as they grow older.

A priest's vocation lasts a lifetime. Many of our retired priests continue to celebrate Mass, hear confessions, and guide the faithful. Others require full-time care. We can honor their years of service by helping provide dignified living and medical assistance.

Today, Bishop Caggiano invites us to support the retired and infirm priests of the Diocese of Bridgeport through the Saint John Vianney Trust. Gifts help sustain dignified living and care, including support for healthcare needs. As care costs rise and more priests enter retirement, our generosity helps meet present needs and prepare for the future. Please pray for our retired and infirm priests and consider a gift to support them.

Please use a pledge brochure, give through today's second collection, or visit vianneytrust.org.

Thank you for remembering the priests who have brought Christ into your life.

Wedding Banns

3rd	*Ryan Englert & Kristin Strazza*
2nd	*Lester Valdes & Sarah Valdes*

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



Dear St. Joseph local Business Owners, would you please consider placing a bulletin ad:
Our advertisers help make our bulletin possible.

November 12, 2026

Dear St. Joseph Parishioners,

On behalf of the entire St. Joseph School community, I extend my heartfelt thanks for your continued generosity and support of our school through your parish collections.

As the new principal of St. Joseph School, and having worked with other parishes throughout my years in Catholic education, I am truly humbled by the generosity, kindness, and genuine care you have shown our little school community. Your generosity is a beautiful reminder of what it means to be part of a faith-filled parish family.

Because of your contributions, our school continues to grow and thrive. More importantly, your kindness allows us to continue providing our children with a Catholic education rooted in faith, love, and service to others. Please know that your generosity does not go unnoticed, and we are deeply grateful for all that you do.

I would also like to share something very special with you. Beginning December 1st, we will be opening a donation page for our Angels Committee. This committee was established to quietly and compassionately assist families in our school community who may be experiencing financial hardship. Donations will be anonymous, allowing us to help families in need while respecting their dignity and privacy.

As we approach the beautiful season of Christmas, we are reminded that the greatest gifts are often those given from the heart. For some of our families, even the smallest act of kindness can bring tremendous comfort, hope, and peace during a difficult time.

Thank you for being such an important part of our St. Joseph School family. Through your prayers, generosity, and continued encouragement, you are helping us make a difference in our children's lives.

Please know that you and your families are always in our prayers. May God bless you abundantly for the love and kindness you so freely share with us.

With heartfelt gratitude and blessings,

Mrs. Darlene Gonzalez-Morris

Principal

St. Joseph School

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