



# 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saint Michael's Parish, September 6, 2020

(covering worship sites in Ralston, Canton & Troy)

Reverend Joseph P. Kutch, MA, Pastor

106 N. Washington Street, Canton, PA 17724

Office phone: (570) 673-5253

e-mail: stmichaelparish@frontiernet.net

website: www.stmichaelscanton.com

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 8 am - 3:30 pm, Thursdays 8 am - 1 pm

## **Anointing of the Sick**

Through this sacrament the believer is strengthened by Christ's grace through the anointing of Holy Oils. All who are seriously ill, hospitalized, or having surgery can receive this sacrament. Please contact the parish office if you wish to receive this sacrament.

## **Baptism**

The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated by appointment. All parents must attend a baptismal preparation meeting prior to the Baptism. Please call the office to schedule dates.

## **Matrimony**

A meeting with the parish priest should precede all other wedding plans. Couples contemplating matrimony should contact the parish office six months to a year before the celebration of the sacrament.

## **Reconciliation**

Sat: 3:15 - 3:45 pm St. Michael

Wed: 6:15 - 6:50 pm St. Michael  
(also available by appointment)

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

Wed: 6:00 pm, St. Michael's Church  
following 5:30 pm Mass

Benediction at 7:00 pm

First Friday: Adoration after  
7 am Mass until 7 pm,  
St. Michael's Church

## **First Fridays**

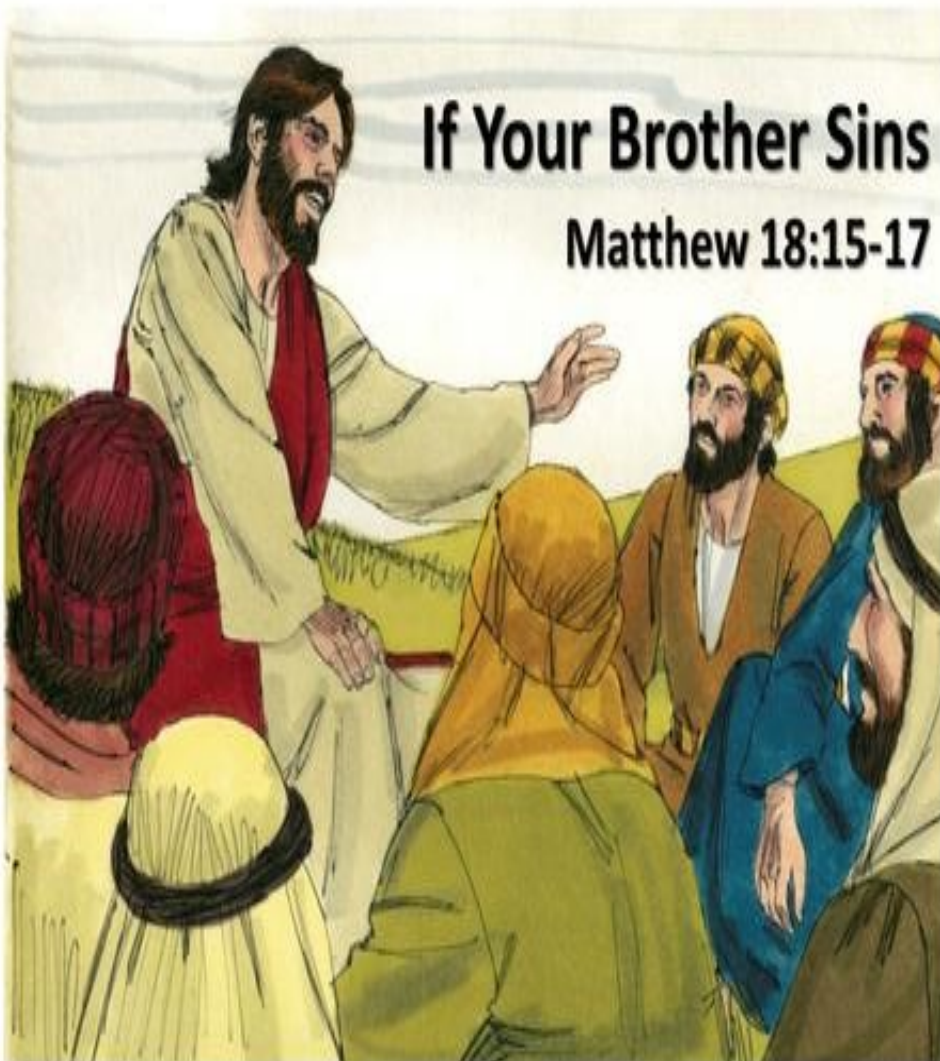
To all elderly and homebound, if you would like a visit from Father Joe on First Friday, please contact the Parish Office and let us know the month before.

## **C.C.D.**

(Religious education classes  
held during the school year)

Sun: 8:15 am St. Michael hall

10:00 am St. John Nepomucene hall



*Pastoral Council: David Brann, Beth Cole, Leslie Debach,  
Will Hawrylo, Jean Herman, Ralph Lepper, Sherry Vargson,  
Donna Wolf, Anna Bradford-youth representative*

## **ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

"As members of the parish community of Saint Michael, Saint John and Saint Aloysius, we are rooted in a relationship with Jesus Christ passed on to our Holy Father and in communion with our Bishop. We joyfully proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and his real presence in the Eucharist. We serve the Lord through acts of faith, hope and charity by the graces given through the Sacraments. It is our intention to carry out this mission so that we may be the face of Jesus Christ in the world."

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

<b>Saturday, September 5</b>	Weekday
Vigil for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	
4:00 pm, Canton † Jefferey Wynne (Jerome & June Wynne)	
<b>Sunday, September 6</b>	23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo	
9:30 am, Canton † Mark Kingsley (George & Theresa Kingsley))	
11:15 am, Troy † Lefty Shanley (Bob & Diane Jones)	
<b>Monday, September 7</b>	Weekday
7:00 am, Canton † Jefferey Wynne (Jerome & June Wynne)	
<b>Tuesday, September 8</b>	THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
5:30 pm, Troy † Rita Bustin (Donna Hazelton)	
<b>Wednesday, September 9</b>	Saint Peter Claver, Priest
5:30 pm, Canton † Deceased members of the Knights of Columbus	
<b>Thursday, September 10</b>	Weekday
No Mass	
<b>Friday, September 11</b>	Weekday
7:00 am, Canton † Martin Kazmarek (Jeff & Beth Cole)	
<b>Saturday, September 12</b>	Weekday
Vigil for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
4:00 pm, Canton † Steven O'Kula (Sheila Wilson)	
<b>Sunday, Sept 13</b>	24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo	
9:30 am, Canton † Atty Robert Landy (Gerald & Joy Brann)	
11:15 am, Troy † Lefty & Barbara Shanley (Denise Ives)	



The sanctuary lamps in all three churches burn this week for those who are imprisoned, especially those condemned to death. May they be treated with the respect due to every human person.

*Sanctuary lamp intentions may be requested by contacting the parish office.*

**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY REQUESTED MASS INTENTIONS. THERE IS STILL ROOM ON THE 2020 CALENDAR, ESPECIALLY DAILY MASSES. WEEKEND MASSES IN THE PARISH ARE ALMOST FULL THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR. THE 2021 CALENDAR IS OPEN. CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO REQUEST MASS INTENTIONS.**

### SEPTEMBER 7-13 READINGS

<b>Mon</b>	- 1 Cor 5:1-8 Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 Lk 6:6-11
<b>Tues</b>	- Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30 Ps 13:6abc Mt 1:1-16, 18-23
<b>Wed</b>	- 1 Cor 7:25-31 Ps 45:11-12, 14-17 Lk 6:20-26
<b>Thurs</b>	- 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13 Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14b, 23-24 Lk 6:27-38
<b>Fri</b>	- 1 Cor 9:16-19. 22b-27 Ps 84:3-6, 8, 12 Lk 6:39-42
<b>Sat</b>	- 1 Cor 10:14-22 Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 Lk 6:43-49
<b>Sun</b>	- Sir 27:30—28:7 Ps 103:1-4, 9-12 Rom 14:7-9 Mt 18:21-35



**POPE QUOTE:** "Trust in the Lord and make an effort to enter into his plans, accepting that His salvation can reach us in ways that may be different from what we expect."

**POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER INTENTION**  
SEPTEMBER: RESPECT FOR THE PLANET'S

**RESOURCES:** We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

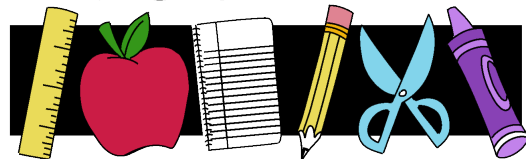
### SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, Betty Brown, Paula Brown, Judy Callahan, Carol Davis, Carlene Eck, Dorland Eck, Becky Evans, Melissa Gowan, Brenda Holloway, Robert Dale Hostetter, Ginny Jones, Karleigh Jones, Wanda Jones, Ben Kopetan, Sherry Lambert, Creighton MacGill, Patti Madigan-Pessoni, Darlene McCurdy, Marie Miele, Cathy Ostaszewski, Pauline Pazzaglia, Jody Schefsky, Mike Slocum, Andrea Smith, Sadie Smith, Bonnie Spencer, Rich Stankiewicz, Cassie Twist, Wanda Wennerholt, Steven Wilber, Anthony Wolf, Donna Wolf, Nicholas Wolf, Barb Yanak

*Contact the parish office to add a name to the prayer list.*



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Plans are underway for the 2020-2021 Religious Education Program. The Diocese of Scranton has developed an online learning platform that we will be participating in to provide both wonderful formation materials and flexibility for our families. FaithAlive! provides access to all of our regular materials as well as additional activities and formation opportunities for the entire family.

In-person learning will begin in October this year, to allow families to adapt to all the changes taking place in the schools. More information will be coming soon, so watch your email and your bulletin!

### SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS

**AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 6, 2020**

Weekly Offerings:	\$1,766.00
Electronic Offerings:	445.00
Other Parish Income:	76.00
Total Parish Income:	\$2,363.00
Average weekly expenses:	3,762.36
Difference:	(1,399.36)
Care & Education of Priests:	18.00



*Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time.*



# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

September 2020

St. Michael Parish

## One Minute Meditations

### Mysteries of faith

Legend says that St. Augustine was walking on a beach puzzling the mystery of the Holy Trinity when he spotted a boy filling a bucket from the ocean and dumping it in a hole. The boy said he was trying to fit the ocean into the hole. St. Augustine cried, "But you can never do that!" The boy replied, "And neither can you understand the Holy Trinity," and vanished. Some things we just have to take on faith.

### "God bless you"

When you sneeze, think of Pope St. Gregory, the Great. In 590AD, the bubonic plague was spreading to Rome. To combat the disease, the pope requested incessant prayer. "God bless you!" in response to a sneeze was part of that effort.

*"You shall not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day, Nor the pestilence that roams in darkness, nor the plague that ravages at noon" (Psalm 91:5-6).*



## Do you trust God?

*"The Lord is my strength and my shield, in whom my heart trusts"* (Psalm 28:7). Do you trust God with everything in your life or only some things? Do you give him your problems but take them back when he doesn't do what you want? It is when we have complete trust in God that our lives work well.

Is God trustworthy? A person worthy of trust is one of good character and integrity. We have more than two thousand years of history that prove God means what he says and says what he means. He does what he promises.

Is God capable? God has power

over all creation – He even has power over life and death. Through the ages, we have learned that all things are possible with God. More to the point, God's Son told us that God loves us with

unimaginable intensity so he always wants what is best for us. In fact, God is more qualified than we are to take care of what we need.

Are you ready to really trust God? Start by thanking him no matter what. Everything that he allows to happen to us is for our good. Then remind yourself that God is fully in charge. Finally, ask him what you should do next and do it.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics believe the Eucharist is Jesus' Body and Blood?

The concept of transubstantiation means that, during Mass, the entire substance of bread changes into the substance of the Body of Christ. The entire substance of wine changes into the substance of His Blood. This change is brought about in the eucharistic

prayer through the Word of Christ and the action of the Holy Spirit.

However, the outward characteristics of bread and wine, the "eucharistic species," remain unaltered.

Jesus is truly present during Mass, Body and Blood, soul and divinity.

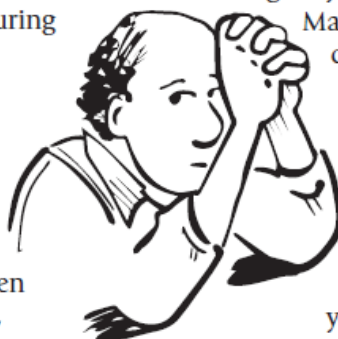


# Make distractions a plus in prayer

There is no better way to build a relationship with Jesus than through prayer. Relying on His strength during difficult times is how we get through them. Yet when we become distracted during prayer, we can become discouraged and give up. Try these ideas for turning distractions into blessings:

**Gently return.** Start your prayer by placing yourself in the presence of God. When you wander, gently bring yourself back.

**Practice recall.** St. Frances de Sales said, "When your mind wanders or gives way to distractions,



gently recall it and place it once more close to its Divine Master. If you should do nothing else but repeat this during the whole time of prayer, your hour would be very well spent and you would perform a spiritual exercise most acceptable to God."

**Turn distractions into prayer.** If you start thinking about people and events unrelated to your prayer, pray about them and then return to the original subject of your prayer.

**Pray out loud.** When distractions overwhelm you, pray out loud.

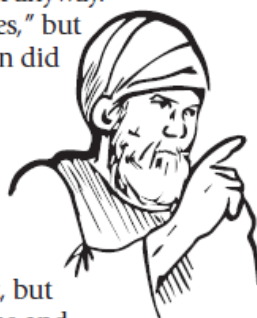
## from Scripture

### Matthew 21:28-32, Faithful obedience.

Jesus told of a man who asked his two sons to go work in his vineyard. The first said, "No," but went anyway. The second said, "Yes," but didn't go. Which son did as the father asked?

The father in the parable is God. The first son represents the outcasts of society. They said "No" to God at first, but repented of their sins and changed.

The second son represents the Jewish religious leaders. They said "Yes," but it was just lip service. They followed rules rather than changing their hearts.



Saying, "Yes, God, I believe in you," is not enough. If we presume that the Lord will take us into Heaven just because we profess our faith, we will be disappointed. Words are not enough.



True obedience is lived. When we realize we are in a state of sin, we have two options. We can say we're sorry, or we can show we're sorry by going to Confession, doing sincere penance and amending our lives. Living as Jesus taught us is our way of "working in our Father's vineyard."

## Q & A How can I stop worrying about what other people think?

The problem with placing too much importance on other people's opinions of you is that you give them inappropriate power over you. In effect,



you are substituting other people's values and judgment for your own and there is no guarantee that they have your best interests – or your eternal future – at heart. Not everyone is interested in helping you get to Heaven.

Try instead to live by the rules detailed in the Ten Commandments and in the Beatitudes. They tell us to be devoted to God, to care for other people, to be honest and dedicated to truth, and to value the blessings God has given us.

Remember that there is value in being criticized or insulted even though you do the right thing. Not only can you offer it as penance for your sins, such suffering teaches humility and patience – two virtues that will help you get to Heaven. And when it comes down to it, the opinion of other people will pass, but God's judgment is forever.

## Feasts & Celebrations

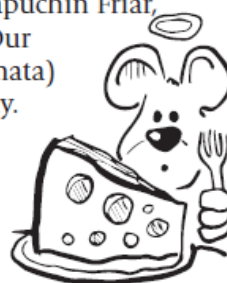
**Sept. 8 - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1st century).** Tradition holds that Mary was born in Jerusalem after her parents had been childless for more than twenty years. Mary's birth brought them – and us – joy.

**Sept. 15 – Our Lady of Sorrows.** In Luke 2:35, Simeon predicted Mary's sorrows as "a sword piercing" her soul. This referred, in part, to a time when Mary would stand at the foot of her son's Cross. Still, Mary stood dignified and fearless while others fled.

**Sept. 21 – St. Matthew (1st century).**

Also known as Levi, he was a notorious tax collector. St. Matthew left everything behind when Jesus called him to spread the Gospel. He wrote the Gospel According to Matthew.

**Sept. 23 – St. Padre Pio (1968).** Francesco Forgione was born to farmers in southern Italy. Eight years after he became a Capuchin Friar, the five wounds of Our Lord's Passion (stigmata) appeared on his body. Despite intense personal and physical suffering, he remained dedicated to prayer.



## Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)



## EMPCC BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

The Endless Mountains Pregnancy Care Center Baby Bottle Campaign began August 8th and ends September 13th.

Baby Bottles are available on your way out of Mass and can be returned to the same place any time between now and September 13th. Thank you for your generosity toward this important work.



# URGENT!

## PEACE IS IN JEOPARDY



To stave off violence and impending civil unrest, join the nation-wide

### 54-DAY ROSARY MIRACLE NOVENA

for God's peace and blessing surrounding the coming election.

Say **ONE ROSARY** each day from **August 15 through October 7, 2020.**

# September 2020

## Congratulations

*St. Michael Parish*

*...for reaching your Appeal Goal*

*You are part of the Gospel in action  
through the good works of our Diocese  
serving our brothers and sisters in Christ.*

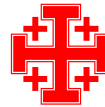
*Peace and blessings to you!*

Your gifts helped to raise \$4.1 million for Diocesan Ministries

- Catholic Social Services
- Care & Education of Clergy
- Catholic Education
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- Parish Life
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2019 **DIOCESAN**  
ANNUAL APPEAL

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IN WITH HOPE  
AND GRATITUDE



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At the request of Pope Francis the  
2020 PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION  
is to be taken up  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

Visit [myfranciscan.org/good-friday/](http://myfranciscan.org/good-friday/) for more info.

*Thank you!*

The Altar and Rosary would like to extend our appreciation to all those who volunteer to clean the churches in our parish.

SUN

MON

TUE

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FRI

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PRAY THE  
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MYSTERIES WITH  
FR. TONY AND FR. JIM  
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YOUTUBE. CLICK ON  
THE BUTTON ABOVE:  
10 SEPTEMBER 10

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St. Michael's Altar & Rosary Society is open to all women of the parish. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Saint Michael's church hall at 12:30 pm. We always welcome new members.

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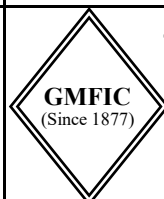
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