

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 12:15 p.m.
Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

Weekend Masses

Sunday at 8:30 a.m.



August 23, 2026

***"I will give you the keys to
the kingdom of heaven."***

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary



St. Philip the Apostle

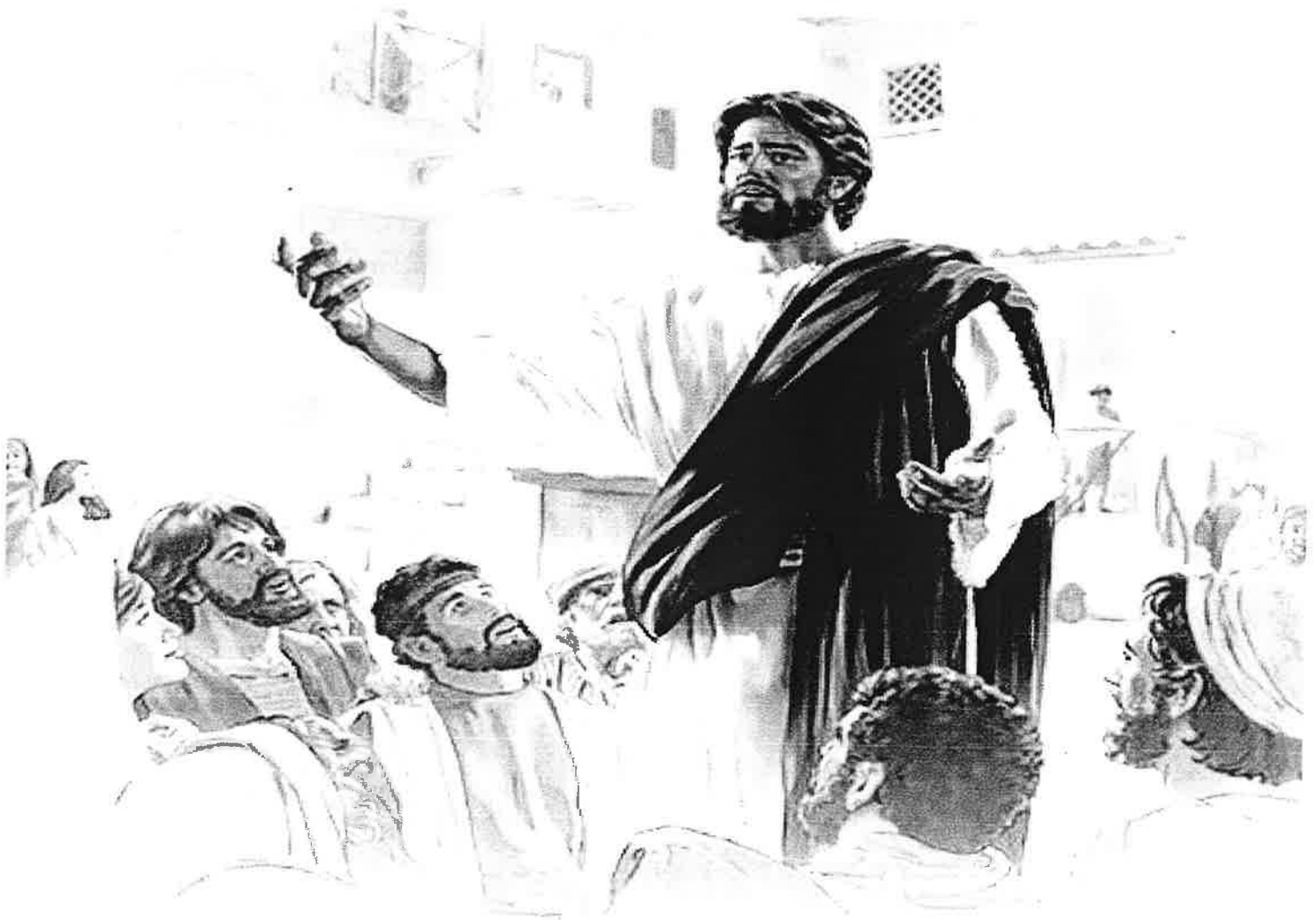
150 South Main Street
East Windsor, CT 06088

Weekend Masses

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:30 PM



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: *Stefanie Karam*
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

Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference

The Men's Conference will take place on October 10, 2026 at Holy Cross High School in Waterbury, Connecticut. The Connecticut Annual Men's Conference has been going since 2008. It was founded 18 years ago by a volunteer group and aims to renew faith, build brotherhood among Catholic men and support vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, religious brothers and marriage. The conference features adoration of The Blessed Sacrament, confessions, a reliquary procession of the Saints and a Vigil Mass.

You may register and purchase tickets directly through the Connecticut Catholic Men's Conference website. Regular tickets are \$45 and \$30 for teenagers 13 to 19.

Mass and Candle Intentions

Each week we have a need for mass and candle intentions. You are not seeing that as we have been filling them in ourselves. There comes a time when we run out of thinking who to place in for intentions. Please call the office and help fill in these Mass and candle intentions for the rest of 2026. Our number is 860-623-4636 Monday through Thursday 9:00-3:00 PM. Thank you for your kind help.

Faith Formation Registration

Registration is now open for our 2026-27 Faith Formation Program. Classes are available by age/grade:

Good News: Grade 1 & 2

Preparation for Firth Reconciliation and First Eucharist: Grade 3

Venture: Grades 4 & 5

Visions: Grade 6 & 7

Preparation for Confirmation: Grades 8-12

The links to register can be found on the St. Marianne Cope website www.smceastwindsor.org (under Faith Formation). Please share this with anyone who may be interested. **CLASSES BEGIN SUNDAY September 27th, 2026.** If you have any questions, please contact the CRE, Mary Hevner at maryhevner@cox.net



Blessed Michael Joseph McGivney 1852– 1890

Fr Michael McGivney served Thomaston, CT very well as the Pastor of St. Thomas Church. Again, a prayerful, calm, diligent worker for his people. He served as he served in New Haven, with compassion and conscientiously.

It seems as though the more things change, the more they stay the same. Fr. McGivney was in the same situation in his era as many priest of the Diocese of Hartford are in now. He administered the sacraments to the Immaculate Conception Mission in Terryville as conscientiously as he did in Thomaston. Between 1884 and 1890 his name is recorded for many baptisms, funerals, communions and weddings in both the mission church as well as the parish church. The distance between the two parishes is about 4-5 miles. That was a long distance in McGivney's day. Especially for one to travel by horse and carriage. Incidentally, ten years after Fr. McGivney's death the Immaculate Conception Mission became the Immaculate Conception Church with Fr. John Neale as its first pastor. The fourth degree order of the Knights in Terryville is The Fr John Neale Fourth degree.

As the summer rolled around in 1890, the Russian flu pandemic began to take its toll on many people. Fr. McGivney caught a summer cold, which turned into the flu and then into pneumonia. Confined to his bed in St. Thomas rectory, Fr. McGivney passed away from all these health complications on August 14, 1890 on the eve of the Assumption of Mary. He was 38 years old having just celebrated his birthday two days before on August 12th.

At the time of his death, 57 Knights of Columbus Councils existed all in a span of eight years. At his funeral, every Council was represented. They were 70 priests in attendance, as bishop Lawrence McMahon offered mass for the repose of his soul. He was laid to rest in the family plot with his parents and deceased siblings at St. Joseph Cemetery in Waterbury, CT. To this day his funeral cortège was the largest in Waterbury's history. Incidentally, there are now over 17,000 Knights of Columbus Councils throughout the world.

In 1982, on the 100th anniversary on the founding of the Knights of Columbus, Fr. Michael McGivney's body was exhumed and brought to rest in a beautiful sarcophagus in St. Mary Church, New Haven, CT. When opening the coffin, it was found that his cassock (black robe) and rosaries entwined around his hands were very much intact. One can view those items at the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven.

At the time, Pope St. John Paul II (1978-2005) sent his Secretary of State, Cardinal Agostino Casaroli to represent him for this historic event. Blessed Michael McGivney's remains are still in the church proper of St. Mary's for the past forty-four years. Anybody can go and pray at his tomb.

In 1997 Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin (1993-2003) opened the "cause" for Fr. Michael McGivney's journey to be declared a "saint". One miracle has been accepted by the Vatican. The miracle occurred for Michael McGivney Schachle, little boy with fetal hydrops from the state of Tennessee.

Fr. Michael McGivney was declared "Blessed" (pronounced bless-ed) on October 31, 2020 in St. Joseph Cathedral Hartford, CT. with the permission of Pope Francis (2013-2025). Archbishop Joseph Tobin of Newark, New Jersey was designated by Pope Francis to declare Michael McGivney "blessed". At the time, Archbishop Leonard P. Blair (2013-2024) was the Archbishop of Hartford.

There is just one more step to be declared a "saint". One more miracle is awaited! Incidentally, no one "makes" a saint except God. After due process the pope "declares" a person a saint. The Pope does not make a saint. For all practical purposes, Michael McGivney is already a saint. The church just declares the fact to be true.

Blessed Michael McGivney, Pray for us.

The Year of Saint Francis 1181-1226

In celebration of the year of St. Francis we have, in each church a beautiful banner commemorating this special year. Please stop by to take a closer look. The statue of St. Francis in St. Philip Church stood in St. Joseph Church, Suffield, CT. St. Joseph Church closed in 2022. The smaller statue of St. Francis (St. Catherine Church) stood in one of the gardens at St. Philip Church. They are in our presence at this time for our spiritual edification and our love and devotion to St. Francis.

Save the Dates

Pope Leo XIV has declared the year 2026 in honor of St. Francis Assisi (1181-1226). This year on October 4th we will commemorate 800 years since Francis' passing. To honor all that St. Francis is to ecology, love and compassion we will celebrate, as a parish this milestone. On **October 3, 2026** after the 4PM mass we will have a pasta dinner. Tickets will go on sale soon. Please stay tuned.

This year, 2026 marks the 140th Anniversary of the building of St. Catherine Church in Broad Brook, CT. It is fitting that we celebrate the building of St. Catherine Church 140 years ago. Our celebration will take place on Sunday, **November 1, 2026** with a 12 noon Mass at St. Catherine Church and a lovely dinner celebration afterwards at *The Nutmeg Restaurant* in East Windsor. More information to follow.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATES



August 23, 2026



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:

In Thanksgiving, Fr. Josh Wilbur

The Sanctuary light at St. Catherine Church burns for:

Repose of the soul of Harrison Hastings

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 candle burns for:

Health & God's Blessings for Clarissa

Virgin Mary Statue candle burns for:

Repose of the soul of Debbie Dziadul

Please call the office at 860-623-4636 with your requests.

Masses For The Week

Saturday, August 22, 2026

4:00 PM (St. Philip Church)

+ Repose of the souls of **Robert Maloney, Diane Dumouchel-Bassage & Matthew Daigle** (Birthday Remembrance)

requested by Family

Sunday, August 23, 2026

8:30 AM (St. Catherine Church)

+ Repose of the souls of **Armand, Charles & Anton**

requested by Daughter, Mother & Wife, Pauline

10:30 AM (St. Philip Church)

Birthday Blessing's for **Kevin Miqueli**

requested by Ernie & Kay

Monday, August 24, 2026

12:15 PM (St. Catherine Church)

+ **Pro Pupulo**

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

11:00 to 12:00PM (St. Catherine Church)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

12:15 PM (St. Catherine Church)

Birthday Remembrance for **Harrison Hastings**

requested by The Hasting Family

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

12:15 PM (St. Catherine Church)

In Honor of **Mary, Mother of the Sorrowful Heart**

requested by Toni & Ron Therault

Thursday, August 27, 2026

9:00 AM (St. Catherine Church)

+ Repose of the soul of **Charlotte Mayo**

requested by Maureen & Larry Lyman

Saturday, August 29, 2026

4:00 PM (St. Philip Church)

+ Repose of the soul of **Patricia Plude**

requested by William & Diane Hartnett

Sunday, August 30, 2026

8:30 AM (St. Catherine Church)

Special Intentions

requested by Karen & Alan Germain

10:30 AM (St. Philip Church)

+ Repose of the soul of **Kazimierz Gosciniak**

(father of Fr. Derek Gosciniak, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church New Britain)

Parish Sharing & Support (8/16/26)



Weekly \$2,232.00

Monthly \$135.00

Holy Day \$268.00

On-Line Giving \$520.00

TOTAL \$3,155.00

Branches on the Vine

NEWS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD AUGUST 29 - SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

Local Friends of the Cross Group Honors St. Montfort's Spiritual Legacy

- Story by Karen A. Avitabile

// A Friend of the Cross is one chosen by God from among ten thousand who have reason and sense for their only guide. He is truly divine, raised above reason and thoroughly opposed to the things of sense, for he lives in the light of true faith." — St. Louis de Montfort

In his book, *The Letter to The Friends of the Cross*, St. Louis de Montfort (1673-1716) points out that holiness comes from walking in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. Still published today, the book serves as a guide for lay associations, including one that meets in Waterbury.

Nearly four years ago, Elaine Cerullo of Wolcott established the Friends of the Cross group in Waterbury's St. Patrick Oratory Parish to bring together faithful worshippers dedicated to living in consecration to Christ through the Blessed Virgin Mary.

"It was the perfect name for our group," Cerullo says. "The Letter was one of my favorite reads."

Once a month, some 30 people from St. Patrick Oratory Parish and the greater Waterbury area gather at a local restaurant to enjoy fellowship over a meal, engage in spiritual discussions and offer gratitude through prayer and reciting the rosary. On occasion, a guest speaker gives a presentation.

Cerullo attributes the group's name to a period when she and her husband Louis owned St. Michael's Bookstore in downtown Waterbury and distributed many copies of *The Letter*.



Elaine Cerullo, who founded The Friends of the Cross lay association at St. Patrick Oratory Parish in Waterbury, stands with her husband Louis in front of the sign they created for the monthly gatherings.

After the store closed, several loyal patrons desired to meet socially in a faith-centered environment. Inspired by St. Louis de Montfort's *The Letter*, Cerullo established the Friends of the Cross group to stay in touch with many of her customers and build new friendships.

"We are all church friends," she says, "and have a desire to stay connected."

William O'Brien of Wolcott has been attending the Friends of the Cross gatherings since the beginning. "It's a good time to be with other people," he says. "It's a good social group."

Canon Matthew Weaver, pastor and rector of St. Patrick Oratory Parish, regularly attends the Friends of the Cross gatherings. He praises the group's "dedication, devotion and enthusiasm" and desire to unite as a family in Christ.

"My presence helps to strengthen them," Canon Weaver says. "We are in the presence of the mystical body of Christ. We are all friends of the cross." Father John Mariano, a senior priest of

the Archdiocese of Hartford, has often led the group in praying the rosary. "It's good to get people together and pray," he says, adding, "This is a wholesome experience for me."

To remember Monsignor John Bevins who frequently joined the Friends of the Cross monthly gatherings, the group keeps his spirit alive with his picture, a candle and flowers on a restaurant table. The longtime Waterbury pastor of the Archdiocese of Hartford died on Oct. 13, 2025, at the age of 93.

"He was a devoted spiritual leader of the Friends of the Cross group," Cerullo adds.

Friends of the Cross gatherings are held on the last Thursday of the month at Amalfi's Italian Ristorante in Waterbury. Anyone who would like to participate should make a reservation by sending an email to elainecerullo@yahoo.com. Participants are asked to bring rosary beads.



Upcoming Events



SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER DATES
THE POWER OF A PRAYING PARENT
 St. Catherine of Siena, West Simsbury

Do you worry about your children or grandchildren? Join us for a four-session retreat to discover the power of a praying parent who creates a sacred space for God in their home. "Come" (Matt. 14:29). Email kostelni@cua.edu or scan the QR code to register. Morning session offers a light lunch; evening session offers hors d'oeuvres and small plate meal.

Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14 @ 10AM – 12:30PM OR
 Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17 @ 6:15PM – 8:30PM



SEPTEMBER 9 @ 6PM \$25
OPEN DOORS, OPEN HEARTS WITH FR. RAY KELLY | A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR IMMACARE
 Northwest Catholic High School, West Hartford

Join Ireland's beloved Singing Priest, Fr. Ray Kelly, for his only CT performance! Enjoy an unforgettable evening of inspiring music, laughter, and heartwarming stories while supporting ImmaCare's mission to serve individuals experiencing homelessness. Inspired by Fr. Ray's Open Road, Open Heart tour, this special concert celebrates hope, compassion, and new beginnings. 100% of proceeds benefit ImmaCare.

Tickets start at \$25. Doors open at 6:00 PM.
 For tickets or information contact Teresa Wierbicki at [860-580-5644](tel:860-580-5644) | twierbicki@immacare.org or scan the QR Code.



SEPTEMBER 22 @ 10AM - 11:30AM
FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT, THE HEART OF JOHN'S GOSPEL
 Archdiocese of Hartford Pastoral Center, Bloomfield

Join us for a mini course on the Gospel of John - Tuesday mornings at the Pastoral Center in Bloomfield beginning September 22. Email Dayanee.Olivieri@aohct.org to register. The spirituality of this Gospel unfolds gradually as each character encounters Jesus, whose mission is sustained by the abiding presence of the Spirit - a presence that strengthens us in our own daily struggles with the world.



SEPTEMBER 8 @ 7AM - 9AM
CATHOLIC CHARITIES
HELP AND HOPE BREAKFAST
 Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford

Join Catholic Charities for the 2026 Help & Hope Breakfast featuring UConn Coach Dan Hurley. This inspiring morning celebrates hope, resilience, and the power of community while supporting Catholic Charities' mission of providing help and creating hope. Visit www.ccaoh.org/hope for info and sponsorships availability.



SEPTEMBER 12 @ 9AM - 3PM
LOURDES IN A DAY PILGRIMAGE
 Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Hartford

Experience the grace and healing power of Lourdes right here in CT! Join Archbishop Coyne, Bishop Reidy, Bishop Rosazza, and Fr. MacNeill for a day of prayer and renewal. The event is fully handicap accessible, and a complimentary lunch will be served. Please RSVP by September 2. Register with Mark Sullivan at lourdesinaday@gmail.com or scan the QR Code.



SEPTEMBER 15 @ 7PM
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PRESENTATION
 St. Paul Parish Hall, Kensington

All are invited to a human trafficking awareness and prevention presentation sponsored by the Culture of Life and Social Action Ministries at St. Paul Parish. A member of the Human Trafficking Task Force of the Archdiocese of Hartford will provide an overview of human trafficking and introduce a prevention framework for engaging parishioners in this important work. Participants will learn about key elements of prevention and practical steps that parishes, ministries, and individuals can take to reduce vulnerability and strengthen their communities.



SEPTEMBER 20 @ 7:15PM
FOR HUMANITY'S SAKE: POPE LEO XIV AND THE AI REVOLUTION
 St. Thomas More Golden Center, New Haven

A public discussion of Magnifica Humanitas, the pope's long anticipated response to the breakneck advance of artificial intelligence and the implications for human flourishing. Join us for this multi-sided conversation with a panel of distinguished experts about the document's premises, arguments, and response thus far, as well as its potential influence on the most consequential technological development of our time. Visit stm.yale.edu to reserve a spot.

2026 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Scan the QR code to learn how you can make a lasting impact!

10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



Total Goal: \$10M 98.84% as of 8/17/26

\$9,884,197.93 in pledges from 27,405 generous donors



*This figure does not include bequests given to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal

www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal

