

**DECEMBER 25, 2025 - THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND
DECEMBER 28, 2025 - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sat, Dec 27 SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST
VIGIL: THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
4:00 pm, Canton † Richard Ross (Family)

Sunday, December 28 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo MARY & JOSEPH
9:30 am, Canton † Theresa Kingsley (George Kingsley)
11:15 am, Troy † Kent King
(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

Monday, December 29 5th Day within the Octave
of the Nativity of the Lord
7:00 am, Rectory † Carol Ann Gergel (James Gergel)

Tuesday, December 30 6th Day within the Octave
of the Nativity of the Lord
5:30 pm, Troy † Michael & Ann Polly (Shirley Grantier)

Wednesday, December 31 7th Day within the Octave
of the Nativity of the Lord
VIGIL: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
5:30 pm, Troy † John G. Hamburger
(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

Thursday, January 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY
MOTHER OF GOD
8:00 am, Canton † Claudia Sladicka
(Fr. Joe & John Paul Kutch)

First Friday, January 2 Saints Basil the Great and
Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors of the Church
7:00 am, Canton † Michael Davison
(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

Saturday, January 3 Christmas Weekday
VIGIL: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
4:00 pm, Canton † Jerome Wynne (The Skipper Family)

Sunday, January 4 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo
9:30 am, Canton † Robert Shanley (Jerry & Joy Brann)
11:15 am, Troy † Joe Pierchorowicz, Jr.
(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 the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ to
awaken wonder at the precious gift of every child
in the hearts of all Christians.

SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS December 15 - 21, 2025

Weekly Offerings:	2,900.00
Electronic Offerings:	525.00
Christmas Offerings:	685.00
Other Parish Income:	540.50
Total Parish Income:	4,650.50
Average weekly expenses:	4,868.51
Difference:	(218.01)
Religious Retirement Fund:	51.00
Care & Education of Priests:	25.00

Thank you for your continued support.



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

Pastoral Council: David Beahm, David Brann,
Leslie Debach, Will Hawrylo, Jean Herman,
Ralph Lepper, Sherry Vargson,
Sarah Watson - youth representative

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
adults to receive the Sacraments of
Initiation. We are currently in the inquiry phase. It's
culmination is the inquirer's decision to enter the cate-
chumenate, the period of formal preparation for entrance
into full membership in the Catholic Church. The next
session of the OCIA will be Monday, January 5th at 7
pm in the rectory.

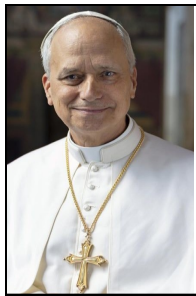


A Communal Rosary is prayed at 9:30 am on
Thursdays in St. Michael's Church.
All are invited to participate.



SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John & Peggy Adams, Roberta Arnold,
Karl Barton, John Bilbrey, Cassi Blaney, Joseph Blaszc,
Mary Blaszc, Gus Branish, Betty Brown, Dennis Clarke,
Ezra Cole, Grace Cott, Anthony DeMarco,
Philip Doud, Dorland & Carlene Eck, Colleen Eklund,
Leon English, Wayne Ettinger, Misty Frame,
Theresa Gentile, Douglas Greene, Melissa Gowan,
William Hall, Barb Hinman, Maryllis Hughes,
Victoria Johnson, Emily Jones, 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, Roger Rossi, Pat Rushin,
Cristy Schmelzle, Marilyn Scott, Ahmed Hassa Sharief,
Anthony Shipula, Christine Shipula, Bev Smith,
Elaine Strange, Wayne Strange, Alyssa Van Zile,
Elias Vroman, 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.*



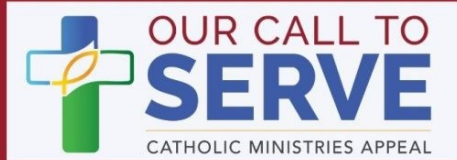
POPE LEO XIV

JANUARY PRAYER INTENTION

FOR PRAYER WITH THE WORD OF GOD
Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



THIS CHRISTMAS, GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE



As we celebrate the birth of Christ, we are reminded of God's greatest gift to us. Through the Catholic Ministries Appeal, your generosity brings hope, mercy, and help to those in need throughout our Diocese.

Please consider making a gift this Christmas season at
AnnualAppeal.org

As of December 20th, we have reached 71% of our \$20,283 parish goal. \$14,315 has been donated or pledged by 50 donors, which makes our current participation rate 19%. Thank you to everyone who has contributed, both financially and with your prayers. At this time, the appeal has been extended into 2026.

Umbert the Unborn



by Gary Cangemi

DECEMBER 29, 2025 - JANUARY 4, 2026 READINGS

Mon: 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6 Lk 2:22-35

Tues: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-10 Lk 2:36-40

Wed: 1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2, 11-13 Jn 1:1-18

Thurs: Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Gal 4:4-7
Lk 2:16-21

Fri: 1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 1:19-28

Sat: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6 Ps 98:1, 3c-6 Jn 1:29-34

Vigil: Epiphany of the Lord: Is 60:1-6

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

Sun: Is 60:1-6 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12

This Sunday, December 27th, the Knights of Columbus will host fellowship following the 9:30 am Mass. Donations will be gratefully accepted and will help defray the parish heating bills this Winter.



THIS WEEK ON **formed**, WEEK OF DECEMBER 28, 2025

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE SHOW

What's your resolution this year? Dr. Tim Gray welcomes Dr. Scott Hefelfinger, Assistant Professor of Theology in the Augustine Institute Graduate School of Theology, to celebrate one year of the Augustine Institute Show!

THE HOLY FAMILY

We are excited to announce our series of FORMED Now! Christmas and New Year special episodes. In these episodes, professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School will lead us in reflections throughout the season!



LITANY OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as we celebrate the feast of The Most Holy Name of Jesus with this litany prayer of the Holy Name.



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

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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 and
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SAINT MICHAEL'S ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY
 Saint 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.

BARRETT LAW OFFICES
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Attorney and Counselor at Law
 17-21 Troy St. - PO Box 157
 Canton, PA 17724
 570-673-5180
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 Athens, PA 18810
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 f 570-297-4093

SAINT MICHAEL'S CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
 Call or email for information
 Jim Ross, Chairperson
 (570) 651-0489
huckleberrycow@yahoo.com

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The blessing of a home and inscription of the initials of the three Magi above each door can be performed either by a priest or the head of the household. To ask Father Joe to bless your home with the epiphany blessing, please contact Father Joe directly.

BLESSING OF A HOUSE

PRIEST: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Who made heaven and earth.

PRIEST: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: And with your spirit

PRIEST: Let us pray.

Peace to this house, and to all who enter here. Sprinkle me, O Lord, with blessed water, and I shall be purified; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Have mercy on me, O God, in your great mercy. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Blessed be your name, our God, our shelter from all that homelessness and lack of place can mean. Blessed be your name, for you have sheltered us. Bless now this house, this dwelling place of life and love, for you alone assure the peace and strength, the care that covers all our differences. You make these rooms a source of confidence, of dignity and freedom, for the members of our family household, and therefore for our country and the world. Let your Spirit dwell in us and open us to all who need our hospitality and care. Amen.

(SPRINKLE ALL THE ROOMS)

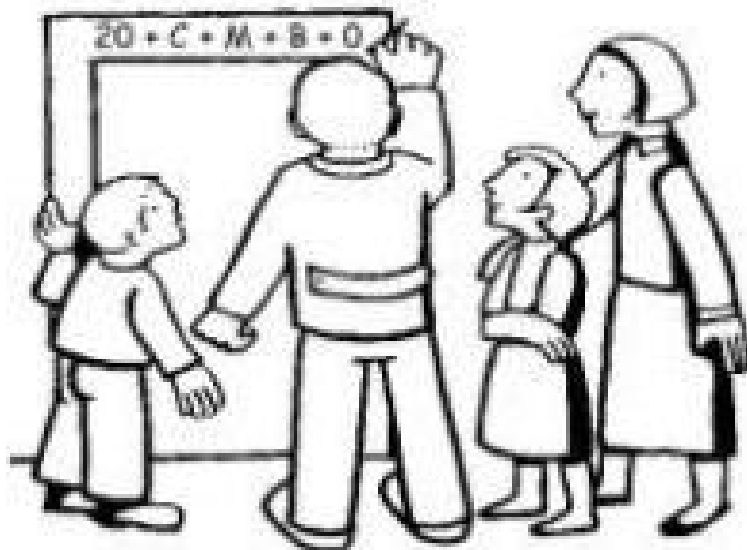
PRIEST: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

PRIEST: From the East, the Magi have come to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; Opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts; gold to the Great King; frankincense to the true God; and myrrh for His burial.

(Priest then marks the door with blessed chalk in honor of the Three Kings: Casper, Melchior and Balthasar. Letters are written first, then crosses, then numbers.)

20 † C † M † B † 26



PRIEST: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

ALL: Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

PRIEST: Oh Lord, hear our prayer

ALL: And let our cry come unto you.

PRIEST: The Lord be with you,

ALL: And with your spirit.

PRIEST: Let us pray.

Oh Lord, God Almighty, bless this home † and under its shelter let there be peace, health, happiness, humility, chastity, goodness, kindness, prosperity, obedience to Your Commandments, and thanksgiving. Protect this house from fire, disaster or anyone who would want to enter it unlawfully. May these blessings descend abundantly on this home, and remain always in the heart of those who dwell here.

ALL: Amen

(CONCLUDING PRAYER)

PRIEST: Come, Lord God, we humbly beg you, and fill this house with the serenity of your love, joy and peace. Shower your benediction and grace in abundance upon all who dwell herein. May the peace and blessing of almighty God rest upon this house and all who dwell in it.

ALL: Amen.