

ST. JAMES CHURCH

12 FRANKLIN STREET - DANIELSON, CONNECTICUT 06239



*St. James Church is staffed by
the La Salette Missionaries*

PASTOR

Rev. Roy Parayil, M.S.

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Rene L. Parent, M.S.

SENIOR PRIEST

Rev. John E. Welch, M.S.

DEACONS

Rene N. Barbeau, Jr.
Joseph P. Delaney

December 17, 2023

Website: stjameschurchdanielson.com

Phone: 860-774-3900 Email: stjames_parish@yahoo.com

Rectory Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm (*Emergencies anytime*)

MASSES

Saturday Vigil ----- 4:30 pm

Sunday ----- 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekdays ----- 9:00 am

Holy Days ----- 7:00, 9:00 am & 6:00 pm

Religious Education Director

Mrs. Bev. Richardson

860-792-8054

St. James School Principal

Elyse McAteer

860-774-3281

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

Please call the Rectory to register for the Preparatory Class & Baptism. Baptisms are held on the third Sunday of every month at 12:00 noon. Registration forms available on website.

WEDDING

Call the Rectory at least six months prior to your wedding date. If not confirmed, one year.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 3:45 to 4:15 pm in the church, or by appointment.

HOSPITAL & HOME VISITS

Please notify the priests of family illnesses.

DAYDREAMS OF A PASTOR...

“Rejoice in the Lord always”

The third Sunday of Advent is called “*Rejoice Sunday*” because the Mass for today begins with this opening antiphon: “*Rejoice in the Lord always.*” To remind ourselves that we are preparing for the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus, we have the rose candle lit in the Advent wreath.

In today’s readings Isaiah, Paul, and John the Baptist rejoice because they have Good News. God is with them and working through them. Isaiah is anointed by the Lord and sent to announce *a day of vindication by our God*. Paul encourages the Thessalonians to always rejoice, pray, and give thanks. John the Baptist testifies to the light and says he *is the voice of one crying out in the desert, “make straight the way of the Lord.”* They are anointed, blessed, and sent to do God’s will. On this Rejoice Sunday, we, too, find reason to rejoice. Our rejoicing should be in sharing the Good News of Christ.

Paul’s letter to the Thessalonians fits the theme of this Sunday, “Rejoice in the Lord always.” One important key to his suggestion is that all three parts of Christian practices are bound together in this reading. Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances, give thanks. So, joy, prayer, and gratitude – are all connected. Here is an invitation for all of us on this third Sunday of Advent.

Joy, for example, springs from gratitude. When we recall things, events, or people for which we are grateful our joy increases. A prayerful awareness of the world, and an attitude of prayerful attentiveness, makes it easier to see life’s blessings. Joy moves us to prayer. That’s why Paul says, “Rejoice always.”

In the Gospel, John the Baptist is talking about this joy as part of preparing for the Lord. “Make straight the way of the Lord” means not physically leveling a path that Jesus can walk on; but bringing justice and awareness of God into the world, making things “right” with God, repenting on the greed, thinking about others, working for the greater good of the community. His message is not just a hopeful one, but a joyful one, as well.

Let us all look forward to a brighter future with hope, supporting each other through these difficult times, filled with peace and joy in our lives, and be full of love, both for God and for one another, at all times.

Fr. Roy Parayil, M.S.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Isaiah describes the joy and salvation which will accompany the coming of Christ. He compares the plants which spring from a garden to the justice that will spring from all nations.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul reminds the Thessalonians to constantly ready themselves for Christ’s arrival. He tells them to “avoid any semblance of evil” so that they may be found irreproachable when Jesus does arrive.

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

John explains that he is only a messenger to the people for one more powerful than himself. John stresses to them that they must make a path for the one so powerful that he is not fit to unfasten the strap of his sandal.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2023**CHRISTMAS EVE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH****VIGIL MASSES,****4:00PM – FR. ROY PARAYIL****5:15PM – FR. RENE PARENT****10:00PM – FR. ROY PARAYIL****CHRISTMAS DAY, MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH****7:00AM – FR. RENE PARENT****9:00AM – FR. ROY PARAYIL****11:00AM – FR. JOHN WELCH****NEW TABLES AND CHAIRS FOR THE CHURCH HALL**

Dear Parishioners and friends,

As of December 12 we have received \$2,100 for new tables and chairs for the church hall. Thanks to all who donated generously for this particular cause.

The cost expected is about \$17,000 - \$18,000. If anyone considering to support please contact the office. Any donations are welcome. The new tables and chairs will help us to use the hall for all the programs of the parish and parish organizations.

Expected cost: \$150 for a table and \$100 for two chairs.

Thank you for your continued support, Fr. Roy

PARISH EVENTS

Wednesday – Devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague
 Every Wednesday at 8:30AM.
 Rosary for Vocations - Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8.30AM.
 Wednesday – Bingo in the Church Hall at 7PM.
 Men’s Bible Study – Fourth Monday of every Month at 7PM in the Church Hall.
 Holy Hour – Every Third Monday of the Month.
 Our next Holy Hour is December 18, 2023.

THE VIGIL LIGHTS... are burning brightly in prayer in Honor of the Birth of Jesus.

MARIAN SHRINE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT...

The flower arrangement for the Blessed Mother’s Altar for the week of Dec. 16 – 17 is donated in memory of Rita LeBeau by the LeBeau Family.
 The flower arrangement for the week of Dec. 23-24 is donated in memory of Jeannette Auger by her neighbors.

WEEKLY OFFERING.....12/10.....\$5031.00

Renovation Fund.....\$2186.00

12/17 – Friends of La Salette: 12/24 – Save Our School
 12/25 – Christmas Day/ Second Collection – Your Christmas Gift to your Parish

Marilyn Lowney from The Haitian Health Foundation thanks St. James Parish for the extremely generous donation of \$4,848.66 given in the second collection on the weekend of November 4-5.

Schedule for December 23rd and December 24th, 2023

	4:30PM	7:00AM
Celebrant:	Fr. Rene Parent	Fr. Roy Parayil
E. Minister:	Richard Minio Claire Minio	Susan Griffiths Maggie Grenier
Lector:		Julie Dupont
	9:00AM	11:00AM
Celebrant:	Fr. John Welch	Fr. Roy Parayil
E. Minister:	Paul Boire Rosalie Boire	Denis Bessette
Lector:	Laurie Barrette	Stephen Houle

The Vocations Prayer and St. Michael Prayer can be found in the inside front cover of the Missal in the pew.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS...Loving and generous God, it is You who call us by name and ask us to follow You. Help us to grow in the love and service of our Church as we experience it today. Give us the energy and courage of Your Spirit to shape its future. Grant us faith-filled leaders who will embrace Christ’s mission of love and justice. Bless St. James parish by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve Your people as Priests, Deacons, Brothers, Sisters and Lay Ministers. Inspire us to know you better and open our hearts to listen to Your call. We ask this through Christ our Lord... Amen.

Our Lady of La Salette, Reconciler of Sinners, pray without ceasing for us who have recourse to You.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL... St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do Thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

MASSES

MONDAY, December 18,

9:00AM Departed Souls of the Adoration Sisters
 9:00AM Edward Rozanski...by the Adoration Sisters

TUESDAY, December 19,

9:00AM Leo Beausoleil...by his children
 9:00AM Michael & Christine Guari...by family

WEDNESDAY, December 20,

9:00AM Elizabeth Rondeau...by her husband & family
 9:00AM Melvin Davis...by Small Christian Community

THURSDAY, December 21,

Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

9:00AM Catherine & Joseph Flaherty...by family
 9:00AM Theresa Dauphinais...1st Anniv...by family

FRIDAY, December 22,

9:00AM Fr. John O’Neill...by Paul
 9:00AM Norma Cassetari...by her niece

SATURDAY, December 23

Saint John of Kanty, Priest,

4:30PM Departed Souls of the Adoration Sisters
 4:30PM John & Caroline Grondelski...
 by John Grondelski
 4:30PM Richard Harrington...birthday...by Patricia & Megan

SUNDAY, December 24,

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:00AM Gerry Grenon...by family
 7:00AM Roger & Jacqueline Caron...by Pauline
 9:00AM Lillian & Alphonse Bisson...by estate
 9:00AM Holy Souls in Purgatory...
 by Marcia & Brian Bardin
 11:00AM Christopher Carter...by Vance & Joan Carter
 11:00AM Fred Fedkenheuer...by family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00PM Fr. Roy Parayil...Priest’s Intentions
5:15PM Fr. Rene Parent...Priest’s Intentions
10:00PM Fr. Roy Parayil...Priest’s Intentions

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

7:00AM Fr. Rene Parent...Priest’s Intentions
9:00AM Fr. Roy Parayil...Priest’s Intentions
11:00AM Fr. John Welch...Priest’s Intentions

LASALLETTE MASSES

In memory of Frederick & Adelyn Bodenschatz
 In memory of David & Sophie Horvat, by son, Joseph
 In memory of Thomas Donlon...by his wife, Georgette

One Sunday 9:00AM Mass opening left for 2023...12/31

2024 Masses Available

There are 7AM, 9AM and 11AM Weekend and Weekday Mass openings available for the 2024 yr. Please call the office at 860-774-3900 or place intentions in the basket at 10.00ea.

2024 WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES...ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP IN THE CHURCH HALL AFTER MASSES.

2024 Christmas Calendars...*Pick up your St. James 2024 Calendar. Please take one home. They can be found at the entrances to the Church. Sincere thanks to Steve Farner, owner of the Gagnon-Costello and the Smith & Walker Funeral Homes.*

American Red Cross... blood drive at the Quinebaug Valley Senior Center, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn on Thursday, December 21, 2023 1:00pm to 6:00pm. Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org.

“Fr. John O’Neill Memorial Fund

Dear Parishioners and friends,
We all know the love Fr. John O’Neill, M.S. had for St. James School. The School had a place in his heart and he dedicated his life for the betterment of the school.
To honor Fr. John and for the continuous support of the school we have started a fund called, “Fr. John O’Neill Memorial Fund”. A new account has been opened for this special purpose. All those who would like to support St. James School please make your check payable to St. James Church and in the memo; please specify – Fr. John O’Neill Memorial Fund.
As of Dec 10th the donations have amounted to \$29,705.00.
Thank you for your continued support, Fr. Roy

SIGN-UP- SHEET FOR WEEK OF PRAYER AT HOME

The sign-up sheet for a week of prayer at home for vocations is at the main entrance of the church.
We humbly request all families to pray for vocations. Set aside a few minutes praying for vocations and inspiring our children at home. Please sign-up for a week of prayer. Those who sign up for the weekly prayer will dedicate themselves by praying the Rosary and Vocation Prayer from Sunday through Saturday. Let us continue to pray for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life.
PRAYER AT HOME – The week of prayer for Dec. 9-30 is open for prayers. Please consider signing up.

St. James School

Good Afternoon Families,
The week of December 18-22 will be a Christmas spirit week.

8th Grade Fundraiser

January Calendar Raffle
\$2000+ in prizes
Drawings every day in January
\$10 per ticket
Call (860) 774-3281 or email
j.lajoie@stjamesdanielson.org

Thank you and God Bless,
Elyse McAteer
Principal,
St. James School
120 Water St. Danielson, CT 06239
T: (860) 774-3281 F: (860) 779-2137
E:e.mcateer@stjamesdanielson.org
<http://www.stjamesdanielson.org>

S.O.S. Save our School...

St. James School wishes to thank all of our donors for their generous contributions to the St. James School Tuition Assistance Scholarship Fund.

We ask you to consider making a voluntary donation on the occasion of a death of a loved one (in lieu of flowers) or on the occasion of a happy event; e.g. wedding or anniversary (in lieu of flowers. “Save Our School” envelopes are at the entrances to the church.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING.....

POURINGS AND PASSAGES BOOKSTORE... A used book store and coffeehouse is now open at 103 Main Street, Danielson, CT. Hours of operation are Wednesdays to Saturdays, 10AM to 5PM. The store is closed Sunday to Tuesday, holidays and snowy days. Please patronize, promote and support our bookstore. Net profits benefit St. James School. For more info, please call 860-774-1712, (Wednesdays to Saturdays) or leave a message. God bless you all!
Jim

ATTENTION PARENTS WITH CHILDREN AGES 4-12

Are you interested in a great educational experience for your child?

IMAGINE a school where no grade has more than 30 students...

IMAGINE a school where you have the opportunity to know the names of all the children in your child’s class, and their parents...

IMAGINE a school where the values of RESPECT & COMMUNITY SERVICE are part of the curriculum...

IMAGINE a school where athletic programs and other extra-curricular activities thrive...

IMAGINE a school with a focus on religious education...

IMAGINE a school with convenient before and after school programs...

IMAGINE this school is only minutes away in Danielson
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Diocesan News:

If you are seeking to find hope, strength and comfort from a loss, burden or sorrow, join us for *A Journey with Mary Through Her Seven Sorrows*, a virtual seven-week program that will explore each of the seven sorrows of Mary’s life and the message of strength and encouragement each one contains. The program will meet online Monday nights from 7-8:15 P.M. **January 8, 15, 22, 29 and February 5, 12, and 19, 2024.** Each week will include a reflection on one of Mary’s sorrows, guided prayer imagery and discussion. The program is free, but registration is required. To do so, or, for more information, contact the Catholic Family Services Office, 860-848-2237, Ext. 312, or email mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net.

RCIA Retreat

The Office of Faith Events and the Awaken team are gearing up to assist Candidates and Catechumens prepare for receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. Spend the day discovering God’s unconditional love for you, learn about the gifts of the Holy Spirit, develop a meaningful prayer life, and experience God’s mercy in reconciliation. The Holy Spirit Awaken Retreat for RCIA will take place on Saturday, February 24th at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Quaker Hill from 9:30am – 5pm with Mass from 5pm to 6pm. To register, please contact Marianne Nicholas at manicholas@norwichdiocese.net or call 860-848-2237 ex.305.

CAN’T SELL THAT AUTOMOBILE???
WHY NOT DONATE IT????

St. James Parish in Danielson is collecting vehicles. The St. James Organization will give you a written appraisal of your car which may be used as a tax-deductible charitable donation. All monies will be used for the St. James Renovation Fund or for the St. James Scholarship Fund. Inquiries may be made by calling (860) 774-3900 or send fax to (860) 774-4205. Our organization helps you to eliminate the hassle in selling a car and you contribute to a great charity.

CHRISTMAS GIFT

Christmas and Year End Giving is not only a Catholic tradition, but Christmas marks the beginning of the Ultimate Gift, God’s gift of His only son, Jesus Christ. Christmas of course, celebrates the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Tradition holds that the three kings or wise men followed the star to bring gifts to the newborn king, beginning a tradition of gift giving to the Christmas season we enjoy each and every year.

But what about the gifts that God has bestowed upon each and every one of us during the year and throughout our lifetimes? We are merely stewards of these gifts. Christmas and years end is a spiritual opportunity to make a return to God of His many blessings at Christmas and years end. A Catholic Gift of Faith.

An Investment in Your Parish

For many years, our Catholic parishes have benefitted from the enormous contributions and dedication of religious men and women (priests, brothers and sisters) who have given their entire lives in the service to parishes, schools, dioceses and many other Church ministries. Now, our Catholic Church and educational ministries are even broader and serve more people than ever before despite the decline in the numbers of religious. Many dedicated lay people now staff these programs and must be compensated with just and living wages. Your Christmas and year end gift is an investment in these quality programs.

Many people enjoy using Christmas and years end as a special time to give to their favorite Catholic institutions. Christmas and year end giving provides many advantages to you, the donor. Many feel St. James is their favorite school. The knowledge that your gift is assisting a favorite Catholic institution, (St. James) and advancing the mission of the Catholic Church here on earth. Celebrate the joy of Christmas by giving in the true spirit of the season. A last reminder to make that special gift or increased gift that you’ve wanted to make during the year. Most importantly, make a return to God of your blessings at Christmas and assist St. James to attain its spiritual and programmatic goals; serving God’s people and His Church here on earth.

Year - End Giving

Thanks for all you do. Every organization has a program called Year End Giving. Most parishes follow this lead. Here at St. James, many people and corporations send us a Christmas Gift. For the past 20 years people have asked us to send them a reminder to remember St. James at Christmas. This year we will be using our bulletin space to say thanks and recommend the following. We will have a second collection at the Christmas Masses. We have the largest attendance of the year and it will help our debt. Some former parishioners continue to remember St. James Parish and St. James School. We could use the extra help at Christmas. We will remember (your loved ones in a Christmas Novena of Masses. (From Christmas to the Epiphany).

For parishioners who contribute every week, this note is just for your information. But there will be a voluntary collection and it will take place on Christmas, a Day of Gifts. It will be the second collection. You may use the Year-End envelopes found at each entrance to the church. Thanks again.

Enclosed is My Year End Donation to St. James

NAME _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

IN MEMORY OF _____ AND _____

2024 S.J.S.A. THOUSAND CLUB

SIGN-UP TODAY FOR THE 2024 CLUB. We appreciate your support. All proceeds benefit St. James School. Please sponsor new members so we can fill the club. Dues are only \$60.00 per year or \$5.00 per month.

MONTHLY AWARDS: \$2,000 in awards are given away each month...20 awards monthly, 240+ chances to win.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please inform Kathy Hall (860)774-7635 of any address changes. Kathy is the “keeper of the records”.

OUR NEXT DRAWING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17th AT 8:30AM IN THE CHURCH HALL.

PLEASE PURCHASE A TICKET OR SPONSOR A NEW MEMBER.

If you have any questions concerning dues etc. Please call Kathy Hall (860) 774-7635.

S.J.S A. THOUSAND CLUB

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!

Your Choice of number if available _____ Sponsor name if applicable _____

Name: _____ Telephone _____

Address: _____
PO Box or Street Address Town State Zip Code

Email Address _____

You can place it in the weekly collection, mail it to the rectory or give it to Kathy Hall. 860 774-7635.



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Your Five Kids!! XO

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If interested, please call
Father Roy Parayil M.S., at
860-774-3900 for information.
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a weekend with the LaSallettes.

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