

# SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

*The First Italian Parish In Connecticut*

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

**Deacon:** Norman Singer

## Parish Office

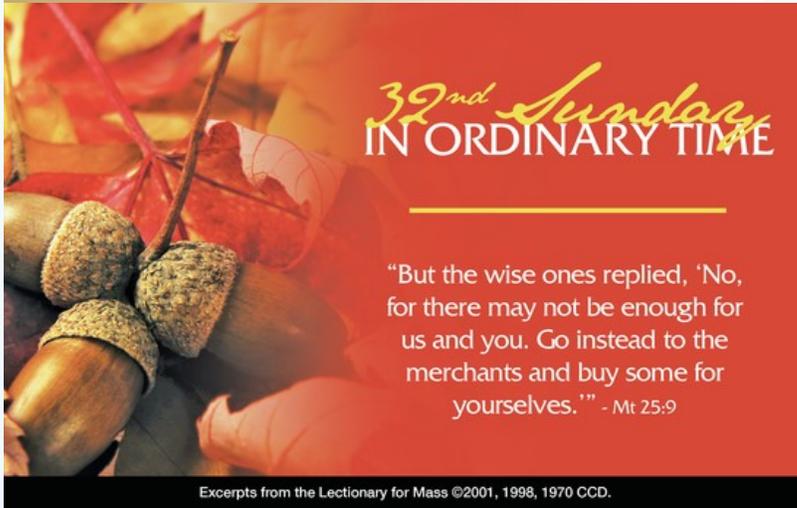
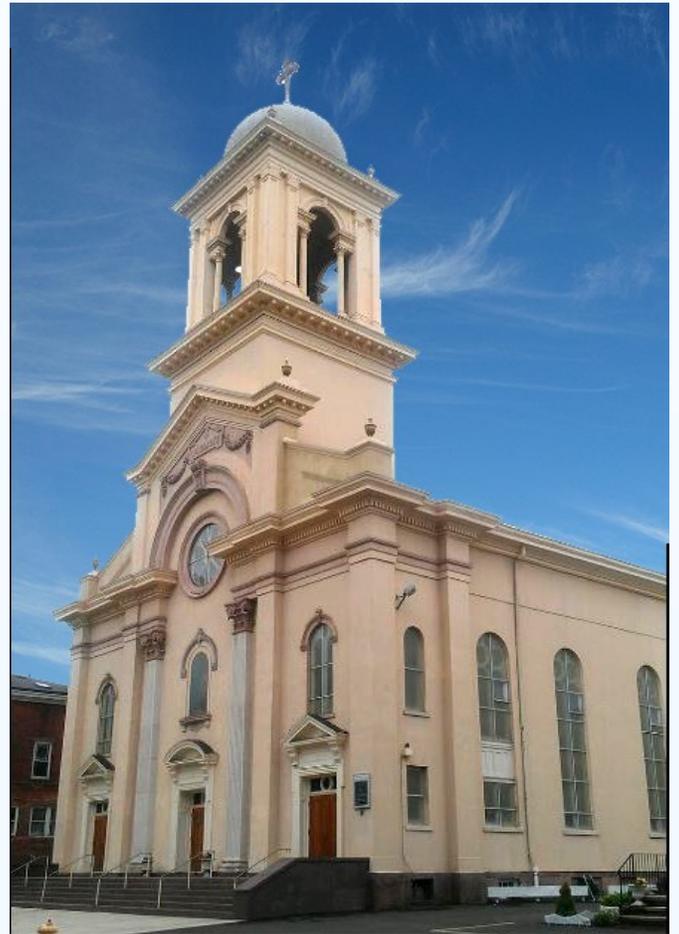
9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday  
203-562-7178  
203-752-0157 fax  
smc1889@att.net  
stmichaelwoostersquare.org

## 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.





**32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
NOVEMBER 8, 2020**

**Saturday, November 7th, Vigil of the Lord's Day**

4:00 p.m. - Ronald Simone, req. by Michael & Toni Salvo

**Sunday, November 8th 32nd Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time**

9:30 a.m. - Deceased Members of St. Trofimena Society

**Monday, November 9th, Dedication of the Lateran**

**Basilica**

8:00 a.m. - Andrew Gargano, req. by family

**Tuesday, November 10th, St. Leo the Great**

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

**Wednesday, November 11th, St. Martin of Tours**

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

**Thursday, November 12th, St. Josaphat**

8:00 a.m. - Alphonse Florenzano, req. by Andrew & Rosalind

**Friday, November 13th, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini**

8:00 a.m. - Irma Mafuzzi, req. by Joseph & Emily Conetta

**Saturday, November 14th, Vigil of the Lord's Day**

4:00 p.m. - Dominick Onofrio, req. by Therese & Nick Incarnato

**Sunday, November 15th, 33rd Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time**

9:30 a.m. - Jeffery Ponzio, req. by Renee & Chris Ponzio

***Sanctuary Lamp***

***Sunday, November 1, 2020***

***In Memory of***

***Deceased Members of St. Michael Parish***

**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.**

**Weekend of November 1, 2020**

**Weekly Collection \$1741.00**

**Monthly Collection \$919.00**

**One Collection This Week  
Weekly Collection**

**One Collection Next Week  
Weekly Collection**

Most of us know what its like to lose a loved one. In 1 Thessalonians, St. Paul is writing to a church that has recently buried some dear friends. But this letter was written only two decades form the time of Jesus' ministry, and the believer in Thessalonica may have assumed that Jesus was going to return before any of them died. When some people did die, they wondered if those people would miss out on the resurrection. Of Course Paul explained that they would not miss out, and that those who remained could look forward to being reunited with them in heaven. So when loved ones passed away, we grieve, but we grieve with hope—the hope of seeing them again.

In the parable of the ten bridesmaids (sometimes called the ten virgins), Jesus tells the story of a group of bridesmaids who are waiting to the groom to return so the wedding celebration can take place. These “waiting parable” are about the “church age,” the time we live in now, when we wait for the groom, Christ, to return for his bride, the Church.

In both of these readings, we are confronted with the reality that what we hope for is not yet realized. We wait, but we wait in hope, because we believe we will be united with Christ and reunited with our loved ones. Jesus' message for us while we wait is to remain spiritually alert and be ready to meet him, since we don't know when he will come for us, whether at his return or at our own death. When that time comes, we don't want to be like the foolish bridesmaids. When the groom arrived, he said, “I don't know you!”

***Question of the Week***

What must I do this month, this week, and this very day to prepare myself for the heavenly banquet?

**Readings for the week of November 8, 2020**

**Sunday:** Wisdom 6:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 or 4:13-14; Matthew 25:1-13

**Monday:** Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; 1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17; John 2:13-22

**Tuesday:** Titus 2:1-8, 11-14; Luke 17:7-10

**Wednesday:** Titus 3:1-7; Luke 17:11-19

**Thursday:** Philemon 7-20; Luke 17:20-25

**Friday:** 2 John 4-9; Luke 17:26-37

**Saturday:** 3 John 5-8; Luke 18:1-8

**PASTORAL REFLECTIONS**

Last week, I spoke about how our sacrifices and prayers can help our deceased loved ones, especially during this month of November, which is traditionally called the “Month of All Souls.”

One of the sources that the Church uses in support of this belief, “praying for the dead and offering sacrifices for them” can be found in the Second Book of Maccabees, which is located in the Old Testament, wherein we read in chapter 12, verses 38 and the following, how Judas Maccabees and his army, during the Maccabean Wars, went to the city of Adullam to engage their enemy in battle. After fighting a battle, as Judas and his men were gathering up the bodies of their fallen comrades in arms, those who had died in battle to “bury them with their kinsmen in their ancestral tomb.” As Judas and his men were doing this, he noticed that under the tunic of those who were killed in battle that each of them were wearing an amulet that was sacred to the Idols of Jamnia which was grave no, no. This was a grave transgression, a grave sin against the Jewish Law. For us as Catholic this would be equivalent to a grave mortal sin. For the Jewish Law strictly forbade any Jew from wearing such an amulet or medal because it was accounted as a grave sin of idolatry; giving worship and honor to pagan gods. As the First Commandment clearly states, “I am the Lord your God, Thou shall not have false and / or strange gods before me!” Thus, it became apparent to Judas that because of their sin of idolatry, their sin of wearing this pagan amulet, this was the reason why these men had been slain, had lost their lives in battle. But it doesn’t end there.

As we read on in the Second Book of Maccabees, we see how Judas and his men in order to atone for and to make up for, to make reparation for this grave sin against their faith and God, we are told that Judas and his men “turned to supplication, (intercessory prayer) they prayed to God on behalf of these fallen men that this sinful deed might be fully blotted out.” That these deceased might receive God’s mercy and forgiveness. Judas Maccabees then “took up a collection for those who had died in battle and sent the money to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.” In providing this expiatory sacrifice to be offered on behalf of the sin of the fallen, to make reparation for their sin, and by doing this we are told that “in doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus, he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.”

While the Church does set aside this special month, the month of November, once a year for us to remember and pray for our faithfully departed brothers and sisters, in reality by virtue of our spiritual connectedness to and in Jesus Christ, who is our Head and of whom we are his body, the Church, we should always remember and pray for our family and loved ones, relatives, friends, the souls in purgatory and those who have no one to pray for them, in other words to remember all those who have died every day in our daily prayers. Because of our spiritual connectedness in Christ Jesus who is our High Priest every time Mass is offered, we not only always pray for each other, the living but also, we always pray for and remember in a special way our deceased brothers and sisters, all those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.

Fr. Roy



**Webinar: Responsible Consumption**

On Nov. 19, 7:00 PM, The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry will present “Responsible Consumption” as part of their webinar series: Examining the Teachings in Pope Francis’ Encyclical “On Care for our Common Home”. As Christians, we have an obligation to participate in society and to influence public policy, law, economics and politics to foster the well-being of all people, especially the poor and vulnerable, while being responsible stewards of creation. Presenter: Jennifer Schloat, Lead Teacher, St. Gabriel School, Windsor, CT For more information visit [www.catholicsocialjustice.org](http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org)



**“Forward with Faith”**

**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; [www.hartfordbishopsfoundation.org](http://www.hartfordbishopsfoundation.org)

During the COVID-19 outbreak the HBF, changed their direction from the Forward with Faith Campaign, to focus on the challenge’s parishes were facing during the shut-down. As we all struggled to navigate in uncharted waters the HBF set up an Emergency Relief Fund on behalf of the parishes. Nearly \$600,000 was raised from donors throughout the archdiocese in approximately six weeks to help set up the fund. The Emergency Relief Fund gave parishes the opportunity to apply for relief funds based on the impact that they faced as a result of the pandemic.

Now that our parishes are beginning to return to active parish life following the events of this past spring, we wanted to share the mission of the Hartford Bishops Foundation in order to better understand their role in our archdiocese. As we return to regular parish life, we will share with you the upcoming Forward with Faith Campaign, and how it will benefit St. Michael Parish.



*From the Twitter Account of Pope Francis*

*Let us attend the school of Jesus Christ, teacher of Prayer. May we learn from Him that prayer is primarily listening and encountering God, an art to be practiced with insistence, the where we perceive that everything comes From God and returns to Him.*

**VOCATION REFLECTIONS**  
**Nov. 8th – Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**

Oil and time: light and patience – requirements for discipleship. Keep your eyes open! Stay awake! The Lord can return at any time. In time, you will see what you are called to do. If you are being called to priesthood or religious life, contact **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).

**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, [StMichael-WoosterSquare.org](http://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.**



## Women's Conference: Going Virtual!

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Archdiocesan Women's Conference, originally scheduled for November 7, 2020, has been postponed in-person.

However, the experience of the Women's Conference will take place in an extended virtual format, running from November 2020 to May 2021.

A chance to "attend" a workshop and prayer experience will be available monthly. These virtual events will take place on **the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.**

Attendees will register in advance for the virtual event and are welcome to come as they are - yoga pants or sweatshirt or stilettos, glass of wine or cup of tea - to partake in spiritual nourishment and time in community as a taste of the experience of the Women's Conference (a workshop and prayer experience) in this socially distant time.... and of course, it will be free of charge!

Visit [www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org](http://www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org) to register for these monthly events!

### MASS BOOK

The Mass Book is now open for all registered parishioners for 2021. Weekend, 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.

**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.**