

# SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

*The First Italian Parish In Connecticut*

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

**Deacon:** Norman Singer

## Parish Office

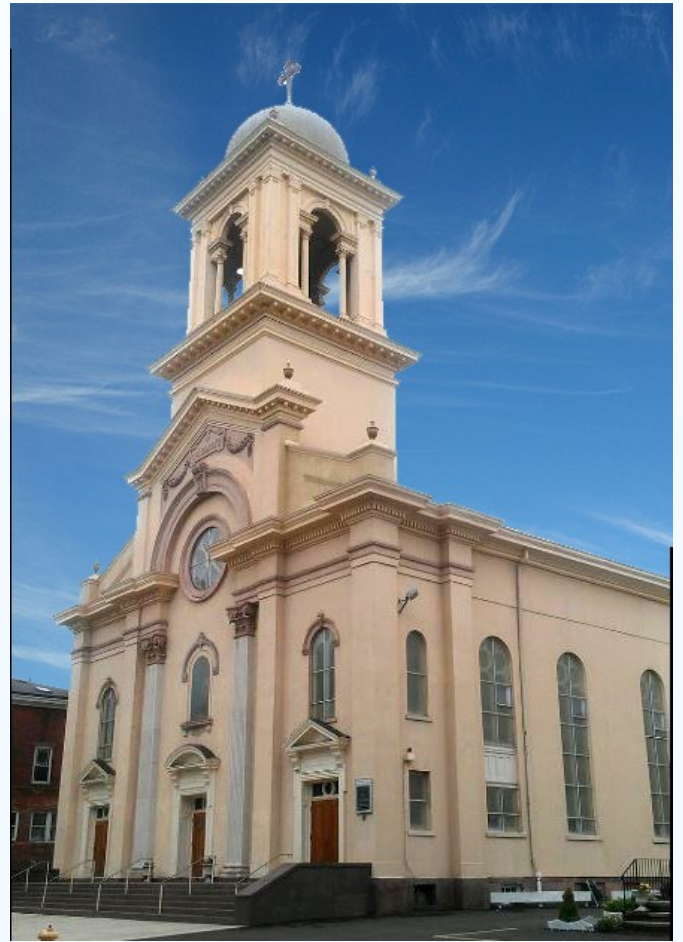
9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday  
203-562-7178  
203-752-0157 fax  
smc1889@att.net  
stmichaelwoostersquare.org

## 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



## 18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said the blessing,  
broke the loaves, and gave  
them to the disciples,  
who in turn gave them  
to the crowds. They all ate  
and were satisfied.  
- Mt 14:19c-20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. CLR

## *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.





**18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
AUGUST 2, 2020**

**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

**Monday, August 3rd, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. -

**Tuesday, August 4th, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. - Pasqualina & Frank Cinque, req. by Children

**Wednesday, August 5th, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

**Thursday, August 6th, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. -

**Friday, August 7th, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. -

**Saturday, August 8th, Vigil of the Lord's Day**

4:00 p.m. - Antony Gambardella, req. by children

**Sunday, August 9th, 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:30 a.m. - Sta. Maria Della Vergini

The feeding of the multitudes is the only miracle of Jesus that is recorded in all four accounts of the Gospel, so it must have been extremely important to the first Christians. Jesus' acts of feeding were seen as pivotal works that reminded believers of how God had provided bread for the people in the wilderness, and it also foreshadowed the heavenly banquet in Jesus' description of the Kingdom. The feeding of the multitudes also became a symbol for the Eucharist in the early Church, and paintings of baskets of bread and fish are common in the catacombs where the early Christians buried their loved ones, because the Eucharist was understood as the "food of eternal life."

In this miracle, Jesus was teaching his followers a lesson that he explained further in his Bread of Life discourse. The point is that God has provided us with what we need most—Jesus himself is the bread of eternal life. The Old Testament readings emphasize that the things we eat and drink, and the things we spend our money on, can never really satisfy us. But God, in his compassion for us, offers what we really need—his love and forgiveness—all without a price. We just have to accept it from him. This comes to us in the person of Christ, who is God in the flesh. So how do we accept God's gift of love and forgiveness? "The Lord is near to all who call upon him," says the psalmist. The Most important way we may call upon him is by participating in the Eucharist, where we become like the five thousand families that Jesus fed. And when we are fed by Christ, then nothing can separate us from his love.

***Sanctuary Lamp***

*Sunday, August 2, 2020*

*In Memory of*

*Deceased members of St. Michael Parish*

**In remembrance of those who died,**

**Filippa Cacioppo, Anthony Ascenzia & Kenneth Dingus**

**May they rest in peace.**

**Weekend of July 26, 2020**

**Weekly Collection \$1676.00**

**Two Collections This Week  
Weekly Collection  
Monthly Collection**

**One Collection Next Week  
Weekly Collection**

***Question of the Week***

When have I felt visceral emotion when seeing a family member, friend, or stranger in need? Do I turn to God in my need?

**Readings for the week of August 2, 2020**

**Sunday:** Isaiah 55:1-3; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21

**Monday:** Jeremiah 28:1-17; Matthew 14:22-36

**Tuesday:** Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Matthew 14:22-36 or Matthew 15:1-2, 10-14

**Wednesday:** Jeremiah 31:1-7; Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]; Matthew 15:21-28

**Thursday:** Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9

**Friday:** Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Deuteronomy 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41 [39c]; Matthew 16:24-28

**Saturday:** Habakkuk 1:12—2:4; Matthew 17:14-20

## PASTORAL REFLECTION

In his Second Letter to the Corinthians, in the concluding half of chapter eleven, St. Paul writes about his varied and many sufferings as an Apostle for Jesus Christ and as a minister of several church communities that he had founded through his preaching of the gospel. In his ministry of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ, St. Paul mentions how he was beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, imprisoned, and how he has toiled through many hardships going hungry and thirsty with many sleepless nights all in an effort to proclaim the Word of God. He also speaks about the “daily pressure” placed upon him and his “anxiety for all the churches.” Is not that the truth!

As pastor of St. Michael’s Church, I can in some sense identify with St. Paul. Not that I have ever been beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, or imprisoned for the faith. Nor have I suffered from hunger, or thirst for proclaiming the faith. But I can attest to some degree that, as pastor, not only of St. Michael’s Church but of other churches in the past, I have endured sleepless nights and felt the daily pressures and anxieties for the church.

As pastor of St. Michael’s Church there is a daily pressure, a daily anxiety for the church, for the parish not only for the spiritual welfare of the parishioners, the people of St. Michael’s of whom I serve, but also there is the daily pressure and anxiety for the financial welfare of the parish. In short for the daily pressure and anxiety for the future wellbeing of St. Michael’s Church. As pastor, I am called to be a steward of both spiritual and temporal wellbeing of the parish and sometimes it is not always easy, Why? Because “I do worry about the future of St. Michael’s.” Not that I have a crystal ball nor am I able to predict the future, nor do I know anything about the further plans for restructuring in the Archdiocese of Hartford, but I do worry about St. Michael’s spiritually and financially.

As most of you know, because of the history and age of the parish we do get many funerals. People returning to their cultural and spiritual roots. While this is not a bad thing in itself, but it makes me wonder “if St. Michael’s is and was their cultural and spiritual roots, where they went to school here and made their sacraments here, where were they in the meantime?” It’s a wonderful thing that people want to be buried from their “Mother Church” their “Mother Parish” to come back home, so to speak, for their funeral liturgy and burial, but where are they between the time they made their sacraments at St. Michael’s or graduated from St. Michael School until now?

These thoughts have come to me many times, but it really hit me after I did a young person’s funeral here at St. Michael’s. They had attended and graduated from St. Michael’s School about 35 years ago. Chances are they would have also made their sacraments here. And I could not help wondering, “Where was this person’s weekly participation and support in the life of the parish, by volunteering, attending Mass and contributing to the financial welfare of the parish.” Granted a person can attend and participate in another parish but if that is the case than usually the person would be buried from the current parish that they attend. With the many funerals that we do here at St. Michael’s the sad part of all this is that I have never seen them before and after the funeral I never see them again.

This is one of my daily pressures, and daily anxiety for the church. I could not help but think, “People want the church to be there for them,” and rightly so, it should be in time of need, but the “church also needs the prayers, participation and support of the people.” My fear, daily pressure, and anxiety for the church, is that without an increase of active participation of people and their financial support there might not be any St. Michael’s Parish in the future for a person to have a wedding or funeral. I am not saying that the parish is closing, I don’t want people to get the wrong idea, because as I said, “I don’t have a crystal ball nor am I able to predict the future, nor do I know anything about the further plans for restructuring within the Archdiocese of Hartford” but one can see how over the years the participation, the attendance and the finances of St. Michael’s has fallen off. I could not help but wonder and think “Is part of the reason for this decline because there are less people living the Wooster Square area than there were years ago?” I am sure that the obvious answer is “NO!” Then if that is the case then why is our church not filled to capacity?

The bottom line is that everyone of us needs to take an active part in building up the community of faith within our area. As pastor, it is wonderful to see how the parishioners of St. Michael love their parish, but future vibrancy and life of St. Michael’s depends upon all of us working together. As our Mission Statement states, “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.”

*From the Twitter Account of  
Pope Francis*



*Men and women who pray know that hope is stronger than discouragement. They believe that love is more powerful than death, and that love will surely triumph one day, even if it be in times and ways we do not know.*

**VOCATION REFLECTIONS**

**Aug. 2nd – Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

Jesus turns his thoughts from the death of John to the suffering of His people. He orders the disciples to bring them food and Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes. If you want to feed His people with the body and blood of Christ as a priest, 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).

**Face Masks**

St. Michael Church received a donation of cloth face masks in packs of 5 for our parishioners and for those who need them.

The masks are located inside the front of the Church and in the chapel.

Please help yourselves to the masks.

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

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



**Rooted in Faith, Opening Wide Our Hearts**

On Wednesday August 5, 7:00 PM, The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford will continue its conference series with the webinar:

***The Black Catholic Experience and Racism in the Catholic Church***

All too often leaders of the Church have remained silent about the horrific violence and other racial injustices perpetuated against African Americans and others. In this webinar Deacon Arthur Miller will share some of his

Black Catholic experiences and suggestions to help us move forward as one body of Christ. The Webinar is free; advanced registration is required and available at:

[www.catholicsocialjustice.org](http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org)

**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](http://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](#), 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)

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