



**THE OFFICE OF
STATE TREASURER
DENISE L. NAPIER**

NEWS

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WEST HARTFORD, CT – State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier is among three women who will receive honorary degrees from Saint Joseph College at the college's 73rd Commencement exercises on Sunday, May 18. Expected at the ceremony are more than 400 graduating students, including those from The Women's College, The Prime Time Program (a bachelor's degree program for working adults), and The Graduate School.

Nappier, the first African-American woman elected to serve as a State Treasurer in the United States and the first African-American woman elected to a statewide office in Connecticut, will receive the honorary degree along with Dr. Carol J. Guardo, a recognized leader in the field of higher education who in 1980 became the first woman provost in the history of the University of Hartford, and Cecilia Nibyobonka, OLGC, who left her home country of Uganda to study biology and chemistry at Saint Joseph College in the 1960s, and then returned home to fight her nation's AIDS pandemic.

As Connecticut's chief elected financial officer, Nappier oversees approximately \$50 billion in state funds. Widely respected by her peers, she was re-elected as treasurer of the National Association of State Treasurers, and this month received the prestigious "Legend Award" from *Plan Sponsor Magazine*, given in recognition of "her commitment to fiscal and fiduciary integrity in the public sector, and her leadership in exercising thoughtful activism as an institutional investor."

Before being elected State Treasurer, she was elected Treasurer of the City of Hartford, and held that office for nearly 10 years. Nappier holds a bachelor's degree from Virginia State University and a master's degree from the University of Cincinnati, and is the recipient of honorary degrees from Teikyo Post University College, Trinity College and the University of Hartford.

Saint Joseph College, a four-year undergraduate college serving women from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions, was founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy.