





27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
OCTOBER 4, 2020

**Saturday, October 3rd, Vigil of the Lord's Day**

4:00 p.m. - Fran & Ann Gambardella, req. by daughter Ginny Plano

**Sunday, October 4th, 27th Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time**

9:30 a.m. - Community Mass

**Monday, October 5th, Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos**

8:00 a.m. -

**Tuesday, October 6th, Sts. Bruno & Blessed Marie**

**Rose Durocher**

8:00 a.m. -

**Wednesday, October 7th, Our Lady of the Rosary**

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

**Thursday, October 8th, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. - LaVerle Connelly, req. by Arlene Whelan

**Friday, October 9th, Sts. Denis & John Leonardi**

8:00 a.m. -

**Saturday, October 10th, Vigil of the Lord's Day**

4:00 p.m. - Alfonse Bonito, req. by son Andy

**Sunday, October 11th, 28th Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time**

9:30 a.m. - James DiMaggio, req. by wife Anne, son Joseph & daughter-in-law Diane

“The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel,” says Isaiah toward the end of today’s First Reading. There can be no doubt that Matthew also speaks of the vineyard of the house of Israel. Matthew’s focus, however, is not so much the vineyard, which becomes the Kingdom of God at the end of the reading, but rather, its tenants. The Lectionary omits a later verse, which clearly identifies the chief priests and scribes with the tenants. In the course of Matthew’s account of the Gospel, the Jewish leaders’ opposition to Jesus steadily increased and culminated in Jesus’ death. It is to them that the parable is addressed.

In today’s Gospel reading, the chief priests and scribes pronounced judgement on themselves. But later in chapter 23, Jesus will pronounce judgment on the Jewish leaders, the wretched tenants of God’s vineyard. Like the tenants in the parable, the Jewish leaders rejected and killed the Son. Matthew, ever ready to present Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament, portrays him drawing on a verse from Psalm 118 to demonstrate the triumph of God’s plan: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone...” The Greek phrase kephalen gonias, translated as “cornerstone” is best understood as: “keystone,” that stone at the center of an arch which holds the structure together. The early Christians especially loved this text as a description of Jesus, and it expresses their understanding of themselves as a building built and supported by him.

Today’s reading call us to examine ourselves. What kind of tenants are we? May we never be found negligent.

**Sanctuary Lamp**

*Sunday, October 4, 2020*

*In Memory of  
Alice Ezold*

**Question of the Week**

What one specific thing can I do with my time and talents to produce fruit in the vineyard I call home?

In remembrance of those who died,

**Anthony Vitale and Louis Celentano**

May they rest in peace.

**Weekend of September 27, 2020**

**Weekly Collection \$1742.00  
Hopes Collection \$163.00**

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

**One Collection Next Week  
Weekly Collection**

**Readings for the week of October 4, 2020**

**Sunday:** Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43

**Monday:** Galatians 1:6-12; Luke 10:25-37

**Tuesday:** Galatians 1:13-24; Luke 10:38-42

**Wednesday:** Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14; Luke 11:1-4

**Thursday:** Galatians 3:1-5; Luke 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 [68]; Luke 11:5-13

**Friday:** Galatians 3:7-14; Luke 11:15-26

**Saturday:** Galatians 3:22-29; Luke 11:27-28

## PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Time passes quickly! I cannot believe that September has already come and gone. Where did it go to? As I have said before, October is a busy month. First, October is not only the month of the Holy Rosary, but it is also Respect Life Month.

How appropriate that the 40 Days for Life Campaign should take place during Respect Life Month.

We read in the Book of Wisdom, “God did not create death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living.” In God’s eyes, “all lives matter” from conception to natural death. Life and the respect for life are at the very heart and belief of our faith in God because God is a God of life. God created us to have life; to share His life and love with us. Jesus tells us that “He has come that we might have life more abundantly, have life to the full.”

God calls each and every one of us in our faith to do His will, to be a people of life and for life, to have and to foster a respect for all life from conception to natural death. God calls us to promote the Gospel of Life in everything that we do and not to be afraid to take a stand against those things which continue to foster and advocate for “the culture of death” in our society. How can we speak about other rights when we deny to most vulnerable and to the most helpless within our society the most basic human right of all, the right to life? As our late Holy Father St. John Paul II said, “The most basic and fundamental right that is owed to all people is the right to life without which no other right exist.”

Certainly, our late Holy Father was addressing the issue of abortion and any other means that threaten and destroy human life even at its conception such as embryonic stem cell research. Respect for Life challenges each and every one of us to embrace the whole Gospel of Life which calls for respect of all human beings and all life, which calls each and every one of us to respect the dignity of all persons, who are made in the image and likeness of God, from the most vulnerable in the womb to the sick and the elderly. The Gospel of Life challenges us to support and foster all that supports life, the goodness of life and the dignity of the human person. The Gospel of Life challenges us to be our brother’s and sister’s keeper; to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, to visit the sick, to work to change unjust systems that oppress others depriving them of their God given human rights and dignity, to give a helping hand to those who find themselves in difficult situations. The Gospel of Life challenges us to work for a system that helps support people who find themselves in a crisis situation, being there to support them and letting them know that there are other alternatives in order that they can choose life and not death. It should come as no surprise that once we as a society lost the respect for the very beginnings of human life in the womb, once we lost respect for the most vulnerable and helpless in our society, than respect for all life on all levels would diminish.

As Catholics, as believers and followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to get involved and make a difference. We can make a difference!

The 40 Days for Life Campaign is a way by which we can make a difference. Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, “Hundreds of women and men,” yes, men, “have been spared from the tragic effects of abortion, its consequences and its lifetime of regret.” And because of their regrets, “many people with past abortion experiences have stepped forward to begin post-abortion healing, recovery” and/or speak out against abortion.” These few and simple facts demonstrate that by prayer, vigilance, and outreach to those in need, we can and do make a difference, **but it is up to all of us to get involved and be counted to make that difference.**

As I wrote a few weeks ago, this year the 40 Days for Life campaign is adding a new dimension and is expanding its efforts to include the New Haven area. A peaceful prayer vigil will be held in front of the Planned Parenthood, 345 Whitney Avenue. As most of us know, Planned Parenthood is one of the biggest abortion providers in the country. Starting Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> and going through to Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> the Feast of All Saints, the 40 Days for Life Campaign is looking for volunteers to help in this effort and for prayer teams, partners, (minimum of 2 people per hour) to sign up to participate in the prayer vigil between the hours of 7 AM – 7 PM daily. *For more information on the 40 Days for Life campaign or if you have any questions you can e-mail the co-leaders, Tim and Lanae Virkler at [NewHaven40DaysforLife@gmail.com](mailto:NewHaven40DaysforLife@gmail.com) or you visit the campaign website at [40daysforlife.com/NewHaven](http://40daysforlife.com/NewHaven)*

While we may not all be able to personally participate in the sidewalk prayer vigil in front of Planned Parenthood, as Catholics we should “pray and fast” “rendering our hearts and not our garments” asking God to give us all a change of heart to realize that **“all lives matter” I repeat that “all lives matter” from natural conception to natural death.**

The Annual Archdiocesan Respect for Life Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair on Sunday, October 18, 2020 at St. Bridget of Sweden Parish in Cheshire. Please note: *the Mass will not be celebrated at the Cathedral this year.* Preregistration is required for attendance.

**As our late Holy Father St. John Paul II said, “The most basic and fundamental right that is owed to all people is the right to life without which no other rights exist.”**

In the Book of Numbers, Moses states, “Would that all people of the Lord were prophets! Would that the Lord might bestow his spirit on them all!” As followers of Christ everything we do is informed by faith. Faith surrounds us; faith carries us; faith is our way of being. Faith and especially our faith can change the world and make a difference in everyone’s life.

Fr. Roy

**Human Trafficking and COVID 19: A Dangerous Combination Thursday October 15, 2020, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

The novel coronavirus pandemic has impacted nearly every aspect of society. In particular, it has aided in the rise of sex trafficking on national and global levels. Victims are being exploited through the internet, gaming platforms, web cams, and chat rooms. What is happening in CT? What can be done to protect our children? Tammy M. Sneed, the Director of Connecticut’s Human Anti-trafficking Response Team for DCF, will share some insights on how the pandemic is affecting human trafficking in CT and the nation. Annmarie Boulay, co-founder of The Underground, will share some of the challenges faced by survivors and how the Underground is assisting them during this time. This event is co-sponsored by The Underground CT and The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry of the Archdiocese of Hartford. Advanced Registration is required.


[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Yrhd8RyMRfWOnRu\\_oYEa5RQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Yrhd8RyMRfWOnRu_oYEa5RQ)

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar and reminders.

**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.

**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*

*Saint Michael, help us in the battle for salvation we are fighting. Saint Gabriel, bring us the good news that Jesus has saved us, and grant us hope. Saint Raphael, take our hands and help us along on the path of complete healing.*

**VOCATION REFLECTIONS  
Oct. 4th – Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time**

This parable of the landowner and his vineyard warns those who are responsible for tending God’s people - a responsibility shared by all the baptized in some way – that they are provisional caretakers of a divine project. Are you being called to be a caretaker as a priest or religious? Call **Fr. Michael Casey**, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Tel. 860-761-7456, e-mail [vocations@aohct.org](mailto:vocations@aohct.org) or visit the web at [www.hartfordpriest.com](http://www.hartfordpriest.com).

**MASS BOOK**

Registered parishioners may begin booking Masses on Thursday, October 29th for 2021 Mass Intentions in the parish office from **9:30am – 12:00 noon**.

**Two weekend Masses per family are allowed until January 1, 2021 as per our custom.**

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

**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.**



## **Mercy High School Virtual Open House**

**for Middle School and Transfer Students**  
**Achieve MORE...Learn MORE... Succeed MORE...Be MORE at Mercy!**

Sunday, November 1, 2020  
1:00 pm  
[www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com)

Mercy will hold an open house for middle school student and high school students considering a transfer, as a virtual experience. Attendees will have the opportunity to speak with current Mercy students, faculty, administration, and coaches, while exploring all the programs Mercy has to offer—from academics to athletics, service opportunities to clubs and activities. Pre online registration is required.

**In addition to our virtual open house, we invite you to take a tour of our campus! In-person or virtual tours available anytime by appointment. For more information and to register, please visit [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com)**

## **Entrance Exam for the Class of 2025** **Mercy High School**

Saturday, November 7, 2020 &  
Saturday, November 14, 2020  
1740 Randolph Road, Middletown, CT  
8:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.  
Pre-register at [www.mercyhigh.com](http://www.mercyhigh.com)  
**In-person and virtual options**



**"IN THE END**  
*my Immaculate Heart*  
*will TRIUMPH..."*  
- Our Lady of Fatima

**Archdiocese of Hartford**  
**Traveling Rosary Congress**  
**October 3 - 9, 2020**

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