### AUGUST 31, 2025



# 22ND 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**

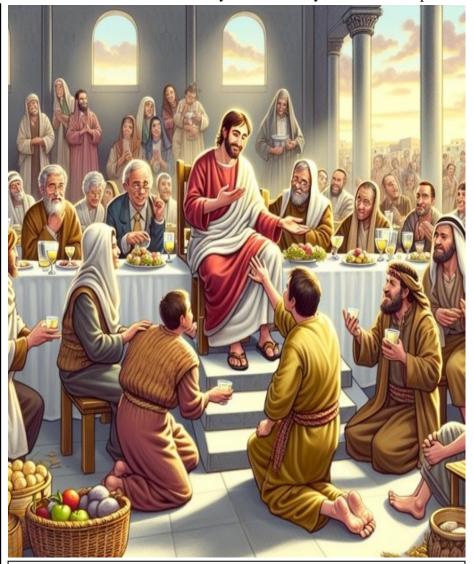
Wednesday: 6:00 pm, St. Michael's Church following 5:30 pm Mass, Benediction at 7:00 pm First Friday: Adoration after 7 am Mass until 7 pm, St. Michael's Church

#### **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



<u>Pastoral Council:</u> 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, August 30

Weekday

VIGIL: 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 4:00 pm, Canton † Colleen Labonte (Mike & Jean Herman)

Sunday, August 31 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 8:00 am, Ralston † Dave & Bill Mahonski (The Family) 9:30 am, Canton † Marie O'Hara (Dot Hopkins) 11:15 am, Troy † Pro Populo

#### Monday, September 1

Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory † Robert Shanley (St. Michael's A&R)

#### Tuesday, September 2

Weekday

5:30 pm, Troy † Bill Thacker

(Mr. & Mrs. David Pierchorowicz)

Wednesday, September 3

Saint Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church

5:30 pm, Canton † Theresa Kingsley

6:00 pm Holy Hour

(Alden & Rosemary Fitzwater)

## Thursday, September 4

Weekday

No Mass

#### First Friday, September 5

Weekday

7:00 am, Canton † Mary Lippe (Jim & Shirley Brenchley)

#### Saturday, September 6

Weekday

VIGIL: 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 4:00 pm, Canton † Jefferey Wynne (His Family)

Sunday, September 7 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo

9:30 am, Canton † Mark Kingsley

(George & Theresa Kingsley)

11:15 am, Troy † Rita Martinez

(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 those who have participated in an abortion and feel they have committed an unforgiveable sin to come to know the Lord's limitless mercy, and turn to Him for forgiveness and healing.

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 August 18 - 24, 2025

Weekly Off	Perings:	2,243.00
Electronic (	Offerings:	525.00
Other Parish Income:		134.50
	Total Parish Income:	2,902.50
	Average weekly expenses:	4,356.13
Difference:		$(\overline{1,453.63})$

Thank you for your continued support.

#### FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

# Interested in Becoming Catholic, or refreshing your memory?

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the way for non-



Catholics to enter into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church and for Catholics who have not been fully initiated to receive Holy Communion and/or Confirmation. OCIA begins with the Inquiry Phase, which will begin in late September. 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 *September 27 & 28* 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, September 26th in Saint Michael's Church hall 10:00 am - 6:00 pm.

Print the pie flavor neatly on the post-it note on the box.



You can 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.

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 Blasz, Mary Blasz, Gus Branish, Betty Brown, Dennis Clarke, Grace Cott, Anthony DeMarco, Kiran Dhawan, Philip Doud, Dorland & Carlene Eck, Leon English, Wayne Ettinger, Misty Frame, Douglas Greene, Melissa Gowan, William Hall, Barb Hinman, Maryllis Hughes, Victoria Johnson, Bob Jones, Lauren Kreager, David Kule, Jo Kule, Judy Lepper, Bob Lutz, Joyce Maloney, David Martinez, Tom McBlane, Ed "Buster" Merritt, Delina Morgan, Charlotte Morse, Mary Nybeck, Pamela Porter O'Brien, John O'Brien, Leo Parchesky, Ramona Parker, Gary Paquette, Lori Pellegrini, Olivia Perrotto, Brittany Romaine, Elizabeth Ross, Joan Ross, Pat Rushin, Cristy Schmelzle, Ahmed Hassa Sharief, Anthony Shipula, Christine Shipula, Bev Smith, Elias Vroman, Calvin Watson, Steven Wilber, John Wilcox, Fran Zizza Contact the office to add a name to the prayer list.



Pope Leo XIV has expressed deep concern for the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, calling on the global Catholic community to respond with mercy and solidarity.

Parishes in the Diocese of Scranton are holding a special collection to support Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), which are providing vital emergency aid, medical care, and relief to those suffering in the region.

Despite staggering challenges, Catholic Relief Services and its partners have reached 1.7 million people in Gaza since 2023 with food, shelter, water, sanitation, and hygiene support.

There are no envelopes for this offering. To have your donation recorded for tax purposes, make sure that your name and/or family number are included with your offering. These funds will be forwarded to the diocese on Monday, September 8th.

Please be generous!

#### SAVE THE NEW DATE!

Due to unforeseen circumstances, The ENDLESS MOUNTAINS CHORAL SOCIETY *Choral Anthems Concert* in Saint Michael's Church has been moved to Sunday, October 5th at 4:00 pm. A light reception will be held in the hall following the concert.

#### PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY WITH AUDIENCE WITH POPE LEO

The Knights of Columbus of the Northeast Region (Scranton and Allentown Diocese) have put together A Summer Pilgrimage to Italy for June 21—July 2, 2026.

The Pilgrimage includes 2 nights in Padua, Assisi, Florence and 4 nights in Rome with a day trip to Venice. On June 30th there will be a Papal Audience with Pope Leo in St. Peter's Square.

The Pilgrimage is a great opportunity to bring pilgrims face to face with great saints, martyrs, miracles and cultural heritage of Roman Catholicism and to have a papal audience.

Additional information can be found at www.prorometours.com/knightsofcolumbuspa or call 434-953-1112.

#### FILL THE FREEZER MEAT BUNDLE RAFFLE



Tickets are \$10/each
Tickets are available after all
weekend Masses, from any
Parish Pastoral Council member,
or at the parish office during office
hours - (570) 673-5253.

Drawing will be held during the Harvest Supper in Saint Michael Church Hall on Wednesday, October 22nd.

You need not be present to win.

Details about the prizes can be found on the parish website here: https://stmichaelscanton.com/news/fill-the-freezer-raffle/

Your help is needed to sell all 500 tickets!

Tickets can be signed out to sell to family, friends and co-workers.



All prizes are from Leona Meat Plant and will be frozen and ready to go! 1961 Leona Rd, Troy, PA 16947 (570) 297-3574 Toll Free: (800) 416-3968

Local: (570) 297-3574 Toll Free: (800) 416-396 website: leonameatplant.com

#### 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 enforcement. 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 immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere 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 Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims 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 reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551).

#### **News from the Knights**

"Stuff the Bus" Underway!!

Our "Stuff the Bus" drive continues

through the month of August. We are collecting school supplies for less fortunate students. Collection bins are in Saint Michael's and Saint Aloysius Churches.

In addition to school supplies, this year we are asking for donations of sweatpants or track pants for children aged kindergarten through 4th grade. There are a variety of reasons why a change of clothing may be needed for these ages.

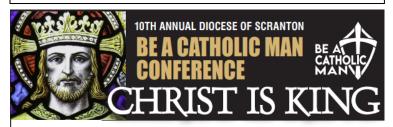
#### PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE

RALLY FOR LIFE in Towanda on Sunday, Sept. 14th, 2 pm. We gather at the Bradford Co. Court House for a few remarks and a prayer. Those that are able will walk Main St. to the bridge and back. We will then move to Ss. Peter & Paul Church for a nondenominational worship service and a talk by State Rep. Clint Owlett, followed by a social with light refreshments in the Church hall.

Bus to PA March for Life on Monday, Sept. 22. The bus will stop at several locations in Bradford County early in the morning and in the evening on Monday, Sept 22. To reserve a seat, please call or text Frank Socha at 570-772-6524. The cost is free due to generous donations from the Knights of Columbus & Congressman Dan Meuser.

LIFE CHAIN, a peaceful prayer demonstration, Sunday, October 5th at 8 locations around the area. More information to follow.

HOPEGATE (Endless Mountains Pregnancy Care Center) annual banquets. 6 pm on Sept 20th at the Troy Sale Barn and Sept 27 at the Sayre Elks Club. They always have a great speaker and a great meal. Your attendance and donations support the great work they do.



# SAT., OCT. 4, 2025, 8 AM - 3:00 PM

Holy Redeemer High School, 159 S. Penna. Ave., Wilkes-Barre Speakers: Mike Aquilina, David Bereit, Fr. Charles Connor Adoration, Reconciliation, Exhibitors, Mass- Bishop Bambera

\$40, (Early \$30 by 9-15-25) Students \$15, Priests/Deacons/Seminarians FREE Morning coffee & box lunch included

**ONLINE** info and registration:

## BeACatholicMan.com

**BY MAIL:** Send name, address, email & parish with check or money order (payable to "Be a Catholic Man") Put "Men's Conference" in check memo.

Mail to: Be a Catholic Man, PO Box 669, Wyalusing, PA 18853

Contact: Mike Kilmer 570-721-0872 • mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com





At the end of the 17th century Our Lord appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alocoque (1647-1690) and asked her to spread devotion to His Most Sacred Heart. In a letter written to her Mother Superior in May 1688, St. Margaret Mary set out what is called The Great Promise Our Lord made regarding the Nine First Fridays and what we must do to earn it:

"On Friday during Holy Communion, He said these words to His unworthy slave, if I mistake not: 'I promise you in the excessive mercy of My Heart that Its all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on nine first Fridays of consecutive months the grace of final repentance; they will not die under My displeasure or without receiving their sacraments, My divine Heart making Itself their assured refuge at the last moment."

To meet the requirements for the First Friday Devotion a person must, on each First Friday for nine consecutive months:

- 1. Attend Holy Mass
- 2. Receive Communion
- 3. Go to Confession\*

\*Some Catholic resources on this devotion say that Confession is not strictly required unless you need the sacrament in order to receive a worthy Communion, in other words, you need to go to Confession so you can be in the state of grace before you can receive Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Other sources say you must go to Confession with in eight days before or after the Friday. Even if you are in the state of grace. If in doubt, consult your spiritual director. The more prevalent view prescribes the latter.

The communicant should have the intention, at least implicitly, of making reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for all the sinfulness and ingratitude of men.

First Friday Adoration follows the 7 am Mass in St. Michaels' Church, reposition is at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome to sit in silent adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during this time. Call Leslie Debach at (315) 521-0258 if you can, sometimes, be on the First Friday schedule.

Why do we have a schedule? According to the instruction *Redemptionis Sacramentum*, issued by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, [138.] "Still, the Most Holy Sacrament, when exposed, must never be left unattended even for the briefest space of time."



#### POPE LEO XIV AUGUST PRAYER INTENTION

FOR MUTUAL COEXISTENCE

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

## This week on tormed, week of August 24, 2025

THE CONFESSIONS OF ST. AUGUSTINE | LITTLEST SAINTS

A child, a sinner, a saint. Join us as we share the story of St. Augustine, tailored to our children, as he wrestles with God and comes to the faith.



FEAST OF SAINT MONICA | CATHOLIC SAINTS

Throughout her life, St. Monica constantly prayed for the conversion of Augustine, her beloved son. In a moment of desperation, she even asked for the bishop's



help. In response, he said, "the son of those tears surely will not perish." Truly, as this bishop remarked, Monica's tearful prayers helped build her son into the Doctor of Grace. In this video, join Dr. Gray and Dr. Sehorn as they discuss this great Saint.

THE CONFESSIONS OF SAINT AUGUSTINE

Actor Leonardo Defilippis captures the poetry and passion of Saint Augustine of Hippo (AD 354-430) in a performance that is accessible and deeply moving. The play is astonishingly relevant for our own times. Augustine struggled with promiscuity,



fathered a child out-of-wedlock and dabbled in a "new age" style cult. Be inspired by his relentless pursuit of Truth and encouraged by the prayerful perseverance of his faithful mother, Saint Monica.

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#### **AUGUST 25 - 31, 2025 READINGS**

**Mon:** 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b

Mt 23:13-22

**Tues:** 1 Thes 2:1-8 Ps 139:1-3, 4-6 Mt 23:23-26 Wed: 1 Thes 2:9-13 Ps 139:7-12b Mt 23:27-32

**Thurs**: 1 Thes 3:7-13 Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17

Mt 24:42-51

Fri: 1 Thes 4:1-8 Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12 Mk 6:17-29

**Sat:** 1 Thes 4:9-11 Ps 98:1, 7-9 Mt 25:14-30 **Sun**: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Ps 68:4-7, 10-11

Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a Lk 14:1, 7-14

# ligious Education

#### 2025-2026 Religious Education Program

TEACHERS AND SUBSTITUTES NEEDED! Anyone interested in faith formation ministry, please contact Sarah Watson at dre@stmichaelscanton.com or 570-447-8799.

CCD REGISTRATION is open through September 7th. Register here: https://stmichaelscanton.com/news/2025-2026-religious-education/ or by using the hard copies by the bulletins. Please register ASAP so that materials can be ordered and arrive in time for our catechists to prepare for the first day.

Keep an eye on the bulletin for a Parents' Meeting to be scheduled in September.

Classes start on Sunday, September 28th, 8:15-9:15 am. Pre-K through 7th grade classes will be held in Saint Michael's Church hall. The Confirmation Class will meet in the rectory chapel.

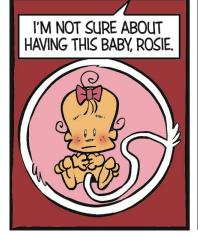
Two consecutive years of religious education are needed for Sacramental Preparation. Children entering 1st & 7th grade should be enrolled in CCD to be eligible for First Holy Communion and Confirmation in 2nd & 8th grades, respectively.

The much anticipated and oh-so-delicious ANNUAL

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY BAKE SALE will be held at all weekend Masses on September 20th & 21st. All proceeds go toward CCD materials.



# Umbert the Unborn







by Gary Cangemi



#### Knights of **Columbus** Council #5517

Meetings are the second Wednesday of the Month at 7:15 pm in Saint Michael's Hall. New mem-

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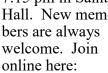
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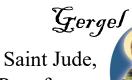


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SAINT MICHAEL'S ALTAR & RO-SARY SOCIETY St. Michael's Altar & Rosary Society is open

to all women of

the parish. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Saint Michael's church hall

BARRETT LAW OFFICES

Patrick J. Barrett, III

Attorney and Counselor at Law

17-21 Troy St. - PO Box 157

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patrick@barrettlawofficepa.com

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SUNDAY-THURSDAY - 7:30AM - 8:00PM FRIDAY AND SATURDAY - 7:30AM - 9:00PM

#### SAINT MICHAEL'S **CEMETERY ASSOCIATION**

Call or email for information Jim Ross, Chairperson (570) 651-0489

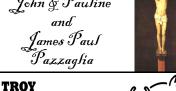
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