

SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH

EST. 1889

The First Italian Parish In Connecticut

Pastor: Rev. Robert P. Roy

Deacon: Norman Singer

Parish Office

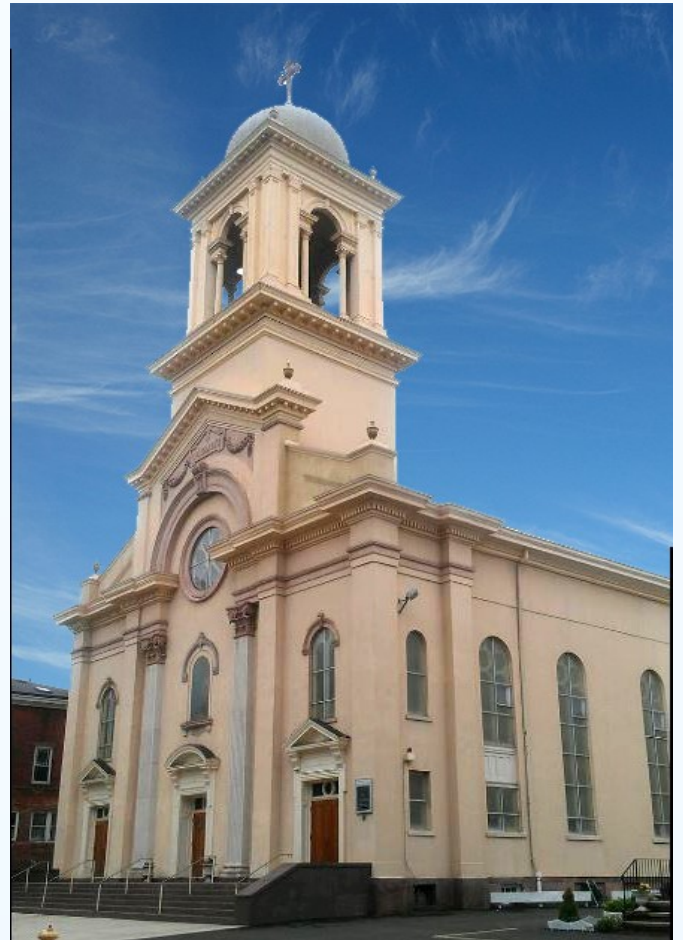
9:00am - 1:00pm Monday - Friday
203-562-7178
203-752-0157 fax
smc1889@att.net
stmichaelwoostersquare.org

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



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

"Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord."
- Mt 21:9

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

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.





**ALL MASS INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN
RESCHEDULED**

Saturday, April 4th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - NO MASS

**Sunday, April 5th, Palm Sunday of the Passion of
the Lord**

9:30 a.m. - NO MASS

Monday, April 6th, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Tuesday, April 7th, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Wednesday, April 8th, Lenten Weekday

12:10 p.m. - NO MASS

Thursday, April 9th, St. Francis of Paola

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Friday, April 10th, Lenten Weekday

8:00 a.m. - NO MASS

Saturday, April 11th, Vigil of the Lord's Day

4:00 p.m. - NO MASS

**Sunday, April 12th, Easter Sunday of the
Resurrection of the Lord**

9:30 a.m. - NO MASS

In remembrance of those who died,

Lawrence (Larry) Taft

May he rest in peace.

Sanctuary Lamp

Sunday, April 5, 2020

***In Memory of
Joseph Celentano***

Weekend of March 29, 2020

Weekly Collection \$552.00

**One collection this weekend
Weekly Collection**

**One Collection Next Week
Weekly Collection**

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

APRIL 5, 2020

The Gospel gives us Matthew's "Passion narrative," which begins with the betrayal of Judas and concludes with the laying of Jesus in the guarded tomb. Like each of the four evangelists in their account of the Passion, Matthew preserves much of the oral and written tradition passed on to him. This has led scholars to speculate that the Passion narrative was part of the earliest *kerygma* (or proclamation of Gospel teachings) by the first generation of Christians, since it appears to have solidified into a fixed written form rather quickly. While Matthew provides some additional details (such as the suicide of Judas, 27:3-10, and the guard that Jesus' tomb, 27:62-66), none of these details changes the basic sequence of events as reported by all the evangelists. As the other evangelists, Matthew saw the agony of Jesus' arrest, interrogation, and death as part of the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies; for example, Judas' thirty pieces of silver for betraying Jesus and Peter's denial of Jesus, both prophesied by Zechariah (11:13-13 and 13:7).

Every Palm Sunday we hear proclaimed the same reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians. Scholars believe this text predates Paul himself and that it was likely a hymn sung in the liturgies of the earliest Christians. We can learn an important lesson about Jesus' suffering and death from this first generation of Christians: Because of Jesus' "obedience to the point of death, even death on a cross . . . , at the name of Jesus every knee should bend...and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord" (Philippians 2:8).

Readings for the week of April 5, 2020

Sunday: Matthew 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11;

Matthew 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54

Monday: Is 42:1-7; John 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25

Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9;

Revelation 1:5-8; Luke 4:16-21

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Exodus 12:1-8,
11-14; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;
John 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12; [Luke 23:46]; Heb 4:14-16;
5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42

Saturday: Vigil: Genesis 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a;

Genesis 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Exodus
14:15—15:1; Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]; Is
54:5-14; Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]; Baruch 3:9-
15, 32—4:4; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd,
5-6 [3] Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-10

LENT 2020

“Return to the Lord with all your heart”
(Joel 2:12)

Confession

Monday’s during Lent
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

CANCELLED

Lenten Daily Mass

8:00 AM on

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
12:10 PM Mass on Wednesday.

Stations of the Cross and Benediction

Friday’s – 7:00 PM (Cancelled)

Palm Sunday

You can pick up your palms on Sunday April 5, 2020 during the hours of 11:00 a.m. thru 1:00 p.m. The palms will be available inside the main entrance of the Church.

Word Among Us books will also be available for those who want them.

Please be mindful of other people wanting palms, and maintain social distancing.

Thank you



*From the Twitter Account of
Pope Francis*

Jesus took our sins upon Himself to the point of making Himself sin. It's not easy to understand this; we will never fully comprehend it. We can only contemplate, pray, and give thanks.

VOCATION REFLECTIONS

April 5th- Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord.

Jesus said, “My appointed time draws near”. Blest are they who come in the name of the Lord! Am I being called to proclaim Jesus as through priesthood? Contact **Fr. Michael Casey**, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center, phone 860-761-7456, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

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**.

Easter Flowers



Remember your loved ones with a memorial of flowers as we beautify our church this Easter.

List the names of those to be remembered and enclose it with your donation. \$10.00 PER NAME

In memory of: _____

Requested by: _____

Telephone number: _____

Palm Cross Order Form



Name: _____

Phone #: _____

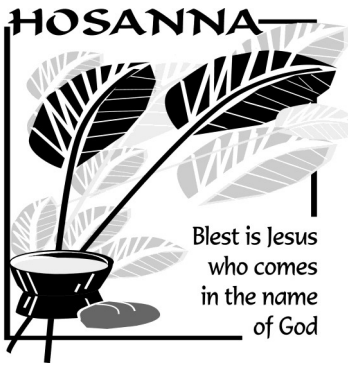
Quantity **Subtotals**

_____ **Small @ \$ 5** _____

_____ **Medium @ \$ 8** _____

_____ **Large @ \$ 10** _____

Total enclosed \$ _____



PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

The stage is set. The drama begins to unfold! The greatest love story in the history of the world will be relived in these coming days. It is the love story of a God who refused to abandon His children to sin and death, the God who just would not let go! This is the story of the Week that is called Holy!

It begins with the donkey pageantry of Palm Sunday, the crowds weaving palm branches with great joy and enthusiasm of He who comes in the name of the Lord and it winds through a week of fire and passion. We see the loud hosannas of a Palm Sunday give way to the cry: "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" on that dark Friday that we call Good. But all this hype and tragedy will culminate at the empty tomb on Easter Sunday Morning when

angels will inquire to the women: "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" It is indeed a week of fire and passion...it is the week that has been called Holy for centuries.

Who would have ever thought, that with the spread of the Coronavirus, our churches would be closed not only for regular weekend Masses but also for the celebrations of the most Holy Week in of all Christendom, the Sacred Paschal Triduum, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday with its Great Easter Vigil. As a community of faith, while we may not be able to come together to celebrate these Most Holy Days of our Faith, I invite and encourage everyone to take advantage of this powerful week of prayer and healing by joining in the liturgical services that will be presented to us by TV, Your Tub or live streaming.

HOLY THURSDAY: On the night before He died for us, Jesus gave us a final example of His great love for us. He gave us the great gift of the Eucharist. In this gift of Total Self, Jesus gives us His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, to be celebrated as a perpetual institution, of His suffering, death and resurrection as a means that would continue His loving and saving presence among us until he comes again in glory at the end of time. He gave His disciples the gift of priesthood and the example of service in the washing of the feet...two powerful realities in order that the Eucharist may be celebrated for all time. For as St. John Paul II reminds us, "the Eucharist is dependent on the priesthood and the priesthood is dependent on the Eucharist." As St. Paul says, "When we eat His, (Jesus') body and drink His blood, we proclaim the death of the Lord until He comes again."

GOOD FRIDAY: The day Christ died for you and for me...the day the angels were silent! The day when the sky was darkened and the curtain in the Temple was split in two. The day when Jesus, in complete submission to the will of His Heavenly Father cries out "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" and with that he bows his head and died. Jesus Himself said, "No grater act of love than to lay down one's life for another." When we see Jesus on the cross, it should remind us of how much God loves us, He gave His life for us. As St. John's proclaims in his gospel, "For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

HOLY SATURDAY: The day of the long wait! The great Easter Vigil is the holiest night of the year...the night when Christ triumphed over the powers of death and darkness...it is our night! It is in this night, wherein our liturgy of the word, we recount God's creating love and how after God was done with all His creating work "God looked upon all He had made and said it was very good." We recall to mind how God, through His servant Moses, by the sacrificing of the Pascal Lamb and through the waters the Red Sea, saved the chosen people of Israel from slavery and death in Egypt. We hear through the Prophet Ezekiel how the "Lord will sprinkle clean water upon us to cleanse is form all our impurities, giving us new hearts and placing his spirit within us that He may be our God and we may be His people." The Blessing of the Easter, Pascal, Candel and the Holy Water are stark reminders that Jesus, has truly risen form the grave, he has overcome our greatest enemies which are sin and death and that it is in and through our baptism, through the sprinkling of holy water, that we become sharers in this divine mysteries, sharers in the very life of God. As St Paul says, "If we have died with Christ then we shall rise with Him to newness of life."

In these times of much uncertainty, doubt, confusion and sadness, may we continue to pray for and to watch out for each other mindful that we all in this together and that we will get through this together with the help and grace of God. During this most Holy of Weeks, may our faith in Jesus Christ be a source of strengthen, consolation and hope for all of us for as St. Paul reminds us "to keep and to fix our attention on the Lord Jesus who it the author and perfecter of our faith." For as Jesus tell us "He has overcome the world." So, during this Holy Week, even though we recall the sufferings of Jesus, our faith and hope are centered and focused on Jesus' triumphal victory.

Have a Blessed Holy Week!

Fr. Roy

Question of the Week

How can I rely on God during my trials and hardships? How will this help?

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.

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.**

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

It is important that when you give to charitable organization, you are confident that the funds received are being used wisely. Be assured that your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal supports the ministries and programs indicated in the 2020 Appeal literature! Organizations such as St. Ann Soup Kitchen and Leeway right here in our city received funding from the Appeal's Vicariate Outreach Program that makes a difference in the lives of our local neighbor. Please visit the Appeal website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org to learn more and make your gift today.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/> No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.