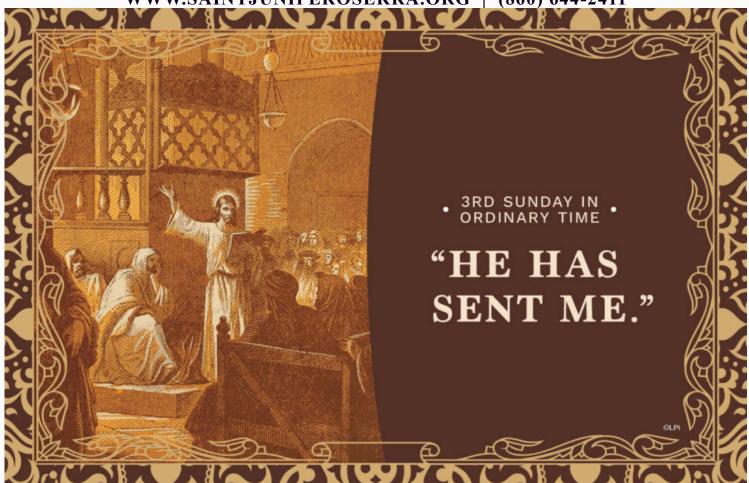


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ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

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

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)

JANUARY 26, 2025

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



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE January 26, 2025 | 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time | Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

A young couple in my parish told me they were expecting their second child, a baby boy. I knew that their fiveyear old only child Emma had been desperately wanting to be a big sister for years, so I said, "Emma must have been so happy when you told her the news." "Actually," they said, "she burst into tears. She wanted a baby sister!" How often in life God wonderfully fulfills our desires and we are sad because we don't approve of the way he does it. We want to control the gift and the delivery method.

The same thing occurs in the Gospel this week when Jesus announces in his hometown that the promise of an Anointed One bringing glad tidings to the poor is "fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). After a moment of elation, his fellow townsfolk realize this man is the way God is fulfilling his promises, and



they erupt into a violent outburst. So Jesus departs. How sad for them.

Every single Sunday at Mass, including this one, some version of this happens to many of us. God's word announces the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ, and we easily overlook or disdain it. His way is almost never according to our narrow expectations. What's required of us is to set these aside, and to embrace a new openness to God's gifts, no matter how he wishes to give them. God is fulfilling his promises the way He likes — why be sad?— 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 Road. 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

Deacon

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 Smmhayesroad@gmail.com

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 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

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, 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, January 25

4:00 p.m. Marcel Bizier by Family/ Stanley & Cecelia Gumula by Family

SUNDAY, January 26

Third Sunday in Ordinary Sunday

9:00 a.m. Louise Magaldi & Sylvia Lewis Szeredy by Christine & James Lewis/ Susan DiBella Roberts by Robin Saccoccia & Debbie Kingsley 11:00 a.m. Sister Luigina Milluzzo, Rosanna Neri & Alfina Milluzzo by Milluzzo Family

MONDAY, January 27

8:00 a.m. Therese Kruzyk by a Friend

TUESDAY, January 28

8:00 a.m. Nellie Fidler by Richard & Betty Lee Fournier

WEDNESDAY, January 29

8:00 a.m. Richard Fournier by Morning Mass Friends

THURSDAY, January 30

8:00 a.m. James Vosler by Annamae Davis

SATURDAY VIGIL, February 1

4:00 p.m. Marcel Bizier by His Family/

William Marley by The Haucks

SUNDAY, February 2

The Presentation of The Lord

9:00 a.m. David Bulow by The Brennan Family 11:00 a.m. St. Junipero Serra Parish Families

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

St. Margaret Mary's Sanctuary Light burns this week for CARÓLYN SCROGGINS BURCH

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.

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



Please come to "Millions of Monicas" prayer group in our parish. Our mission is to encounter God through prayer and through the intercession of St. Monica. We will pray that our young family members, children grandchildren will be drawn back to the Catholic Faith and will enjoy the richness of the Church.

St. Margaret Mary Church at 3:00 pm every Friday for 40 minutes.

Archdiocese of Hartford's Wedding Anniversary Mass February 15, 2025 at 4:00 pm

The Archdiocese of Hartford is celebrating its' Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass in conjunction with the observance of National Week Marriage (February 9 – 15, 2025)



helping the Catholic faithful renew and deepen the lived experience of the Sacrament of Marriage and to celebrate the vocation of marriage and family life. All couples celebrating their 1st and five year increments from 5 to 60 years (1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55), and every year beyond 60 years taking place in 2024-2025 are invited to reaffirm their sacred wedding vows and receive Archbishop Christopher J. Coyne's Episcopal Blessing at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford, CT.

The registration deadline for all anniversary couples is January 28, 2025

For more information and to register for this event online visit the Archdiocese of Hartford website at www.Catholicedaohct.org/faith-formation/ upcomingevents or call our parish office.

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, Junyout prayers Beth Linda Pratson,



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

> Offertory of the weekend of 1/19 will appear in our next week's bulletin.



Use of Parish Meeting Spaces

All parish meeting rooms must be prebooked. We want to be sure you have the space reserved for your needs and that there will be no conflict with another group. For safety purposes and HVAC control, we also want to know who is in any of the facilities at any given time. To book the halls or meeting rooms, please contact Ginger at 860-644-2411 x101 or email admin.coord@sjs-sw.org

End of year contribution statements for parishioners who participate in our envelope system and online giving-Those who received statements last year will *automatically* receive their statements by end of January by email, or mail, if there is no email on file.

Online givers – Contribution statements are also available through the Our Sunday Visitor online giving site. If you are receiving envelopes and wish to discontinue, please let the office know.

Please contact Ginger at admin.coord@sjs-sw.org if your email has changed, if you have email and prefer a hard copy, or if you would like to request a statement for the first time.

Women's Club corner:



SJS Women's Club

Attention: The SJS Women's Club will not be meeting in January. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, February 13th at St Francis of Assisi Hall. Social begins at 6:30 and our

meeting begins at 7 pm. If you would like to join the Women's club please come to the meeting or Contact Paulann at 860 291-9960.

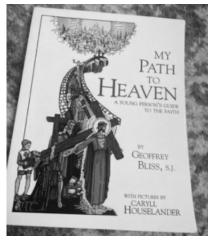
(*If there is inclement weather and school is cancelled in South Windsor we will not meet.)



Nihil Obstat! - Nothing Stands in the Way!

A generous parishioner, who prefers to remain anonymous has gifted each of our Faith Formation Students a handbook to heaven! - *My Path to Heaven - A young person*'s guide to the faith -

Using the general format of the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola - the author presents interesting and original sketches to contemplate, alongside stories and theological teachings. Each picture probes the reader to ask important questions about their faith and leads them to find the answers in Christ.



The book speaks of the reality of choices, sins, and the pathway to heaven. This book will be food for the entire family since the format provokes depths to contemplate from each individual reader at his or her own ability and level.

This book is endowed with Nihil Obstat - Translated as "nothing stands in the way," and has the Imprimatur - which is Latin for "let it be printed."

In other words, do not be afraid to trust what is written in this book, it has been reviewed and proved worthy by a Bishop of the Catholic Church.

"Only God knows the good that can come about by reading one good Catholic book."

St. John Bosco

"Don't neglect your spiritual reading. Reading has made many saints."

St. Josemaria Escriva

"You will not see anyone who is truly striving after his spiritual advancement who is not given to spiritual reading."

St. Athanasius

Thank you St. Junipero Serra Parishioners for your generosity. This month the food collection on 1/25 & 1/26 will help local, DCF and Head Start Families as well at the Bristol Men's Shelter.

We meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the conference room at St. Margaret Mary. Please consider joining us in this the New Year of 2025.

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

St. Josephine Bakhita Novena



St. Josephine Bakhita's feast day is February 8th. She is the patron saint of Sudan and human trafficking. Please join us in praying St. Bakhita's Novena starting on January 31st. Go to the Ministry of Life's webpage under the

tab Novenas for additional information or go to https://thebakhitafoundation.com/who-we-are/who-is -st-bakhita/novena-to-st-bakhita/.

Diaper and Wipe Drive

The Annual Diaper and Wipe Drive for local prolife pregnancy centers is scheduled for February 8th through the 22nd.

Pro-life pregnancy centers are faith-based. community-based, not -for-profit organizations that provide care and resources to assist women with immediate and ongoing needs



related to unexpected pregnancy. Their focus is on life -affirming services and is designed to empower a woman to welcome her child into the world. Pregnancy centers provide an expanded range of essential and professional care encompassing support services, medical care, and resources, usually at no cost to the women, men, and youth they serve. Personalized care is provided within a respectful, compassionate, and supportive environment by trained workers/individuals. (Charlotte Lozier Institute)

Please leave your diapers (all sizes) and wipes in the baskets in the vestibules of St. Margaret Mary and St. Francis of Assisi. Our past Diaper and Wipe Drives have been a huge success and appreciated immensely. Thank you for your generosity and support of life!

Give blood. Help save lives.

Blood Drive St. Margaret Mary Church Church Hall

80 Hayes Road, South Windsor

Wednesday, February 19 | 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.

INCREASE YOUR FAITH Come to our Cenacle which meets every other Tuesday night. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 4th at 7:00pm at SMM Chapel. For more information call Mike Cianciolo 860-604-1745.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD WEEKENDS FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION

If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard Re-Rach treat weekend February 7-9, 2025 in Litchfield, CT. The weekend healing pro-



cess includes discussions, Living Scriptures with meditations, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Memorial Service and Mass of Entrustment. Participation is totally confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. Both women and men have participated in past retreats and have ranged in age from teens to mideighties. The fee for the weekend is \$175.00 for meals, private room and all retreat materials. Scholarships are available for financial assistance. For more information contact Marie at 203-631-9030, e-mail her at mlaffin@prolifeministry.org, or visit our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nehemiah 8:2-10: "Ezra, the priest brought the law before the assembly. All the people listened intently to the book of the law. Ezra read from the book and interpreted it so all could understand. Then he said, 'Today is holy to the Lord your God.' Do not be sad and do not weep. Instead, rejoice in the Lord for he is your strength." Would you like to strengthen your encounter marriage? Check out a Worldwide



marriage

Marriage Encounter (WWME.org). It can help you in your communication, teach you many skills, and also help you to grow in intimacy and in faith with one another. Some of the dates to sign up are:

February 7-9, 2025 in Long Island, NY March 21-23, 2025 in Burlington, VT April 25-27, 2025 in East Sandwich, MA

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:// wwmectw.org/

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.



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