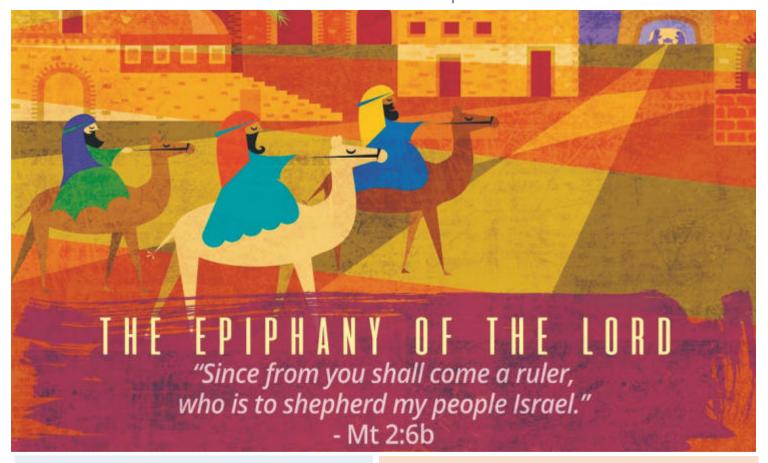


# St. Junípero Serra Parish

## We are baptized to serve and celebrate

WWW.SAINTJUNIPEROSERRA.ORG | (860) 644-2411 MONDAY-THURSDAY: 9AM-3:00PM | FRIDAY: 9AM-12PM



#### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

673 Ellington Road

South Windsor, CT 06074

Sunday Mass: 7:30 am & 9:00 am Weekday Mass: Wednesday 8:00am

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

**JANUARY 2, 2022** 

### ST. MARGARET MARY CHURCH

80 Hayes Road

South Windsor, CT 06074 Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm Sunday Mass: 11:00 am

Weekday Mass: Monday, Tuesday &

Thursday-8:00 am

Confessions: Monday 6:00pm-7:00pm

Monday after 8:00am Daily Mass

Adoration & Holy Hour: Monday 6:00pm-7:00pm

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

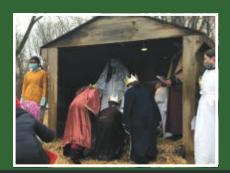






Some beautiful pictures from our SJS Live Nativity 2021









Father Castro and members of St. Junipero Serra Parish, South Windsor Council 5779 Knights of Columbus welcomes their newest Third Degree Knight Members on Sunday, December 19, 2021.







SJS Christmas Concert 2021

Please visit our Parish website and check our YouTube channel to enjoy the single tracks of our Christmas Concert, edited with audio enhancements by our music director, Bobby Dolan. Enjoy!







## 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 thru Friday 9:00am-4:00pm St. Margaret Mary: Monday thru Friday 9:00am-3:00pm, Saturday 10:00am-5:30pm

#### Pastoral Staff

Offices located at 80 Hayes Rd, Hours are Monday thru Thursday 9 am to 3 pm Friday: 9 am to 12pm | Parish Office: 860-644-2411 Fax: 860-644-5765

#### Administrator

Reverend Jorge Castro Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 109 fr.castro@aohct.org

#### **Deacons**

Deacon Edward J. Giard Deacon Michael D. Haines

#### **Communication Coordinator**

Anton Miranda stjuniperoserra@gmail.com

#### **Administrative Coordinator**

Ginger Bilas Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 101 ginger@southwindsor.cc

#### **Director of Music Ministries**

Robert Dolan robert.dolan@uconn.edu

#### St. Vincent de Paul

Phone: 860-648-0216

#### **Business Manager**

Laura Pastula Phone: 860-644-2411 ext 103 business@southwindsor.cc

#### **Bulletin Coordinator**

Audrey Miranda bulletin@southwindsor.cc

#### **Faith Formation Staff**

Offices located at 80 Hayes Rd, Hours are Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9 am to 2 pm Parish Office: 860-644-2549 Fax: 860-644-5765

#### **Director of Faith Formation**

Sister Karen Skurat Phone:860-644-2549 ext 106 srkaren@southwindsor.cc

## Faith Formation Admin Assistant

Maria Rosati Phone:860-644-2549 ext 107 faithformation@southwindsor.cc

## Youth Ministry

Emily Golec Phone:860-644-2549 ext 108 youthministersjs@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 Those in the Hospital or Homebound:** Your parish priests, 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.

Winter Snow Policy: Please check our website or Facebook page for possible cancellation.

**Bulletin Submissions:** The deadline for the bulletin articles is noon on Friday. Email your submissions to: bulletin@southwindsor.cc

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SATURDAY VIGIL, January 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

4:00 p.m. Carmelo Testa by Testa, Reale & Rizza Families

SUNDAY, January 2 Epiphany of The Lord

7:30 a.m. Muriel Parille by Don Parille 9:00 a.m. Andrew Fulop by Parents

11:00 a.m. Carole Snyder by Kathy & Tony Phillips

MONDAY, January 3

8:00 a.m. Rosemarie Dubiel by Annamae Davis

TUESDAY, January 4

8:00 a.m. Bert Corrieri by Smith Family

WEDNESDAY, January 5

8:00 a.m. Michael Smith by Sister

THURSDAY, January 6

8:00 a.m. Muriel Soucy by Son, Warren Soucy

SATURDAY VIGIL, January 8

4:00 p.m. Christopher Yustinich by Family

SUNDAY, January 9 Baptism of The Lord

7:30 a.m. Denis Giroux by Family

9:00 a.m. Reynold Tardif by Mary Bey

11:00 a.m. Sebastiano & Maria Milluzzo, Sister Luigina

Milluzzo & Rosanna Neri

by Santo & Alfina Milluzzo & Family

#### SANCTUARY LIGHTS

St. Margaret Mary's Sanctuary Light burns this week for JULIET RODRIGUES

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.



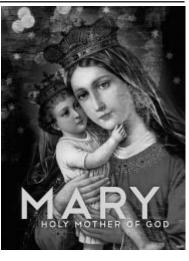
Please remember in your prayers the following parishioners who are ill Thomas Russo, Giacomo Ghasa, Scott

Mosher, Anne Mosher, Rosemary Saad, Lydia Mele, Barbara Mansini, Tammy Cross, Mary Caswell, Linda Pratson, Beth Jamieson, Helen Palmer, Teresa Foran, Marie Donnelli, George Rousseau, Charles Flick, Joyce Abrahams, Kay Vuono, Pat Hendrickson, 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, Paula Musgrave, Richard Mazur, John Ferrante, Michael Chappell, Rebecca-Lynn Scullion, Dylan McBreen, Susan Degennaro, Lisa Feinstein. Please call the parish office to add a loved one to our parish prayer list.

#### Mary, the Holy Mother of God

This solemnity is a rather recent addition to the cycle of seasons, Sundays, and feasts in our liturgical year. We have Pope Paul VI to thank for the 1974 enshrining of the devotion to Mary into our calendar on January 1. It is also a day in our calendar as a World Day for Peace.





God of heaven and earth, you came to us and took our earthly flesh through the gift of Mary's yes. She is our Mother in faith, as she is your earthly mother. We are thankful beyond our ability to thank you for the gift of her Son as our brother and savior. Through her self-giving, we have been reconciled to you. Bless us as we begin this New Year and endow us with the desire and ability to create a world of peace. We ask all this, through the intercession of Mary to you, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



The song "We Three Kings" details the gifts of the Magi, but do you know what you're singing? "Born a king on Bethlehem's plan, gold I bring to crown Him again." This one is the most straightforward - gold symbolizes the Kingship of Christ. "Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom." Myrrh is an embalming spice. Already at Christ's birth, we have the symbolic reminder of his death. "Frankincense to offer have I. Incense owns a deity nigh." In many religious traditions, incense symbolizes prayers rising to heaven. In some pagan traditions, it is thought to help "call down" the deity. The gift of frankincense symbolizes Jesus' role as the Great High Priest, sanctifying the world through his sacrifice.

#### STEWARDSHIP

Total Offertory including Online Giving: 12/19/2021 Weekly Collection \$12,776.00
These numbers will fluctuate due to monthly and quarterly donations.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



Dear Parishioners,

This has been another year full of challenges, surprises and blessings. We have all been spiritually and emotionally transformed in one way or another. We have all learned the value of life and family. We have all felt God's blessings throughout this year. Today we thank God for His loving presence and His Divine Providence, because during these 365 days of 2021, He never abandoned us. We thank God for all our loved ones who are still with us, but also for those who went to the heavenly house to live with Him. We begin this new year by placing all our needs, our families, and our concerns in the hands of God, trusting that his love and his mercy will guide us once again. We ask God that his grace will fill us with strength, this new year, to accept his will in our lives. I, personally thank God for all of you, for your support, your prayers and service to the parish, but above all for your faith and trust in the Lord. May the Lord Jesus fill us with his blessings this new year and may He always show his merciful face on each of your families.

Happy and blessed new year!! Always in my prayers, Fr. Jorge E. Castro

End of year contribution statements for parishioners who participate in our envelope system or 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. Please contact Ginger at ginger@southwindsor.cc 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.

UNBOUND MINISTRY - Are you Feeling stuck? Do you feel bound, restless, anxious? Are you regretting past mistakes, sins, transgressions? Are you feeling



angry, resentful, hopeless? The Unbound Ministry Team is offering a one day conference in the Diocese of Springfield on January 15th from 9:00am 5:00pm. It is a Freedom

in Christ Conference where you will learn about the 5 keys and will be able to receive Unbound Prayer.

For more information, please visit

Mary's House of Prayer's website: <a href="https://">https://</a>

maryshousechicopee.org/newsevents/newsevents/ and if you plan on

attending, contact Donna Marotto at (860) 952-4005 or marottodonna8@gmail.com

#### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Poinsettias that graced the sanctuaries this season will be given away Only After the 9:00a.m. Mass at SFA and the 11:00a.m. Mass at SMM on Sunday January 9.





Thank you for your generosity! Because of your support, St. Vincent de Paul Society provided 200 gift items and \$1100 in gift cards to Our Lady Queen of Peace, in Hartford, for Christmas, and 200+ gift items and \$1100 in gift cards to Our Lady of Sorrows, in Hartford, for Three Kings Day. In addition Head Start of Vernon and Department of Children & Families in Man-

chester received gift items and gift cards totaling \$1000. Finally, we supported many local families with Christmas gifts and gift cards totaling \$500. The December food collection supported local families, Head Start, DCF and Sacred Heart Church in Hartford. Your continued generosity in helping those less fortunate is so appreciated!

Volunteer opportunities for the St. Vincent de Paul Society include helping with the monthly collection on the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, unless it is Thanksgiving, Christmas or Éaster, selling raffle tickets at Knights of Columbus Bingo on Friday nights 4:45 – 7 pm at St. Margaret Mary Church Hall, sorting clothing on occasional Monday mornings, and pickup and delivery of kitchen items and used furniture in good condition on Saturday mornings on the truck. The St. Vincent de Paul Board meets at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of the month, all are welcome to attend and see what the St. Vincent de Paul Society is all about. Currently we are meeting by conference call. If you would like more information about volunteering or attending a meeting please email president@societyhelpline.org and if you have kitchen items or good used furniture to donate your please post donation www.societyhelpline.org

If you need help or know of someone else who needs help, let us know by posting a request for assistance on our website www.societyhelpline.org or by calling 860 648-0216.

#### EAST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

East Catholic has rolling admissions, so prospective students have plenty of opportunities to begin the admissions process. Our Entrance Exam will take place on Saturday, January 22nd @ 8:30 a.m. To pre-register, please go to https://www.echs.com/Visit ECHS. Our Shadow Day program is back!!! If your 8<sup>th</sup> grader would like to discover the "taste of East", please go to https:// www.echs.com/Visit ECHS to begin the process of scheduling a visit. It's also a perfect time to fill out the admissions application by visiting our website, the Admissions tab. #WeAreEC!

#### "Be not afraid!"

The other day I had to drive my children to school with the knowledge that a Tik Tok challenge had gone viral - a dare for violence in schools across America. As we drove the children asked questions; and I write our conversation here for you, as my prayer during this very scary time for both parents and children alike

While I cannot advise you one way or another, as to whether such a challenge like this should inspire you to keep your children home or to go to school, as God gives parents grace and inspiration for their particular families and daily situations. All that I can say, is that we did go to school.

Though Jesus instructs us to "Be not afraid!" many times in the Bible, He does not mean that we should not think or discuss scary situations like this or even death, or even sometimes to feel afraid.



What Jesus is saying is to trust that even if all goes wrong here on Earth, (known as the valley of tears) that there is hope because of His death and resurrection that we will be happy together in Heaven.

That day on the way to school, I told them about staying in a state of grace, and how sometimes, like in the case of my Pepe, one can die very suddenly, in a natural way, like a heart attack. We talked about family that was well, and family that was sick. We talked about being nervous, and we talked about what to do when we feel nervous and afraid.

I told them, let us pray to our Mother in Heaven that she keeps you all safe and all of the children today throughout our country. Let us pray for all parents who are afraid today, and for all children who are afraid too.

We prayed together the Memorare -

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any one who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, We fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins my Mother; to thee do we come, before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful; O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions,

but in thy mercy hear and answer them. Amen.

CCC1808 Fortitude is the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good. It strengthens the resolve to resist temptations and to overcome obstacles in the moral life. The virtue of fortitude enables one to conquer fear, even fear of death, and to face trials and persecutions. It disposes one even to renounce and sacrifice his life in defense of a just cause. "The Lord is my strength and my song." "In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

The exhortation "Be not afraid!" should be interpreted as having a very broad meaning. In a certain sense it was an exhortation addressed to all people, an exhortation to conquer fear in the present world situation ... Why should we have no fear? Because man has been redeemed by God. When pronouncing these words in St. Peter's Square, I already knew that my first encyclical and my entire papacy would be tied to the truth of the Redemption. In the Redemption we find the most profound basis for the words "Be not afraid!": "For

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (cf. Jn 3:16). Saint Pope John Paul II

"This is the same power that I feel propelling me forward into the next phase of my life. God saved my soul and spared my life for a reason: He left me to tell my story to others and show as many people as possible the healing power of His love and forgiveness."

— Immaculee-Ilibagiza Left to Tell

By Maria Rosati – Faith Formation Administrative Assistant 860.644.2549/ faithformation@southwindsor.cc



#### Leadership Team Needed SUMMER BIBLE CAMP

Leadership Team of 3 Individuals Needed to lead and coordinate other adult and teen volunteers for the Summer Bible Camp of 2022



(If interested please call or email or call the Faith Formation Office

faithformation@southwindsor.cc | 860-644-2549 ext. 107 by Jan. 8)

St. Francis Church Hall | July 11 – 15 9:00 am – 12 noon (for Children Ages 5 – 10).

## we need Volunteers

#### Dear Parishioners.

We unfortunately had a few volunteers drop out of helping with our 7th Grade class that meets 2 Tuesdays a month from 4-6pm at the Saint Francis of Assisi Church Hall. If you or anyone you know can donate your time to help teach our 7th graders, please reach out to Emily Golec at youthministersjs@gmail.com We need 2 or 3 volunteers. Thank you.

#### FRIDAY KNIGHTS BINGO at St. Margaret Mary Church Hall Doors & Kitchen open at 5:00pm Bingo starts at 7:00pm

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.



The Knights of Columbus and St. Junipero Serra Parish are sponsoring a Blood Drive on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 from 9:00a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary Church Hall. Make an appointment by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or online at red-crossblood.org. Any questions call

Kevin Paradis @ 860-212-9661.

ST. JUNÍPERO SERRA PARISH \_\_\_\_\_

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