

SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN DANBURY

EIGHT ROBINSON AVENUE

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810-5517

Rectory Telephone: (203)748-8177

Web Page: www.stjosephdanbury.org



REVEREND SAMUEL V. SCOTT, M.Div., M.A., PASTOR

DEACON WILLIAM C. TIMMEL, J.D.

MR. ROBERT FERTITTA, B.A., M.A., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Whether you are a lifelong parishioner – or just visiting us for a while – **welcome to St. Joseph Parish**. We are blessed to have you among us in our worshipping community, where we seek to be conformed ever more closely to the pattern of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, offering right worship to the Father in spirit and truth (cf. Jn 4:24).

MASSES

Saturday Vigil – 4:00 PM

Sunday – 7:30, 9:30, 11:00 AM and 5:00 PM

Daily Weekday – 12:05 PM

Saturday – 8:00 AM

[Masses times in green are also live-streamed]

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

3:00 PM - 3:45 PM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are held monthly on Sunday at 12:30 PM. Please call the Rectory for available dates and to register for required pre-baptismal class. Classes are held on the first Sunday of each month. Please call the office to schedule.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples should contact a parish priest one year in advance, BEFORE any social arrangements are made. NO Sunday Weddings.

SICK CALLS, COMMUNION CALLS, ANOINTING OF THE SICK, HOSPITAL VISITS

Due to the Federal health privacy laws, HIPAA, hospitals cannot issue names of patients to parishes; you or a family member should contact the hospital's Spiritual Care Office to request a Hospital Chaplain visit during your stay. If you need to request a home visit for a loved one, please call the Rectory Office at 203-748-8177.



Saint Joseph Church is wheelchair accessible. Parking for the physically challenged is located at the side of church.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 21

8:00 AM Myda Cook—Zilliox Family
4:00 PM James Deakin—Family

Sunday, December 22

7:30 AM Int. of George Shehl, Jr.—Family
9:30 AM Edson Pires—Family
11:00 AM Deceased of Newsome, O'Donnell & Singer Families—Family
5:00 PM Intentions of Parishioners—Fr. Scott

Monday, December 23

12:05 PM John Merullo—James O'Hara

Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Philip & Florence Paonessa—Son & Family
6:00 PM Intentions of Fr. Scott—Parish Staff
11:00 PM Kevin Alexander Pacheco—Juan Pacheco

Wednesday, December 25—Christmas Day

7:30 AM Mary Mikucki—Family
10:30 AM Domenico Persichilli—Family
12:00 PM Cesca & Farrah Families—Family

Thursday, December 26

12:05 PM John Perry—Rectory

Friday, December 27

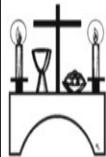
12:05 PM Caroline & Eugene Montalto—Family

Saturday, December 28

8:00 AM James Schewe—Wife, Donna
4:00 PM Ralph Burdick—M/M Frank Sullivan

Sunday, December 29

7:30 AM Int. of George Shehl, Jr.—Family
9:30 AM Joe Valente—Family
11:00 AM Intentions of Parishioners—Fr. Scott
5:00 PM Jack & Betty McCarthy—Children



Sanctuary Candles

The Sanctuary Candles will burn this week in memory of Frances and Kenneth Ruppell, requested by their daughter, Brenda.

WORDS OF WISDOM!

"There is no one, after God, who loves us as much as this most loving Mother does."

—St. Alphonsus Liguori

**The mission of St. Joseph Parish is
“To Make Christ Known”.**



Dear parishioners and friends of St. Joseph Parish,

St. Joseph's part in the story of our Savior's birth is often overlooked. In St. Luke's Gospel, it is written:

And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the City of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. (Lk 2:4-5)

This Bible passage is a reminder that the birth of Jesus is a story about people who were invited to be part of salvation history. They were invited not because of what they did or how important they were; they were invited as ordinary persons. Joseph the carpenter was far away from his tools and his work when Jesus was born. He did not even have to build the manger.

You and I are invited to also be part of the Christmas story and the Lord's life. It may be difficult to believe that we are part of the Lord's life not because of what we do, but rather for who we are. We are the Lord's. God made us, and it is God's love which sustains us.

The **Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)** which will be celebrated beginning with the **4:00 PM Vigil Mass on Tuesday, Dec. 24**. Our complete Christmas schedule is included following my letter. Christmas, of course, is not a day but a season, and the Christmas season extends liturgically until **Sunday, January 12, 2025**, which is the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**.

This Christmas, may we allow the love of Jesus to touch our hearts so that we may be transformed by it and grow in spiritual maturity as servant leaders in the Church. Please be assured of my profound gratitude for your ongoing commitment to St. Joseph Church. Your friendship and gracious support enables us to fulfill the mission of this historic Danbury Parish. Father Harry Prieto, Deacon Bill Timmel, the Parish staff and I hope that this Christmas will be the most joyous Christmas you have experienced as disciples of Christ, alive in His Spirit.

Devotedly in Christ,
Rev. Samuel V. Scott
Pastor

DECEMBER 22, 2024



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve
Tuesday, Dec. 24
4:00 PM, 6:00 PM,
11:00 PM

Christmas Day
Wednesday, Dec. 25
7:30 AM, 10:30 AM,
12:00 PM



PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

We wish you a very blessed Merry Christmas filled with peace, love and joy.

Please note that our Parish offices will be closed on **Wednesday and Thursday, December 25 and 26** in observance of the Christmas holiday.



Saint Joseph Parish warmly welcomes the following newly registered parishioners:

Mr. & Mrs. Candido Badillo and Family

Ms. Erika Caputo and Family

Ms. Brenda Castaneda

Mr. & Mrs. Rolando Castro and Family

Ms. Christaly Cruz

Ms. Sonia Gonzalez

Mrs. Donata Marcus

Miss Jeisy Posadas & Mr. Matt Schulze

Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Petrini and Family

Mr. & Mrs. Damaris Rodriguez and Family

Ms. Nicole Simonelli

Order of Mass for the Lord's Day **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Cycle C

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#652—“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, vs. 1, 6 & 7”

KYRIE

#155—“Lord Have Mercy”

FIRST READING

Today's Missal pg. 28 —Micah 5:1-4a

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Today's Missal pg. 28 —Psalm 80:2-3

SECOND READING

Today's Missal pg. 29 —Hebrews 10:5-10

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Today's Missal pg. 29 —Luke 1:38

GOSPEL

Today's Missal pg. 30 —Luke 1:39-45

HOMILY

OFFERTORY HYMN

#609—“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

SANCTUS

#157—“Holy, Holy, Holy”

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

#158—“We Proclaim Your Death, O Lord”

GREAT AMEN

#161—“Amen”

AGNUS DEI

#162—“Lamb of God”

COMMUNION HYMN

#832—“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

RECESSIONAL HYMN

#489—“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

St. Michael Hymnal

Mass of Charity and Love



Give Us This Day

If you currently subscribe to the Give Us This Day publication, the **January and February** books are available.

Please see an Usher at the side entrance after Mass to receive your books.



Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure Worship Offerings

December 14-15, 2024 [Will be included in next
Immaculate Conception weekend's bulletin.]

May God reward your generosity!

ANNUAL PARISH COLLECTION

To Date: \$13,404.00 (67%) of our goal of \$20,000

The Annual Parish Collection provides a means to fund designated projects during the current fiscal year. This year's funds are earmarked to refresh the main entrance narthex or vestibule at the front of the Church. The vestibule doors need restoration; the tile flooring is worn and in need of replacement; the wood framing of those memorialized for the 1974 renovation; and the entire space needs repainting. Areas of the Church Hall will also need to be repainted after the stained-glass frames are remade, which have rotted due to aging.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN FOR STAINED GLASS WINDOW RESTORATION



"Preserving Our Heritage – Preparing for Our Future"

To date, we have received \$187,000 on 218 gifts and pledges which now stand at \$634,000 of our \$1.4 million goal. Pledge cards are available at the Church entrance. Also, a QR code to make a pledge is on the campaign banner and on our website.



*Please keep the recently baptized and
their families in your prayers!*

Wesley Aiden Guzman

Wylie Aiden Guzman

Edward James Nabozna

Charlotte Nicha Whalen

Christopher Terrence Peera Whalen



2025 Calendars

Our 2025 calendars are available at the Church entrances.

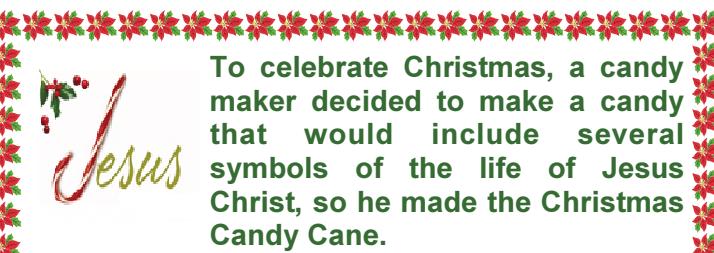
Many thanks to our Patrons, the Knights of Columbus McGivney Council #29 and Brookfield Technology Center, for providing our Parish Calendars this year.

We are most appreciative of their generosity.



WEEKDAY MASS DURING WINTER STORMS

Please note that, when school is closed due to a substantial winter storm, for everyone's safety, the Church will be closed and Mass will be offered privately.



He began with a stick of pure white, solid candy; white to symbolize the Virgin birth and solid to symbolize the firm love Jesus has for all of us.

The candy maker made the candy in the shape of a "J" to represent the precious name of Jesus.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candy maker added red stripes. He used three small stripes to represent the nails that held Jesus on the cross and a large stripe to show the blood shed by Jesus, giving us the promise of eternal life. Then he added the wonderful flavor of peppermint which is a royal gift of spice.

So perhaps the next time you look at this familiar Christmas decoration you will remember the candy maker and the real meaning behind the Christmas Candy Cane: *The Wondrous Birth of Jesus and His Great Love for all of us.*



On behalf of the Faith Formation catechists and staff, we wish you all a Blessed Christmas!



Director's Note: On this 4th Sunday of Advent, we learn that other people can help us recognize God's presence and action in our lives. Just as Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation, we too are blessed to have people who help us to recognize God's action in our lives. As we share our faith together as a church family, may we help one another recognize God's presence and actions in each others' lives.

All Confirmation families are invited to Bishop Caggiano's Parent Meeting on January 15, 2025, at St. Mary Parish in Bethel.

Class Schedule: Our classes resume in the new year on Tuesdays, January 7, 14, 21, and 28, and on Wednesdays, January 8, 15, 22, and 29.

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



Many people enjoy using year's end as a special time to give to their Parish and positively impact their federal and state income taxes. Year-end giving provides many advantages to you, the donor.

Making a return to God of your blessings at this time will assist our Parish to attain its spiritual and programmatic goals: serving God's people and His Church here on earth. Thank you.



Getting Through the Holidays

The holidays can be incredibly challenging if you are grieving the loss of someone you love. Fairfield County Catholic Cemeteries has created short audiocasts that you may find helpful. Simply type thegrief.org into your internet search engine to access them.

The Bereavement Ministry
Fairfield County Catholic Cemeteries
ctcemeteries.org/bereavement
203-404-0023
carolyn.killian@ctcemeteries.org

LIVE STREAMING MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday Daily Mass: 12:05 PM

Saturday: 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM Vigil Mass

Sunday Mass: 9:30 AM

To view, please go to our website:

www.stjosephdanbury.org and click on *StreamSpot* live streaming icon.



Then click on the  icon in the bottom right hand corner to view the Mass full screen.

If you miss the live stream of the Mass, you may still go to the website, click on the *StreamSpot* logo, then click on "previous broadcasts" to find the Mass that you would like to view.

Available on smart phones and tablets!

DAILY MASS READINGS:

Monday, Dec. 23—Advent Weekday

Malachi 3:1-4

Responsorial Psalm: 25:4-5ab

Gospel: Luke 1:57-66

Tuesday, Dec. 24—Nativity of the Lord-Vigil

Isaiah 62:1-5

Responsorial Psalm: 89:4-5

Acts of the Apostles 13:16-17

Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

Wednesday, Dec. 25—Nativity of the Lord-Christmas

Isaiah 52:7-10

Responsorial Psalm: 98:1

Hebrews 1:1-6

Gospel: John 1:1-18

Thursday, Dec. 26—St. Stephen, The First Martyr

Acts of the Apostles 6:8-10

Responsorial Psalm: 31:3cd-4

Gospel: Matthew 10:17-22

Friday, Dec. 27—St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

1 John 1:1-4

Responsorial Psalm: 97:1-2

Gospel: John 20:1a & 2-8

Saturday, Dec. 28—The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

1 John 1:5-2:2

Responsorial Psalm: 124:2-3

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-18

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saint Joseph Parish

Parish Office: Tel. (203) 748-8177, Fax (203) 748-2010
Email: recstjoseph@yahoo.com

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00AM - 4:00PM

Office Manager: Ms. Carol Shepherd

Receptionist: Mrs. MaryAnn Mulholland

Parish Manager: Mrs. Anne Leclercq

Director of Music & Organist: Mr. Robert Fertitta

Cell: 203-722-8425 profrobfert52@gmail.com

Choirs: Mr. Robert Fertitta

Altar Servers; Eucharistic Ministers; Readers:

Mrs. Anne Leclercq, 203-748-8177

Ushers: Mr. George Godfrey, 203-748-8177

Saint Joseph Faith Formation

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. Maria Merino-Schweitzer, 203-778-1920

Secretary: Mrs. Claire Anderson, 203-778-1920

R.C.I.A.: Mrs. Anne Leclercq & Fr. Scott, 203-748-8177

Parish Contacts

Catholic Charities of Northern Fairfield County Board Member: Dr. Roger LaGratta: rlagratta@comcast.net

Council of Catholic Women: Mrs. Barbara Whitlock 203-791-0232

Finance Committee Chairperson: Mrs. Lisa Schneider 203-746-5223

Knights of Columbus: Mr. Ryan Moore, 203-744-9562

Men's Group: Mr. Mark Azzara, 203-947-4012

Lay Carmelites: Diane Chirdo, 203-470-0444

Parish Pastoral Council: Mary Ellen Ryer, 203-748-3256

Parish Corporation Trustees:

Mr. Gerald Palanzo, Jr., M.B.A.
Mrs. Barbara Whitlock, M.S.

Respect Life Group: Ms. Lani Gonzales, 203-512-1629

Scouts (Boy): Dr. Gerald Gibson, 203-797-1788



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Kelli Barrett, Matthew Bernabe, Marie Bovaird, Ernestine Clark, Irene Clark, Albert Docktor, Anand Gokhale, Marie Hallas, Henry James, P.M. Joseph, Gavin King, Dorothy Koellmer, David McCann, Catherine McCarthy, Eileen McCarthy, William Morrison, Victor Munoz, Marjorie Nodine, Ethel Pancotti, Joseph Parkis, Michael Pedicini, Joseph Ponmankal, Art Regan, Catherine Robinson, George Shehl, Jr., Michael Skomro, Barbara R. Schirmer, Jeanne Soraghan, Lorraine Squillante, MaryAnn Storms, Kenneth Towery, Rebecca Zaccardo, and all of our parishioners currently in nursing homes, hospitals, or confined to their homes.



Saint Joseph School

Website: www.sjsdanbury.org
Office 203-748-6615 Fax 203-748-6508

Dr. Louis Howe, Jr., Principal lhowe@sjsdanbury.org

School Advisory Board: Mrs. Jeanne Spain

Parent Teacher Organization: Mrs. Margie Heron ptopresident@sjsdanbury.org



Our Church is a spiritual home for all of us which relies on our time, talent and treasure to fulfill that mission.

Online Giving helps support our Church by allowing you to make donations, payments and pledges via your mobile phone, smart device or computer to our Church. To enroll, go to www.stjosephdanbury.org and click on the Online Giving tab (on the right) to create an account.

To Our Welcome Visitors:

Welcome to Saint Joseph Church! May this be a sanctuary of peace and grace for you! If you attend our parish on a regular basis, please register with us. It is so helpful whenever the need arises for special sacraments, funeral masses, and sponsor certificates. Please complete the lines below, drop it in any collection basket and our staff will register you or you may also register on our website: www.stjosephdanbury.org. Please be sure to introduce yourself to one of our Parish clergy.

Please help us to keep our list current by contacting us when your information changes. Thank you.

PLEASE PRINT

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Mr. & Mrs. Dr. (check one)

Last Name: _____

First Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Home Tel: _____

Cell Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

Primary Language Spoken: _____

Children who live with You (Name/Gender/Date of Birth):

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KoC29.org 203-744-9562

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