

SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

The First Italian Parish In Connecticut

Pastor: Rev. Robert P. Roy

Deacon: Norman Singer

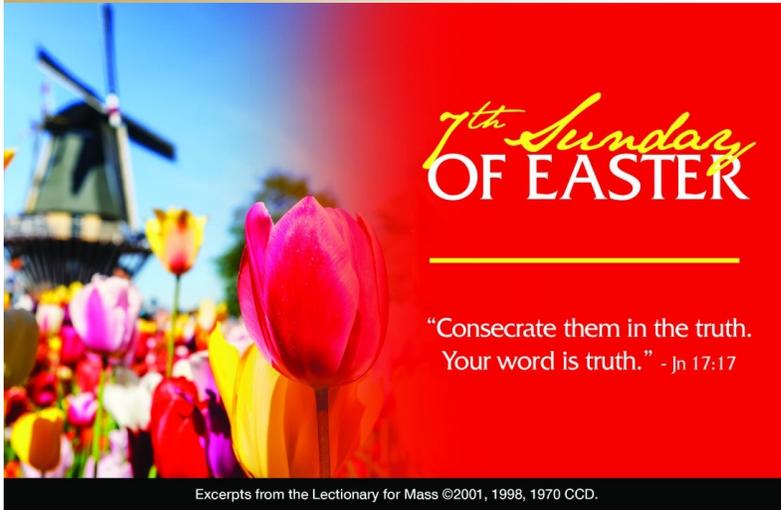
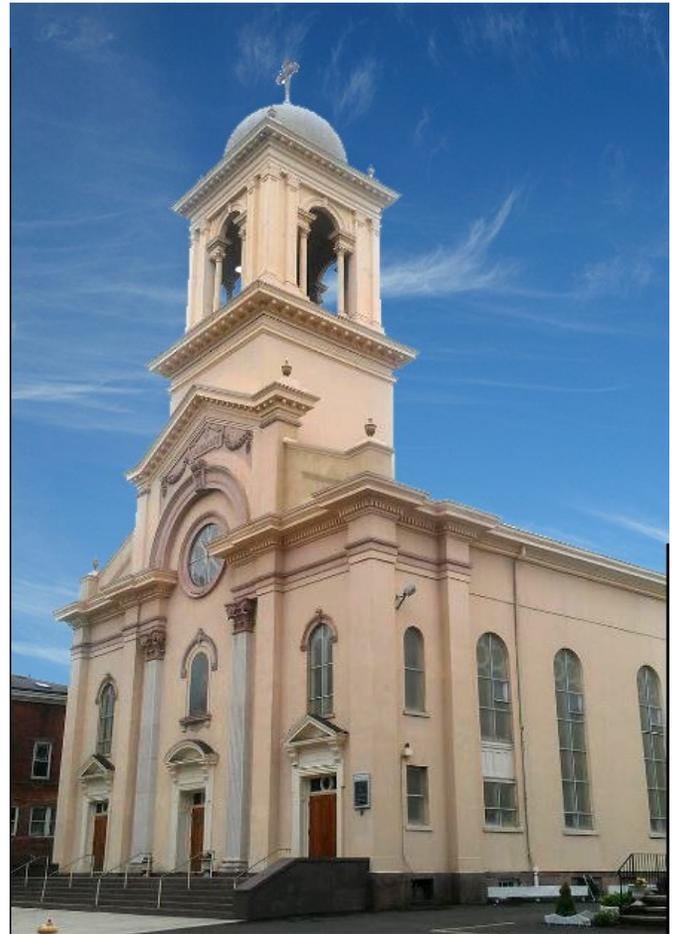
Parish Office

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.





Saturday, May 15th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - Philip & Catherine Santore & Mary Ann Ezold, req. by Rich & Ester Ezold

Sunday, May 16th, 7th Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m. - Living & Deceased members of St. Catello Society & Sons & Daughters of Italy, Lodge #34

Monday, May 17th, Easter Weekday

8:00 a.m. -

Tuesday, May 18th, St. John I

8:00 a.m. - Pietro Capozzo, req. by wife & daughters

Wednesday, May 19th, Easter Weekday

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Thursday, May 20th, St. Bernardine

8:00 a.m. - Nick, Ray & Bart DeMayo, req. by Agnellino Family

Friday, May 21st, St Christopher Magallanes

8:00 a.m. -

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

4:00 p.m. - Anthony & Laura Proto, req. by Rosalind & Andrew Proto

Sunday, May 23rd, Pentecost Sunday

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 16, 2021

In this Acts, Luke is shifting the focus from Jesus to the disciples. Followers in other traditions simply carry out the vision of their teacher, but here the disciples are important in their own right. We know their ideas and writings, even their weakness, failures, and arguments.

More remarkable still, Luke places the story of the Church in Acts on the same level of importance as the story of Jesus in the Gospel. Note the strong sense of destiny that flows through our passage: Peter twice uses the strong phrase "it had to be", the same word Jesus used in speaking about his coming suffering. Events that were not about his coming suffering. Events that were not of their own making of choosing were happening all around them. A sense of the Lord's hidden, guiding hand pervades the atmosphere of Acts 1.

More was at work than a sense of destiny; the Apostles fulfilled unique roles in the salvation story. Their symbolic number, "Twelve," recalls the twelve tribes of Israel. Despite the emphasis in choosing a replacement for Judas, Matthias disappears from Scripture after his election; so when the Apostle James was killed, no one replaced him. The Twelve performed a symbolic role that was unrepeatable.

Jesus' prayer in John shows how he continues to pray for the Church even now. Here the symbolic number is "one": "that they may be one just as we are one." Jesus prays that the community may not be subverted by treachery like that of Judas or by the hatred of the world. The oneness of the disciples is the basis of their mission in world. Laying the passages from Acts and John side-by-side on a spiritual plane, one surmises that although the disciples draws straws, it is really Jesus' prayer for the Church's protection and unity that guides its destiny.

Sanctuary Lamp
Sunday, May 16, 2021
In Memory of
Deceased Members of St. Michael Parish

In remembrance of those who died,
Alfonso Marisco

May he rest in peace.

Weekend of May 9, 2021

Weekly Collection \$ 1821.00
Online Collection \$140.00
Mother's Day \$406.00

One Collection This Week
Weekly Collection
Catholic Communication

One Collection Next Week
Weekly Collection

Readings for the week of May 16, 2021

Sunday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23 or Ephesians 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13; Mark 16:15-20

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26; 1 John 4:11-16; John 17:11b-19

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; John 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19

Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; John 21:20-25

PASTORAL REFLECTION

This past week, we received a combined letter from Archbishop Blair and the other Bishops of Connecticut regarding the changes made by Governor Lamont concerning the lifting of certain COVID-19 restrictions.

“As of Pentecost Sunday, on May 23, with its vigil on Saturday May 22, the obligation to attend Mass is reinstated with the understanding, however, that persons with valid health concerns or even, for now, fears about the virus, should not feel constrained to come to church.”

As the Bishops state in the letter, “Our Catholic faith teaches us the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the sacramental celebration in which the Mystery of Christ’ Passion, Death and Resurrection becomes present to us through grace...Everything that takes place during the Mass offers us a personal encounter with the Crucified and Risen Christ. We hear him speak to us in his Word, reminding us of the Gospel message and the mandate to proclaim it. We see Christ living among the community of the faithful, were He hears our prayers and encourages us in our daily lives. We experience the Lord in the person of the priest, who preaches the Word and offers the Eucharist in which our Lord becomes sacramentally present to us. Most especially, we encounter the Lord profoundly through the reception of Holy Communion since it is the crucified and Risen Christ himself we receive.”

While we are still asked to continue streaming the Mass, the Bishops go on to say, “...the obligation to gather in person and attend Sunday Mass should never be understood simply as an observance of a legal requirement [that is I have to go to Mass on Sunday, if I don’t it’s a mortal sin]. *{This is my way of stating it.}* To paraphrase and quote, “Rather one’s attendance at Mass should be a deep personal expression and desire that burns in our hearts to come into the presence of the Lord whom we love, who gave His life for our salvation so that we may receive Him as food for our life’s journey into eternal glory.”

In their letter, the Bishops go on to say, “Given the reality that the pandemic has not completely subsided, we recognize that some persons may deeply desire to return to Mass in person but are prevented from doing so for legitimate reasons. These reasons include: (1) suffering from serious pre-existing conditions that may make a person more susceptible to falling ill from COVID-19; (2) being ill and homebound or being a caregiver in close contact with someone who is; (3) having tested positive for any contagious disease, including COVID-19; (4) being in quarantine due to exposure to any contagion or residing with someone who is quarantined. For anyone facing these circumstances, please remember that the Lord will never invite you to do something that poses a danger to oneself or others.”

While “masks” are still required by all in church, missalettes and hymnals will be back in the pews. Adult liturgical ministers are now allowed to serve as Ushers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion but only one adult server is allowed. Congregational singing is allowed with “masks” on. Entrance and exit processions are allowed. There is still no Offertory procession as of yet, that is bringing forward the gifts of bread and wine. Communion on the tongue should continue to be discouraged for the sake of the health of others. The Sacrament of Confession or Reconciliation will resume in the normal confessional.

“As the Bishops of Connecticut made clear in an earlier announcement, there is nothing contrary to faith or morals that would prevent a person from being vaccinated against COVID-19.” For the good and welfare not only of the individual person but also for the good and welfare of others, everyone is encouraged to get vaccinated.

Realizing that “the pandemic is not over yet” the Archbishop ask that “we remain vigilant but hopeful. We need to work and pray so that its physical, emotional and material toll will not also result in a spiritual toll that deprives people of the grace and nourishment that only the sacraments can provide.”

God Bless us All!

Fr. Roy

Dignity of Life Seminar

The Catholic Cemeteries Association Inc. will be sponsoring a presentation focused on educating families about the challenges and the importance of Advance Planning and Maintaining the Dignity of Life during end-of-life discussions. The Catholic Cemeteries Association will offer evening Seminars with the assistance of an Elder Care Attorney. Professionals will answer questions on how to manage the elements of the golden years. The Seminar is designed for those age 50+ and their adult children, but all are welcome to attend. Please give us an hour and 30 minutes of your time.

Seminars will be held at the Sacred Heart Cemetery Chapel in Meriden on the following evenings in May: the 12th and the 26th and June: 9th and 23rd all sessions begin at 5:30pm until 7pm. All interested MUST register. Seating is limited due to CDC social distancing guidelines. Please either visit our website www.ccacem.org or call our Outreach Coordinator at (203) 780-8418 to register. To register on our website HOME page: Please select the EVENTS tab and locate the date on the calendar that works best for you.

Bishop Peter Rosazza Social Justice Virtual Conference

June 5 @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm |Free

**Bishop Peter Rosazza Social Justice
virtual Conference; Opening Wide our
Hearts – Walking Humbly with God**

The conference includes a keynote address by New Orleans Auxiliary Bishop Fernand Cheri, prayer, and workshop options. It will provide a broadened understanding of racism as a life issue and our role and responsibility in developing and nurturing anti-racist attitudes to address the sin of racism. Free; Register at: <http://www.catholicsocialjustice.org/>

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



Which way should I follow? There are ways that do not lead to Heaven: the ways of worldliness, the ways of self-affirmation, the ways of selfish power. And there is Jesus' way, the way of humble love, of prayer, of meekness, of trust, of service to others.

Question of the Week

What specifically can I do this week to give of myself to someone else?

VOCATION REFLECTIONS 7th Sunday of Easter May 16, 2021

"Come to me all you who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon you for my yoke is easy, and my burden light." Pray for priests, brothers, sisters, and for all who offer their lives to be a sign of Jesus' refreshing love. If you are called to join them, 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.

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 Seventh Sunday of Easter
The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord
May 16, 2021**



The Ascension of the Lord

Today, we celebrate The Ascension of the Lord!

On the Feast of the Ascension, the church celebrates the return of Christ to the Father, his physical body leaving the earth behind.



Catholic Communications Campaign Collection

Today's second collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. Help our local communications projects! Fifty percent of funds raised stay here in the diocese. The other fifty percent support projects across the US and in developing countries. #1church1mission

Solidarity with Seafarers as Key Essential Workers

Each year, the Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking ([CCOAHT](#)) launches a campaign to raise awareness of forced labor in the fishing industry. This year, due to the global pandemic, a new humanitarian crisis has emerged that is severely impacting all men and women who work at sea. Thus in 2021, CCOAHT - together with [Stella Maris](#) and the Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America ([AOS-USA](#)) - are urging Catholics and all people of good will to pay witness to the life of the seafarer and to leverage their voices as community members and consumers to uphold the safety and labor rights of one of the world's most invisible group of essential workers.

Join us in urging Walmart to acknowledge their reliance on seafarers for the healthy functioning of their business model, and to show concern for seafarers' wellbeing by signing the Neptune Declaration.