



St. Junípero Serra Parish

We are baptized to serve and celebrate

WWW.SAINTJUNIPEROSERRA.ORG | (860) 644-2411



MARY, THE HOLY
MOTHER OF GOD

And Mary kept
all these things,
reflecting on them
in her heart. - Lk 2:19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

673 Ellington Road
South Windsor, CT 06074

Sunday Mass: 7:30 am & 9:00 am

**Weekday Mass: 8:00 am-Monday &
Wednesday**

**Weekday & Weekend Masses are Live
Streamed at www.saintjuniperoserra.org**

ST. MARGARET MARY CHURCH

80 Hayes Road
South Windsor, CT 06074

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Sunday Mass: 11:00 am

**Weekday Mass: 8:00 am-Tuesday &
Thursday**

Confessions: Monday 6:00pm-6:45pm

Adoration & Holy Hour: Monday 6:00pm-7:00pm

JANUARY 1, 2023

**WE EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS,
NEW MEMBERS, AS WELL AS ALL PARISH MEMBERS.**

NEW WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Beginning January 2, 2023

Monday & Wednesday at SFA

Tuesday & Thursday at SMM

Happy New Year

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 1, 2023 Mary, The Holy Mother of God

We hide ourselves and our secrets from God because we are afraid. Even Mary can seem too perfect to approach. The shepherds find the strength to speak to Mary and Joseph at the moment they see the child in the manger. They open their hearts and share what they've experienced. Saint Luke writes of the shepherds, "When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child."

When I was a college student, I visited Rome. Beggars often approached and said, "Mangia? Mangia?" I didn't speak Italian and thought, "Why are they speaking about the Christmas nativity scene?" My friend said, "Mangia means eat. They're hungry." That's when I realized more deeply than ever before that Mary puts her baby in a place designed for hungry animals to eat.

See that baby in the manger in your heart. Imagine Mary kneeling nearby looking at you with love. She doesn't cling to God for herself. In that cave, from the beginning, she quietly offers her son to hungry souls. The manger means vulnerable self-offering love. That's the sign. This week that same manger opens our hearts to tell Mary about our lives, TOO. — Father John Muir ©LPi



SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD

WELCOME TO ST. JUNÍPERO SERRA PARISH

We extend a special welcome to new parishioners. We hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith-life will grow. We also hope you will share your special gifts with your parish family.

Your presence, your talents and your prayers are always welcome. **Please introduce yourself to Fr. Castro**, after one of the Masses and also please formally register with the parish through our website at www.saintjuniperoserra.org or by contacting the office.

The churches are open for private devotions:

St. Francis of Assisi: Monday thru Friday 9:00am-4:00pm

St. Margaret Mary: Monday thru Friday 9:00am-3:00pm, Saturday 10:00am-5:30pm

Pastoral Staff

Offices located at 80 Hayes Rd, Office Hours Monday-Thursday 9 am to 3 pm

Friday: 9 am to 12pm | Phone: 860-644-2411 Fax: 860-644-5765

Pastor

Reverend Jorge Castro
Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 109
fr.castro@aohct.org

Administrative Coordinator

Ginger Bilas
Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 101
ginger@southwindsor.cc

Business Manager

Laura Pastula
Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 103
business@southwindsor.cc

Deacons

Deacon Edward J. Giard
Deacon Michael D. Haines

Communication Coordinator

Anton Miranda
stjuniperoserra@gmail.com

Bulletin Coordinator

Audrey Miranda
Phone 860-644-2411 ext 102
bulletin@southwindsor.cc

Director of Music Ministries

Robert Dolan
robert.dolan@uconn.edu

Facility

Jose Andrade
Steven Barile

Faith Formation Staff

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am to 2pm | Phone 860-644-2549 Fax: 860-644-5765

Director of Faith Formation

Anton Miranda
Phone:860-644-2549 ext 106
faithformation@southwindsor.cc

Coordinator of Youth Ministry & Catechist

Ronald Audette
Phone:860-644-2549 ext 108
youthministersjs@gmail.com

Confirmation Coordinator

Sister Karen Skurat
Phone:860-644-2549 ext 107
confirmationcoordinatorsjs@gmail.com

Faith Formation Admin Assistant

Maria Rosati
Phone:860-644-2549 ext 107
faithformation@southwindsor.cc

Important Information

Baptisms: Parents must attend a pre-baptismal class and sponsor certificates for the godparents must be received before a baptism can be scheduled. Please call the parish office to register.

Prayer Line: For prayer requests or to join the Prayer Line, please call Donna, 860-938-4864, Ida, 860-289-2826 or Mary, 860-644-0766.

Weddings: At least six months preparation is necessary. Please call Fr. Castro at x109

Ministry to Those in the Hospital or Homebound: Your parish priests, deacons and ministers are eager to help anyone who is unable to celebrate with us because of age, illness or handicap. There is no problem visiting private homes if we are notified. If you, or a relative living in the South Windsor Catholic Community would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick or would like to receive Communion, please call the parish office so that we may be of assistance.

Bulletin Submissions: The deadline for the bulletin articles is noon on Friday, one week before publication. Email your submissions to: bulletin@southwindsor.cc

St. Vincent de Paul: 860-648-0216



SATURDAY VIGIL, December 31

4:00 p.m. John Kelleher 34th Anniversary by Daughter

SUNDAY, January 1

Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God

7:30 a.m. NO MASS

9:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving of Baby Jesus
by McGinnis Family

11:00 a.m. Carmelo Testa by Testa, Reale & Rizza Families

MONDAY, January 2

8:00 a.m. Giselle & Marcel Morin by Gaboury Family

TUESDAY, January 3

8:00 a.m. Lillian Martin by St. Vincent de Paul Monday
Morning Sorters

WEDNESDAY, January 4

8:00 a.m. Special Intentions by Laura & Frank Phillippe

THURSDAY, January 5

8:00 a.m. Michael Smith by His Sister

SATURDAY VIGIL, January 7

4:00 p.m. Muriel Soucy by Son, Warren

SUNDAY, January 8

The Epiphany of The Lord

7:30 a.m. Lloyd Estey by Daughter, Lorrie

9:00 a.m. Fran O'Brien by Brennen Family

11:00 a.m. Louise Magaldi & Sylvia Lewis Szeredy
by Chris & Jim Lewis

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

St. Francis of Assisi's Sanctuary Light burns this week for

JULIETTE RODRIGUES

St. Margaret Mary's Sanctuary Light burns this week for

FRANK AHERN

If you would like to have the Sanctuary Light burn at St. Francis of Assisi or St. Margaret Mary Church for the intention of a loved one, please call the parish office 860-644-2411.

Please remember in your prayers the following parishioners who are ill

Thomas Russo, Giacomo Ghasa, Scott Mosher, Anne Mosher, Rosemary Saad, Lydia Mele, Barbara Mansini, Tammy Cross, Mary Caswell, Linda Pratson, Beth Jamieson, Helen Palmer, Teresa Foran, Marie Donnelly, George Rousseau, Charles Flick, Joyce Abrahams, Kay Vuono, Pat Hendrickson, Carmen Rosa Chilicki, Karen Cerrato, Bertha Brasfield, Mark Weyrauch, Robert Billig, Adam Johnson, Taina Marquez-Johnson, Luca and Nicolas Marquez-Johnson, Simone Tedford, Frances P. Medina, John Ferrante, Michael Chappell, Rebecca-Lynn Scullion, Dylan McBreen, Susan Degennaro, Lisa Feinstein, Sylvia Gonsalves, Louise Hynes, Ginette Collin, Laurie Gilligan, Joan Paterna, Linda Nott, Ron Krug, Roy Hauck. Please call the parish office to add a loved one to our parish prayer list.



Sunday, January 1, 2023
There will be NO 7:30am Mass.



Our office will be closed Monday, January 2



Feast Day: January 5

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. John Neumann, patron saint of educators, immigrants, and sick children, was the first male saint to be canonized from the USA. An immigrant himself, he expanded Catholic education in his region from 2 schools to 100 & ministered in 6 different languages!

PRAYER

Prayer for St. John Neumann's intercession

O St. John Neumann, your ardent desire of bringing all souls to Christ impelled you to leave home and country; teach us to live worthily in the spirit of our baptism which makes us all children of the one Heavenly Father and brothers of Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the family of God.

Obtain for us that complete dedication in the service of the needy, the weak, the afflicted, and the abandoned which so characterized your life. Help us to walk perseveringly in the difficult and at times painful paths of duty, strengthened by the Body and Blood of our Redeemer and under the watchful protection of Mary our Mother. May death still find us on the sure road to our Father's house, with the light of living faith in our hearts.

Prayer Source: <https://stjohnneumann.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Prayers-to-St.-John-Neumann.pdf>

WINTER SNOW POLICY

Weekdays: When school is canceled or delayed there will be NO Morning Mass.
Weekends: Please check our website, or Facebook page for possible cancellation.



Dear Parishioners,

Now that we have reached the end of this year that God has given us, we raise our prayers of thanksgiving for all that we experienced during this year that is ending. The New Year is a celebration that unites all humanity, it is a moment that marks the end of the past and the beginning of a new opportunity.

May this new year bring to our lives new happiness, new goals, new achievements, many new inspirations, and new blessings. May all our hopes come true and all our dreams come true. It is under the Divine Providence of our Lord that we begin this new year 2023, and we ask for the intercession of our Holy Mother to guide our steps and grant us her infinite blessings.

I thank God for all of you, for your presence and support in the parish, for your devotion in our loving Father and for your journey in faith.

Happy and Blessed New Year!
Rev. Jorge E. Castro

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood

Heavenly Father, You have created us for a definite purpose.

Grant us the grace to know the path You have planned for each of us in this life, and to respond with a generous "Yes."

Make my parish, my home and my heart fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations to the priesthood of Jesus Christ. May our young men respond to Your call with courage and zeal. Stir among them a desire and the strength to be good and holy priests.

We make our prayer for priestly vocations to You, Father, in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Our newly formed bi-monthly Men's Prayer Group to let God encourage a deeper personal understanding of his message to us. **Men's prayer group will meet Thursday 1/12/2023. We'll be reading and discussing the following Sunday 1/15 Mass reading. Come join us! Bring your bible or a copy of Sunday's 1/15 Mass reading. For more information contact Jozef Chilicki at jchilicki@cox.net**

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Christmas Flowers

Poinsettias that graced the sanctuaries this season will be given away **only after** the 9:00a.m. Mass at St. Francis and the 11:00a.m. Mass at St. Margaret Mary on **Sunday, January 8.**



Merry Christmas and thank you for your generosity in December. With your support the St. Vincent de Paul Society gave over 200 Christmas gifts and more than \$700 in gift cards for infants, toddlers and children of all ages at Our Lady Queen of Peace parish and families helped by DCF in Manchester. On Dec 26 we will be providing a similar number of gifts and gift cards to Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Hartford. Thank you for opening your hearts for our poorer brethren. We could not perform these acts of Christian Charity without your great generosity, Thank You!

Grocery bags for January will be distributed the weekend of 1/14 - 1/15/2023 and the January food collection will take place 1/21-1/22/2023. With your help we will provide food for local clients and families, Head Start families in Vernon, DCF families in Manchester and the Bristol Men's Shelter

- Want to know more about volunteering or attending a meeting? Please email president@societyhelpline.org.
- Have something to donate? Please post your intended donation on our website www.societyhelpline.org.
- **Need help** or know someone else who needs help? Post a request for assistance on our website www.societyhelpline.org or **call 860 648-0216.**

Give blood. Help save lives.

Blood Drive
St. Margaret Mary Church
Church Hall
80 Hayes Road, South Windsor



Wednesday, January 4th, 2023
9:00a.m. to 4:30p.m.

Sponsored by St. Junipero Serra Parish & SW Knights of Columbus

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: SWKofC to schedule an appointment.

STEWARDSHIP

Total Offertory including Online Giving:
12/18/2022 Weekly Collection \$11,887.00
These numbers will fluctuate due to monthly and quarterly donations.

THANK YOU
for your generosity

The first day of the calendar year is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God - Theotokos- Perhaps in this new year, we can think of her more often. We can ponder about the Mother of God who is also our Mother and who loves us very much.

There is a beautiful song sung in Spanish by Kiko Arugello, *Maria, Pequena Maria* - The song is a beautiful poem where he ponders who she is. I share the translation with you below.

Maria, Little Maria

Little Mary, Little Mary,
you are the gentle breeze of Elijah
The whisper of God's spirit
You are the burning bush of Moses,
You carry the Lord
But are not consumed

You are the place beside me,
Who showed the Lord to Moses,
You are the cleft in the rock
That God covers with his hand
As his glory passes by,

The Lord come with us
If we have found favor in his sight
It is certain that we are sinners

But pray for us and we'll be your people and your inheritance

Little Mary
Daughter of Jerusalem,
mother of all peoples
Virgin of Nazareth

You are the cloud of the desert
That protects the march of Israel
You are the tent of meeting
The ark that carries the covenant
The sanctuary of God's glory

Let the Lord come with us
If we have found favor in your sight
It is certain that we are sinners

But pray for us, and we shall be your people and your inheritance



“What was prefigured at that time in the flame of the bush was openly manifested in the mystery of the Virgin, once an interval of time had passed. Just as on the mountain the bush burned but was not consumed, so also the Virgin gave birth to the light and was not corrupted. Nor should you consider the comparison to the bush to be embarrassing, for it prefigures the God-bearing body of the Virgin.

Saint Gregory of Nyssa, an extraordinary theologian and bishop of the fourth century.

Mary - "ever-virgin"

CCC499 The deepening of faith in the virginal motherhood led the Church to confess Mary's real and perpetual virginity even in the act of giving birth to the Son of God made man. In fact, Christ's birth "did not diminish his mother's virginal integrity but sanctified it." And so the liturgy of the Church celebrates Mary as *Aei-parthenos*, the "Ever-virgin".

Against this doctrine the objection is sometimes raised that the Bible mentions brothers and sisters of Jesus. The Church has always understood these passages as not referring to other children of the Virgin Mary. In fact James and Joseph, "brothers of Jesus", are the sons of another Mary, a disciple of Christ, whom St. Matthew significantly calls "the other Mary".

They are close relations of Jesus, according to an Old Testament expression.

Jesus is Mary's only son, but her spiritual motherhood extends to all men whom indeed he came to save: "The Son whom she brought forth is he whom God placed as the first-born among many brethren, that is, the faithful in whose generation and formation she co-operates with a mother's love."

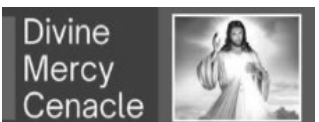
Maria Rosati – Faith Formation Administrative Assistant |860.644.2549| faithformation@southwindsor.cc

FRIDAY KNIGHTS BINGO at St. Margaret Mary
Church Hall | Doors & Kitchen open at 5:00pm
Bingo starts at 7:00pm

Higher payouts – play for \$25 – all games. Help support local charities, have loads of fun and eat some delicious food when you come to Friday "KNIGHTS" Bingo.

ST. JUNÍPERO SERRA PARISH

INCREASE YOUR FAITH
Come to our Cenacle which
meets every other Tuesday
night. *Our next meeting will
be on Tuesday, January 10th at 7:00pm at SMM
Chapel.* For more information call
Mike Cianciolo 860-604-1745.



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