

SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

The First Italian Parish In Connecticut

Pastor: Rev. Robert P. Roy

Deacon: Norman Singer

Parish Office

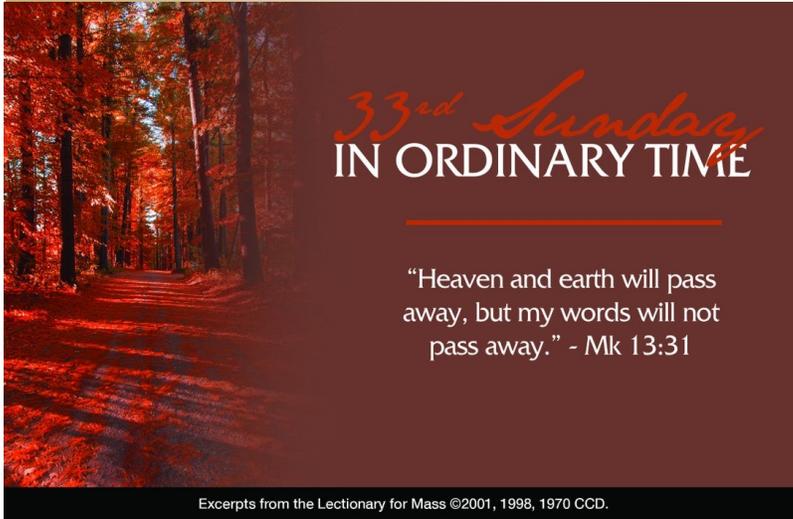
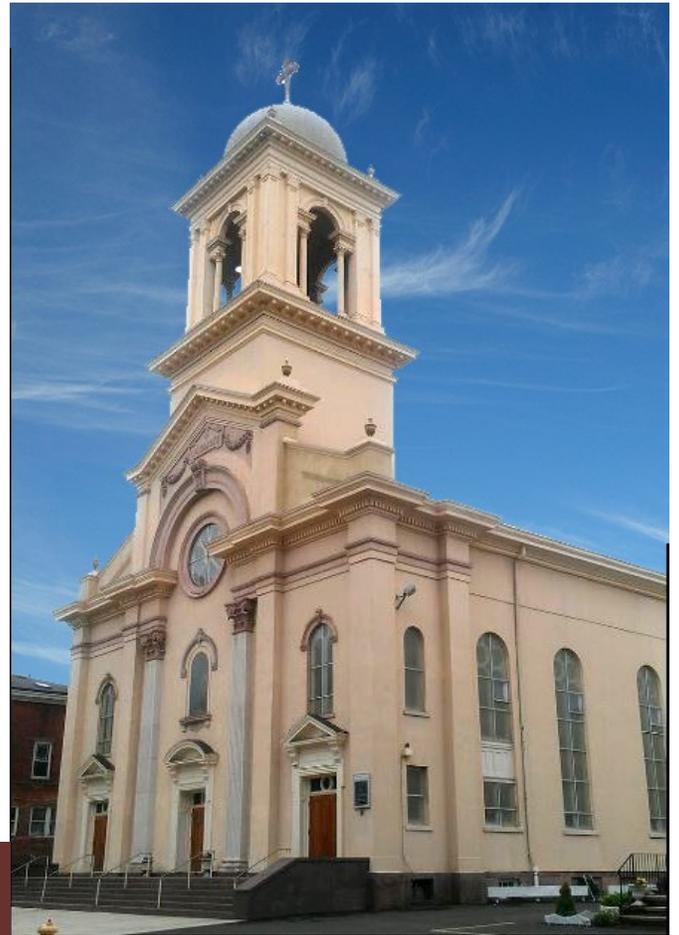
9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday
203-562-7178
203-752-0157 fax
smc1889@att.net
stmichaelwoostersquare.org

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



33rd Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." - Mk 13:31

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.





**Mass Intentions
for the Week**

**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 14, 2021**

Saturday, November 13th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Pasqua & Giuseppe D'Agnelli req. by Gioiosa family

Sunday, November 14th, 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Monday, November 15th, St. Albert the Great

8:00 a.m. -

Tuesday, November 16th, St. Margaret of Scotland

8:00 a.m. -

Wednesday, November 17th, St. Elizabeth of Hungary

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Thursday, November 18th, Weekday

8:00 a.m.-

Friday, November 19th, Weekday

8:00 a.m.. -

Saturday, November 20th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Norma Bailey, req. by Andrew & Rosalind Proto

Sunday, November 21st, Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

9:30 a.m. - Linda Saracco, req. by Lena & Nick Onofrio

Apocalyptic literature arose in periods of strife and persecution. Two examples are the latter half of Daniel, written around 150 BC, and the Revelation of John, written during the Roman persecution of Christians at the end of the first century AD. Presented as God's revelations to the faithful who live in fear, they exhort people to remain true to God, who will not desert them. Usually a cataclysmic battle ensues between the forces of evil and God, who is the ultimate victor. A glorious ending is painted for those who remain true to God. Apocalyptic literature uses symbols easily recognizable to the audience but often strange to subsequent generations. Many of our images of heaven come from scenes at the end of Daniel and Revelations.

The reading from Daniel shows a shift in Jewish thinking about life after death. According to the Pentateuch and the prophets there was no afterlife. People lived on the memories of their descendants, and punishment and reward carried out in subsequent generation. This is why God talks about blessings being carried into the thousandth generation of those who love God, while curses last through the third or fourth generation. With the advent of unceasing persecution, however, some Jews develop a theology that allowed for God's reward or punishment to take place after death, when "those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall wake." The idea of an afterlife would eventually call up images of fire, heavenly cities, deep pits, and the names of the faithful written in the book of life.

There is a flavor of the apocalyptic in Mark's account of the Gospel this week. Cosmic reversals will occur, the Son of Man will come in the clouds to gather the elect, and heaven and earth will pass away. But Jesus assures us that his words will not pass away and the Father will be in control.

Sanctuary Lamp
Sunday, November 14, 2021
Deceased Members of St. Michael Parish

**In remembrance of those who died,
 Anthony F. Pontecrovo, Jr.
 May he rest in peace.**

Weekend of November 7, 2021

Weekly Collection \$1496.00
Online Collection \$115.00
Monthly Collection \$870.00

One Collection This Week
Weekly Collection

Two Collections Next Week
Weekly Collection
Campaign for Human Development

Readings for the week of November 14, 2021

Sunday: Daniel 12:1-3; Hebrews 10:11-14, 18; Mark 13:24-32
Monday: 1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Luke 18:35-43
Tuesday: 2 Maccabees 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [6b]; Luke 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2 Maccabees 7:1, 20-31; Luke 19:11-28
Thursday: 1 Maccabees 2:15-29; Luke 19:41-44
Friday: 1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chronicles 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd [13b]; Luke 19:45-48
Saturday: 1 Maccabees 6:1-13; Luke 20:27-40

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

“You are a priest forever in the Order of Melchizedek” *Psalm 110:4*

Over thirty years ago, if someone had come up to me and told me that I would be a priest today, I would have probably told them that “they were nuts that they did not know what they were talking about.”

It is not that I had never thought about priesthood or religious life, but possibly, like many, I just thought that it was not for me. I would think, “What could I possibly have to offer? I do not possess any special gifts or talents. I don’t have what it takes. Besides, I have other things in life that I want to do.”

It is certainly not to down play one’s hopes and dreams in life, but when I had accomplished some of those goals and dreams, and received some of the material rewards and goals that I had set for myself, I still felt empty inside. I had a wonderful job working for Spaulding the Sporting Good’s Company in their main office as a computer operator. And even though I made good money and had my own apartment, something was still missing in side. I could not help but think of the words of the famous song, “Is That All There Is?” Surely, there had to be more!

When I reflect back on my life, I now realize that God had implanted the desire for priesthood from the very young age. It was always there, but I let many other things in my life and in the world cover up that call or get in the way. To cover up that inner call, I would make excuses, like “I don’t have what it takes” or “Surely God could not be calling me,” “I am not good enough or holy enough.” But when we look at the apostles that Jesus called to follow him, we see that God calls ordinary everyday people, ordinary men and women to follow him.

If anyone liked to party and have a good time, certainly I did. If anyone was into popular music, so was I. Some of my favorite rock groups were The Doors, Iron Butterfly, The Who, and Janice Joplin, just to name a few. God was always calling me, but I was too busy with other things in and of the world. I was not listening!

Just like most Catholics, I went to church every week, but where the real clincher came for me when I met a priest whom I had befriended. He gave me the encouragement and the push that I really needed. He recognized God’s inner call to the priesthood that was within me, and that I had been making excuses not listening to that call. He encouraged me to go forward. Well one thing led to another, and I stand here before you as a priest with no regrets. I know in my heart this is where I belong. This is what I was called to do and that there is nothing else that I would rather do in life. Like everything else in life, priesthood has its ups and downs but like I said there is nothing in the world that I would rather be and do because one receives an inner satisfaction that words cannot describe.

A while ago, there was a study done regarding job satisfaction among professionals such as doctors, lawyers, priests, etc. The results of the study indicated that in the area of job satisfaction among the professionals that were included in the study, priesthood ranked among the highest in job satisfaction.

As a second career vocation, when I think about it, perhaps I would have been a priest much sooner in my life if I had taken time out to really listen to what the Lord was trying to tell me all along and also if someone had come along sooner to give me the encouragement and support that I needed and perhaps even prayed for me to be a priest. When I was thirteen, we had a neighbor who became a priest, I don’t remember saying this, but my mother said that I said “I wanted to be just like him.” Like I said, “I don’t remember saying that” but perhaps the seeds of a vocation were sown into my heart a long time ago and I just keep ignoring them.

I am telling you this because this past week Nov. 7 - 13, we celebrated Vocation Awareness Week.

As Catholics, we are a Eucharistic people. The life of the Church is centered on the Eucharist. So, interdependent and connected is the Eucharist and the priesthood to the life of our Church that there can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, and there is no priesthood without the Eucharist. One depends upon the other.

When we look at the call from God to enter the priesthood or any religious vocation, it is always a call addressed to one who lives, works, and prays within a community of believers, and that person is selected from all the rest in the community by God to come forth and be of service to the community. The person is called or chosen from the community by God to serve the community of God’s people.

In former days, when our churches were bursting at the seams with parishioners attending Sunday Masses, where did vocations to the priesthood and religious life come from? Was it not from the parishioners, whose families with their children filled the pews, by faithfully attending Mass every Sunday? Thus, we see how one action or inaction, the lack of attendance at Mass, handing on the faith to the next generation can have negative results. It is precisely because of the dwindling number of parishioners and the lack of vocations that a priest is assigned to be administrator or pastor of two or more parishes and that the Archdiocese has no choice but to make changes in parish configurations, which currently happening in New Haven to compensate for this/these shortage.

In the end I tell the young people to listen to that call within your hearts, and as parents be a source of encouragement to that call. As we celebrate Vocation Awareness Week, let us continue to pray for vocations.

Fr. Roy



Thanksgiving Food Drive

This weekend we are distributing grocery bags with a list of items to be returned the next two weekends for our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.

Following the 9:30 Mass Sunday, November 22nd, we will need volunteers to sort the food and prepare the baskets.

From the Twitter Account of Pope Francis



"Faith in Christ in your heart is like Christ in the boat" (Saint Augustine). We wake Christ up in our hearts and then we can contemplate things with his vision because He sees beyond the storm.

Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time
November 14, 2021

To those who have, much will be given. Count your blessings. Give them away. To give service as a priest or religious, call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Tel. 860-761-7456, e-mail vocations@aoht.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

MASS BOOK

PER ORDER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD THE MASS BOOK FOR 2022 IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

A NOTICE WILL BE PLACE IN THE BULLETIN AS TO WHEN THE MASS BOOK WILL BE OPEN.

Question of the Week

How can I remain vigilant in looking for Jesus over this coming week?

Stocking Basket

Saint Michael Church along with your support, want to care for the needy in New Haven. Starting Saturday, November 13 and ending on Sunday, November 28, there will be a basket set up in front of the church to collect socks. Please place new, unwrapped socks in the basket. Needed are: Children's, Women's, Men's and unisex socks too. These socks will be distributed during the month of December to keep warm the toes and hearts of needy families in New Haven. Any Questions, please contact the parish office.

Many thanks in advance for your loving support.



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, 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.**

The Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

NOVEMBER 14, 2021



World Day of the Poor

WHO LIVES IN POVERTY USA?

All those who make less than the Federal government's official poverty threshold... which for a family of four is about \$25,700. People working at minimum wage, even holding down multiple jobs. Seniors living on fixed incomes. Wage earners suddenly out of work. Millions of families everywhere from our cities to rural communities.



Poverty does not strike all demographics equally. For example, in 2018, 10.6% of men, and 12.9% of women lived in Poverty USA. Along the same lines, the poverty rate for married couples in 2018 was only 4.7% - but the poverty rate for single-parent families with no wife present was 12.7%, and for single-parent families with no husband present was 24.9%.

In 2018, the poverty rate for people living with a disability was 25.7%. That's nearly 4 million people living with a disability—in poverty.

Learn more about how you can encounter, educate and act at PovertyUSA.org

Sources: How the US Census Measures Poverty, US Census Bureau; Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2019, US Census Bureau (p. 18-19).

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