

MARCH 19, 2023



THE 4TH 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. (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



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, March 18 Lenten Weekday
VIGIL: 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT (LAETARE SUNDAY)
4:00 pm, Canton † Michael Hughes
(Leslie & Chick Debach)

Sun, Mar 19 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT (LAETARE SUNDAY)
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo
9:30 am, Canton † Christopher Arnold
(The Honorable & Mrs. Matthew Brann & Family)
11:15 am, Troy † Richard Knecht
(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

Monday, March 20 SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
7:00 am, Rectory † Phil Gasowski (Peggy Gasowski)
5:30 - 7:00 pm, Canton, The Light is ON For You

Tuesday, March 21 Lenten Weekday
NO MASS OR STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Wednesday, March 22 Lenten Weekday
5:30 pm, Canton † Claudia Blaney (Jeff & Beth Cole)
6:00 pm, Stations of the Cross

Thursday, March 23 Lenten Weekday
No Mass

Friday, March 24 Lenten Weekday
7:00 am, Rectory † Jerry Ross, Jr. (The Families)

Saturday, March 25 THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
VIGIL: 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT
4:00 pm, Canton † Holy Souls in Purgatory
(Susan Schiess)

Sunday, March 26 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT
8:00 am, Ralston † Judy Callahan (Bridget & Shawn)
9:30 am, Canton † Pro Populo
11:15 am, Troy † Pauline Pazzaglia
(St. John's Altar & Rosary Society)
2:00 pm, Canton - Lenten Penance Service

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 all who suffer from the
wounds of abortion to be filled with the hope that
does not disappoint, and be healed by Christ.

SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS March 6 - 12, 2023

Weekly Offerings:	2,384.00
Electronic Offerings:	490.00
God's Love Unites Us one-time gifts:	250.00
Other Parish Income:	166.52

Total Parish Income:	3,290.52
Average weekly expenses:	4,267.09
Difference:	(976.57)

Care & Education of Priests: 17.00

Thank you for your continued support.

2022 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are available.

Request a statement by contacting the parish office.

FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC, OR REFRESHING YOUR MEMORY?



We are now in the catechumenate phase
of RCIA, a time of focused learning on top-
ics related to Catholic belief and practice,
training you in the Christian life. It is a time of "more
intense preparation for the sacraments of initiation".
The next session is at 7 pm on Monday, March 20, 2023
in the rectory.

Three Scrutinies for the elect occur on the third,
fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent. Following instruction
on the mystery of sin during the catechumenate, the
Church invites the elect to reflect on three Gospel stories
that reveal the meaning of their upcoming baptism.

Second Scrutiny (at our 9:30 am Mass this Sunday)

Christ as the Light of the World

In the Gospel story of Jesus healing a man who was
born blind (John 9:1-41), Jesus refers to himself as the
light of the world:

"While I am in the world, I am the light of the
world.' When [Jesus] had said this, he spat on the
ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the
clay on [the blind man's] eyes, and said to him, 'Go
wash in the Pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So
he went and washed, and came back able to see."

John 9:5-7

ST MICHAELS ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY ANNUAL PIEROGI SALE!

We are taking orders until March
20th in all three Churches. Order
forms are in the usual spots in all three
churches and on the parish website at



[https://stmichaelscanton.com/news/
annual-pierogie-sale/](https://stmichaelscanton.com/news/annual-pierogie-sale/)

SCHEDULE TO PAY & PICK-UP FROM ST. MICHAEL'S HALL

- Friday, March 24th from Noon to 5:00 pm
- Saturday, March 25th from Noon until 4:00 pm
- Sunday, March 26th from 10:30 am until 11:00 am

A sign-up sheet for volunteers for the kitchen for
March 20 - 24 (9 am - 2 pm daily, lunch provided) and
for donation of ingredients is in Saint Michel's Church.

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, Bob Abbott, John Adams, Peggy Adams,
Tom Ambruch, Gus Branish, Betty Brown,
Todd Congdon, Paul Dean, Mark Desborough,
Carlene Eck, Dorland Eck, Leon English,
Melissa Gowan, Cassie Hamburger,
Robert Dale Hostetter, Victoria Johnson, Beatrice Jones,
Antoinette King, David Kule, Jo Kule, Paula Longacre,
Tom McBlane, Darlene McCurdy, Bunny Meuse,
Bernadette Moore, Orlando Moralez, Delina Morgan,
Donna Noble, Rich Stankiewicz, Frank Sullivan,
Joe Turk, Matthew Warren, Steven Wilber,
John Wilcox, Anthony Wolf, Donna Wolf,
Nicholas Wolf

Contact the parish office to add a name to the prayer list.



SENIOR MASS AND BREAKFAST

The Senior Mass and Breakfast for 2023 graduates will be at 9:30 am in St. Michael's Church and hall on Sunday, April 30th. If you have a family member who will be graduating from High School or receiving a College Degree, please contact the parish office.

DEANERY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Sunday, March 26, 5th Sunday of Lent

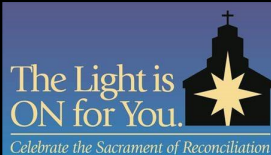
2:00 pm, St. Michael's Church, Canton

4:00 pm, Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Towanda

April 2, Palm Sunday

2:00 pm, Saint Basil the Great Church, Dushore

5:00 pm, Epiphany Church, Sayre



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

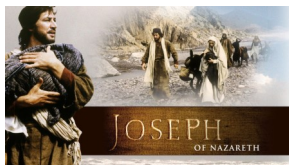


WEEK OF MARCH 19, 2023

JOSEPH OF NAZARETH:

THE STORY OF THE MAN CLOSEST TO CHRIST

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!



THE ANNUNCIATION | SACRED ART

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they discuss the spiritual and theological significance of the Annunciation over a piece of Sacred Art by Elizabeth Zelasko that depicts this incredible scene.



ST. JOSEPH: OUR SPIRITUAL FATHER

While the Gospel has not preserved any of his words, his actions have resounded through the ages. St. Joseph stands out as the model par excellence of Christian virtue. Encounter St. Joseph in a new way with St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father.



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NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

SHROUD OF TURIN PRESENTATION

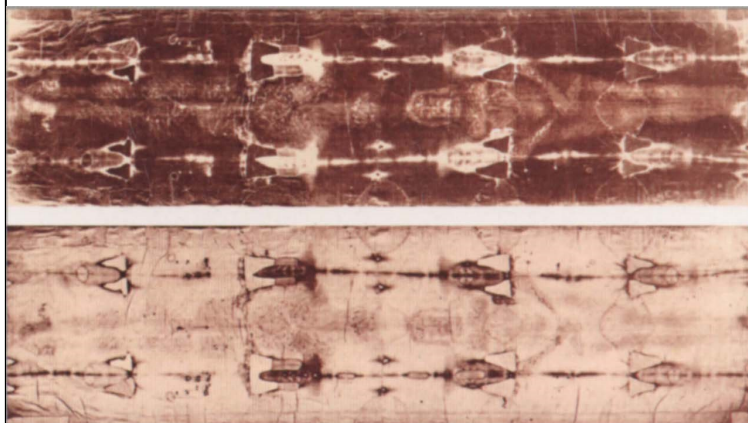


The Knights of Columbus Council #5517 will host a one hour presentation of the Shroud of Turin on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in St. Michael's Hall, 107 N. Washington Street, Canton, Pa. The presentation will feature a full sized replica of the Shroud of Turin.

The talk will consist of the many details discovered in this studied fabric. The speaker, Alex Piechocki, is from St. Peter and Paul's Parish in Towanda, Pa. He has presented to audiences at various parishes in the Scranton Diocese, as well as to schools, groups, and parishes in New York and the Pennsylvania Northern Tier. He has travelled extensively, and has been to 5 of the world's 7 continents. He has visited 49 of the states in the USA. Some of his travels have been to many Holy and religious sites. He has walked the Camino across Spain to the church of St. James in Compostella, where the great apostle's remains are buried. Some of the other highlights have been his travels to Israel, Egypt, and France (Paris, and Lourdes), as well as many domestic and Canadian sites. With a professional background in the sciences (Chemistry and Engineering) he loves to share his knowledge, demonstrating the power and glory of God's works.

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 and fellowship will follow the presentation. All Are Welcome!



LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

The Lenten Food Drive sponsored by the Knights of Columbus is underway. During Lent we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Our Lord's death and resurrection by prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a sad reality that many in our community experience food in-



security. The Canton Area Food Pantry services approximately 40 families each month. Please help by making donations of food a part of your Lenten almsgiving.



POPE QUOTE: "Fasting helps us to keep our spirit in shape. It makes us appreciate things for their true worth; it reminds us that life must not be made dependent upon the fleeting landscape of the present world."

POPE FRANCIS'S MARCH PRAYER INTENTION: FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE: We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

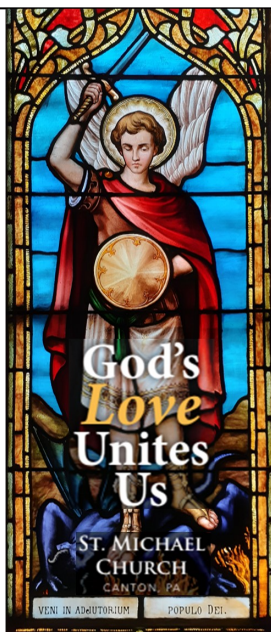
GOD'S LOVE UNITES US

Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card. For those parishioners who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their card, a final letter will be mailed to you with a personalized Commitment Card. We invite all faithful parishioners to complete a card as our parish goal is 100% participation! You may return your card by:

- mailing it to the church using the pre-addressed envelope included with the letter.
- or bringing it to Mass next Sunday.
- or you may visit our parish website at <https://stmichaelscanton.com/> and complete an electronic Commitment Card.

All cards need to be returned to the parish by Sunday, March 26.

As a friendly reminder, electronic giving is an **easy, safe and secure** way to support St. Michael Church. To set-up a recurring weekly or monthly gift or to make a one-time donation directly from your bank account, please contact the parish office. **We are grateful for your support!**



MARCH 20 - 26, 2023 READINGS

Mon - 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29
Mt 1:16, 15-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Tues - Ez 47:1-9, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 Jn 5:1-16

Wed - Is 49:8-15 Ps 145:8-9, 13c-14, 17-18 Jn 5:17-30

Thurs - Ex 32:7-14 Ps 106:19-23 Jn 5:31-47

Fri - Wis 2:1a, 12-22 Ps 34:17-21, 23
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

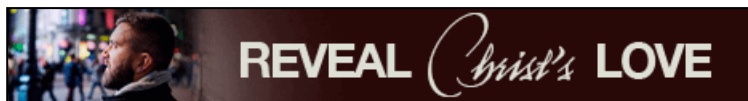
Sat - Is 7:10-14; 8:10 Ps 40:7-11 Heb 10:4-10
Lk 1:26-38

Sun - Ez 37:12-14 Ps 130:1-8 Rom 8:8-11 Jn 11:1-45

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.

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

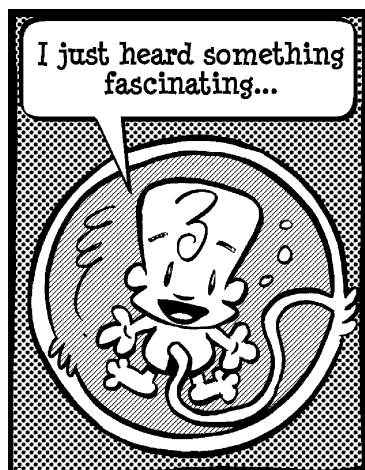


Catholic Relief Services Collection

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to reveal Christ's love to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 2, 2023

PALM SUNDAY

REGULAR WEEKEND
MASS SCHEDULE



7:00 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper,
St. Michael's Church

April 7, 2023

Good Friday

Remembering His Great Sacrifice



12:00 pm - Solemn Good Friday Service,
St. Michael's

5:00 pm - Stations of the Cross, St. Michael's
5:30 pm - Meatless Supper, St. Michael's
(hosted by the Knights of Columbus)

Holy Saturday

In silence we await

April 8, 2023



12:00 pm - Blessing of the Easter Baskets, St. John's
1:00 pm - Blessing of the Easter Baskets, St. Michael's
8:00 pm - Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, St. Michael's

APRIL 9, 2023

EASTER

SUNDAY

REGULAR SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

NOTICE REGARDING REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551).

AVISO AL RESPECTO DE REPORTAR EL ABUSO SEXUAL DE UN MENOR

De Edad Es la norma de la Diócesis de Scranton reportar cualquier alegación de abuso sexual de un menor de edad a las autoridades. Si usted es una víctima de abuso sexual cometido por un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o empleado laico, o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton, usted está obligado a reportar el asunto inmediatamente a las autoridades de la ley. Si algún sacerdote, diácono, religioso, empleado laico o voluntario de la Diócesis de Scranton tiene sospecha de que un menor de edad ha sido sujeto a cualquier forma de abuso, incluyendo abuso sexual de menor de edad, el asunto será reportado a las autoridades de la ley. Es la norma de la Diócesis defender todas las regulaciones civiles y del estado. De conformidad con la Comunidad de los Servicios de Protección Infantil de Pennsylvania Leyes, informes de sospecha de abuso de niños también debe hacerse inmediatamente por teléfono las 24 horas maltrato infantil hotline (ChildLine) al 1-800-932-0313 o electrónicamente en www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis

Al fin de que la Diócesis esté comprometida igualmente a defender las normas del Código de Derecho Canónico y defender los principios de la Carta Para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes (Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos), lo cual incluye apoyar a las víctimas de abuso sexual en pos del bienestar emocional y espiritual. Por eso, información respecto a una alegación del asunto sexual de un menor de edad, debe ser reportada a la Coordinadora Diocesana de Asistencia para Las Víctimas, Mary Beth Pacuska, a (570-862-7551).



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
Columbia Crossroads, PA 16914
Phone/Fax: 570-297-4711
Email:
hawthornridge@gmail.com
PA030014
St. Michael Parish member



1961 Leona Road,
Troy, PA 16947
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Saturday: 7am - 3pm
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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
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Attorney and Counselor at Law
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**John Peter and
James Paul
Pazzaglia**

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