

FEBRUARY 8, 2026

THE 5TH SUNDAY OF 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

SALT and

Matthew 5:13-16

LIGHT

Anointing of the Sick

All who are seriously ill, hospitalized, or having surgery can receive this sacrament. Contact the parish office to request this sacrament.

Baptism

All parents must attend a baptismal preparation meeting prior to the Baptism.
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

St. Michael's Church: 6 - 7 pm Mass
on Wednesdays and First Fridays
after 7 am Mass until 7 pm.

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. (2025/26)

Religious Education held on
Sundays from September until May
8:15 - 9:15 am, St. Michael's hall

Pastoral Council

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

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Sherry Vargson, Sarah Watson - youth representative

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 7 Weekday

VIGIL: 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm, Canton † Jerome Wynne (Leslie & Chick Debach)

Sunday, February 8 5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo

9:30 am, Canton † Russell & Marie O'Neal
(John & Pat Rushin)

11:15 am, Troy † Julia Hamburger
(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

Monday, February 9 Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory † Catherine Dalton (The Dalton Family)

Tuesday, February 10 Saint Scholastica, Virgin

5:30 pm, Troy † Deceased members of Knights of
Columbus Council #5517 (Council #5517)

Wednesday, February 11 Weekday

5:30 pm, Canton † Theresa Kingsley (The Family)

6:00 pm, Holy Hour

Thursday, February 12 Saint Agatha, Virgin, Martyr

No Mass

Friday, February 13 Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory † Rebecca High
(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

Saturday, February 14 Saints Cyril, Monk, and

Methodius, Bishop

VIGIL: 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm, Canton † Pro Populo

Sunday, February 15 6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 am, Ralston † Gerald Brann (Dan & Betsy Clark)

9:30 am, Canton † Jerome Wynne (Jerry & Joy Brann)

11:15 am, Troy † Harriette & Dean Rumsey
(The Bradford & Hamburger Families)

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 openness to new life of all mar-
ried couples to bear witness to the generous love
of God. *Sanctuary lamp intentions may be
requested by contacting the parish office.*

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



SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS January 26 - February 1, 2026

Weekly Offerings:	2,574.00
Electronic Offerings:	1,430.00
Other Parish Income:	462.00
Total Parish Income:	4,466.00
Average weekly expenses:	4,868.51
Difference:	(402.51)
Care & Education of Priests:	400.00

Thank you for your continued support.



FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC,
OR REFRESHING YOUR MEMORY?**



We are now in the catechumenate
phase, the period of formal preparation
for entrance into full membership in the
Catholic Church. The next session is at 7 pm on Monday,
February 9, 2026 in the rectory.

*The Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Con-
version will be held on Sunday, February 22, 2026 at 2:30
p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, located at 315 Wyo-
ming Avenue, Scranton.*

*Please pray for our Candidates, Catechumens, their
sponsors, and the OCIA team as preparations continue for
the Sacraments of Initiation during the Easter Vigil.*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

VALENTINE'S BREAKFAST

The Knights of Columbus will host
their annual Valentine's Breakfast dur-
ing fellowship following the 9:30 am
Mass on Sunday, February 15th.



SAINT MICHAEL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL SHROVE TUESDAY CHILI COOK-OFF

Our annual chili cookoff will be held
on Tuesday, February 17th. We will ac-
cept entries starting at 5:00 PM. If you
would rather donate a dessert we would
appreciate those as well. We invite all to
enjoy the entries starting at 5:30. We would like to con-
clude by 7:00 PM. The Saint Michael Cemetery associa-
tion will award a cash prize for the best chili and a prize
for favorite dessert. The cash prize may be small, brag-
ging rights are invaluable.




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,
Kiran Dhawan, Philip Doud, Dorland & Carlene Eck,
Colleen Eklund, Leon English, Wayne Ettinger,
Aldie Fitzwater, Misty Frame, Theresa Gentile,
Douglas Greene, Melissa Gowan, William Hall,
Peter Hamburger, Barb Hinman, Maryllis Hughes,
Victoria Johnson, Emily 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,
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.

LENT 2026

 = a day of fasting and abstinence from meat

 = a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer" (<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>).</p>						
22 Stay after Mass and pray for a spiritually fruitful Lent.	23 Pray the Morning Offering before checking your phone.	24 "Peace begins with a smile" (Mother Teresa). Resolve to smile at everyone.	25 Pray for one specific person by name today.	26 Worry closes the heart. Replace it with trust, "Jesus, I trust in You."	27 Even when things go wrong, be patient, starting with yourself.	28 Fulfill a commitment or promise you've been putting off.
1 March Read Matthew 17:1-9. Where does God want to transform your heart, prayer, and life?	2 Today, pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, who always need our prayers.	3 Read the daily Gospel and meditate on one line that stands out to you.	4 Today, choose silence instead of complaining.	5 Pray for Christians experiencing persecution. Pray for a conversion of heart for the persecutors.	6 Return love for Love. Visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, where He waits in love.	7 Avoid gossip and change the subject when it starts. If it's untrue, unkind, or confidential, don't say it.
8 Read John 4:5-42. Where do you go when life feels messy? What if Jesus met you there?	9 If your responsibilities permit it, choose one weekday this week to attend Daily Mass.	10 Practice patience intentionally with one difficult person.	11 Skip a meal and donate the money saved from fasting to the poor box.	12 First thing today, tell God, "Thy Will be done!" — and really mean it!	13 Give up a small luxury - drive-thru coffee, streaming, take-out meals - just for today for God.	14 Do a hidden act of service without seeking thanks.
15 <i>Laetare Sunday</i> The priest wears rose for the halfway point of Lent. Enjoy a small treat to celebrate.	16 Holy Week and Easter are busy times for parishes and ask how you can help.	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Pray for missionaries and catechists who, like St. Patrick, bring the faith to every corner of the world.	18 Experience God's mercy and attend Confession this week.	19 <i>St. Joseph's Day</i> Say an extra prayer for your father. Don't forget the priests — spiritual fathers.	20 Buy food or hygiene items for a local pantry.	21 Take a mini-retreat. Reserve time to silence your phone, light a candle, and be with Jesus.
22 Stay after Mass and pray for the intentions of the Pope and your bishop.	23 Give the gift of a spiritual bouquet — a note recording prayers said for someone who needs them.	24 Think before you speak, especially before responding in annoyance or anger, recalling the presence of God.	25 <i>The Annunciation</i> We celebrate Mary's "yes," which opened the way for Christ's coming. Pray the Rosary in her honor.	26 Set out a box and fill it with gently used items, books, or clothes. When it's full, bring it to its destination.	27 Abstain from recreational screen-use between 12:00pm and 3:00pm in honor of Jesus' final hours on the Cross.	28 Visit a church or chapel for 10 minutes of quiet if possible.
29 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Read Matthew 27:11-54, accompanying Jesus through His trial, Passion, and Death.	30 This whole week, practice the Heroic Minute and get up the moment your alarm rings.	31 Say grace slowly and intentionally, with gratitude, before meals today.	1 April Today is the day, Judas plotted to betray Christ. Take time to seek forgiveness or to extend it, if needed.	2 <i>Holy Thursday</i> Visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Thank Him for the Eucharist, the Mass, and the Priesthood.	3 <i>Good Friday</i> Pray the Stations of the Cross. Your presence and love today consoled Him then.	4 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Thank God for His blessings this Lent. Consider which practices you will continue.

Saint Michael Parish

Saint Michael Church, Canton
Saint John Nepomucene Church, Troy
Saint Aloysius Church, Ralston

Pastor:

Rev. Joseph P. Kutch

Sayre Deanery

-Epiphany, Sayre
-Holy Name of Mary, Montrose
-Immaculate Heart of Mary, Dushore
-Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wyalusing
-Saint Brigid, Friendsville
-Saint Michael, Canton
-Saints Peter and Paul, Towanda

PARISH DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Number of Households	180	181	170	144	145
Number of Parishioners **	411	653	673	684	686
Total Number of Weekend Masses	4	4	4	4	4
Total Average Weekend Mass Attendance	156	164	163	158	143

2025 Worship Site Attendance Breakdown:

Saint Michael Church – 109 (2), Saint John Nepomucene Church – 24 (1), Saint Aloysius Church – 23 (1)

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Baptisms	1	6	4	1	2
First Holy Communions	4	7	3	1	6
Confirmations	0	3	6	2	4
OCIA/Baptism	0	3	2	0	0
OCIA/Full Communion	0	0	0	0	0
Marriages	1	0	1	0	0
Funerals	5	7	6	5	5

FAITH FORMATION PARTICIPATION

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Religious Education K-8	25	25	26	27	20
Religious Education 9-12	0	0	0	0	0
Catholic School Students	3	0	3	1	3
Adult Faith Formation	0	0	5	6	0

**All data in this report has been supplied to the Diocese by your Parish. 2025 data is from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.*



VISION 2030

*Creating Parish Communities
Rooted in the Life of Jesus Christ*



**DIOCESE OF
SCRANTON**

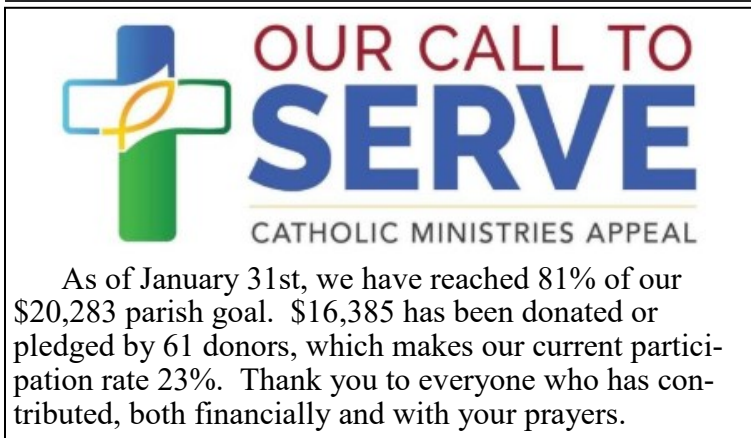
** The 2025 information includes only Families and Parishioners marked as “active” in the parish’s census program. In prior years, the Parishioners information included both “active” and “inactive” members while the Families report excluded families marked “inactive”.




POPE LEO XIV
FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION
 FOR CHILDREN WITH INCURABLE DISEASES
 Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.



DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
LENTEN HOLY HOUR
with Bishop Bambera
Thursday, February 19
7:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish
245 State Street, Wyalusing, PA 18853
 2026 Theme: "Finding Peace in Challenging Times"

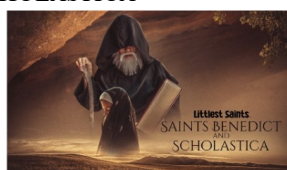



OUR CALL TO SERVE
 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL
 As of January 31st, we have reached 81% of our \$20,283 parish goal. \$16,385 has been donated or pledged by 61 donors, which makes our current participation rate 23%. Thank you to everyone who has contributed, both financially and with your prayers.


FEBRUARY 10 - 16, 2026 READINGS
Mon: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 Ps 132:6-10 Mk 6:53-56
Tues: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 Ps 84:3-5, 10-11 Mk 7:1-13
Wed: 1 Kgs 10:1-10 Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 Mk 7:14-23
Thurs: 1 Kgs 11:4-13 Ps 106:3-4, 35-37, 40 Mk 7:24-30
Fri: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 Ps 81:10-11b, 12-15 Mk 7:31-37
Sat: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 Ps 106:6-7, 19-22 Mk 8:1-10
Sun: Sir 15:15-20 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 1 Cor 2:6-10 Mt 5:17-37

THIS WEEK ON *formed*, WEEK OF FEBRUARY 8, 2026

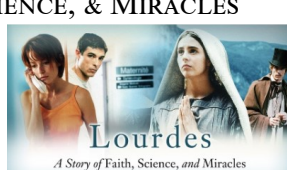
STS. BENEDICT AND SCHOLASTICA
 A pair of holy twins, a cave, and a group of naughty monks... this is the story of Saint Benedict and Saint Scholastica.



BELOVED
 Beloved uncovers the mystery and the meaning of the sacrament of marriage. What if marriage is more than you think it is? What if God has woven into the very fabric of your humanity a purposeful need and desire that can only be fulfilled in your marriage? Beloved invites all couples to experience firsthand the wonder, mystery, and joy behind that first "I do" ... whether you said it last year or many years ago.



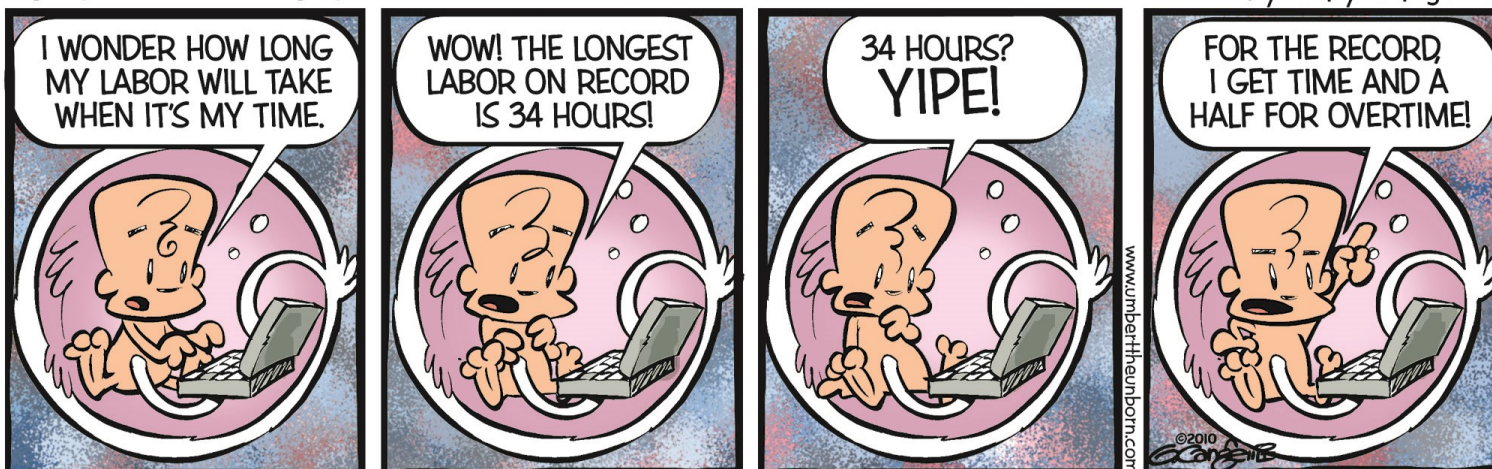
LOURDES: STORY OF FAITH, SCIENCE, & MIRACLES
 The film follows a journalist, his ancestor who met Bernadette at Lourdes, and the story of a woman healed by Lourdes' waters, tracing three lives.



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

Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi

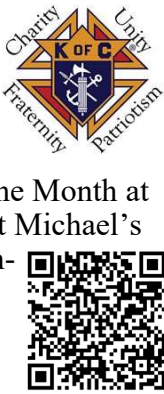


I WONDER HOW LONG MY LABOR WILL TAKE WHEN IT'S MY TIME.
 WOW! THE LONGEST LABOR ON RECORD IS 34 HOURS!
 34 HOURS? YIPE!
 FOR THE RECORD, I GET TIME AND A HALF FOR OVERTIME!

www.umberttheunborn.com

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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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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SAINT MICHAEL'S CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
Call or email for information
Jim Ross, Chairperson
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