

SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

The First Italian Parish In Connecticut

Pastor: Rev. Robert P. Roy

Deacon: Norman Singer

Parish Office

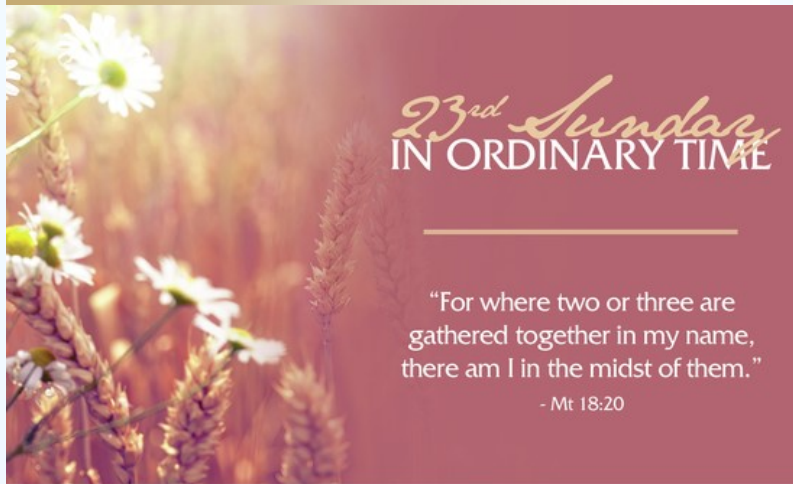
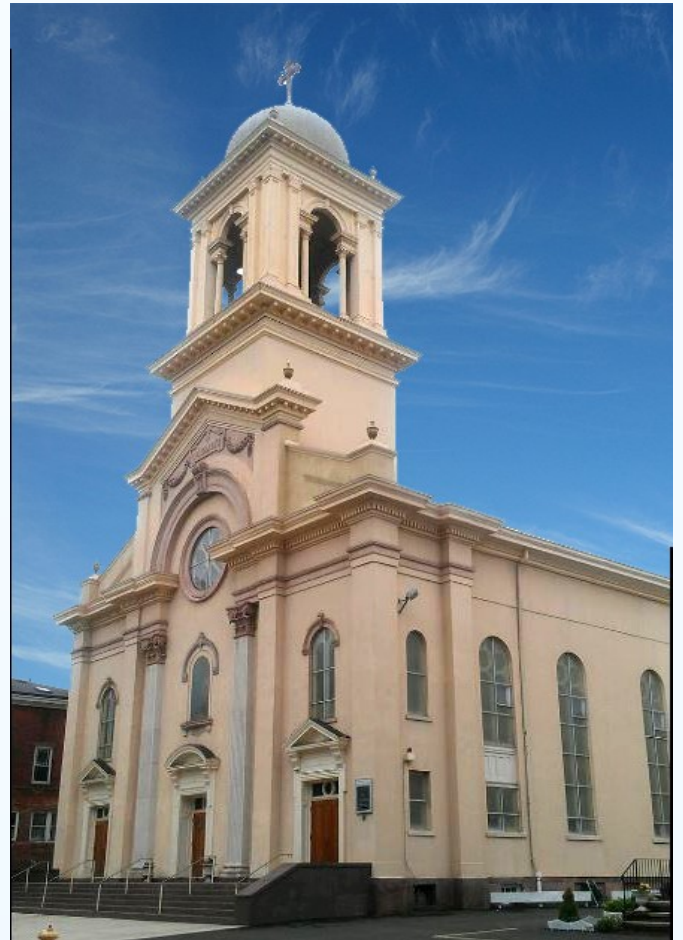
9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday
203-562-7178
203-752-0157 fax
smc1889@att.net
stmichaelwoostersquare.org

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



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

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.





**23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 6, 2020**

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

4:00 p.m. - Eleanor, Lena & James Lambert, req. by Nick & Lena Onofrio

Sunday, September 6th, 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Community Mass

Monday, September 7th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. - Andrew & Anna Bonetti, req. by sons

Tuesday, September 8th, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. - Nicoletta Donarumo, req. by son Andrew

Wednesday, September 9th, St. Peter Claver

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Thursday, September 10th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. -

Friday, September 11th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. -

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

4:00 p.m. - Frank, Anna & Anthony F. Proto, req. by Rosalind & Andrew Proto

Sunday, September 13th, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Deceased members of Candelora & Candelori family, req. by family

Peacemaker and reconciler—how often do we see ourselves in that role? Yet this is the message and the work we have been given, the “responsibility” we have for one another.

Note that the directive is given in today’s Gospel reading regarding a brother (or sister) in the Church. (The Greek word for Church, ekklēsia, occurs twice in Matthew’s account of the Gospel—16:18 and 18:17—and is etymologically related to the verb kaleō or call.) The Church is the new people of God, called by and gathered around Jesus. “Whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother” (Matthew 12:50) - and brothers and sisters of one another. Harmonious relationships with these brothers and sister are likewise treated in Matthew 5:22-24.

The phrase “against you,” in the first line of our reading, is not found in some of the oldest manuscripts of this passage. This alters the meaning significantly, for then the subject is not so much a personal offense, but rather, any sin. Brothers and sister are responsible for the conversion of one another. (but note the caveat in Matthew 7:3-5 about the possible beam in one’s own eye!)

The “how” of exercising this work of conversion and reconciliation is set forth in the first lines of the Gospel reading and tempered by the Second Reading, which reminds us that love of neighbor must be the basis of any reconciliation work.

Today’s Scriptures call us to self-examination, for we are both sinners in need of our own conversion and called to be “prophet” and reconcilers of one another. Let us listen to God’s voice whenever and through whomever God speaks, and harden not our hearts.

Sanctuary Lamp

*Sunday, September 6, 2020
In Memory of
Trofimana & Fortunato Apicella*

In remembrance of those who died,

**Richard DePaola, Victor Mesquita,
Shirley Persico & Angelina Gambardella
May they rest in peace.**

Question of the Week

What can I do to reconcile with someone whom I or others have excluded?

Readings for the week of September 6, 2020

Sunday: Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10;
Matthew 18:15-20

Monday: 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday: Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30;
Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Luke 6:20-26

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 8:1b-7, 11-13; Luke
6:27-38

Friday: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27; Luke
6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; Luke 6:43-49

Weekend of August 30, 2020

Weekly Collection \$1340.00

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

**One Collections Next Week
Weekly Collection**

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS SEPTEMBER 7, 2020

This Monday we celebrate Labor Day. According to Wikipedia, the free on-line encyclopedia, Labor Day “honors the American Labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the development, growth, endurance, strength, security, prosperity, productivity, laws, sustainability, persistence, structure, and well-being of the country.”

For most of us, Labor Day is a day when we take a break from our labors, hopefully having the day off, to reflect on the true meaning and nature of our productiveness as human beings. Also, for many of us, the long Labor Day weekend signifies the unofficial end of summer as the “little dears” go back to school. But this year Labor Day will be different for many of us.

With the Coronavirus Pandemic and its social distancing, perhaps the usual, yearly family and friendly cookout, barbeque will not take place at all this year or if it does, it will probably be greatly modified and downsized to just a few close people. With so many people out of work because businesses have closed, or downsized, families and employers are struggling to make ends meet just to keep a roof over their heads or their doors opened. Because of so much uncertainty going on in our world today, Labor Day may seem like the last thing we want to celebrate and commemorate.

While our Labor Day celebration may be tone down this year, but let us not forget that it was and is the through the contribution of each and every one of us, using our gifts and talents, our labors that have made us the people, the country, the nation and the world that we are.

As human beings, we can and do reflect on many aspects of our life as regard their value and meaning and our labor, our work should be no different. In our Judeo-Christian background and heritage, with its religious view of creation and labor that we find in the Creation Accounts as contained in the *Book of Genesis*, these accounts can lead us to different perspectives on not only how we view our work as human beings but also shed light on its value and meaning to us as individuals and to society as a whole.

The first view that we can have concerning the work that we do as human beings can be found in the *Book of Genesis* wherein after the fall of Adam and Eve, God relegated them, [us] to working the land. He said to them, “*In toil shall you eat its yield all the days of your life. By the sweat of your face or brow shall you get bread to eat, until you return to the ground from which you were taken.*” Unfortunately, this view of work with its description of “toil and sweat” sheds a bad light on our productiveness as human beings because it makes us view the work that we do as a punishment, a drudgery; something that we have to do for the length of our days in “toil and sweat” until we return to the ground from which we are created. With this view in mind, it is no wonder that some people dislike their jobs and can’t wait to retire.

But if we view work as a participation in building up God’s creation not only for our own personal good, but also for the good of our brothers and sisters, then this gives a whole different meaning to the work that we do as a person. For God also told Adam and Eve, “Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it...The Lord God then took the man and settled him in the Garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it.” With this command to “cultivate and care for the garden,” God gave Adam and Eve, God them, [us] dominion over all his creation. He made them, [us] stewards over all he had created; he made them, [us] caretakers over his creation. In giving Adam and Eve the care of the garden, work then becomes for us a collaboration of man and woman with God in perfecting God’s visible creation. This is certainly a very different and more positive way of viewing what we do as human beings in our labors because we cooperate with God in building up his creation for the betterment of all humanity.

As the document *The Church in the Modern World*, paragraph 67 from the Second Vatican Council reminds us, “By his work a man ordinarily provides for himself and his family, associates with others as his brothers, [and sisters] and renders them service; he can exercise genuine charity and be a partner in the work of bringing divine creation to perfection. Moreover, we believe by faith that through the homage of work offered to God man is associated with the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, whose labor with his hands at Nazareth greatly ennobled the dignity of work.”

I don’t know about you, but this view of work certainly does not sound like a “punishment”, “curse” or a “drudgery” to me. This view of work not only places our work, our labors in a positive light but also as human beings spiritualizes our productive activities. It gives to our work a deeper spiritual meaning because our labors then become not something that we do just to earn a living for ourselves and to support our families, not something that is viewed as a “curse,” but it also becomes something that we do, in the cooperative work of God’s plan, through his son Jesus, in building a better world in charity, in love, not only for our brothers and sisters, but also in spreading and building up the kingdom of God on earth. In our work, although we may not always readily see the fruits of our labor, in the end we provide goods and services for one another that foster and build up the dignity of the human person by providing them with a better standard of living.

Whether we are personally doing well in these so called economic prosperous times or not, as human beings, we do worry about what we are going “to eat, drink and wear.” We do worry about tomorrow, but as Jesus reminds us in the gospel, as Christians we have to keep our balance as we go through life. As human beings, we are more than our jobs, and our Heavenly Father knows all that we need to sustain us as human beings. He reminds us that while; “yes” we have to work for a living, our primary purpose for being here on earth, our primary purpose for sharing in God’s creation is “to seek first the kingdom of God in our lives, his way of holiness, and all these things will be given us besides.” Happy Labor Day!

The Parish office will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2020 observance of Labor Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

A Prayer from the USCCB for Labor Day:

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the worker.

Make a place in our hearts for compassion to the men and women who labor tirelessly for basic necessities.

Be with us all, Christ Jesus, as we go about the busyness of our work.

May we continue to work together to bring about your reign!

We ask this in your holy name, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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.


Do not take just one mask, take the whole pack. Please help yourselves to the masks.

VOCATION REFLECTIONS

Sept. 6th – Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

If two of you join your voices on earth to pray for anything whatever, it shall be granted you by my Father in heaven. Where only a few come together in Christ's name on earth, Christ is present with them. Pray for an increase in vocations to priesthood and religious life. To discern a vocation, call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Tel. 860-761-7456, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at 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

A Jubilee For The Earth is a time to return to God, our loving Creator. We cannot live in harmony with creation if we are not at peace with the Creator who is the source and origin of all things.

**Help Our Parish Elementary Schools
HOPES Collection**

The **HOPES** Collection benefits the Catholic elementary schools of the Archdiocese by providing schools with individual **HOPES Grants**. Last year's HOPES Grants funded advances in technology, safety and the marketing and promotion of Catholic schools through branding and social media. Please help us provide a culture of faith and academic excellence to elementary school students by giving to the 2020 Catholic elementary school HOPES Collection on the weekend of **September 19 -20, 2020.**

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, StMichael-WoosterSquare.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.



Rooted in Faith, Open Wide Our Hearts

On Wednesday Sept. 9, 7:00 P.M.,
The Office for Catholic Social Justice
Ministry of the Archdiocese of
Hartford will continue its conference
series with the webinar.

“Understanding the Hispanic Experience”

This workshop will cover.

How does racism affect Hispanic immigrants? How do they become the major target of immigration raids and mass deportations? Hispanics have been referred to by countless derogatory names, have encountered negative assumptions made about them because of their ethnicity, have suffered discrimination in applying for college, for housing, and in registering to vote, Fr. Mauricio Galvis will explore the Hispanic Experience with us.

The Webinar is free; advanced registration is required and available at:

www.catholicsocialjustice.org/open-wide-our-hearts.html



Respect Life Ministry
Archdiocese of Hartford

You are Invited to the
First Planning Meeting for
40 Days for Life 2020



Every human life is beautiful, every human life is precious

Choose Life!

Wednesday September 9, 2020

7:00 p.m

**St. Gregory the Great
Rosary Hall**

235 Maltby Street Bristol, Connecticut

Be part of the *largest ever*
40 Days for Life Campaign.

- Over 1,000,000 Volunteers
- 17,226 Lives saved
- 206 Abortion workers quit
- 107 Abortion centers closed

Pro-Life Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford
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