

# SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

*The First Italian Parish In Connecticut*

**Pastor:** Rev. Robert P. Roy

**Deacon:** Norman Singer

## Parish Office

9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday

203-562-7178

203-752-0157 fax

smc1889@att.net

stmichaelwoostersquare.org

## Weekday and Weekend Masses


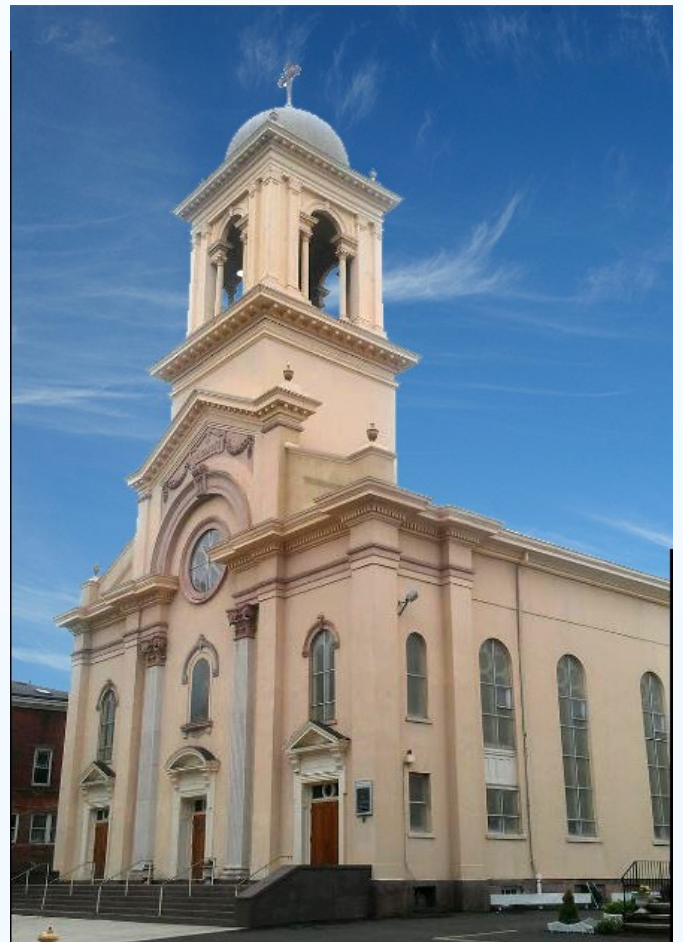
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00am

Saturday vigil—4:00 p.m. Sunday—9:30 a.m.

No mass on Wednesday's (only during Lent)

**Holy Days:** 8:00am, 12:10pm, 5:30pm

**Confessions:** Saturday 3:00pm to 3:30pm



*15<sup>th</sup> Sunday*  
IN ORDINARY TIME

---

"Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:7-8

## *Our Mission Statement*

Our parish is open to all people who seek to give glory to God through the centrality of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and in sharing the gifts and traditions of the Roman Catholic faith. Enlivened by the Holy Spirit, we strive to create a vibrant, welcoming faith community for worship, education and outreach to our neighbors, community, and the Southern Italian Religious Societies through the Lordship of our Savior Jesus Christ.





15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
JULY 12, 2020

The parable in today’s Gospel reading is called the parable of the sower. In this parable, the sower represents Jesus, who spreads the message of the Kingdom of God like seeds. The Kingdom itself is planted like a seed in the world and in the hearts of those who are willing to accept it. The different kinds of soil represent different responses to Jesus’ preaching about the Kingdom. Jesus is encouraging his audience to be the rich soil—to take his words to heart and let them take root in their lives.

Today there are obstacles to accepting Jesus’ teaching, just as there were when Jesus told this parable. There is no outright rejection of a message that seems too demanding (the unyielding path in the parable). There is a brief enthusiasm, followed by a kind of spiritual short attention span. They are always looking for the next thing (the shallow soil), and there are temptations and troubles that bring doubt and straying (the thorns). But in spite of our repeated wandering, Jesus continually invites us back, calling us to open our ears to hear God’s Word. And when we respond, we become the rich soil that produces fruit—the product of a life of faith.

St. Paul celebrated on what a life of faith produces, the fruit of the Spirit, in Galatians 5: 22-23. When the seeds of the Kingdom are planted in a person’s heart, the Holy Spirit causes this “fruit” to grow: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These are the character traits of a person who accepts the Word of God, which lead that person to participate in works of mercy, peace, and justice, not to mention the work of spreading more seeds.

- Saturday, July 11th, Vigil of the Lord’s Day**  
4:00 p.m. - Jason Anthony O’Brien, req. by  
Therese & Nick Incarnato
- Sunday, July 12th, 15th Sunday in Ordinary  
Time**  
9:30 a.m. - In Honor of St. Trofimena
- Monday, July 13th, Saint Henry**  
8:00 a.m. - Pasquale Savo, req. by Jean Quartiano
- Tuesday, July 14th, St. Kateri Takakwitha**  
8:00 a.m. - Emilio & Anna Agnellino, req. by  
Agnellino family
- Wednesday, July 15th, Saint Bonaventure**  
8:00 a.m. - NO MASS
- Thursday, July 16th, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel**  
8:00 a.m. -
- Friday, July 17th, Weekday**  
8:00 a.m. - Frank & Pasqualina Cinque, req. by  
children
- Saturday, July 18th, Vigil of the Lord’s Day**  
4:00 p.m. - James Plano, req. by wife & children
- Sunday, July 19th, 16th Sunday in Ordinary  
Time**  
9:30 a.m. - In Honor of St. Maria Maddalena

***Sanctuary Lamp***  
  
***Sunday, July 12, 2020***  
***In Memory of***  
***Deceased Members of St. Michael Parish***

**In remembrance of those who died,**

**May they rest in peace.**

**Weekend of July 5, 2020**

**Weekly Collection \$2703.00**  
**Monthly Collection \$483.00**

**One Collections This Week**  
**Weekly Collection**

**Two Collections Next Week**  
**Weekly Collection**  
**Cooperative Mission Appeal**

***Question of the Week***

How can I be more receptive to God’s word, like rich soil? What specific action can I accomplish this week to bear fruit?

- Readings for the week of July 12, 2020**
- Sunday:** Isaiah 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23;  
Matthew 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
  - Monday:** Isaiah 1:10-17; Matthew 10:34—11:1
  - Tuesday:** Isaiah 7:1-9; Matthew 11:20-24
  - Wednesday:** Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16; Matthew  
11:25-27
  - Thursday:** Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Matthew  
11:28-30
  - Friday:** Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Isaiah 38:10, 11,  
12abcd, 16 [cf. 17b]; Matthew 12:1-8
  - Saturday:** Micah 2:1-5; Matthew 12:14-21

**PASTORAL REFLECTION**

Last Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, I was listening to our local Archdiocesan Catholic Radio Station WJMJ specifically the program called Register Radio. The program featured Dr. Scott Hahn a biblical scholar, a former Presbyterian who converted to Catholicism and who is not only a theologian but also an apologist that is one who defends the truths of the Catholic Faith.

The interviewer and Dr. Hahn were talking about the Coronavirus pandemic in our world and how God who is a loving and merciful Father sometimes allows or permits certain events such as this virus to get our attention in order that we, His children, might come back to Him; turning towards Him to seek His grace and mercy in our time of need.

In the course of their discussion, Dr. Hahn related an incident that had occurred between him and one of his daughters during the September 9/11 attack. Dr. Hahn relates that during this anxious and trying time, one of his daughters asked him, “Daddy, are we going to die?” Naturally, he could understand his daughter’s fears and concerns giving everything that was going on, but he was also taken aback by the question because he was not sure how to respond to his daughter. He said to her, “Sure, we are all going to die someday but it wouldn’t be today” referencing to the day of 9/11 and its aftermath.

“Sure, we are all going to die someday” but as Jesus remind us in the gospel, “we do not know the day or the hour when the Son of Man will return...He will come like a thief in the night.”

While it is good and natural that we preserve and safeguard our lives, for life is good, given to us and created by God, but we as Christians should not be so afraid of death because as I tell people “our faith is not a faith about death but rather our faith is a faith about life, eternal, everlasting life.” That is what Jesus is all about. That is what Jesus came to do and does. Through His suffering, death and resurrection, Jesus has forever destroyed our greatest enemy which is death. And it is in and through our baptism in Christ Jesus that we die and rise to newness of life, eternal life with Him. For as St. Paul tells us “Are you not aware that we who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.”

It was on the day of our baptism in the church, our spiritual mother, wherein we received this new life and faith in Christ Jesus. And it was and is through the church and our participation in the sacramental life of the church that this new life and our faith was and is nourished and continues to grow. And so it is appropriate and only right that when a loved one goes home to the Lord the Mass or Liturgy of Christian Burial should be celebrated not only for the deceased person but also for the living; for the Funeral Liturgy reminds us and makes present the gift and promise of eternal life first given to our deceased loved one and also to ourselves on the day of our baptism.

There is no doubt about it that the Church of St. Michael’s certainly does have its share of funerals. We average over one hundred a year. For various reasons, people come back to St. Michael’s Church for their final prayer and sacrament, their Funeral Mass, because they made their sacraments here. And while it is commendable, when we read the obituary, that contributions or donations can be made to the deceased person’s favorite charity, or the charity of one’s own choosing, we very seldom read or hear that donations, in remembrance of the deceased person, can be made to St. Michael’s Parish. After all, would it not make sense to request people to make a donation the parish in thanksgiving wherein our deceased loved one received the faith and was nourished in the faith and where the final prayer, the Sacrifice of the Mass was offered for the repose of their soul?

Fr. Roy

**2020 Mission Cooperative Mission Appeal**  
**July 18-19, 2020**


The **2020 Mission Cooperative Appeal Collection** will be taken as a second collection next weekend. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, the missionaries are not able to be with us this year; however, although physically distant, we have the opportunity to be present to them through our spiritual and financial support. The ministries of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers will benefit from our parish's generosity. Our assistance will help with them with their medical outreach to those with eye disease as well as vocational skills training for those with blindness. Our donations also will provide famine relief and assistance for refugees in South Sudan, formation of Maryknoll seminarians and care for infirm missionaries. Our response to Christ's call that we "love one another" will bring His hope into the lives of many. We ask your generous response. Checks may be made out to The Catholic Mission Aid Office. On their behalf, thank you.

**VOCATION REFLECTIONS**

**July 12th- Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

The sower went out to sow. The Lord has sown the seeds of vocations to priesthood and religious life in our parishes. The parable of the sower challenges all who hear it to discern which description of "those who hear the word" best describes their life as Jesus' disciple. If you have the gifts to become a priest or religious, call **Fr. Michael Casey**, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center, 860-761-7456, e-mail [vocations@aohct.org](mailto:vocations@aohct.org) or visit the web at [www.hartfordpriest.com](http://www.hartfordpriest.com).

**Food Bank** – Each week there is a box in the rectory entrance to receive donations of non-perishable foods that are brought to the Saint Ann Church Food Bank in Hamden. **(PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE OPEN AND EXPIRED FOOD)**. Your donation of these items are appreciated greatly by those who receive them. Please consider bringing one or two non-perishable items per month as a way of fulfilling the Corporal Work of Mercy, **To Feed the Hungry**.



*From the Twitter Account of  
Pope Francis*

*Faith makes us walk with Jesus on the roads of this world, in the certainty that the power of His Spirit will bend the forces of evil, subjecting them to the power of God's love.*

**Please mail me/us a registration form for Saint Michael Church**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send this request to:**  
**Saint Michael Church Office:**  
**29 Wooster Place**  
**New Haven, CT 06511**  
**Or place in offertory basket.**

**TO RESCHEDULE WEEKDAY MASSES,  
CALL THE CHURCH AT 203-562-7178.**

**ALL WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS  
HAVE BEEN  
RESCHEDULED FOR 2021**

**On Line Giving**

Realizing that the Coronavirus has affected us in many ways, even financially, I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all the parishioners of St. Michael's Church who have remembered St. Michael financially by mailing or dropping off your weekly envelopes. We now offer on-line giving through our website, [StMichaelWoosterSquare.org](http://StMichaelWoosterSquare.org), under the Parish Life tab.

**Word Among Us Books  
&  
Weekly Bulletins**

Due to the Coronavirus, the Word Among Us Books and weekly bulletins are located in the office. If you wish to obtain a copy, please call the office or stop by the church during office hours while supplies last.

**MASS BOOK**

The Mass Book is open for all registered and non-registered parishioners for 2020. Weekday masses and Sanctuary candles are available. Come to the rectory from 9:30am – 12:00 noon Monday thru Friday, or call the Rectory at 203-562-7178 to book your masses.

**All Masses must be paid in full at the time of booking.**

**Weekday and Weekend Masses**

Weekday and Weekend Masses has started in the main Church, the mass times are as follows: Monday Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:00 a.m., Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Please remember to wear your mask and observe social distancing rules.

Or you can watch the 4:00 p.m. mass on Saturday live on our Facebook page: [St. Michael Church Wooster Square New Haven](#) or if you miss the mass you can watch it on our You Tube channel: [St. Michael Church Wooster Square](#).

As we face this unrepresented worldwide pandemic, by practice social distancing, as a community of people and of faith, may we always keep in mind that we are all in this together and that we need to be there for one another and to support one another and it is no different with St. Michael's. We are here for you! We need to stay in touch and connected. The weekly bulletin along with other information is available on our web site; [stmichaelwoostersquare.org](http://stmichaelwoostersquare.org), on our Facebook page (St. Michael Church Wooster Square New Haven, CT) or on You Tube (St. Michael Church Wooster Square). You can always contact us by phone at 203-562-7178 or via email [smc1889@att.org](mailto:smc1889@att.org)

**Realizing that the Coronavirus has affected us in many ways, even financially, I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all the parishioners of St. Michael's Church who have remembered St. Michael's financially by mailing or dropping off your weekly envelopes.**