

MAY 12, 2024



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

# ST. MICHAEL

## CATHOLIC PARISH

(covering worship sites in Ralston, Canton & Troy)

Reverend Joseph P. Kutch, MA, Pastor

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Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 8:00 am - 3:30 pm,

Thursdays 8:00 am - 1:00 pm



## LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Saturday, May 11** Easter Weekday

VIGIL: SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

4:00 pm, Canton † Pro Populo

**Sunday, May 12** SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 am, Ralston † Mother's Day envelope intentions

9:30 am, Canton † Mother's Day envelope intentions

11:15 am, Troy † Mother's Day envelope intentions

**Monday, May 13** Easter Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory - For the special intentions of  
John Ten Eick (The Asbury Family)

**Tuesday, May 14** SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

5:30 pm, Troy † Robert Curran (Jim & Peggy Padden)

**Wednesday, May 15** Easter Weekday

5:30 pm, Canton † Tom Rudy, Sr. (Bob & Helen Swinsick)

6:00 pm, Holy Hour

**Thursday, May 16** Easter Weekday

No Mass

**Friday, May 17** Easter Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory † Private Intention

**Saturday, May 18** Easter Weekday

VIGIL: PENTECOST SUNDAY

4:00 pm, Canton † Pro Populo

**Sunday, May 19** PENTECOST SUNDAY

8:00 am, Ralston † Kathryn & Fred Fredo (The Family)

9:30 am, Canton † Norvin & Donna Holmes

(St. Michael's A&R)

11:15 am, Troy - For the special intentions of Kara Cummings, Alex Roupp and Toby Stanton (Cathy Asbury)

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 that our parish community may come together to become a place of welcome and assistance for all mothers in need.

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

*The cost is \$10 for all three lamps for a weekend.*

### SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS April 29 - May 5, 2024

Weekly Offerings:	2,675.10
Electronic Offerings:	1,330.00
Other Parish Income:	<u>378.50</u>
Total Parish Income:	4,383.60
Average weekly expenses:	<u>4,124.61</u>
Difference:	258.99
Care & Education of Priests:	528.00
Catholic Communications Campaign	10.00

*Thank you for your continued support.*

## FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

### MOTHER'S DAY SPIRITUAL BOUQUET CARDS

In addition to the Mother's Day intention envelopes that are in your offertory packets, Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet cards are in all three churches. If you choose to use these cards, there is an envelope for your intentions and donation that goes in the collection basket, and another envelope with a beautiful Mother's Day card for you to give to your living mother, grandmother, or great grandmother. Just take that card out of the intention envelope and only bring the completed, sealed intentions envelope back to the church on or before Mother's Day.



### NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

#### MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

We will hold our annual Mother's Day Breakfast in St. Michael's Hall on Sunday, May 12th following the 9:30 am Mass until 11:30 am. Menu: pancakes, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs and beverages.

*Free to all women in honor of Mother's Day.*

Donations gratefully accepted at the door for everyone else.



### CONFIRMATION, SUNDAY, MAY 19TH

**11:15 AM, ST. JOHN'S CHURCH**

*Kara Cummings      Alex Roupp*

*Toby Stanton*



Please pray for all three of these young people as they make their final preparations to become full members of the Catholic Church. Prayers for their families and sponsors are also appreciated.

*Mother's Day envelope intentions will be printed in next week's bulletin. The intentions received through May 6th have been placed on all the altars in our parish.*

### SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John Adams, Peggy Adams, Karl Barton, April Bilbrey, Cassi Blaney, Joseph Blaszczyk, Gus Branish, Joy Brann, Betty Brown, John Chapman Jr., Dennis & Barbara Clarke, Darlene Cole, Todd Congdon, Carlene Eck, Dorland Eck, Leon English, Ben Flood, Melissa Gowan, Cassie Hamburger, Cody Heim, Robert Dale Hostetter, Victoria Johnson, Beatrice Jones, Antoinette King, Theresa Kingsley, David Kule, Jo Kule, Joyce Maloney, Tom McBlane, Bunny Meuse, Bernadette Moore, Orlando Morales, Delina Morgan, Brett Neely, Mary Nybeck, Leo Parchesky, Ramona Parker, Gary Paquette, Lori Pellegrini, Gary Polly, Patricia Rogers, Katy Snyder, Rich Stankiewicz, Joe Turk, Elias Vroman, Matthew Warren, Calvin Watson, 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.

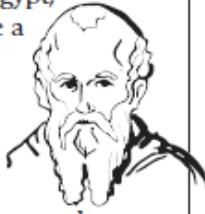
May 2024

St. Michael Parish

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Athanasius of Alexandria

Born a Christian in Egypt, St. Athanasius became a priest and a great defender of the Catholic faith. Recognized for his intelligence and holiness, he was chosen to be secretary to Bishop Alexander of Alexandria, and later succeeded him as bishop. Because of the terrible persecutions and political climate, he was exiled several times during his office. For the rest of his life, St. Athanasius worked to defend the divinity of Christ. He died in 373.



### Stress and surrender

Stress can result from feeling powerless in difficulties, yet change isn't always up to us. Knowing when to step back and surrender can actually bring peace. Turning to God with trust gives us the power to navigate life's challenges with faith and serenity.

"St. Joseph the Worker stands as a symbol of quiet strength and faithfulness, teaching us that in the ordinariness of our work, we honor God in profound ways." Pope Francis



## Spread the Gospel like Our Lady

On the feast of the Visitation (May 31), we celebrate when Mary carried the Good News of our salvation to Saints Elizabeth and Zechariah – that God took on our humanity to fulfill His promise of salvation. Today, we're also called to bring the same Good News as Mary did:

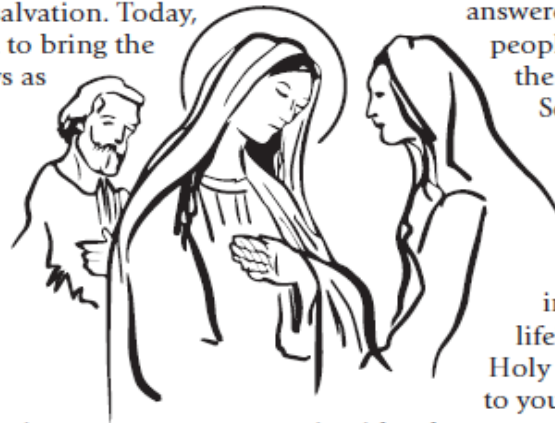
**Be filled with Christ's presence:** Jesus indwells in us (John 15:5) to empower us for mission. This is accomplished through the Sacraments – Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation. We need to offer God our open, receptive, and attentive hearts.

**Become a quiet witness:** Mary "kept all these things, pondering them in her heart" (Luke 2:19). Emulate her quiet witness by living with deep faith and

trust in God's plan, letting your actions demonstrate the strength of your beliefs.

**Proclaim the greatness of the Lord:** Mary's *Magnificat* recalls the ways God answered the needs of His people, culminating in the coming of His Son. Can you articulate your own *Magnificat* – recounting God's loving intervention in your life? If not, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal it to you so you can share it with others.

**Serve with humble love:** After receiving the news that she was to become the mother of the eternal King, Mary rushed to St. Elizabeth's side to serve her. Look for ways to imitate our humble Queen. Serve with love.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

Pentecost is referred to as the "birthday of the Church" because it marks the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, empowering them to preach the Gospel across nations, effectively initiating the spread of

## Why is Pentecost the "birthday of the Church?"

Christianity. This event, occurring fifty days after Easter, symbolizes the Church's emergence as a global community united under the teachings of Christ. It celebrates the moment when the Apostles began to baptize thousands, leading to the rapid growth of the Christian faith.

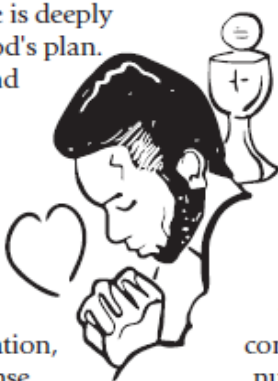


## Four steps to inner peace

In the Catholic tradition, developing inner peace is deeply intertwined with spiritual practices and faith in God's plan. This journey involves key elements that help us find serenity and resilience amidst life's challenges.

Prayer is fundamental. Through regular prayer, we communicate with God, seeking guidance and strength. Heartfelt prayer fosters a deep sense of connection with God, helping us to alleviate anxiety and promote tranquility.

Sacraments are vital. Participation in the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation, are direct encounters with God's grace, which cleanse,



heal, and fortify the soul against the struggles of daily life.

Listen for God's voice. Reading and meditating on the Scriptures provides insights and divine wisdom, helping us to align our thoughts and actions with God's will, thereby fostering a peace that transcends understanding.

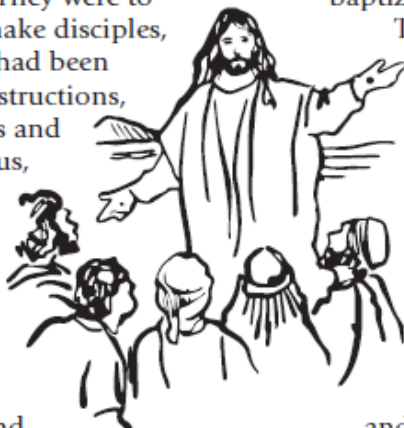
Love is key. Jesus asked us to practice forgiveness and charity, which heal and build relationships, creating communities of support and love. Living out these values daily contributes to personal and communal peace, reflecting the Catholic approach to nurturing a peaceful heart.

### from Scripture

### Matthew 28:16-20, The Holy Trinity

Jesus appeared to the Apostles on the mountain in Galilee to give them their final instructions. They were to go forth, baptize, and make disciples, and to teach what they had been taught. These are our instructions, too. Once we meet Jesus and experience His love for us, we can't keep Him to ourselves. We must proclaim Him.

Jesus also revealed to the Apostles, and to the crowd gathered with them, that God is a Trinity — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – three Divine Persons united in love. The belief that God is three, yet one, is distinct to



Christianity. When we became members of the Church, we were baptized in the name of the Trinity.

The Trinity is a mystery we may not fully understand, but we can still live in its love and power. We proclaim our faith in it whenever we make the Sign of the Cross: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Our ultimate goal is to follow Christ into the eternal life of the Trinity.

### Q & A Do we have to pray the Rosary every day?

Praying a daily Rosary is not required but it is recommended. It is a meditative prayer that facilitates a deeper engagement with the mysteries of Christ's life, alongside the intercessory role of the Virgin Mary.

St. Dominic, who founded the Dominican Order, promoted the Rosary and credited praying the Rosary with ridding the Church of the Albigenian heresy. Pope St. Pius V attributed the



miraculous victory of Christian forces at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571 to the Rosary. Since then, many popes have urged us to pray this prayer.

The repetitive nature of the Rosary's prayers, such as the Hail Mary, fosters a meditative state that can lead to a sense of peace. This repetition is not just a mnemonic device but a way to quiet the mind and open the heart to God's guiding voice. Moreover, praying the Rosary is also a way to seek Mary's intercession. As the Mother of Christ, her proximity to Jesus is seen as a powerful aid in bringing our prayers before God.

### Feasts & Celebrations

May 9 - The Ascension of the Lord. This solemnity marks the completion of Jesus' mission of salvation and His triumphant entry into Heaven. *Note: In many dioceses, observance of Ascension has been moved to the following Sunday.*

May 10 - St. Damien of Molokai (1889). Born in Belgium in 1840, Joseph de Veuster became Father Damien at the age of 19. He ministered to lepers on the Hawaiian island of Molokai. He died of the disease after serving there for sixteen years. He is the

patron of lepers and outcasts.

May 20 - Mary, Mother of the Church (2018). On the Cross, Jesus gave us His mother to be our mother (John 19:27). Even in Heaven, she prays and cares for us as our spiritual mother.

May 21 - St. Cristóbal Magallanes and Companions (1937). Fr. Christopher Magallanes was part of the Catholic Action Movement in Mexico, resisting the anti-Catholic Mexican government. Despite great persecution, he established a seminary at Totatiche. He and his companions were martyred.



### 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)





### POPE FRANCIS'S MAY PRAYER INTENTION

FOR THE FORMATION OF RELIGIOUS AND SEMINARIANS: We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.



### WEEK OF MAY 12, 2024

DEUTERONOMY | OLD TESTAMENT: BOOK OVERVIEWS | THE BIBLE PROJECT

Watch our overview video on the book of Deuteronomy, which breaks down the literary design of the book and its flow of thought. In Deuteronomy, Moses gives final words of wisdom and warning before the Israelites enter the promised land, challenging them to be faithful to God.

### Deuteronomy



### THE BOOK SWAP | EPISODE 1 | BENJAMIN CELLO

It's time to read a book! Benjamin Cello, Annie Appleseed, and Miss Gretchen, the Music Teacher, go to the Bookendless Book Tower for a book swap party, hosted by Professor Wordsworth and the Bookworms. Along the way they explore classics of literature and the one Holy Book that stands above all others, the Book that can change your life forever.



### FINDING FATIMA

Produced by the award-winning filmmakers of the highly acclaimed feature film The 13th Day, this powerful and in-depth documentary combines archival footage, dramatic reenactments, original interviews with Fatima experts, and stunning visuals to tell the whole story of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima.



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Use zip code 17724 to find our parish

### MAY 13 - 19, 2024 READINGS

- Mon:** Acts 19:1-8 Ps 68:2-3b, 4-5acd, 6-7b Jn 16:29-33
- Tues:** Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 Ps 113:1-8 Jn 15:9-17
- Wed:** Acts 20:28-38 Ps 68:29-30, 33-36b Jn 17:11b-19
- Thurs:** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11 Jn 17:20-26
- Fri:** Acts 25:13b-21 Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20b Jn 21:15-19
- Sat:** Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 Ps 11:4-5, 7 Jn 21:20-25
- Pentecost Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5 Ps 104:1-2a, 24, 35c, 27-28, 29bc-30 Rom 8:22-27 Jn 7:37-39
- Sun:** Acts 2:1-11 Ps 104:1ab, 24ac, 29bc-30, 31, 34 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25 Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

### ENDLESS MOUNTAINS PREGNANCY CARE CENTER 2024 BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Baby bottles are in all three churches for this year's baby bottle campaign, which runs from Mother's Day until Father's Day. Your generosity in this campaign is greatly appreciated.

Today we take up the collection for the **CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN (CCC)**. Your support helps the CCC connect Catholics with Christ in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Diocese of Scranton to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the gospel message. Support the collection today! Learn more at [www.usccb.org/cc](http://www.usccb.org/cc).

### ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

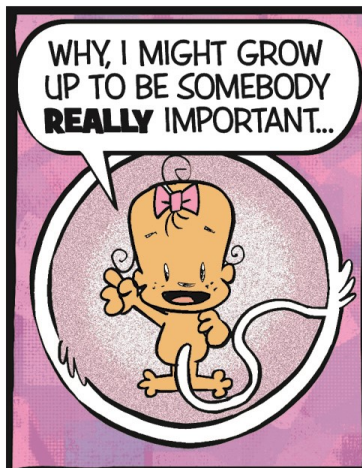
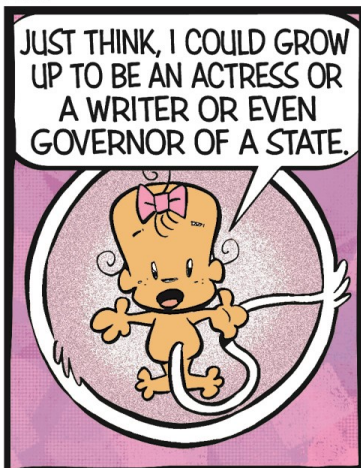
#### SENIOR MASS AND DINNER

The Senior Mass and Dinner will be held on Saturday, June 1st. Contact the parish office with the information of those graduating from high school or college.



## Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi





### 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 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 1:00 pm. We always welcome new members.



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