



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF

Saint Michael

25 MAPLE AVENUE, BEACON FALLS, CT 06403

PHONE 203-729-2504 FAX 203-723-0710

Website: www.saintmichaelonline.org

Email: stmichaelbeaconfalls@aohct.org

97 Years of Faith, Caring & Sharing

Eucharistic Schedule

Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

Daily (Mon. - Sat.) 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days

8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Exposition & Benediction

Wed. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

First Fri. 7:30 to 8:00 a.m.

Reconciliation

Wednesday 8:30-9:30 a.m.
During Adoration

Saturday 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Anytime by appointment

Church Office Hours

Mon.- Fri. 9:30 AM-1:30 PM

Parish Clergy & Staff

Rev. Joy Jacob, SDB, Pastor

joyjacobsdb@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Karen Palange

DRE: Diane Parzyck, 203-206-5665

d_parzyck@yahoo.com

Music & Choir Director: Gail Lane

Plant Maintenance: Paul Brennan

Parish Council Chair:

Thomas Mulinski

Finance Chair: Peter Galla

Trustees: David Langdon &

Robert Bradley

December 26, 2021



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



And the Word became flesh
and made his dwelling among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory as of the Father's only Son,
full of grace and truth.

- Jn 1:14

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

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We, at Saint Michael Parish, are a welcoming community of faith. Called by Jesus Christ to proclaim the Gospel and celebrate the Sacraments, we give witness through joyful lives of prayer and service. Reaching out with the help of the Spirit, we strive to bring the Lord's healing and transforming message to all.



Congratulations to Fr. Joy on celebrating the 26th Anniversary of his Priestly Ordination on December 30, 2021!



Choir practice is on Tuesdays, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM in the church. New members are always welcome. Please see Gail Lane with any questions.



For those interested in Online Giving, please visit our website at saintmichaelsonline.org and click the Online Giving icon, or visit <https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/4865> to enroll. Our church code is 4865. Thank you for your ongoing support and to everyone that has continued to contribute to the offertory, either by Online Giving or through the use of offertory envelopes!

2022 Calendars are available in the vestibule. Thank you to Naugatuck Valley Memorial (Fitzgerald Zembruski) Funeral Home for donating the calendars.



Donations are now being accepted for Christmas Flowers to decorate our church. Envelopes are available in the vestibule of the church.



Grades 1–7: Classes will be held in person in the Lyceum, unless it becomes necessary to hold them virtually. PLEASE NOTE: FOR IN PERSON CLASSES, MASKS ARE CURRENTLY REQUIRED. ST. MICHAEL CHURCH WILL FOLLOW ALL CDC, STATE AND ARCHDIOCESAN HEALTH GUIDELINES AND DIRECTIVES.

Please see our website for the complete CCD Class Schedule for Grades 1-7.

Class Schedule

Grades 1 & 2: Sunday, January 2nd & 16th, 9:00 am

Grade 3 Sunday, January 9th & 23rd, 10:15 am

Grades 4 & 5: Sunday, January 9th & 23rd, 9:00 am

Grade 6: Tuesday, January 4th, 6:30-7:30 pm

Grade 7: Thursday, January 6th, 6:30-7:30 pm

Please note: Classes for Grades 1, 2, 4 & 5 begin at 9:00 AM & end at 10:00 AM.

Classes for Grade 3 begin at 10:15 AM & end at 11:15 AM.

Grades 8 & 9: Classes will be held in person, unless it becomes necessary to hold them virtually. Classes will meet in the church. Please wear a mask.

8th Grade Wednesday, Jan. 5th , 6:00-7:00 PM

9th Grade Monday, Jan. 3rd, 6:00-7:00 PM

Please see our website for the complete CCD Class Schedule for Grades 8 & 9.

MEETINGS

Small Christian Community meets in the Rectory on Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.



What is The Hartford Bishops' Foundation?

Founded in 2016, The Hartford Bishops' Foundation (HBF) is dedicated to engaging donors in helping the

Archdiocese of Hartford carry out the mission of the Catholic Church. The independent Foundation is led by a volunteer Board of Directors representing the Archdiocese's constituencies: parishes, schools, and Catholic organizations. For more information, please visit www.hartfordbishopsfoundation.org

What is Forward with Faith?

Forward with Faith (FWF) is a fundraising campaign to build a vibrant community of faith in the parishes, schools, and Catholic organizations. This vision will help to fulfill the mission of our Church in the Archdiocese of Hartford: to be living signs of communion with God and to be his instruments for redemption in the world.

What are the objectives of Forward with Faith?

- Forward with Faith** seeks to raise funds to support:
- Vibrant Parishes:** Half of all funds raised will help the parishes meet their needs;
- Educating to Re-ignite the Faith:** by expanding and strengthening learning for students, administrators, teachers, clergy, and the faithful;
- Champions in Service:** by helping Catholic Charities with better facilities and new programs; and,
- Innovation and Emerging Opportunities** that promote long-lasting change, strengthen our schools and parishes, and meet the evolving needs of the community.



The bulletin may be viewed online by visiting parishesonline.com and selecting St. Michael Church & Beacon Falls, CT.

This year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal goal may be a challenge-but it is nothing compared to the challenge many suffer with each and every day of their lives. This funding provides support to families and individuals for life's basic necessities: a warm meal, a bag of groceries, a place to sleep, or a place to turn for guidance & support. The Annual Appeal is one way to share our blessings and express thanks for the blessings with which God has graced us with our neighbors. **Please visit www.archdioceseofhartford.org and follow the link Reaching Out, Healing Together to make your gift. All pledges can be paid through December 31, 2021. 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.**



Small Christian Community greatly appreciates your support in providing items for the homeless bags. Our greatest need is for new men's size large colored long sleeve t-shirts, chap sticks, adult-sized socks, clean used t-shirts, travel-sized tissues, travel-sized lotion and hand sanitizer, masks, & hand warmers. Donations can be placed in the box by the elevator. Thank you!

Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center, Farmington, CT
Reservations: Call 860-677-8519 or online registration at OurLadyofCalvary.net Email: olcretreat@sbcglobal.net

"A Gathering for the New Year on Zoom" January 2nd, 7 PM to 8 PM, Choose your Offering. Gather on Zoom to pray especially through the grace of authentic desires.



"The ABCs of Annulment," Sponsored by the Metropolitan Tribunal, Bloomfield, Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022, 10 AM to 12 PM, St. Margaret Parish, 24 Academy St., Madison, CT, Presented by Fr. Philip Schulze & Fr. George Makuka, Open to all at no cost—Participants will receive the required printed materials & learn about updates of the annulment process, no registration required. For more information, contact Br. Larry at 475-221-8464 or brolarlus300@gmail.com.

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH



The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week
For Mary, Louis, & Nina Poeta & Laura
Poeta Mulinski by Family



ONLINE SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass at St. Michael Parish is live-streamed at 10:00 am on Sunday. Please visit our website, at www.saintmichaelsonline.org & click the link to view the Masses. You will be brought to our FaceBook Page. If you do not wish to log into or subscribe to FaceBook, you can still view the Mass by clicking "Not Now" under the green "Create New Account" rectangle. You will be able to view the Mass without logging into FaceBook. The recorded Masses & services will also be available to be viewed on our YouTube channel within a couple of hours after the live stream has ended. If you would like to view the Mass at a later time, please follow the same steps for watching on FaceBook, since a link will be posted to bring you to YouTube. Please be sure to subscribe to our page on YouTube and like the videos.



MASS BOOKING INFO.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Weekend Masses: | Offering \$25 |
| Weekday & Saturday 8AM Masses: | \$15 |
| Sanctuary Lamp: | \$20 |



Mass INTENTIONS

Masses from Sat. Dec. 25, 2021, to Sun., Jan. 2, 2022

- | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|
| Sat., 12/25 | 8:00 AM | Christmas Morning Mass St. Michael Parish Family |
| | 10:00 AM | Mary, Louis, & Nina Poeta & Laura Poeta Mulinski <i>(by Family)</i> |
| Sun., 12/26 | 5:00 PM | No Mass |
| | 8:00 AM | Mildred Jurzynski <i>(by Family)</i> |
| | 10:00 AM | 1st Anniversary: Sarah Kiyingi, in celebration & thanksgiving of her life <i>(by David & Rachel Keyser)</i> |
| Mon., 12/27 | 8:00 AM | 23rd Anniversary: Ella Hicks <i>(by daughter, Claudia)</i> |
| Tues., 12/28 | 8:00 AM | Jean Howard <i>(by Gisele Guillette & Family)</i> |
| Wed., 12/29 | 8:00 AM | 20th Anniversary: Leo & Annette King <i>(by Cynthia & Tom King)</i> |
| | 8:30 AM-9:30 AM | Exposition & Adoration |
| Thurs., 12/30 | 8:00 AM | The 26th Anniversary of Fr. Joy's Priestly Ordination <i>(by The Small Christian Community)</i> |
| Fri., 12/31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> | 8:00 AM | For the Intentions of Mildred & Rick <i>(by Sister, Isabel)</i> |
| Sat., 1/1 <i>New Year's Day</i> | 8:00 AM | The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God |
| | 5:00 PM | Vigil Mass of the Epiphany Of the Lord |
| Sun. 1/2 <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i> | 8:00 AM | Christopher Vitvitsky <i>(by The Chasse, Buswell, & Mulinski Families)</i> |
| | 10:00 AM | St. Michael Parish Family |

The Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy are recited Monday-Saturday at 7:20 AM.

Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In the first place, let me wish each and every one of you a grace-filled Christmas, filled with the blessings of the Little Babe of Bethlehem! May you all experience the peace and joy that the birth of the Savior brings to us!

I would like to thank all those who have made the liturgy of these days so meaningful with their cooperation and support. Special 'Thanks' to Gail and her team and the Choir members for the melodious and prayerful Music for Christmas. Thank you to all the Lectors, Ushers, Eucharistic ministers, Ann (Sacristian) for their services and to Al for the livestreaming. We are specially indebted to all of you who came to decorate the church and to set up the nativity scene! May God bless you all!

One of the beautiful attractions of Christmas is the nativity scene in our churches and in our homes. We do not get tired of lovingly looking at the baby Jesus lying in the 'manger'. Do you know that the word 'manger' comes from Latin root *mandere*, which means 'to chew' or 'to eat'? Manger was the place where food was given to the animals. It is in that manger that baby Jesus was laid, covered in swaddling clothes! He, who was to become food for us, was laid in the manger, even from his birth!

We do have the nativity scene in the church, just below the main altar. Baby Jesus is placed below the altar at the center. We come to adore him at the manger this Christmas. And we come to adore him on the altar at every Eucharist! We celebrate Jesus' birth in the manger at Christmas, once a year. But we celebrate the coming of the Lord on the altar, in the Eucharist every day! Jn 1:14 says: "The Word became flesh and pitched his tent among us!" This is what happens in all the tabernacles of the world – Jesus pitching his tent with us - to share our human nature, to share our life and to take our burdens upon himself! This is how Christmas and the Holy Eucharist are so mysteriously linked! As we contemplate the little baby in the manger, we are led to contemplate him, giving himself to us in the Eucharist.

Happy Birthday to you dear Jesus! Thank you, for pitching your tent among us!

United with you in prayer during this holy season,

Fr. Joy Jacob, SDB



Thank you to Mary Anne Botticello & the Sandwich Teams & Hot Meal Teams for making sandwiches and hot meals each month and delivering them to The Spooner House in Shelton.

Our Sandwich Teams make 60 sandwiches per week, year-round, to The Spooner House! Our two Hot Meal Teams each make a full-course meal once per month. Thank you, also, to Mary Anne Botticello for making & delivering a cake to the families when parishioners pass away.

Thank you to Ann & Fred Hopkins & the St. Michael Gardeners for their hard work planting and maintaining the flower beds by the church and rectory, as well as the taking care of the vegetable garden. 2,600 lbs. of vegetables were donated to area soup kitchens this year from the St. Michael vegetable garden, along with Ann & Fred Hopkins' home garden.

Our Small Christian Community makes recycled t-shirt bags for the homeless and fills them with various clothing, self-care & snack items for delivery to Hospitality House & Greater Waterbury Interfaith Ministries. They delivered 25 bags in November, for a total of 245 bags this year! We thank them for their generosity!

Thank you to: Rose & Gary DellaVecchio & everyone that sponsors flowers throughout the year

The St. Michael Men's Club and Ladies' Guild

Lynn & George Gadacy for returning the cans & bottles

Diane Parzyck, DRE, Maureen Galla, Confirmation Director, and all of the CCD Teachers

Al Ermer for live-streaming all Sunday & Holy Day Masses & maintaining our Facebook page

Ben Catanzaro & Tony Santoli, Tech Support Volunteers

All of the Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, and Lectors

Gail Lane, Music Director, Claire Lane & George Gadacy, Musicians, & the St. Michael Choir

Louisa Heeman & the St. Michael Food Bank volunteers

Ronnie Sharnick & The Raffle Team

Money Counters: Alice, Rosemary, Joanne, Lynn, Ronnie, & Catherine

The Finance Committee, Parish Council, & Trustees

The St. Michael Staff not mentioned above: Paul Brennan, Maintenance Manager, Ann Hopkins, Maria Oliveira, Karen Palange, & Mary Smith

Everyone that assists with the LED screen in the church during Mass & everyone that volunteers throughout the year.

A special thank you to our Pastor, Fr. Joy!



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