

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

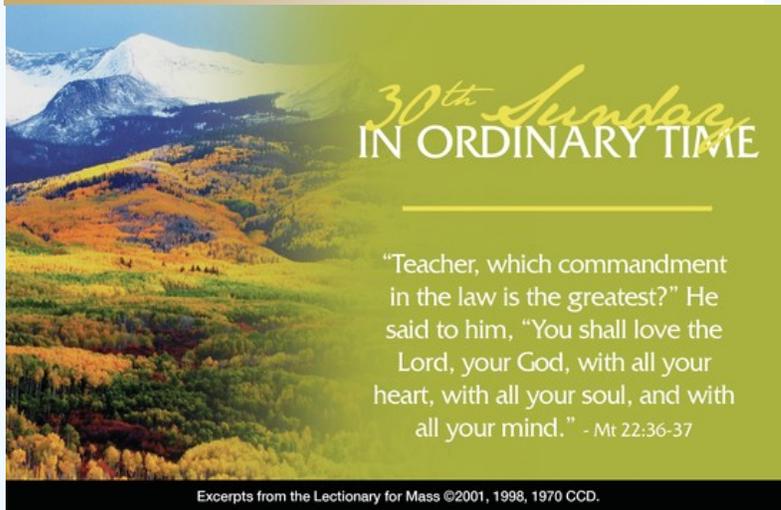
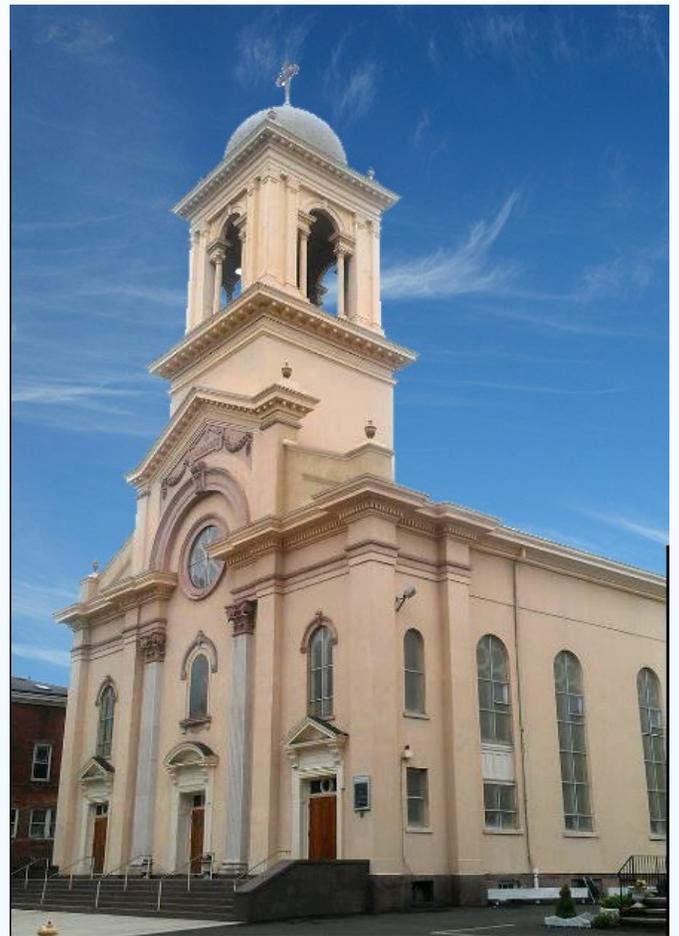
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00am

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.





**30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 25, 2020**

Saturday, October 24th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Peter Notarino, req. by wife Marie

Sunday, October 25th, 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Salvatore & Anna Maiorano, req. by children, Joe, Mary & Therese

Monday, October 26th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. - Margaret & Frank Abatello, req. by daughter Shelley

Tuesday, October 27th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. - Gods Blessing and good health, req. by Anastasio family

Wednesday, October 28th, Sts. Simon & Jude

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Thursday, October 29th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. - St. Jude, req. by Giuliana Gioiosa

Friday, October 30th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. - Julie D'Urso, req. by cousin Shelley

Saturday, October 31st, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Dominick Onofrio, req. by Andrew & Rosalind Proto

Sunday, November 1st, 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Community Mass

All Saints Day is not a Holy Day of Obligation

Sanctuary Lamp

Sunday, October 25, 2020

In Memory of

Deceased Members of St. Michael Parish

Question of the Week

In what ways am I a model for other believers, as the Thessalonians were? What can I do to model the greatest commandments to others?

Weekend of October 18, 2020

Weekly Collection \$1495.00

Mission Sunday \$352.00

**One Collection This Week
Weekly Collection**

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

Sometimes it helps to spell things out—that is exactly what today's First Reading does with respect to the Gospel reading. It's easy to assume that we're obeying the two great commandments. Of course, we love God and our neighbors! But what if the theoretical is brought down to the practical level? That practical level was important to Israel—and to Jesus.

The Laws Jesus recited in today's Gospel reading appear in the Old Testament: the first, in Deuteronomy 6:5, part of the Shema (Hebrew for "hear"), a prayer that Jews recited three times a day; the second, in Leviticus 19:18, one of many laws of conduct meant to keep Israel set apart of consecrated to the Lord.

The First Reading, from Exodus, is also an excerpt from the Laws. In fact, from Exodus 19:1 to Numbers 10:10 the Laws continue, following the description of Israel's encampment at Mt. Sinai on the way to the Promised Land. While many of those Laws come from a later period, their placement alongside the original ones suggests that they were understood to show how the people remained faithful to the covenant in new situations, such as when they settled in the new land.

Today's readings might be summarized as follows: do unto others as I have done unto you; for I am compassionate. The Israelites had only to remember that they had once been slaves to recall what God had done for them. This they must do for others.

The Gospel reading is, again, tense with conflict. Jesus is questioned, literally "tested," by a "scholar of the law," an expert. How ironic—the "scholar of the law" testing the Son of the Giver of the Law, the one who came "not to abolish but to fulfill" the Law and the Prophets! Let us pray that we might always live in a manner that is indeed the fulfillment of the "law and the prophets."

Readings for the week of October 25, 2020

Sunday: Exodus 22:20-26; 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40

Monday: Ephesians 4:32—5:8; Luke 13:10-17

Tuesday: Ephesians 5:21-33; Luke 13:18-21

Wednesday: Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 6:12-16

Thursday: Ephesians 6:10-20; Luke 13:31-35

Friday: Philippians 1:1-11 Luke 14:1-6

Saturday: Philippians 1:18b-26; Luke 14:1, 7-11

PASTORAL REFLECTION

In Luke's gospel, Jesus tells his disciples "Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom." Jesus goes on to tell them to "Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival...he will wait on them."

Peter asks Jesus if the parable about the steward-servant awaiting the master's return from the wedding feast is meant just for them as apostles or is it meant for everyone. Jesus replies to Peter saying, "Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute the food allowance at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so."

Jesus takes a long about way in answering Peter's question but in the end, he does makes it clear that the parable is not only meant for them as the apostles, as the heads of the church, but that it is also meant for us, all of us as Jesus' followers.

What this means for the apostles is that Jesus has handed on the faith to them, his teachings, he has given to them the revealed word of God, and they have become the guardians, the keepers, and the protectors of this faith and revelation that has been given to them. The apostles have become stewards of the faith with the responsibility of sharing and handing on the faith to others but without the authority to change it in any way, shape or form. That is way St. Paul tells us that "if someone comes preaching another gospel other than the one that was handed down to us don't listen to them."

Just as Jesus handed on the faith to the apostles as his gift to them and they were commissioned to share this gift of faith with others, so it is the same with the gifts we have received from God.

God has given us many gifts, the gift of His only Begotten Son Jesus Christ, the gift of the church and of faith, the gift of salvation, the gift of creation and all the resources it holds, the gift of life and health, the gift of love and family, the gift of learning and growing and the most precious gift of all, the gift of who we are as a unique individual person made in the image and likeness of God and with all the unique talents and gifts that belong to each of us as an individual.

What this is telling us is that we have become stewards of the faith handed on to us by Jesus and of all the gifts, which God has given us. As receivers of God's manifold gifts and blessings, Jesus has put us in charge to distribute and share theses gifts with one another, to build up the kingdom of God on earth, until he comes again in glory.

We are not the originator or givers of these gifts, God is, but he shares these gifts with us and in doing so, asks us to use them and to share them responsibly with others. He wants us to become faithful and prudent stewards. As Jesus clearly indicated that the parable of the faithful steward is meant for us also. God wants us to become stewards in his service to share these gifts with others and when we share these gifts with others, we become stewards in God's service.

It is important for us to remember that a steward is person who manages another person's property or affairs, a steward is a person who is an administrator of another person's property. It is not the steward's property but the masters.

What we learn is that part of being that wise and faithful servant, waiting his master's return, includes sharing what we have been given by God with others; our faith, our love, our time, our talents, our treasures.

The gospel challenges us to put our gifts and talents, the uniqueness of who we are as individuals, at the disposal of our family, friends, neighbors, parish community our Archdiocese, all in an effort to build-up the kingdom of God on earth while awaiting the master's return. This is what stewardship is all about. This is what the "Forward with Faith" Campaign is all about.

We are all given the opportunity to share our blessings, our gifts and talents with others but especially within our parish community and the wider community of our Archdiocese. We are all called to do our part, young and elderly alike.

If we truly live our lives and faith with this thought in mind, then we truly become stewards of God's many gifts and blessings, we will truly live out the gospel message within our lives and as his servants we will rejoice to hear the Lord say to us, "Well done good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your master."

Fr. Roy



Frequently Asked Questions

What is *Forward with Faith*?

Forward with Faith (FWF) is a fundraising campaign to build a vibrant community of faith in the parishes, schools, and Catholic organizations. This vision will help to fulfill the mission of our Church in Hartford: to be living signs of communion with God and to be his instruments for redemption in the world.

What are the objectives of *Forward with Faith*?

Forward with Faith seeks to raise a minimum of \$60 million to support:

Vibrant Parishes: Half of all funds raised will help the parishes meet their needs;

Educating to Re-ignite the Faith: by expanding and strengthening learning for students, administrators, teachers, clergy, and the faithful;

Champions in Service: by helping Catholic Charities with better facilities and new programs; and,

Innovation and Emerging Opportunities that promote long-lasting change, strengthen our schools and parishes, and meet the evolving needs of the community.

What is The Hartford Bishops' Foundation? Founded in 2016, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation (HBF) is dedicated to engaging donors in helping the Archdiocese of Hartford carry out the mission of the Catholic Church. The independent Foundation is led by a volunteer Board of Directors representing the Archdiocese's constituencies: parishes, schools, and Catholic organizations. For more information, please visit [The Hartford Bishops Foundation's website](#).

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

Belonging to Christ, and the resulting way of life, do not isolate the believer from the world, but rather make him or her the protagonist in a service of love for the common good.

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.

VOCATION REFLECTIONS

Oct. 25th – Thirtieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

You shall love your neighbor as yourself. It's a big world, in need of lots of neighborly people. Extend your hand today, tomorrow, for the rest of your life. If you want to extend you hand to God and your brothers and sisters as a priest or religious, 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.

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.**



Respect Life Ministry
Archdiocese of Hartford

**PLEASE JOIN
US!**
for the
CLOSING MASS
of the
**40 DAYS FOR
LIFE**
CAMPAIGN

Friday, October 30
at 6:30 p.m.
**Saint Gregory the
Great Parish**
235 Maltby Street
Bristol, CT

Sept. 23- Nov. 1

By the grace of God, 40 Days for Life has achieved a stunning track record of life-saving results since launching in 2007 and rapidly becoming a worldwide movement

**Times are still
available for the vigil
in Hartford through
November 1.**

Click to
[See available times on
the 40 Days for
Life calendar.](#)

40DAYSFORLIFE.



Closing Remarks
Steve Karlen
Campaign Director
40 Days for Life

Steve Karlen got involved in the pro-life movement as a volunteer leader with the 40 Days for Life campaign in Madison, Wisconsin.

Before long, he found himself at the center of a nationwide controversy as the health system at his alma mater, the University of Wisconsin, was secretly preparing to open a late-term abortion center on campus. Groups across the state looked to him for leadership.

After nearly a year and a half—the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics abandoned its plan to open an abortion facility.

Steve now serves as the campaign director for 40 Days for Life, where he trains and assists local 40 Days for Life campaign leaders, co-hosts *The 40 Days for Life Podcast*, and edits the 40 Days for Life *Day 41* magazine.

Steve lives in Madison, Wisconsin with his wife and five children.

Sister Suzanne Gross, F.S.E., Program Coordinator
Sister Amaris Salata, F.S.E. Assistant Program Coordinator
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