

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

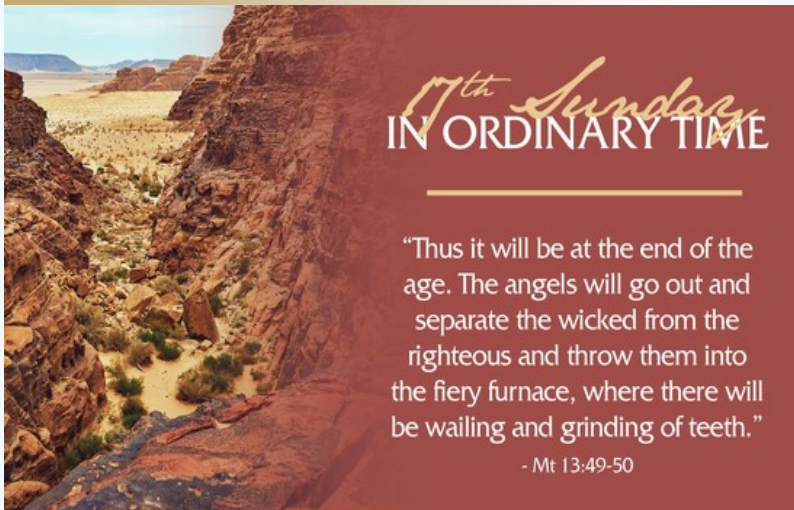
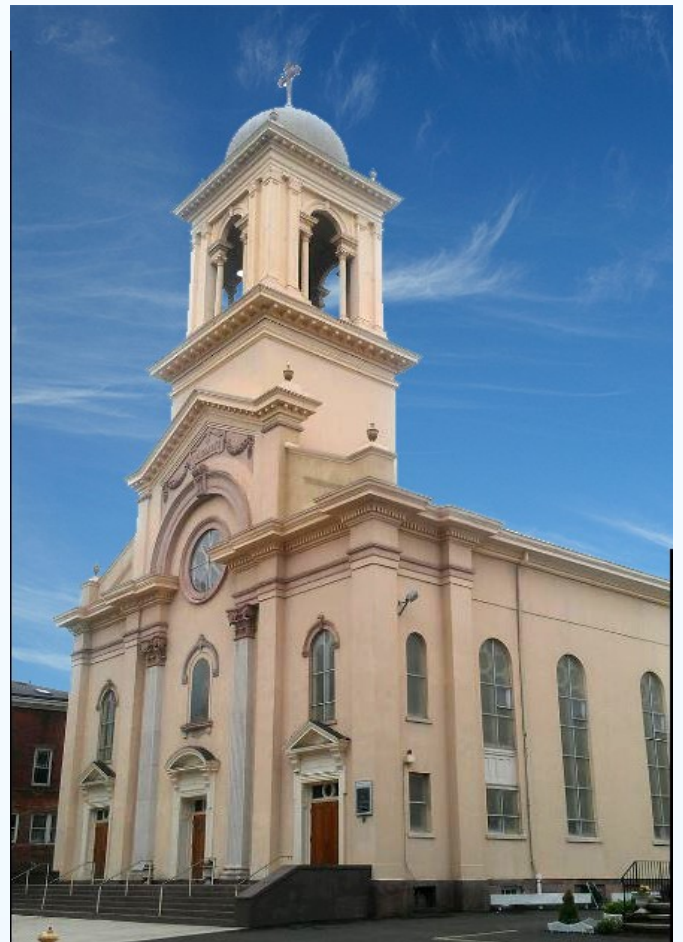
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00am

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



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.





**17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 26, 2020**

Saturday, July 25th, Vigil of the Lord’s Day

4:00 p.m. - Deceased Member of Dell’ Amura family, req. by nieces & nephews

Sunday, July 26th, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Angela Naclerio, req. by family

Monday, July 27th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. - People of St. Michael Parish

Tuesday, July 28th, St. John Vianney

8:00 a.m. -

Wednesday, July 29th, Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Thursday, July 30th, Transfiguration of the Lord

8:00 a.m. -

Friday, July 31st, St. Sixtus

8:00 a.m. -

Saturday, August 1st, Vigil of the Lord’s Day

4:00 p.m. - Pasqual & Theresa Argento & Francis Argento Scaramella, req. by Nettie

Sunday, August 2nd, 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Community Mass

No doubt you’ve the expression “You can’t take it with you.” It means that we leave this world the way we came into it—without even the clothes on our backs. But the truth is that there are somethings you can take with you into eternal life. They’re not just material things. And that’s what Jesus is talking about in the treasure parables. Real treasure is that which has eternal value—it’s what you can take with you.

One way to think about this is in terms of relationships. In 1 Corinthians 13:13, saint Paul say that there are three things that last: faith, hope, and love, and the greatest is love. Love is the greatest because it’s the only one of the three that is eternal. Faith will give way to sight, hope will give way to joy, but love is forever. We will carry our relationships with God and with our loved ones into the Kingdom with us.

So how do you “buy” the treasure of love? The currency that buys eternal treasure is time. So the way that we invest in the Kingdom is to spend quality time with the people we hope to be with in heaven—starting with God. Quality time with God means going to Mass regularly and spending time in personal prayer and devotions. We also need to spend quality time with those with whom we are in significant relationships: spouse, children, parents, loved ones. Of course to do this might require a sacrifice of other things that take up our time— but that’s the point of the parable. We have to give something to buy something greater. We trade the earthly treasures for the heavenly treasures. We give up what we can’t take with us to gain that we can take with us.

Sanctuary Lamp

*Sunday, July 26, 2020
In Memory of
Anna Bonetti*

Question of the Week

What or whom have I overlooked in searching for the kingdom of heaven? How can I develop an understanding heart?

In remembrance of those who died,

Daniella Amorotti

May she rest in peace.

Weekend of July 19, 2020

**Weekly Collection \$2062.00
Cooperative Mission Appeal \$151.00**

**One Collections This Week
Weekly Collection**

**Two Collections Next Week
Weekly Collection
Monthly Collection**

Readings for the week of July 26, 2020

Sunday: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Romans 8:28-30;
Matthew 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Monday: Jeremiah 13:1-11; Deuteronomy 32:
18-19, 20, 21 [cf. 18a]; Matthew 13:31-35

Tuesday: Jeremiah 14:17-22; Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday: Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21; John 11:19-27
or Luke 10:38-42

Thursday: Jeremiah 18:1-6; Matthew 13:47-53

Friday: Jeremiah 26:1-9; Matthew 13:54-58

Saturday: Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24; Matthew
14:1-12

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Several years ago, in the *Meriden Record Journal*, I remember reading a letter addressed to either “Dear Abby” or “Ann Landers” about a married couple who were experiencing difficulties in their marital relationship. In the letter, the woman stated that she and her husband were using, artificial birth control. While I don’t recall if the letter stated what method of birth control they were using, the gist of the letter was that despite the fact they were using birth control, the woman wound up getting pregnant, and the husband was livid, furious. I can just imagine and hear the disgruntled husband screaming at his wife, “How could you let this happened? You know that we can’t afford a child at this time? Why were “you” and I repeat “you” not more careful?” Hello! Why wasn’t **“she”** more careful?

I don’t recall Dear Abby’s or Ann Lander’s response to the woman’s letter, but I could not help but think, “What about the husband’s part and role in all of this?” Surely, I would think that he had something to do with his wife’s getting pregnant. As the saying goes, “It take two to tango!” I could not help but think, “How sad.” The act of conjugal love, which is something that is so intimate and personal in a married couple’s life and relationship, instead of being something that is supposed to bring them closer together in their relationship with each other, to strengthen their bond of love with each other, now, because of the use of artificial birth control, this act of love becomes a source of division and anger, a husband’s rage at his wife. The use of artificial birth control not only destroys the unitive aspect of conjugal love, as expressed in marriage, but also it destroys the procreative aspect in that some methods of birth control prevent pregnancy by directly or indirectly destroying the embryo, aborting the newly formed child, that may have result by this supposed loving union.

The unfortunate part about all this is that all three parties involved in this, the wife, the husband, and the expectant baby are victims in this scenario but the one who will possible pay for their parents’ so-called “mistake” is this innocent unborn child with his or her life by not being allowed to form and grow.

Unfortunately, many people do not realize that this is just one of the many consequences of using artificial birth control. The responsibility of conception or non-conception usually falls to one person in this type of sexual relationship, and God forbid if or that something goes wrong. It all becomes the other person’s fault. By using artificial birth control, the unitive and procreative aspects of conjugal love are cut off, because one member in this union is holding back or not willing giving something that is vital to the openness of new life. The couple’s wedding vows, wherein the couple promised to give themselves totally to each other, “for richer or poor, in sickness and in health” etc. becomes a lie. If a person holds something of themselves back it the act of conjugal love, is this a total giving of self to one’s spouse out of love? Also, some forms of artificial birth control have an abortion aspect to them in the sense that if a child is conceived, the drug prevents the newly formed embryo from attaching itself to the wall of the uterus causing it to flow out of the mother’s body. Another sad aspect of artificial birth control is that since the so-called risk for pregnancy is supposedly minimized, there is always the danger of one partner’s using the other just for their own sexual gratification. The other person becomes “objectified” an object of use. Thus, the other person’s personhood is diminished since they are used just as an object for another’s gratification.

Now-a-days everybody talks about natural and healthy lifestyles. This week, July 19th to the 26th, the Conference of Catholic Bishops is celebrating Natural Family Planning Awareness Week with the theme “Live the truth and beauty of God’s plan for married love!” Natural Family Planning – “It’s about love. It’s about life. It’s about freedom. It’s about gift.”

For many years, the Church has advocated a natural and healthy way for couples to regulate their participation in procreation, for God’s plan of the joy of children in a married couple’s life and that is Natural Family Planning.

In talking about the fecundity of marriage, the fertility of and the responsibility of the couple’s role in marriage, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that “A particular aspect of this responsibility concerns the regulation of procreation.” ^{CCC 2368} The Catechism goes on to state that for “just and serious reasons and not selfish ones, spouses may wish to space the birth of their children” and that “this behavior should conform to objective criteria of morality.” ^{CCC 2368}

Natural Family Planning works based on a couple’s fertility. There are certain days in a woman’s cycle when she and her husband, by observation as a couple, know whether they are considered fertile or infertile. As a couple they discuss their fertility or infertility and what they as a couple want to morally do. With Natural Family Planning, the couples talk about their fertility, and the decision to engage in procreative sexual activity or not to engage is the decision of the couple. The woman is not taking pills or ingesting something or implanting something which is not naturally in or to her body nor it the man doing any to his body either by surgery or other methods to hold something back. In Natural Family Planning the couple is following the natural, God given design of a woman’s body.

This is just a brief description of Natural Family Planning. For more information one can go to the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, National NFP Awareness Week or to our Archdiocesan website to Life, Family and Culture clicking Office of Family Life.

Fr. Roy

THANK YOU

The Parishioners of Saint Michael Church would like to thank Rev. Revelle of the Stamford Police Department, Lt. Sean Maher and Ralph Consiglio of the New Haven Police Department for the donation of cloth face masks.

The masks are located at the main entrance of the church and in the rectory. Again, Thank you for your generous donation.

VOCATION REFLECTIONS

July 26th – Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

What is precious to me? Am I willing to sell everything I own and follow the Lord to serve His people? If you feel the call, contact **Fr. Michael Casey**, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center, 860 -761-7456, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

From the Twitter Account of Pope Francis



Prophecy is born whenever we allow ourselves to be challenged by God, not when we are concerned to keep everything quiet and under control.

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

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

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**.

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.**

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. Michaels'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, under the Parish Life tab.

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.

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.

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's 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, 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

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