

JULY 30, 2023



17TH 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

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

—Matthew 13:44 (NIV)



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, July 29 Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus
VIGIL: 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
4:00 pm, Canton † Louis Bitcola (Cheryl Carlonas)

Sunday, July 30 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo
9:30 am, Canton † Mike Rushin (John & Pat Rushin)
11:15 am, Troy † Don Wilber (Louise Wilber)

Monday, July 31 Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest
7:00 am, Rectory † Carol Ann Gergel (James Gergel)

Tuesday, August 1 Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop,
Doctor of the Church
5:30 pm, Troy † Emily Merz (Chick & Leslie Debach)

Wednesday, August 2 Weekday
5:30 pm, Canton † Robert Fleury (The Family)
6:00 pm, Holy Hour

Thursday, August 3 Weekday
No Mass

First Friday, August 4 Saint John Vianney, Priest
7:00 am, Canton † Margaret Acresti and for the Special
Intentions of Rev. Alfhones Perikala (The Fitzwater Family)

Saturday, August 5 Weekday
VIGIL: THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
4:00 pm, Canton † Kirk Springfield (St. Michael's A & R)

Sunday, August 6 THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
8:00 am, Ralston † Judy Callahan (Bridget & Shawn)
9:30 am, Canton † Betsy Lynch (The Jerome Wynne Family)
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 women who are unexpectedly preg-
nant to be filled with trust in God's providence
and supported by those around them to lovingly
welcome the gift of their child.

*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 17 - 23, 2023

Weekly Offerings:	2,472.00
Electronic Offerings:	515.00
Other Parish Income:	26.50
 Total Parish Income:	3,013.50
Average weekly expenses:	4,267.09
Difference:	(1,253.59)
Care & Education of Priests:	15.00

Thank you for your continued support.



BARBECUE BENEFIT DINNER

for
CASSIE HAMBURGER

St. Michael's Church 107 N. Washington St. Canton, PA
MONDAY, AUGUST 7TH, FROM 5-7 PM

DONATION
AT DOOR

Pulled BBQ,
Mac Salad
Coleslaw, Baked Beans

Indoor & Outdoor
Seating
Takeout

**50/50
BASKET RAFFLE**

all proceeds to **CASSIE HAMBURGER**

Dear Parishioners,

Are you thinking, "I will pray for Cassie, but how
can I help with the fundraiser?" There are three ways:

- 1) Contact Beth Cole or call or email the parish office
to volunteer to help set-up, serve, or clean-up.
- 2) Drop-off your favorite homemade dessert in St.
Michael's hall between 3 & 4 pm on August 7.
- 3) Attend the dinner - and bring as many of your family
and friends as possible.

SEE YOU ON AUGUST 7TH!

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, Bob Abbott, John Adams, Peggy Adams,
Tom Ambruch, Cleta Barton, Karl Barton,
April Bilbrey, Joseph Blaszczyk, Gus Branish, Joy Brann,
Betty Brown, John Chapman Jr., Dennis Clarke,
Todd Congdon, Carlene Eck, Dorland Eck,
Leon English, Melissa Gowan, Cassie Hamburger,
Gary & Erin Hamilton, Cody Heim,
Robert Dale Hostetter, Victoria Johnson, Beatrice Jones,
Antoinette King, David Kule, Jo Kule, Mike Losey,
Tom McBlane, Darlene McCurdy, Bunny Meuse,
Bernadette Moore, Orlando Moralez, Delina Morgan,
Leo Parchesky, Gary Polly, Dee-Dee Ramsey,
Rich Stankiewicz, 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.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

August 2023

St. Michael Parish

One Minute Meditations

A vessel of God's grace

We are each asked to share God's love with others. How much we allow ourselves to be filled with God's grace will determine what we can share with others. We fill up with grace when we frequent the Sacraments, pray, and study our faith. After all, if we don't practice our own faith how can we help someone to become excited about theirs?

Our powerful Lord

In the Gospels, Jesus healed people 20 times. Seven times Jesus expelled demons. Three times He raised people from the dead, and eight other miracles showed His power over nature. With God all things are possible. All we have to do is ask in harmony with His will.

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for He has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed" (Luke 1:46-48).



Build up the Kingdom of God

As followers of Jesus, we're each called to take our place in the Kingdom of God and help build it up. Consider these suggestions to do your part:

Find your gifts: What special gifts do you possess? In addition to talents and skills, these can include wisdom from life experience or a particularly deep faith. Discern your gifts and ask God where He wants you to use them.

Cultivate gratitude: Write down everything for which you are grateful in a "blessings list." Review it and add to it regularly, especially when tempted to jealousy or discouragement. Praise and thank God daily for whatever is on your list.

Practice humility: St. Thomas Aquinas

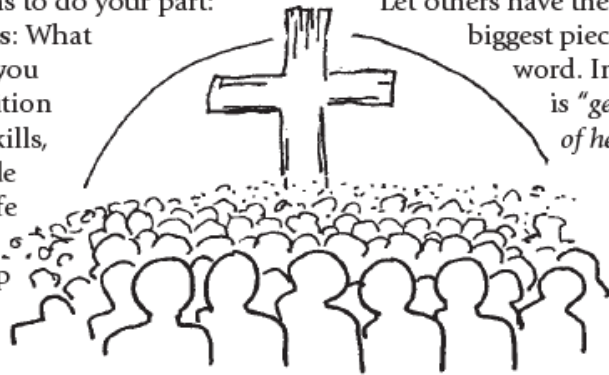
said, "Humility means seeing ourselves as God sees us: knowing every good we have comes from Him as pure gift."

Let others have the best place, the biggest piece of cake, the last word. Imitate Him who is "gentle and humble of heart" (Matthew 11:29).

Be ready to serve: Any act of service can build up your parish, neighborhood, or community. Small

or great, everyone can contribute something. Give of yourself.

Strive for the higher gifts: Jesus asked every one of us to love God and each other. Without love, St. Paul said, "I gain nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:3). If you have true charity, you're on the right track.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

On Easter Sunday, Jesus appeared to the Apostles in the Upper Room and said, "Peace be with you" (John 20:19). He breathed on them, saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them and whose

Why do Catholics confess their sins to a priest?

sins you retain, they are retained" (John 20:22-23).

With that, Jesus established an efficacious way to dispense forgiveness of our sins. He knew we'd need to be assured of His forgiveness by personally hearing the words, "I absolve you of your sins."



"Go and make disciples"

We're all called to spread the Gospel as missionaries (Mark 16:15), but not everyone is required to travel. As a Carmelite nun, St. Thérèse of Lisieux lived out her "second calling" to be a missionary. Here are three ways to spread the Gospel within any vocation:

Go deeper in your faith. You can't share what you don't have. St. Thérèse developed her "Little Way" of holiness after years of prayer and study. Step deeper into your faith daily: read a section of the Catechism, pray over a verse of Scripture, listen to a

Catholic podcast while driving or walking, pray.

Adopt-a-missionary: St. Thérèse was a "spiritual sister" to several missionaries, writing them letters and supporting them in prayer, indirectly helping hundreds of souls. Adopt a missionary – or anyone who shares the Faith. Contact your parish or diocese for suggestions.

"Intercession fueled by charity": St. Thérèse lovingly offered to God the "thorns" she received from others – discomforts, misunderstandings, hurt feelings – to win souls for Christ. Offer your "thorns" as saving graces.



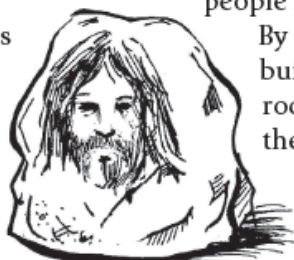
from Scripture

Matthew 16:13-20, The "Rock-solid" foundation

The events in this passage lay the foundations for the Catholic Church. In it, Jesus asks His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" It was a question about Jesus' identity, rather than about the persuasiveness of His teaching or His popularity. The heart of Catholicism centers around the truth of who Jesus is.

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Simon answers for the group, identifying Jesus as the Son of God, the Messiah (Matthew 16:17). Jesus proclaims this was divinely revealed to Simon and changes his name to Peter

("Rock"). Jesus gives him the keys to the kingdom, giving Peter (and his successors) the authority to interpret Scripture, forgive sins, and admit people into the Church.



By this, Jesus signaled He was building His Church on a rock-solid foundation – on the confession of Peter about Jesus' divinity. This truth has been handed down through the ages, from the Apostles to the bishops to us. The Holy Spirit would lead Peter – and his successors, the popes – to continue speaking and acting in truth as the visible head of the Church.

Q & A How can I avoid gossiping?

Chatting with friends can become gossip – unfairly disclosing another's faults or sins without a valid reason, to people who don't know them (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2477). Try these ideas when chatting becomes gossip:

Name it: A gentle reminder between friends is an act of kindness. Try, "I think we're edging into gossip," or "Oh, that's not kind!" It's better to risk speaking up than silently allowing sin.

Redirect the conversation: Highlight good qualities of the person about whom others are gossiping. Refocus on inspiring news, a good book you read – anything else that is "honorable ... just ... pure ... pleasing" (Philippians 4:8).

Leave: If nothing else works, excuse yourself and leave the conversation. You'll avoid becoming complicit to sin and wordlessly communicate that you find gossip unacceptable.

Pray: Sins of the tongue (gossip, slander, calumny, detraction) are serious and require grace to resist. Invoke the Holy Spirit for yourself, for those who engage in gossip, and especially for those harmed by it.

Feasts & Celebrations

August 6 – Transfiguration of the Lord. Christ appeared in glory in the company of Moses and Elijah, discussing the Passion (Luke 9:30-31), and a voice was heard to say, "This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him" (Matthew 17:5).

August 14 – St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe (1941). A Polish Franciscan, St. Maximilian was imprisoned at Auschwitz. When the jailers chose ten people to execute, he substituted himself for a man with a family. He was honored as a "martyr of charity" by

Pope John Paul II.

August 23 – St. Rose of Lima (1617). Born in colonial Peru, Rose worked constantly to help her poverty-stricken family. She became a lay Dominican, and cared for homeless children, the elderly, and the sick in her house.

August 29 – Passion of St. John the Baptist (1st century). St. John the Baptist courageously spoke the truth to the leaders of his time, making him powerful enemies. He was arrested by Herod and martyred (Mark 6:17-29).



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 FRANCIS'S
AUGUST PRAYER INTENTION
FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY**
We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon
will help young people to live and wit-
ness the Gospel in their own lives.



NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MASS
FOR THE CANONIZATION OF
BLESSED FATHER MICHAEL MCGIVNEY,
FOUNDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
On Sunday, August 13th, the 9:30 am
Mass will be offered for the Canonization of
Blessed Father Michael McGivney by the
Knights of Columbus. A Rosary and Litany
of Blessed Father Michael McGivney will
begin at 8:45 am, led by the Knights of Co-
lumbus.

Michael McGivney was born August 12, 1852, or-
dained December 22, 1877, and died August 14, 1890 at
the age of 38 after serving in the Priesthood for 13 years.
He founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882. He was
declared Venerable on March 15, 2008. A miracle was
approved for his Beatification on May 27, 2020. Venera-
ble Father Michael McGivney was beatified on October
31, 2020. His Feast Day is established as August 13th.

EXEMPLIFICATION ON AUGUST 13TH

We would like to invite any
Catholic gentlemen age 18 and
older, from any parish, to join our
council. We will be holding an
EXEMPLIFICATION after the Mass
for Blessed Michael J. McGivney. Please consider be-
coming a Knight on this most blessed occasion. If you
are interested in becoming a Knight, contact any of the
Knights in our parish. This ceremony is open to any
Catholic gentleman from any parish.



"STUFF THE BUS" BEGINS NEXT MONTH

We will be starting our "Stuff the Bus" drive August
5th & 6th. We are collecting school supplies to distribute
to the Elementary Schools of Canton and Troy for the

JULY 31 - AUGUST 6, 2023 READINGS

Mon - Ex 32:15-24, 34-30 Ps 106:19-23 Mt 13:31-35

Tues - Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 Ps 103:6-13

Mt 13:36-43

Wed - Ex 34:29-35 Ps 99:5-7, 9 Mt 13:44-46

Thurs - Ex 40:16-21, 34-38 Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11

Mt 13:47-53

Fri - Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 Ps 81:3-6, 10-11

Mt 13:54-58

Sat - Lv 25:1, 8-17 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 Mt 14:1-12

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

Mt 7:1-9

THANK YOU to *everyone* who helped
with the Altar & Rosary Society Yard
Sale. Special thanks to Joanne Kropf for
all her hard work chairing this event.



WEEK OF JULY 30, 2023

IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

This film brings to life the story of St. Ignatius of
Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits. Often called "The
Saint of Second Chances," St. Ignatius was transformed
from a self-obsessed sinner to a ... soldier-saint.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS BY SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

The Augustine Institute presents a beautiful medita-
tion on the Stations of the Cross by Saint Alphonsus
Liguori, narrated by Dr. Christopher Blum. This ... re-
flection is accompanied by the Schola Cantorum, chant-
ing ... Stabat Mater to aid your prayer.

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY | CATHOLIC SAINTS

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they discuss
St. John Vianney, the Cure d'Ars and patron saint of par-
ish priests.

less fortunate students. Collection bins will
be near the entrance of the three Churches.

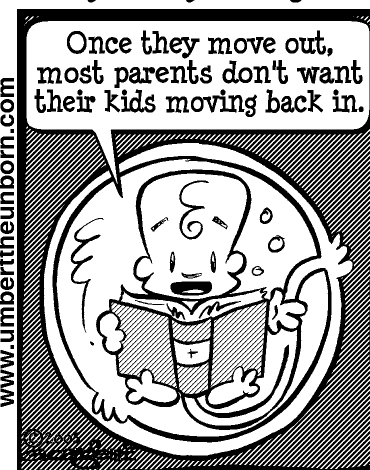
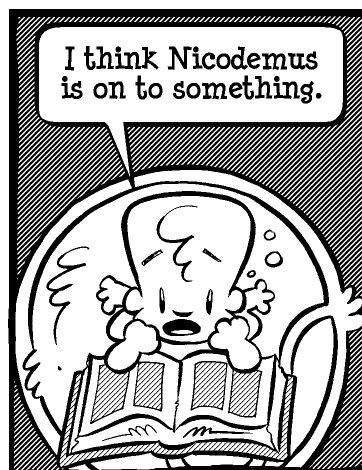
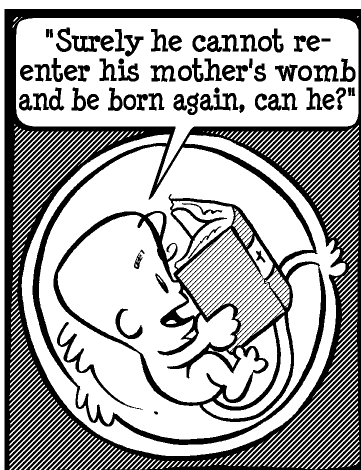
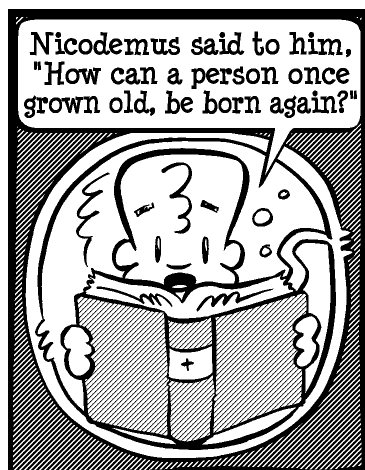


FOOD DRIVE CONTINUES

The food collection is ongoing as
well. We thank everyone for their generous
donations. Hunger never takes a break.

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.



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Columbia Crossroads, PA 16914
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Email:
hawthornridge@gmail.com
PA030014
St. Michael Parish member



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**John Peter and
James Paul
Pazzaglia**



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In loving memory of
Carol Ann

Gerges

Saint Jude,
Pray for us.



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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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