

# St. Junípero Serra Parish

## We are baptized to serve and celebrate

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



### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

673 Ellington Road

South Windsor, CT 06074 Sunday Mass: 9:00 am

Weekday Mass: 8:00 am-Monday &

Wednesday

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

**JANUARY 7, 2024** 

## 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

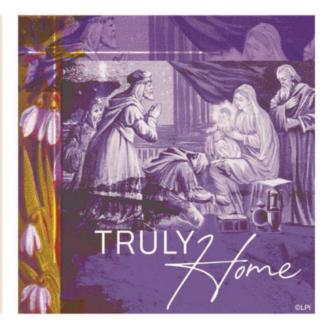
Confessions: Monday 6:00pm-6:45pm

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.

## Worship & Meditation



## Gospel Meditation Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I truly at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, "They were overjoyed at seeing the star." This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you're a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, "Follow me! I will take you home!" Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.



## Saint of the week

St. Tarcisius was a 12-year-old boy who lived in 3rd-century Rome. Although much of what is known of him is from a poem written by Pope Damasus (366-384), he is considered an important martyr who protected the Eucharist from desecration with his life.

## Prayer for the New Year

Dear Lord.

With thanksgiving we entrust our year to You: whatever it holds, whoever we encounter, wherever we traverse. What You supply is gift. May our comings and goings be aligned with Your will. Amen.

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Though the magi did not know where the star of Bethlehem would lead, they trusted that God would be with them along the way. Let us all embrace that same faith as we go about the journey God has planned for us this year.

Father John Muir

## 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, January 6

4:00 p.m. Laurette D. Billig by daughter, Carol Billig/ Vincent Attianese & Janet Giordano by Family

SUNDAY, January 7

The Epiphany of The Lord

9:00 a.m Muriel Soucy by Her Son, Warren/Matthew Marianella by Family

11:00 a.m. Stephen Wisneski by Family/Sebastiano & Maria Milluzzo by Santo & Alfina Milluzzo & Family

MONDAY, January 8

8:00 a.m. Fred Sauer by Morning Mass Friends

TUESDAY, January 9

8:00 a.m. Shirley Teixeira

by The St. Vincent de Paul Sorters

WEDNESDAY, January 10

8:00 a.m. William Solimeno & Ruth Hayword by Family

THURSDAY, January 11

8:00 a.m. Michael J. Troiano, Jr. by His Children

SATURDAY VIGIL, January 13

4:00 p.m. Lloyd Estey by Lorrie Coelho

Patricia Brown by Christine Kozlowski & Joan Beaudry

SUNDAY, January 14

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

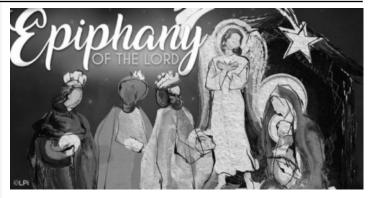
9:00 a.m Edward F. Havens, Sr. by Lynda Pelkey John & Jo Hughes by The Brennan Family 11:00 a.m. Deborah Mosqueda, Susan Jabonero & Teresito Flordelis by The Cuizon Family

#### SANCTUARY LIGHTS

St. Margaret Mary's Sanctuary Light burns this week for SPEACIAL INTENTION FOR MICHAEL

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.



Wedding Feast & Epiphany

Question:

How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?

Answer:

The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana. The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers. Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C. These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life.©LPi

#### 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.

Happy New Year everyone! There is no better way to ring in the New Year than to purchase a brick for the Pastors Memorial Garden. For more information about pricing and the project pick up a brochure at one of the entrances at both churches or go to <a href="https://www.bricksRus.com/donorsite/SJS">www.bricksRus.com/donorsite/SJS</a>.

For more information, please contact Mary Leslie at 860-614-5011

Parish Keys – If you, or a family member, have keys to AN-YTHING at the parish and are no longer using them, please put an indication as to what



they are for and return them in an envelope to either the office or the collection basket at Mass. Thank you!



Immacare Homeless Shelter Meal – January 9, 2024 – needs list can be found on the parish Facebook page the week before meal preparation begins. Donations to get supplies for the preparation, for the 75-80 men in

the shelter would be greatly appreciated also. If you prefer to make a donation, please make sure to make it out to St. Junipero Serra and clearly note on an envelope that it is for the shelter meal. Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support Charlie & Maryellen Brennan.

## Give blood. Help save lives.

Blood Drive St. Margaret Mary Church

Church Hall 80 Hayes Road, South Windsor

Wednesday, January 10 | 11am to 4pm

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.

"Give us the grace – When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, to stand up and proclaim that no one ever has the authority to destroy unborn life." – St. John Paul II



#### 9 Days for Life

9 Days for Life is an annual novena for the protection of human life. Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena, 9 Days for Life, Tuesday, January 16 - Wednesday, January 24. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Sign up at 9daysforlife.com!

#### Coming Soon!

The Ministry of Life has a page on St. Junipero Serra Parish's website. Under Ministries, click on Ministry of Life. The Ministry of Life page has five tabs, Activities, Novenas, Resources, Advocacy and Album. We are very excited about sharing Ministry of Life information and having it easily accessible. Thank you, Anton, for working with us to make this happen.

#### Christmas Flowers

Poinsettias that graced the sanctuaries this season will be given away Only After the 9:00a.m. Mass at St. Francis and 11:00a.m. Mass at St. Margaret Mary on Sunday Jan, 7.



Want to help your Parish and save on taxes? Make a gift tax-free from your IRA. If you are 70 ½ or older, you can make a gift from your IRA to a qualified charity, like St. Junipero Serra Parish. An IRA gift, otherwise known as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), is not included as taxable income to you. It can also be used to satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution – the legal amount that must be withdrawn from your IRA each year. Contact your financial advisor for details.



Thank you for supporting our drive to provide gifts for local children in need, Head Start children in Vernon, DCF children in Manchester and gifts for children and teens at Our Lady Queen of Peace and Our Lady of Sorrows parishes in Hartford for Christmas and the feast of Three King's.

The January 2024 food collection will take place on the week of 1/27 and 1/28/2024. Grocery bags will be distributed 1/20 and 1/21/2024. Your donations will help local families in need as well as Head Start families in Vernon and DCF families



in Manchester. Also, The Bristol Men's Shelter will benefit from your donations.

Looking for a way to help us help others?

- 1) Hand our empty grocery bags after Masses 1/20 and 1/21/2024
- 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 <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 <a href="https://www.societyhelpline.org">www.societyhelpline.org</a>

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.

#### FOR HAITI



Did you know that you can put many of your old household items in the St. Vincent de Paul bins at SMM and they will be collected and sent to Haiti?

These items do not have to be new, but they should be in good condition. For example:

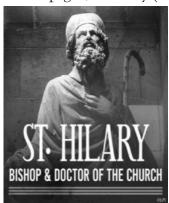
- Baseball caps
- Decks of cards, match cars, jump ropes, Frisbees
- Embroidery floss and small sewing kits
- Hand lotions, shampoos and hand sanitizers (trial size from hotels)
- Flannel backed tablecloths (used for birthing pads)
- Jewelry, earrings and bracelets (given as reward in classes)
- Nail clippers
- Pillowcases (used to carry foods)
- Towels (even torn ones are cut up to make washcloths)
- Sheets (used to make diapers and baptismal dresses)
- Tackle boxes (used by midwives to carry supplies)
- Shower caps (used to cover foods), and
- Old suitcases NO FABRIC SUITCASES (soft) sent to Haiti packed, and after are used by people to hold their belongings.

Items may be placed in bags marked 'Haiti' for ease in sorting. This is an ongoing collection.

Offertory of the weekends of 12/24,31/2023 will appear in our next week's bulletin.

St. Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor of the Church | January 13

Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 – c. 367) studied philosophy



and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity. From Phyrgia St. Hilary fought with

his pen, zealously writing against the heresy.

Eventually he was allowed to return to Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous route, preaching against Arianism all the way. St. Hilary was likely the first writer of hymns in the West, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary was created Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX.

#### **INCREASE YOUR FAITH**

Come to our Cenacle which meets every other

Divine Mercy Cenacle



Tuesday night. No need to study anything, just come and see what it's all about. We start off the evening with The Divine Mercy Chaplet, Spiritual

Rosary and finish the night sharing our Faith and discussing The Divine Mercy message.

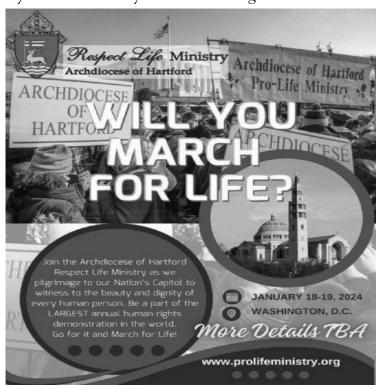
Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9th at 7:00pm at SMM Chapel. For more information call Mike Cianciolo 860-604-1745.

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.



Make a resolution for your marriage! Join the Endure Initiative 2024: Endure is a post wedding, marriage enrichment initiative, geared towards empowering couples with proven strategies and key marriage skills. Endure is NOT a program, it is a process designed to strengthen a couple's relationship, create deeper understanding of the sacramentality of marriage, establish lasting connections with other couples and increase involvement in the parish community. Whether you are a newlywed or married for many years, Endure is for you. Workshop sessions will held Saturdays in February and March via Zoom. For more information, contact Valerie St. Jean, Coordinator of Adult and Family Life Ministries, Valerie.stjean@aohct.org or 860-242-5573, x267

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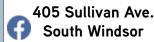
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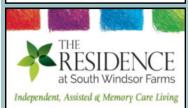
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