



St. Junípero Serra Parish

We are baptized to serve and celebrate

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



2ND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."
- Lk 3:4*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

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**

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)**

DECEMBER 8, 2024

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



St. Junípero Serra Parish *Christmas Choir Concert*

Friday, December 20th
7:00 PM

We cordially invite you to attend this **FREE** Christmas Concert featuring our choir accompanied by a chamber orchestra and organ.

St. Margaret Mary Church
80 Hayes Road, South Windsor, CT

Monetary donations graciously
accepted at the door.

Reception following the concert



In the Tradition of Saint Nicholas

Our Youth Ministry cordially invites all Faith Formation Students in all grades to leave their shoes in the back of the church before the 11 a.m. Mass at St. Margaret Mary Church on Sunday, December 22nd. You just might find that Saint Nicholas left a little surprise for you in your shoes while you prayed!



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 Road. Summer Office Hours Monday-Thursday 8:30am to 3pm

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
admin.coord@sjs-sw.org

Business Managers

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

Deacons

Deacon Edward J. Giard
Deacon Michael D. Haines

Director of Communications

Anton Miranda
StjuniperoSerra@gmail.com

Luz Robles

finance@sjs-sw.org
Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 103

Director of Music Ministries

Robert Dolan
robert.dolan@uconn.edu

Facility

Jose Andrade
Smmhayesroad@gmail.com

Bulletin Coordinator

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

Faith Formation Staff

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30am 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

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@sjs-sw.org

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, Joan: 860-402-3105

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, December 7
 4:00 p.m. Raymond W. Billig by daughter, Carol Billig/
 Robert Trichka by Family

SUNDAY, December 8
Second Sunday of Advent
 9:00 a.m. JoAnn Mecca by Her Sister/
 Maria Zegarra by Family
 11:00 a.m. Joseph SinhCon Pham by daughter, Mimosa
 Pham/In Thanksgiving of the Estrosos Family

MONDAY, December 9
 8:00 a.m. Richard Fournier by Jeanette Ertel

TUESDAY, December 10
 8:00 a.m. Charles & Diane Coriaty by Mike & Sally

WEDNESDAY, December 11
 8:00 a.m. Emily DeRosa by Annamae Davis

THURSDAY, December 12
 8:00 a.m. Richard T. Fournier by Annamae Davis

SATURDAY VIGIL, December 14
 4:00 p.m. Mary & Henry Fagnant & Eileen & Alvin
 Kendall by Mary

SUNDAY, December 15
Third Sunday of Advent
 9:00 a.m. George & Marie Irene McAndrews by Mimosa
 Pham/88th Birthday Blessings for Natividad Estrosos by
 daughter, Maria
 11:00 a.m. Ronald Kronenwetter by Family/
 Angelo A. Marinelli, Jr. by Paddy Larkin

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

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 Donnelly, 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, Andrew
 Galinaro, Paul Marianella, Shelia Brown, John Weyrauch,
 Kenny Lopez, Vicky Vecchiolla, Atlas, Jane Mahoney . Please
 call the parish office to add a loved one to our parish prayer
 list.

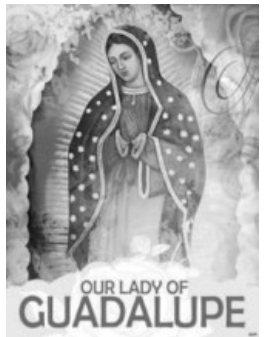
ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE
 6:00pm-7:00pm
 Monday, Dec 16 at St. Margaret Mary Church
 Wednesday, Dec 18 at St. Francis of Assisi Church

STEWARDSHIP
 Total Offertory including Online Giving:
 11/24/2024 Weekly Collection \$10,253.00
 These numbers will fluctuate due to monthly and
 quarterly donations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
Retirement Fund for Religious
 Next weekend's Second Collection
Aging religious need your help. "Your support acknowl-
 edges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our
 retirement," says Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart
 Sister Celeste Burgos, 80. Donations provide for the care,
 medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters,
 brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated
 their lives to service. Please give to the Retirement Fund
 for Religious.

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE
 We have early transmission deadlines.
 Bulletin articles must be received
 no later than noon
 Tuesday, Dec 10th for Sunday, Dec 22
 Tuesday, Dec 17th for Sunday, Dec 29th
 Email your submissions to: bulletin@sjs-sw.org

Our Lady of Guadalupe | December 12
 When Mary appeared to Juan Die-
 go as Our Lady of Guadalupe, she
 had encouraging words for him.
 "Am I not here, I who am your
 mother?" In the image on Juan Die-
 go's tilma (tunic), Mary identifies
 herself with the Aztec people. She
 has their hair and features, their
 symbolic maternity dress. She in-
 corporated their important symbols
 of the sun, moon, and stars. Today's
 Mass includes two Gospel options.
 Both are familiar passages from the Gospel of Luke - the
 Annunciation and the Visitation. Both are equally rele-
 vant to today's feast because Mary's yes to Christ isn't
 only to care for him but to come to us. Our Lady of Gua-
 dalupe is pregnant. The image bears witness to Mary's
 yes to conceive the Savior of the World. But even in her
 pregnancy, she goes to care for Elizabeth. Now Mother to
 all the world, Mary comes to the aid of her children, re-
 minding them of her presence among them.



INCREASE YOUR FAITH
 Come to our Cenacle which
 meets every other Tuesday
 night.

*Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, December
 10th at 7:00pm at SMM Chapel.* For more infor-
 mation call Mike Cianciolo 860-604-1745.

The Monthly Rosary for December will take place on Saturday, December 14th, at 12:00 noon, in the chapel at St. Margaret Mary Church. We will celebrate the feasts of the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe. Please join us as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Christmas. Call Peggy, 860-978-0126, with any questions.

MONTHLY ROSARY



HELP US CELEBRATE THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas Cards

Christmas Mass Intentions cards will be on sale starting Saturday, November 23rd till Sunday, December 22nd before and after all Masses. Cards will be sold by the CCD, Confirmation Youth or Knights. Card front artwork was done by children of the parish as part of the Knights of Columbus Christmas poster project. The 11am Mass at St. Margaret Mary will be offered for the intentions of or in memory 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 11am Mass. Cost is \$5 for a card. Forms need to be submitted by Sunday, December 22nd.

The SJS youth group is offering babysitting!

Attention Parents:

Would you like a night out? The youth group is offering babysitting!

Saturday, December 14th

6-9pm - St. Margaret Mary Church Hall

High School students from the Confirmation program will watch your children (10 and under - potty trained please) with Christmas themed activities! Adult supervision will be provided.



To reserve a spot, please call or text Marybeth Murdoch (860) 680-0515 by Monday, December 9th.

Give blood. Help save lives.

Blood Drive

St. Margaret Mary Church

Church Hall

80 Hayes Road, South Windsor

Wednesday, December 11th | 12pm to 5pm

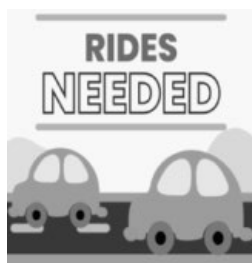
Sponsored by St. Junipero Serra Parish & SW Knights of Columbus

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



RIDES NEEDED!!

- Elderly parishioner in wheelchair needs assistance to and/or from a medical appointment in Manchester once per month. You can help in one or both directions.
- Ride needed to Mass from Berry Patch to assist a parishioner to the Saturday 4 pm or Sunday 11 am Mass at St. Margaret Mary.



If you are willing and able, please contact the office at 860-644-2411

Thank you for your consideration.

ST. JUNIPERO SERRA PARISH

Thank you St. Junipero Serra Parishioners for your generosity and for volunteering to help with the Thanksgiving food collection!

The Christmas Giving Trees have tags with suggested gifts by age. Please help us to provide gifts for local children in need and for children and teens at Our Lady Queen of Peace and Our Lady of Sorrows parishes in Hartford for Christmas and Three King's Day. We also need full and twin sized sheets, comforters and blankets. If you know of anyone or any family that needs help with food, utilities, clothing, furniture or rent please let us know by leaving a message on our help line - 860-648-0216, your message will be kept confidential. You can also email president@societyhelpline.org or go to our website www.societyhelpline.org

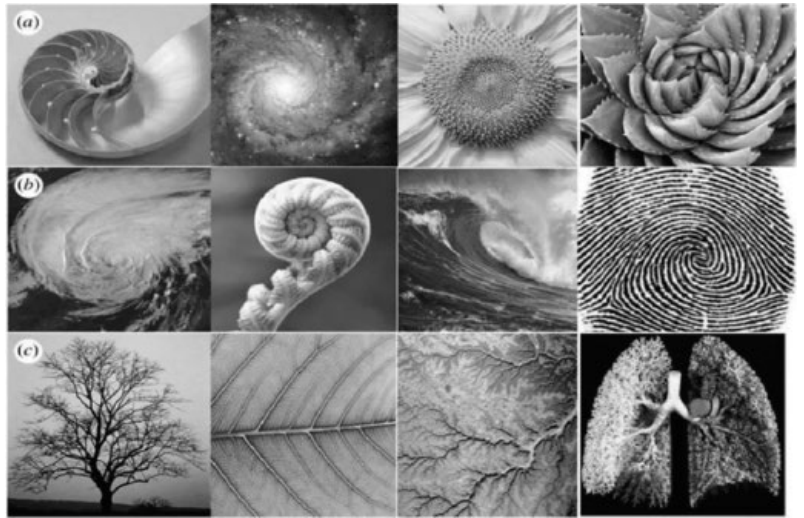


Please be advised our donation bins are now located at the lower entrance by the lower parking lot only.

Thank you for helping us to help others!

The Fibonacci Sequence - "How Great Thou Art!"

A while back I watched a documentary on *The Fibonacci Sequence*. *The Fibonacci Sequence* is a number pattern that is calculated as such: to get the next number in the sequence, add the previous two numbers. Beginning with 0, 1. These numbers are called Fibonacci numbers. From this sequence, other mathematical calculations were made and found throughout nature. As observed in something scientists call the Golden Spiral. Though I have a very simplistic idea of what all of this means, as I am not a mathematician or a scientist, *I can see the spiral!* I am struck when I look at the pattern of this spiral in created things and realize that life was not an accident. That there lies the mind of God and order and conception and purpose in all life.



"How Great Thou Art!"

Oh Lord, my God

When I, in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

Do there exist many worlds, or is there but a single world? This is one of the most noble and exalted questions in the study of Nature.
Saint Albertus Magnus (Patron Saint of Scientists)

*I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.*

The Nicene Creed

CCC159 Faith and science: "Though faith is above reason, there can never be any real discrepancy between faith and reason. Since the same God who reveals mysteries and infuses faith has bestowed the light of reason on the human mind, God cannot deny himself, nor can truth ever contradict truth."³⁷ Consequently, methodical research in all branches of knowledge, provided it is carried out in a truly scientific manner and does not override moral laws, can never conflict with the faith, because the things of the world and the things of faith derive from the same God. The humble and persevering investigator of the secrets of nature is being led, as it were, by the hand of God in spite of himself, for it is God, the conservator of all things, who made them what they are."

CCC282 Catechesis on creation is of major importance. It concerns the very foundations of human and Christian life: for it makes explicit the response of the Christian faith to the basic question that men of all times have asked themselves: "Where do we come from?" "Where are we going?" "What is our origin?" "What is our end?" "Where does everything that exists come from and where is it going?" The two questions, the first about the origin and the second about the end, are inseparable. They are decisive for the meaning and orientation of our life and actions.

CCC283 The question about the origins of the world and of man has been the object of many scientific studies which have splendidly enriched our knowledge of the age and dimensions of the cosmos, the development of life-forms and the appearance of man. These discoveries invite us to even greater admiration for the greatness of the Creator, prompting us to give him thanks for all his works and for the understanding and wisdom he gives to scholars and researchers. With Solomon they can say: "It is he who gave me unerring knowledge of what exists, to know the structure of the world and the activity of the elements. . . for wisdom, the fashioner of all things, taught me."¹²¹

*Photo above: Examples of patterns in nature, including the golden spiral, the golden ratio and fractal self-similar structures. From left to right, (a) a nautilus shell, a galaxy, a sunflower, a desert plant; (b) a storm formation, a fern bud, an ocean wave, a finger print; (c) fractal properties in a branched tree, a leaf, river bed formation, a cast of human lungs. (Online version in colour.) -researchgate.net

By Maria Rosati – Faith Formation Administrative Assistant /860.644.2549/ faithformation@sjsw.org

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(We encourage sharing this QR code with family, neighbors, and friends to maximize your church donation. This promotion ends October 31st, 2024.)

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