

OCTOBER 5, 2025



27TH 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

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 8 am - 3:30 pm, Thursday 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

If you had faith
LIKE A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED,
YOU COULD SAY TO THIS
MULBERRY TREE,
'BE UPROOTED AND PLANTED IN THE SEA,'
AND IT WOULD OBEY YOU.

LUKE 17:6

Pastoral Council: David Brann, Leslie Debach, Ray Harrington
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, October 4 Saint Francis of Assisi

VIGIL: 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm, Canton † Pro Populo

Sunday, October 5 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 am, Ralston † Dave & Bill Mahonski (The Family)

9:30 am, Canton † Atty Robert Murphy (Jerry & Joy Brann)

11:15 am, Troy † Gail & Russell Smith

(Mr. & Mrs. David Pierchorowicz)

Monday, October 6 Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory † The Family of Connie & Rick

Alichnie (Msgr. Robert Wargo)

Tuesday, October 7 Our Lady of the Rosary

5:30 pm, Troy † Helen Pierchorowicz

(Mr. & Mrs. David Pierchorowicz)

Wednesday, October 8 Weekday

5:30 pm, Canton † Mike Polly (Richelle (Carlonas) Gwin)

6:00 pm Holy Hour

Thursday, October 9 Weekday

No Mass

Friday, October 10 Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory † Deceased members of the Rushin

Family (John & Pat Rushin)

Saturday, October 11 Weekday

VIGIL: 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm, Canton † Pro Populo

Sunday, October 12 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 am, Ralston † Eleanor & Robert Mahonski (Family)

9:30 am, Canton † Theresa Kingsley

(Arthur & Mona Hamm)

11:15 am, Troy † Fran Welch (Louise Wilber)

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 the repose of the soul of Charlie Kirk by Alden & Rosemary Fitzwater.

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

September 22 - 28, 2025

Weekly Offerings: 2,620.00

Electronic Offerings: 525.00

Pie Sales: 1,472.00

Other Parish Income: 179.05



Total Parish Income: 4,796.05

Average weekly expenses: 4,356.13

Difference: 439.92

Saint Vincent DePaul Fund: 505.00

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. The next session will be on Monday, October 6th at 7:00 pm in the rectory. For more information or to register, please call Father Joe at 570-673-5253.

ANNUAL FRUIT PIE SALE

Thank you to everyone who baked and volunteered for the Fruit Pie Sale at THE PUMPKIN FESTIVAL! A total of \$1,472.00 was raised for our parish!



A CHORAL COLLAGE

Sunday, October 5th | 4:00pm

St. Michael's Catholic Church

106 N. Washington St., Canton, PA

Donation Only | Admission Free

A light reception will be held in St. Michael's Hall following the concert.

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



SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John & Peggy Adams, Roberta Arnold, Karl Barton, Cassi Blaney, Joseph Blaszc, Mary Blaszc, Gus Branish, Jerry Brann, 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, Giselle Phillips, Brittany Romaine, Elizabeth Ross, Joan Ross, Pat Rushin, Cristy Schmelzle, Ahmed Hassa Sharief, Anthony Shipula, Christine Shipula, Bev Smith, Elaine Strange, Wayne Strange, Elias Vroman, Calvin Watson, Steven Wilber, John Wilcox, Fran Zizza

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



OUR CALL TO SERVE

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL



31,103

HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

By Catholic Social Services' food pantries last year
(An increase of 19 percent from the previous year)

Support the 2025 Catholic Ministries Appeal at: AnnualAppeal.org



Donate now at
AnnualAppeal.org,
call (570) 207-2250 or
click this QR code



As of September 27th, we have reached 17.35% of our \$20,283 parish goal. \$3,520 has been donated or pledged by 12 donors, which makes our current participation rate 4.44%. Thank you to everyone who has contributed thus far, both financially and with your prayers.

SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL FUND

The Saint Vincent DePaul account is the parish's charity account. It is designated, at the discretion of the pastor, to aid parishioners who are facing an urgent need. The parish is not assessed on donations to this account, but cannot use this account for anything beyond its designated use. Thank you for your generosity in helping the parish be ready to assist members of our parish family when an emergency happens.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

Saint Vincent de Paul came from a small farm in Gascony, France, and became a priest with little more ambition than to have a comfortable life. Instead he became the leader of what is now known as the Congregation of the Mission, or the Vincentians. These priests, with vows of poverty, chastity, obedience, and stability, were to devote themselves entirely to the people in smaller towns and villages.

Pope Leo XIII made him the patron of all charitable societies. Outstanding among these, of course, is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, founded in 1833 by his admirer Blessed Frédéric Ozanam.

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-affle/>

Your help is needed to sell all 500 tickets!

Tickets can be signed out to sell to family, friends and co-workers. Tickets can also be purchased on behalf of The Canton Food Pantry and/or the Troy Food Pantry.



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

NOTRE DAME H.S. GRADES 7-12

OPEN HOUSE FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Notre Dame High School, Grades 7-12, is hosting an Open House on Wednesday, November 5, from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm for prospective students and their families. The evening will begin with a brief presentation in the Charles and Mary Crossed Auditorium. Open House is your chance to meet the faculty, administration, and students, tour the campus, learn about the benefits of a Notre Dame education, and explore the many opportunities your child can have as a student of Notre Dame. Notre Dame is a college preparatory school that provides an inclusive environment rich in the traditions of the Sisters of Mercy and academic excellence. Additionally, Notre Dame offers a competitive athletic program, many opportunities to participate in the performing, visual, and language arts, along with a variety of extra-curricular activities such as FTC & FRC Robotics teams, ND Spotlighters, Science Olympiad, MaryLeaf (school newsletter), Yearbook, ND Supper Club, and Quiz League. Notre Dame H.S. is located at 1400 Maple Avenue, Elmira.

To RSVP for the Open House, visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/NDHSOpenHouse25>.

To apply, visit notredamehighschool.com. Questions? Please contact Nick Weiermiller, Director of Admissions, at 607-734-2267.

We hope to see you at the Open House!

One Minute Meditations

St. Paul of the Cross

Born in seventeenth-century Ovada, Italy, to a noble Catholic family, Paul Francis Danei had a great devotion to the Cross of Christ since he was young. He turned down a respectable marriage to devote his life to prayer, penance, preaching, and works of charity. In 1720, he was called to found an order honoring Jesus' Passion. The Passionist Order received papal approval. The order elected St. Paul as their superior general until his death in 1775.

Celebrating All Hallows Eve

Halloween is a Catholic holy day — it's the vigil of All Saints Day. It even has its own liturgical prayers! One way to recapture a sense of the sacred on this holy vigil is to pray Evening Prayer (Vespers) in the Liturgy of the Hours. It is easily found online and takes about 15 minutes. It's a beautiful, deeply liturgical way to celebrate All Hallows Eve with the Church. Because solemnities "start" the evening before, after Vespers, the party can start!

"If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next... Aim at Heaven and you will get earth 'thrown in'; aim at earth and you will get neither" C.S. Lewis.

Simple ways to stay rooted in God's love every day

God meets us in powerful ways through the Sacraments, especially at Sunday Mass. But we're not meant to leave His presence at the church door. Our souls need daily contact with His love—through small, intentional acts that anchor us in grace, even during busy or chaotic days.

Start with a Morning Offering. This short prayer dedicates everything you do — your work, joys, and struggles — to God. It turns your entire day into an offering, a prayer in motion. Even when events feel out of control, you've already placed them in His hands. That changes how you carry each moment.

Wearing a crucifix, saint medal, or carrying a Rosary is another way to stay grounded. These sacramentals aren't lucky charms—they're signs of faith and reminders that we belong to God. When worn or used with devotion, they offer quiet strength and speak to the world, even without words.

Next, carry a line of Scripture with you. Choose a verse that speaks to your heart and keep it where you'll see it—on your phone, dashboard, or mirror. Reflect on it throughout the day. God's Word is alive and personal. Even a single verse can give light when your path feels dim.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105).

Lastly, surround yourself with sacred art. A holy card in your wallet, an image of Christ in your kitchen—these aren't just decorative. They teach, inspire, and prompt prayer. They gently turn your attention toward Heaven in the middle of daily routines.

None of these habits takes much time, but over time, they shape your heart. They help you live with peace, stay open to grace, and remember: God is near, always ready to meet us where we are.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Many Protestant versions of the Our Father include the doxology: "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever." While this line is theologically rich and spiritually uplifting, it was not part of the original prayer Jesus gave His disciples. It does not appear in the earliest and most reliable Gospel manuscripts. Scholars believe it began as a marginal note—

Why does the Catholic Our Father have a different ending?

possibly added for liturgical use—that was later copied into the text. Its inclusion in the King James Bible helped establish it in Protestant tradition, where it remains a beloved conclusion. Though not found in the original biblical text, the doxology reflects the heart of Christian praise and continues to express the glory of God in worship across many denominations.

Holy Hospitality - let love lead during the holidays

We may not have to host the Messiah and twelve hungry disciples on short notice, but the stress St. Martha felt is all too familiar during the holiday season. The good news? Grace can do what we cannot.

To find peace amid pressure, Pope Leo XIII said to begin with silence. Even a few moments of quiet prayer each day can create the space needed for God to work in your heart. Then, he offered two essential practices:

Focus on what matters most. Jesus' friend, Martha, was *"anxious and troubled about many things,"* but Jesus reminded her of the *"one thing... necessary"* (Luke 10:41-42). Hospitality isn't about perfection—it's about presence. Pope Leo encourages us to make space for real human connection:

to care, to listen, and to truly see those around us. Resist the urge to multitask. And yes—put the phone away.

Choose understanding over offense. The holidays can magnify tensions, but they also offer a sacred opportunity for growth. "It takes effort," Pope Leo admitted, "to understand one another in disagreements, and to forgive when mistakes are made." Approach family gatherings with humility and grace. Assume the best. Be patient, flexible, and quick to forgive. Small acts of mercy often go unseen—but *"your Father who sees in secret will reward you"* (Matthew 6:18).

This season, let love—not logistics—lead. That's the heart of holy hospitality.

from Scripture

Luke 18:9-14, Divine mercy responds to humility

In this Gospel passage, Jesus contrasts two prayers: one from a respected Pharisee, the other from a despised tax collector—a comparison that would have shocked His audience.

In first-century Jewish society, Pharisees were seen as models of religious observance, while tax collectors were viewed as collaborators with the Roman occupiers and often as corrupt and dishonest.

The Pharisee confidently takes a prominent place in the temple and offers what appears to be a prayer—but it's really a self-congratulatory speech. He thanks God not for grace

received, but for his own perceived righteousness. In contrast, the tax collector stands at a distance, won't even lift his eyes, and offers a single, sincere plea: "God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

Jesus tells us it was the tax collector—not the Pharisee—who went home justified before God

This parable reminds us that true prayer begins with humility. God isn't impressed by performance or flowery words. He desires contrition, honesty, and a heart open to grace. He already knows us, loves us, and simply asks for our love in return.

general of the Jesuits, he helped to spread their presence all over Spain and Portugal.

October 14 – St. Callixtus I (222). Born a slave in a Roman household, Callixtus was ordained a deacon by Pope Zephyrinus, whom he later succeeded. Callixtus's election caused an eighteen-year schismatic movement. He fought against heresy and showed tolerance toward sinners. In a time of trial and confusion, he re-opened the Church to all. He was later martyred.

October 28 – Saints Simon and Jude (1st century). St. Simon was a Zealot – Jews who believed the Messiah would free them from political oppression. St. Jude was a fisherman. After following Jesus, they eventually traveled to Persia where they preached the Gospel until they were martyred.

Q & A Why do Catholics have different types of Masses?

Liturgical diversity has always been part of the Church's life. Today, when people refer to "different Masses," they may be referring to the different forms, such as the Traditional Latin Mass (also called the Extraordinary Form) and the more familiar post-Vatican II Mass (Novus Ordo, or Ordinary Form).

The Traditional Latin Mass, shaped over centuries, is known for its reverence, use of Latin and chant, and the priest facing *ad orientem*—toward the altar along with the people. It fosters an atmosphere of silence and awe.

The Novus Ordo emerged after the Second Vatican Council, which called for a renewed, simplified liturgy that would be more accessible and participatory. At that time, Latin was no longer widely taught or understood.

Both forms are authentic expressions of the same Eucharistic mystery—the meeting of Heaven and Earth at the altar. When celebrated reverently, each reveals the beauty and depth of the Church's liturgical tradition in distinct but complementary ways.

Feasts & Celebrations

October 7 – Our Lady of the Rosary (1571). This feast was originally named, "Our Lady of Victory" by Pope Pius V, on the victory of the Battle of Lepanto, when the Christians won a critical victory against the Ottomans after praying the Rosary. Pope Gregory XIII later renamed this feast in recognition of this powerful prayer.

October 10 – St. Francis Borgia (1572). St. Francis was a nobleman who served in the Spanish imperial court. After the death of his wife, he gave away all his possessions and joined the Jesuits. He proved to be a good administrator, and as superior

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)

RESPECT LIFE MONTH STATEMENT

October 2025

Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities



With great joy we celebrate October as Respect Life Month amid the Church's Jubilee Year of Hope. This Jubilee Year "offers us the opportunity to appreciate anew, and with immense gratitude, the gift of the new life that we have received in Baptism, a life capable of transfiguring death's drama."¹ The life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is the foundation of our hope. Through Christ, our sins are forgiven, death is overcome, and life is victorious.

Yet, the daily headlines remind us of how desperately our world is thirsting for the hope that only God can provide. Every day we witness the overwhelming disregard for human life: through rising rates of abortion and assisted suicide; the killing of innocent school children, even at prayer; the mistreatment of our immigrant sisters and brothers as they endure an environment of aggression; and political and ideological violence inflicted against unsuspecting victims. These attacks threaten life precisely when it is most vulnerable and in need of protection.

Despite these realities, the gift of human life exists as a sign of hope to our world today, defying the powers of darkness and the culture of death. It is of the utmost importance that we work to ensure that every life, in every stage and circumstance, is protected in law.

Earlier this year, history was made when Planned Parenthood and other big abortion businesses were banned from receiving federal Medicaid dollars for one year. I thank Catholics across the country who

"The gift of human life exists as a sign of hope to our world today, defying the powers of darkness and the culture of death."

have embraced a [nationwide call to prayer](#) for the end of all taxpayer funding of abortion centers, and I ask that we continue those prayers throughout the month of October.

This Jubilee Year we are challenged to be agents of hope to those whose hearts are burdened by trial, difficulty, or suffering, offering them the hope that comes from Christ Jesus alone. [Walking with Moms in Need](#) and [Project Rachel Ministry](#) are just two examples of how the Church continuously reaches out with love, compassion, and mercy to those most in need of a message of hope.

As we begin Respect Life Month, together we embrace the words of Pope Leo XIV, "How important it is that each and every baptized person feel himself or herself called by God to be a sign of hope in the world today."² Each of us is called to be a witness to the Gospel of Life, proclaiming in word and deed the innate goodness and dignity of every human person.

For information on Respect Life Month, visit <https://www.respectlife.org/>.

¹ Pope Francis, *Spez non confudit*, 20.

² Pope Leo XIV, Vatican News, May 26, 2025: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2025-05/pope-leo-xiv-africa-day-pilgrimage-blessing-vatican-basilica.html>.



POPE LEO XIV OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTION

FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS : Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

THIS WEEK ON **formed**, WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 2025

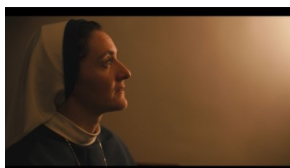
JOHN XXIII: THE POPE OF PEACE

This movie tells the life story of John XXIII from his youth through his young priesthood, episcopacy, life as cardinal, and eventually his life as pope. Elected supposedly as an "interim Pope" who would just keep the status quo and listen to the advisers around him, John XXIII proved to be his own man when he surprised the Church and world by calling for the Second Vatican Council.



THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

St. Padre Pio said, "The Rosary is the 'weapon' for these times." This incredible film series takes viewers right to the Holy Land, where these Mysteries actually happened, encouraging deeper reflection and meditation on them.



DIVINE MERCY WITH FR. MICHAEL GAITLEY

Renowned speaker and author Fr. Michael Gaitley tells the dramatic history of God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative message of St. Faustina, the miraculous appearance of Mary at Fatima, the witness of Maximilian Kolbe, and the world-changing papacy of Pope St. John Paul II.



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OCTOBER 6 - 12, 2025 READINGS

Mon: Jon 1:1—2:2, 11 (Ps) Jon 2:2-5, 8 Lk 10:25-37
Tues: Jon 3:1-10 Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8 Lk 10:38-42
Wed: Jon 4:1-11 Ps 86:3-6, 9-10 Lk 11:1-4
Thurs: Mal 3:13-20b Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 11:5-13
Fri: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2 Ps 9:2-3, 6, 8-9, 16 Lk 11:15-26
Sat: Jl 4:12-21 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Lk 11:27-28
Sun: 2 Kgs 5:14-17 Ps 98:1-4 2 Tm 2:8-13

Lk 17:11-19

SAINT MICHEL ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY ANNUAL HARVEST SUPPER

Wednesday, October 22, 2025
5:00 - 7:00 pm

Saint Michael's Catholic Church Hall
107 N. Washington Street, Canton, PA
Roast Pork with all the fixings



To pre-order takeouts please call
(570) 673-4125 (leave a message)
Adults: \$10 Children (6-12): \$7
Pre-School: Free



Life Chain

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

Stand with thousands of pro-lifers throughout the USA. You'll be a light in a darkened world as you help put an end to abortion through prayer. Bring the whole family – rain or shine. Water, lawn chairs, and umbrellas are welcome. (Please do not park in front of an open business.) Signs will be provided.

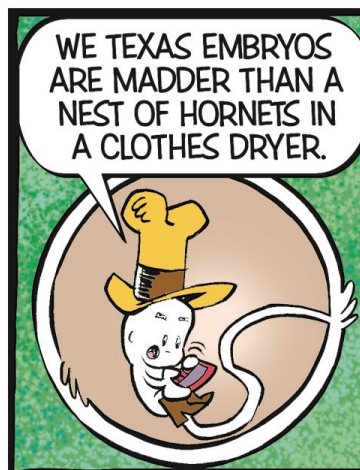
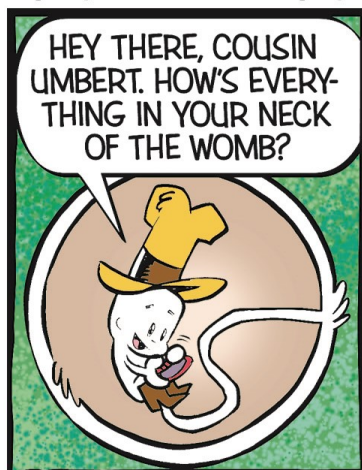
**Canton: Main Street from 2 to 3 PM,
Chairperson: David Beahm 570-244-6232**

For other times and locations, see the September 14th bulletin on the parish website:

<https://stmichaelscanton.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/2025-25th-Sunday-in-Ordinary-Time-bulletin.pdf>

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 members are always welcome. Join online here:



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 4423 Leona Road
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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

BARRETT LAW OFFICES
 Patrick J. Barrett, III
Attorney and Counselor at Law
 17-21 Troy St. - PO Box 157
 Canton, PA 17724
 570-673-5180
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 507 West Pine Street
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