

St. Junípero Serra Parish

We are baptized to serve and celebrate

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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

DECEMBER 10, 2023

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

(except Holy Days & Holidays)

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



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

is returning this year

On Friday, December 15th at 7pm at St. Margaret Mary Church!

Our choir, accompanied by a 22-piece orchestra and organ, will be performing beautiful arrangements of many beloved Christmas carols.

The concert is FREE and no tickets are required. Free will offerings are graciously accepted for the continued support of this tradition and our Music Ministry.



Advent Denance Service Monday, December 18 6:00pm St. Margaret Mary Church

Mass of Healing & Hope

We will be celebrating the Mass of Healing & Hope-the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Tuesday, December 19 | 7:00pm St. Margaret Mary Church

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick gives strength, support and healing to those who are ill, elderly, or facing surgery. All parishioners are invited to attend the Mass and bring anyone who may need this special blessing.

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 & Wednesday 9:00am-3:00pm St. Margaret Mary: Monday thru Friday 9:00am-3:00pm, Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm

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

Deacons

Deacon Edward J. Giard Deacon Michael D. Haines

Director of Music Ministries

Robert Dolan robert.dolan@uconn.edu

Administrative Coordinator

Ginger Bilas Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 101 admin.coord@sjs-sw.org

Communication Coordinator

Anton Miranda stjuniperoserra@gmail.com

Facility

Jose Andrade Steven Barile

Business Manager

Laura Pastula Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 103 business@sjs-sw.org

Bulletin Coordinator

Audrey Miranda Phone 860-644-2411 ext 102 bulletin@sjs-sw.org

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@sjs-sw.org

Faith Formation Admin Assistant

Maria Rosati Phone:860-644-2549 ext 107 faithformation@sjs-sw.org

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

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 Homebound: Your parish priest, 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@sjs-sw.org

St. Vincent de Paul: 860-648-0216

Winter Snow Policy: Please check our website, channel 3 or Facebook page for possible cancellation.



SATURDAY VIGIL, December 9

4:00 p.m. Raymond W. Billig by Family SUNDAY, December 10| Second Sunday of Advent 7:30 a.m. Charles Veci, Sr. by Family 9:00 a.m Anne, Susan & Jeanne McKenna 11:00 a.m. Robert Trichka by Family

MONDAY, December 11

8:00 a.m. Joseph (Francis) Yacavone, Sr., Diane Y. Dellman & Joseph (Francis) Yacavone, III by Salvatrice Yacavone

TUESDÁY, December 12

8:00 a.m. Christopher Golik by Wife & Children

WEDNESDAY, December 13

8:00 a.m. Ronald Kronenwetter by Family

THURSDAY, December 14

8:00 a.m. Patricia Brown by Annamae Davis

SATURDAY VIGIL, December 16

4:00 p.m. Mary & Henry Faignant & Eileen & Alvin Kendall by Mary Faignant

SUNDAY, December 17 Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. JoAnn Mecca by Her Sister 9:00 a.m Robert Muello by Family

11:00 a.m. Tom Mazza by Teresa & Family

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

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

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

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, Teresa Foran, Marie Donnelli, George Rousseau, Charles Flick, Joyce Abrahams, 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, Donna Smutney, Richard Holtz, Maureen D. West, Sophie Myzuzikevik, Tracy Robinson. Please call the parish office to add a loved one to our parish prayer list.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

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Christmas Eve | Sunday, Dec 24, 2023 4:00pm Vigil Mass SFA 4:00pm Vigil Mass SMM 10:00pm Mass SMM

Christmas Day | Monday Dec 25, 2023 9:00am Christmas Mass SFA 11:00am Christmas Mass SMM

New Year 2024 | Monday, Jan 1, 2024 9:00am Mass SFA 11:00am Mass SMM



Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 12th is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Virgin of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the Americas and of the Preborn.

Let us pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe to save and protect the preborn.

Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. Help expectant parents to welcome from God the priceless gift of their child's life. Console parents who have lost that gift through abortion, and lead them to forgiveness and healing through the Divine Mercy of your Son. Teach us to cherish and to care for family and friends until God calls them home. Help us never to see others as burdens. Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself.

Amen.

4

Dear Fellow Parishioners, Greetings from Rome!

Although I know many of you, please let me introduce myself. My name is Brendan Finnegan, and I am a lifelong parishioner of St. Junipero Serra and a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Hartford. Currently, I am in formation for the priesthood at the Pontifical North American College and the Pontifical Gregorian University, both in Rome. Fr. Castro generously invited me to share some of my recent experiences with you all.

I arrived in Rome in mid-July, shortly after the festivities surrounding the first mass of Fr. Yates at St. Margaret Mary. My first month in Italy was spent in the beautiful hillside town of Assisi, home to Blessed Carlo Acutis, St. Clare, and of course one of our parish's copatrons, St. Francis. While in Assisi and after my return to Rome in late August, I was doing intensive language studies because my courses at the *Gregorian* are in Italian.

The grandest surprise and blessing in Italy so far was meeting our Holy Father, Pope Francis. The chance to shake hands with the Vicar of Christ, was a living reminder that we as the Lord's flock are still carrying out the mission that Christ himself gave to Peter to bring the salvific message of the Gospel to all who we encounter.

Both classes and the non-academic aspects of formation began in October. I am enrolled in six courses this semester, in disciplines such as Latin and Dogmatic Theology. My favorite course is Christology and Soteriology, because in coming to understand our Lord more fully we can encounter reality not through our own frayed vision, but through the eyes of Christ himself.

During my time in Europe so far, I have been blessed to visit beautiful and historic sites in Italy and beyond. My favorite city I have visited is Turin in Northwest Italy. Here at the North American College, we spend our first two years of formation entirely outside of the United States. Because of that, I will be spending Christmas this year in St. Pope John Paul II's hometown of Krakow, Poland.

As you all hasten towards our Lord's manager in Bethlehem this Advent, I pray that this season of preparation may bear spiritual fruit for you all as individuals and for our beloved Parish. Please continue to pray for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life from our parish. Your prayers have shown results with two of our parishioners being ordained priests in the past three years, and two more of us currently in priestly formation.

Advent Blessings, Brendan Finnegan





Let Us Prepare! Children of St. Junipero Serra Parish,

Help us prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas. We need you to help us get the manger ready for the baby Jesus, during the season of Advent. Advent is the time for all of us to get ready for Jesus by praying and helping family and friends by doing good deeds.



Each week of Advent, before or after Mass, you will be able to add some hay to the manger in front of the altar, to show that you are doing good deeds and getting ready for Jesus. As we prepare for Jesus' birth, let us all help together and be kind to one another.

Children's Christmas Choir

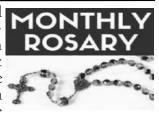
Once again our parish is inviting young singers to join the Children's Choir for Christmas Eve. The Mass will be held at 4pm

at St Francis of Assisi Church. We will sing upstairs from the choir loft. Attached below is a link to last year's Mass. It was absolutely beautiful. We will be doing the same music. Feel free to use this link below and watch the video to practice with your children. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EO9G-Sk5GDs

We will have one rehearsal which lasts an hourat noon Sunday 12/17 downstairs at SFA.

Please text Sarah Blackwell 860-335-3407 to reserve your child's place in this year's choir.

Our December Rosary will take place on Saturday, December 16th, at 12:00 noon in the chapel of St. Margaret Mary Church. All are welcome to join us as we pray each month for the intentions of the



Immaculate Heart of Mary. Please call Peggy, 860-978-0126, for questions.

HELP US CELEBRATE THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas Mass Intentions cards will be on sale till Saturday, December 23rd, before and after all Masses. Cards will be sold by the CCD or Confirmation Youth. Card front artwork was done by children of the parish as part of the Knights of Columbus Christmas poster project. The llam Mass at St. Margaret Mary will be offered for the intentions of those receiving cards. Intentions may be for anyone, living, deceased, ill, homebound etc. and may be sent to family, friends or yourself as part of Christmas.

Enclosed is a form which allows for up to 5 names per card. The back cover informs the recipient of Mass celebration with intention on their behalf. All forms will be placed on the altar Christmas Day for llam Mass.

Costs for cards are \$5.00 for single and \$10.00 for packet of 3. All monies go to parish youth services.

Please join your parish for a Day of Recollection During Advent Season

at Ender's Island in Stonington, Connecticut

Saturday, December 16th

The bus will leave between 7:00 – 7:30 a.m. from the St. Francis of Assisi, back parking lot and return about 5:00 p.m. Please contact Ginger in the office, 860-644-2411 x101 or admin.coord@sjs-sw.org

to get on the list as space is limited!



Offertory of the weekend of 12/3/2023 will appear in our next week's bulletin.

This weekend's special collection

Retired Religious Fund



The Christmas Giving Trees are up with tag decorations with suggested gifts for children and teens at Our Lady of Peace and Our Lady of Sorrows parishes in Hartford for Christmas and Three King's Day.

Looking for a way to help us help others?

- 1. Hand our empty grocery bags after Masses 12/9 and 12/10
- 2. Roll a bin full of donated items from the main entrance at St. Margaret Mary to the garage for storage after 4:00 pm Mass on Saturdays or 11:00 am Mass on Sundays check in with Joe or Catherine or an usher if you are able to assist.

Join a group of volunteers to sort donations on occasional Monday mornings at 9 am in the St. Margaret Mary church hall.

Email <u>president@societyhelpline.org</u> if you would like to know more about these or other ways to volunteer with the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Have kitchen items or good used furniture to share? Please post your donation at 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.

Visit our website at www.saintjuniperoserra.org and connect us on social media





EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

We have early transmission deadlines due to the Christmas & New Year Holidays. Bulletin articles must be received no later than noon Wed, Dec 13th for the Sun, Dec 24th | Wed, Dec 20th for the Sun, Dec 31st Wed, Dec 27th for the Sun, Jan 7th.Email your submissions to: bulletin@sjs-sw.org

The Hartford Chorale presents a Free Concert of Sacred Christmas Music at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford CT, on Wednesday December 20, at 7:30 PM. The Concert, sponsored



partly by the Hartford Bishops Foundation, includes the Bach Magnificat, Handel's Messiah Part I with the Hallelujah Chorus, and a Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long with full orchestra. *Free admission*. We invite all to come to our Cathedral for this wonderful holiday celebration For more information, contact Joe Coray, jcoray@att.net, or 860-841-5226

INCREASE YOUR FAITH Come to our Cenacle

Divine Mercy Cenacle which meets every other Tuesday night. *Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00pm at SMM Chapel.* For more information call

Mike Cianciolo 860-604-1745.

FRIDAY KNIGHTS BINGO at St. Margaret Mary Church Hall | Doors & Kitchen open at 5:00pm Bingo starts at 6:30pm. 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.

The Mass Intention Calendar is open for 2024! Mass offerings are \$25 for weekends and \$20 for weekdays. Beginning this year, when there is an overlap on requested dates/times on the weekends, up to 2 families may share the date/time.

To *view* the calendar, go to our website <u>www.saintjuniperoserr.org</u> and click on Church Calendar, Mass Intentions. Contact Ginger to reserve your Mass at 860-644-2411 x101.

Blood Drive St. Margaret Mary Church

+

Church Hall 80 Hayes Road, South Windsor

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

Wednesday, December 13 | 12pm to 5pm

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



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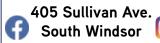
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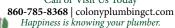
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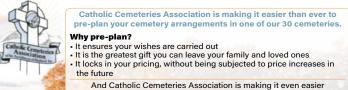
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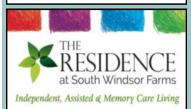
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