

NOVEMBER 3, 2024



THE 31ST 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: Mondays & Wednesdays 8 am - 3:30 pm, Thursdays 8 am - 1 pm



**Pastoral Council:** David Beahm, David Brann, Leslie Debach, 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.”

#### **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. (2023/24)**

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

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Saturday, November 2** ALL SOULS DAY

VIGIL: 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm, Canton † All Souls Day envelope intentions

**Sunday, November 3** 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo

9:30 am, Canton † Joy & Douglas Snell (The Family)

11:15 am, Troy † Michael Davison (Cheryl Carlonas)

**Monday, November 4** Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

7:00 am, Rectory † Mr & Mrs Andrew & Sophie Rushin  
(John & Pat Rushin)

**Tuesday, November 5** Weekday

5:30 pm, Troy † Larry Kieslor (Louise Wilber)

**Wednesday, November 6** Weekday

5:30 pm, Canton † Vayda Brown (Jeff & Beth Cole)

6:00 pm, Holy Hour

**Thursday, November 7** Weekday

No Mass

**Friday, November 8** Weekday

7:00 am, Rectory † Dr. Jack Rushin (John & Pat Rushin)

**Saturday, Nov 9** The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

VIGIL: 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm, Canton † Lyle Mattocks (Arthur & Mona Hamm)

**Sunday, Nov 10** 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 am, Ralston † Pro Populo

9:30 am, Canton † Deceased members of

Knights of Columbus Council #5517 (Council #5517)

11:15 am, Troy † Pasquale & Marie DePalma

(Jayne Cleveland)

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 sick, suffering, and those near death, to receive adequate care which embraces their physical, psychological, and spiritual needs as they journey toward eternal life.

*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 October 21 - 27, 2024

Weekly Offerings:	2,255.00
Electronic Offerings:	475.00
Bulletin Ads:	450.00
Other Parish Income:	89.00
Total Parish Income:	3,269.00
Average weekly expenses:	4,124.61
Difference:	(855.61)
Care & Education of Priests:	25.00



*Thank you for your continued support.*

## FROM FATHER JOE'S DESK

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



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) 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. We are currently in the 4 - 6 weeks long Inquiry Period. The next meeting will be on Monday, November 4th at 7 pm in the rectory. For more information or to register, call Father Joe at 570-673-5253.

### THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus are committed to helping end hunger through the FOOD FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM. Your donations will go to the food pantries of Canton and Troy. The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council will refund us \$100 for every \$500 or 1,000 lbs. of food donated which we can give to the pantries.

If you choose to give a monetary donation, please write *Knights of Columbus* on the memo line of your check. The pantries will keep track of donations towards the refund. Monetary donations can be dropped in the collection basket or mailed to:

Canton Area Food Pantry      Troy Food Pantry  
PO Box 83                              532 Elmira St.  
Canton, PA, 17724                  Troy, PA, 16947

Financial contributions can allow the pantries to procure the exact items needed. The Knights thank you for your generosity.



A sincere **THANK YOU** to all who worked the Harvest Supper and made it a huge success.  
*Saint Michael's Altar & Rosary Society*

### SAINT MICHAEL PARISH PRAYER LIST

Barby, John & Peggy Adams, Karl Barton, Cassi Blaney, Joseph Blaszc, Gus Branish, Joy Brann, Betty Brown, Dennis & Barbara Clarke, Kiran Dhawan, Dorland & Carlene Eck, Leon English, Ben Flood, Douglas Greene, Melissa Gowan, William Hall, Robert Dale Hostetter, Victoria Johnson, Beatrice Jones, David Kule, Jo Kule, Bob Lutz, Joyce Maloney, Tom McBlane, Bunny Meuse, Bernadette Moore, Orlando Morales, Delina Morgan, Mary Nybeck, Pamela Porter O'Brien, Leo Parchesky, Ramona Parker, Gary Paquette, Lori Pellegrini, Pat Rushin, Cristy Schmelzle, Anthony Shipula, Sharon Snyder, Elias Vroman, Calvin Watson, Steven Wilber, John Wilcox, Anthony Wolf, Donna Wolf, Nicholas Wolf, Fran Zizza

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

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

November 2024

St. Michael Parish

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Josaphat of Volhynia

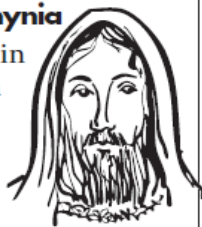
Born in Lithuania in 1580, St. Josaphat, a Ruthenian

Archbishop of Plotsk, made the unpopular decision to unite his diocese with the Catholic Church. In response to the death threats his efforts provoked, he declared, "I am here among you as a shepherd, and you ought to know that I would be happy to give my life for you." Despite relentless persecution by a schismatic faction, he remained steadfast in his mission and was ultimately martyred by an enraged mob.

### Be prepared, not afraid

Jesus warns us to expect trials but assures us not to be afraid. Following Him doesn't mean life will be easy, but it promises unshakable peace and everlasting joy. Trust in Him and prepare your heart to receive Him.

*"Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master"*  
(Matthew 25:21).



## Become friends with God's friends

Befriending a saint whose story resonates with your own can deepen your connection with God. Through their writings, prayers, and practices, saints offer wisdom for living faithfully and acquiring virtue. They aren't distant figures but companions in faith. Find a special, "holy friend" to encourage you to grow in holiness.

**Adopt a saint:** Choose a saint whose life, interests, or profession appeal to you. Learning how someone achieved extraordinary virtue can attune you to how God might be working in your life.

**Read their writings:** The saints' meditations, letters, and books on the spiritual life can enrich our experience

of God's love, while giving practical advice for living our Faith.

**Imitate a saintly practice:** Wake with your alarm to offer your day to God. Offer a small sacrifice daily for priests. Make space in your heart for God by decluttering your home. Refuse to gossip.

**Pray with them:** When asking earthly friends for help or prayers, we aren't "praying" to them. It's the same with our heavenly friends. When you pray, invite some "holy friends" to add their prayers to yours.

**Join them at Mass:** "In communion with and commemorating the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, the Church offers the Eucharistic sacrifice" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1370). At every Mass, we're in the company of the saints.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics believe in Purgatory?

This doctrine has scriptural roots. In Jesus' parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man (Luke 16:19-31), the Rich Man, though suffering after death, expressed concern for his brothers. Other references include 2 Maccabees 12:43-46, Wisdom 3:1-6, Zechariah 13:8-9, and 1

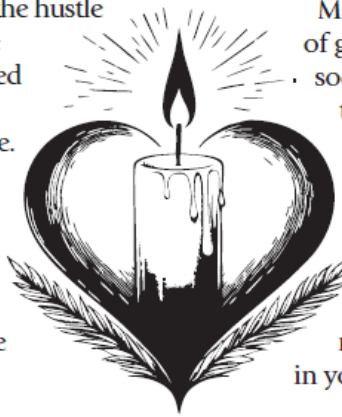
Corinthians 3:13-15. Purgatory reflects God's mercy and generosity, because it reflects His desire for us to be with Him and experience the fullness of Heaven. Our prayers for those in Purgatory help hasten their purification, drawing them closer to eternal joy.



## Stay grounded this Christmas season

Advent and Christmas can be a magical time, but the hustle and bustle of the secular season can leave even the calmest person feeling overwhelmed. Stay grounded by honoring your priorities, making time to recharge, and focusing on Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Honor your priorities: Setting and keeping priorities will help streamline your holiday schedule. An example of "holiday priorities" might including spending time with loved ones, taking time for daily prayer, and refusing to overspend. You'll feel more at peace because you're putting first things first.



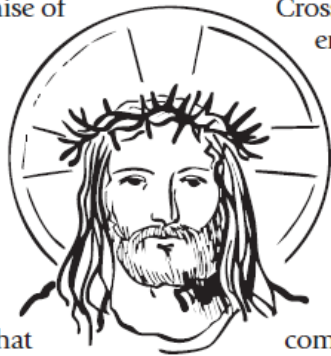
Make time to recharge: Remember the importance of getting enough rest, especially when juggling extra social commitments, projects, decorating, and travelling. Resting takes any form that helps you feel refreshed – napping, praying, walking, reading, listening to music.

Seek the Prince of Peace: For Christians, Advent and Christmas commemorate that Love came to Earth as a child. We know true peace is only found in Jesus. Consider devoting five minutes daily for Him. Pray for His peace to reign in your heart.

### from Scripture

#### John 18:33b-37, Jesus' Kingdom is "not of this world"

Throughout the years of slavery and oppression, God's promise of a triumphant Israelite king kept hope alive. Many clung to the image of an avenging savior who would destroy their enemies and make Israel a nation to be feared. Jesus, bound, beaten and seemingly powerless before Pilate, the powerful Roman governor, was not what they had in mind. They didn't want a king who talked of love, suffering, and service; they wanted one who would wipe their enemies off the face of the earth. They wanted Jesus to come down off the Cross.



Yet it was Jesus' sacrifice of love on the Cross that conquered the real enemies of sin and death.

Jesus is King and He has a Kingdom, but as He teaches Pilate and us, His power is not of this world. His kingdom is about peace, justice, integrity, repentance, charity, forgiveness, compassion, and care for the poor and needy.

Do our lives and actions reflect that awareness? As Christians we are challenged to become more "Christ-like" in our actions, and that means becoming more like Jesus, our King.

### Q & A How can we admonish the sinner without judging?

The phrase "Don't judge me!" is often used to deflect correction and excuse sinful behavior. So how can we kindly speak the truth when it's needed?

Judge acts, not people. God gives us the ability to recognize whether actions—our own or others'—are right or wrong. However, we can't judge a person's heart, soul, or intentions. Only God knows their motives.



Start with humility. Jesus said, "First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly..." (Matthew 7:5). Before offering correction, ensure you are living an authentically holy life yourself.

Pray and fast. Some situations require more than words. Prayer and sacrifices on behalf of others can have a powerful impact, especially when it's not possible to intervene directly.

Love is the goal: Speaking the truth to a loved one is difficult, but it's an act of love. True correction looks out for the person's well-being. When done with care and compassion, the person will sense that the correction comes from love, not judgment.

### Feasts & Celebrations

November 6 - St. Jean-Theophane Venard (1861). Born into a pious family in Poitiers, France, St. Jean-Théophane was ordained in 1852 and sent as a missionary to Vietnam, to minister to persecuted Catholics. Eventually, he was arrested and martyred.

November 9 – Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (1724). The Lateran Basilica was built by Emperor Constantine and is the pope's cathedral. The Church-wide feast of the Lateran's dedication is an expression of the Church's unity with Rome.

November 13 - St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (1917). Mother Cabrini started the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Italy and founded 67 institutions to care for the sick and forgotten in Europe, S. America, and the U.S. She was the first U.S. citizen to be canonized.

November 30 - St. Andrew, Apostle (1st Century). The son of a Galilean fisherman and brother of Simon Peter, he introduced Jesus to Peter. After the Resurrection, he conducted missions in Turkey, Greece, and Macedonia. He was martyred on a X-shaped cross.



#### 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)

### POPE FRANCIS'S NOVEMBER PRAYER INTENTION

FOR ANYONE WHO HAS LOST A CHILD

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.



### NOVEMBER 4 - 10, 2024 READINGS

**Mon:** Phil 2:1-4 Ps 131:1-3 Lk 14:12-14  
**Tues:** Phil 2:5-11 Ps 22:26-32 Lk 14:15-24  
**Wed:** Phil 2:12-18 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Lk 14:25-33  
**Thurs:** Phil 3:3-8a Ps 105:2-7 Lk 15:1-10  
**Fri:** Phil 3:17—4:1 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 16:1-8  
**Sat:** Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9  
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17 Jn 2:13-22  
**Sun:** 1 Kgs 17:10-16 Ps 146:7-10 Heb 9:24-28  
Mk 12:38-44

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS THIS weekend. Clocks "Fall Back" from 2:00 am to 1:00 am on Sunday, November 3rd!



### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THE MEAT BUNDLE RAFFLE!



1st Prize - ticket #117, Chuck Mertes  
2nd Prize - ticket #004, Donna Wolf  
3rd Prize - ticket #351, Sharon Mulno

Thank you to Leona Meat Plant and everyone who bought and sold tickets to make this a successful fundraiser. The total raised, after expense, is \$3,568.00!



Donate now at [AnnualAppeal.org](http://AnnualAppeal.org), call (570) 207-2250 or click this QR code



As of October 19th, we are at 35.37% of our \$19,238 parish goal. \$6,805 has been donated or pledged. Thank you to everyone who has contributed thus far, both financially and with your prayers.

### THIS WEEK ON FORMED

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 2024

### HOW TO WIN AN ARGUMENT WITHOUT LOSING A SOUL BY MATT FRADD

Whether you're arguing with family members or Facebook friends, skeptical co-workers in the office or pushy proselytizers at your front door, it helps to have not only the facts but the skills for presenting your points forcefully and well. In *How to Win an Argument Without Losing a Soul*, Matt Fradd equips you with the powers of argumentation you need to be an effective debater and the right attitude for doing it with charity, humility, and patience.



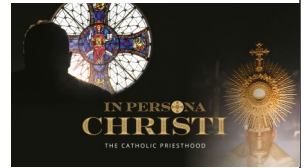
### THE PROBLEM OF EVIL WITH JIMMY AKIN

If God is all-good and all-powerful, then why is there evil? In *The Problem of Evil*, Jimmy Akin tackles this most difficult of apologetics questions. He builds a biblical and philosophical case for understanding how God's perfections are not disproved by the existence of evil, but in fact allow for a world in which pain and sin may be mysteriously ordered by Providence towards a greater good.



### IN PERSONA CHRISTI: THE CATHOLIC PRIESTHOOD

The Catholic priesthood comes to us from Jesus Christ. Building on this pattern of priesthood from Old Testament times, Jesus chose twelve men to act in His place as priests of the new and everlasting covenant. This film explores the essential nature and theology of the sacred priesthood, the importance of a deep prayer life, the centrality of the Mass and Eucharistic Adoration, devotion to the Blessed Virgin, priestly fatherhood and celibacy, and the necessity of a missionary zeal.



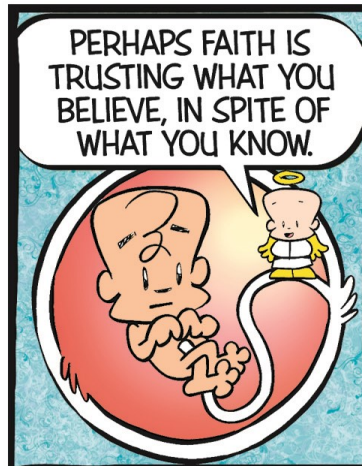
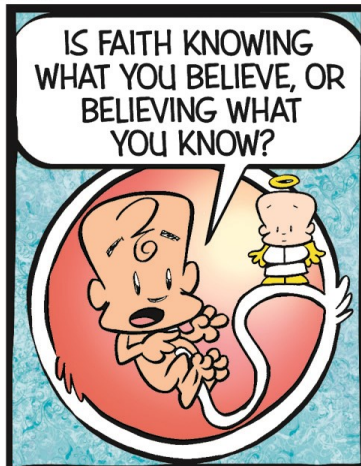
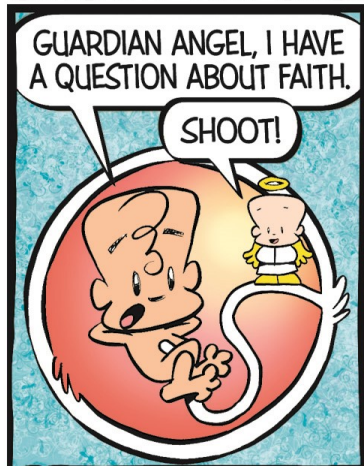
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### Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi





### Knights of Columbus Council #5517

Looking for new members. Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 7:15 in St. Michael's Hall.



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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 at 1:00 pm. We always welcome new members.



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