

AUGUST 27, 2023



21ST 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: All who are seriously ill, hospitalized, or having surgery can receive this sacrament. 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. 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

Wednesday: 6 pm, St Michael's Church following 5:30 pm Mass, Benediction at 7 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. (2023/24) (Rel. Ed.)

St Michael's hall: Sun, 8:15 am
St John's hall: TBD

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, August 26 Weekday
VIGIL: 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
4:00 pm, Canton † Betsy & Mary Lynch
(Bob & Diane Jones)

Sunday, August 27 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Richard D. Ross (The Family)
9:30 am, Canton † Lynn Grieves (John & Pat Rushin)
11:15 am, Troy † Pro Populo

Monday, August 28 Saint Augustine, Bishop,
Doctor of the Church
7:00 am, Rectory † Carol Ann Gergel (James Gergel)

Tuesday, Aug 29 The Passion of Saint John the Baptist
5:30 pm, Troy † Stanley E. Lutomski (John & Ann Kearns)

Wednesday, August 30 Weekday
5:30 pm, Canton † Rev. Theodore Centala, OCD
(Mansfield Carmelite Study Group)
6:00 pm, Holy Hour

Thursday, August 31 Weekday
No Mass

First Friday, September 1 Weekday
7:00 am, Canton † Betsy Lynch (St. Michael's A&R)

Saturday, September 2 Weekday
VIGIL: 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
4:00 pm, Canton † Carol Ann Gergel (James Gergel)

Sunday, Sept 3 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo
9:30 am, Canton † Robert Fleury (The Family)
11:15 am, Troy † Julia Hamburger
(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

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 those who are imprisoned, especially those facing the death penalty; to be treated with the respect due to every human person.

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



SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS August 14 - 20, 2023

Weekly Offerings:	2,420.00
Assumption Offerings:	477.50
Electronic Offerings:	515.00
Other Parish Income:	213.90
Total Parish Income:	3,626.40
Average weekly expenses:	4,267.09
Difference:	(640.69)
Care & Education of Priests:	60.00



Thank you for your continued support.

FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC, OR REFRESHING YOUR MEMORY?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the way for non-Catholics to enter into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church and for Catholics who have not been fully initiated to receive Holy Communion and/or Confirmation. If you or any one you know is interested in becoming Catholic, the RCIA is for you. For Catholics who would like a "refresher" on their faith, this is an excellent continuing education opportunity. For more information or to register, please call Father Joe at 570-673-5253.



NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

"STUFF THE BUS" UNDERWAY!!

Our "Stuff the Bus" drive started August 5th & 6th. We are collecting school supplies to distribute to the Elementary Schools of Canton and Troy for the less fortunate students. Collection bins are 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.

Be A Catholic Man Conference 2023

2023 CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

The October 7th, 2023 Catholic Men's Conference, from 8 am to 3pm, will be held at Holy Redeemer High School, Wilkes-Barre.

A generous (anonymous) donor, has volunteered to pay the registration fee for any man of Saint Michael's Parish to attend the conference. To take advantage of this offer, contact the parish office.

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, Peggy Adams, Tom Ambruch, Cleta Barton, Karl Barton, April Bilbrey, Joseph Blaszc, 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, Glenda Watson, 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.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

September 2023

St. Michael Parish

One Minute Meditations

St. Padre Pio

Born to farmers in 1887, in southern Italy,

Francesco Forgione joined the Capuchin Friars at the age of 15, taking the name "Pio." In 1918, St. Pio received the five wounds of Our Lord's Passion, called the stigmata, in his body. Renowned for his preaching, holiness, and charity, thousands flocked to him for Confession and spiritual direction. Amidst his suffering, he continued to labor for the spiritual and physical well-being of others, founding a hospital that still operates today.



Perfect is possible

Jesus said, "... be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). Perfection to Jesus means loving God with all our hearts, praying for our enemies, and taking care of the poor. Love and service is the true measure of perfection.

"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor" Romans 12:9-10.



Seven virtues for successful Catholics

Practicing virtues – habitual and firm dispositions to do good – leads to long-lasting interior freedom, joy, and peace. The following seven virtues, with God's grace, can help you do that:

Faith enables our belief in God and all that He has revealed through Scripture, Tradition, and the Church's teachings. Reciting the Creed, especially at Mass, is an act of faith.

Hope is the desire for Heaven and trust in God's promises to us. Trusting in the Lord even in trials and asking for forgiveness for sins are acts of hope.

Charity enables us to love God above all things and our neighbors as ourselves. True love is when we wish – and act for – the authentic good of others.

Prudence is the virtue that helps us to discern our true good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it.

Justice helps us respect others' rights and give to each his due. We owe God our worship. We are made in His image, so we owe each other respect.

Fortitude strengthens us to follow Christ in the world, even if it's unpopular and uncomfortable.

Temperance properly orders our desire for pleasure, so that we appreciate earthly goods in moderation and value heavenly goods most. Observing the one-hour fast from food before receiving the Eucharist is an act of temperance.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics attend Mass on holy days of obligation?

Throughout the year, the Church celebrates six feasts that honor a central mystery of our faith with extra enthusiasm. These days are so important that all Catholics are required to attend Mass to celebrate. They are listed on the US Conference of

Catholic Bishops' website, <http://www.usccb.org>.

All Sundays are also holy days of obligation. We live the third commandment to honor the Sabbath by attending Mass every Sunday.

Celebrating these holy days is a reminder that we belong firstly to God.

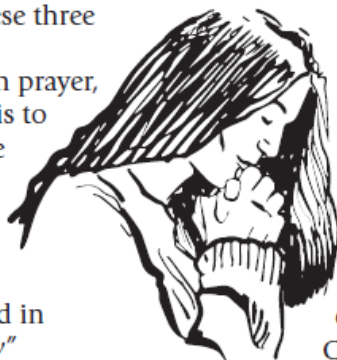


Finding time for powerful prayer

If you struggle to find time to pray, try these three tips:

Prioritize. Much unseen good depends on prayer, and it's as critical to our souls as breathing is to the body. Jesus corrected St. Martha because she lost sight of *"the one thing...needful"* (Luke 10:41-42). Reserve time for daily prayer. Treat it as an important appointment – because it is.

Set boundaries. Jesus dismissed the crowd in the evening and *"went up into the hills to pray"*



(Matthew 14:23). Give God your undivided attention in prayer for whatever time you can. Be fully present, minimizing distractions. Let the world wait while you spend time with the One who loves you most.

Activate your work. Few of us have the luxury of being able to spend all day in prayer but we can make a morning offering, giving our day to God's service. Entrust all the events, tasks, and concerns of the day to God's mercy and providence. This way, our work is made holy and can help bring souls to Christ.

from Scripture

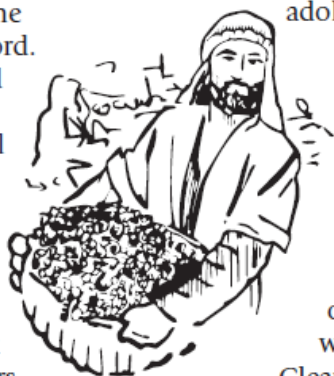
Matthew 20:1-16a, The generous landowner

In this Gospel reading, Jesus told a parable in which He compared God's kingdom to a vineyard in the charge of a generous landlord.

In the parable, the landlord hires groups of workers at various times of the day. All agree with the landlord to work for a "fair wage."

The vineyard is God's kingdom and God is the generous landlord. Some Bible scholars propose that the earlier groups of workers represented the Jewish people, who had followed God's laws for thousands of years, while the Gentiles were the latecomers. The workers also stood for

those whom God calls at various stages of life: from infancy, adolescence, adulthood, and old age.



Then the landlord paid the laborers, beginning with the five o'clock workers. It must have shocked Jesus' listeners to hear that the landlord paid those who worked one hour as if they'd worked for twelve hours.

Clearly, God's idea of a "fair" wage is not the same as ours. What is important is not how many hours we've served God, but if we answered Him when He called us.

Q & A What's the proper way to show reverence before I receive Communion?

In days past, everyone approached the altar, knelt at the altar rail and received the host on our tongues. That was prescribed as a posture of reverence to show respect and adoration for the Body and Blood of our Lord.

The bishops in the United States have decided that we may approach the altar and stand to receive Communion. When we approach, we are to bow as a gesture of reverence before we receive the consecrated host from the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion.

Today we can receive the host either on the tongue or in the hand. To receive in the hand, we place one hand, palm up, on top of the other to form a "throne." We can also receive Holy Communion in the form of precious Blood. When Holy Communion is offered under both kinds we repeat the bow of our heads before receiving each one.

Genuflection is appropriate at other times. For example, we genuflect before the tabernacle containing the Blessed Sacrament.



Feasts & Celebrations

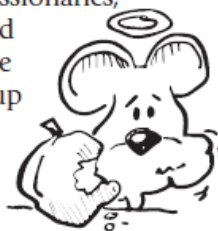
September 1 – St. Giles (710). Shrouded in mystery, St. Giles was a hermit who lived near the Rhône River in France. His fame as a miracle worker drew crowds and disciples to him. Eventually, St. Giles became abbot of a monastery.

September 8 – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary's birth brought her parents joy, and we are joyful too – because Mary brings salvation to all of us with the birth of Jesus.

September 14 - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (c.326). St. Helena, mother

of Emperor Constantine, discovered what is believed to be the Cross of Christ while on pilgrimage in Jerusalem. Constantine built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on the site.

September 28 – St. Wenceslaus (929). Raised by his devout grandmother, St. Ludmilla, "The Good King" St. Wenceslaus worked to end Christian persecution in Bohemia, encouraged German missionaries, built churches, and cared for the sick and poor. He was martyred by a group of dissatisfied nobles, led by his brother, Boleslaus.



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)

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**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.

Religious Education

CCD registration is open now through September 3 for children in Pre-K (age 4) through Confirmation for the 2023-24 school year. Please include your child's specific grade when registering. Registration forms are available in the back of all churches or online at the parish website via the Faith Formation tab. Also, if you are interested in becoming a CCD teacher, please contact Sarah Watson at (570) 447-8799.

ST BONIFACE 55TH ANNUAL PARISH CARNIVAL SEPTEMBER 7TH, 8TH & 9TH

ST. BONIFACE CHURCH GROUNDS
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OUR OWN HOMEMADE PIEROGIES

September 7th & 8th: Rides, Games, and Outside Food – 6 pm - ? Bingo inside the school gym – 7 pm. White Elephant Sale inside the school gym – 4pm - 8pm

September 9th: Rides, Games, Outside Food – 5 pm - ? Bingo inside the school gym – 7 pm. White Elephant Sale inside the school gym: 4 pm – 8 pm

Annual Raffle Drawing @ 10 pm

Need Not Be Present to Win

AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2023 READINGS

Mon - 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 Ps 149:1-6, 9

Tues - 1 Thes 2:1-8 Ps 139:1-6 Mk 6:17-29

Wed - 1 Thes 2:9-12 Ps 139:7-12b Mt 23:27-32

Thurs - 1 Thes 3:7-13 Ps 90:3-5, 12-14, 17

Mt 24:42-51

Fri - 1 Thes 4:1-8 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 10-12 Mt 25:1-13

Sat - 1 Thes 4:9-11 Ps 98:1, 7-9 Mt 25:14-30

Sun - Jer 20:7-9 Ps 63:2-6, 8-9 Rom 12:1-2

Mt 16:21-27



WEEK OF AUGUST 27, 2023

RESTLESS HEART: THE CONFESSIONS OF AUGUSTINE

This film on the life of St. Augustine offers a message of conversion and redemption. It is the story of a gifted man who pursues fame and fortune without a moral compass - and the dramatic changes that occur in his soul when challenging events lead him to see the light of truth.



CONFESSIONS OF AUGUSTINE

WHO IS ST. AUGUSTINE? (PART 1 OF 6)

Join these two patristic scholars as they help viewers learn how to read this classic text and draw from the riches of the spiritual life of the doctor of the Church, Saint Augustine.



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST | CATHOLIC SAINTS

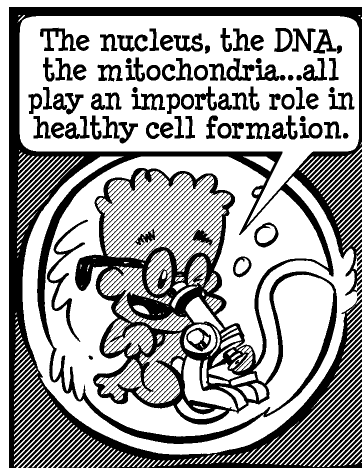
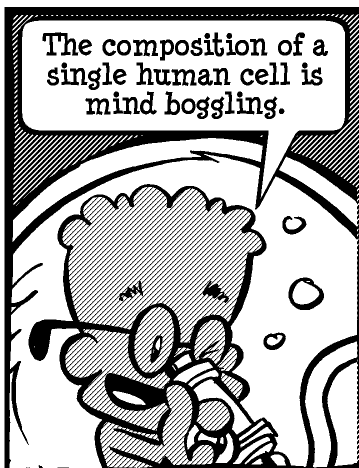
Join Dr. John Sehorn and Taylor Kemp as they talk about St. John the Baptist, the forerunner to Christ.



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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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**SAINT MICHAEL'S
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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 1:00 pm. We always wel-
come new members.

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Attorney and Counselor at Law

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