

# St. Junípero Serra Parish

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# 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie". John 1:26-27

## 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 17, 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.



# **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 <a href="https://www.saintjuniperoserra.org">www.saintjuniperoserra.org</a> 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 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

#### MONDAY, December 18

8:00 a.m. Audrey Szoka by Her Father, Roy, & Family TUESDAY, December 19

8:00 a.m. Marie DiCologero by Ed & Kathy Sullivan WEDNESDAY, December 20

8:00 a.m. Maria Brandi Malvina Russo

by Their Granddaughters & Nieces

THURSDAY, December 21

8:00 a.m. Mary & John Taylor

by Rosaleen & Ed Meyer & Family

#### SATURDAY VIGIL, December 23

4:00 p.m. Joseph Cardini, 13th Anniversary by John & Doreen Blondin

SUNDAY, December 24 | Fourth Sunday of Advent NO 7:30 am Mass

9:00 a.m St. Junipero Serra Parish Families 11:00 a.m. St. Junipero Serra Parish Families

Christmas Eve-Vigil Masses

4:00 p.m. | SFA| St. Junipero Serra Parish Families 4:00 p.m. | SMM| St. Junipero Serra Parish Families 10.00 p.m. | SMM| Intention of the Flower Donors

#### SANCTUARY LIGHTS

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

St. Margaret Mary's Sanctuary Light burns this week for FOR THE MOST ABANDONED SOULS IN THE PURGATORY

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.

#### Advent Wreath

#### Question:

What's the story behind the Advent wreath? Answer:

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its

own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreathes adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in child-hood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding



us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas. ©I Pi

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

Total Offertory including Online Giving:
12/3/2023 Weekly Collection \$11,799.00
Monthly Collection \$5,173.00
These numbers will fluctuate due to monthly and quarterly donations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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.



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 hour-

at 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.

#### 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 Ilam Mass.

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

## 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.

#### 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 20th for Sun, Dec 31st Wed, Dec 27th for Sun, Jan 7th. Email your submissions to: **bulletin@sjs-sw.org** 

Looking for that perfect gift? A gift that's "one size fits all?" A gift that won't be returned? How about a gift that is "set in stone"? It's not too late to order your brick for the Pastors' Memorial Garden. Pick up a brochure at one of the entrances at our churches or order on-line at bricksrus.com/donorsite/sis

This is a great way to remember a loved one or to celebrate your fami-

ly name. If you have any questions, please call Mary Leslie at 860-614-5011.



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

Hartford for Christmas and Three King's Day. Additionally, we will provide gifts for local children in need, Head Start families in Vernon and DCF families in Manchester. If you know someone in need of food, Christmas gifts or other needs, please let us know in person or by email.

Thank you for your generous donations to the December Food Collection. With your help we provided grocery bags to local families, the Little Free Pantries in South Windsor, Head Start Families in Vernon, DCF families in Manchester and the St. Ann's Pantry



## Looking for a way to help us help others?

- 1) Hand our empty grocery bags after Masses 1/20 and
- 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.
- 3) Join a group of volunteers to sort donations on occasional Monday mornings at 9 am in the St. Margaret Mary church hall.
- 4) Attend our monthly board meeting, 7 pm, the second Tuesday of the month in the St. Francis of Assisi church basement.

Email president@societyhelpline.org 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 assistance request for on site www.societyhelpline.org or call 860 648-0216.

# Catholic Movies to Watch Again! Joy and Peace

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness\* should be known to all. The Lord is near. Philippians 12:4-9

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. 7 Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

8g Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

9 Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with

<u>THE ROBE-1953</u> In the Roman province of Judea during the 1st century, Roman tribune Marcellus Gallio is ordered to crucify Jesus of Nazareth but is tormented by his guilty conscience afterwards.

"Quotes: Judas: Why must men doubt? Tell them they must keep faith! They must keep faith! [walking away] Demetrius: Wait, tell who? Who are you?

Judas: My name is Judas".

<u>THE SOUND OF MUSIC - 1965</u> A young novice is sent by her convent in 1930s Austria to become a governess to the seven children of a widowed naval officer.

"Maria: I can't seem to stop singing wherever I am. And what's worse, I can't seem to stop saying things, anything and everything I think and feel.

Mother Abbess: Some people would call that honesty.

Maria: Oh, but it's terrible, Reverend Mother."

<u>SCARLET AND THE BLACK - 1983</u> Vatican efforts, led by Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty, to save Allied P.O.W.s and downed Allied airmen as the Nazis invade Rome.

"Father Morosini: All over Rome, Partisan groups are being formed.

Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty: Father, Father, if that's what you want, then join one of them. We're not a resistance group. We're not here to be blowin' up trains.

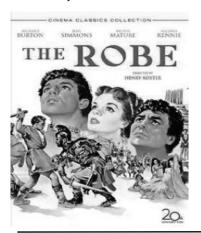
Father Morosini: But, Monsignor...

Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty: Let me say it once and for all. As priests, it's our duty to do all we can to help those in danger, the victims of the war. We're not here to add to the killin".

<u>A HIDDEN LIFE</u> 2019 Based on real events, A Hidden Life is the story of an unsung hero, Bl. Franz Jägerstätter, who refused to fight for the Nazis in World War II.

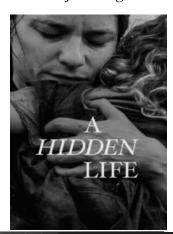
"...for the growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistorical acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life, and rest in unvisited tombs."

By Maria Rosati – Faith Formation Administrative Assistant |860.644.2549| faithformation@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, <a href="mailto:jcoray@att.net">jcoray@att.net</a>, or 860-841-5226





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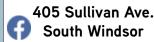
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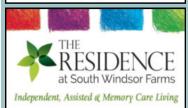
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