

MARCH 8, 2026

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



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



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, March 7 | Lenten Weekday VIGIL: 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT 4:00 pm, Canton † Gerald Brann (Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Hamm) |
| Sunday, March 8 | 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT 8:00 am, Ralston † Kathryn & Fred Fredo (The Family) 9:30 am, Canton † Jerome Wynne (Dot Hopkins) 11:15 am, Troy † Pro Populo |
| Monday, March 9 | Lenten Weekday 7:00 am, Rectory † Gerald Brann (The Family of Catherine Brann Corea & Andrew Corea) 5:30 pm, Canton, the Light is ON for You |
| Tuesday, March 10 | Lenten Weekday 5:30 pm, Troy † Irene Bitcola (Cheryl Carlonas) 6:00 pm, Stations of the Cross |
| Wednesday, March 11 | Lenten Weekday 5:30 pm, Canton † Deceased members of Knights of Columbus Council #5517 (K of C Council #5517) 6:00 pm, Stations of the Cross |
| Thursday, March 12 | Lenten Weekday No Mass |
| Friday, March 13 | Lenten Weekday 7:00 am, Rectory † Judith Youmans (St. Michael's A&R) |
| Saturday, March 14 | Lenten Weekday VIGIL: 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT 4:00 pm, Canton † Theresa Kingsley (Susan Schiess) |
| Sunday, March 15 | 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT 8:00 am, Ralston † Jerome Wynne (Dan & Betsy Clark) 9:30 am, Canton † Gerald Brann (His friends from Vickery Funeral Home) 11:15 am, Troy † Pro Populo |

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 nearing the end of life to be given the grace to persevere in faith and place their trust in God.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU will continue through March 23rd, Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent. Confessions will be heard on Mondays from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm in Saint Michael's Church.



SAINT MICHAEL'S PARISH OFFERINGS February 23 - March 1, 2026

| | |
|---|----------|
| Weekly Offerings: | 2,696.00 |
| Electronic Offerings: | 1,430.00 |
| Other Parish Income: | 546.50 |
|  Total Parish Income: | 4,672.50 |
| Average weekly expenses: | 4,868.51 |
| Difference: | (196.01) |
| Care & Education of Priests: | 274.00 |

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, March 9, 2026 in the rectory.

Three Scrutinies for the elect occur on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent. Following instruction on the mystery of sin during the catechumenate, the Church invites the elect to reflect on three Gospel stories that reveal the meaning of their upcoming baptism.

First Scrutiny (at our 9:30 am Mass this Sunday) Christ as Living Water

In the Gospel story of Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at a well (John 4:5-42), Jesus speaks to her of living water: "Jesus...said to her, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.'" John 4:13-14

LENTEN MEN'S RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

Our anonymous sponsor is again offering to pay for any men wishing to attend either of these events:

1ST ANNUAL LYCOMING COUNTY REGIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S RETREAT

March 21st in St. Boniface Church, Williamsport. Scan the QR code or type in:
[www/tinyurl.com/lcrmensretreat](http://www.tinyurl.com/lcrmensretreat).



BE A CATHOLIC MAN OVERNIGHT LENTEN RETREAT
March 13-14, 2026 at Holy Transfiguration Retreat Center in Dalton. Register on line at:
<https://beacatholicman.com/register-for-retreat-1>

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John & Peggy Adams, Roberta Arnold, Karl Barton, John Bilbrey, Cassi Blaney, Joseph Blaszczyk, Mary Blaszczyk, 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, 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, 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.



POPE LEO XIV
MARCH PRAYER INTENTION
 FOR DISARMAMENT AND PEACE
 Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

LENTEN LUNCHEON
 The Canton Area Network of Ministers' Lenten Luncheons are held on Tuesdays during Lent in the hall of Church of Christ, 170 Union Street, Canton. Saint Michael's Altar & Rosary Society is hosting the luncheon this Tuesday, March 10th. Doors open at 11:30, and the luncheon goes from 11:45 until 12:45. Please use the Union Street entrance. Donations are accepted.

SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Next week our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief. iGiveCatholic also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate online (see QR code).
Envelopes are by the bulletins in all three churches. Write your name on the envelope or write a check if you want your donation recorded for your taxes.



SAINT MICHAEL'S ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY'S ANNUAL PIEROGI SALE
 We are almost done with the Pierogi 2026 sale! Pick up will be in Saint Michael's hall on March 3rd, 4th & 5th from noon - 2 pm and on March 8th after the 9:30 am Mass until 11 am. Cash or personal check is due at pickup. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this annual fundraiser!

MARCH 9 - 15, 2026 READINGS
Mon: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab Pss 42:2-3; 43:3-4 Lk 4:24-30
Tues: Dn 3:25, 34-43 Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9 Mt 18:21-35
Wed: Dt 4:1, 5-9 Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 Mt 5:17-19
Thurs: Jer 7:23-28 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 Lk 11:14-23
Fri: Hos 14:2-10 Ps 81:6c-11b, 14, 17 Mk 12:28-34
Sat: Hos 6:1-6 Ps 51:3-4, 18-21b Lk 18:9-14
Sun: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a Ps 23:1-6 Eph 5:8-14 Jn 9:1-41

SAYRE DEANERY LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES
 March 8: 2:00 pm, St. Basil, Dushore
 4:30 pm, Epiphany Church, Sayre
 March 15: **2:00 pm, St. Michaels, Canton,**
 4:30 pm, St. Peter & Paul Towanda



THIS WEEK ON *formed*, WEEK OF MARCH 8, 2026
HOW TO LENT

In How To Lent, you will be guided by priests and religious in the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving so that you can make this your best Lent yet.
ST. FRANCES & LITURGICAL LIVING
 Join the Tierney family as they celebrate the feast of Saint Frances of Rome, patroness of homemaking! Learn about practicing the corporal works of mercy in the home, the very Catholic Lenten history of pretzels and beer, and watch Kendra and three-year-old Barbara make something they like to call "trash can soup." Find this episode's feature recipes and more about liturgical living in the home at Catholic All Year. <https://catholicallyear.com/at-home/>.



THE PASSION OF CHRIST IN LIGHT OF THE HOLY SHROUD
 The Holy Shroud of Turin was called the greatest relic in Christendom by Pope St. John Paul II. Fr. Peffley presents new, detailed scientific and medical evidence for the authenticity of the Holy Shroud.
Set up your free account by visiting formed.org/signup. Use zip code 17724 to find our parish.

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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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.



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

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