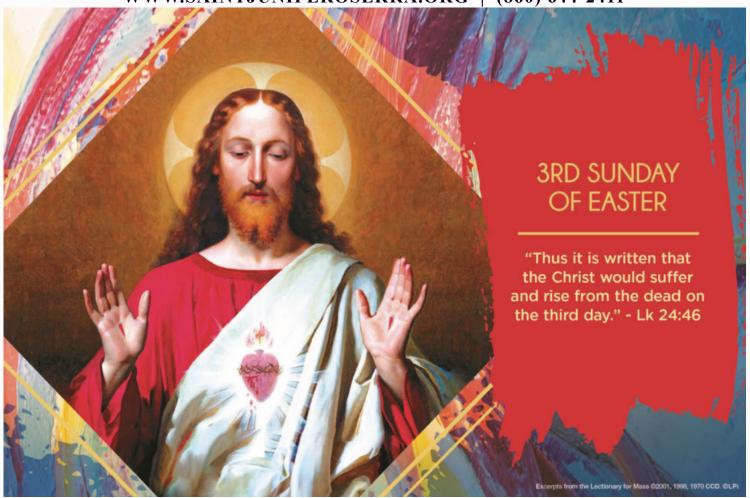


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ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

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

APRIL 14, 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

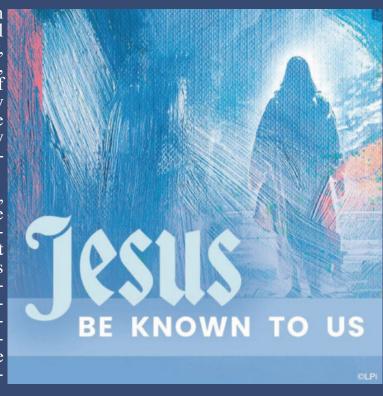
(except Holy Days & Holidays)

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

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE April 14, 2024 | Third Sunday of Easter

When I was a kid, a friend at my home parish told me, "If you get to Mass by the Gospel reading, it counts!" As a lifelong late-arriver, it's something I have told myself many times, especially in my earlier years as a Catholic. If the "it counts" is justifiable on a pathetically minimal scale of liturgical legalism, then the Gospel reading today shows how insanely wrong-headed it is, and how helpful it is to rethink the Mass in its light.

The famous "Road to Emmaus" story recounts, on that first Sunday of the Resurrection, the basic two-fold structure of the Mass: Word, followed by Eucharist. Jesus spends a significant period of time with two dismayed disciples, as he connects a wide swath of the Hebrew scriptures with his own suffering, death, and resurrection. They would later report that this Liturgy of the Word touched their hearts with an inexplicable fire. This Word-induced flame alone is what leads the two disciples to discover Jesus' presence in the "breaking of the bread."



With this in mind, how can we possibly think that the Liturgy of the Word is unnecessary or incidental? The two disciples needed the Scriptures explained to them in order to experience Jesus alive in the eucharistic breaking of bread. Sure, we say, but they had the Risen Jesus. But that's precisely the point: Jesus is risen and accompanies us in both parts of the Mass. Imagine how much our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist would deepen if we (preachers and listeners) took even more seriously that Jesus himself sets our hearts ablaze with his Word so that we know him in the Eucharist. That Word-induced fire counts, too! Father John Muir ©LPi





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@aohet.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

Director of Communications

Anton Miranda StjuniperoSerra@gmail.com

Facility

Jose Andrade Steven Barile

Business Managers

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

Luz Robles

finance@sjs-sw.org

Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 103

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 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: Weekdays: When school is canceled or delayed there will be NO Morning Mass. Weekends: Please check our website, or Facebook page or Channel 3 for possible cancellation.



SATURDAY VIGIL, April 13

4:00 p.m. Laurette & Raymond Billig by daughter, Carol Billig/ Vicente Torres & Luisa Alzamora by Family

SUNDAY, April 14 | Third Sunday of Easter 9:00 a.m. Rose St. Laurent by Family 11:00 a.m. Barbara Gillin & Mary Ellen Powers by Mary Bey

MONDAY, April 15

8:00 a.m. Special Intentions by Laura & Frank Phillipe TUESDAY, April 16

8:00 a.m. Robert Gosselin by Family

WEDNESDAY, April 17

8:00 a.m. Fred Sauer by Family

THURSDAY, April 18

8:00 am Bill Dunn by Annamae Davis

SATURDAY VIGIL, April 20

4:00 p.m. Arthur Zito by His Children/Mary & John Taylor by Rosaleen & Éd Meyer & Family

SUNDAY, April 21 | Fourth Sunday of Easter 9:00 a.m. Luc Michaud by Family 11:00 a.m. Paolo & Giuseppina Matarazzo by Their Children

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

St. Margaret Mary's Sanctuary Light burns this week for MARION & JOHN LOFFLER

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 & Cheryl Hauck, Donna Smutney, Richard Holtz, Maureen D. West, Sophie Myzuzikevik, Tracy Robinson, Kate Laurie. Please call the parish office to add a loved one to our parish prayer list.

The Monthly Rosary for April will take place on Saturday, April 20th at 12:00 noon at St. Margaret Mary. Please call Peggy at 860-978-0126 with **KU** any questions.



Join us to pray the Rosary Monday - Thursday after the 8:00 am morning Mass

STEWARDSHIP

Total Offertory including Online Giving: 4/7/2024 Weekly Collection \$12,524.00 Monthly Collection \$6,038.00 These numbers will fluctuate due to monthly and quarterly donations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Give blood. Help save lives.

Blood Drive St. Margaret Mary Church

Church Hall 80 Hayes Road, South Windsor



Wednesday April 24th | 10am to 3pm

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.

Divine Mercy Cenacle



INCREASE YOUR FAITH Come to our Cenacle which meets every other Tuesday night. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 16th at

7:00pm at SMM Chapel. For more information call Mike Cianciolo 860-604-1745.

In just a few short weeks, our parish has raised

\$97,545.61 for the 2024 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. In these trying times, the need of our surrounding ARCHBISHOP'S community grows and the assistance provided by the Appeal becomes all the



more crucial. If you have not yet made your gift to this year's Appeal, please consider doing so in the days ahead. Your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal will help continue the vital services, ministries and programs that help so many throughout our Archdiocese. All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Third Sunday of EASTER

1 John 2:1-3 "My children, I am writing this to you so you may not commit sin. But, if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world. That we may be sure that we know him is to keep his commandments." As we get to know Jesus more and obey his commandments, he will open our minds to understand the scriptures. Jesus will also open your heart to love and forgive one another. Take a leap of faith, and trust God to nourish your relationship. Sign up for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience and you will learn the tools to transform your marriage. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:

June 7-June 9, 2024 in Upton,, MA June 21-June 23, 2024 in Huntington, NY August 2-4, 2024 in Portland, CT

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or https://www.ncg/.

Thank you St. Junipero Serra Parishioners for your ongoing support for your St. Vincent de Paul Society. The April food collection will take place the weekend of 4/27 and 4/28. Grocery bags will be distributed 4/20 and 4/21. With your help we will give groceries and gift cards to local families, Little Free Pantries in South Windsor, Head Start families in Vernon and DCF families in Manchester. Additionally, we will provide food for the Bristol Men's Shelter.

Looking for a way to help us help others?

- 1) This month, hand out empty grocery bags after masses 4/20 and 4/21/2024
- 2) Roll a bin full of the 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. *If you would like to help please email* president@societyhelpline.org
- 4) Attend our monthly board meeting, 7 pm, the second Tuesday of the month (4/9/2024) in the St. Francis of Assisi church basement, let us know in advance by emailing our president, in case we are meeting in a different location. We will welcome you!

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 a request for assistance on our website www.societyhelpline.org or call 860 648-0216.

Dear Parents:

Send your kids on a splash-tastic adventure!

At Scuba VBS, kids dive into friendship with God! Scuba is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Hands-on science experiments, team-building games,



unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life-something we call God Sightings®. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot! So mark these dates on your calendar: July 15- 19. The fun starts at 9am. and will end at 12 noon and will take place at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Forms can be found on our website – www.saintjuniperoserra.org to register your children for camp – SPACE IS LIMITED! E-mail Maria at faithformation@sjs-sw.org if you would like volunteer as one of our VBS Scuba Team members!

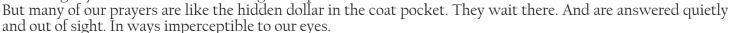
Sincerely,

Your Scuba VBS Team at St. Junipero Serra Parish

Keep Praying - Unanswered Prayers are like...

When I was a little girl, my father and us kids would accompany my mother clothes shopping. It would be difficult to be patient and so my father would try to entertain us. One day he said "Here is a dollar. Put it in one of the pockets of a coat on the rack. Now let's watch." his eyes dancing with our secret. Anytime someone got close to the coat we would giggle and become excited. Would they find the dollar and be delighted? Would it brighten their day? But we never did see who bought the coat. We never saw their eyes light up at the discovery of the dollar in the pocket.

I think it is like that with seemingly unanswered prayers sometimes. Sometimes we pray for a person or a petition and in a blaze of glory there are visible blessings and positive answers.



One day when we get to heaven, perhaps God will show it all to us. The graces that we prayed for not wasted. The joy, the help, the carrying through difficult times. Perhaps he will show us the woman who found the hidden dollar in the winter coat pocket!

CCC2745 Prayer and Christian life are inseparable, for they concern the same love and the same renunciation, proceeding from love; the same filial and loving conformity with the Father's plan of love; the same transforming union in the Holy Spirit who conforms us more and more to Christ Jesus; the same love for all men, the love with which Jesus has loved us. "Whatever you ask the Father in my name, he [will] give it to you. This I command you, to love one another." 41

He "prays without ceasing" who unites prayer to works and good works to prayer. Only in this way can we consider as realizable the principle of praying without ceasing.

"Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, thereby a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love." St. Therese The Little Flower

"Christ has no body now but mine. He prays in me, works in me, looks through my eyes, speaks through my words, works through my hands, walks with my feet and loves with me here." St. Teresa of Avila

By Maria Rosati – Faith Formation Administrative Assistant |860.644.2549| faithformation@sjs-sw.org





St. Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, was the most prolific Christian missionary of all time. Due to a miraculous experience that he had on the road to Damascus, he went from persecuting early Christians to traveling all over the region preaching the Gospel of Jesus.

Biography: St. Paul the Apostle (c.4-c.64) was named Saul of Tarsus before his conversion. He was born to a devout Jewish family who followed strict Pharisaic traditions for generations. He spoke Greek and was formally educated in Jewish culture, scripture, and traditions. As an adult he worked as a tentmaker as well as an enforcer for the Jewish leadership in their efforts against new Christian converts. He is known to have taken an active part in the stoning of St. Stephen, the first martyr, and considered himself to be a shining example of Judaism.

Saul's conversation to Christianity took place while he was traveling to Damascus to persecute Christians there. According to Scripture, "a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the

ground and heard a voice say to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" (Acts 9:3-4). Stricken blind by the vision, Saul continued to Damascus where he was healed and immediately began meeting with other disciples in the area and preaching that Jesus is Lord. He changed his name to the Roman version of Saul, Paul, after his conversation because it was more common among the Gentiles.

For years he traveled all over the region starting churches and preaching the Gospel to the Gentiles. Paul's letters to the communities he served make up thirteen of the books of the New Testament today. His writings encourage new believers to learn about Jesus through Scripture and prayer, partaking in the Eucharist, and serving those in need. He was eventually beheaded as part of systematic executions of Christian leaders in Rome. St. Paul is known as the Apostle to the Gentiles, and the most prolific Christian missionary of all time. St. Paul, pray for us! © LPi

Saint Bridget School Drama Club presents: Beauty and the Beast Jr. Show Nights April 26th at 7pm | April 27th at 7pm | April 28th at 2pm

Please call the school office, 860-649-7731, for ticket information. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children (13 years and under).

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