

# 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



## THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

"Whoever eats my  
flesh and drinks my  
blood remains in me  
and I in him."

- Jn 6:56

## *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.





**MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST  
“CORPUS CHRISTI”  
JUNE 14, 2020**

**Saturday, June 13, Vigil of the Lord’s Day**

4:00 p.m. - NO MASS

**Sunday, June 14th, Most Holy Blood of Christ**

9:30 a.m. - NO MASS

**Monday, June 15th, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. - Dominick Onofrio, req. by Mary Florenzano

**Tuesday, June 16th, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. -

**Wednesday, June 17th, Weekday**

12:10 p.m. - NO MASS

**Thursday, June 18th, Weekday**

8:00 a.m. -

**Friday, June 19th, Most Sacred Heart of**

**Jesus**

8:00 a.m. -

**Saturday, June 20th, Vigil of the Lord’s Day**

4:00 p.m. - NO MASS

**Sunday, June 21st, 12th Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time**

9:30 a.m. - NO MASS

In the First Reading, from Deuteronomy, Moses implores the Israelites to “remember” their desert story as they stand at the Jordan River, about to enter the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua. Moses recalls for the Israelites the heart of the desert story— how God tested them in the desert by afflicting them with hunger and thirst, and then providing manna and water “in order to show you that not by bread alone does one live, but by every word that come forth from the mouth of the Lord.” Moses twice makes the point that this manna was “a food unknown” to the Israelites.

The Gospel reading for today is an excerpt from the end of Jesus’ Bread of Life discourse in the Gospel according to John. Speaking to a Jewish crowd, Jesus repeatedly offers to himself as bread, saying: “I am the living bread that came down from heaven.” He concludes by saying, “Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever.” The Jewish audience would have immediately recognized that Jesus appropriating for himself the sacred and traditional image of bread and water from the Israelites desert experience. But Jesus, as the “living bread that came down from heaven,” was once again “a food unknown” to the Israelites.

In the Second Reading, Paul offers us one of the earliest testimonies in the New Testament to the belief in the real presence of Christ in our Eucharistic celebrations. For Paul, the body and blood of Christ unites the Christians community as one body. He taught the early Christian communities that Jesus is “the true food . . . and the true drink,” “the living bread that came down from heaven!”

***Sanctuary Lamp***

***Sunday, June 14, 2020  
In Memory of  
Dominick L. Onofrio***

**Weekend of June 7, 2020**

**Weekly Collection**

**In remembrance of those who died,  
Peter Grossi, Ralph Gambardella,  
Rosanne Fezza, Tommasina Gambardella &  
Theodora Savo  
May they rest in peace.**

**Food Bank** – Each week there is a box in the rectory entrance to receive donations of non-perishable foods that are brought to the Saint Ann Church Food Bank in Hamden. **(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.**

As we face this unrepresented worldwide pandemic, by practice social distancing, as a community of people and of faith, may we always keep in mind that we are all in this together and that we need to be there for one another and to support one another and it is no different with St. Michael’s. We are here for you! We need to stay in touch and connected. The weekly bulletin along with other information is available on our web site, [stmichaelwoostersquare.org](http://stmichaelwoostersquare.org), on our Facebook page (St. Michael Church Wooster Square New Haven, CT) or on YouTube (St. Michael Church Wooster Square). You can always contact us by phone at 203-562-7178 or via email [smc1889@att.org](mailto:smc1889@att.org)

**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’s financially by mailing or dropping off your weekly envelopes.**

## PASTORAL REFLECTIONS



Today we celebrate The Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Corpus Christi. Today's Feast reminds us that Jesus gave us the greatest gift that he could have ever given to us and that is none other than the Gift of Himself, the Gift of His Holy Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity.

At the Last Supper, Jesus tells his disciples that he had "greatly desired to share [to eat] this Passover meal with them." This makes one wonder, "Why would Jesus have said this? Did he not celebrate the Passover with his disciples in the past?" He certainly did celebrate the Passover with his disciples in the past, but the reason for this desire, at this time, is that Jesus would take this "perpetual institution" commemorating Israel's freedom from slavery in Egypt, by the sacrifice and the blood of the lamb, the Passover Sacrifice and forever transform it into the gift of his love for us. By his "great desire" Jesus would show his great love and mercy for us by the giving of, the sacrificing of his life the next day, by the laying down his life for us, by becoming our Passover Lamb our Passover Sacrifice by whose body and blood we might be freed from the slavery of sin and death.

By saying the words of institution and consecration, "Take and eat for This is My Body which will be given up for you, take and drink for This is the cup of My Blood. The Blood of the New and Everlasting Covenant which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin, do this in memory of Me," Jesus give us the greatest gift of his love, for it is in the Body and the Blood of Christ that is given to us and present to us in the Holy Eucharist.

The Holy Eucharist is not only the true presence of Jesus Christ, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, but it is also a living perpetual memorial of what Jesu has done for us by the giving of His life, by laying down His life in order that we might have life, and not just any life but eternal life. As St. Paul said in his first Letter to the Corinthians on which one of our proclamations in the Mystery of Faith is based, "Every time, then, you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he come" Thus, the Holy Eucharist becomes a living "perpetual memorial," a living "perpetual sacrifice" making really present and recalling for all time, "perpetually," what Jesus has done for us until He comes again in glory with salvation for his people.

So, when Jesus told his disciples that "There is no greater love than this: To lay down one's life for ones' friends," Jesus has done that for us, and the Holy Eucharist, The Blessed Sacrament becomes a living reminder for this great love.

There is a saying, "familiarity breeds contempt." How true this can be for us especially as Catholics. Because we celebrate the Holy Eucharist, The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass every day and we offer and can receive Holy Communion every day, we can be so accustomed to its celebration and its reception that if we are not on our spiritual guard, we can lose respect and reverence for the great gift that the Holy Eucharist is and who it is and that is none other than Jesus Himself, giving of Himself to be our life and salvation; our Viaticum. And it is precisely because of the Sacred, Real Presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament that a sense of reverence and silence should always be present and pervasive when we are in church. As a priest, it saddens me to see how people can have a disregard and lack of reverence in respect for the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist as they are entering into or present within the church. While some movement and talking might be necessary, but some people act, talk and move around as if they were in a public hall.

Jesus' great love and mercy are always available, waiting for us to make a visit to Him in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I realize that unfortunately churches are not always opened like they used to be but the next time you are driving by a Catholic Church or if you have some time on your hands, why not stop in and make a visit to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Fr. Roy

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PARISHIONERS**



## **DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS:**

**Please know that Archbishop Blair has issued a dispensation from the obligation of attending Mass.**

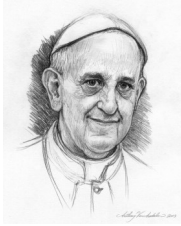
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- **The decision regarding whether to attend Mass in person is left to the individual.**
  - **Contact the Parish Office or check the Parish's website for availability of televised and virtual Masses.**
  - **If you or someone in your household is ill, especially with fever or flu-like symptoms or conjunctivitis, please do not enter the Church.**
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**If you decide to attend Mass,  
please be charitable by protecting others and yourself:**

- **At all times, including entering and exiting the church, practice Social Distancing by staying at least 6 feet from people who do not live in your household.**
- **You must wear a face mask or cloth face covering.**
- **Do not shake hands with others.**
- **Use hand sanitizers.**
- **Do not congregate to socialize before or after Mass.**

**AS WE WELCOME YOU BACK AND RESUME  
PUBLIC LITURGIES TOGETHER,  
PLEASE TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO STAY SAFE.**



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

*The Beatitudes teach us that Go,  
in order to give Himself to us,  
often chooses unthinkable  
paths, perhaps the path of our  
limitations, of our tears,  
of our defeats.*

**TO RESCHEDULE WEEKDAY MASSES,  
CALL THE CHURCH ONCE WEEKDAY  
MASSES HAVE RESUMED.**

**ALL WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS  
HAVE BEEN  
RESCHEDULED FOR 2021**

**MASS BOOK**

The Mass Book is open for all registered and non-registered parishioners for 2020. Weekday masses and Sanctuary candles are available. Come to the rectory from 9:30am – 12:00 noon 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.**

**Weekday Mass and 4:00 p.m. Mass Live**

Weekday Mass has started on June 8th, the mass time is at 8:00 am, Monday Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the main Church.

Or you can watch the 4:00 p.m. mass live on our Facebook page: [St. Michael Church Wooster Square New Haven](#) or if you miss the mass you can watch it on our You Tube channel: [St. Michael Church Wooster Square](#).

**VOCATION REFLECTIONS**

June 14th — Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ  
Jesus is teaching that his flesh is true food and his blood true drink. He alone can provide the nourishment needed to sustain the life that he is offering. To bring the Bread of Life to others as a priest or religious, call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center, 860-761-7456, e-mail [vocations@aohct.org](mailto:vocations@aohct.org) or visit the web at [www.hartfordpriest.com](http://www.hartfordpriest.com)