

MARCH 30, 2025



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

Wednesday: 6:00 pm, St. Michael's Church following 5:30 pm Mass, Benediction at 7:00 pm

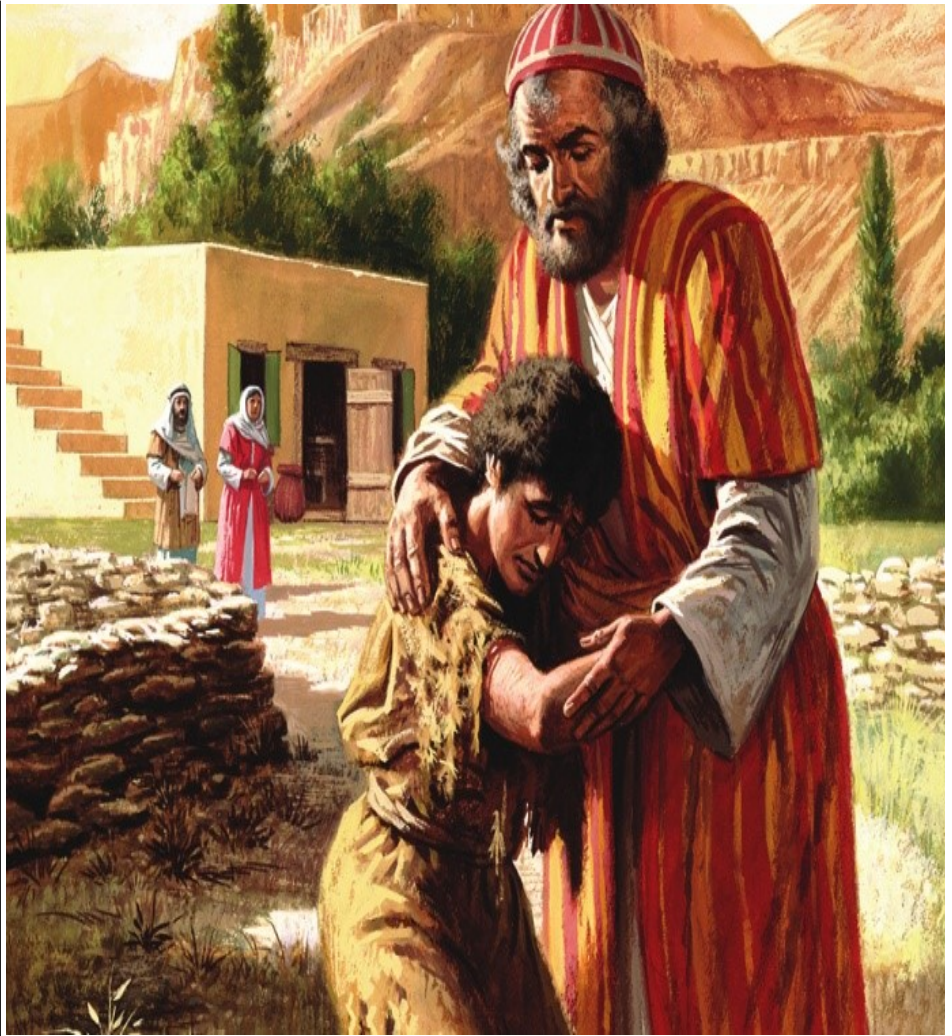
First Friday: Adoration after 7 am Mass until 7 pm, St. Michael's Church

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. (2024/25)

(Religious education classes held during the school year)
Sunday - 8:15 am - 9:15 am,
St. Michael Church 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 29 Lenten Weekday
 VIGIL: 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT
 4:00 pm, Canton † Beatrice Jones (Susan Schiess)

Sunday, March 30 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT
 8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo
 9:30 am, Canton † Gerry Spencer (Jeff & Beth Cole)
 11:15 am, Troy † Rob Morris (Theresa & Joe Sheridan)

Monday, March 31 Lenten Weekday
 7:00 am, Rectory † Carol Ann Gergel (James Gergel)

Tuesday, April 1 Lenten Weekday
 5:30 pm, Troy † Helen Nolan (Barbara Wywiorski)
 6:00 pm, Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, April 2 Lenten Weekday
 5:30 pm, Canton † Richard Swope (Christina Fleury)
 6:00 pm, Canton - Stations of the Cross

Thursday, April 3 Lenten Weekday
 No Mass

First Friday, April 4 Lenten Weekday
 7:00 am, Canton † Bea Jones (Reuben & Olga Rivera)

Saturday, April 5 Lenten Weekday
 VIGIL: 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT
 4:00 pm, Canton † David Snell (Susan Schiess)

Sunday, April 6 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT
 8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo
 9:30 am, Canton † Theresa Kathleen Kingsley
 (Jerome, June & Joseph Wynne)
 11:15 am, Troy † Josephine Szczech (Tim, Leona & Barb)

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 those receiving hospice care, that the care they receive respects and protects their lives.

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 March 17 - 23, 2025

Weekly Offerings:	3,393.00
Electronic Offerings:	475.00
Other Parish Income:	105.00
Total Parish Income:	3,973.00
Average weekly expenses:	4,356.13
Difference:	(383.13)

Thank you for your continued support.

Contribution statements are available on request from the parish office. If you received one last year, it was sent mid-January, so please call if it hasn't arrived.

NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS



THE TITLE OF THE CROSS PRESENTATION
 The Knights of Columbus JFK Council #5517 of St. Michael's Parish will host a presentation on THE TITLE OF THE CROSS on Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 5:00 PM in the church hall. The presentation will follow the 4:00 PM Mass.



Most are familiar with the sign "INRI" that was written over the Cross of Jesus. We will have an exact replica of the original Titular which is venerated in the Basilica of the Holy Cross in Rome. Alex Piechocki will be doing a one hour presentation helping us understand the mystery behind this relic, as well as proving to the audience that this relic is not a fake, but the real wooden tablet over the Cross of Our Lord.

Enhance your Lenten experience. Come and spend some time discovering the history and mystery of the Titulus Crucis. The presentation is free. A light meal and fellowship will follow the presentation. All are welcome!

CHANCE OF A LIFETIME

The Knights of Columbus annual COAL (Chance of a Lifetime) Sweepstakes is underway. The drawing will be held on May 16, 2025. Tickets cost \$5.00 and you may purchase as many as you would like.

Proceeds go to the Scholarship Program for the children and grandchildren of The Knights of Columbus attending Catholic Schools. Thank you for your support!

Games of Chance License #2202

Prizes

1st: \$15,000	2nd: \$10,000	3rd: \$7,500
4th, 5th & 6th:	\$5,000	
7th, 8th, 9th, & 10th:	\$2,500	
11th & 12th:	\$2,000	
13th, 14th, 15th, & 16th:	\$1,000	

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John & Peggy Adams, Karl Barton, Cassi Blaney, Joseph Blaszyk, Gus Branish, Betty Brown, Dennis & Barbara Clarke, Anthony DeMarco, Kiran Dhawan, Dorland & Carlene Eck, Leon English, Douglas Greene, Melissa Gowan, William Hall, Robert Dale Hostetter, Victoria Johnson, Lauren Kreager, David Kule, Jo Kule, Bob Lutz, Joyce Maloney, Tom McBlane, Bunny Meuse, Bernadette Moore, Orlando Morales, Delina Morgan, Mary Nybeck, Pamela Porter O'Brien, John O'Brien, Leo Parchesky, Ramona Parker, Gary Paquette, Lori Pellegrini, Tymber Pepper, Pat Rushin, Cristy Schmelzle, Ahmed Hassa Sharief, Anthony Shipula, Bev Smith, Carl E. Steffon, Elias Vroman, Calvin Watson, Steven Wilber, John Wilcox, Anthony Wolf, Nicholas Wolf, Fran Zizza

Contact the office to add a name to the prayer list. Names remain on the list for 3 months per request.

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 makes grants to six Catholic agencies that provide relief and support for struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters, both here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Envelopes for this offering are next to the bulletins. Please include your name, or write a check, if you want your offering posted to your family account.



BE A CATHOLIC MAN

Lenten Men's Retreat

April 4-5, 2025

BE IMITATORS OF CHRIST

Holy Transfiguration Retreat Ctr., 1000 Seminary Road, Dalton, PA
Overnight Friday 6:00 PM to Saturday 2:00 PM
Adoration • Benediction • Reconciliation • Mass with Bishop Bambara

Guest speaker: **John Edwards**

Founder of Pew Ministries and host of "Just a Guy in the Pew" Podcast

- Mind and Heart of a Leader
- What Men Want / What Men Need
- How to Build A Successful Men's Group
- Next Steps / Practical Suggestions

Cost: \$100 includes lodging
\$75 without lodging

For information contact Joe Adcroft:

570-351-6256

register by March 27 at:

BeACatholicMan.com



Men, it's not too late to register for the Lenten Men's Retreat, next weekend, April 4-5 at Holy Transfiguration Retreat center in Dalton PA.



Cemetery Clean-Up

St. Michael's Cemetery Association will be holding a work bee / cemetery cleanup day on Saturday, April, 26th. We will begin at 9:00 AM. Please bring any tools you think will be helpful. Rain Date will be Saturday, May, 3rd.

SAINT MICHAEL'S ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY ANNUAL PIEROGI SALE THANK YOU

It takes a lot to make this come together every year. Our volunteers do many things: organize dates & times for making and picking up orders, solicit and accept donations, purchase ingredients, take orders, track payments and pick-ups, make the pierogies, clean everything up, and make sure there is lunch for the pierogi makers each day. Many of these amazing volunteers turned right around to host the Lenten Luncheon the very next week!

Thank you to everyone!



SAINT MICHAEL'S ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY ANNUAL YARD SALE

Planning is underway for the Annual Yard Sale in June! During your Spring Cleaning, please set aside items to donate. Clean, sellable items are needed. Please, no clothing, large furniture, mattresses, televisions, broken toys, computer monitors or exercise equipment.



CANTON AREA LENTEN LUNCHEONS

Lenten Luncheons are held in the Canton Church of Christ hall on Tuesdays during Lent. Area churches take turn hosting. Doors open at 11:30. See you there!

- April 1: Impact Church - Goulash
- April 8: Alba - Sloppy Joes
- April 15: Grover Church of Christ - Chicken & Biscuits



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Sunday, June 1st, 2025

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambara, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2025 to a Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, June 1st, 2025. The event includes a 2:30 PM Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter followed by a light reception.

The registration deadline for this event is May 11. To register, please go to www.dioceseofscranton.org or contact Bridget Guarnieri at (570-207-2213 x 1133) or familylife@dioceseofscranton.org.



LENTEN FISH DINNERS

Sponsored by
Knights of Columbus
Council #3915



Benefits St. Agnes School and
Bradford-Sullivan Counties Special Olympics
April 4th April 11th

JFK Hall at St. Agnes School. Eat in or take out
Serving from 4:00 - 6:30 pm

Menu: Baked Haddock, homemade macaroni & cheese,
stewed tomatoes, coleslaw, roll & butter

Cost: \$14 - Adult \$11 - Senior Citizens,
\$9 - Students (14 and under) Children under 5 eat free

JUBILEE YEAR INDULGENCE INFORMATION



During Jubilee Year 2025, the Holy Father calls on all Christians to become “pilgrims of hope.” For this to occur, each person must be sourced above all in the grace of God and in the fullness of His mercy.

For centuries, a feature of Holy Year celebrations has been the granting of an Indulgence, which the church describes as a remission of the temporal punishment a person is due for their sins.

“Every sin ‘leaves its mark’” even after a person has received forgiveness and absolution through the sacrament of reconciliation,” Pope Francis wrote in the document proclaiming the Holy Year. “Sin has consequences, not only outwardly in the effects of the wrong we do, but also inwardly, inasmuch as ‘every sin, even venial, entails an unhealthy attachment to creatures, which must be purified either here on earth, or after death, in the state called Purgatory,’” he wrote, quoting the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Those who cannot make a Jubilee pilgrimage to Rome are nevertheless invited to take part in the spiritual movement that accompanies receiving an Indulgence during the Jubilee Year 2025. To receive an Indulgence, the faithful in the Diocese of Scranton may do the following:

1. MAKE A VISIT TO A DESIGNATED PILGRIMAGE CHURCH SITE

In the Diocese of Scranton, the following churches are specifically designated pilgrimage sites for the Jubilee Year 2025:

- Cathedral of Saint Peter, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA
- Saint Ann Basilica, 1250 St. Ann Street, Scranton, PA
- Saint Augustine Church, 295 Church Road, Brackney, PA
- Saint Boniface Church, 326 Washington Boulevard, Williamsport, PA
- Saint Gabriel Church, 122 South Wyoming Street, Hazleton, PA
- Saint John the Evangelist Church, 150 Terrace Street, Honesdale, PA
- Saint Nicholas Church, 226 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA
- Saint Matthew Church, 78 Ridgeway Street, East Stroudsburg, PA

The faithful can obtain the Indulgence if, individually or in a group, they devoutly visit the Jubilee site and recite the Our Father, and the Profession of Faith (Apostles/Nicene Creed).

2. SACRAMENTAL CONFESSION

Celebrate sacramental reconciliation within 20 days before or after the seeking of the indulgence (which includes the intention of sincere detachment from all sin).

3. RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

Receive Holy Communion during full, conscious, active participation at Mass.

4. PRAY FOR THE INTENTION OF THE POPE

The condition of praying for the intention of the Holy Father is fully satisfied by reciting one Our Father and one Hail Mary; nonetheless, one has the option of reciting any other prayer according to individual piety and devotion, if recited for his intention.





POPE FRANCIS'S MARCH PRAYER INTENTION

FOR FAMILIES IN CRISIS: Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

THIS WEEK ON **formed**, WEEK OF MARCH 23, 2025

THE BOY FROM MILAN

You may have heard of him, the sneaker-wearing, computer-loving "gamer saint" of our time. But beyond the headlines and hashtags, the real story of Carlo is something deeper, something the world desperately needs to hear. Known for his deep love of God, devotion to the Eucharist, and quiet acts of charity, Carlo's life was a testament to everyday holiness.



METANOIA

In the Gospel of Mark, the first words of Jesus are an invitation to metanoia, to repent, to change, to be converted. Join Fr. Dave Pivonka in this incredible series as he preaches on conversion.



LENT AND NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

What is the importance of almsgiving? Dr. Michael Barber discusses the transformative power of almsgiving for your life.



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

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CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

As of March 22, we have reached 79.76% of our \$19,238 parish goal. \$15,345.00 has been donated or pledged by 73 donors. Our current participation rate 27.04%. Thank you to everyone who has contributed thus far, both financially and with your prayers.

MARCH 31 - APRIL 6, 2025 READINGS

Mon: Is 65:17-21 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b Jn 4:43-54
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: Jer 11:18-20 Ps 7:2-3, 9b-12 Jn 7:40-53
Sun: Is 43:16-21 Ps 126:1-6 Phil 3:8-14 Jn 8:1-11

LENTEN HOLY HOURS WITH BISHOP BAMBERA

For the third straight year, Bishop Bambera will visit each deanery in the Diocese of Scranton during Lent to hold a special Holy Hour for the faithful.



In the Sayre Deanery, Holy Hour will be at 7 pm on Monday, March 31st in Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Saint Basil Church, 123 Churchill Street, Dushore, PA. The complete list can be found online at <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/bishop-bambera-to-hold-holy-hours->



The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available in Saint Michael's Church on Mondays during Lent from 5:30 - 7 pm, except on Monday, March 31st. Father Joe will be attending Holy Hour with Bishop Bambera in St. Basil Church, Dushore.



DEANERY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Sunday, April 6

2:00 pm, St. Michael's Church, Canton
4:00 pm, Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Towanda
Sunday, April 13
2:00 pm, St. Basil Church, Dushore
4:30 pm, Epiphany Church, Sayre

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



Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi

Panel 1: IT DOESN'T SEEM FAIR...

Panel 2: WHEN UNBORN BABIES ARE SCREENED..

Panel 3: THE BABIES WITH DOWN SYNDROME ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE ABORTED.

Panel 4: I THOUGHT PROFILING WAS AGAINST THE LAW!

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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 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.



4423 Leona Road
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