

SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

The First Italian Parish In Connecticut

Pastor: Rev. Robert P. Roy

Parish Office

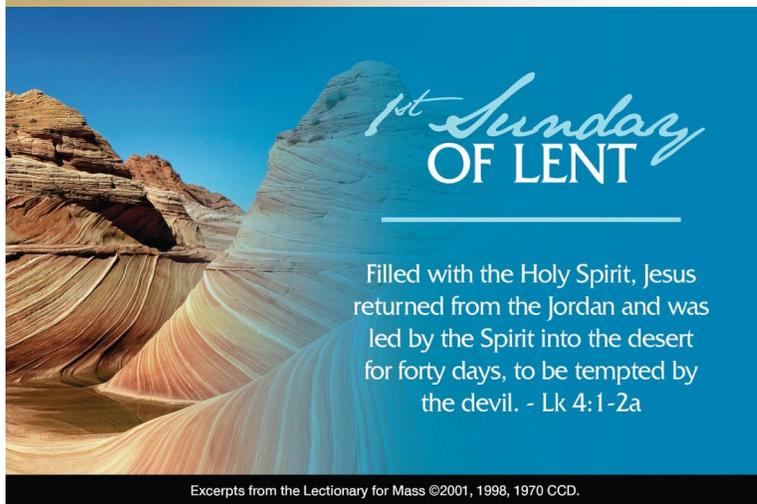
9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday
203-562-7178
203-752-0157 fax
smc1889@att.net
stmichaelwoostersquare.org

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

Confessions: Saturday 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm and
Monday Evenings during Lent from 6 to 7 pm



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.





**Mass Intentions
for the Week**

Saturday, March 5th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Frank Florenzano, Salvatore & Anna
Maiorano, req. by family

Sunday, March 6th, First Sunday of Lent

9:30 a.m. - Community Mass

Monday, March 7th, Sts. Perpetua & Felicity

8:00 a.m. - Teresa, Giuseppe, Antonio & Mario
D'Agnelli, req. by Gioiosa family

Tuesday, March 8th, St. John of God

8:00 a.m. - Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, March 9th, St. Frances of Rome

8:00 a.m. - No Mass
12:10 p.m. - Louis Onofrio, req. by Rosalind &
Andrew Proto

Thursday, March 10th, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. - Holy Mother in Reparations of Sins

Friday, March 11th, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. - John Massimino, req. by Andrew
Donarumo

Saturday, March 12th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Philip & Catherine Santore & Maryann
Ezold, req. by Rich & Esther Ezold

Sunday, March 13th, Second Sunday of Lent

9:30 a.m. - San Antonio Abate, req. by devotees

Sanctuary Lamp

Sunday, March 6, 2022

In Memory of

Deceased Members of St. Michael Parish

**In remembrance of those who died,
John Ursini & Stephen DeMatteo
May they rest in peace.**

Weekend of February 27, 2022

**Weekly Collection \$ 1581.00
Online Collection \$70.00**

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

**One Collection Next Week
Weekly Collection**

**First Sunday of Lent
March 6, 2022**

At Jesus' baptism, God declared him "beloved Son" filled with the Holy Spirit. In today's Gospel, that same Spirit tests Jesus, subjecting the divine Son to a completely human experience: temptation. Like Israel, repeatedly called "God's son" in the Old Testament, Jesus is led into a desert. For Jesus' contemporaries, the wilderness served a dual purpose; there one might encounter temptation; there one might encounter God.

The first reading demonstrates both realities. Moses recalls the testing that Israel experienced in the long desert trek, but also God's abiding presence, revealed in "signs and wonders". Moses then makes a fitting response to the God who guarded Israel in the wilderness: he offers grateful praise and adoration.

In his desert experience, Jesus too undergoes testing, facing subtle but repeated temptation. He has been assured of divine approval, favor, and presence. Should he use his status as "beloved Son" to his own advantage? Go ahead, the tempter seems to say; use the divine power within you to turn stones to bread, never hunger again, and amaze other with your abilities!

When Jesus relies on the One who truly feeds him, the tempter tries again: if you won't use your exalted position to your own advantage, then turn your allegiance away from God, toward me! Like Moses, Jesus knows the better way: I serve and worship God, alone, the one power greater than evil. In a third attempt, the tempter tests God's own Word and Jesus' identity as Son of God. In reply, Jesus banishes the tempter and amply proves himself to be "Son" by obedient reliance on God. The evil one "departed...for a time"; Luke notes that event he Son of God will endure continued testing.

Readings for the week of March 6, 2022

Sunday: Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13;
Luke 4:1-13
Monday: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46
Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32
Thursday: Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12
Friday: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26
Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48



On this first Sunday of lent, the church presents to us the gospel account of the temptation of Jesus. What we hear at the beginning of these forty days is the truth and the reality that it is possible for all of us to be tempted.

All of us are tempted! In the classic Christian work, the *Imitation of Christ*, by Thomas a Kempis, he states that “There is not a person, who is so good or holy, upon this earth, who has never experienced the draw of temptation. There is not a person who is beyond the prowling allurements of the devil.” Although these allurements may vary from person to person and in their strength and intensity, the fact of the matter is that as long as we live in this world there will always be something or someone trying to lure us away from our life with God. Basically, that is what temptation is; the devil, in his craftiness, trying to draw us away from God and God’s plan for us.

Jesus is led into the desert by the Holy Spirit in order that he might prepare himself for his public ministry. That he might prepare himself to announce the good news that the time of fulfillment has come that God has come to save his people and to give them the gift of new life which was lost by the original sin of Adam and Eve.

So, the devil meets Jesus face to face in the desert in an effort to turn him away from God’s plan of redemption and salvation; to stop him. But the devil’s approach is not one of a direct frontal attack, because he knows that this method of temptation doesn’t work. Rather he takes a subtle, crafty approach which appeals to the humanness in all of us even to the humanness of Jesus.

Certainly, there is nothing wrong with bread or taking care of bodily needs?

Certainly, there is nothing wrong with power and authority in the sense of one who is responsible for overseeing the care of others or the proper running of a business?

Certainly, there is nothing wrong with trusting in God that he will provide for us and take care of us?

In regards to the first temptation, certainly, there is nothing wrong with us enjoying the good things that God has created, with taking care of our bodily needs, because He has created them for our benefit, health and well-being but when they, the material things of this world, become our only focus or our only aim in our lives and for life, then we need to rethink about what we are truly pursuing. We need to rethink how we value material things and perhaps how they control our lives.

The second temptation reminds us that there is nothing wrong with a person being in charge or in a position of responsibility or authority, but when that power is misused unjustly at the expense of others or for one’s own selfish reasons, gains and advantage then we need to readjust our lives.

In the third temptation, there is nothing wrong with having faith and trust in God, that he will take care of us and provide for us, hopefully we should all have that, but when that faith and trust leads us to the sin of presumption, thinking that we can do anything we want and live any kind of life style we want, to live foolishly and recklessly and God will still be there to save us, to take care of us then we had better think again.

Temptation is always an attraction to misuse the goods and the gifts that God has given us in an inappropriate way, in a way that God never intended.

As it was in Jesus’ temptation, so it is with us, the devil tries to deceive us by taking the edge off things in such a way that makes them sound more appealing to us, to make us think, “Well that not so bad,” or “What is so wrong with that, everybody else is doing it!” In the Old Testament, Moses, reminds the Israelites, that “just because everybody does something does not make it morally correct.” Morality is based on the Laws of God.

Just as the devil tried to persuade Jesus to turn away from his appointed mission, which is to do the will of his heavenly father, so it is the same with us. Jesus even claims that “doing the will of his father is the food, the spiritual food that sustains him.”

The devil will do anything to sidetrack us from our journey with God and from reaching the goal that God has intended for us, namely sharing eternal life with him in heaven.

Temptations then become for us a real testing of our faith and commitment to God because they constantly force us to make a conscious decision for or against God, to stay faithful to the teachings of Jesus or not. That is why in the Our Father we pray, “And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.”

But the good news is that we are not alone in our struggle against temptation and sin. In the desert, Jesus turned his back on all that stood in the way of doing the Father’s will and he gives us the strength and grace to overcome temptation in our own lives.

Lent is a time of quiet and purposeful reflection which helps us to discover the will of God in our lives and to say no to temptation.

On this note, during the Season of Lent, St Michael’s will be offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation every Monday evening from 6 pm to 7pm.

Also, on Friday’s of Lent, we will have Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm.

Fr. Roy

ARCHBISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL 2022

The 2022 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Our goal is to engage our entire parish family in this year’s Appeal and to pray for the success of the Appeal, both here in our parish and across the three counties of the Archdiocese.

We hope you can help us meet our parish goal of **\$18,000.00**. If you would like to make a gift, please mail in your pledge card. You may also visit the Archdiocesan website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org or call the Appeal Office at (800) 781-2550. Keep in mind that an early pledge will allow you to best use the monthly payment plan.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

Please respond generously.



From the Twitter Account of Pope Francis

Let us ask ourselves what type of words we use. Words that express care, respect, understanding, closeness, compassion, or do we pollute the world by spreading venom: criticizing, complaining, feeding widespread aggression?
Gospel of the Day (Lk 6,39-46)

LENTEN SCHEDULE 2022

On Wednesdays during Lent, we will have a 12:10 Mass.

In an effort for continual change and renewal of one’s heart, the **Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession will be offered every Monday Evening during Lent from 6 to 7 pm.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION WILL BE PRAYED EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT AT ST. MICHAEL’S PARISH AT 7:00 PM.

Question of the Week

What specifically will I do this Lent to take the focus off myself and put it on God and on others?

FOOD BANK – Each week there is a box in the rectory entrance to receive donations of non-perishable foods that are brought to various non-profit agencies and families in need in the New Haven area. **(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.**

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, under the Parish Life tab.

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.

Mark Your Calendar !
Join Us at the First Ever

CONNECTICUT MARCH FOR LIFE



SAVE THE DATE

**Wednesday March 23, 2022 at the
State Capitol**

For More Information Go To

CTMarchforLife.org

or

Text "CCC" to 74121



Pope Francis, the Climate Crisis, and Racial Justice – Part I and Part 2 **March 23 @ 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm** **March 30 @ 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry will offer an interactive, two-part series, *Pope Francis, the Climate Crisis, and Racial Justice* on Zoom. We will be joined by the Collaborative Center for Justice, A Hartford-based Catholic Social Justice organization. Part I will happen on March 23 from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm, and part II on March 30, from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Registration is required and available on the website: www.catholicsocialjustice.org. This program is free of charge, and all are welcome. Participants are asked to read chapter 2 and 4 of Pope Francis' book on the environment, *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home*. Free Access to the entire book can be found at the Vatican Website. https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html