

MAY 2, 2021



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 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

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

website: 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.

Confessions

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

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.

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.

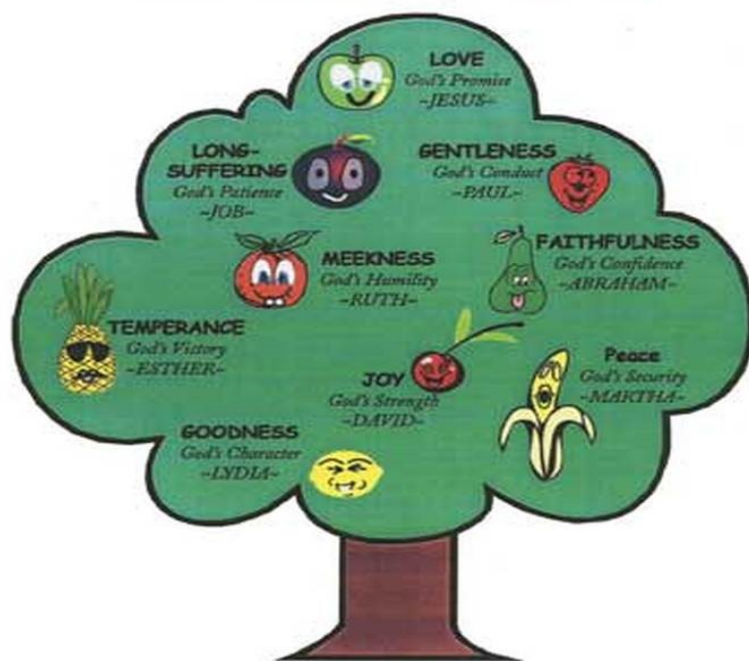
C.C.D. (2020/21 - virtual classes)

(Religious education classes
held during the school year)

Sun: 8:15 am St. Michael hall

10:00 am St. John Nepomucene hall

Jesus is the True Vine



The Fruit of the Spirit
Jesus' Character

Pamela Payne, MSA

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, May 1	Easter Weekday
Vigil - FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
4:00 pm, Canton † Pro Populo	
Sunday, May 2	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
8:00 am, Ralston † Judy Callahan	
(Shawn and Bridget Callahan)	
9:30 am, Canton † Tom Blaszczyk (Mom Mary & Family)	
11:15 am, Troy † Anna Capaldi (Jayne Cleveland)	
Monday, May 3	SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES
7:00 am, Rectory † Bonnie Spencer	
(Honorable Matthew Brann & Family)	
Tuesday, May 4	Easter Weekday
5:30 pm, Troy † Rose Gregori	
Wednesday, May 5	Easter Weekday
5:30 pm, Canton † Kathleen Spencer (Bonnie & Beth)	
6:00 pm, Canton - Holy Hour	
Thursday, May 6	Easter Weekday
No Mass	
Friday, May 7 (First Friday)	Easter Weekday
7:00 am, Canton - A very special intention offered through the Immaculate Heart of Mary to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	
Saturday, May 8	Easter Weekday
Vigil - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
4:00 pm, Canton † Pro Populo	
Sunday, May 9	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
8:00 am, Ralston † Mother's Day Intentions	
9:30 am, Canton † Mother's Day Intentions	
11:15 am, Troy † Mother's Day Intentions	



The sanctuary lamps in all three churches burn this week that the lives of persons with disabilities are always recognized as worth protecting and fighting for in all circumstances.

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

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, Allura Booker, Tom Ambruch, Betty Brown, Carol Davis, Carlene Eck, Dorland Eck, Becky Evans, Douglas Greene, Melissa Gowan, Susan Hagemayerr, Robert Dale Hostetter, Karleigh Jones, Wanda Jones, Chris Kopaczewski, Ben Kopetan, Sherry Lambert, Ralph Lepper, Lanny Lutz, Creighton MacGill, Patti Madigan-Pessoni, Richard Margeson, Darlene McCurdy, Bunny Meuse, Marie Miele, Bernadette Moore, Cathy Ostaszewski, Debbie Pawlak, Pauline Pazzaglia, Ronald Rudnicki, Jody Schefsky, Mike Slocum, Andrea Smith, Sadie Smith, 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.

FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

MOTHER'S DAY SPIRITUAL BOUQUET CARDS

In addition to the Mother's Day intention envelopes that are in your church envelope offertory packets, Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet cards are at the entrances of all three churches. If you choose to use these cards, just fill out the envelope and check the appropriate box for living or deceased mother, place your donation in the envelope, seal it and drop it in the collection basket. There is another envelope which contains a beautiful Mother's Day card that you can give to your living mother, grandmother, or great grandmother. Just take that card out of the intention envelope and only bring the sealed intention envelope with the information filled out on the envelope, back to the church on Mother's Day.

This year, Mother's Day intentions will be published in the bulletin the Sunday following Mother's Day.

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

SENIOR MASS AND BREAKFAST

Planning is underway for the Senior Mass and Breakfast on Sunday, June 6th in Saint Michael Church. We're looking for parishioners who will be graduating from either high school or college in 2021. Please contact the parish office with their name and contact information.



OFFICER NOMINATIONS

The nominating committee is accepting nominations for officers for the two year term (2021-2022). We regret to announce that Dorothy Hopkins is retiring after 8 years of service as Treasurer. If you would like to be nominated or would like to nominate someone else, please call Rosemary Fitzwater at 673-5877 or Sharon Mulno at 673-5857 within the next several weeks.

SAINT MICHAEL'S CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

As we enter the mowing and maintenance season, please remove winter decorations from cemetery grounds. Thank you.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The parish is switching our offertory envelope supplier to Our Sunday Visitor (OSV) beginning with the July & August envelopes. If you would like any changes to your name or address, write them on your current envelope.

SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS

APRIL 19 - 25, 2021

Weekly Offerings:	1,959.00
Electronic Offerings:	495.00
Other Parish Income:	54.15



Total Parish Income:	\$2,508.15
Average weekly expenses:	3,762.36
Difference:	(1,254.21)

Catholic Home Missions Appeal:	226.00
Care & Education of Priests:	31.00

Thank you for your continued support.

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May 2021

St. Michael Parish

One Minute Meditations

God is our strength

Life can be exhausting and we can become overwhelmed by what it takes to be good. It is important to remember that we don't struggle alone. "If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him?" (Romans 8:31-32).

A new approach

St. Paul said the whole law is summed up in love. While he was talking about Mosaic law, laws are given to preserve order. Jesus presented a new fresh approach. Out of love, He came not to abolish the Law, but to bring it to perfection. The relationship between heaven and earth is love.

"Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son; if you ask anything in my name, I will do it" (John 14:13-14).



Who do you say that Jesus is?

Jesus said to his Apostles, "But who do you say that I am?" (Matthew 16:15). In *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis wrote that there are three ways to answer this question. Perhaps Jesus was a liar, deliberately misleading others by claiming to be God. Or, was He insane, deluded into thinking He was God? Finally, perhaps He is what He said He is – God.

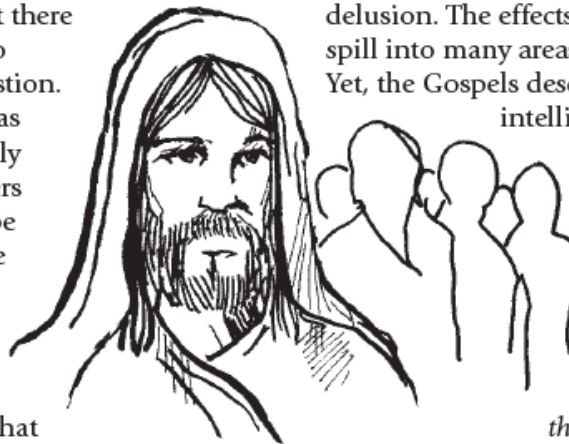
Liar: If Jesus deliberately misled others, He would have been evil. Yet, his friends wrote that He did incredible acts of good, and was honest, kind, and compassionate. No one experienced Jesus as a bad man.

Lunatic: What if Jesus was insane

and deluded when believing He was God? Being out of touch with reality wouldn't have been confined to one delusion. The effects of mental illness spill into many areas of a person's life. Yet, the Gospels describe Jesus' wisdom, intelligence, and practical good sense. He had an ability to attract people who respected His authority. Lord: When Jesus asked, "But who do YOU say that I am?", Peter

responded, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." It's the only answer that makes sense.

Ultimately, we each have to answer the question of who Jesus is for ourselves. We can pray for the faith of Peter to declare Jesus our Lord and our God.



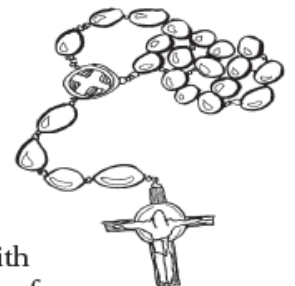
Why Do Catholics Do That?

Popes, saints, and Catholics over the centuries have turned to the Rosary for miraculous help in seemingly impossible situations. The mysteries of the Rosary describe the events of Jesus' life, death and Resurrection. As we pray the Rosary, we revisit these events.

The Rosary is deeply ingrained in our Catholic identity. The rhythm of

Why do Catholics pray the Rosary?

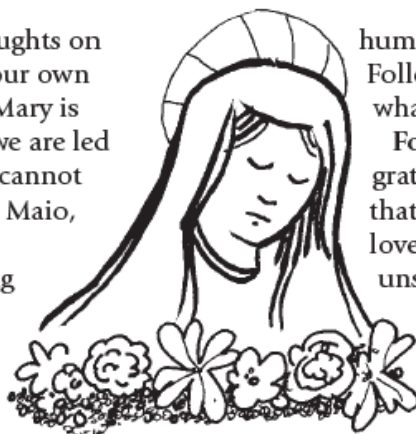
the Rosary is meant to still our minds and direct our hearts to communion with God, placing our focus on God and not on the world.



Mary brings us to the heart of her Son

Jesus so loved his mother that his last thoughts on the Cross were of her. He gave her to us as our own mother, and wants us to honor her. "Since Mary is rightly to be regarded as the way by which we are led to Christ, the person who encounters Mary cannot help but encounter Christ likewise" (Mense Maio, Blessed Pope Paul VI).

For her "yes." Without fully understanding what God intended, she unhesitatingly agreed to become his mother. Her "yes" made it possible for God to become



human and be crucified for our salvation.

Following her example means saying "yes" to whatever God asks.

For her sacrifice. Wouldn't you be forever grateful to someone who gave up her child so that you and your loved ones might live? Mary loved her amazing child and she experienced unspeakable heartache as he was sacrificed for us.

Praying the Rosary regularly reminds us of the life of Jesus and the desire of his Mother to bring us close to his heart.

from Scripture

Matthew 28:16-20, The Holy Trinity

Jesus appeared to the Apostles on the mountain top in Galilee, so they could receive their final instructions. They were to go forth, baptize, make disciples, and to teach what they had been taught.

These are our instructions, too. Once we meet Jesus and experience his love for us, we can't keep him to ourselves. We must share him.

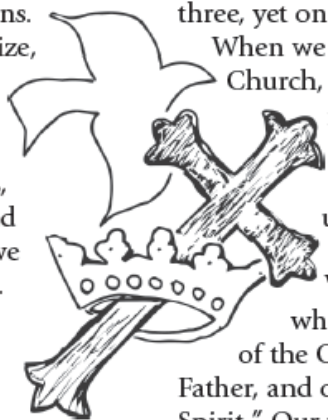
Jesus also revealed to the Apostles, and to the crowd gathered with them, that God is a Trinity—Father, Son, and

Holy Spirit – three Divine Persons united in love. The belief that God is three, yet one, is distinct to Christianity.

When we became members of the Church, we were baptized in the name of the Trinity.

The Trinity is a mystery we may not fully understand, but we can still live in its love and power.

We proclaim our faith in it whenever we make the Sign of the Cross: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Our ultimate goal is to follow Christ into the eternal life of the Trinity.



Q & A Why are Catholics urged to pray?

St. Therese of Lisieux said, "For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy." Practically speaking, prayer is how we connect with God.

Prayer helps us to hear God's voice. By praying, we learn about Him, come to understand what He wants for us, and how we reap the blessings He wants to give us. The more we pray, the closer to Him we become. "Christian prayer is a covenant relationship between God and man in Christ" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2564).

Through our Baptism, we are united with Jesus. When we pray often and regularly, we create the habit of being in His presence and in communion with Him. And, we tap into our Baptismal connection. Through a healthy prayer life, we enjoy a personal and living relationship with God.

God seeks to draw us each to Himself. Prayer is our answer to Him.



Feasts & Celebrations

May 1 – St. Joseph the Worker. Entrusted with the care of the Blessed Mother and Jesus, Joseph was a carpenter dedicated to his family and obedient to God.

May 13 – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (1st Century). This solemnity marks the completion of Jesus' mission of salvation and his triumphant entry into Heaven. Note: In many dioceses, observance of Ascension has been moved to the following Sunday.

May 18 – St. Felix of Cantalice

(1587). Born to poor, pious parents in Italy, St. Felix was called "Brother Deogratias" because he was always thanking God. As a young man, he joined the Capuchins, who sent him to Rome to be the friary's official beggar. He was also friends with Saints Philip Neri and Charles Borromeo.

May 23 – Pentecost (1st century). After the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus, the Holy Spirit was given to the Church at the first Pentecost. When the apostles received the Holy Spirit, the "new age" of the Church was born.



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 - Revised)



POPE QUOTE: "Let us not abandon the simple prayers we learned in our families as children that we preserve in our memories and hearts. They are sure ways to access the Father's heart."

POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER INTENTION:

MAY: THE WORLD OF FINANCE: Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.



NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

The Knights of Columbus have resumed meeting in person! Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:15 pm in St. Michael's hall. If your schedule allows, consider coming early to spend a few minutes in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Holy Hour follows the 5:30 pm daily Mass and ends at 7:00 pm.

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.



FOOD DRIVE

SUPPORT

THE CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

Thank you for your generous support of last week's Catholic Home Missions Appeal. As a parish, we raised \$226.00 to help strengthen the Church at home and ensure that the Gospel is spread across the United States. If you missed the appeal, it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/home-missions.

MAY 3 - 9, 2021 READINGS

Mon - 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-5 Jn 14:6-14

Tues - Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13b, 21 Jn 14:27-31a

Wed - Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-5 Jn 15:1-8

Thurs - Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-3, 10 Jn 15:9-11

Fri - Acts 15:22-31 Ps 57:8-10, 12 Jn 15:12-17

Sat - Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 Jn 15:18-21

Sun - Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 Ps 98:1-4

1 Jn 4:7-10 Jn 15:9-17

Please Pray for

Laurel Pepper

and

Trinity Roupp

who will receive their

First Holy Communion

during the 9:30 and 11:15

Masses, respectfully, on

Sunday, May 16th.



Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2021 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 6 at the Cathedral of St. Peter. The Mass will begin at 2:30, and attendance will require advance reservation.

To register for the celebration, go to:

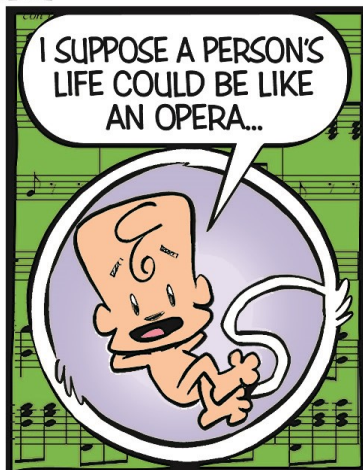
<https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/marriage/enrichment/wedding-anniversary-mass-june-6-2021/>

For questions or concerns, or if there are issues registering online, please reach out to Jen Housel, Director for Community and Family Development.

(jhousel@dioceseofscranton.org, 570-207-2213 x 1104)

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**
St. Michael's
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Society is open to
all women of
the parish. We meet on the
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in Saint Michael's church hall
at 12:30 pm. We always wel-
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