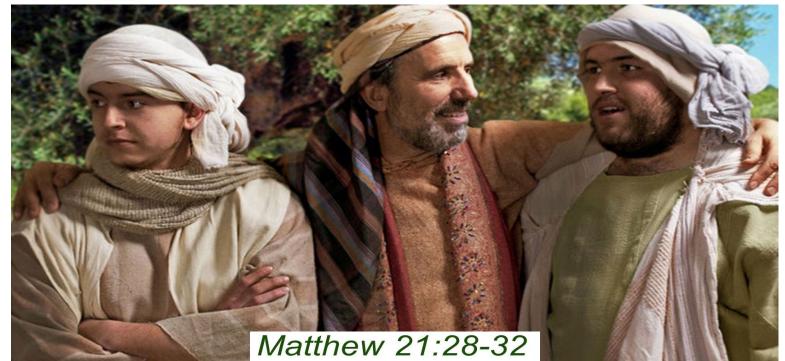
OCTOBER 1, 2023



 (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



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."

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

Anointing of the Sick

All who are seriously ill, hospitalized, or having surgery can receive this sacrament. Contact the parish office to request 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

St. Michael's Church: 6 - 7 pm Mass on Wednesdays and First Fridays after 7 am Mass until 7 pm.

<u>First Fridays</u>

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)

Religious Education held on Sundays from September until May 8:15 am, St. Michael's hall 10 am, St. John's hall

LITURGY SCHEDULE
Sat, Sept 30Saint Jerome, Priest, Doctor of the ChurchVIGIL: 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME4:00 pm, Canton † Jefferey Wynne (His Family)
Sunday, October 126TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo9:30 am, Canton - For the special intentions of Mary and Richard Blasz on the anniversary of their wedding (Mary Blasz)11:15 am, Troy † Albert Davis (The Bradford & Hamburger Families)
Monday, October 2The Holy Guardian Angels7:00 am, Rectory † Teresa Locher (Anna Marie Mimlitsch)
Tuesday, October 3WeekdayNO MASS
Wednesday, October 4Saint Francis of Assisi5:30 pm, Canton † Linda Gallagher (John & Pat Rushin)6:00 pm, Holy Hour
Thursday, October 5WeekdayNo Mass
First Friday, October 6Weekday7:00 am, Canton † Arlene Mitchell (Florence Zaydell & Marcella Lorrison))
Sat, October 7Our Lady of the RosaryVIGIL: 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME4:00 pm, Canton † Mary & Betsy Lynch (Bob & Diane Jones)
Sunday, October 827TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME8:00 am, Ralston † Helen Leinhard (Tim & Cathy Bogaczyk)9:30 am, Canton † Judy Callahan (Bridget & Shawn)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 all Catholics, on this Respect Life Sunday, to resolve anew to protect the gift of eve- ry human life and serve moms in need of assis-

ry human life and serve moms in need of assistance.

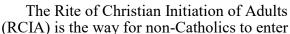
Sanctuary lamp intentions may be requested by contacting the parish office.

SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS September 18 - 24, 2023

Washir Offeringen	2696 50	
Weekly Offerings:	2,686.50	
Electronic Offerings:	515.00	
Bulletin Ad Renewals:	975.00	
Other Parish Income:	190.50	
Total Parish Income:	4,367.00	
Average weekly expenses:	4,267.09	
Difference:	99.91	
St. Vincent De Paul offerings:	393.00	
Thank you for your continued support.		

FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC, OR REFRESHING YOUR MEMORY?





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.

ANNUAL FRUIT PIE SALES ATTENTION ALL BAKERS!

It is time for our annual fruit pie sale! The Pumpkin Festival will be held on October 7th & 8th at the Firemen's Field in Canton. Don't think



you're locked in to apple pies, people love the fun and unusual flavors, so let your creativity flow! Pie tins and boxes are available for pickup in all three churches. Pie drop-off will be on Friday, October 6th in Saint Michael's Church hall from 10 am until 6 pm.



Please print the pie flavor neatly on the post-it note on the box.

You can also volunteer to work the booth on the sign-up sheet in the

back of St. Michael's Church, or call the rectory during office hours to see what times still need coverage.

This fundraiser has been very helpful to the fiscal health of our parish and is a great way to build relationships within our community. Both of those things are vitally important. Your help is needed to continue these traditions.

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, Peggy Adams, Tom Ambruch, Karl Barton, April Bilbrey, Joseph Blasz, 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, Ramona Parker, Gary Polly, Dee-Dee Ramsey, Rich Stankiewicz, Mary Catherine Taylor, 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.



October 2025

St. Michael Parish

One Minute Meditations St. John XXIII Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was born to a poor farming family in Bergamo, Italy. His ordination as a priest in 1904 began a lifetime serving the Church as the bishop's secretary, a military chaplain, cardinal-patriarch of Venice, and finally, as pope. He often visited the poor, the sick and prisoners. He also spent his brief papacy working to improve relations with the Eastern Church. He is most remembered for opening the Second Vatican Council. He died in 1963.

Choose entertainment carefully

A steady diet of violent entertainment, objectifying media, or explicit reading helps us to become comfortable with violence and sex. We begin to see people as characters rather than humans. Sinful behavior becomes normalized. In our journey toward holiness, it is critical that we are choosy about what we watch and read.

"Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing." (St. Therese of Lisieux, Story of a Soul)

His Mother for our own

While He was on Earth, Jesus gave all of Himself for us – even His life – out of love. He even gave us His own mother to be our true mother (John 10:26-27). In turn, Our Lady

19:26-27). In turn, Our Lady works to bring us to the heart of her Son.

"To Jesus, through Mary." St. Louis de Montfort used these words to explain that devotion to Mary is the best way to grow closer to Jesus, because Mary herself will lead us to her Son if we ask for her help. When we are under temptation to sin, spiritually dry or discouraged, let Mary take you by

the hand and lead you to Jesus. Our path to Jesus. We have one mediator in Christ (1 Timothy 2:5). Yet, what loving son refuses his mother's requests? In His generosity, God is pleased to answer Mary's prayers for us. We can ask Mary to

pray with (and for) us: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death."

> Entrust all we love to her. St. Maximilian Kolbe wrote, "Let us entrust to (Our Lady) all of those close to our hearts, and she, the best among mothers, will help them in the best way

possible." There is no safer place for all those we love than our Mother's arms.



Why do Catholics have two versions of the Creed?

Both creeds summarize what Catholics believe but were written at different purposes. The Apostles' Creed is the summary of the beliefs of the early Church. The Nicene Creed is the expanded form of the Apostles' Creed, stemming from two Church councils (Nicaea, AD 325; Constantinople, AD 381) to combat Arianism, which proposed Jesus was not God but a kind of super-saint. The Nicene Creed emphasizes Jesus' divinity, His divine Sonship, and the divinity of the Holy Spirit.

"Angel of God, my guardian dear ..."

"Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life," said St. Basil. The Church

teaches that we each have a guardian angel, assigned to guide and protect us until death (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #336). Jesus said: "In heaven their angels always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 18:10). Tap your angel's powerful protection to grow in virtue and holiness:

Confide in your guardian. Guardian angels aren't mind-readers, but they do observe us

from cripture

In their first meeting with Jesus, the Pharisees wanted to trap Him by getting Him to say something that

contradicted Jewish law. Then He could be arrested and silenced. The lawyer they sent was aware that generations of Jews had debated fruitlessly about which law was the most important. Pretending to seek Jesus' opinion, he asked Jesus to choose which of the 613 commands of the Jewish law was the most important.

Jesus silenced them all by saying everything starts and ends with love – love of God and love of others. To love



October 7 – Our Lady of the Rosary. Pope Gregory XIII named this feast because it was believed that Christians won a critical victory at the Battle of Lepanto after praying the Rosary.

October 9 – St. John Leonardi (1609). Born in 1543 in Lucca, Italy, St. John spent his priesthood ministering in hospitals and prisons and teaching the Faith. He established the Clerks Regular of the Mother of God, and helped found the Congregation of Christian Doctrine.

October 16 - St. Hedwig (1243).

Matthew 22:34-40, Jesus has the right answers

God is to love one another. These laws are at the heart of all the other laws. Even the Pharisees couldn't argue

with that. While it is easy to love God, loving others is more difficult. It means including people when the natural inclination is to exclude or avoid them.

Jesus loved prostitutes, thieves, lepers, even his

political enemies. True love of neighbor is measured by how we treat the poor, the vulnerable, and our enemies. This is how God loves and He calls us to do the same.

Born to the Duke of Croatia, St. Hedwig married the Duke Henry of Silesia. They founded a convent, h ospitals, and monasteries. After his death, St. Hedwig became a Cistercian nun, donating her fortune to charity.

October 28 – Sts. Simon and Jude (1st century). St. Simon was a Zealot – Jews who believed the Messiah would free them from political oppression. St. Jude was a fisherman. After being called by Jesus to be apostles, they eventually traveled to Persia where they preached the Gospel until they were martyred.

carefully. The more we tell them, the better they can help us make good choices, avoid sin, and keep us safe.

Ask for help. Our guardian can help make tough decisions, resolve conflicts, offer protection especially for our souls. They intercede for us, and help to prepare our souls for the moment when we stand before God.

Respect guardian power. Angels are powerful creatures, created by God to care for us. They aren't answerable to us but stand ready to help us get to Heaven.

Q Can Catholics& celebrateA Halloween?

Catholics can celebrate Halloween as a holiday with Christian roots. In 835, Pope Gregory IV moved the commemoration of All Martyrs (later All Saints Day) from May 13 to November 1. The night before became known as All Hallow's Even or "Holy



Evening," and eventually Halloween. Villagers visited local homes to gather contributions for the feast to be held the next day, All Saints Day.

Those who didn't contribute might be subject to a prank or "trick."

Catholics enjoy donning creative costumes and giving out candy, but it's important to avoid glorifying evil, death, and the Devil. Consider using the holiday to learn about a saint you didn't know or collecting food for the poor.

In short, Halloween is a chance to celebrate generosity, friendship, and community. It's the threshold of a time to remember the believers who have gone to Heaven before us and the hope we have of following. We also pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory to strengthen them during their purification before entering Heaven.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living. Success Publishing & Media, LLC Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™ (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax http://www.growinginfaith.com (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

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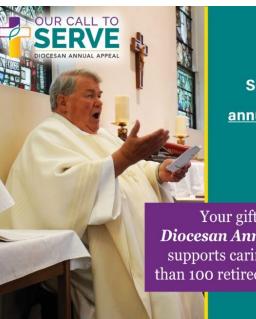
"Never will anyone who says his Rosary every day become a formal heretic or be led astray by the devil." - Saint Louis de Montfort

PRAY the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary

ROSARY RALLY IN ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH On October 5th, the weekly rosary in St. Michael's Church is moving from 9:30 am to 11:00 am and the intention will be for widows and the elderly. A light luncheon will be served in the hall afterwards. As always with the 9:30 rosary, everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.



Take me to Fr. Joe's Blessing of Animals and Pets for the Feast of St. Francis on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 4:00 pm !





Scan to donate or visit annualappeal.org

Your gift to the Diocesan Annual Appeal supports caring for more than 100 retired or ill priests

LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, October 1st beginning at 2 PM (for 60 to 90 minutes depending on the location). Join the National Life Chain.



Stand with thousands of pro-lifers throughout the USA

- rain or shine. Water, lawn chairs, and umbrellas are welcome. (Please do not park in front of an open business.) Signs will be provided

Bradford County Pennsylvanians for Human Life is Sponsoring the following Life Chains at these locations:

Athens Township: Elmira St from 2 to 3:30 PM (across from Wendy's in front of the UPS Store) Chairperson: John Moliski, 570-423-6001

Canton: Main St from 2 to 3 PM, Chairperson: Denny Vermilya 570-447-8499

Dushore: Main St / on corners by traffic light, 2 - 3 PM, Chairpersons: Joe & Diane McDonough: 570-928-9621

Meshoppen: Route 6 in front of PS Bank by the blinker, Meshoppen, 2 - 3 PM, Chairperson: Marilyn Burton: 570-833-4851

Nichols, NY: West River Rd at NY 17 Exit, 2 - 3 PM, Chairperson: Sharon Russell: 570-247-7438

Towanda: in front of the Courthouse, 2 - 3:30 PM, Chairperson: Marie Seibert: 570-265-3122

Tunkhannock: In front of Nativity BVM, Rt 6, 2 - 3 PM, Diane Stone - 570-836-3275

Wyalusing: In front of St. Mary's, Rt. 6, 2 - 3 PM; Marilyn Burke – 570-746-1280

Owego, NY: Courthouse Square, 2 - 3 PM; Rob Howard: 570-395-3417



POPE FRANCIS'S OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE SYNOD: We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.



WEEK OF OCTOBER 1, 2023

FAUSTINA AND THE SPREAD OF DIVINE MERCY **DIVINE MERCY** | EPISODE 4

This episode of Divine Mercy and the Second Greatest Story Ever Told, reveals how a saint from Poland embarked on one of the



greatest missions in the history of the Church, becoming a catalyst for the message of Divine Mercy.

BROTHER FRANCIS: THE BAREFOOT SAINT OF ASSISI

In this 10-part audio drama, listeners can dive into the life of St. Francis of Assisi as he goes from being a son of wealth and privilege to a man who gave up everything for the sake of Christ.



THE FEAST OF ST. THÉRÈSE

In celebration of the feast of St. Thérèse, Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger sit down to discuss the life and writings of this great saint and Doctor of the Church.



Set up your free account by visiting formed.org/signup Use zip code 17724 to find our parish.

News FROM THE KNIGHTS FOOD DRIVE CONTINUES



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

Umbert the Unborn



SEPTEMBER 25 - OCTOBER 1, 2023 READINGS Mon - Ezr 1:1-16 Ps 126:1-6 Lk 8:16-18 **Tues -** Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 8:19-21 Wed - Ezr 9:5-9 (Ps) Tb 13:2, 3-4, 7-8 Lk 9:1-6 Thurs - Hg 1:1-8 Ps 149:1-6, 9 Lk 9:7-9 Fri - Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a Ps 138:1-5 Jn 1:47-51

Sat - Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a (Ps) Jer 31:10-13 Lk 9:43b-45 Sun - Ez 18:25-28 Ps 25:4-9 Phil 2:1-11 Mt 21:28-32

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.

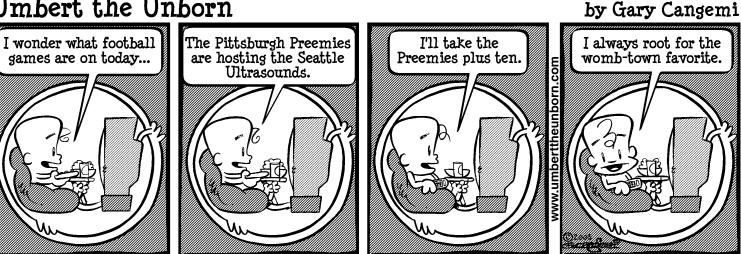


CCD meets at 8:15 am in St. Michael's Hall and 10:00 am in St. John's Hall. Please pray for all of our students, especially those preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

If you have not yet registered your child for CCD, email Sarah Watson at dre@stmichaelscanton.com.

MARCH FOR LIFE

Bradford County Pennsylvanians for Human Life will be sponsoring a bus to the PA March for Life in Harrisburg PA. on October 16th. The bus will make several stops in the area to pick up riders. To reserve vour seat on the bus, call Frank Socha 570-772-6524.









From Fr. Joe





To all parishioners, families, and friends; this Wednesday, October 4, at 4:00 pm, we will have the traditional Blessing of Animals and Pets for the Feast of St. Francis. Everyone is invited to bring their pets and animals of any kind, to the parking lot of St.

Michael's Church at 106 North Washington Street in Canton. The Blessing Service will last approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Through the Blessing of St. Francis may we always be faithful stewards of all God's creatures.









