

FEBRUARY 19, 2023



THE 7TH SUNDAY IN 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

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. (2022/23)

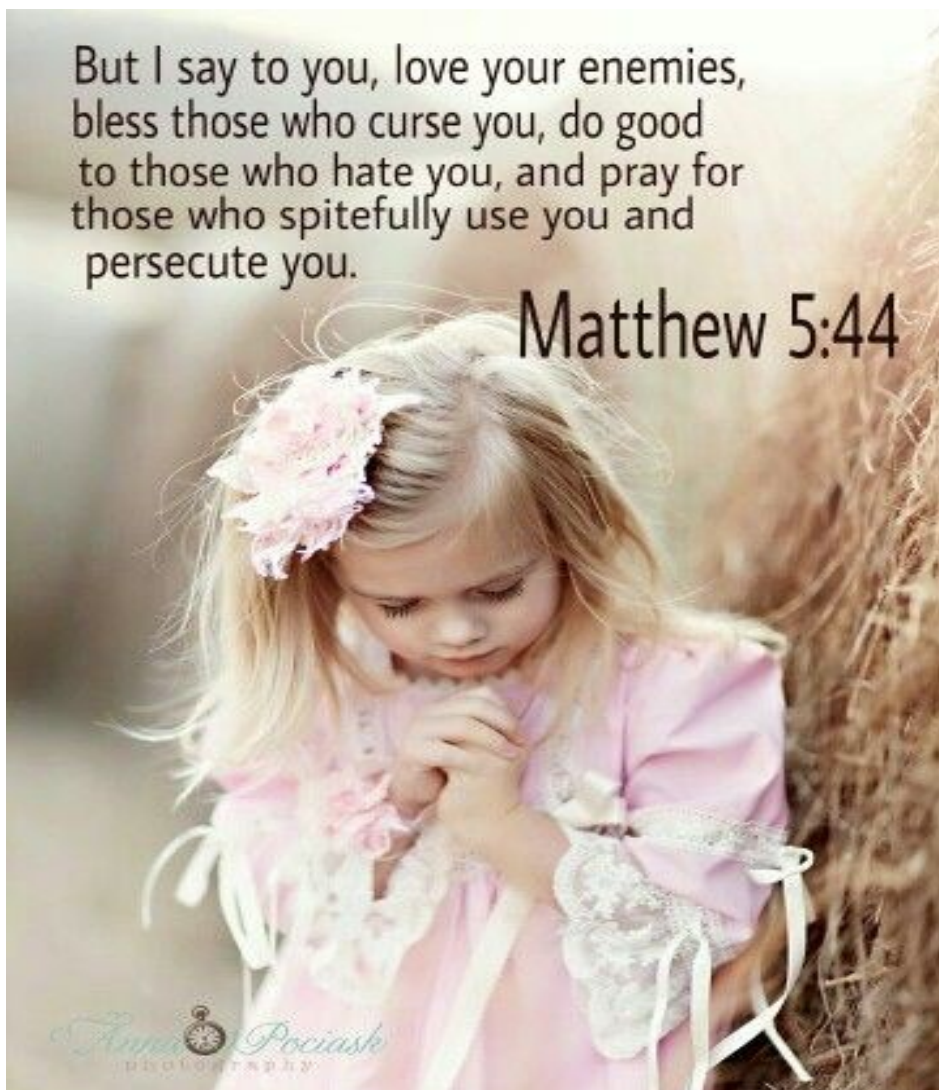
(Religious education classes
held during the school year)

Sun: 8:15 am, St. Michael hall

Tue: 6:00 pm, St. John Nepomucene hall

But I say to you, love your enemies,
bless those who curse you, do good
to those who hate you, and pray for
those who spitefully use you and
persecute you.

Matthew 5:44



Pastoral Council

David Beahm, David Brann, Leslie Debach, Will Hawrylo,
Jean Herman, Ralph Lepper, Sherry Vargson,
Sarah Watson - 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, February 18 Weekday

VIGIL: 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm, Canton † Pauline Pazzaglia (Patricia Deeghan)

Sunday, February 19 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo

9:30 am, Canton † Gene & Mary McMahon

(Jean & Mike Herman)

11:15 am, Troy † Tim Avants, Sr.

(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

Monday, February 20 Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory † Skip Cole (by Jeff & Beth Cole)

Tuesday, February 21 Weekday

5:30 pm, Troy † Inez Tarzowicz (Bobby & Jeanne Seeley)

Wednesday, February 22 ASH WEDNESDAY

12:10 pm, Troy † Floyd Nowak (Frank & Mary Burke)

5:30 pm, Canton † Jack Callahan (Bridget & Shawn)

followed by Stations of the Cross

Thursday, Feb 23 Thursday after Ash Wednesday

No Mass

Friday, February 24 Friday after Ash Wednesday

7:00 am, Rectory † Stan Bombaski (Family)

Saturday, February 25 Saturday after Ash Wednesday

VIGIL: 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

4:00 pm, Canton † Tana Deery (Chick & Leslie Debach)

Sunday, February 26 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo

9:30 am, Canton † Carol Ann Gergel (James Gergel)

11:15 am, Troy † Pauline Pazzaglia (St. John's A&R)

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



The sanctuary lamps in all three churches this week are offered for the Lord to help married couples struggling with infertility to trust in His love and be sustained with His peace.

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



SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, Peggy Adams, Tom Ambruch, Gus Branish, Betty Brown, Todd Congdon, Paul Dean, Mark Desborough, Carlene Eck, Dorland Eck, Leon English, Melissa Gowan, Robert Dale Hostetter, Victoria Johnson, Beatrice Jones, Antoinette King, David Kule, Jo Kule, Paula Longacre, Tom McBlane, Darlene McCurdy, Bunny Meuse, Bernadette Moore, Delina Morgan, Donna Noble, 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.

FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC, OR REFRESHING YOUR MEMORY?

This Sunday, February 19th, we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens during the 9:30 am Mass in St. Michael's Church. This brings us into the catechumenate phase, the period of formal preparation for entrance into full membership in the Catholic Church. Celebrating the Rite will be Barbara and Dennis Clarke, our two Catechumens, and Cassandra Johnson, our Candidate. The next session is at 7 pm on Monday, February 20, 2023 in the rectory.

The Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion will be held on Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, located at 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton.



NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP TAKE-OUT

The Knights of Columbus will be offering a Meatless Soup Take-Out following the Ash Wednesday Mass and Stations of The Cross in Saint Michael's Church. Come to the social hall after the service and choose from a variety of homemade meatless soups to take home. Donations will be accepted.



LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

The Lenten Food Drive sponsored by the Knights of Columbus will begin Sunday, February 26th. During Lent we prepare ourselves to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Our Lord's death and resurrection by prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Last year, because of your generous donations, the Knights were able to deliver 509 lbs. of food to the Canton Area Food Pantry. Food donations are greatly needed. It is a sad reality that many in our own community experience food insecurity. The Canton Area Food Pantry services approximately 40 families each month. Please help by making donations of food part of your Lenten almsgiving.

SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS

February 6 - 12, 2023

Weekly Offerings:	2,435.00
Electronic Offerings:	485.00
God's Love Unites Us one-time gifts:	1,470.00
Other Parish Income:	76.00
Total Parish Income:	4,466.00
Average weekly expenses:	4,267.09
Difference:	198.91
Care & Education of Priests:	45.00



Thank you for your continued support.

2022 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are available. Request a statement by using 1 of 3 options. Please include your name and address if using option 1 or 2:

- 1) Call (570) 673-5253
- 2) E-mail office@stmichaelscanton.com
- 3) Write "Statement" on your offertory envelope near your name.



POPE QUOTE: “Where love becomes tangible, becomes closeness, becomes tenderness, becomes compassion, God is there.”

POPE FRANCIS’S FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION: FOR PARISHES: We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

GOD’S LOVE UNITES US

Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card to the church. For those parishioners who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their card, a letter will be mailed to you with a personalized Commitment Card. Each and every one of you is a vital member of our parish community and we want to hear from you! This is an opportunity to reflect upon and renew your sacrificial commitment to support the mission of St. Michael Parish. For those who are able – there is an opportunity to make a one-time gift to the parish. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. For those of you who would prefer to fill out your Commitment Card online, please visit the parish website at

<https://stmichaelscanton.com/>.



FEBRUARY 20 - 26, 2023 READINGS

Mon - Sir 1:1-10 Ps 93:1-2, 5 Mk 9:14-29

Tues - Sir 2:1-11 Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40
Mk 9:30-37

Wed - Jl 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6b, 12-14, 17
2 Cor 5:20—6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thurs - Dt 30:15-20 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 9:22-25

Fri - Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6a, 18-19 Mt 9:14-15

Sat - Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32

Sun - Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17
Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11



WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19, 2023

WHOLE 40: MAKING A SPIRITUAL PLAN FOR LENT

Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein to discuss the purpose of the season of Lent, how to prepare for it, and why it is such a fruitful season in our life of faith.

THE SPIRIT AND THE DESERT

Sometimes we might feel like we're stuck in spiritual deserts. In this episode of The Wild Goose, Fr. Dave Pivonka shares how the Holy Spirit is present even in these times of desolation.

LOVE - SACRIFICE - TRUST: HE SHOWED US THE WAY

BY FR. MIKE SCHMITZ

In this talk, Fr. Mike Schmitz shares with us the need to pick up our crosses and embrace Christ in our own suffering. He reminds us that love often means sacrifice!

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.

DEANERY WIDE LENTEN HOLY HOURS

In conjunction with the NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL taking place within our country since Corpus Christi Sunday, 2022, Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, will visit each of the 12 deaneries in the Diocese of Scranton to celebrate a Holy Hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Vespers and a homily on the Most Holy Eucharist during Lent, 2023.

DATES IN OUR AREA

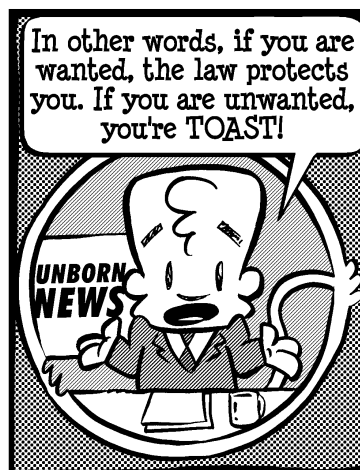
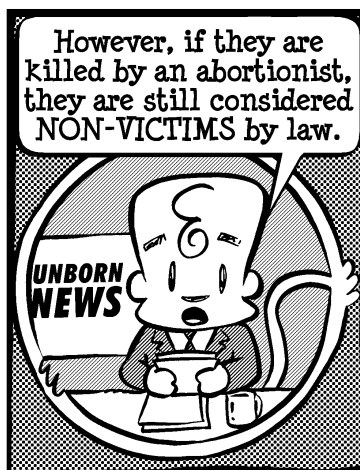
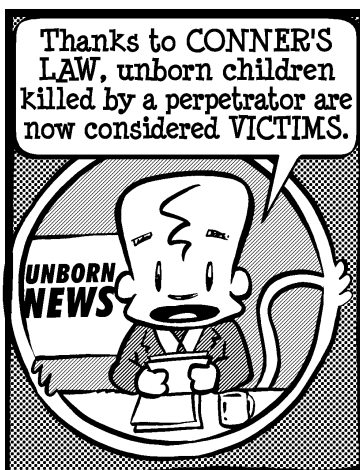
Williamsport Deanery
Wednesday, March 8, 7:00 pm
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish,
Montoursville

Sayre Deanery
Thursday, March 9, 7:00 pm
SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Towanda



Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi



www.umberttheunborn.com



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.



4423 Leona Road
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Email:
hawthornridge@gmail.com
PA030014
St. Michael Parish member



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SUN, WED & THURS: 11AM - 8PM
FRI & SAT: 11AM - 9PM
MON & TUES: CLOSED

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& Bakery



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SUNDAY-THURSDAY - 7:30AM - 8:00PM
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY - 7:30AM - 9:00PM

In loving memory of
John Peter and
James Paul
Pazzaglia



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In loving memory of
Carol Ann

Gerges

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**SAINT MICHAEL'S
ALTAR & ROSARY
SOCIETY**
St. Michael's
Altar & Rosary
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.

BARRETT LAW OFFICES
Patrick J. Barrett, III
Attorney and Counselor at Law

17-21 Troy St. - PO Box 157
Canton, PA 17724
570-673-5180
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507 West Pine Street
Athens, PA 18810
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FORMED

Lent

During Lent, Saint Michael Parish will be using a program on FORMED called

Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained
KNOWING THE FAITH.

You are invited to form a small group to go through *Symbolon*. It could be members of a ministry group like Lectors, Altar & Rosary Society, Knights of Columbus - or maybe your family, breakfast crew, dinner gang, or any combination you can bring together.

There are ten videos ranging from 19:38 to 46:54 in length, allowing for both viewing and discussion in one hour meetings. Or view the videos individually and meet at a local establishment to discuss the content. With ten videos, and 6.5 weeks of Lent, figure out a schedule that works for your group.

For teenagers and/or those who don't have a full hour to commit to viewing and discussion, try *Symbolon for Teens*, with videos ranging from 15:13 to 23:32 in length.

Symbolon is a systematic presentation of our Catholic Faith. It will lead you through the "big picture" of the Catholic Faith and our Creed is the guide. *Symbolon* brings together some of the most trusted Catholic teachers in the world to guide you through the breadth and richness of the Catholic faith.

If you would like the parish to form a small group to meet in St. Michael's Church hall or the rectory chapel, call or email the parish office.

If a minimum of 3 people are willing to commit to the program, we have a volunteer willing to facilitate.



SYMBOLON
THE CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLAINED



During the Easter Season, we will continue with
Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained
LIVING THE FAITH.

Lent Is...

Lent is a time of preparing,
A time for forgiveness and a time for sharing;
A time to give to others and show some caring,
Lent is a direction with just the right bearing.
A forty day period of penitence and fasting,
That should remain in our hearts for a time everlasting.
Although it's observed from Ash Wednesday to Easter
by many churches,
It should affect everyone's life, for we're all searchers;
Looking for a purpose in life, a new direction;
And Lent is a way filled with affection,
For it paved the way for Christ's resurrection.
Lent is a time for feeling sorrow for our misdeeds.
It provides us with a way of fulfilling our needs;
The need to abstain from what is wrong,
And follow in the footsteps of Christ all along.

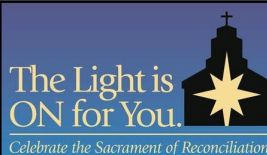
Author: Father Joe Kutch (1981)

FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation will be held
on Saturday, February 25 at 10 am in
St. Michael's Church. St. Michael's
Parish has 3 children receiving the
sacrament this year:

Cole Bradford
Laurel Golembewki
Isaac Watson

Please pray for the children as
they prepare for their First Reconciliation. All are welcome to attend to
support the children and receive this
healing sacrament.



The Sacrament of Reconciliation
will be available in St. Michael's
Church on Mondays during Lent
from 5:30 - 7:00 pm.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

WEEKDAYS OF LENT: There is no obligation to fast.
Voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

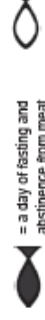
ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY: These are days of
Fast and Abstinence from meat. There is a limit of
one full meal and two smaller meals that do not
equal the main meal on these days for all between
the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive.

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

EASTER DUTY OBLIGATION: After they have received
their First Holy Communion, Catholics are bound
by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at
least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled
during the Easter Season. Catholics are also bound
to confess serious (mortal) sins at least once a year,
but this is not limited to the Lenten/Easter Season.

LENT 2023

St. Michael Parish



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"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>).</p>						
26 Imagine being responsible for all the souls in the world. Offer a Rosary for the intentions of the pope.	27 Ask God to show you what is keeping you from experiencing His love fully - worry, fears, sin. Resolve to deal with it by Easter.	28 Offer an extra small sacrifice for God, just for today - coffee without cream, lukewarm shower, no snacking, etc.	22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Wear ashes today as a sign that you are seeking both forgiveness and eternal life from Christ.	23 Start a prayer book and record those for whom you pray or for what you pray. Also keep track of how God answers your prayers.	24 Catholics are required to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent as a form of penance.	25 The Bible teaches us to deny ourselves and give instead to those in need. Read Matthew 6:1-4 to learn more about sacrificial almsgiving.
5 After Mass today, go out to eat with other parishioners from church.	6 Dive deeper into your faith. Skim the glossary in the Catechism for an unfamiliar term and learn the Church's teaching about it.	7 Pick an issue in the news and pray over it today.	1 <i>March</i> Enjoy pretzels -- a traditional Lenten snack. The "crossed" arms of the pretzel recalled monks at prayer.	2 Today, look for opportunities to practice the virtues humility, patience, and kindness.	3 <i>First Friday</i> Attend Mass or visit the Blessed Sacrament (find the red candle). Be present to Him who is present to you.	4 Set up an empty box or bin. Throughout Lent, fill it with gently used clothes. Bring it to a local charity at the end of Lent.
12 Reread John 4:5-30. How is Christ calling you closer to Him? What "jug" would you leave behind?	13 Refuse to gossip, either in person or on screen. Affirm every person or keep silent.	14 Write down your worries. Place the list under a statue or image of Jesus. Pray, "Jesus, I surrender this to You. Take care of everything."	8 Figure out on which luxuries you spend the most money. Take a tenth of that amount and put it in the poor box at church.	9 Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for those who have no one to pray for them. Look here: https://www.usccb.org/prayers/divine-mercy-chaplet .	10 Resist "idle curiosity." Don't research trivial questions or follow every browser thread. Unless it's important, it's okay not knowing.	11 Pray for pregnant mothers and their babies. Consider donating to pro-life charities that help women in crisis.
19 <i>Laetare Sunday</i> Unless it's sinful, enjoy something you gave up for Lent in joyful anticipation of Easter!	20 <i>St. Joseph's Day</i> St. Joseph silently, selflessly cared for Mary and Jesus. Pray for fathers and entrust them to St. Joseph's care.	21 Do an act of kindness. Whether openly or secretly, do it for God's glory. It's really Him you're serving.	15 Attend Confession and experience God's mercy. Resolve to make amends where you can.	16 Check out Catholic Relief Services to see how you can support their projects. Look here: https://www.crs.org .	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> In honor of St. Patrick, evangelize silently by wearing a symbol of your faith (e.g. a cross, medal).	18 Contact local shelters and soup kitchens and ask if they need volunteers.
26 Fast from unnecessary screen use today. Use the time to read a book, walk outside, pray.	27 This week, get up when the alarm goes off and offer your day to God's service.	28 Send your parish priests a "spiritual bouquet" -- listing the prayers you'll offer for them (e.g. three Hail Marys, an Our Father).	22 Take the box of clothes you set up on March 4 to a clothing drive.	23 Pray for an increased faith throughout the Church in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.	24 Practice patience... patiently. "Be patient with everyone, but first of all with yourself" (St. Francis de Sales).	25 <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i> Mary said "Yes!" to God's plan. Pray three Hail Marys, for the grace to give your "Yes" to Him, too.
2 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Display blessed palms around your home, "that the King of Glory may come in!" (Psalm 24:7)	3 Holy Week is a busy time for parishes. Stop by your parish office and ask how you can help.	4 Pray for those who are coming into the Church at the Easter Vigil.	29 Today, complete an errand or chore you've been putting off.	30 The Our Father is the prayer given to us by Jesus. Pray each line slowly. Really think about what you are saying.	31 Today, fast from complaining. Cultivate gratitude instead.	1 <i>April</i> Declutter, dust, and clean the house in preparation for Holy Week -- the holiest time of the year.
			5 Judas betrayed Christ. Consider how our sins betray Jesus and make a sincere Act of Contrition.	6 <i>Holy Thursday</i> Visit the Blessed Sacrament. Offer Him your love for the "lost hour" of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:40).	7 <i>Good Friday</i> Read the Passion Narrative, John 18, 19. See Jesus' offering of love for you. How will you respond?	8 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Renew your baptismal vows and commit to living your faith more fully this year.