



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saint Michael's Parish, October 4, 2020

(covering worship sites in Ralston, Canton & Troy)

Reverend Joseph P. Kutch, MA, Pastor

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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.

Eucharistic Adoration

Wed: 6 pm, St. Michael Church
following 5:30 pm Mass
Benediction at 7 pm

First Friday: Following 7 am Mass
until 7 pm, St. Michael Church

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)

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

Saturday, October 3	Weekday
Vigil for the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time 4:00 pm, Canton † Alvin Shanley (Susan Schiess)	
Sunday, October 4	27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Lefty Shanley (Dan & Betsy Clark) 9:30 am, Canton † Richard Blaszczyk (Mary & Children) 11:15 am, Troy † Pro Populo	
Monday, October 5	Weekday
7:00 am, Canton - For the special intentions of Laura Brann	
Tuesday, October 6	Weekday
5:30 pm, Troy † Lefty & Barbara Shanley (Denise Ives)	
Wednesday, October 7	Our Lady of the Rosary
5:30 pm, Canton † The Souls in Purgatory (Susan Schiess)	
Thursday, October 8	Weekday
No Mass	
Friday, October 9	Weekday
7:00 am, Canton † Mary Woods (Jim Mellon)	
Saturday, October 10	Weekday
Vigil for the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time 4:00 pm, Canton † Stephen O'Kula (Sheila Wilson)	
Sunday, October 11	28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo 9:30 am, Canton † Deceased members of the Knights of Columbus 11:15 am, Troy † John & Eleanor Sullivan (Barbara Pulver)	



The sanctuary lamps in all three churches burn this week for the intentions of all those who have lost loved ones, homes, and businesses due to Hurricane Laura and the wildfires out West.

NATURAL DISASTERS RELIEF

In light of the recent natural disasters of Hurricane Laura and the California wildfires, the USCCB has asked all parishes to take up a special voluntary collection to assist those most ravaged by these emergencies.

In St. Michael Parish, offerings can be placed in the regular collection bag on the weekend of October 10 & 11. Please clearly mark them:

USCCB Natural Disasters Relief.

If you prefer, you can send your donation directly to:
Office of National Collections
Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund
PO Box 96278, Washington DC 20090-6278



SAINT MICHAEL ALTAR & ROSARY NEWS

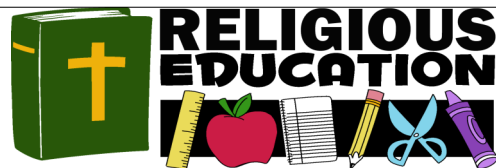
Due to the rise in COVID-19 cases in our area, the Harvest Supper Committee has determined, for the safety of our volunteers, to cancel this year's supper. Hopefully, everything will be better next year.

FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC, OR REFRESHING YOUR MEMORY?



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the way for non-Catholics to enter into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church and for Catholics who have not been fully initiated to receive Holy Communion and/or Confirmation. If you or any one you know is interested in becoming Catholic, RCIA is for you. For Catholics who would like a "refresher" on their faith, this is also an excellent continuing education opportunity. For more information or to register for classes, please contact Father Joe at 570-673-5253. The first session will be on Monday, October 5th at 7 pm in the rectory.



In light of both Canton Area School District and Troy Area School District moving to online learning, our Religious Education program is also going virtual. While disappointing in some ways, we can choose to make it an opportunity as well. Parents are the first people to introduce their children to Catholicism, and remain their primary catechist throughout their lives. The new online platform allows for greater family participation, opening up conversations that might not otherwise take place. ***Faith Alive!*** provides access to all of our regular curriculum as well as additional activities and formation opportunities for the entire family.

Enrollment is underway for the 2020-2021 Religious Education Program. Virtual learning will begin the week of October 18th. Contact the parish office to register your child, ask questions, or volunteer.

We are still in need of additional catechists in Saint Michael's Church for when in-person lessons resume. Classes meet on Sundays from 8:15 am until 9:15 am. The curriculum provides plenty of information and assistance, so no special teaching training is required. A heart for passing the faith on to the next generation is essential. We will assist you with completing Security clearance applications and Safe Environment training. This is a wonderful and fulfilling ministry. Please see Father Joe, Trina Beers, or call the parish office if you feel called to this ministry.

OCTOBER 5 - 11 READINGS

Mon - Gal 1:6-12 Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c Lk 10:25-37

Tues - Gal 1:13-24 Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15 Lk 10:38-42

Wed - Gal 2:1-2, 7-14 Ps 117:1bc, 2 Lk 11:1-4

Thurs - Gal 3:1-5 (Ps) Lk 1:69-75 Lk 11:5-13

Fri - Gal 3:7-14 Ps 111:1b-6 Lk 11:15-26

Sat - Gal 3:22-29 Ps 105:2-7 Lk 11:27-28

Sun - Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-6 Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

Mt 22:1-14



POPE QUOTE: "Almighty God, present in the entire universe and in the smallest of Your creatures, fill us with the strength of Your love so that we might take care of life and beauty."

POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER INTENTION

OCTOBER: THE LAITY'S MISSION IN THE CHURCH: We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

There are many new faces who come because they need the food to survive...

One little child asked her father, 'What are we eating tonight?' He said, 'Whatever that lady is going to give us.'



Lee Ann Lywiski, St. Joseph Food Pantry Supervisor, Hazleton

10,501 families were served in Catholic Social Services food pantries from March to July, 2020.

Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL

BOUND TOGETHER IN
Hope

Catholic Social Services touches more than 300,000 lives each year, offering more than food and shelter to the poor and forgotten. Staff and volunteers restore human dignity and give hope to needy individuals and families through counseling, emergency help, employment assistance and permanent and transitional housing, including special care and support for veterans.

To learn more and to make a gift visit AnnualAppeal.org

LIFE CHAIN 2020

Sunday, October 4, 2020 Beginning at 2 PM (for 60 to 90 minutes depending on the location). Join the **National Life Chain** in Athens, Canton, Dushore, Meshoppen, Nichols, Towanda and Wyalusing.

All are welcome to attend.



Blessing - of the - ANIMALS

FEAST OF SAINT FRANCIS

On Sunday, October 4th, at 2:00 pm, we will have the traditional Blessing of Animals and Pets for the Feast of Saint Francis.

Everyone is invited to bring their pets and animals of any kind to the parking lot of Saint Michael Church at 107 North Washington Street, Canton.

The Blessing Service will last approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Through the intercession of Saint Francis may we always be faithful stewards of God's creatures.



**SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS
SEPTEMBER 21 - 27, 2020**

Weekly Offerings:	\$1,632.00
Electronic Offerings:	445.00
Bulletin ad renewals:	75.00
Other Parish Income:	54.50



Total Parish Income:	\$2,206.50
Average weekly expenses:	3,762.36
Difference:	(1,555.86)

Care & Education of Priests:	11.00
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Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time.

October 2020

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

PRAY THE
GLORIOUS
MYSTERIES

4

PRAY THE
JOYFUL
MYSTERIES

5

PRAY THE
SORROWFUL
MYSTERIES

6

*Final Day:
Feast of the
Holy Rosary*

7

JOIN FR. TONY AND FR. JIM BLOUNT LIVE ON YOUTUBE TO THANK GOD FOR FAVORS GRANTED. CLICK ABOVE ON OCTOBER 8

8

9

10

**54-DAY ROSARY
MIRACLE NOVENA**

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

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

October 2020

St. Michael Parish

One Minute Meditations

True happiness

Popular theologian C.S. Lewis wrote, "Aim at Heaven and you will get Earth thrown in. Aim at Earth and you get neither." We were made for God and can't be truly happy unless we are united with him. If we focus on worldly concerns, we will never know the meaning of true happiness. If we focus on God, we will know happiness even on Earth.

The Commandment imbalance

Of the Ten Commandments, only the first three address how we are to respect the Creator of the universe. The other seven detail how we are to treat each other. It is one way God lets us know how much he wants us to love one another.

Silence of the heart

"In the silence of the heart God speaks. If you face God in prayer and silence, God will speak to you. Souls of prayer are souls of great silence." Mother Teresa of Calcutta

"Live in harmony with one another"

In times of uncertainty or stress, tempers can shorten, perspectives narrow, and peace suffers. It is important to remember that Jesus came to bring love and unity. His followers are asked to do the same.

"The rich and the poor meet together; the Lord is the maker of them all" (Proverbs 22:2) – embrace diversity, don't just tolerate it. Different as we are, we are all made in God's image and likeness. There is great diversity in the communion of saints.

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another" (1 John 4:11) – as children of God, all humans were created with inherent dignity that we are required to acknowledge.

Trying to understand others' perspectives is the best way to realize the impact of our actions on them.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God"

(Matthew 5:9) – a steady diet of violent entertainment and media helps us become comfortable with violence and to see people as characters rather than humans.

Instead, live with peace and pray for victims of violence.

"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts" (Colossians 3:15). This means we have to make the choice to trust God's promises (letting His peace rule) or to rely on ourselves and reject the peace He offers.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

God gives us a free gift to share in His life, a gift that we can't earn and don't deserve. Called, "grace," this gift helps us to become His adopted children. When God shares His divine life with us as sanctifying grace, we



What is grace?

are strengthened to act in His love. Through actual grace, God strengthens us to live in harmony with His will. Sacramental and special graces – gifts of the Holy Spirit – help us to live out our Christian vocation.

Make holiness your goal

All people are called to be holy, *"Be you therefore perfect, as also your heavenly Father is perfect"* (Matthew 5:48). Achieving holiness requires a constant effort like climbing a mountain. To stop trying, even for a little while, is to lose ground. Daily effort will pay off with results.

Look for Jesus' presence. Search for Him each day. Not only will awareness of His presence help you grow in love and kindness toward everyone, you will find it easier to control your faults.

Don't avoid suffering. Jesus experienced extreme

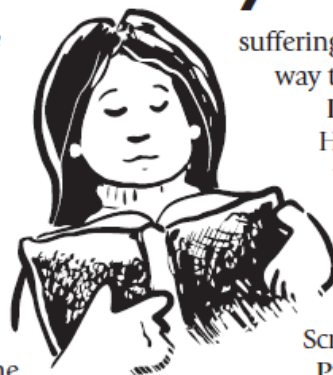
suffering in His time on Earth and used it to pave our way to Heaven.

Pay attention to His voice. Speak to Him, ask Him for help, express sorrow for your mistakes, tell Him you love Him.

Nurture your faith. Just as food nourishes our bodies, faith feeds our souls. Scripture is a staple of our spiritual diet. Ask for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to meditate on

Scripture every day.

Practice patience. It's the first step toward holiness.



from Scripture

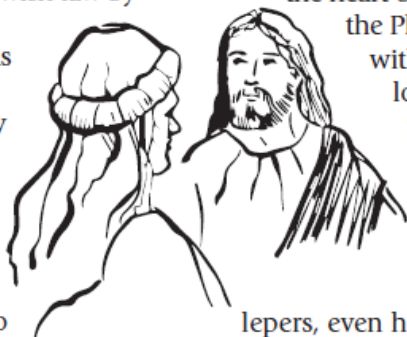
Matthew 22:34-40, Jesus has the right answers.

In their first meeting with Jesus, the Pharisees attempted to trap him into publicly contradicting Jewish law by sending a slick lawyer to "engage" him. Then Jesus could be arrested and silenced. The lawyer they sent knew that generations of Jews had debated fruitlessly about which law was the most important. Pretending to seek Jesus' opinion, he asked him to choose which of the 613 commandments of the Jewish law was the most important.

Jesus silenced them by saying that everything starts and ends with love –

love of God and love of others. To love God is to love one another. Love is at the heart of all the other laws. Even the Pharisees couldn't argue with that. While it is easy to love God, loving others is more difficult. It means including those our natural inclination says to exclude or avoid. Jesus loved prostitutes, thieves, lepers, even his political enemies.

True love of neighbor is measured by how we treat the poor, the vulnerable, and our enemies. This is how God loves and he calls us to the same.



Feasts & Celebrations

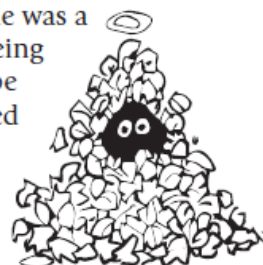
In October we celebrate the Rosary with the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7th. The Rosary helps us meditate on the mysteries of our salvation – Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection.

Oct. 15 - St. Teresa of Avila (1583). St. Teresa founded a strict religious order whose nuns wore rough brown habits and sandals instead of shoes. St. Teresa established more than 17 convents of Discalced Carmelites and helped reform the Carmelite friars.

Oct. 17 – St. Ignatius of Antioch

(1st century). Succeeded St. Peter as the second bishop of Antioch. St. Ignatius encouraged obedience to the world's bishops and reminded people that Jesus is present in the Church and in each other.

Oct. 28 – St. Simon and St. Jude (1st century). St. Simon was a Zealot – Jews who believed that the Messiah would free them from political oppression. St. Jude was a fisherman. After being called by Jesus to be apostles, they ended up in Persia where they evangelized until they were martyred.



Q & A

How can I develop more faith?

Faith is not a single event or a mastered skill. It's a journey that develops and grows over time. A father asking Jesus for a miraculous cure for

his son cried out, *"I do believe, help my unbelief"* (Mark 9:24). We have to ask God to help our faith develop and grow.

The best way to develop a strong faith is to pray.



Prayer is a conversation with God. Most of us use prayer to talk to God, but it's important to listen, too.

One good way to listen to God is to read his Word in the Bible. Start by reading a passage from Scripture, particularly the Gospels. Then ask yourself what the passage is saying to you, personally.

For example, ask yourself, "What is God saying to me through this reading?" Or "How can I put his message into practice in my life?" We need to meditate on the message and put it into action in our lives. Only then can the word be *"living and effective"* (Hebrews 4:12).

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)

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From Fr. Joe



To all parishioners, families, and friends; this Sunday, October 4, at 2:00 pm, we will have the traditional

Blessing of Animals and Pets for the

Feast of St. Francis. Everyone is

invited to bring their pets and animals of any kind, to the parking lot of St.

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Blessing Service will last

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