

SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

The First Italian Parish In Connecticut

Pastor: Rev. Robert P. Roy

Parish Office

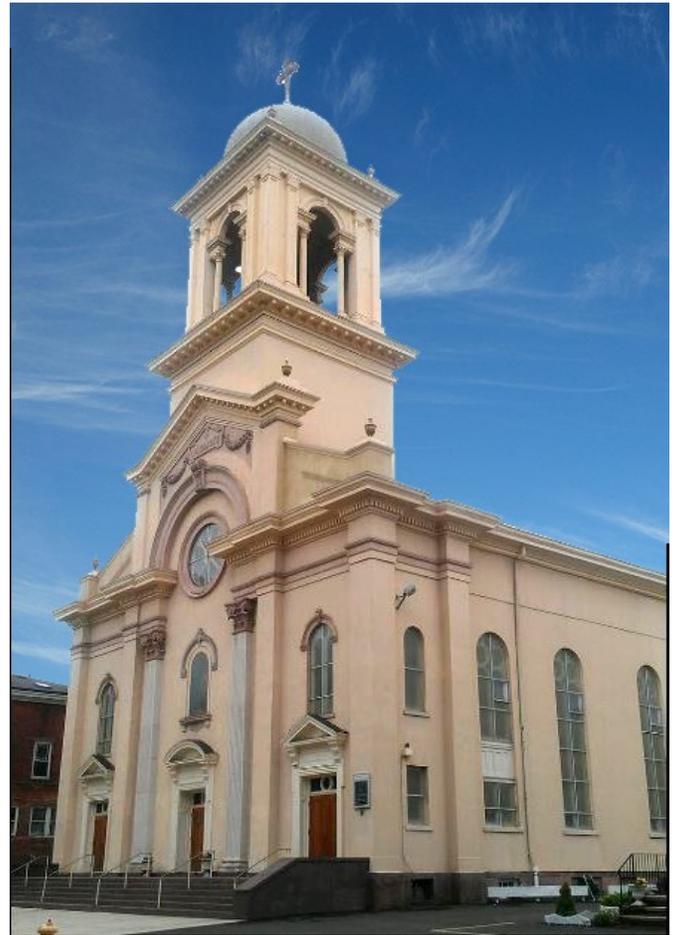
9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday
203-562-7178
203-752-0157 fax
smc1889@att.net
stmichaelwoostersquare.org

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)

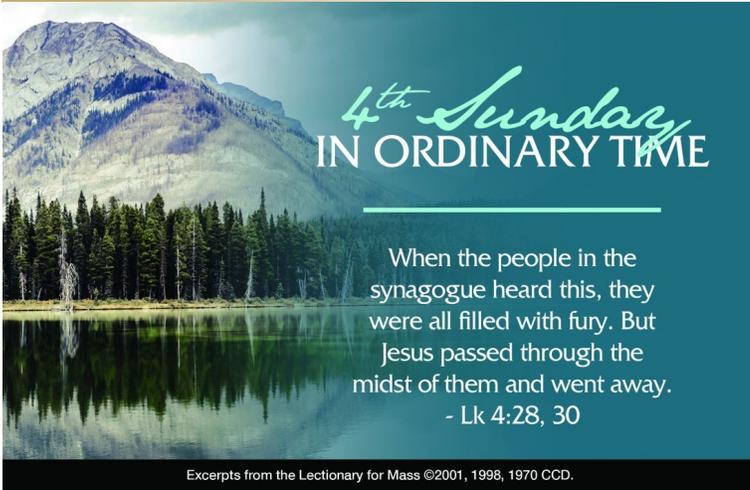
Holy Days: 8:00am, 12:10pm, 5:30pm

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**

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 30, 2022**

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

Monday, January 31st, St. John Bosco

8:00 a.m. -

Tuesday, February 1st, Weekday

8:00 a.m. -

Wednesday, February 2nd, Presentation of the Lord

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Thursday, February 3rd, St. Blaise

8:00 a.m. - Peter & Charlotte Gambardella, req. by sister Betty Campagnuolo

Friday, February 4th, Weekday

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

Saturday, February 5th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Antonio Valentino, req. by Rosemary Setaro, Lori Setaro & Sandy Murphy

Sunday, February 6th, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Community Mass

Doing God's will isn't easy. Especially when it involves criticizing a people who have become complacent in their faith or who feel they are above reproach. Jeremiah is an excellent example of a prophet with a difficult assignment. A little more than one hundred years earlier Isaiah had told Jerusalem they would survive Assyria's invasion because God promised to protect David's city. Now Jeremiah must announce the opposite. Because of the Judeans' unrepentant sinfulness, God was evicting them from the Promised Land, and Babylon was to be the instrument of this justice. Jeremiah's job was to tell a people who presumed they were indestructible that their defeat was at hand. The authorities in Jerusalem considered his words blasphemy and sedition; they attempted to kill him several times. The reading today shows us God encouraging the prophet to remain steadfast in the face of such pressure.

Jeremiah serves as a type for Christ (a foreshadowing of Christ), who will also face hostile opposition to his message. Today's Gospel reading is one of the more extreme examples. Here Jesus's preaching in his hometown of Nazareth goes painfully awry when he declares that the message of salvation proclaimed by Isaiah is fulfilled in his ministry. His won townspeople rejected the idea that a carpenter's son in their town could be their savior. The Nazarenes resemble the Judeans who opposed Jeremiah and also those of us today who resist God's will, even when it is preached directly to us.

Both of these readings challenge us to be aware of and open to God's will, regardless of how difficult it may be to hear. They also encourage us to take up God's message and proclaim it as best we can, whatever the consequences may be.

Sanctuary Lamp
Sunday, January 30, 2022
In Memory of
Deceased Members of St. Michael Parish

In remembrance of those who died,
 Pauline Aiardo, Eugene Baroncini
 & Clara DiMartino
 May they rest in peace.

Weekend of January 23, 2022

Weekly Collection \$ 1347.00
 Online Collection \$110.00

One Collection This Week
 Weekly Collection

Two Collections Next Week
 Weekly Collection
 Monthly Collection

Readings for the week of January 30, 2022

Sunday: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13; Luke 4:21-30

Monday: 2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3; Mark 5:21-43

Wednesday: Malachi 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Thursday: 1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chronicles 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd; Mark 6:7-13

Friday: Sirach 47:2-11; Mark 6:14-29

Saturday: 1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34

Pastoral Reflection

This coming Wednesday, February 2nd is Groundhog Day. If Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, it means six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't see his shadow, it means that spring will arrive early. Whether or not this is an accurate way to predict the end of winter and the beginning of spring, I do not know.

But one thing I do know is that on Wednesday, February 2nd the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the temple also known as Candlemas. Because Christ, the light of the world was presented in the temple on this day, the church blesses the candles that will be used in devotions and worship throughout the coming liturgical year.

One thing that strikes me with the scripture readings for this day, especially the gospel, was fact that despite who they were, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the Holy Family and their special role in God's plan of salvation, Jesus the only begotten son of the Father, Mary the mother of God and Joseph the guardian of both and the husband of Mary, because of their special place and role in salvation history, they did not place themselves above the required religious practices of the day, but rather they humbly submitted themselves to the fulfillment of what the Mosaic religious law required of them.

As the Lord told to Moses, "consecrate to me every first-born male that opens the womb among the Israelites both of man and beast, for it belongs to me."

That is why the Holy Family came to the temple on this fortieth day after the birth of Jesus in order that the child Jesus might be presented to and consecrated to the Lord in the fulfillment of the prescriptions of the Mosaic Law.

In the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the temple, we not only see how Mary and Joseph, Simeon and Anna gave thanks and praise to God for the gift of this special child but we also see how Mary and Joseph demonstrated the special duties and obligations that comes with the responsibility of parenting.

We can learn a lot from the example of Mary and Joseph in the rearing, the raising of our own children.

Mary and Joseph knew that this special child was a gift given to them by God as all children are because a child is not something that is owed to someone, as if a person has a right to another human being, but rather a child is a gift from God, a gift that will have to be accounted for, in the sense of not only providing for a child's material needs but also for their spiritual needs and wellbeing with the responsibility of seeing that the child is brought up in the ways of the faith that will ensure each child's return to God at the end of their earthly life.

Parents not only become the first educators of their children in the natural order, but they also become the ones who primarily hand on the faith to their child long before the child starts school or attends catechism classes.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church under the title of "The duties of parents" it states, "Through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of evangelizing their children, I repeat *the responsibility and privilege of evangelizing their children.*"

Parents should initiate their children at an early age into the mysteries of faith, which they are the first heralds for their children."

In the sacrament of baptism, we have all received the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity but these virtues will do us no good if they are not nurtured and fed in what we call the domestic church, in the home life of the family. While parents certainly know the importance of helping their children to grow physically, socially and academically but it is also important that family members help one another to grow spiritually in faith by the witness of a Christian life in the home keeping with the gospel teachings.

We all know that children learn from example and there is possibly no greater example that can be set then by the example of parents.

Children are not stupid. Sometimes in their relationship with their children, parents have what we might call a double standard.

How many of us have ever heard a parent say to their child, "I don't want you to use that type of language, but the parents use it themselves." Or they may insist that the children go to church or to CCD but the parents themselves, do not attend church or practice the faith at home.

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Certainly, this type of double standard would, can and does cause doubt and confusion in a child's mind for they would possibly think, "If this is so important (to you, meaning the parent) than how come I have to do it and you don't?"

By living the commandments of God in the home, parents become the primary role models for their children, instead of allowing this duty to be fulfilled solely by catechism classes or by the latest music or sport star.

At the end of the gospel, we are told how the child Jesus grew physically and became strong filled with wisdom and the favor of God was upon him.

The example that is given to us by Mary and Joseph is that certainly there is a responsibility of providing not only for the child's material needs but also of the great responsibility they have of handing on the faith to them.

It is an example to all parents to see that their children are not only a gift from God but also along with that gift parents have the obligation and responsibility to see that their children grow in the ways of the faith.

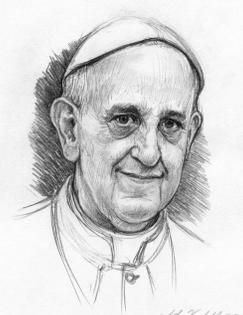
Fr. Roy

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.



*From the Twitter Account
of
Pope Francis*

Let us progress together in seeking God boldly and in concrete ways. Let us keep our gaze ever fixed on Christ (Heb 12.2) and remain close to one another in prayer.

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.**

Question of the Week

Who have I chosen to treat as an outsider, unworthy of my mercy and compassion? How can I change this?

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, 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.**

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.



“The ABCs of Annulment”

Sponsored by the Metropolitan Tribunal, Bloomfield Father Jeffrey V. Romans, Pastor of Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish, 175 Main Street, Cheshire, Connecticut, in collaboration with Father George Mukuka, the Judicial Vicar of the Metropolitan Tribunal in Bloomfield, Connecticut, will host “The ABCs of Annulment” on Saturday of March 5th, 2022, from 10 am to 12:00 pm, in the Parish Hall at the address above. Updates of the process initiated by Pope Francis as well as those made in the Archdiocese of Hartford will be presented by Br. Larry Lussier CSC, and Jim Tottenham. Follow-up Annulment Workshops to help participants write their applications will be held at the same address on Saturday March 12th, and March 19th from 10 am to 12:00 pm. Br. Larry, Jim Tottenham, and other members of the Annulment Team, will be present for the Workshops. The “ABCs of Annulment” event is open to all at no cost. Participants will receive a folder with the required printed materials. No registration is required. For further information call Br. Larry @ 475-221-8464 or email him at brolarlus300@gmail.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.