Andrew Ambooken Jaime Aponte Kayla Army Joy Asapokhai Oliver Asselin Clara Blackwell Tiago Cabral Ellison Craig Bryce Dahlquist Catherine Daugherty Andrew Delaney Vienna Dittrich Abraham Font Perlaza Anaih Font Perlaza Blair Hannoush Luke Hebron Bryce Johnson Mitchell Kehayias Colin Kozikowski Nolan McCann Brynn McCarthy Camryn Miller Emily Morawiec Jacob Morin Lauren O'Grady Ammy Padilla-Gutierrez David Peters Madeline Quinn Mayzie Rosetta

Congratulations on your First Holy Communion

Shaun Golden Louis Grilli Isabella Guerino Rosemarie Guerino Genevieve Halle

ag

Savannah Seymour Lyla Smith Noah Stevenson Chelsea Sztachera Lucy Vega Ava Woodman

MAY 18, 2024

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Fr. Jorge Castro returns to the parish on May 19, 2025. I will return to my usual pastoral duties at the Tribunal in Bloomfield. It was indeed a wonderful, faith-filled experience being with you during Lent, Holy Week, and the Triduum. Additionally, Pope Leo XIV was elected, wonderful news indeed for the universal church, the USA, and Peru.



At this time, I would like to thank each one of you for your great kindness, hospitality, and the great faith you have shown. Keep up the good spirit so that many people will see the light shining from St. Junipero Serra Parish in South Windsor, and in turn be drawn to it. Many thanks, and God Bless all of you.

Fr. George



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH 673 Ellington Road South Windsor, CT 06074

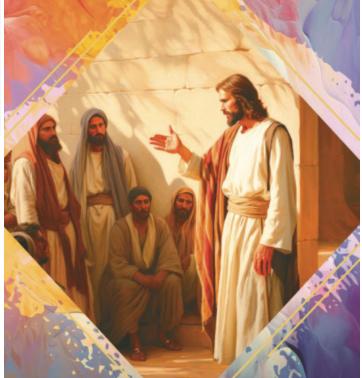
Sunday Mass: 9:00 am Weekday Mass: 8:00 am-Monday & Wednesday

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)

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

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



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I give you a new commandment: love one another." - Jn 13:34a

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

Temporary Administrator

Reverend George Mukuka fr.mukuka@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.

ST. JUNÍPERO SERRA PARISH =



URDAY VIGIL, May 17

4:00 p.m. Mary & Joseph Mecca by Their Children & Grandchildren/

Quinciano B. Pavadora, Jr., 1st Anniversary by Family SUNDAY, May 18| Fifth Sunday of Easter 9:00 a.m. Donald, Robert & Don by Elizabeth Tuleja 11:00 a.m. Denise & Joe Veilleux by His Daughter, Lynn/Magdalene & Sylvester Lobo by Family

MONDAY, May 19

8:00 a.m. Stephen Leo Alfano by Leslie & Tim Pendergast TUESDAY, May 20 8:00 a.m. Peggy Messer, 5th Anniversary by Family WEDNESDAY, May 21 8:00 a.m. Mary & John Taylor by Rosaleen & Ed Meyer & Family THURSDAY, May 22 8:00 a.m. Elsie Kelleher, 38th Anniversary by Daughter, Maureen

SATURDAY VIGIL, May 24

4:00 p.m. Anthony Alexius SinhDuc Pham, 50th Anniversary by Sister, Mimosa Pham/ Henry Donihee by The Blondins **SUNDAY, May 25** Sixth Sunday of Easter 9:00 a.m. Andre & Anita Pelletier & Their Deceased Children by Family 11:00 a.m. Lawrence John Mangan by Joel Martin & Brigitte Artman-Wietusch

SANCTUARY LIGHTS St. Margaret Mary's Sanctuary Light burns this week for PEGGY MESSER 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.

INCREASE YOUR FAITH Come to our Cenacle which meets every other Tuesday. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 27th at 300pm at SMM Chapel Fo

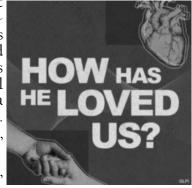


3:00pm at SMM Chapel. For more information call Mike Cianciolo 860-604-1745.

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE We have early transmission deadline. Bulletin articles must be received <u>no later than 8:30 am</u> Tuesday, May 20th for June 15th Email your submissions to: **bulletin@sjs-sw.org** Thank you!

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE May 18, 2025| 5th Sunday of Easter | John 13:31-35

I've always found it amazing that Jesus never says to his disciples the straightforward and bumper stickery words "I love you" or "I will always love you" (a la Dolly Parton's song). Why doesn't Jesus say, "I love you"?



Well, actually he does, but in particular ways.

He says, "As the Father loves me, so I love you" (John 15:9) thereby rooting his love for us in the space of the Holy Trinity. This week he commands, "Love another as I have loved you" (John 13:34). He presents his love for us as a completed action which continues into the present moment. How has he loved us? By becoming one of us, one with us, and finally giving his life for us in his suffering on the cross. We weren't there when he did that, but neither were his Apostles (except one). Still, that action is his great "I love you" to us.

His love is also hedged in a command: "Love one another." So how can we practically follow it? The great St. John XXIII wrote in his diary that each day he followed this rule: "Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it." The hidden nature of a good deed is a sign that it is truly loving. This week, take on St. John XXIII's practical method of following Jesus' great commandment of love. It's a splendid way to say, "I love you."

— Father John Muir ©LPi

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, 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 Muzikevik, Tracy Robinson, Kate Laurie, Andrew Galinaro, Shelia Brown, John Weyrauch, Kenny Lopez, Vicky Vecchiolla, Atlas, Jane Mahoney, Thomas Rippchen, Marilyn Pugliese, Tim Appleton. Please call the parish office to add a loved one to our parish prayer list.

A Novena For Life Honoring the Feast of the Visitation



On May 31st, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast commemorates the Blessed Mother's visit to her cousin Elizabeth and the encounter of Jesus and St. John the Baptist while in the wombs of their mothers.

Join us in praying "A Novena for Life" from May 22-30. Sign up to receive daily novena emails, <u>https://</u> www.respectlife.org/visitation.

A Heartfelt Thank you for the generous donation of diapers and wipes from Hope Pregnancy Center

Dear Parishioners of St. Junipero Serra Parish,

This Easter, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, we are filled with gratitude—for the empty tomb, for new life, and for you.

Because of your faithful support, women walking through fear and uncertainty are now encountering hope, compassion, and the powerful truth that life is a gift. You've helped us be the hands and feet of Jesus, offering not just services—but love, prayer, and the promise of new beginnings.

As Jesus conquered the grave, we see His resurrection power at work in every story of a mom choosing life, every baby born, and every heart touched by His grace through this ministry.

Thank you for standing with us, for believing in life, and for sowing into the Kingdom in such a tangible way.

May your Easter be filled with peace, joy, and the reminder that with Christ, hope is never lost.

With grateful hearts, The Board of Directors and Staff at Hope Pregnancy Center

Give blood. Help save lives.

Blood Drive St. Margaret Mary Church Church Hall 80 Hayes Road, South Windsor

Wednesday, May 21 | 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.

St. Junipero Serra Parish Women's Club Annual Banquet

YEAR END The Parish Women's Club will be holding their last meeting of **BANQUET** this season on Thursday, June 12th at 6:00pm. All women of the

Parish are welcome to join us. This meeting will be our Annual Banquet and will take place at Three Seasons Cafe at TopStone Golf Club South Windsor. A buffet style meal will be served along with coffee, tea, and dessert. The cost is \$32.00 per person. If you would like to attend please RSVP to Lorrie Coelho by either $(\bar{8}60)$ 380-0972 calling or email at lorrie2000e@yahoo.com. Last day to register and pay is Friday, May 30th. Hope you can join us!

2025 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal changes lives through service. In addition to assisting the underserved of our communities, your gift helps those discerning a vocation to the priesthood. Your gift to the Appeal is an investment in the future of our Church and our faith. Please continue to pray for an increase of vocations especially in the Archdiocese of Hartford. Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge to the 2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet participated, please prayerfully consider a gift today. Be assured every dollar of your gift will have a positive impact in someone's life.

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.

Thank you parishioners for your generosity! In May we will help Our Lady Queen of Peace at St. Lawrence O'Toole Food Collec Church, New Britain Ave. in



Hartford, as well as local, DCF and Head Start Families. The May food collection will take place 5/24 & 5/25. grocery bags will be distributed $5/17 \otimes 5/18$.



If you know of anyone or any fami-" ly 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

STEWARDSHIP Total Offertory including Online Giving: 5/11/2025 Weekly Collection \$11,820.00 These numbers will fluctuate due to monthly and quarterly donations. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

BALANCING FAITH AND SCHOOL LIFE

One of our young parishioners reached out with questions for an article she was writing for her school newspaper. She wanted advice on balancing her faith with her school life from a priestly perspective. Below are answers from our Department of Faith Formation in collaboration with our Temporary Administrator, Father Mukuka, to her poignant and important questions that would benefit all children today on their academic journey.

1) What do you think Christian teachers can do to integrate their faith into their classrooms, especially in secular settings?

I think Christian teachers can integrate their faith by always holding the love of God and of neighbor in their hearts while they teach. Just as Jesus commanded us to do. Witnessing who they are and what they believe in. Sometimes sharing stories of leaders in the world who have accentuated heroic virtue, such as Mother Teresa or have written Catholic books - such as Lord of the Rings author Tolkien who was a practicing Catholic or the Chronicles of Narnia author C.S. Lewis - a faithful Christian! Teachers can teach philosophy quoting Catholic philosophers such as Chesterton, Catholic Scientists for Science such as Pasteur who discovered the principles of pasteurization or Alois Alzheimer who was the first to document dementia, and Galileo Galilei's contribution to modern astronomy.



2) What advice do you give to Christian students who are struggling to maintain their faith while attending school?

It is okay to show that you believe in God. I would advise every Christian student to begin the day with a morning prayer. I would also advise that if they know of other Christian students to try to meet sometimes either in youth groups or just friendly ways to share your faith and to offer moral support. I would also suggest that they connect with their Christian churches by attending church services and listening to their pastors and teachers at church as well.

3) What are the most common struggles you see among Christian students trying to live out their faith in schools?

Many things being taught in public schools today can be contrary to the teachings of the church and God's beautiful plan for humanity. It is important to know that if it does not sound compatible with your faith, even if a teacher is teaching it, to investigate it and to talk to your parents, or fellow Christian friends, or your priest. Not knowing the real teachings of the church can be an issue because the students are constantly presented with so many versions of the truth.

4) How can the church adapt its approach to better support Christian students and educators in today's society?

The church is always trying to develop new ways of fellowship and prayer to unite its people and put them in front of Jesus, for us Catholic Christians, we encounter Jesus daily in the Blessed Sacrament. Additionally, students who are Catholic, should ask their parents to help them receive all the sacraments of initiation according to their age. We must also pray for vocations so that we have more priests to shepherd the people. And also, for more vocations for others to become nuns and brothers, by joining religious life. We must encourage the people to be bold in their faith and not to hide their Christianity.

5) What can be done to ensure that the Christian faith remains a relevant and positive influence in the lives of young people?

Since we are in the Easter Season now, as a church we must pray for the Holy spirit to strengthen and support our young people, as we especially approach the Solemnity of Pentecost soon. Read about the saints and martyrs who suffered and even lost their lives sometimes in order to stand with Christ. Follow the news on the recent passing of the Pope Francis and the election of Pope Leo.

Talk to your guardian angel, they are there to help you. The first amendment of our Constitution states: Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

You are never prohibited in this free country from expressing your faith and even if it would come to be in this country that they try to forbid you, they can never forbid you from loving and being with Jesus in your heart.

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





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St. Margaret Mary & St. Francis of Assisi 04-0198