

APRIL 13, 2025

Hosanna!



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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



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."

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.

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 - 7:00 pm

First Friday: Adoration after

7:00 am Mass until 7:00 pm

St. Michael's Church

Confessions

Sat: 3:15 - 3:45 pm, St. Michael
(also available by appointment)

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 ed 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

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 12	Lenten Weekday
VIGIL: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD 4:00 pm, Canton † Ken Riordan (Jean & Mike Herman)	
Sunday, April 13	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo 9:30 am, Canton † Ed Cosgrove (Jerry & Joy Brann) 11:15 am, Troy † Florence DePalma (Jayne Cleveland)	
Monday, April 14	Monday of Holy Week
7:00 am, Rectory † Craig Stanton (Chris & Chrissi Stanton)	
Tuesday, April 15	Tuesday of Holy Week
NO MASS OR STATIONS 4:00 pm, St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton † Chrism Mass	
Wednesday, April 16	Wednesday of Holy Week
NO MASS OR STATIONS	
Thursday, April 17	HOLY THURSDAY
7:00 pm, Canton † Skip Cole & Nancy Wright (Jeff & Beth Cole)	
Friday, April 18	GOOD FRIDAY
12:00 pm, Canton - Celebration of the Lord's Passion 7:00 pm, Canton - Stations of the Cross followed by a meatless meal in the hall	
Saturday, April 18	HOLY SATURDAY
VIGIL: EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD 8:00 pm, Canton † Easter Mass Intentions	
Sunday, April 13	EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
8:00 am, Ralston † Easter Mass Intentions 9:30 am, Canton † Easter Mass Intentions 11:15 am, Troy † Easter Mass Intentions	

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 tempted to end their lives. That, through the grace of the Resurrection, Christ will fill them with hope, belief in his love, and the assurance that their lives are worth living.

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

SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS April 1 - 6, 2025

Weekly Offerings:	2,577.00
Electronic Offerings:	1,380.00
Other Parish Income:	492.50
Total Parish Income:	4,449.50
Average weekly expenses:	4,356.13
Difference:	93.37
Care & Education of Priests:	492.00

Thank you for your continued support.

NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS

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!

See the parish website for prize details: <https://stmichaelscanton.com/news/news-from-the-knights/>

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Knights of Columbus are hosting the annual Easter Egg Hunt this Sunday (Palm Sunday) on the front lawn of the rectory following the 9:30 am Mass. All children are invited to attend. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we will move into St. Michael's Church Hall.



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. The final luncheon of this Lent will be April 15 and is to be hosted by Grover Church of Christ. See you there!

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 is 27.04%. Thank you to everyone who has contributed thus far, both financially and with your prayers.

DEANERY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Sunday, April 13

2:00 pm, St. Basil Church, Dushore
4:30 pm, Epiphany Church, Sayre

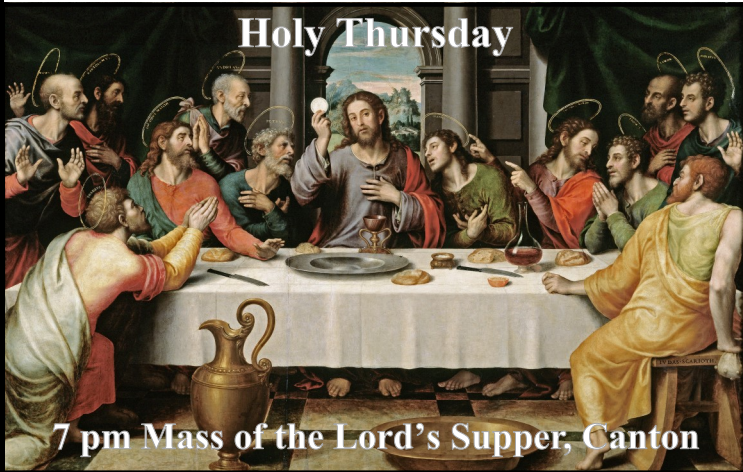
SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John & Peggy Adams, Karl Barton, Cassi Blaney, Joseph Blaszczyk, Gus Branish, Betty Brown, Dennis & Barbara Clarke, Anthony DeMarco, Kiran Dhawan, Dorland & Carlene Eck, Leon English, Douglas Greene, Melissa Gowan, William Hall, Joann Hickok, 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.*

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH TRIDUUM SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday



7 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, Canton

GOOD FRIDAY



12 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Canton
7 pm Stations of the Cross, Canton
followed by a meatless meal in the hall

Holy Saturday



Blessing of the Easter Baskets,
12 pm, Troy and 1 pm, Canton
8 pm, Easter Vigil Mass, Canton

SOLEMNITY OF EASTER

CHRISTIANS, TO THE
PASCHAL VICTIM OFFER YOUR
THANKFUL PRAISES!

Regular Sunday Schedule

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



WOMEN'S BRUNCH

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
THE MESSAGE & THE MYSTERY
Guest Speaker: Cathy Asbury
Saturday, May 17, 2025
10:00 am - 12:30 pm
St. Peter's Parish Center
Cost: \$30.00

To register, send payment to:
St. Peter's Church
47 Central Avenue
Wellsboro, PA 16901
Register by Friday, May 2nd
Your payment confirms your
registration

Brunch catered by
Timmy B's Catering



2025 GRADUATION MASS & DINNER

This year's graduation celebration will be the 4:00
pm Mass on Saturday, June 7th followed by a dinner in
the hall. If you or a close family member will be gradu-
ating high school or college this year, please contact the
parish office.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

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

NOTICE REGARDING REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report
any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforce-
ment. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a
priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of
the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immedi-
ately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest,
deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Dio-
cese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a
minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, includ-
ing child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law
enforcement. It is also the policy of the Diocese to ad-
here to all civil and state regulations. In accordance with
the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective
Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should
also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour
Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or
electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis To this
end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the
norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the
tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Chil-
dren and Young People, which includes supporting vic-
tims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and
spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an
allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be re-
ported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth
Pacuska at (570-862-7551).

TRADITIONAL BLESSING OF THE EASTER FOOD BASKETS AN EASTERN EUROPEAN CUSTOM INVOLVING SYMBOLIC FOODS

By Barbara Rolek

<https://www.thespruceeats.com/easter-food-baskets-blessing-tradition-1136995>



In many Eastern European countries, it is a tradition to have a basket of food blessed on Holy Saturday or Easter Sunday. In Poland, for example, the blessing of the baskets is known as *święcenie pokarmów wielkanocnych*, a practice dating to the 15th century or earlier, and one which is still maintained by most families in Poland (and to some extent in other countries) on Holy Saturday.

The food items in the Easter basket, as well as at the Easter Sunday breakfast when the blessed food is eaten, have special significance. Each family may have its own traditions, but there are some practices that are universal.

BASKET DECORATIONS

A lot of thought, time, and care are put not only into the foods that will go into the basket but also to how the basket is assembled. The basket is lined with an embroidered cloth or traditional folk fabric. Once the basket is filled, it is covered with a white linen cloth (some have a colorfully crocheted edging or embroidered design) representing the shroud of Christ. The basket can then be decorated with sprigs of boxwood (*bukszpan*) or Polish "palms" made from dried flowers and colorful paper.

In rural Poland, the size and contents of a woman's basket (some used wooden bowls and even dresser drawers) was a matter of pride and standing in the community.

SYMBOLIC FOODS

A typical Eastern European Easter basket would include a variety of symbolic foods, although families can personalize to their liking. There is a special blessing for meat, egg, cake, and bread, so baskets will most likely include these ingredients.

Bacon (*boczek/słonina*, BOH-chek/swoh-NEE-nah) is a symbol of the abundance of God's mercy.

Bread (*chleb, hlehb*) is usually a braided *chałka*, representing the staff of life given by God.

Easter bread (*babka*, BAHB-kah) is a round cake of rich, eggy yeast dough with raisins that is reminiscent of the risen Lord.

Butter (*masło*, MAHS-woh) is one of the dairy products included to celebrate the end of Lent and the richness of our salvation. The butter is often shaped into a lamb, which is symbolic of the Paschal Lamb, and is known as a *baranek*. Sometimes the *baranek* is made of dough, wood, or even plastic. It can also be made of sugar, when it is known as *baranek cukrowy wielkanocny*.

Candles (*swieca*, SHVIEH-tsa) symbolize Jesus, the "light of the world," and can be lit when the priest blesses the baskets of food.

Cheese (*ser*, SEHRR) is a symbol to remind Christians of moderation.

Colored eggs (*pisanki*, pee-SAHN-kee), as well as uncolored hard-cooked eggs, indicate hope, new life, and Christ rising from his tomb.

Ham (*szynka*, SHIN-kah), as well as other meats, symbolizes great joy and abundance in celebration of Christ's resurrection.

Sausage links (*kielbasa*, kyehw-BAH-sah) are symbolic of the chains of death that were broken when Jesus rose from the dead, as well as of God's generosity.

Horseradish (*chrzan*, HZAHN) is a reminder of the bitterness and harshness of the Passion of Jesus, and the vinegar it is mixed with symbolizes the sour wine given to Jesus on the cross.

Salt (*sól*, SOOL) is present to add zest to life and preserve us from corruption.

Sweets (*słodycze*, swoh-DIH-cheh) suggest the promise of eternal life or good things to come.

FAMILY TRADITIONS

Although every family might have its own traditions when it comes to the Easter baskets, many make sure to include enough food so every family member can have a bite of all the blessed foods after Mass on Easter Sunday. This can be a taste of the Easter dinner foods, plus some daily staples.

The basket may hold a little bird's nest cake made with leftover batter from the lamb cake and hard-cooked eggs studded with cloves representing the nails of the cross, as well as *kielbasa*, ham, salt, and pepper. Also common are *ćwikła* or *chrzan*, a butter lamb, or butter stuffed into a shot glass studded with a clove, and a small, round bakery rye bread topped with a paper decal in the shape of a purple cross. While in some families, greens, vegetables, and fruit are never included, other families make them a part of the basket.

In many families when the children are old enough, they are given the honor of taking the basket to church to be blessed. There is no risk of the basket being picked over since it is a time of fasting, and the children are sure to be admonished that they do not touch one morsel of food. With the aromas so intoxicating, it takes tremendous willpower not to sample.

Traditions include both feasting on the blessed foods on Easter morning as well as using the contents of the *święconka* basket to make a delicious soup known as *white barszcz*.

POPE FRANCIS'S APRIL PRAYER INTENTION



FOR THE USE OF THE NEW TECHNOLOGIES:
Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

THIS WEEK ON **formed**, WEEK OF APRIL 13, 2025

TRIDUUM: A SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, representing the most important days of human history. Immersed in the Holy Land, the pilgrim is brought tangibly nearer to the story, the landscape, and the reality of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



THE LAST DAYS: THE PASSION AND DEATH OF JESUS THE CHRIST W/ JONATHAN ROUMIE

This filmed presentation of the theatrical production movingly recreates the final moments of Jesus' earthly ministry as a teacher through His crucifixion and death. The play has been seen by thousands worldwide, not only as a live performance but also in live streams and televised broadcasts.



HOW TO MAKE A PALM SUNDAY CROSS

Have you ever wondered how to make a cross with palms? Join Lyn Dam from the Archdiocese of Denver on how to make a palm leaf cross for Palm Sunday!



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APRIL 14 - 20, 2025 READINGS

Mon: Is 42:1-7 Ps 27:1-3, 13-14 Jn 12:1-11

Tues: Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-4a, 5-6ab, 15, 17

Wed: Is 50:4-9a Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34

Mt 26:14-25

Thurs: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 Ps 116:12-13, 15-16c, 17-18

1 Cor 11:23-26 Jn 13:1-5

Fri: Is 52:13—53:12 Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25

Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 Jn 18:1—19:42

Sat: Gn 1:1—2:2 Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35c

Ex 14:15—15:1 (Ps) Ex 15:1-6, 17-18

Is 55:1-11 (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6

Rom 6:3-11 Ps 118:1-2, 16ab-17, 22-23

Lk 24:1-12

Sun: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16ab-17, 22-23

Col 3:1-4 or Cor 5:6b-8 Jn 20:1-9

PARISH REGISTRATION

All Catholics should be registered in their local parish. This helps facilitate many church activities such as requests for sponsor forms, marriage in the church and other religious needs. Having accurate statistics is also important when the Diocese is allocating clerical and financial resources.

Receiving sacraments in a parish does not automatically register you in the parish. For example, parents will sometimes bring their newborn to the parish they grew up in for baptism, especially if they have family members who cannot travel easily.

For our young adults, if you have entered the work force and/or have completed a four year degree, you should be registered as an independent family rather than as a child in your parents' family, even if you still live in their home.

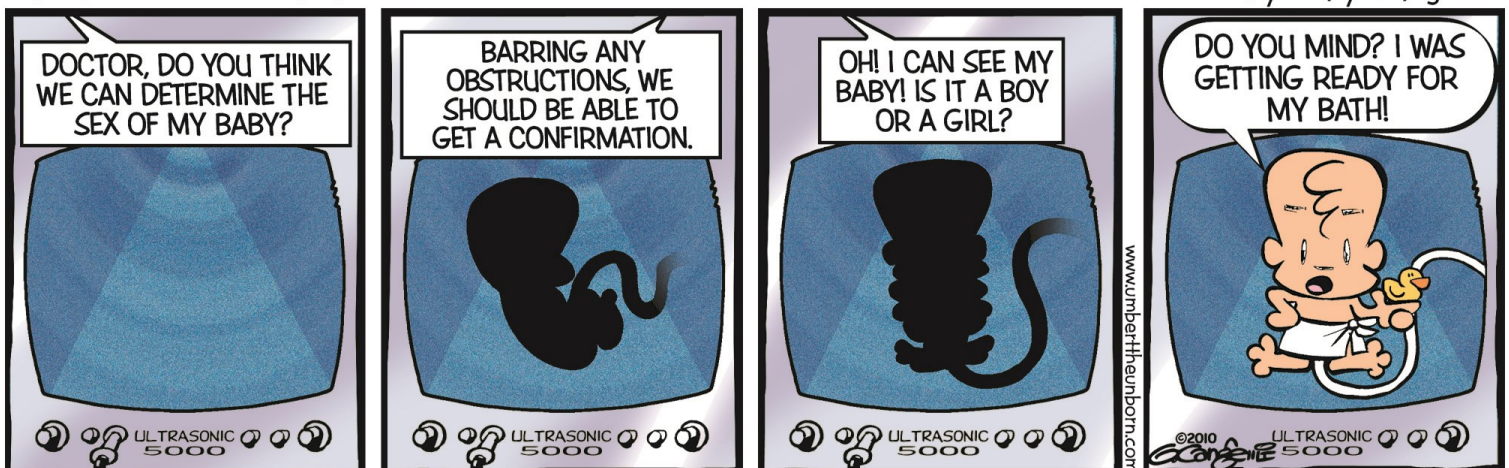
Cathy will be happy to help, so call or email the parish office with questions about your status or to make any changes. Offertory envelopes are not required, but if you receive them, you are definitely registered.

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 clean, sellable items to donate. Please, no clothing, large furniture, mattresses, televisions, broken toys, computer monitors or exercise equipment.

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.



4423 Leona Road
Columbia Crossroads, PA 16914
Phone/Fax: 570-297-4711
Email:
hawthornridge@gmail.com
PA030014
St. Michael Parish member



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Carol Ann

Gerges

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Pray for us.



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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.

BARRETT LAW OFFICES
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Attorney and Counselor at Law

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FRIDAY AND SATURDAY - 7:30AM - 9:00PM

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and
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