

**SECOND SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME  
JANUARY 17, 2021**



**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](mailto:stmichaelparish@frontiernet.net)

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

website: [www.stmichaelscanton.com](http://www.stmichaelscanton.com)

**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.

**Confessions**

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. (2020/21 - virtual classes)**

(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, January 16</b>	Weekday
Vigil - 2ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	
4:00 pm, Canton † Richard Carlonas (Cheryl)	
<b>Sunday, January 17</b>	2ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo	
9:30 am, Canton † Robert Fleury (The Fleury Family)	
11:15 am, Troy † Dr. George Abraham	(St. Michael's A & R)
<b>Monday, January 18</b>	Weekday
7:00 am, Rectory † Carol Asbury (St. Michael's A&R)	
<b>Tuesday, January 19</b>	Weekday
5:30 pm, Troy † Mary "Mae" Barnosky	
<b>Wednesday, January 20</b>	Weekday
5:30 pm, Canton † Marie O'Neal (John & Pat Rushin)	
<b>Thursday, January 21</b>	Saint Agnes, Virgin, Martyr
No Mass	
<b>Friday, January 22</b>	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
7:00 am, Rectory † John Sr. & Martha Kutch	(Alden & Rosemary Fitzwater)
<b>Saturday, January 23</b>	Weekday
Vigil - 3RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	
4:00 pm, Canton † Joann Moore (The Fleury Family)	
<b>Sunday, January 24</b>	3RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Judy Callahan (The Skipper Family)	
9:30 am, Canton † Dr. Clarence Scott (Kathie Lepper)	
11:15 am, Troy † Pro Populo	



The sanctuary lamps in all three churches burn this week for public servants and elected officials to be granted the humility, wisdom, and courage to defend all human life.

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

## NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS are continuing in all three churches until further notice. Local pantries are in great need due to the pandemic and are extremely grateful for your continuing generous support. Donations of nonperishable food



items, paper products, personal hygiene items, or gift cards to local stores are greatly appreciated.

## JANUARY 18 - 24 READINGS

<b>Mon</b>	- Heb 5:1-10 Ps 110:1-4 Mk 2:18-22
<b>Tues</b>	- Heb 6:10-20 Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c Mk 2:23-28
<b>Wed</b>	- Heb 7:1-3, 15-17 Ps 110:1-4 Mk 3:1-6
<b>Thurs</b>	- Heb 7:25—8:6 Ps 40:7-11, 17 Mk 3:7-12
<b>Fri</b>	- Heb 8:6-13 Ps 85:8, 10, 11-14 Mk 3:13-19
<b>Sat</b>	- Heb 9:2-3, 11-14 Ps 47:2-3, 6-9 Mk 3:20-21
<b>Sun</b>	- Jon 3:1-5, 10 Ps 25:4-9 1 Cor 7:29-31
	Mk 1:14-20

## FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

### INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC, OR REFRESHING YOUR MEMORY?

We are now in the catechumenate phase, the period of formal preparation for entrance into full membership in the Catholic Church. The catechumenate period is a time of focused learning on topics related to Catholic belief and practice, training you in the Christian life. It is a time of "more intense preparation for the sacraments of initiation". The next session will be on Monday, January 18th at 7 pm in the rectory.



*A special note of thanks to everyone who gave me gifts, cards & greetings for Christmas. It was greatly appreciated.*

*Sincerely,  
Father Joe*

## 2020 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

To request a statement to use for your tax returns.

- 1) Write "Statement" on the front of your offertory envelope and put it in the collection bag.
  - 2) Call the parish office at: 570-673-5253.
  - 3) Email the parish at: [stmichaelparish@frontiernet.net](mailto:stmichaelparish@frontiernet.net)
- Please let Cathy know if she can send your statement by e-mail. **Thank you for your generosity.**

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

There will be an important Parish Pastoral Council meeting on Friday, January 29th at 6 pm in St. Michael's Hall. Please make every effort to attend.

## SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS

**JANUARY 4 - 10, 2021**

Weekly Offerings:	2,062.00
Electronic Offerings:	495.00
Other Parish Income:	682.00
Total Parish Income:	\$3,239.00
Average weekly expenses:	3,762.36
Difference:	(523.36)
Care & Education of Priests:	90.00



*Thank you for your continued support.*

## SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, 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, Mike Slocum, Andrea Smith, Sadie Smith, Bonnie Spencer, Rich Stankiewicz, Cassie Twist, Wanda Wennerholt, Steven Wilber, Anthony Wolf, Donna Wolf, Nicholas Wolf, Barb Yanak



# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

January 2021

St. Michael Parish

## One Minute Meditations

### Tough times?

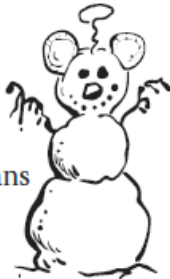
Throughout history, God has proven his faithfulness and care over and over again. He promises that He will help you through whatever tough times you face. *"God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it"* (1 Corinthians 10:13). Lean on Him.



### Tune out the world and tune into God

In our noisy world, it can be hard to hear God's voice over the din. Yet, listening is as important as talking during prayer. *"By waiting and by calm you shall be saved, in quiet and in trust your strength lies"* (Isaiah 30:15). Talk to Him often, but make a point of listening for God's voice.

*"Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God"* (Philippians 4:6).



## Give the gift of friendship in the New Year

When times are tough, it can be our family and friends who help us through. There wasn't much Jesus wouldn't do for His friends. In fact, He was more concerned with being a good friend than with having one. In our current pandemic situation, we can care for our loved ones as Jesus would:

Make spending time together a priority. Connections between loved ones are critical now. When meeting in person isn't possible, phone calls, letters, and emails can keep us connected. Video conferencing has become a staple of daily life; consider organizing regular get togethers with friends and family using your favorite conferencing program.



Help other people feel important. No matter how you interact, give the other person your full attention in conversation, and show appreciation and understanding for what he is saying.

Celebrate your friends' successes. A true friend is genuinely happy when something good happens in the other's life.

Value differences. Don't try to change your loved ones.

Celebrate their diversity.

Be willing to apologize. You may let each other down but a sincere apology can bring friends closer together.

Don't forget old friends. Call someone you haven't been in touch with for a long time. Don't know what to say? Try, "I don't want another moment to go by without being in touch. I've missed you."

## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics honor the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus?

The image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a symbol of Christ's love for us. It is often a heart surrounded by flame, pierced by a lance, topped by a cross, and circled by a crown of thorns.



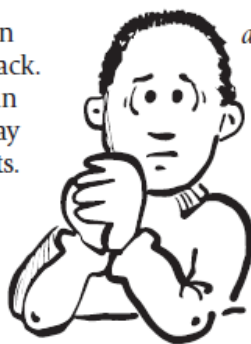
Jesus' love for us burns bright and intense like a flame. His heart is pierced by the lance representing our sins and the crown of thorns and the cross remind us of the death he suffered to bring us life.

# "What do you want from me, Lord?"

God gives to us freely, but what does he want in return? Simply put, God wants us to love Him back.

Know Him. God made each of us with a space in our heart just for Him. Until we discover it, we may try to fill it with earthly things, but nothing else fits. When we turn to Him, the reward is beyond our dreams.

Love Him. Jesus said, *"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul,*



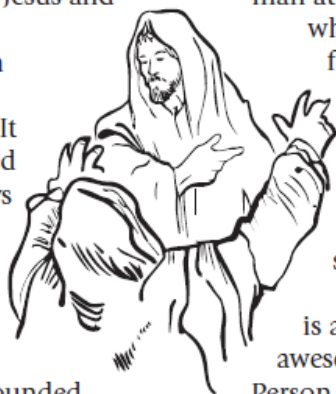
*and with all your mind"* (Matthew 22:37). He wants us to surrender to his infinite love. Show your love by praying frequently, seeking Communion with Him often, and praising Him continually. Serve Him. *"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me"* (Matthew 25:40). When we make sure everyone has enough to eat, warm clothes to wear, and a place to stay, Jesus takes it personally. It's what he wants from us.

## from Scripture

### Mark 1:21-28, God's authority is not a formality

In this Gospel passage, Jesus and his apostles entered the synagogue at Capernaum where Jesus taught those gathered at the Sabbath. It was customary for learned teachers to say, "Thus says the Lord..." Instead Jesus said, *"I say to you ..."* He taught as one who spoke with the authority of God.

His calm authority astounded Jesus' listeners. Just as they began to wonder what it meant, he gave them a sign. He further demonstrated his authority by performing an exorcism. Spirits that bedeviled an unfortunate



man at the synagogue recognized who Jesus was. They were forced to obey Him when he commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance. In fact, God's power and authority isn't just a formality. What God says, happens.

Our kind and gentle Savior is also our powerful and awesome Lord. As the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus has supreme majesty and we will one day appear before Him to be judged. Yes, he is our divine savior and mediator. But if we say, "Jesus is Lord," then we give Him our loyalty and obedience.

## Feasts & Celebrations

Jan. 1 – Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Today, we honor Mary, but also Jesus as God. In their honor, pray a Rosary. Although not a Holy Day of Obligation in many dioceses this year, Mass attendance or streaming is encouraged.

Jan. 25 – The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle (1st Century). Setting out for Damascus to carry on the persecution of the Christians, he encountered Christ (Acts 9:1-19; 22:5-16; 26:12-18) while on the road to Damascus. He was struck blind from

the experience until he was baptized by Ananias three days later. He converted and began preaching the faith as he travelled around the Mediterranean.

Jan. 26 – Sts. Timothy and Titus (1st Century). Timothy was a convert of St. Paul's and later became his trusted friend, joining him in apostolic work. He was with Paul at the founding of the Church in Corinth. Titus, also a friend of Paul's, served the early Church as a peacemaker and administrator to a community on Crete.



## Q & A How can I choose Catholic references that are accurate and faithful?

One good way to determine whether or not a book or pamphlet accurately reflects Catholic doctrine is to look for an "imprimatur" printed in the first few pages of the book. The presence of an



imprimatur generally means that a bishop's office has determined it to be free of doctrinal or moral errors. It may be accompanied by a "nihil obstat" (Latin for "nothing stands in the way") which means that someone well-versed in Catholic theology has reviewed the contents and found the same thing. Keep in mind that neither the imprimatur nor the nihil obstat imply agreement with the content or opinions.

It is particularly important for a book that purports to teach about the faith of the Church to carry the approval of the Catholic Church. There are many well-meaning people who intend to educate others about God's infinite love but may have an imperfect understanding of Catholic doctrine. When choosing materials to learn more about our religion, you will want to be sure that they are accurate.

### Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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**POPE QUOTE:** “The first step towards an attitude of worship is to “lift up our eyes”. When we lift up our eyes to God, life’s problems do not go away, but we feel certain that the Lord grants us the strength to deal with them.”

**POPE FRANCIS’S PRAYER INTENTION:**

**JANUARY: INTENTION FOR EVANGELIZATION: – HUMAN FRATERNITY:** May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

**DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**

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

As of 01/04/2021 we have reached  
98% of our goal, \$11,775.00.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed thus far.

**BRADFORD COUNTY**

**PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE**

Our **Rally for Life** will continue this year. Since it is outside, with plenty of room we don’t anticipate problems. As usual we plan to gather in front of the Bradford County Courthouse at 2:00 PM, Sunday, January 24th for prayer, brief remarks and a hymn. We will walk up Main Street and plan to end up at Saint Peter and Paul Catholic Church for non-denominational prayer service. Because of virus concerns we will not have an organized social afterwards.

We will not be sponsoring a bus to the March for Life because of the uncertainty of the virus and security in Washington D.C. Abortions have continued while the rest of the country was shut down at a rate of *one million each year in the U.S. alone!* Our work will not be finished until this murder of the innocents is halted forever.

Thank you for your past support and we are looking forward to seeing you in this new year.

God Bless,

Michael C. Kilmer, Chairman

Bradford County Pennsylvanians for Human Life

**OTHER PRO-LIFE EVENTS**

**Diocesan Events:** Bishop Bambera will celebrate a **Mass for Life** at 12:10 pm on Friday, January 22 for the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. This Mass will be broadcasted live on CTV and can also be found on Diocesan Social Media.

A **Rosary for Life** featuring parishioners from across the diocese will also be made available for your use in mid-January. When this becomes available, I will be sure to send you the recording via email.

**9 Days for Life Novena:** 9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life prayed from January 21 -29, 2021. More information can be found at:

<https://www.respectlife.org/leaders-resources>

**Youth Rally and Mass for Life:** The Archdiocese of Washington’s Youth Rally and Mass for Life will be virtual and streamed to registrants at no cost. You can register through this link: <https://youthrallyandmassforlife.org/registration/> (Ignore the message “Attendees – Contact your Diocese liaison for registration information” and proceed to ‘Register Here’)

**Life is Very Good Youth Rally:** The Diocese of Arlington will be offering a livestreamed Evening of Prayer from the Cathedral of Saint Thomas More on Thursday, January 28 in place of their in-person rallies. The event begins at 7:30 pm and features Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Bishop Burbidge, a keynote by Ennie Hickman and music by Steve Angrisano. The event is free and registration is underway. You can find more information here: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/youth-ministry/life-is-very-good/>

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/youth-ministry/life-is-very-good/](https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/youth-ministry/life-is-very-good/)

**Holy Child Parish** will be hosting their annual Stand for Life on Friday, January 29th, from 1:30 to 2:30 pm. Meet in front of Holy Child Church. Signs will be available for you to hold. Contact Laurie Coffee at 570-549-2210 or [lauriecoffee@gmail.com](mailto:lauriecoffee@gmail.com) with questions. All are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Visit **Marchforlife.org** for information about the national march in Washington D.C. as well as state and local events, to donate, or to learn more about the organization.

**Umbert the Unborn**

by Gary Cangemi





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



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