

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](mailto:office@stmichaelscanton.com)

website: [www.stmichaelscanton.com](http://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

**Pastoral Council:** David Beahm, David Brann, Leslie Debach, Will Hawrylo, Jean Herman, Ralph Lepper, 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 married 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 Conversion will be held on Sunday, February 22, 2026 at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, located at 315 Wyoming 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 during 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 accept 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 conclude by 7:00 PM. The Saint Michael Cemetery association will award a cash prize for the best chili and a prize for favorite dessert. The cash prize may be small, bragging rights are invaluable.



### SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John & Peggy Adams, Roberta Arnold, Karl Barton, John Bilbrey, Cassi Blaney, Joseph Blasz, Mary Blasz, 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 Perotto, 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

		February	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	23	<p>Stay after Mass and pray for a spiritually fruitful Lent.</p>	<p>Pray the Morning Offering before checking your phone.</p>	<p>24 "Peace begins with a smile" (Mother Teresa). Resolve to smile at everyone.</p>	<p>25 Pray for one specific person by name today.</p>	<p>26 Worry closes the heart. Replace it with trust, "Jesus, I trust in You."</p>
1	March	<p>Read Matthew 17:1-9. Where does God want to transform your heart, prayer, and life?</p>	<p>2 Today, pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, who always need our prayers.</p>	<p>3 Read the daily Gospel and meditate on one line that stands out to you.</p>	<p>4 Today, choose silence instead of complaining.</p>	<p>5 Pray for Christians experiencing persecution. Pray for a conversion of heart for the persecutors.</p>
8		<p>Read John 4:5-42. Where do you go when life feels messy? What if Jesus met you there?</p>	<p>9 If your responsibilities permit it, choose one weekday this week to attend Daily Mass.</p>	<p>10 Practice patience intentionally with one difficult person.</p>	<p>11 Skip a meal and donate the money saved from fasting to the poor box.</p>	<p>12 First thing today, tell God, "Thy Will be done!" — and really mean it!</p>
15	Laetare Sunday	<p>The priest wears rose for the halfway point of Lent. Enjoy a small treat to celebrate.</p>	<p>16 Holy Week and Easter are busy times for parishes and ask how you can help.</p>	<p>17 St. Patrick's Day Pray for missionaries and catechists who, like St. Patrick, bring the faith to every corner of the world.</p>	<p>18 Experience God's mercy and attend Confession this week.</p>	<p>19 St. Joseph's Day Say an extra prayer for your father. Don't forget the priests — spiritual fathers.</p>
22		<p>Stay after Mass and pray for the intentions of the Pope and your bishop.</p>	<p>23 Give the gift of a spiritual bouquet — a note recording prayers said for someone who needs them.</p>	<p>24 Think before you speak, especially before responding in annoyance or anger; recall the presence of God.</p>	<p>25 The Annunciation We celebrate Mary's "yes," which opened the way for Christ's coming. Pray the Rosary in her honor.</p>	<p>26 Set out a box and fill it with gently used items, books, or clothes. When it's full, bring it to its destination.</p>
29	Palm Sunday	<p>Read Matthew 27:11-54, accompanying Jesus through His trial, Passion, and Death.</p>	<p>30 This whole week, practice the Heroic Minute and get up the moment your alarm rings.</p>	<p>1 Today is the day, Judas plotted to betray Christ. Take time to seek forgiveness or to extend it, if needed.</p>	<p>2 Holy Thursday Visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Thank Him for the Eucharist, the Mass, and the Priesthood.</p>	<p>3 Good Friday Pray the Stations of the Cross. Your presence and love today consoled Him then.</p>
					<p>27 Abstain from recreational screen-use between 12:00pm and 3:00pm in honor of Jesus' final hours on the Cross.</p>	<p>28 Visit a church or chapel for 10 minutes of quiet if possible.</p>
					<p>29 Holy Saturday Thank God for His blessings this Lent. Consider which practices you will continue.</p>	

# 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

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
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

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
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

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
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

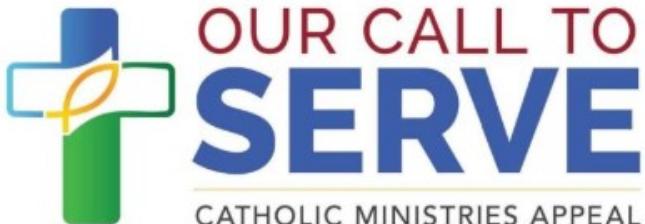
# LENTEN HOLY HOUR

*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"



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.

## Umbert the Unborn



**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

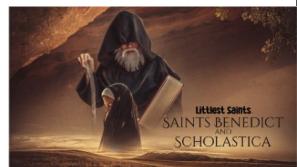
**Sat:** 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 Ps 106:6-7, 19-22  
Mk 8:1-10

**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.

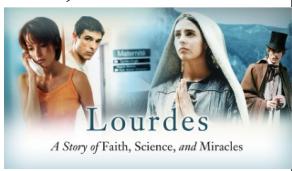


### BELOVED

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.

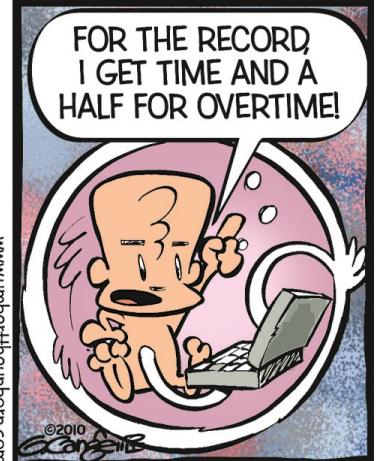
### LOURDES: STORY OF FAITH, SCIENCE, & MIRACLES

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](https://formed.org/signup). Use zip code 17724 to find our parish.*

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:



**CLOTHING STORE**  
**TROY, PA.**

[www.hooverclothingstore.com](http://www.hooverclothingstore.com)  
754 Canton Street • Troy, PA  
Monday-Saturday • 8am-5pm • 570-297-7770



**ST. AGNES SCHOOL**  
102 Third Street  
Towanda, PA 18848  
(570) 265-6803  
[www.stagneselcom.com](http://www.stagneselcom.com)  
Pre-K (3 & 4 year olds) to Grade 6  
Scholarships available  
Middle States Accredited



**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.



**Paul Hamburger**

4423 Leona Road  
Columbia Crossroads, PA 16914  
Phone/Fax: 570-297-4711  
Email:  
[hawthornridge@gmail.com](mailto:hawthornridge@gmail.com)  
PA030014  
St. Michael Parish member



**Trinity Family Health Care**  
**Paul J. Hamburger, B.S., D.C., C.F.M.P.**  
Doctor of Chiropractic  
18109 Route 14, Troy, PA 16947  
570-297-0471 - 272-203-1246 (Fax)  
St. Michael Parish member

**CA Thrush**  
**INSURANCE AGENCY**

Agency Owner: Martin Watson  
465 Reuter Boulevard  
Towanda, Pennsylvania 18848  
(570) 265-7300  
[insurance@thrushagency.com](mailto:insurance@thrushagency.com)  
Specializing in car, home, life, business, and farm insurance

**LEONA**  
MEAT PLANT  
EST. 1962

1961 Leona Road,  
Troy, PA 16947  
Hours:  
Monday - Friday: 7am - 5pm  
Saturday: 7am - 3pm  
Closed on Holidays

For information or to place an order call us at:  
Local: (570) 297-3574, Toll Free: (800) 416-3968  
Fax: (570) 297-3562  
e-mail: [sales@LeonaMeatPlant.com](mailto:sales@LeonaMeatPlant.com)

**The Golden Oak Inn**  
**Bed and Breakfast**  
**477 Canton Street**  
**Troy, PA 16947**  
**570-297-4315**  
**[www.TheGoldenOakInn.com](http://www.TheGoldenOakInn.com)**

**BWC**  
BRANN WILLIAMS & CALDWELL  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
1090 WEST MAIN ST.  
TROY, PA 16947-0277  
**PHONE (570) 297-2192**  
120 TROY ST., CANTON  
PA 17724-0146  
**PHONE (570) 673-5495**

*A Time-tested partnership  
You can trust.*

*The Law Office of  
Christina Fleury*

[www.ChristinaFleury.com](http://www.ChristinaFleury.com)  
517 Main Street, Towanda  
570.265.6000  
Wills, Powers of Attorney,  
Estates, Family Matters,  
and more.  
*Respecting the dignity and  
lifetime of experiences  
of every client*

**JENNINGS**  
**COAL SALES**  
**Canton, Pa**  
**570.678.4125**  
RICE • BUCKWHEAT • PEA  
• CHESTNUT • STOVE  
(ALL SIZES AVAILABLE IN  
BULK OR BAGGED)

**Keystoker Stoves**  
SALES, PARTS & SERVICE  
*"CAN'T BEAT COAL HEAT"*

**Hopegate**  
Pregnancy & Parenting Support Centers  
ULTRASOUND: 209 WEST LOCKHART STREET, SAYRE, PA 18840  
FREE PREGNANCY TESTS  
(570) 721-2936 OR [DIRECTOR@HOPEGATECENTERS.COM](mailto:DIRECTOR@HOPEGATECENTERS.COM)  
[WWW.HOPEGATECENTERS.COM](http://WWW.HOPEGATECENTERS.COM)

**tributes of life**  
Gerald W. Vickery, Jr.  
Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc.  
1093 West Main Street, Troy, PA 16947  
[vickeryfh.com](http://vickeryfh.com)  
Daniel Gilliland, Supervisor

Daniel Gilliland  
Funeral Director  
[dgilliland@tributesoflife.com](mailto:dgilliland@tributesoflife.com)  
P 570-297-3030  
C 570-506-3665  
F 570-297-4093

**BLOSSBURG PIZZA & BUBS**  
7 RIVERSIDE PLAZA  
BLOSSBURG, PA 16912  
570-638-6323

**& Bakery**

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!**  
**SUN-THURS 11 AM-8PM**  
**FRI & SAT 11AM-9PM**

**242 MAIN STREET**  
**BLOSSBURG, PA 16912**  
**570-781-7050**  
SUNDAY-SATURDAY: 7:00AM - 7:30PM

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

**Midway truck stop**  
Owner: The Lees  
**PHONE 570-673-4328**  
State route 14  
Roaring Branch Pa  
Monday-Friday: 11 am - 8 pm  
Saturday: 6 am - 2 pm  
Closed Sunday



*In loving memory of  
John & Pauline  
and  
James Paul  
Pazzaglia*

*In loving memory of  
Carol Ann  
Gerges*

**TROY**  
**VETERINARY**  
**CLINIC**

LA: 673-3181 / SA: 673-3182  
15579 RT. 14, TROY PA 16947

Saint Jude,  
Pray for us.

**Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Company**  
Located in Troy, PA since 1877.  
• Homeowners • Mobile Homeowners  
• Farm Owners • Rental and Seasonal Properties  
Wendy Howe, secretary  
570-297-4779

**Steinbacher • Goodall • Yurchak**  
Your elder care and special needs law firm  
Quality representation in litigation  
(Formerly the Law Offices of Leslie Wizelman)

**WYALUSING  
WYSOX**

**PAElderCounsel.com • 570.746.3844**