

# The Trumbull Times

## Trumbull church hosts saint's heart

By Donald Eng

The Parish of St. Catherine of Siena hosted a religious relic, the heart of St. John Vianney, earlier this week, on Monday and Tuesday. This is the only public event in the Diocese of Bridgeport during the relic's national tour that runs through June.

According to Bridgeport

Diocese spokesman Brian Wallace, Vianney is the patron saint of parish priests and confessors.

Hartford Archbishop Emeritus Daniel Cronin celebrated Mass April 29 at 7 p.m. An all-night vigil immediately following the Mass ran until 7 a.m. April 30. Volunteers read excerpts from Vianney's homilies every hour on the hour.

On April 30, St. Catherine Pastor Joseph Marcello celebrated Mass at 9 a.m. Students from local Catholic schools attended.

St. John Vianney was born in 1786 and served as a parish priest in the French town of Ars. He was noted for his dedication to the poor, his counseling of those in need, for founding

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St. Catherine of Siena / Contributed photo

**A relic of St. John Vianney was on display at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Trumbull on April 29-30.**

### RELIC

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an orphanage for girls, and for his work as a confessor.

Wallace said he spent as many as 18 hours a day hearing the confessions of people who had traveled from across Europe.

Pope Pius XI canonized Vianney in 1925.

His heart is kept at the Shrine of Ars, but has been lent to the Knights of Columbus for this national pilgrimage that began in New Haven in 2018..

The Catholic Church teaches that a relic is offered to the faithful for veneration, but neither the relic nor the saint is worshipped.

St. Catherine of Siena is located at 220 Shelton Road in Trumbull.