

Second Sunday of Advent



December 6, 2020

ST. MICHAEL

CATHOLIC PARISH

(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.

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

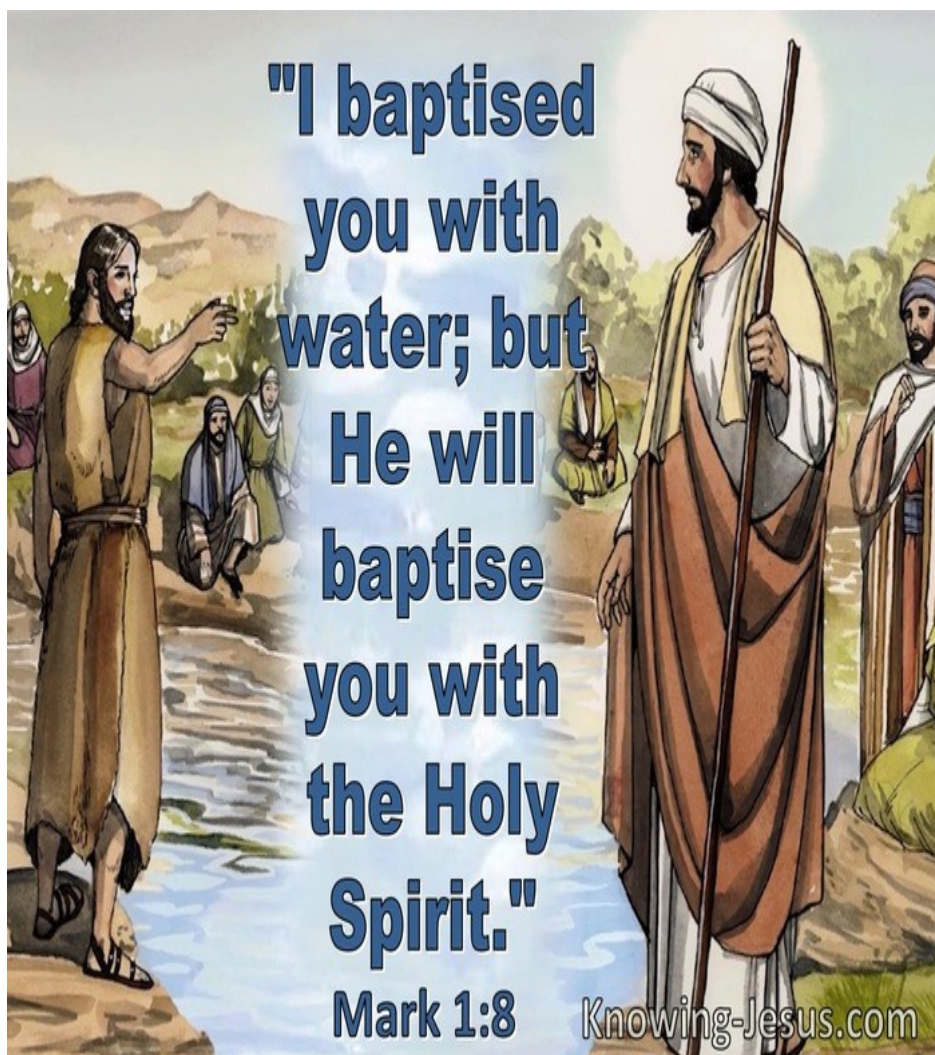
Sat: 3:15 - 3:45 pm St. Michael
Wed: 6:15 - 6:50 pm St. Michael
(also available by appointment)

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 by the week before First Friday.

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



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."

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

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 5 Advent Weekday

Vigil - 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00 pm, Canton † Lefty Shanley (James & Joyce Maloney)

Sunday, December 6 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo

9:30 am, Canton † Helen Kropf (Joe & Joanne Kropf)

11:15 am, Troy † Deceased members of the
Knights of Columbus

Monday, December 7 Saint Ambrose, Bishop,
Doctor of the Church

Vigil: THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

6:00 pm, Canton † A special intention

Tuesday, December 8 THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

5:30 pm, Troy † Lefty & Barbara Shanley (Denise Ives)

Wednesday, December 9 Advent Weekday

5:30 pm, Canton † John Loftus (Family)

Thursday, December 10 Advent Weekday
No Mass

Friday, December 11 Advent Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory † Richard Ross (Family)

Saturday, December 12 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Vigil - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00 pm, Canton † Steve O'Kula (Barbara Pulver)

Sunday, December 13 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo

9:30 am, Canton † Joy & Douglas Snell (Patricia Pepper)

11:15 am, Troy † Lefty & Barbara Shanley (Denise Ives)



The sanctuary lamps in all three churches burn this week for the intentions of Jack Bell. They also burn for the repose of the soul of Ginny Jones.

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

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, Carol Asbury, Allura Booker, Betty Brown, Carol Davis, Carlene Eck, Dorland Eck, Becky Evans, Douglas Greene, Melissa Gowan, Robert Dale Hostetter, Karleigh Jones, Wanda Jones, Ben Kopetan, Sherry Lambert, Creighton MacGill, Patti Madigan-Pessoni, Darlene McCurdy, Bunny Meuse, Marie Miele, Cathy Ostaszewski, Debbie Pawlak, Pauline Pazzaglia, Ronald Rudnicki, Jody Schefsky, Dr. Scott, 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. Names remain on the list for 3 months per request.

FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC, OR REFRESHING YOUR MEMORY?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) has begun. We are currently in the inquiry phase. It's culmination is the inquirer's decision to enter the catechumenate, the period of formal preparation for entrance into full membership in the Catholic Church. This phase may last a few weeks. The next session will be on Monday, December 7th at 7 pm in the rectory.



DECEMBER 7 - 13 READINGS

Mon - Is 35:1-10 Ps 85:9ab-14 Lk 5:17-26

Tues - Gn 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1-4 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12

Lk 1:26-38

Wed - Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10 Mt 11:28-30

Thurs - Is 41:13-20 Ps 145:1, 9-13b Mt 11:11-15

Fri - Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Mt 11:16-19

Sat - Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

(Ps) Jdt 13:18bc, 19 Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Sun - Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 (Ps) Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS are continuing in all three churches until further notice. Local pantries are in great need



**FOOD
DRIVE**

due to the pandemic. Your donations of nonperishable food items are greatly appreciated.

2020 Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL

BOUND TOGETHER IN
Hope

Our Parish Goal for the
2020 Diocesan Annual Appeal is \$12,000.00.

As of 11/24/2020 we have reached
70% of our goal, \$8,050.00.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed thus far.

SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS NOVEMBER 23 - 29, 2020

Weekly Offerings: 1,526.00

Electronic Offerings: 495.00

Other Parish Income: 509.00

Total Parish Income: \$2,530.00

Average weekly expenses: 3,762.36

Difference: (1,232.36)

Care & Education of Priests: 56.00

Thank you for your continued support.





POPE QUOTE: “Advent is the Season in which we remember God’s nearness, that He came down toward us.

POPE FRANCIS’S PRAYER INTENTION:
DECEMBER: FOR A LIFE OF PRAYER: We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS Help our elders. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous in next weekend’s second offering.

ADVENT

Human beings cannot live without hope. Unlike the animals, we are blessed - or cursed - with the ability to think about the future and to fear our actions to shaping it. So essential is this to human life, that human beings cannot live without hope, without something to live for, without something to look forward to. To be without hope, to have nothing to live for, is to surrender to death in despair. But we can find all sorts of things to live for and we can hope for almost anything: for some measure of success or security or for the realization of some more or less modest ambition; for our children, that they might be saved from our mistakes and sufferings and find a better life than we have known; for a better world, throwing ourselves into politics or medicine or technology so that future generations might be better off. Not all these forms of hope are selfish; indeed, they have given dignity and purpose to the lives of countless generations.

But one of the reasons why we read the Old Testament during Advent is to learn what to hope for. The people of the Old Testament had the courage to hope for big things: that the desert would be turned into fertile

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2020

4:00 pm, Saint Michael’s Church, Canton
6:00 pm, Saint Aloysius Church, Ralston
9:00 pm, Saint John Nepomucene Church, Troy

Christmas Day, December 25, 2020

9:30 am, Saint Michael’s Church, Canton

In obedience to Bishop Bambara, we are limited to 25% of capacity of each site and will continue to follow social distancing and mask guidelines. Due to the popularity of these Masses, reservations are needed. You may make your request:

- by phone at 570-673-5253
- by email at stmichaelparish@frontiernet.net.
- online at stmichaelscanton.com

land; that their scattered and divided people would eventually be gathered again; that the blind would see, the deaf hear, the lame walk; that not only their own people but all the peoples of the earth, would be united in the blessings of everlasting peace. Clearly, their hopes were no different from ours or from any human being’s; lasting peace, tranquil lives, sufficiency of food, an end to suffering, pain and misery.

Thus we hope for the same things as the Old Testament people, for their hopes are not yet realized. But we differ from them in two ways. First, the coming of Jesus in history, as a partial fulfillment of God’s promises, immeasurably confirms and strengthens our hope. Secondly, we differ from the Old Testament people because Jesus has revealed to us that God is not afar off, but is already in our midst. Hence the importance in the Advent liturgy of John the Baptist and of Mary: because they recognized the new situation, they serve as models for the Church in discerning the presence of our Savior in the world.

Taken from “The Spirit of Advent,”
Mark Searle, in *Assembly*, Volume 7:1.
© Notre Dame Center for Liturgy, Notre Dame, IN

Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi





Knights of Columbus Council #5517

Looking for new members.
See Dates to Remember for
next meeting date,
time & location.

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Society is open to
all women of
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in Saint Michael's church hall
at 12:30 pm. We always wel-
come new members.

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*In loving
memory of
Carol Ann Gergel*

Saint Jude, Pray for us.

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James Paul
Pazzaglia*

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