

SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

The First Italian Parish In Connecticut

Pastor: Rev. Robert P. Roy

Parish Office

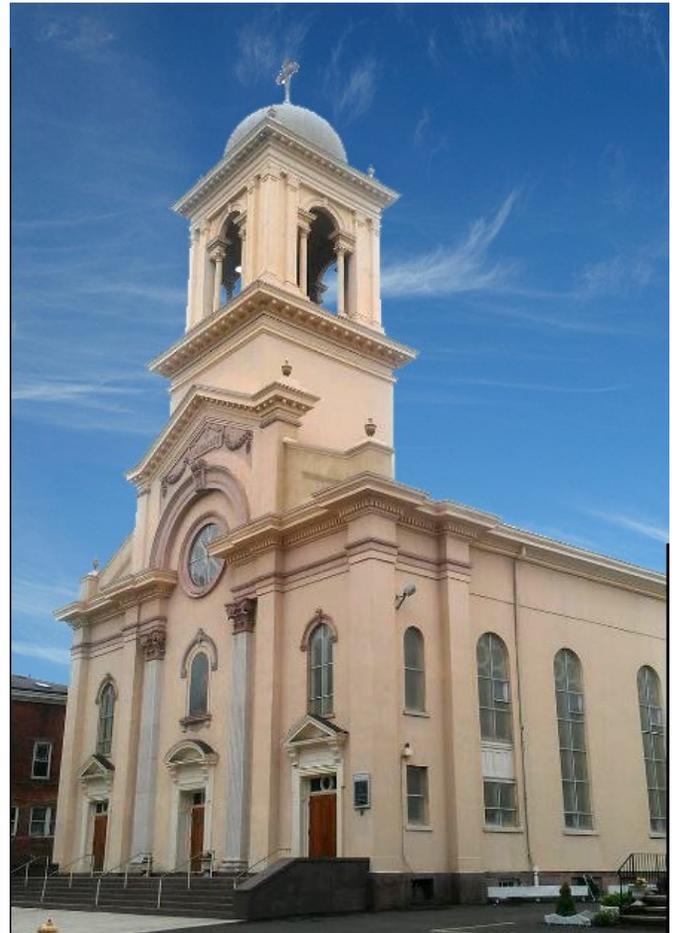
9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday
203-562-7178
203-752-0157 fax
smc1889@att.net
stmichaelwoostersquare.org

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)

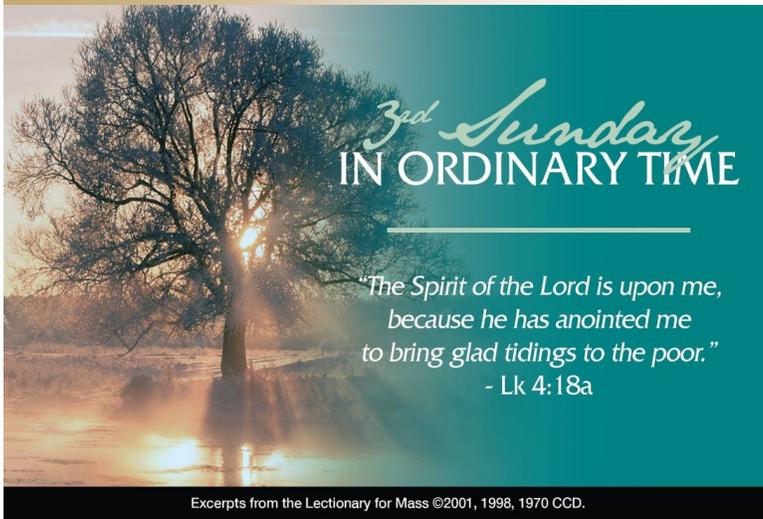
Holy Days: 8:00am, 12:10pm, 5:30pm

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.





**Mass Intentions
for the Week**

Saturday, January 22nd, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Alice & Andrew Ezold & Bob Santore,
req. by Rich & Esther Ezold

Sunday, January 23rd, 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Linda Saracco, req. by Gioiosa family

Monday, January 24th, St. Francis de Sales

8:00 a.m. - Norma Bailey, req. by daughter Norma
Jean Richmond & Kessler Bailey

Tuesday, January 25th, Conversion of St. Paul

8:00 a.m. - Julia Borelli, req. by daughter

Wednesday, January 26th, Sts. Timothy & Titus

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Thursday, January 27th, St. Angela Merici

8:00 a.m. - Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, January 28th, St. Thomas Aquinas

8:00 a.m. - Our Blessed Mother, Patron of the USA

Saturday, January 29th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Salvatore & Anna Maiorano, req. by
children Joseph, Mary & Therese

Sunday, January 30th, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Gabriella DiPaola, req. by John &
Marylou DiPaola

Sanctuary Lamp
Sunday, January 23, 2022

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

**In remembrance of those who died,
Anna Penna Ferraro
May she rest in peace.**

Weekend of January 16, 2022

**Weekly Collection \$ 1608.00
Online Collection \$160.00
Catholic High School \$393.00**

**One Collection This Week
Weekly Collection**

**One Collection Next Week
Weekly Collection**

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 23, 2022**

When Paul wrote what we call the First Letter to the Corinthians, he was dealing with a divided community. Many of the members were boasting about the importance of their different gifts. These gifts often manifested a spiritual quality, such as speaking in tongues, prophesying, interpreting, preaching, healing, and so forth. Paul's image of the body is intended to deflate the people's arrogance and put their fellowship with Christ in a new context. The people accept their faith as individuals, but Paul wants them to understand that at baptism, the Holy Spirit draws all believers together into fellowship with Christ as one body. Therefore, no member can be considered greater than another: all are equally relevant because each contributes to the well-being of the whole.

The image of the body was already commonly used by Greek philosophers to describe the city. Paul, however, is the first to apply its image to the Church. It is important to recognize that his explanation here is not a systemic vision of the Church but rather a poetic response to a particular situation in Corinth. That said, Paul's metaphor can be helpful way for us to think about our role in our own parish communities. As one body, we rely on one another and need to recognize the important role each part in that body plays.

Readings for the week of January 23, 2022

Sunday: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10;
1 Corinthians 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27; Luke
1:1-4; 4:14-21

Monday: 2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10; Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22 Mark
16:15-18

Wednesday: 2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5;
Mark 4:1-20

Thursday: 2 Samuel 7:18-19, 24-29; Mark
4:21-25

Friday: 2 Samuel 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Mark
4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mark
4:35-41

Pastoral Reflection

St. Paul, in his First Letter to the Corinthians 6:13- 20, states that our bodies are “not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body... “He goes on to say, “Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the immoral person sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own; For you have been purchased a great price. Therefore, glorify God in your body.”

In saying this, St. Paul underscores some of the responsibilities and inherent characteristics of one who professes the Christian faith, the Christian way of life. We are called by God and baptized into the life of Jesus Christ and the church, and by becoming believers, the Holy Spirit takes up a dwelling place, resides within our souls. And because the Holy Spirit takes up residence within our souls, we, as St. Paul tells us, have become temples of the Holy Spirit. Our bodies become a sacred place; we become a sacred person consecrated to God. But along with the privilege of being a person, consecrated to God in and through Jesus Christ with the power of the Holy Spirit there comes certain responsibilities and obligations on our part in how we live out that consecration.

Being a sacred person requires that we live accordingly; that we have a rightful respect for our bodies as St. Paul tells us, that nothing sinful, nothing immoral, nothing lewd should ever be allowed to desecrate the living temple of God’s spirit that we have become. In other words, we need to have a respect for our bodies.

Because we have God’s spirit living within us and that each person is created in the image and likeness of God, this also demands that we have a profound respect for every individual person precisely because they are made in the image and likeness of God, because in their own personhood they reflect the mystery and life of God, they reflect the creative gift and goodness of God. God thinks so much of the dignity and goodness of our humanity of the human person that Second Person of the Blessed Trinity himself took flesh and dwelt amongst us as a baby, a child, and as a human person in order that we might be restored to an even greater dignity than we had before the fall of Adam and Eve. As St. John tells us, “We are God’s children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.” John 3:2

The down side to this is that how some Catholic elected officials, some Catholic politicians have adopted the argument that, while they are personally opposed to the evils of abortion, they cannot force their religious views onto the wider society and ensuring that the killing of innocent unborn children might continue without any interference. Some states with Catholic governors have signed into law that a woman has the right to an abortion right up until the time of giving birth.

It is too bad that these so-called Catholic Politicians do not have “the mind and heart of God” Because if one logically considers their view concerning the right to abortion, we find that there are several mistakes involved.

First of all, regarding abortion, the point when human life begins, it is not just mere a religious belief as some would contend but a scientific fact, a fact on which there is clear evidence and agreement even among the leading abortions advocates. And to allow abortion right up to the time of birth amounts to nothing else but murder.

Secondly, the sanctity of human life is not merely a Catholic doctrine, but part of humanity’s global ethical heritage and it is certainly one of our nation’s found principle. In our Declaration of Independence, we read, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men, (peoples,) are created equal that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” In the Bill of Rights, we read, “Nor shall any person...be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law.”

When something is made self-evident that means that the truth to which it conveys can be readily known by everyone and to everyone, for instance that the whole is greater than the parts. Yet, why do we think that somehow all these principles, which are self-evident, concerning life and the principles there of, are different when it comes to an unborn child? That somehow, they don’t apply?

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A Dominican Priest once said, "That fear is the chief activator of our faults." Perhaps this is true in many cases involving abortion and in taking a stand against it. A person finds themselves in a position of an unexpected pregnancy what are they to do? To whom can they turn? In a state of panic and confusion, listening to the voices of the "culture of death," not only by others misguided individuals but even by certain business that contribute to and support the culture of death, they opt to choose the wrong solution which is abortion.

This weekend, Saturday, January 22, marks 49 years when the U S Supreme Court legalized abortion in our country. St. Paul's exhortation to have respect for our bodies challenges us to bring the whole gospel to our culture especially the "gospel of life" for Jesus said that "I came that they may have life and have it to the full." It challenges us to ever reach out to those in need, those who find themselves in an unexpected situation and help them to see that there is help out there that they don't have to go it alone, that they don't have to choose death that they can choose life.

If we are to be leaven to our brothers and sisters, we must bring to our culture the whole gospel, which is a "gospel of life and joy." We can pray for them; we can support pro-life activities. The Internet is loaded with all kinds help and ideas for pro-life involvement. That is our vocation as believers and there is no better place to start than promoting the beauty and sanctity of human life.

God Bless!

Fr. Roy

MASS BOOK

**The Mass Book for 2022 is now open
Masses can be booked from
Jan 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2022.**

Come to the rectory from 9:00am – 12:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday, or call the Rectory at 203-562-7178 to book your masses.

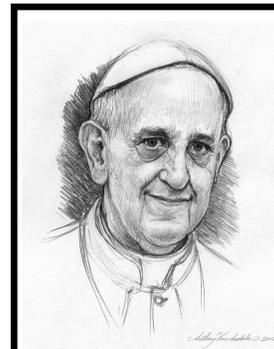
All Masses must be paid in full at the time of booking.

Question of the Week

In what ways am I poor, oppressed or held captive? How does the Lord's promise speak to me? How can I bring glad tidings to those who are poor and oppressed?

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.



***From the Twitter Account
of
Pope Francis***

Tenderness is not a question of emotion or sentiment: it is the experience of feeling loved and welcomed even in our poverty and misery, and thus transformed by God's love.

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.**

Novena to end Human Trafficking

The International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking is observed annually on February 8, the Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy. St. Bakhita is the patroness of survivors of human trafficking. The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry (OCSJM) invites you to invoke her intercession for all those involved in human trafficking and an end to this societal ill by participating in a novena. Beginning Feb. 8 the link to the daily prayer will be posted on [OCSJM's Facebook channel](#), the [Archdiocesan website](#), and the [Archdiocesan YouTube page](#). Please follow or subscribe to one of these outlets.



FOOD BANK – Each week there is a box in the rectory entrance to receive donations of non-perishable foods that are brought to various non-profit agencies and families in need in the New Haven area. **(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**.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 23, 2022

The appointed time of God's in-breaking is fulfilled. God's kingdom has drawn near. *Come after Me*. Jesus called Andrew and Peter and James and John. He calls still in our day. Are you willing to listen to the call and follow him as a priest or religious? Call **Fr. Michael Casey**, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center, 860-761-7456, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

TO ALL PARISHIONERS

The winter is upon us and the outcome for bad weather is unpredictable. For the safety and well being of our parishioners, St. Michael Church will be following the New Haven Public Schools delays and cancellations schedule.

Mass will not be held when the New Haven Public Schools are on delay or closed.

Please watch the news for closings and delays.