

SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

The First Italian Parish In Connecticut

Pastor: Rev. Robert P. Roy

Parish Office

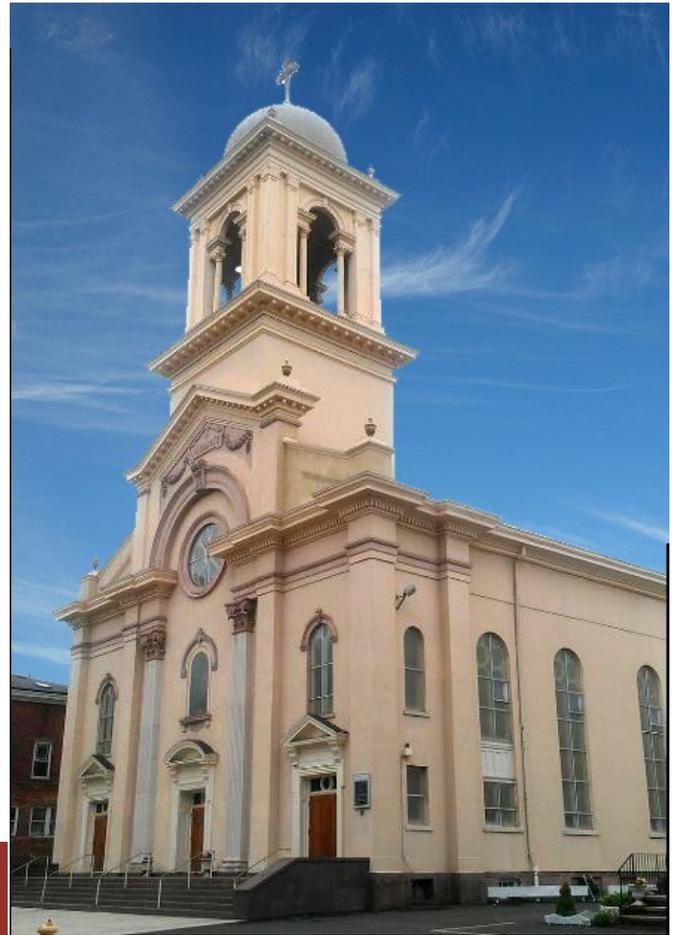
9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday
203-562-7178
203-752-0157 fax
smc1889@att.net
stmichaelwoostersquare.org

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.

5th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." - Lk 5:5

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.





**Mass Intentions
for the Week**

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 6, 2022**

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

Monday, February 7th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. - Birthday Remembrance Julia Borelli, req. by Anastasio family

Tuesday, February 8th, Sts. Jerome Emiliani & Josephine Bakhita

8:00 a.m. - Rosalyn Gargano, req. by husband & family

Wednesday, February 9th, Weekday

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Thursday, February 10th, St. Scholastica

8:00 a.m. - Holy souls in purgatory

Friday, February 11th, Our Lady of Lourdes

8:00 a.m. - Holy blessed mother of reparations for sins

Saturday, February 12th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m.. - Angelina, Davide, Marisa & Luciana Incarnato, req. by son Nick & Therese

Sunday, February 13th, 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. - Carol Acampora, req. by husband

We've all experienced great days when we feel we could accomplish anything. But imagine that God visits and calls you to serve on your worst day. How would you respond then? In the first reading, Isaiah, a prophet preaching in Jerusalem in 742B.C., is overwhelmed by a heavenly vision of God enthroned, worshiped by a seraphim. In the presence of such majesty, he feels unworthy until a seraphim purifies his lips with a burning coal. Only then can he answer God's call.

Around seven centuries later, a band of fishermen experience fewer special effects, but the result will be similar. Along with a bad night at work, Peter (still called Simon) is struck by Jesus' gracious help just as Isaiah was overwhelmed by God's blinding glory. Suddenly aware of God's presence, Peter, like Isaiah, laments that his is not prepared for this meeting. After all, how many of us would like to meet our Savior after failing at our daily jobs? But there is no ritual of purification in this story. Instead, Jesus encourages, "Do not be afraid" and says the men will now be fishing for people.

Perhaps the most comforting part of this Gospel is that Christ does not give these soon-to-be apostles a glorious makeover before they begin to work with him. He takes them as they are. On our worst days, perhaps we need to keep this in mind: we do not become disciples because we are great people; we become reflections of God's glorious image in Christ due to our attempt to become disciples. But we begin that journey as disciples who are in many ways unqualified for the job. That is where God's grace comes in. And that is very Good News.

Sanctuary Lamp
Sunday, February 6, 2022
In Memory of
Deceased Members of St. Michael Parish

In remembrance of those who died,
Michael Rispoli & Vincenzo Iannaccone
May they rest in peace.

Weekend of January 30, 2022

Weekly Collection \$ 577.00
Online Collection \$70.00

Two Collections This Week
Weekly Collection
Monthly Collection

One Collection Next Week
Weekly Collection

Readings for the week of February 6, 2022

Sunday: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11; Luke 5:1-11

Monday: 1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Mark 6:53-56

Tuesday: 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Mark 7:1-13

Wednesday: 1 Kings 10:1-10; Mark 7:14-23

Thursday: 1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30

Friday: 1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19; Mark 7:31-37

Saturday: 1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mark 8:1-10

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

February 6, 2022

In my January 16th bulletin article, which this is a continuation of, I mentioned that when a person is preparing for the priesthood, one of the requirements before they study theology is that they have to have taken a certain number of courses and earned a certain amount of credits in philosophy. I also stated that while one can find some of these philosophical writings and courses very difficult to read in that some of the concepts and ideas that are put forward in philosophical thought can be very difficult to understand and comprehend. But as I stated, “What they cause a person to do is to think”, not just about anything, but about specific and sometimes mindboggling questions. Philosophy causes one to search higher and deeper into some of the most basic questions that we as human beings have asked for thousands of years. For example, metaphysics is that branch of philosophy which investigates the nature of first principles, first causes, and the question of ultimate reality. In these are also included ontology, which is the study of being, the existence of things and also cosmology, the structure of the universe. Metaphysics asks the very basic of questions of “The Why? The why of existence.” It asks the questions, “Why do things exist?” “Why does anything have to exist at all?” “If things do exist, why do they exist, what is their meaning and purpose for existing, for their being?” “Why do they exist in the way that they do?” “Could they exist in another way, in another dimension?” “If things do exist, from where do they get their existence?” “What or whom is/was the cause of their being?”

These are certainly some deep, mindboggling questions that we as human beings have asked and dealt with and tried to answer for centuries, from the very beginnings of our existence. I think that if we really probe deeply into these basic questions dealing with the origin of being and existence, we might come to the conclusion that God does exist by observing, as St. Paul tells us, “the things that he has created.”

In our quest to find the answers to these basic questions that Metaphysics asks concerning the existence of things, I think that one of the most basic problems that one incurs is the seeming controversy between science and the bible. But is that really a controversy? We have to remember that the Creation Stories which are contained in the bible were never meant to be scientific explanations of creation itself. As Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI), stated in his book “*In the Beginning...*” *A Catholic Understanding of the Story of Creation and the Fall*, talks about how, in the Creation Accounts, “one must distinguish between the form of portrayal and the content that is portrayed.”¹ Basically what he is saying is that the forms of writing and the images that are used in these accounts were used to express greater religious realities which would have been familiar to people of that time. As he goes on to state, “And only the reality that shines through these images would be what was intended and what was truly enduring. Thus, Scripture would not wish to inform us about how the difference species of plant life gradually appeared or how the sun and the moon and the stars were established. Its purpose ultimately would be to say one thing: *God* created the world.”² At a time when God’s chosen people were in exile; living in Babylonia, a country which boasted of many god’s, despite their difficult situation the chosen people were reminded of their need to remain faithful to God alone, the One, True God thus these accounts were initially written to dispel the notion of many gods, such as the sun, moon etc. and/or the so called powers of other deities who lived and ruled in the heavens. The story of creation reveals that all “comes from one power, from God’s eternal Reason, which became – in the Word – the power of creation.”³

In the end, the seeming controversy between science and the bible, in their efforts to explain creation and the existence of things, subsists and exists partly in the fact that some people try to use the Creation Accounts as a scientific account to prove how things came to be, when in fact it was never meant to teach science or even be scientific at all, but rather a profession of faith and a faith conclusion that God is the creator and author of all that exists.

To Be Continued!!!!

Fr. Roy

¹ Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, ‘*In the Beginning...*’ *A Catholic Understanding of the Story of Creation and the Fall*. Our Sunday Visitor, 200 Noll Plaza, Huntington, IN, 1990, pg. 13

² Ibid

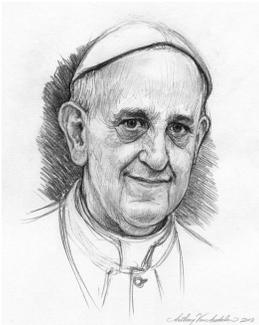
³ Ibid

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.



From the Twitter Account of Pope Francis

Sincere and humble worship of God bears fruit not in discrimination, hatred and violence, but in respect for the sacredness of life, respect for the dignity and freedom of others, and loving commitment to the welfare of all.



Open Wide Our Hearts, exploring healing racism in our Church and Community taking place Monday, February 7, 2022, 8 pm-10pm (EST). Presenter: Dr. C. Vanessa White, D. Min., Associate Professor of Spirituality and Ministry and the Director of the Certificate in Black Theology and Ministry Catholic Theological Union at Chicago. This event is free and will be recorded. Pre-registration is required. You can click here to pre-register. Sponsored by the Office of Social Justice and Respect Life, Archdiocese of Santa Fe. Contact: justice@archdiosf.org for more information.

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.

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.**

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.

Question of the Week

When have I felt frightened or foolish by doing something I felt called to do? How has God reassured me and given me confidence?

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.**

STRONGER TOGETHER

2022 ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

UPCOMING DATES:

COCKTAIL RECEPTION Aqua Turf

Friday, Feb 11th @ 5pm

LUNCHEON Aqua Turf

Sunday, Feb 13th @1pm

All Masses are Celebrated by Archbishop Leonard Blair

at 6pm followed by a Cocktail Reception

Dates & Churches:

Our Lady of Fatima Church, Waterbury

Wednesday, Feb 16th

Saint James Church, Rocky Hill

Monday, Feb 21st

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Harwinton

Wednesday, Feb 23rd

St. Robert Bellarmine Church, Windsor Locks

Friday, Feb 25th

Our Lady of Pompeii Church, Foxon

Monday, Feb 28th

Saint Bridget of Sweden Parish, Cheshire

Monday, March 7th

St. Jerome Church, New Britain

Thursday, March 10th

KICKOFF WEEKEND

February 26th & 27th



**THE OFFICE FOR CATHOLIC
SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY**

Of the Archdiocese of Hartford

President Gerald Ford established Black History Month in 1976, in order to celebrate the often neglected accomplishments of African Americans throughout the country's history. The month grew out of a movement to promote the teaching of African American history. Check out The Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry's webpage for racial justice resources, including bulletin quotes from "Open Wide Our Hearts, the enduring call to love", the U.S. Catholic Bishops' pastoral letter against racism.