THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD DECEMBER 25, 2022



ST. MICHAEL

(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

Pastoral Council

David Beahm, David Brann, Leslie Debach, Will Hawrylo, Jean Herman, Ralph Lepper, Sherry Vargson Sarah Watson - youth representative

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.

<u>Baptism</u>

The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated by appointment. All parents must attend a baptismal preparation meeting prior to the Baptism. 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.

<u>C.C.D. (2022/23)</u>

(Religious education classes held during the school year) Sun: 8:15 am, St. Michael hall Tues: 6:00 pm, St. John Nepomucene hall

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



FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC, OR REFRESHING YOUR MEMORY? The Dite of Christian Initiation of

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is 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. The next session is at 7 pm on Monday, January 2nd, 2023 in the rectory.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 24 Late Advent Weekday VIGIL: THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

4:00 pm, Canton † Christmas Mass Intentions 7:00 pm, Ralston † Christmas Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 25THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD12:00 am (Midnight), Troy † Christmas Mass Intentions9:30 am, Canton † Pro Populo

Monday, Dec 26 SAINT STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR 7:00 am, Rectory † Carol Ann Gergel (James Gergel))

Tuesday, December 27SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE5:30 pm, Troy † Peggy Young

(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

Wednesday, Dec 28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS 5:30 pm, Canton † For the special intentions of Rev.

Francis Cheruparampil (The Bogaczyk Family) 6:00 pm - Holy Hour

Thursday, December 295th day within the Octave ofNo MassChristmas

Fri, Dec 30 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 7:00 am, Rectory: † Andrew Mitcheltree

(Nancy & Dave Jaquish)

Sat, Dec 317th day within the Octave of ChristmasVIGIL:SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

4:00 pm, Canton † Pat Mack

(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

<u>Sunday, January 1</u>

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother Of God

8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo

9:30 am, Canton † Bill & Bonnie Spencer (Jeff & Beth Cole)

11:15 am, Troy † John Pazzaglia (Pat & Joel Heiland)

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 birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ to awaken wonder at the precious gift of every child in the hearts of all Christians.

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

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST Barby, John Adams, Peggy Adams, Tom Ambruch, Gus Branish, Betty Brown, Paul Dean, Carlene Eck, Dorland Eck, Leon English, Melissa Gowan, Robert Dale Hostetter, Victoria Johnson, Beatrice Jones, Antoinette King, David Kule, Jo Kule, Tom McBlane, Darlene McCurdy, Bunny Meuse, Bernadette Moore, Delina Morgan, Donna Noble, Michelle Redline, Raegan Isabelle Redline, Jim Seiberlich, Rich Stankiewicz, Frank Sullivan, Matthew Warren, Steven Wilber, John Wilcox, Anthony Wolf, Donna Wolf, Nicholas Wolf Contact the parish office to add a name to the prayer list. Names remain on the list for 3 months per request.

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."

PARISH REGISTRATION

All Catholics should be registered in their local parish. This helps facilitate many church activities such as requests for the sacraments, sponsor forms, marriage in the church and other religious needs. Registration is also part of your commitment to your local church and your desire to be known as a member of the Universal Church. Young adults who have finished high school are encouraged to register in their own name. Contact the rectory office by phone at (570) 673-5253 or by email at office@stmichaelscanton.com to request a form. Thank you.

The oplatki wafers are available at the entrances of all three churches. All we ask is a \$2.00 donation per packet to defray the cost. Each packet contains 6 wafers of different colors, all of which are edible. I hope you enjoy this custom!

SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS December 12 - 18, 2022

Weekly Offerings: 3,332.00		
Electronic Offerings: 485.00		
Other Parish Income: 582.00		
Total Parish Income: 4,399.00		
Average weekly expenses: <u>3,721.88</u>		
Difference: 677.12		
Saint Vincent de Paul Fund: 2,000.00		
Christmas Mass Intentions: 550.00		
Care & Education of Priests: 21.00		
Retirement Fund for Religious: 10.00		
Thank you for your continued support.		

2022 Christmas Bazaar Chinese Auction Results

ZUZZ CHRISTMAS BAZAAR CHINESE A	
Donor & Item description	Winner
Alicia Jennings: breakfast basket	Dot Shedden
American Rescue Workers: \$20 gift card	Sherry Jennings
Armenia Mt. Footwear: \$25 gift card	Mary Blasz
Baldwin's Hardware: \$50 gift card	Angie Schoonover
Building 9: \$20 gift card	Cindy Castle
Canton Pharmacy: wall hanging	Vicki Wilber
Chatterbox Restaurant: \$25 gift card	Dot Shedden
Cook's Pharmacy: blanket throw	Marie Logan
Dandy Mini Mart: \$20 gift card	Sharon Pepper
Diane Hedrick: \$50 gift card	Terri Kelley
Diane Hedrick: \$50 gift card	Dot Shedden
Diane Jones: Tractor/trailer truck	Jenna Lamont
Donna Wolf: "Knee for the Fallen" blanket	Sherry Jennings
Holiday Baking basket	Brittany Mosher
Hoover Hardware: \$25 gift card	Kevin Kropf
Hoover Hardware: recipe book	Sherry Vargson
I.H.S Pizza: \$25 gift card	Karen Gilbert
Iris Birch Co.: \$25 gift card	Angie Schoonover
Jean Schoonover: Towel basket	Helen Miner
Jean Schoonover: Vases	Julie Parker
Jean Schoonover: Wine glasses/tray	Mary Campbell
Jimmy's Park Hotel: \$25 gift card	Angie Schoonover
Jim's Sporting Goods: \$50 gift card	Kevin Kropf
Joanne Kropf: Wine/snack basket	Janet Crandle
Leona Meats: \$50 gift card	Michelle Hartford
Leona Meats: \$50 gift card	Joanne Kropf
Leslie Larcom: Santa Stop Sign	Hali (V.Wilber)
Lisa Darrow" Painting	Sarah Watson
Loomis Lane Trading: red fox headband	Sharon Pepper
Midway Truck Stop: \$25 gift card	Betsey Clark
Sheetz Gift: \$25 gift card	Michele Karpinski
Stir: \$20 gift card	Angie Schoonover
Stull's Flowers: \$25 gift card	Brittany Mosher
Tops: \$25 gift card	Melissa Jennings
Tops: \$50 gift card	Michele Karpinski
Vicki Jennings: Puzzles	Brenda Colton
Vicki Jennings: Slippers	Helen Miner
Vicki Jennings: Solar Robot	Michele Karpinski
Walmart: \$50 gift card	Kim Bailey
Warrior Lounge: Candle	Shauna Wesneski
Welles Mill: \$50 gift card	Pat Pepper
Barb Groover: Blue & white quilt	Luann Sakers
Leslie Larcom: Crochet blanket	Shirley Kenyon
Judy Gregorio: Painting	Janet Crandle
Ron & Rhea Kenyon: Tree w/ lights	Melissa Jennings
Julie Parker: Avon basket	Sherry Lambert
Rosemary Fitzwater: \$40 gift card (FT)	Alicia Jennings
Deborah Johnson: Candle	Sharon Pepper
Outline : Candle & plate	Julie Anderson
Freespirit: Necklace	Luann Sakers
Mary Blasz: Green wreath	Joanne Kropf
Liz Ward: Christmas tree/art piece	Sherry Lambert
Joe Perry's Winery: 2 bottles of wine	June Wynne
Timber Ridge: Wine & Gnome cover	Hali (V.Wilber)



POPE QUOTE: "It's important to safeguard the roots of life and faith. Thus, the apostle Paul reminds us of the foundation in which to root our lives to remain firm: remain "rooted in Jesus Christ" (Col 2:7) he says. This is what the Christmas tree reminds us

of: being rooted in Jesus Christ.

POPE FRANCIS'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: VOL-UNTEER NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS: We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

CONFIRMATION CHOIR

On May 24, 2023, Bishop Bambera will be celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation for all the students in our deanery. This celebration will take place at SS. Peter & Paul Church in Towanda, beginning at 5 pm. We would like to have a choir composed of singers from all our parishes. Anyone interested in participating, please contact Marie Seibert at seibertspace2@comcast.net.

Adoring Angels Statues

The new Adoring Angels statues in Saint Michael's Church are given in honor of William & Bonita Spencer. Bonnie, especially, maintained a true devotion to the Angels of Heaven throughout her life. She always believed in their larger than life presence in our midst.

These large Adoring Angels also remind us of the continual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament by all the Heavenly Hosts. *(by Beth Cole)*



As of December 5th, we are at 100.03% of our \$12,000 parish goal. \$12,003 has been donated or pledged. Thank you to everyone who has contributed thus far, both financially and with your prayers.

Umbert the Unborn





DECEMBER 24, 2022 - JANUARY 1, 2023 READINGS Vigil: The Nativity of the Lord Is 62:1-5 Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 Mt 1:1-25 The Nativity of the Lord Night: Is 9:1-6 Ps 96:1-3, 11-13 Ti 3:4-7 Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12 Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12 Ti 3:4-7 Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18 Mon - Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6-8bm 16bc, 17 Mt 10:17-22 **Tues -** 1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Jn 20:1a, 2-8 Wed - 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8 Mt 2:13-18 Thurs - 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-3, 5-6 Lk 2:22-35 Fri - Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col: 3:12-17 Ps 128:1-5 Mt 2:13-15, 19-23 Sat - 1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2, 11-13 Jn 1:1-18 Sun - Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

FORMED WEEK OF DECEMBER 25, 2022

Forgiven - Session 1: Where are You?

As we make resolutions for 2023, don't forget about your spiritual wellbeing! Watch our Forgiven series, so you can help guide friends and family to new spiritual beginnings!



WHO IS ST. STEPHEN?

Join Dr. Gray and Dr. Barber as they discuss the life of St. Stephen, first Christian martyr and heroic leader of the early Church. Christmas as "Christ's Mass":

> The Manger and the Eucharist by Dr. Michael Barber

Dr. Michael Barber explains the extraordinary connection between Christmas and the Eucharist, coining the great solemnity as "Christ's Mass."



Our parish has a FORMED subscription. To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and use zip code 17724 to find our parish.



Saint Michal Parish 2022 Christmas Mass Intentions

††† Bill & Carol Asbury, George & Peaches Schram, Clark & Grace Cochrane, George & Lucy Asbury, Roger Cochrane, Alan Cochrane, Claire Schram and Tony & Rose Zaleski by the Asbury Family.

- ††† Mr. & Mrs. Joe Szczech, Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Bell and Mr. Patricia Bell by Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Bell.
- ††† The Weiss & Blasz Family by Mrs. Richard Blasz.
- ††† Patti Pessoni, Billy Becker and Caroline Murrey by Atty. & Mrs. Gerald Brann.
- ††† Deceased members of the Brozowski, Kendra and Vineski families by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Brozowski.
- ††† A Special Intention by Patricia Deeghan.
- ††† Michael & Nancy Acresti by Mr. & Mrs. Alden Fitzwater.
- + ††† Carol Ann Gergel, Louise Gergel, and the Gergel & Yankus Family by James R. Gergel.
- ††† Carol Ann Gergel by Thomas & Nanette Gergel.
- ††† Paul & Danette Hamburger, the Hamburger Family and the Bradford Family by Dr. Paul Hamburger.
- ††† Special Intentions by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Hamburger.
- ††† Mr. & Mrs. Edward Beaders and Mr. &Mrs. Myron Parks by Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Hamm.
- ††† Frank Taverniti and Helen Taverniti by Mrs. Diane Hedrick.
- ††† Eugene & Mary McMahon and Frank & Joey Herman by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Herman.
- ††† Hal Hopkins and Souls in Purgatory by Mrs. Harold Hopkins.
- ††† Alan Kelley, Joseph & Rita Shon, Margarita Shon and deceased members of the Shon Family by Mrs. Terri Kelley.
- * ††† Mark Kingsley by Mr. & Mrs. George Kingsley.
- ††† Private intentions by Walburga Koval.
- ^{†††} The Maloney Family by Mr. & Mrs. James Maloney.
 - ††† Deceased members of the Mulno Family and deceased members of the Chagnon Family by Mr. & Mrs. John Mulno.
- ††† The William P. O'Gara Family and the Thomas J. O'Gara Family by Thomas & Celeste O'Gara.
- ††† Private intentions by Carole Parker.
 - ††† The Pepper Family, the Snell Family, for an end to abortion, for an end to the Ukraine War, Jason Bellows and Joanne & Bob Strozyk by Mrs. Rancy Pepper.
- ††† Joseph & Helen Pierechorowicz and Juan & Rita Martínez by David E. Pierchorowicz.
- t^{††} Richard Ross, Frank Shults, Brett Keefe and Nicole Keefe by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ross.
- ††† Jack Rushin and Russ & Marie O'Neal by John & Pat Rushin.
- ††† The VanDyke Family and the Shedden Family by Susan Schiess.
- ††† Kathryn & Stanley Staszewski and Marie Vasallo by Mrs. Kathryn Skipper.
- ††† Joseph & Josephine Szczech, Bill & Beverly Ayers, Lillian Packard, Eugene Fletcher, Donald Wilber and William Curtiss by Barbara Szczech.
- ††† The Walker Family and the Ward Family by Mrs. Loretta Walker.
- ††† Mr. & Mrs. Joseph W. Szczech and Don Wilber by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Weed.
- ^{†††} Donald Wilber, Joseph Szczech and Josephine Szczech by Mrs. Louise Wilber.
- ††† Mom, Dad, Mike, Aunts & Uncles, Cousins and Christian by Donna M. Wolf.
- ††† Jefferey Wynne by Mr. Joseph Wynne II.

Saint Michael Parish 2022 Christmas Flower Intentions

††† Bill & Carol Asbury, George & Peaches Schram, Clark & Grace Cochrane, George & Lucy Asbury, Roger Cochrane, Alan Cochrane, Claire Schram and Tony & Rose Zaleski by the Asbury Family. ††† Harold & Barbara Morris by The Morris, Barrett & Davison Families. ††† Private intention by Mr. David Beahm. ††† Mr. & Mrs. Joe Szczech, Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Bell, Mrs. Patricia Bell, Mrs. Laurie Weidlich and Mr. Eugene Fletcher by Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Bell. ††† The Blasz and Weiss Families by Mrs. Richard Blasz. ††† Private intentions by Atty. & Mrs. Gerald Brann. ††† Mr. & Mrs. James Brenchley by Mr. & Mrs. John Brenchley. ††† Private intentions by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Brozowski. ††† The Mansuy & Clark Families Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Clark. ††† Living and deceased members of the Capaldi, DePalma and Cleveland Families by Mrs. Burton Cleveland. ††† Carmella & Wilbur Colton, Sam & Nick Colton and Richard Margeson by Mr. & Mrs. James Colton. ††† Patricia Rynone, Amy Delores Debach, Dawn Debach, Charlie Debach and Ruth Coumbe by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Debach Jr. ††† Private intention by Patricia Deeghan. ††† Sitzwater Families and Acresti Families by Mr. & Mrs. Alden Fitzwater. ††† Private intentions by James R. Gergel. ††† Carol Ann Gergel and our Grandparents by Thomas & Nanette Gergel. ††† Josephine Hamburger, Violet Davis, Mary Small, Albert Davis

and Joseph Hamburger by Dr. Paul Hamburger. *†††* Mr. & Mrs. Edward Beaders and Mr. & Mrs. Myron Parks by Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Hamm. *†††* Private intention by Mr. Will Hawrylo. *†††*Private intention by Mrs. Diane Hedrick. *†††* Eugene McMahon, Mary McMahon, Joey Herman and Frank Herman by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Herman. *†††* Private intentions by Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kanaley. *†††* Alan Kelley, Joseph & Rita Shon and Maureen Brimmer by Mrs. Terri Kelley. *†††*Mark Kingsley by Mr. & Mrs. George Kingsley. *†††* The Koval, Lenze and Deeghan Families by Walburga Koval. *†††* The Maloney Family and the Wilcox Family by Mr. & Mrs. James Maloney.

††† Private intentions by Thomas & Celeste O'Gara. ††† Elizabeth & John Bruno and Helen Lougher by Carole Parker. ††† Joy & Douglas Snell, June & Rancy Pepper, Joanne & Bob Strozyk, Jason Bellows and Larry Dean by Mrs. Rancy Pepper. ††† Joseph & Helen
Pierchorowicz, Juan & Rita Martínez and Robert Dwyer by David E. Pierchorowicz. ††† Private intentions by Susan Schiess. ††† Mr. Bob Grantier by David & Susan Scholtz. ††† Joseph & Josephine Szczech, Bill & Beverly Ayers, Lillian Packard, Babs Morris, Eugene Fletcher, Donald Wilber, William Curtiss and Frank Composto by Barbara Szczech. ††† Members of The Kingsley Family, members of The Vargson Family, the Grandkids: Mason, Ryder, Vander and Bryce by Mrs. Sherry Vargson. ††† Lucille Terry, Nancy Brooks and Bonnie Murphy by Mrs. Loretta Walker. ††† Donald Wilber, Josephine Szczech and Joseph Szczech by Mrs. Louise Wilber. ††† Mom, Dad & Mike Wolf; Aunts, Uncles & Cousins; Christian, Arthur, Christopher & Victoria and Beloved Friends by Donna M. Wolf. ††† Mary Hardy & Jefferey Wynne by Jeannine J. Wynne. ††† Jefferey J. Wynne, Joseph & Adell Wynne, Sister Mary Leonard and deceased members of the Wendell Franklin Family by Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Wynne.

