

AUGUST 1, 2021



18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

# 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: [office@stmichaelscanton.com](mailto:office@stmichaelscanton.com)

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.

### 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



### *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, July 31** Saint Ignatius of Loyola  
Vigil - 18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
4:00 pm, Canton † Mary Lynch (John & Pat Rushin)

**Sunday, August 1** 18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo  
9:30 am, Canton † Irene Brozowski (Family)  
11:15 am, Troy † Don Wilber (Louise Wilber)

**Monday, August 2** Weekday  
7:00 am, Rectory - For the special intentions of  
Susan Schiess (Dawn Manley)

**Tuesday, August 3** Weekday  
5:30 pm, Troy † Robert Fleury (The Fleury Family)

**Wednesday, August 4** Saint John Vianney, Priest  
5:30 pm, Canton † Jefferey Wynne (His estate)  
6:00 pm, Holy Hour

**Thursday, August 5** Weekday  
No Mass

**Fri, Aug 6 (1st Friday)** The Transfiguration of the Lord  
7:00 am, Canton † Bill & Bonne Spencer  
(Jeff & Beth Cole)

**Saturday, August 7** Weekday  
Vigil - 19TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
4:00 pm, Canton † Bonnie Spencer (Susan Schiess)

**Sunday, August 8** 19TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
8:00 am, Ralston † Judy Callahan  
(Shawn & Bridget Callahan)  
9:30 am, Canton † Tom Blaszczyk (Millie & Steve Blaszczyk)  
11:15 am, Troy † Pro Populo

Fellowship is held in St. Michael's Church hall following the 9:30 am Mass each Sunday.



The sanctuary lamps in all three churches burn this week for the Lord to generously provide for the needs of all mothers as they dedicate themselves to caring for their children;

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

A Communal Rosary is prayed at 9:30 am Thursday mornings in St. Michael's Church. All are invited to participate.



## SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS JULY 19 – 25, 2021

Weekly Offerings:	2,388.00
Electronic Offerings:	520.00
Other Parish Income:	164.00
Total Parish Income:	3,072.00
Average weekly expenses:	3,762.36
Difference:	(690.36)



Peter's Pence: 25.00  
Care & Ed of Priests: 1.00

*Thank you for your continued support.*

## FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Finance Council will meet at 7:00 pm on Monday, August 30th in the rectory. Finance Council members are strongly urged to attend.

## 12 PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



*"I promise you, in the excessive mercy of my Heart that my all powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the first Friday for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance; they shall not die in my disgrace nor without receiving the sacraments; my divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in that last moment."* — Our Lord to St. Margaret Mary

### HOW TO COMPLETE THE FIRST FRIDAY'S DEVOTION:

- ⇒ Receive Holy Communion on each First Friday;
- ⇒ The nine Fridays must be consecutive;
- ⇒ They must be made in honor and in reparation to His Sacred Heart.

### 12 PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART TO ST. MARGARET MARY

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
2. I will give peace in their families.
3. I will console them in all their troubles.
4. I will be their refuge in life and especially in death.
5. I will abundantly bless all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in my Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall rise speedily to great perfection.
9. I will bless those places wherein the image of my Sacred Heart shall be exposed and venerated.
10. I will give to priests the power to touch the most hardened hearts.
11. Persons who propagate this devotion shall have their names eternally written in my Heart.
12. In the excess of the mercy of my heart, I promise you that my all powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments; and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour.

<https://www.americanneedsfatima.org/Our-Lord-Jesus-Christ/the-nine-first-fridays-devotion.html>

### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin with Mass at 7 am in Saint Michael's Church on Friday, August 6th. Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 7 pm.



# Growing in FAITH™

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August 2021

St. Michael Parish

## One Minute Meditations

### The gift of work

Work can feel like a treadmill. The routine can be exhausting and the job seem pointless. When we treat our labor as a gift back to God, there is an additional purpose to it than just a paycheck. *"There is nothing better for man than to eat and drink and provide himself with good things by his labors. Even this, I realized, is from the hand of God"* (Ecclesiastes 2:24).

### Think and pray

Consider how many mistakes or heartaches could have been prevented if we had been wise enough to stop and think before acting. Too many times we focus on enjoying ourselves as much as possible and we step closer to sin until it draws us in. Trouble can be averted if we think and pray before we act.

"Understand this well: there is something holy, something divine hidden in the most ordinary situations, and it is up to each one of you to discover it."

St. Josemaria  
Escriva



## Where in the world is God?

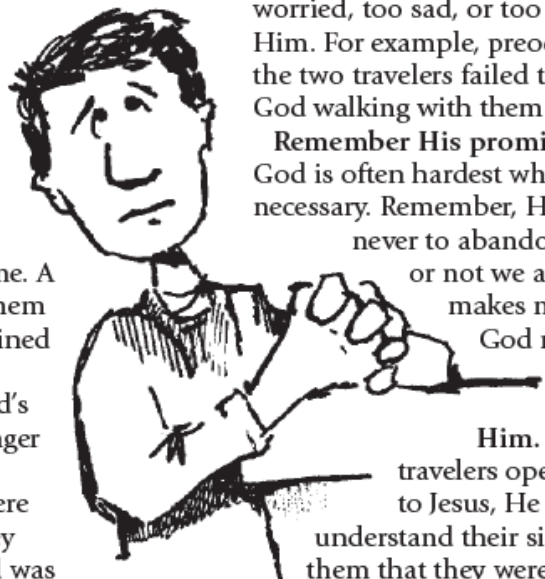
Two travelers, distraught over the murder of someone they loved, were heading out of town. As they walked, they struggled to understand what happened and why God had abandoned them. They felt overwhelmed and alone. A kind stranger joined them in their journey, explained the recent events, and reminded them of God's reliable love. The stranger turned out to be the very loved one they were grieving. Although they hadn't realized it, God was with them all along (Luke 24).

Why can't we find him? Events or experiences in our lives can lessen

our awareness of God and make Him appear distant. Sometimes we are too worried, too sad, or too angry to find Him. For example, preoccupied by grief, the two travelers failed to recognize God walking with them.

Remember His promise. Trust in God is often hardest when it is most necessary. Remember, He promised never to abandon us. Whether or not we are aware of Him makes no difference. God never breaks a promise.

Talk to Him. When the travelers opened their hearts to Jesus, He helped them to understand their situation, assured them that they were firmly in God's care, and gave them peace and consolation. When we open our hearts to Jesus and tell Him everything, He will give us peace and consolation, too.

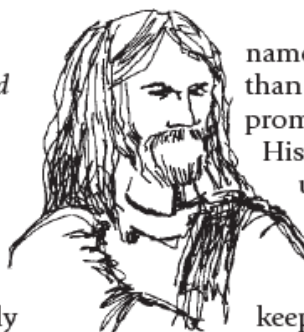


## Why Do Catholics Do That?

"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10). The use of His name is so powerful, Jesus promised that He will answer any prayer we make in His name (John 14:14).

It is wrong to speak the holy

## How do Catholics regard Jesus' name?



name of God in any way other than prayer or praise. In fact, He promised that whatever we ask in His powerful name, He will give us. Calling on His name as a swear, to express improper emotions, using it to curse or make promises we don't keep are grave sins.

## Grow in patience and tolerance

The past eighteen months of pandemic have tested our patience and good humor. Tempers have become shorter and tolerance limited. Yet, followers of Jesus know that it is critical for our daily treatment of others to demonstrate our love for God. We are asked to show as much patience to others as God has with us.

Fight against your own defects. Certainly it can be frustrating when the faults and mistakes of others disrupt the routine of our lives. In fairness, our own defects disrupt theirs as well. Instead of noting and



resenting the weaknesses of our neighbors, we can focus on improving our own.

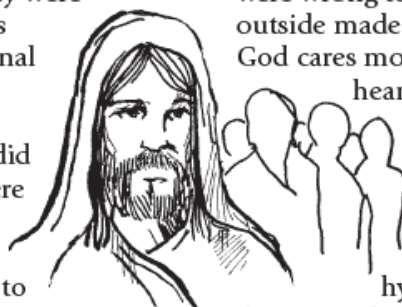
**Help, don't judge.** Developing an honest concern for those around us helps us to become generous in our relationships. Acting with love and understanding means that we aid those in our lives instead of looking for their blunders.

**Become a carrier of love.** Jesus asks us to be His hands and feet on Earth. As His disciples, we are to carry His love to others. It is through our actions that we bring Jesus to the world.

### from Scripture

#### Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Clean hearts vs. clean hands

The religious leaders sent investigators to check up on Jesus and didn't like what they saw. Not only were Jesus and His followers ignoring some traditional rituals, Jesus scolded the leaders for being hypocrites when they did observe them. They were outwardly obedient so they could look holy instead of taking steps to actually be holy.



Jesus' followers didn't perform this ceremony. Jesus told them that they were wrong to think being clean on the outside made them acceptable to God. God cares more about the state of our hearts than our hands.

Hypocrisy is when we pretend to be something we aren't and have no intention of becoming. Jesus called the Pharisees hypocrites because they went through the motions of worshipping God so they could appear holy in the eyes of the Jews. We become hypocrites when we follow religious practices carefully but allow our hearts to remain distant from God.

### Q & A How can I resist temptation?

There is only one effective way to resist temptation and that is to say "no." But that is easier said than done. Try these ideas for help:

Make a list of what most often leads you into sin. Do you have friends who love to gossip? Do you drink too much with coworkers? Do you spend too much money at the mall? Write your list down and make it complete. Then decide to reject each item on the list.

Practice saying "no" when you are alone. Say it out loud if you have to. Don't offer explanations. Just make it a "no." "I don't do that." "That's not me."

Remove yourself from temptation. In the Old Testament story of Joseph, his boss's wife "looked at him with longing" and followed him around but Joseph "would not agree to lie with her or even be near her" (Genesis 39:10). Avoid the gossiping friends, go straight home from work, stay away from the mall.

There is nothing more important than avoiding sin.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**August 6 - Transfiguration of the Lord.** Tradition holds that it was on Mt. Tabor where Christ appeared radiant in the company of Moses and Elijah. A voice said, "This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

**August 8 - St. Dominic (1221).** Dominic was alarmed by the Albigenian heretics who threatened the Church. He and his followers rejected material comforts while many Catholic preachers traveled in luxury. St. Dominic became an itinerant preacher like the Apostles and founded the Order of Preachers, "Dominicans."

**August 10 - St. Lawrence (258).** A Roman deacon to Pope St. Sixtus, II. In response to Roman demands for the Church's material treasure, St. Lawrence gathered the poor and presented them as the Church's treasure. He was martyred shortly afterwards.

**August 15 - Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** Declared a dogma of our faith in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, the Assumption celebrates Mary's taking up into Heaven body and soul at the end of her life.



### 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:** “It would be good to ask ourselves every day: “What do I bring to Jesus today?”. He can do a lot with one of our prayers, with a gesture of charity for others. This is how God loves to act: He does great things, starting from those small things.”

**POPE FRANCIS’S PRAYER INTENTION:** AUGUST: Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

### 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.



### SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, Allura Booker, Tom Ambruch, Betty Brown, Jeremy Colony, 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, Elias Vroman, 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.*

### AUGUST 2 - 8, 2021 READINGS

**Mon** - Nm 11:4b-15 Ps 81:12-17 Mt 14:13-21

**Tues** - Nm 12:1-13 Ps 51:1, 3-7, 12-13 Mt 14:22-36  
or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

**Wed** - Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35  
Ps 106:6-7b, 13-14, 21-23 Mt 15:21-28

**Thurs** - Nm 20:1-13 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 Mt 16:13-23

**Fri** - Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19  
Mk 9:2-10

**Sat** - Dt 6:4-13 Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51 Mt 17:14-20

**Sun** - 1 Kgs 19:4-8 Ps 34:2-9 Eph 4:30—5:2  
Jn 6:41-51

### ANCHORED IN CHRIST

We are happy to announce that the Office for Parish Life will be hosting in person Catechist Camp this year on **August 17th in St. Lawrence Church, South Williamsport**, August 18th in the Office for Parish Life, Scranton, and August 19th in St. Luke Parish, Stroudsburg. The theme is “Anchored in Christ”.

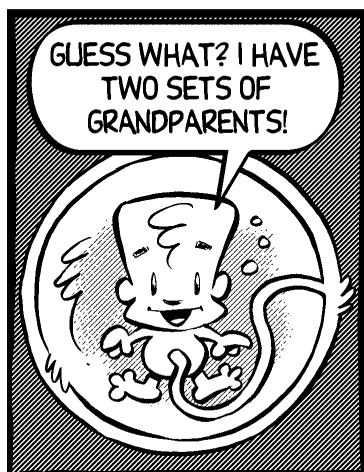
WHO COULD ATTEND CATECHIST CAMP...?

- A person who loves God - And, desires a deeper knowledge of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- A person who has a childlike spirit - And, understands the wisdom of teaching children by example, and using words, when necessary
- A person who ponders the Gospel - And, finds the joy sharing life stories that echo the Good News of Jesus
- A person who participates in the Eucharist - And, is humbly aware of living the Works of Mercy
- A person who is a practicing Catholic - And, feels an inner nudge to learn more about our faith
- A person who is a parent, grandparent, godparent, single person, college student - And, is not necessarily a person who has studied theology and Scripture, or is an experienced teacher

To learn more, please contact Jacki Douglas, Director of Word and Lifelong Faith Formation, Office for Parish Life. [jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org](mailto:jdouglas@dioceseofscranton.org) (570)207-2213 ext. 1100.

## Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi





### Knights of Columbus Council #5517

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Wednesday of the Month at  
7:15 in St. Michael's Hall.



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### SAINT MICHAEL'S ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY

St. Michael's  
Altar & Rosary

Society is open to  
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the parish. We meet on the  
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at 12:30 pm. We always wel-  
come new members.

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