



## Saint Marianne Cope Parish

Rev. Ronald P. Zepecki - Pastor  
Alan Germain - Deacon



### St. Catherine of Siena

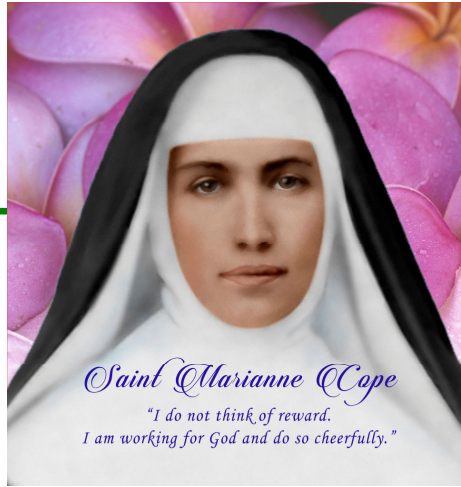
6 Windsorville Road  
Broad Brook, CT 06016

#### Weekday Masses

Mon, Tues & Wed at 12:10 p.m.  
Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

#### Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



**December 15, 2024**  
3rd Sunday of Advent

### St. Philip the Apostle

150 South Main Street  
East Windsor, CT 06088

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil at 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday at 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:30 p.m.

### Growing In Joy

*"Rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when His glory is revealed." (1 Peter 4:13)*

Usually in these articles I write about the saints or the sacraments. Today, as we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, with joy in our heart at the near celebration of Jesus' birth, I thought I would share the thoughts of St. Theresa of Calcutta (Mother Theresa). Hopefully, her meditations on the Lord's joy will inspire you on this Gaudete Sunday.

Joy is not simply a matter of temperament. In the service of God and others, it is always hard to be joyful - all the more reason why we should try to acquire it and make it grow in our hearts.

Joy is prayer; joy is strength; joy is love; joy is a net of love by which we catch others. God loves a cheerful giver. She gives most who gives with joy. If in your work you have difficulties and you accept them with joy, with a big smile - in this, like in any other thing - people will see your good works and glorify the Father. The best way to show your gratitude is to accept everything with joy. A joyful heart is the normal result of a heart burning with love.

We need to find God, who cannot be found in noise and restlessness. In the silence of the heart, God speaks to us. We need silence to be alone with God, to speak to him, to listen to him, to ponder his words in our hearts. We need to be alone with God in silence to be renewed and to be transformed. Silence gives us a new outlook on life. In it we are filled with the grace of God, which makes us do all things with joy.

St. Theresa of Calcutta, 1910-1997

*Jesus, help me increase my joy by imitating your loving service of others.*

**Parish Office**

*Rev. Ronald P. Zepecki, Pastor*  
*Alan Germain, Deacon*

**Parish Office Hours:** *Mon.-Thursday 9am-3pm*  
*St. Catherine Cemetery: by appointment*

**Phone:** (860) 623-4636 **Fax:** (860) 292-8550

**Parish Website:** smceastwindsor.org

**Parish Office email:**  
 office@smceastwindsor.org

**Administrative Assistant &**

*Cemetery Family Service Advisor: Ruth Hertel*

**Director of Music:** *Wendy Quinn*

**Vocations Committee:**

*Paula McCloskey & Kay Teixeira*

**Pro –Life:** *Marie Pelletier*

**Faith Formation Office:** *Mary Hevner*

*maryhevner@cox.net*

**St. Philip Rectory: Phone** (860) 370-5116

150 South Main Street  
 East Windsor, CT 06088

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for the celebration of the sacrament, as well as a pre-baptismal session for parents and Godparents.

**Sacrament of Matrimony**

Please call the parish office at least six months in advance before making any other arrangements.

**New Parishioners**

Please call the parish office or registration forms are available on the church bulletin boards.

**Christian Stewardship**

We are a stewardship community. Parish members are invited to use offertory envelopes or *Online Giving* to support the mission & needs of our parish. Please call the parish office for more details.

**Adoration**

Tuesdays 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at  
 St. Catherine Church



**Saint Marianne Cope Parish**  
**2024 Annual ADVENT/  
 CHRISTMAS Giving Project**

*The Network is North Central Connecticut's leader in preventing family violence by providing services to victims of Domestic Abuse and promoting healthy relationships through education with an expressed commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.*

*Please donate a gift card to aid victims served by The Network. A suggested list is provided for your assistance:*

\*

**Aldi's**

**Big-Y**

**Geissler's**

**Shop Rite**

**Stop & Shop**

**Target, Walmart, etc.**

**Mobil, Shell or Valero Gas**

**McDonalds, Burger King, Dunkin Donuts**

**Uber, etc.**

*Place your gift card inside a Christmas card with your own greeting. (Do not include your last name.) There will be a basket in the front of each church throughout the season to collect your cards.*

**Thank you for working to spread  
 the Love of Jesus in our area.**



**FOODSHARE** will be in the St. Catherine parking lot on **Friday, December 20, at 1:00 p.m.**

## Gaudete Sunday

Gaudete is a Latin word meaning: Joy. We are joyful in the Third Week of Advent as the Birth of Jesus draws ever so near. The Church uses the color Rose, to denote joy. Here are the words of St. Paul from today's second reading: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near." St. Paul continues: "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." According to St. Paul, what is the fruit of all this?? It is that the peace of God that surpasses understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ, Jesus." Christians far and near will shout in song: "Joy to the World the Lord is Come." The rejoicing of the Third Sunday of Advent echoes that theme. Painting a delightful, joyful image of God, the Prophet Zephaniah gives us the image of God with a dancing partner: the daughter of Zion. The rejoicing is that enemies are expelled and gloom turns to gladness. Both the people and God sing with deep joy as if celebrating a wedding. We give thanks on the Gaudete Sunday for our merciful God. We pray to find graces in the Divine assurance that joy will always win in the end. How does the Lord make your life worth living joyfully? Is your kindness known to all?



St. Junípero  
Serra Parish  
*Christmas Choir Concert*

Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>  
**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



## Holiday Adjustments

Mass Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> will be at 11:00 AM

### Office Hours:

Christmas Eve: 9 AM ~ Noon

Christmas Day: Closed

New Year's Eve 9:00 AM ~ Noon

New Year's Day ~ Closed

January 2, 2025 Regular hours resume.

## St. Marianne Cope Parish Seminarian Gift Card Collection

The **Vocation Committee** will be collecting **GIFTCARDS** in the amounts of \$25, \$50, \$75 & \$100 for the Hartford Seminarrians as a thank you for the wonderful services they provide and the blessing that they are to our community. The collection is ongoing. Please place your donation in the collection basket marked "**SEMINARIANS**".

**WE CANNOT ACCEPT CHECKS**

December 15, 2024



# Mass Intentions

## How to request your Intentions:

To request Mass Intentions, please call the office at (860) 623-4636. WE WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTING EMAILS FOR MASS REQUESTS. You are also welcome to stop by the Parish Office during regular office hours to request Masses.

**NOTE:** Kindly submit your suggested offering shortly after making your reservation. This can be done via cash or check. You can place your donation in the basket near the Altar in an envelope addressed to the church office or send via USPS to 6 Windsorville Rd, Broad Brook, CT 06016. Checks are to be made payable to **Saint Marianne Cope Parish** and include the Mass date, and your phone number.



## Candle Offering

The lamps beside the tabernacles in our churches remind us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist

Sanctuary candle intentions are available for a \$10.00 donation. These candles burn for two weeks.

The Sanctuary light at St. Philip Church burns for:

**Healing & God's Blessings for Jim Pedersen**  
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The Sanctuary light at St. Catherine Church burns for:

**In thanksgiving for the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Margaret & Peter Bray**  
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### St. Catherine of Siena Church

St. Joseph or the Blessed Virgin Mary candle intentions are available for a \$5.00 donation. These candles burn for one week.

St. Joseph Statue burns for:

**Protection of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, France**

Blessed Virgin Mary Statue burns for:

**Health and God's blessing for Jerry**  
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# Masses For The Week



## Saturday, December 14

4:00 PM +Repose of the soul of **Ted Phillips**

*requested by Pat Phillips*

## Sunday, December 15

8:30 AM +Repose of the soul of **Patricia Gogulski &**

**Dale & Joanne Condon** *requested by Jean Stoecker*

10:30 AM Healing and God's Blessings for **Jim Pedersen**

*requested by Wryostek Family*

## Monday, December 16

12:10 PM Health and God's Blessings for **Giuseppe & family**

*requested by Teixeira Family*

## Tuesday, December 17

12:10 PM Daughters of Mary Immaculate

## Wednesday, December 18

11:00 AM +Repose of the soul of **R T Yohannan (Fr. Sam**

**John's Father)**

*requested by Fr. Ron*

## Thursday, December 19

9:00 AM +Repose of the soul of **Madeline DeGeorge**

**(38th Anniversary)**

*requested by family*

## Saturday, December 21

4:00 PM +Repose of the soul of **Stanley Ratroski and Joseph**

**& Penny Rinaldi**

*requested by family*

## Sunday, December 22

8:30 AM +Repose of the soul of **Elzear Rodrigue**

*requested by Gary & Marie Pelletier*

10:30 +Repose of the soul of **John Bajumpa**

*requested by David & Christine Bajumpa*



## Parish Sharing and Support (December 8, 2024)

Weekly \$1,794.00 Monthly \$127.00

Online \$

**Thank you for your generosity and support!**