

JULY 6, 2025



14TH 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

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



*This amounts to saying:
"Be imitators of Me - let go of
your thirst for revenge; respond
to the blows of pride, not by
returning evil for evil but, with
the patience
that forgives. No-one should
perform on their own account,
what they reprehend in others,
gentleness confronts the
arrogant with far greater
strength."*

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, July 5 Weekday
VIGIL: 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
4:00 pm, Canton † Catherine & Edward Beaderman
(Arthur & Mona Hamm)

Sunday, July 6 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo
9:30 am, Canton † Rose Lambert (John & Elise Ciribassi)
11:15 am, Troy † Elizabeth Maloney
(Jim & Joyce Maloney)

Monday, July 7 Weekday
7:00 am, Rectory † Betsy Lynch (John & Pat Rushin)

Tuesday, July 8 Weekday
5:30 pm, Troy † The Martinez Family
(Mr. & Mrs. David Pierchorowicz)

Wednesday, July 9 Weekday
5:30 pm, Canton † Deceased members of Knights of
Columbus Council #5517 (K of C #5517)
6:00 pm Rosary

Thursday, July 10 Weekday
No Mass

Friday, July 11 Saint Benedict, Abbot
7:00 am, Rectory † Ginny VanDyke (St. Michael's A&R)

Saturday, July 12 Weekday
VIGIL: 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
4:00 pm, Canton † Bea Jones (George Kingsley)

Sunday, July 13 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo
9:30 am, Canton † David Snell (Susan Schiess)
11:15 am, Troy † Helen Pierchorowicz
(Mr. & Mrs. David Pierchorowicz)

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 living & deceased members of the Leahy
& Livezey Families.

*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 June 23 - 29, 2025

Weekly Offerings:	2,203.77
Electronic Offerings:	525.00
Mary Bustin Estate bequest:	2,500.00
Other Parish Income:	156.77
Total Parish Income:	5,385.54
Average weekly expenses:	4,356.13
Difference:	1,029.41
Peter's Pence:	345.00
Care & Education of Priests:	60.00

Thank you for your continued support.

The Parish Census is ongoing.
As of June 30th, we have received
67 responses out of 270 registered
families. Census forms are available
by the bulletins, on the parish web-
site at [stmichaelscanton.com/news/
parish-census/](http://stmichaelscanton.com/news/parish-census/), or by using the QR
code at the bottom of this article.



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 for parish planning of religious education and other services and 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.

Everyone registered in the parish is asked to please complete the form in order to verify or update your contact information. This is the first step of a complete census of our parish. Your response on this form will save time and money in the future and is greatly appreciated.



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



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, Philip Doud, Dorland & Carlene Eck,
Leon English, Wayne Ettinger, Misty Frame,
Douglas Greene, Melissa Gowan, William Hall, Robert
Dale Hostetter, Maryllis Hughes, Victoria Johnson,
Bob Jones, Lauren Kreager, David Kule, Jo Kule,
Judy Lepper, Bob Lutz, Joyce Maloney, Tom McBlane,
Bunny Meuse, Ed "Buster" Merritt, Bernadette Moore,
Orlando Moralez, Delina Morgan, Charlotte Morse,
Mary Nybeck, Pamela Porter O'Brien, John O'Brien,
Leo Parchesky, Ramona Parker, Gary Paquette,
Lori Pellegrini, Brittany Romaine, Pat Rushin,
Cristy Schmelzle, Ahmed Hassa Sharief,
Anthony Shipula, Christine Shipula, Bev Smith,
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.*



Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

July 2025

St. Michael Parish

One Minute Meditations

St. Elizabeth of Portugal

St. Elizabeth followed the footsteps of her great-aunt and namesake, St. Elizabeth of Hungary: she was born to royal parents, practiced fervent spirituality, great generosity and penances. She married King Denis of Portugal. Despite a difficult marriage and family conflicts, she remained patient and charitable. She is known for her care for the poor and sick, and for resolving political conflicts peacefully. After her husband's death, St. Elizabeth entered the Third Order of St. Francis.

Prayer is a response to Love

God wants a relationship with us. This is a central truth of our faith. "The living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, the faithful God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2567). So, next time you feel called to pray, say, like Samuel, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3:10).

"By mercy you have washed us in the Blood, and by mercy you desire to converse with your creatures... Loving Madman! ...Your mercy constrains you to give even more to mortals, namely, to leave yourself to them in food."

St. Catherine of Siena

Step out and let Christ meet you where you are

"Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water" (Matthew 14:28). St. Peter showed remarkable courage when he stepped out of the boat in the middle of a storm. While God may sometimes call us to follow Him in dramatic or difficult moments, more often He invites us in the quiet, ordinary circumstances of daily life — to step out of what's comfortable and meet Him in our prayer, our relationships, and our service.

Prayer: The greatest challenge in deepening your prayer life is often just beginning. Start with a Gospel passage, read slowly, reflect, respond, and rest in God's presence. Light a candle. Sit in front of an icon. Play sacred music. Let beauty draw your heart to God. Ask the Holy Spirit to renew your desire, focus, and love for God. Step out of the boat — and you'll find Christ waiting.

Relationships: The virtues — patience, self-control, fidelity, honesty — aren't just about personal growth; they're about

loving others well. Show kindness to someone who frustrates you. Have a real conversation with someone with whom you disagree. Forgive, even if it's undeserved. These small choices shape us into Christ's likeness.

Service: *"...the Son of Man came ... to*

"Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid" (Matthew 14:27).

serve" (Matthew 20:28). Loving service doesn't require grand gestures. True holiness is forged in everyday acts: give away a piece of clothing you love but don't need. Help with the dishes, even when it's not your turn. Offer a break to a tired parent by watching their children. When service flows from love, it transforms both the giver and the receiver — and conforms our hearts to Christ's.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

The Church teaches that many souls, though destined for Heaven, undergo purification after death, a process called Purgatory. Purgatory prepares us to see God clearly.

Scripture supports this: Judas Maccabee offered prayers for the dead (2 Maccabees 12:43-46), and Jesus mentioned sins forgiven in the next life (Matthew 12:32). St. Paul described a

Why Do Catholics Believe in Purgatory?

judgment in which a person is saved, but their works are tested by fire. This fire isn't Hell (since they are saved), but a purifying fire, which aligns with the idea of Purgatory (1 Corinthians 3:13-15).

Purgatory is mercy. The souls there benefit from our prayers — and they pray for us in return. It's part of God's loving plan to make us truly ready for His presence.

Outsmart temptation with grace in action

When temptation strikes, the first line of defense is often simple: say “no” or avoid the situation entirely. But when that’s not enough, there are deeper, proven strategies that can help us respond with grace and strength.

First, think of temptation as an opportunity for holiness. God always gives us a choice, and when we say “yes” to Him and “no” to sin, He responds with even more grace. If another person is involved, pray for him or her. That small act of charity not only pleases God but disarms the enemy. As Scripture says, *“Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”* (James 4:7).

Second, don’t just resist temptation—replace it. Trying

not to think about sin often leads us right back to it. Instead, follow the advice of Philippians 4:8: focus on what is true, honorable, and good. For example, swap out gossip for words that build others up, or replace a bad habit with a holy one.

Finally, don’t overlook small victories. Faithfulness in little things strengthens us for bigger battles. Telling the truth in a pressure situation, showing patience in traffic, or keeping a promise all train the soul for harder moments. *“Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities”* (Matthew 25:23). Grace builds on effort. Use every moment well.

from

S

Scripture

Luke 11:1-13, The Our Father is a school of prayer

If you’ve ever found yourself thinking, “I want to pray better,” this Scripture reading is for you. In it, Jesus teaches His disciples the Our Father — a masterclass in prayer, compact and profound. It’s not just one prayer, but four in one.

First, it’s a prayer of praise and thanksgiving, placing God above all. Second, it’s a petition, where we ask for our daily needs — spiritual and material. Third, it’s a plea for mercy, as we ask for forgiveness and the grace to forgive others. And finally, it’s a declaration of trust in God’s providence, a surrender of our will to His.

Praying the Our Father well means acknowledging that God knows what’s best for us — even when His will challenges ours. It’s an invitation to deeper faith.

God always answers prayer — but not always how or when we expect. Sometimes the answer is “Yes.” Other times, it’s “No” or “Wait — I have something better.” Jesus also makes it clear that persistence matters. Like the neighbor in the parable who keeps knocking at the door, we’re called to ask, seek, and knock with confidence. Prayer isn’t just about getting what we want — it’s about drawing closer to the One who loves us most.

Feasts & Celebrations

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July 9 – St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions (1648-1930). This feast honors St. Augustine Zhao Rong, a soldier-turned-Catholic priest, and his martyred companions, forming a group of 120 Chinese Christians and Catholic missionaries. They were canonized by Pope St. John Paul II in 2000.

July 16 – Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (1251). The Blessed Mother appeared to St. Simon Stock in England, carrying the brown scapular, a sign of her favor of the Carmelite Order, and promised whoever wore the scapular until death would avoid the fires of Hell.

July 18 – St. Camillus de Lellis (1614). Born in Italy, St. Camillus aimed for holiness despite battling a gambling addiction and a hot temper. After gambling away his possessions, including his shirt, Franciscan brothers gave him a job. He was ordained a priest, and later founded the Order of the Camellians, caring for the grievously sick, prisoners, and the plague victims.

July 31 – St. Ignatius of Loyola (1556). Ignatius spent several years defending Spain and suffered serious injuries. While recovering, he began a religious conversion and a lifelong dedication to education. He wrote spiritual exercises and started a community of priests now known as the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

Q & A

Can we console Jesus?

If you saw a close friend in deep pain, you wouldn’t walk by thinking, “She will get over it — I’m busy.” You’d drop everything, run to her, and ask, “What can I do?” This is the logic — and the love — behind consoling the Heart of Jesus. It’s not just a pious tradition; it reaches into the very core of our faith.

Jesus is fully human. He felt real emotions — joy, grief, betrayal, and sorrow. He understands our pain, and we can share in His, since He is also fully God, He stands outside of time. In the Garden of Gethsemane, He saw not only every sin but also every act of love, repentance, and faith. That means your love today can truly console His Heart in His Passion.

Words like “consolation” or “reparation” might sound outdated, but they mean something simple and powerful: to love Jesus where He has been wounded, to bring gratitude where there was ingratitude, and to respond with compassion where He was abandoned. Even small acts of love — a kind word, a prayer, a moment of sincere repentance — touch Him deeply.

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 - Revised)



POPE LEO XIV JULY PRAYER INTENTION

FOR FORMATION IN DISCERNMENT: Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life, and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

On behalf of the Altar and Rosary society, we extend a **THANK YOU** for a successful Yard Sale. We are very grateful for all the wonderful donations. Thanks to all Altar & Rosary Society and Knights of Columbus members. The baked goods were very delicious. Thank you Father Joe and Cathy Asbury. Please keep us in mind next year.

Sincerely, The Altar and Rosary Society

THE 2026 MASS SCHEDULE IS NOW OPEN!

The 2026 Liturgical Desk Calendar has arrived. Mass intentions are scheduled on a first-come, first served basis. Masses can be requested by phone, email, or a note in the offertory basket. Please be sure to include:

- Who the Mass is being offered for and are they living or deceased.
- Who is making the request. (Mr. & Mrs. Cunningham, Peter, Paul & Mary, The Family, etc.)
- The \$10/Mass stipend. This will be deposited into the parish's Mass Stipend Account and given to the priest once the Mass has been celebrated. (*No Mass is declined for an inability to pay.*)
- A phone number or email in case there are questions.
- If applicable, the date and/or church in which you would like the Mass to be said.
- If applicable, the name & address of the person to whom you would like a Mass card mailed.

We reached 84.13% of our \$19,238 parish goal for the 2024-2025 Catholic Ministries Appeal. \$16,185.00 was donated or pledged by 76 donors. Our participation rate was 28.15%. The Appeal ended on June 30th. Thank you to everyone who contributed, both financially and with your prayers.



JULY 7 - 13, 2025 READINGS

Mon: Gn 28:10-22a Ps 91:1-4, 14-15ab Mt 9:18-26

Tues: Gn 32:23-33 Ps 17:1b-3, 6-7b, 8b, 15

Mt 9:32-38

Wed: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a

Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19 Mt 10:1-7

Thurs: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5 Ps 105:6-21

Mt 10:7-15

Fri: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30 Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40

Mt 10:16-23

Sat: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a Ps 105:1-4, 6-7

Mt 10:24-33

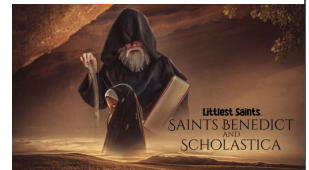
Sun: Dt 30:10-14 Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36-37

Col 1:15-20 Lk 10:25-37

THIS WEEK ON **formed**, WEEK OF JULY 6, 2025

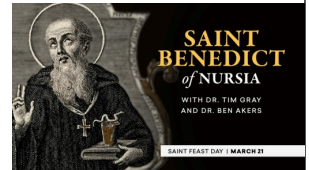
STS. BENEDICT AND SCHOLASTICA

A pair of holy twins, a cave, and a group of naughty monks... this is the story of Saint Benedict and Saint Scholastica.



SAINT BENEDICT | CATHOLIC SAINTS

Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Ben Akers discuss the Rule of St. Benedict as it applies to daily life.



SAINT MARIA GORETTI: FOURTEEN FLOWERS OF PARDON

Learn more about the holy life and martyrdom of St. Maria Goretti in this moving documentary. In particular, the film highlights her ultimate act of love: forgiving her murderer on her deathbed.



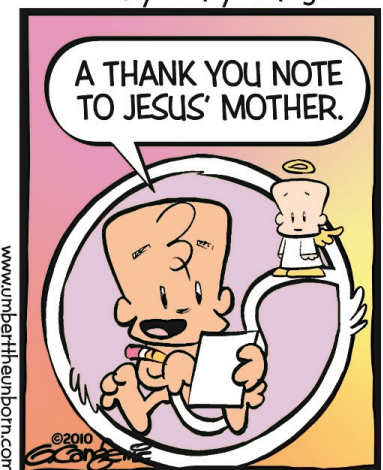
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Umbert the Unborn

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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PA030014
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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



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