

MARCH 6, 2022



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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

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.

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. (2021/22)

(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, March 5 Saturday after Ash Wednesday
VIGIL: 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT
 4:00 pm, Canton † Jefferey Wynne
 (Mrs. Walburga Koval & Family)

Sunday, March 6 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT
 8:00 am, Ralston † Jack Rushin (John & Pat Rushin)
 9:30 am, Canton † Robert Fleury (Christina Fleury)
 11:15 am, Troy † Pro Populo

Monday, March 7 Lenten Weekday
 7:00 am, Rectory † Anthony Acresti (Jeff & Beth Cole)

Tuesday, March 8 Lenten Weekday
 5:30 pm, Troy † Monty Spencer (Jeff & Beth Cole)
 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, March 9 Lenten Weekday
 5:30 pm, Canton † Jefferey Wynne (His Estate)
 6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Thursday, March 10 Lenten Weekday
No Mass

Friday, March 11 Lenten Weekday
 7:00 am, Rectory † John Petro

Saturday, March 12 Lenten Weekday
VIGIL: 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT
 4:00 pm, Canton † Patrician Rynone
 (Chick & Leslie Debach)

Sunday, March 13 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT
 8:00 am, Ralston † Mr. & Mrs. Edward Beaderman
 (Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Hamm)
 9:30 am, Canton † Kathie Lepper (Joy & Jerry Brann)
 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 in memory of William "Monty" Spencer by Aldi & Rosemary Fitzwater.

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

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, Peggy Adams, Jason Bellows, Allura Booker, Tom Ambruch, Betty Brown, Jeremy Colony, Paul Dean, Carlene Eck, Dorland Eck, Melissa Gowan, Robert Dale Hostetter, Ben Kopetan, Ralph Lepper, Lanny Lutz, Creighton MacGill, Tom McBlane, Darlene McCurdy, Bunny Meuse, Bernadette Moore, John Orr, Cathy Ostaszewski, Pauline Pazzaglia, Mike Slocum, Andrea Smith, Rich Stankiewicz, Rev. Joseph Staszewski, Frank Sullivan, Elias Vroman, Wanda Wennerholt, Steven Wilber, Anthony Wolf, Donna Wolf, Johnathan Wolf, Nicholas Wolf, Barb Yanak

SAINT MICHAEL'S ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY ANNUAL PIEROGIE SALE!

Orders will be taken through March 13th. Pickup dates and times are on the order form and the website.

We will need helpers to roll, pinch and boil pierogies. We will be working in Saint Michael's Church Hall on Monday, March 14 through Friday, March 18 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm with a lunch break.

Please come when you can and stay as long as you can.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HAND OUT ORDERS ON:

SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH

12 Noon until 4:00 pm

After the 4:00 pm Mass until 5:30 pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH

After the 9:30 am Mass until 11:00 am

To volunteer for this project, call Diane Jones at (570) 364-5614 or Sharon Mulno at (570) 673-5857.

To donate money toward the ingredients and other supplies, contact Sharon Mulno at (570) 673-5857.

Potato and Cheese \$9.00 a dozen
 Sauerkraut \$9.00 a dozen
 Farmer's Cheese \$10.00 a dozen



THE SEARCH

BROUGHT TO YOU FROM
FORMED

This is the 2nd week for *The Search*! View episode two, *Who Are You?* To get the conversation started, discuss at least one of these questions:

- What do you think about the idea that there is a spiritual reality?
- How does it make you feel that there will never be another you ever again?
- What do you think of the idea that we are created with an impress of God on our soul?

SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS February 21 - 27, 2022

Weekly Offerings:	1,635.00
Electronic Offerings:	520.00
Other Parish Income:	544.00
	Total Parish Income: 2,699.00
	Average weekly expenses: <u>3,762.36</u>
	Difference: (1,063.36)
Care & Education of Priests:	50.00



Thank you for your continued support.

To request a 2021 Contribution Statement, contact the parish office.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

March 2022

St. Michael Parish

One Minute Meditations

The Commandment imbalance

Of the Ten Commandments – God's most important laws – 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 more way God lets us know how very much He wants us to love one another.



Just adore

Do you ever run out of things to say during your prayer time? Or worse, do you ever get weary of saying the same things over and over? Why not just sit in silent adoration of the one who loves you more than you can imagine? What words can be better or more appropriate than that?

"Then you shall delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; I will nourish you with the heritage of Jacob, your father, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken" (Isaiah 58:14).



3 ways to become holier during Lent

Jesus said, a disciple *"when he is fully taught will be like his teacher"* (Luke 6:40). Lent is our chance to shed the worldly baggage that keeps us from becoming more like Christ. Consider these ideas for routing out sin and embracing virtue:

Remove the wooden beam. We delight in pointing out the sins and shortcomings of others. This is the sin of detraction, disclosing someone's faults and failings to others without an objectively valid reason. We can use the season of Lent to search for our own faults and remove them instead.

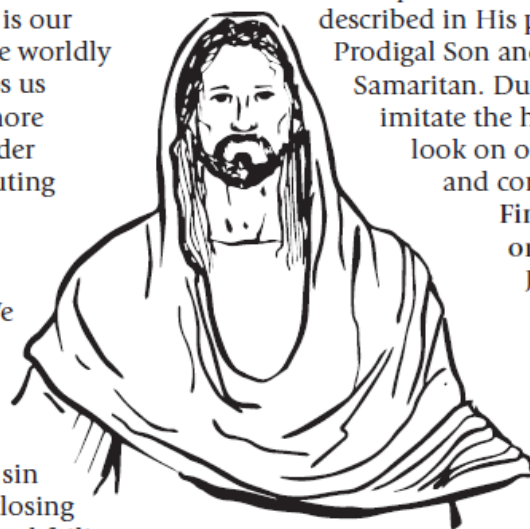
Look like Christ. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said that we all crave

being looked upon with love. Christ looks upon us with pure love, as described in His parables of the Prodigal Son and the Good Samaritan. During Lent, let's imitate the heart of Christ and look on others with empathy and compassion.

Find the sacred in the ordinary. St.

Josemaria Escriva taught that there is a call to holiness that can be lived by sanctifying our everyday life. He said, "Carry out the little duties of each moment: do

what you ought and concentrate on what you are doing ... There is no other way, my daughters and sons: either we learn to find our Lord in ordinary, everyday life, or we shall never find Him."



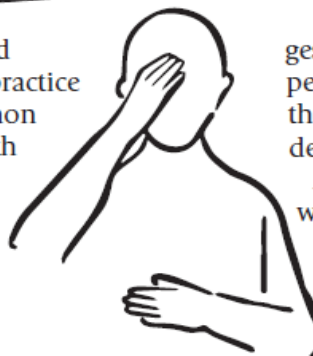
Why Do Catholics Do That?

Back in the second century when this practice began, it was common to honor a ruler with a gesture of respect. Whether bowing down on one knee or touching the forehead, such

Why do Catholics make the Sign of the Cross?

gestures were ritual ways to honor a person of great power. The Sign of the Cross became one such devotion to the Holy Trinity.

Now a prayer in itself, each time we make the Sign of the Cross we express respect for God and request His blessings for ourselves.



"Giving up" or "giving for?"

Lent implies deprivation and uncomfortable penances, but it can be more meaningful. Consider turning your offerings into gifts of gratitude for God's gifts:

Give time in prayer: God, who created the universe, wants to spend time with you. Whether it's reading Scripture, praying the Rosary, or attending daily Mass, know that God is delighted you're spending time with Him, and will give you all the graces you need to stay close to Him.

Give small gifts with great love: St. Therese of Lisieux was expert at turning small sacrifices into



powerful deeds by her love. Our Lenten sacrifices, entrusted to God, do immense good that we'll see fully in Heaven. Whoever knew that our simple Lenten offerings can be part of God's saving work?

Give half your cloak: According to legend, St. Martin of Tours gave half of his cloak to a cold beggar. That night, Jesus appeared to St. Martin in a dream, wearing the cloak. When we serve others, it is Jesus who ultimately receives our gift.

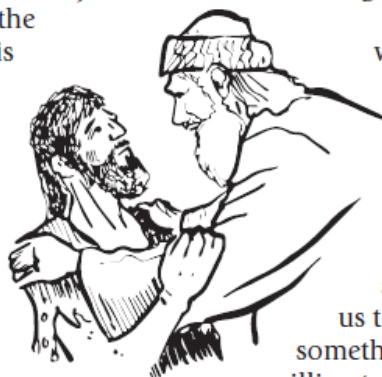
from Scripture

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32, The Father's heart

In this Gospel reading, Jesus told the story of the Prodigal (or reckless) Son. It goes like this. One day, the younger son demanded his father to give him his share of the estate. He left to squander it far from home.

When his money was gone, his situation grew desperate and he returned to his father, humbled and asking for mercy. The father was overjoyed to have his son back and threw a huge party. The older son, however, resented his brother's welcome and complained to his father that he didn't get a reward to celebrate

his obedience—and he was the "good one!"



Jesus promised that when we approach God with a truly repentant heart, we can always come home. It's not that God wants us to feel bad, but, like any parent, he wants us to understand we did something wrong and be willing to change. Through this parable, Jesus shows us that God is a loving, generous Father whose deepest nature is merciful, forgiving love. We are reminded that we can always come home.

Q & A How can I get over my fear of Confession?

For many Catholics, going to Confession is unsettling. Facing and admitting our faults to another person – even in a confidential setting – is uncomfortable, even painful. In this



case, the priest is acting in the person of God and it takes courage and humility to present ourselves before God. In Confession we say to God, "Please forgive me

for intentionally rejecting You and Your love."

If you feel uncomfortable while waiting in the Confession line, it's a good sign. It means your conscience is healthy and working. Remember that God sees us standing in line and He is ready to welcome us back. He isn't angry or brooding, or smug because our poor choices proved He was right. In fact, when we are sincerely repentant, He and all of heaven celebrate because we're returning to Him (Luke 15:10). When the priest says the words of absolution, imagine God embracing you, saying, "My child, your sins are forgiven you...Go and sin no more." We receive powerful graces, and are asked to make amends where possible. Rejoice in the chance to start again.

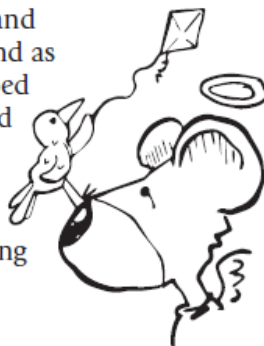
Feasts & Celebrations

March 2 – Ash Wednesday. First day of Lent. Ashes from burnt palms are placed on the forehead as a sign of penance. Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence from meat and fasting – one regular meal and two smaller meals that together don't equal a full meal.

March 5 – St. John Joseph of the Cross (1734). St. John joined a group of Franciscans called the Reform of St. Peter of Alcantara. Despite his elevated position and spiritual gifts, he remained humble, doing menial tasks around the monastery.

March 8 – St. John of God (1550). Originally, St. John was a soldier known for his violence and immorality. After nearly dying in battle, he converted and dedicated his life to serving the poor and sick.

March 17 – St. Patrick of Ireland (c.461). Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland and is credited for having established the Church there.



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)



POPE QUOTE: "Let us never grow tired of doing good" (Gal 6:9).

POPE FRANCIS'S PRAYER INTENTION:

MARCH - FOR A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO BIOETHICAL CHALLENGES: We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

LENTEN REGULATIONS 2022

WEEKDAYS OF LENT: There is no obligation to fast.

Voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY: These are days of Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of one full meal and two smaller meals that do not equal the main meal on these days for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

DAYS OF ABSTINENCE: (All Fridays in Lent) All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

SHROUD OF TURIN PRESENTATION

The Knights of Columbus of Saint Michael's Parish, Canton, PA, will host a one hour presentation of the Shroud of Turin on Saturday, March 12, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. following the 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass. The presentation will be given by Alex Piechocki and will include a full sized replica of the Shroud of Turin.

The talk will consist of many of the details discovered in this studied fabric. Enhance your Lenten experience. Come and spend some time and discover for yourself if Our Father, in heaven, left a photograph of His Son's passion for us.

The presentation is free. A light meal, refreshments and fellowship will follow the presentation.



MARCH 7 - 13, 2021 READINGS

Mon - Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mt 25:31-46

Tues - Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-7, 16-19 Mt 6:7-15

Wed - Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32

Thurs - Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8

Mt 7:7-12

Fri - Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-8 Mt 5:20-26

Sat - Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48

Sun - Gn 15:5-12, 17-18 Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14

Phil 3:17—4:1 Lk 9:28b-36



You're invited to our
**St. Patty's Day
Bash!**

March 19, 2022

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Saint Michael's
Church Hall

Bring your best Irish Dish to share
BYOB (you can share this, too!)
Music and Irish Trivia

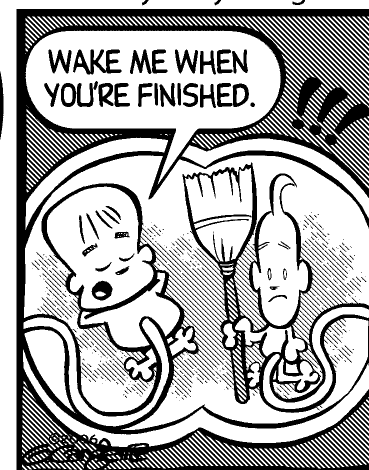
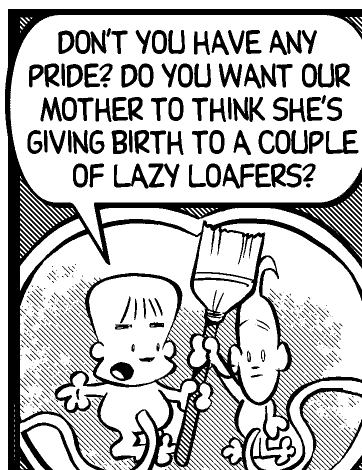
CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE.

This week our special collection supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation today helps restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries still struggling to recover from former communist rule. Funds from this collection support reconstruction, education, formation, and poverty outreach. Please be generous to the collection today. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/ceee.

Envelopes are by the bulletins.

Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi





Knights of Columbus Council #5517

Looking for new members.
Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 7:15 in St. Michael's Hall.



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James Paul
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Carol Ann

Gergel

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Society is open to
all women of
the parish. We meet on the
2nd Wednesday of each month
in Saint Michael's church hall
at 12:30 pm. We always wel-
come new members.

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LENT 2022

St. Michael Parish



= a day of fasting and abstinence

= a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																												
"Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer" (<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>).			March																																																																																
6	Put a cross, crucifix, or other image of Jesus in each room of your home to help keep you focused on him.	7	Look for evidence of God at work in your life.	8	Call Catholic Charities (703-549-1390, www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/) to see how you can help.	9	Give up something good you enjoy, just for today. Offer it for the souls in Purgatory.	10	See what luxuries you spend the most money on. Take a tenth of that and donate it to the poor..	11	Meditate on the Stations of the Cross today. Try to imagine yourself at the scene of each one.	12	Make a short visit to the Blessed Sacrament in church and thank Jesus for all He's done for you.	13	Pick one way you can simplify your lifestyle to make more room for God.	14	Complete a task or errand you have been putting off.	15	Make a conscious effort to see everyone with loving eyes today.	16	At the end of the day, make an examination of conscience. Pick one change to make.	17	<i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Explore ways to support your parish religious education program.	18	Pray for the people in the world who can't afford to have meat as a regular part of their diets.	19	<i>St. Joseph's Day</i> Ask St. Joseph, Protector of the Church, to watch over you and help you grow closer to God.	20	<i>Screen-free Sunday</i> Limit screen time to necessities and do something that lifts your soul.	21	Today, resolve not to be critical of others. Use only kind words.	22	Perform some act of service for your parish. Ask at the rectory for suggestions.	23	Do an examination of conscience based on the Ten Commandments.	24	Offer a Rosary for increased faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.	25	Make one small sacrifice today: cream in your coffee, an impulse purchase, 10 minutes of sleep, etc.	26	Attend a Reconciliation Service or go to Confession on your own.	27	<i>Laetare Sunday</i> Celebrate the halfway point of Lent. Do something fun after Mass today.	28	Make a fresh start on your Lenten journey today. Renew your Lenten observances.	29	Give a kind smile to everyone, regardless of how you feel.	30	Trim down your possessions and give what you don't need to the poor.	31	Refuse to gossip. Pray for the person instead.	1	<i>First Friday Devotion</i> Attend daily Mass. Thank Jesus for His presence in the Eucharist.	2	Write down all your tasks and prayer intentions and entrust them to God. "Jesus, I trust in you."	3	Try to find the time to read an entire Gospel in one sitting. (Hint: St. Mark's Gospel is the shortest.)	4	Deepen the level of your prayer. Slow down and think about what you're saying.	5	Ask at the parish office for anything you can volunteer with for Holy Week.	6	Resolve to say only positive things about yourself and others.	7	Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for the needs of the Church. Find it here: www.usccb.org/prayers .	8	Forgive an offense you may have suffered and let God be the final judge.	9	Ask Jesus to heal whatever keeps you from feeling God's bountiful love.	10	<i>Palm Sunday</i> Place palms around each image of Jesus in your home. Welcome the Messiah into your heart.	11	Ask God for a special grace that will bring you closer to Him.	12	Notice someone who may be hungry for love or attention and satisfy that hunger.	13	Think about a way in which you might have betrayed Jesus. Ask his pardon.	14	Attend Mass. Offer prayers for an increase in vocations to the priesthood.	15	<i>Good Friday</i> Find time today to read the Passion Narratives in all four Gospels.	16	<i>Holy Saturday</i> Today, light a candle and renew your commitment to Christ.