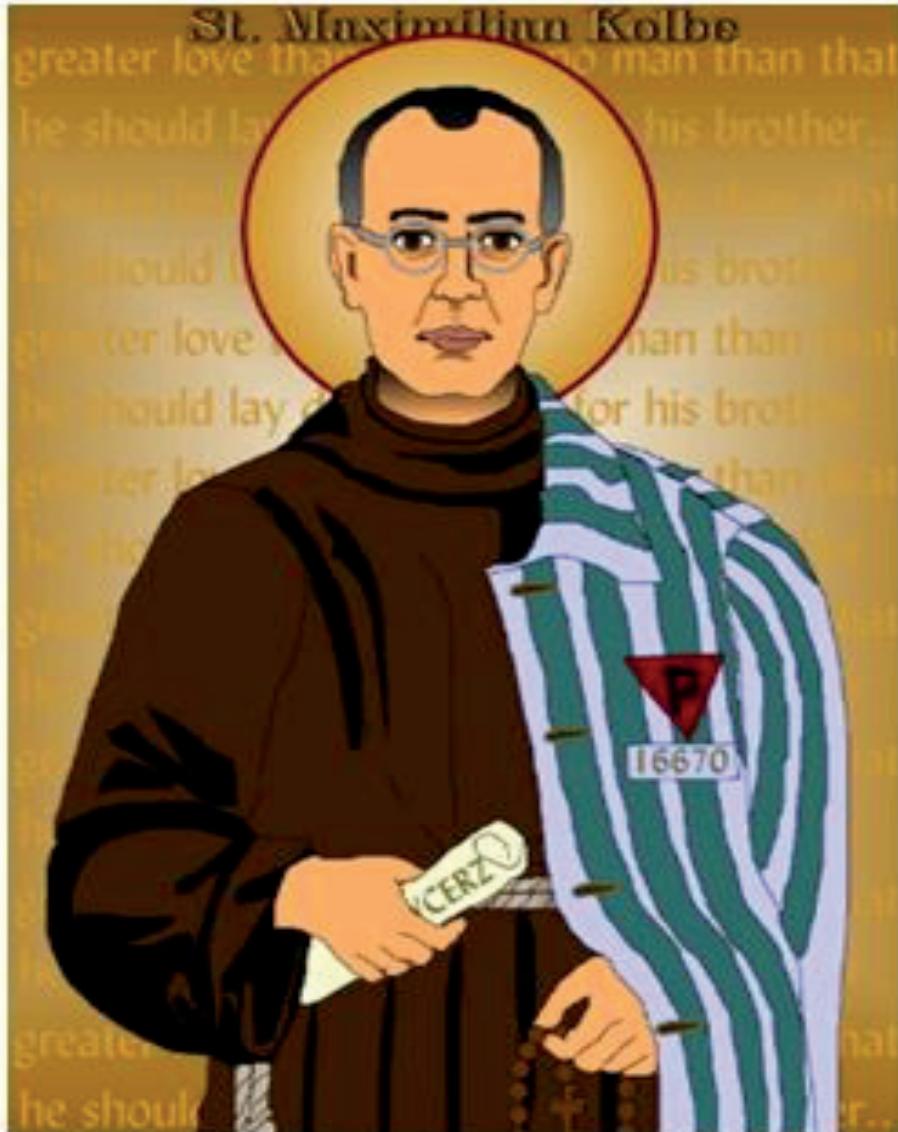


ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

A Parish of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston



Weekend Masses

Saturday 5 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday
8 am
10 am
12 Noon

Daily Mass

8:30 am Monday
6:30 pm Tuesday
8:30 am: Wed.- Friday

Confessions

30 minutes prior to
Tuesday 6:30 pm Mass
After Friday 8:30 am Mass
Saturday: 3 pm – 4:30 pm
Or by appointment.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD JANUARY 1, 2023



Parish Office Hours
Monday – Friday 9 am – 5 pm

10135 West Road
Houston, TX 77064

Parish Office: 281-955-7324
Fax: 281-955-7328
www.stmaximilian.org
Email: stmaximilian@stmaximilian.org



The Very Reverend Lawrence W. Jozwiak, E.V., J.C.L., Pastor
Deacon Dennis Hayes • Deacon Steve Klak
Deacon John Naber • Deacon Matt Rust • Deacon Joe Weir

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We are the Christian Community of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, a Catholic parish of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. Embracing our many and diverse gifts, we are united in Christ Jesus. Challenged by the teachings of Our Lord, and inspired by the example of our Patron, we strive to serve God, and to minister to others, in prayer, sacrament, faith formation, and charity.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Janis Echeverria
Madelyn Henderson (Facilitator)
Esteban Teran (Recorder)
John Garcia
Dennis Taylor
John Syzdek
Veronica McGeachy
Patricia Fahy
Janice Burns

PARISH STAFF

Mary Alice Greaney—Music Director
Molly Smith—Director of Evangelization & Catechesis
Chris Wuenscher—Coordinator of Youth Ministry
Janice Burns—Faith Formation Assistant & Baptismal Coordinator
Eileen Mace—Kolbe Kids EC Program Director
Beth Jones—Parish Business Manager
Phyllis Schoelman—Parish Secretary
Miguel Perdomo—Maintenance; Lupe Mendez—Custodian

FINANCE COUNCIL

Sean Kennedy
David Ricke
Bob Charnock
Mark Kohlschmidt (Facilitator)
Evie Ornelaz
Thomas Nelson
Mauricio Antunez
Paul Hains
Rosa Elena Barragan-Ojeda

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM:

ADULT BAPTISM: Adults who desire to become Catholic will participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).

INFANT BAPTISM (under the age of 7 years old): We celebrate Infant Baptism on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Parents of infants to be baptized are to attend Baptismal classes, preferably before the child is born. Godparents are encouraged to attend but are not required.

SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATION:

Adults and older youth who have not been Confirmed should contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE

Couples who are considering marriage are to contact the parish office, at least six (6) months (preferably earlier) before the couple's projected wedding date.

SACRAMENT of ANOINTING of the SICK:

Any Catholic who is to have surgery due to a serious illness OR whose health is seriously impaired due to a serious illness or old age should be anointed ASAP, preferably before going to the hospital. Contact ASAP a priest to schedule an anointing.

Pope's World Peace Day message: There is light even in our darkest hour

Pope Francis released his message for the World Day of Peace to be celebrated on January 1st, and recalls that all crises are interconnected & that we must not forget any of them, but work for the good of humanity.

Pope Francis described the ongoing war in Ukraine as "a setback for the whole of humanity."

See p. 10 for Pope Francis' prayer for peace.



THANKS TO...our parish families who gave gifts, food, gift cards, paper products and especially your time and prayers for both our Christmas Giving Tree and the Christmas Joy of Sharing programs. A very special **THANK YOU** to Anna Cardona, Kathy Higgins and all their elf helpers for taking care of the tagged gifts from the giving trees in the church. A special **THANK YOU** to Bobby Knight, Ken Hertel and Steve Hargis and their teams for their endless hours of love and energy spent organizing Christmas day meals and more! What a tremendous success this Christmas was in reaching out to others in our communities that are hurting either financially, or in other ways. We fed the hungry, clothed the naked, we gave gifts to the poor, and most special of all we shared the love of Christ by "being Christ" to others.

SIGNIFICANCE of BOWING

A bow signifies reverence & honor shown to the names or event being mentioned. We are to do the following:

1) A **bow of the head** is made when the three Divine Persons (the Trinity) are named together and at the names of Jesus, of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and of the Saint in whose honor Mass is being celebrated.

2) A **bow of the body** (a profound bow) is made during the Creed with the words "**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**"

—General Instruction to the Roman Missal, #275

January 1, 2023

Happy New Year!

We begin the New Year with the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. We close out the Christmas octave, the 8 days following the birth of Christ, with a day honoring Mary as the Mother of God. All Marian feasts reflect a truth more about Jesus than Mary. The title, Mother of God, reflects the truth that the Son of God, one divine Person with 2 natures both divine & human, was born in time by Mary. This title comes from the Greek word “*Theotokos*” which means “bearer of God,” Mary who carried the Christ child in her womb, and how Jesus was born on this earth in time.

As with all great mysteries of faith, it took time for the Church to reflect & to put in human words such great truths. The Council of Ephesus in 431 A.D. carefully stated that Mary is the Mother of God “according to the flesh” born into time on this earth so as to emphasize that she did not give birth to God in the beginning as if she is the source of His divinity. But since Jesus’ divine & human natures are inseparable, Mary is called the mother of God as well as the mother of the man Jesus. This dogma is accepted by most Christian denominations.

Pope Paul VI established January 1, 1968 as the first World Day of Peace. Paul VI stated “The world must be educated to love peace, to build it up and defend it.” How true that is, as we pray for peace in the Ukraine, the Holy Land & other areas endangered by war and/or violence. See p. 10 for a prayer for peace.

Next weekend, Cardinal DiNardo has mandated the option to receive from the common chalice. The Cardinal wrote “I understand there may be some members of the faithful who are not comfortable receiving under this form due to ongoing health concerns related to the pandemic. However, as has always been the case, reception of Holy Communion from the chalice is left to the discretion of the communicant, and therefore does not constitute a reason to delay distributing Holy Communion from the chalice to the faithful.” For those who choose to receive from the chalice or choose not to do so, that is your decision.

Prior to the pandemic as well as today, individuals with colds are encouraged to refrain from reception of the chalice. The chalice distributor has been instructed to wipe both the inside & outside of the lip of the chalice with the purifier (white cloth) & to turn the chalice slightly for the next person to receive. This cleaning process, as well as the alco-



St. Maximilian Kolbe, pray for us!

Fr. Lawrence W. Jozwiak
Pastor

“There is no greater love, than to lay down one’s life for one’s friend.” John 15: 13

hol content of the wine transubstantiated into the Precious Blood helps to eliminate or curb the passing of germs.

Remember our Catholic doctrine of concomitance: “When we receive Holy Communion under the form of the consecrated Host, we receive the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ. And that when we receive Holy Communion under the form of the Precious Blood in the chalice, we receive the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ. Thus, if one receives Holy Communion under one species alone, nothing is lacking in that reception (and, for the most part in our Catholic history in the West, we offered the Eucharist only under the form of the Host.)”

The U.S. Bishops’ Conference’s document, “Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the U.S.,” reminds us: “It should never be construed, therefore, that Communion under the form of the consecrated Host alone or Communion under the Chalice alone is somehow an incomplete act or that Christ is not fully present to the communicant. The Church’s unchanging teaching from the time of the Fathers through the ages—notably in the ecumenical councils of Lateran IV, Constance, Florence, Trent, and Vatican II—has witnessed to a constant unity of faith in the presence of Christ in both elements. Even in the earliest days of the Church’s life, when Communion under both species was the norm, there were always instances when the Eucharist was received under only the form of consecrated Host or Chalice. ... Thus, the Church has always taught the doctrine of concomitance, by which we know that under each species alone, the whole Christ is sacramentally present and we receive all the fruit of Eucharistic grace.” During the pandemic, the Episcopal Church used this same Doctrine of Concomitance to restrict their holy communion under only the form of the host alone.

Recognizing that Christ can never be separated and one receives the full graces of Eucharist under only one species (Consecrated Host or Precious Blood), the Church also teaches “Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it takes place under both kinds (General Instruction to the Roman Ritual #281). That is the reason why the chalice will now be given as an option to receive by the Communicant alone. Please be patient with us since we have no idea how many people will choose this option of the chalice. We are starting out very conservatively & offering only a minimum number of chalices per Mass initially. If this option is well received, we will add chalices over time. So initially if we run out of the Precious Blood in the chalice, remember you have received the full Christ under the consecrated Host alone.

“The Cross is the school of love.”
“The most deadly poison of our time is indifference.”
—St. Maximilian Kolbe

Liturgy Corner for Weekend Masses

Scripture readings: Hymnal: #1010



Order of Mass: Hymnal #166 - #187

Gathering Hymn: #430—Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly

Gloria; Alleluia

Profession of Faith (Creed): #174

Preparation Hymn: #466—What Child is This

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mystery of Faith

Amen

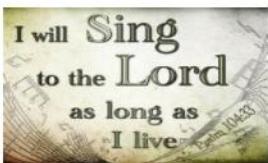
Lamb of God

Communion Hymns:

#446—O Little Town of Bethlehem

Sending Forth Hymn:

#879—Hail, Holy Queen Enthroned Above



**Mary,
Holy
Mother
of
God,
pray
for us!**

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace! (Numbers 6:22-27).

Psalm — May God be merciful and bless us (Psalm 67).

Second Reading — God sent the Spirit of the Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but an heir, through God (Galatians 4:4-7).

Gospel — The shepherds glorified and praised God for all they had heard and seen (Luke 2:16-21).

p. 4

Mass Intentions



Saturday, December 31

St. Sylvester
New Year's Eve

5 pm Thomas Sakallah

Sunday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary,
The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day

8 am Parishioners of St. Maximilian

10 am Juan Rafael Silvera

Noon Christopher † & Victoria Okpiabhele †

Monday, January 2

Ss. Basil the Great
& Gregory Nazianzen

8:30 am Gloria Gonzalez †

Tuesday, January 3

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

6:30 pm Anna Esguerra † & Baby Nicolei Esguerra †

Wednesday, January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30 am Chris Martin

Thursday, January 5

St. John Neumann

8:30 am Gloria Soledad Assad Assad †

Friday, January 6

St. Andre Bessette

8:30 am Phil Steffano †

Saturday, January 7

St. Raymond of Peñafort

5 pm Joe & Jeanette Coury

Sunday, January 8

The Epiphany of the Lord

8 am Crystal & Nuvia Josh

10 am Parishioners of St. Maximilian

Noon Nicholas Rousse †

READINGS for the WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6;
Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9;
Jn 1:35-42

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5;
Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;
Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b;
Jn 2:1-11

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;

Ignorance of Scripture is Ignorance of Christ!

For the scriptures used at Mass every day & to hear a Reflection, go to: <https://www.usccb.org>

On the very top Menu bar, tab in on "Daily Reading." Then click on the date of the readings you would like to read. Or go to our parish website. You may also request to have the daily readings sent to your email.

Parish Offices are closed for the Holidays

The parish offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 2nd.
Happy New Year!

We wish all our parishioners & their families a blessed New Year.

The Rosary Making Ministry meets at 7 pm Thursday, January 5th in the Parish Office Conference Room.

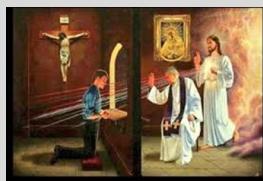
This ministry meets the 1st Thursday of every month for fellowship, learn how to make a corded rosary, pick up supplies & drop off completed rosaries. Come join us! The rosaries are given out to WATCH & ACTS retreatants, Confirmation & First Communion students - just a few of the different ministries we support. Rosaries are available in the parish office & in the chapel if you need one. For more info, contact Barbara Sextro @ 713.818.6729 or Teri Corbitt at 832.544.1798.



Confessions

Tuesdays: 30 minutes before 6:30 pm Mass
Fridays, after 8:30 am Mass
Saturdays, 3-4:30 pm

By appointment:
281-955-7324.



Invite others to come & worship with us for The New Year!

Holiday Schedule

New Year's Eve, Saturday, Dec. 31st

- 5 pm Vigil Mass

New Year's Day, Sunday, Jan. 1st

- 8 am, 10 am & 12 Noon.



Diving into the beauty of the Catholic Faith has never been easier, using any internet connected device. Discover teachings on doctrine, sacraments & bible, saints, books, movies, etc., there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ & His Church.

Registering on FORMED is easier than ever!

—Go to <https://formed.org/signup>

—Enter our parish zip code 77064 & select our parish

—Enter your name & email

You can also sign up for daily reflections to be sent to your email at <https://daily.formed.org/>

Weekend Homilies are recorded & posted on our parish webpage:
<https://stmaximilian.org/homily>



New Placement!

p. 5

The St. Maximilian Kolbe tapestry has been moved to a more prominent place in the narthex (entrance of the church) with a new piece of furniture. (The tapestry hung previously over the inside door near the baptismal font.) Hopefully in January, a wall sconce will be placed on either side of the tapestry. The new placement will provide a shrine area with flowers being placed there at times.



The Most Holy Name of Jesus

January 3

**Names are powerful,
and no name is more powerful than Jesus**

Mary and Joseph did not sit across from each other at the kitchen table in the evenings debating a name for their child. They didn't flip through the pages of a book of saints or bounce ideas off of their friends and family. The baby's name was chosen for them by God Himself. They were just taking orders. The Archangel Gabriel announced to Mary, "And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus" ([Lk 1:31](#)). And Joseph had a dream in which the angel told him, "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" ([Mt 1:21](#)). The Gospel of Luke further relates that "After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb" ([Lk 2:21](#)). Jesus was named eight days after Christmas, January 3. The New Testament is filled with incidents where the name of Jesus is invoked to drive out devils, cure illnesses, and perform miracles. The Holy Name is explicitly exalted by Saint Paul: "at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth, and under the earth..." ([Philippians 2:10](#)). Jesus reinforces the power of His own name in St. John's Gospel: "If you ask the Father anything in my name he will give it you" ([Jn 16:23](#)). Source: mycatholic.life



CHRISTMAS JOY OF SHARING 2022!

Thank you to all participated in the Christmas Joy of Sharing 2022.

"The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.' Matthew 25:40



Now accepting applications for 2023-24: Join us for our next tour on January 16th at 10am- RSVP to Valerie Ragusa at vragusa@rcahybrid.org

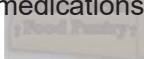
Regina Caeli is a private, independent, *University-Style Hybrid®* operating in the Catholic tradition. Preschool - 12th grade students attend classical academic and extra-curricular classes two days a week and homeschool the remaining days following the plans provided by RCA. **We are also hiring part time Classical teachers!**

To learn more or to apply visit our website www.rcahybrid.org or contact Valerie Ragusa at vragusa@rcahybrid.org.

Food Pantry is open: Wednesdays at 3:30 pm

FoodPantry@stmaximilian.org

The pantry could use the following items: canned chicken, canned tuna, canned pasta (Chef Boyardee), pasta sauce, body soap, shampoo, & deodorant. No outdated food products please. The Food Pantry is not able to accept any medications, either over the counter or prescription.



ACTS Women's Retreat Team '23 is Forming

The 2023 ACTS Women's Retreat: April 27-30!

Women who have attended an ACTS retreat are invited to join the Retreat Team to help keep the ACTS sisterhood alive in the Spirit for our 2023 retreatants.

The first team meeting for discernment will be on Tuesday, January 10th @ 7pm, location to be determined. For details or to sign up, contact Team Director Nena Sexton @ 713-594-0198.



New Year 2022-2023 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Adoration Schedule

Friday (December 30)

Repose at 8 am

No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
for the rest of Friday

Saturday (December 31)

No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday January 1

No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday January 2

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
resumes after 8:30 am Mass

Weekly Devotional Prayer: all prayed in the Chapel

Power Hour of Prayer @ 7 pm on Mondays.

Holy Rosary @ 6:30 pm on Wednesdays.

Evening Prayer @ 7 pm on Wednesdays.

Divine Mercy & Rosary @ 3 pm on Thursdays.

Rosary @ 9:15 am on Sundays.

Happy New Year
2023

We wish you
a very, blessed
Happy
New Year!



SAVE THE DATE
02.10.23

Seeking Goodness



VISIT OUR AUCTION &
GALA WEBSITE

A SACRED ART SHOW AND GALA
In Support of Catholic Classical Education



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Never be afraid of loving Mary too much.
You can never love her more than Jesus did."
— St. Maximilian Kolbe

Help to offset the cost of the:

- ◆ \$204,000+ cost for the new additional church pews.
- ◆ New church organ, remaining balance of \$58,848—see below for more info.
- Depending on your wishes & budget, please donate accordingly.
- Whatever amount, whether smaller or larger, will be appreciated.
- Use the QR Code via Faith Direct below. OR make your check out to the parish & label it for which project you desire or whatever is needed.

This QR code will link you to our Faith Direct account where you can make ongoing contributions or a one-time contribution. It is quick, easy & efficient. Whether it is a parish contribution for a the New Year gift, or any other parish contribution, please consider using this QR code.

**Collection for the week of Dec. 12-18**

Collections	\$23,856
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 1,518
Total	\$25,374

Faith Direct: received twice a month

Archdiocesan 2nd Collection: \$ 595

Due to an early bulletin deadline, the financial data for the Christmas Masses was not available. It will be provided in the next bulletin.

**Maintenance & Repair Fund**

Please be as generous as possible to the Maintenance & Repair Fund. The lighting project in the church & chapel, as well as in the near future for the outside lights, is an expensive project. Plus hopefully in January or February, finally we will have the chapel & its entrance re-painted with the walls first repaired where needed.

New electronic church organ Fund

As announced previously with the reasons why, a new electronic church Viscount organ has been installed.

The cost of the organ is \$153,499. So far, \$94,651 has been donated to offset this cost. Thank you. Remaining undonated amount is \$58,848. Please consider making your possible parish Christmas gift by making a donation, whether smaller or larger, to the organ fund. Thank you.

**People go through 3 conversions:
their head, their heart & their pocketbook.
Unfortunately, not all at the same time.**

—Martin Luther (1483-1546),
Initiator of the Protestant Reformation

Pieced by Sorrow, Released into Joy The Office of Pro-Life Activities will offer again the Pierced by Sorrow, Released into Joy retreat for parents following miscarriage, stillbirth, or early infant loss on Saturday, February 5th. This single-day retreat is part of the Jerome's Hope ministry. Cost is \$35 per person or \$60 for couples. Register online at <https://archgh.cventevents.com/> or 713-741-8728

Christmas & New Year's Day fall on a Sunday this year!

When Christmas & New Year's Day fall on a weekday, the parish benefits by those 2 *additional* collections, as well as the respective 2 Sunday collections for a total of 4 collections. But when Christmas & New Year's Day fall on a Sunday like this year, then the parish receives only 2 collections, not 4. As a result, will you consider “doubling up” if you are able on Christmas Day & New Year's Day to make up for the loss of 2 collections?

Thank the Lord for the **Sacrament of Baptism!** We believe that every child is a precious gift of God. It is in Mark 10:13-16, where Jesus says, “Let the children come to me.” As parents & godparents, the greatest way to bring a child to Jesus is to bring the child to baptism. Then you help the Lord build on that baptism by teaching the Faith at home & witnessing to it by your life. Congratulations & welcome to:

**Catherine Celeste Antunez
Meredith Clementine Franke
David King Higgins
Santiago Oregon**

On January 15, 2023, there will be a 3 pm Mass of Remembrance in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. The celebrant will be Danial Cardinal DiNardo, and it will be held at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, 1111 St. Joseph Pkwy., 77002.

Mandatory Amt: \$144,900

- **Donors: 401 out of 2,080**
- **Amount Paid: \$172,726**



- **Amount Pledged: \$7,958**
- **Paid + pledged: Over: \$43,342**
- **Paid over mandatory amount: \$27,826 over!**

Men's ACTS Retreat: January 26–29, 2023

St. Maximilian Kolbe Church



Adoration: To increase your relationship with God through prayer life.

Community: To create a spiritual environment in your parish, family, and friendships & live strong moral values.

Theology: To learn more about scripture and our Catholic faith.

Service: To join in fellowship in church ministries & share your talents to help meet pastoral needs.

Men, be part of a brotherhood of faith and friendship during the 2023 Men's ACTS Retreat! The retreat is a great way to start the New Year with a commitment to better connect to Jesus and follow His teachings. This three-day/night Catholic lay retreat (presented by parishioners) begins on a Thursday evening and ends Sunday at noon Mass. **Watch for sign-up tables after Masses in January or download a registration form from the St. Max website.** Contact Team Director Mark Kohlschmidt at 281.236.7203 for more info.

Women's ACTS Retreat: April 27–30, 2023

The next **Café Catholica Lite** will be held on January 19th at Christ the Redeemer (11507 Huffmeister Rd, 77065) from 7-8:45 pm. The speaker is Fr. Rodrigo Ulloa, Vocations Director for the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, and his talk will be, "Scripture in Art: Mary's Fiat." The night will include lite snacks, the talk, Q&A, and communal prayer. The talk will be available to view online as well (link available online at www.archgh.org/cafecatholica). The Café Catholica program seeks to help young adults (ages 18-39) encounter Christ and his Church. All young adults are invited to join us for Café Catholica Lite throughout the year. For more information contact the Office for Young Adult and Campus Ministry at yacm@archgh.org or 713-741-8778.



SAVE THE DATE:
Ladies Bunco Night
Sat., Jan. 21, 2023

More details to come

Vocations: Ignatian Silent Retreats for Young Men and Women

Whether you want to close your year with prayerful reflection or kick off 2023 with the capacity to listen deeper to the Lord, the Office of Vocations has retreat opportunities for both men and women. Vocations is offering two separate silent retreats geared for young adults who truly desire to hear the Lord. Each retreat has different dates and locations, but both will offer space for conversation with the Lord, time with a spiritual director, daily Mass, and brief talks each night to guide your prayer. Cost is \$150 and space is limited. For specific information for either retreat, please visit:

<https://houstonvocations.com/events/>

**ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE,
PRAY FOR US**



PRAYER for VOCATIONS

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious & consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, God, for ever & ever. Amen.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Elizabeth Ann Bayley was born in New York City to a prominent Episcopal family, & lost her mother at the age of 3. In 1794, at the age of 19, Elizabeth married William Magee Seton, a wealthy businessman with whom she had 5 children. William died of tuberculosis, leaving Elizabeth a young widow. After discovering Catholicism in Italy, where her husband had died, Elizabeth returned to the United States & entered the Catholic Church in 1805 in New York. After a number of difficult years, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy & Free School, planting the seeds of Catholic education in the United States. Her legacy now includes religious congregations in the United States & Canada, whose members work on the unmet needs of people living in poverty in North America & beyond. Mother Seton, as she is often called, was canonized in 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI. She was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "Saint.". Her feast day is January 4th.





Happy Holidays

No Faith Formation
Classes until Sun, Jan 8
or Thurs, Jan 19.

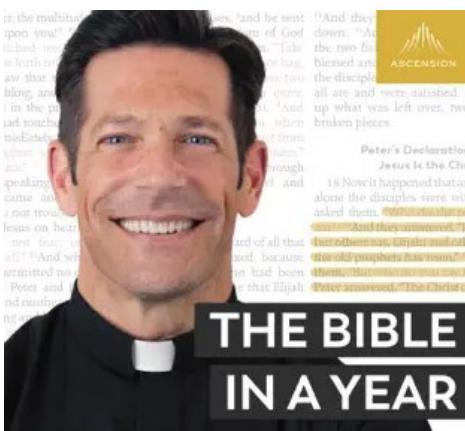


Have you heard of "The Chosen" series? It's a powerful series depicting the life of Christ AND it's now on FORMED.ORG. (Season One plus Bonus Content)

Another Formed Resources:
Families can get some idea for Catholic practices
around the Christmas season by checking out
Catholic All Year At Home video on Formed:
<https://watch.formed.org/videos/catholic-all-year-christmas-eve>

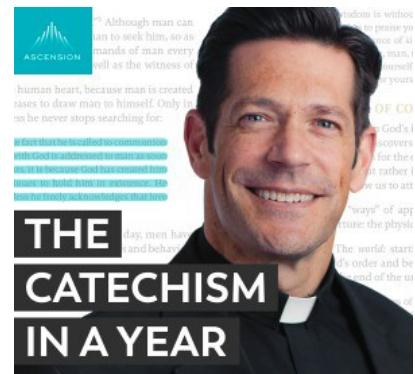


Looking for a way to engage in 2023?? Try a podcast (available on multiple platforms like Google Podcasts, iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher, etc) Fr Mike Schmitz has a podcast where he reads a selection of Scripture and gives a short reflection every day. You can listen to the entire *Bible*

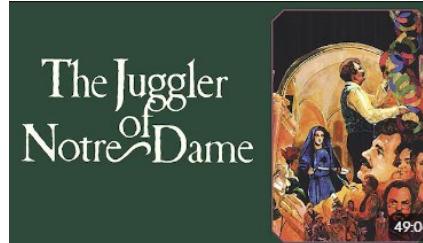


WITH FR. MIKE SCHMITZ, FEATURING JEFF CAVINS

in a Year podcast just by investing about 25 minutes a day. If you have tried in the past, try again. God has more spiritual fruits for those who desire to listen to His Word.



WITH FR. MIKE SCHMITZ



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... is the first and oldest diocese in Texas, established by Pope Pius IX in 1847, when Galveston was named the mother diocese of the Lone Star State.

... is home to the only cardinal in the Southern United States. Daniel Cardinal DiNardo was elevated to the College of Cardinals in 2007.

... includes 147 parishes in 10 counties: Harris, Galveston, Fort Bend, Brazoria, Montgomery, Austin, Grimes, San Jacinto, Walker and Waller.

JANUARY: For Educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer! We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried . . . Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!" . . . Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace. Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. . . . Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen.

STEWARSHIP REFLECTIONS

That just as Mary reflects the light of Christ, we, too, are called to reflect Christ's light to the world.

"And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." Luke 2:19

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. She heard God's message, and immediately said "yes." Mary teaches us to live with joy and gratitude for the many blessings God has given us. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world. We do this through lives of gratitude and generosity.

**EXPOSITION of the
BLESSED SACRAMENT:**

To the side are days/times where help is needed.

To sign up,
contact Susie Charnock @
281-813-1492.

**"So you could not keep watch
with me for one hour?..."**
Mt 26:40

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Laura Aguianga, Eleanor Antunez, Rosa Avalos, Chau Tung Bach, Lupe Batey, Melissa Batey, Isabel Bernal, Gloria Cantu, Anna Cardona, Bill Carew, Carolyn Cartafalsa, Marisela Castaneda, Emilio Chavez-Cody, Kayson Clay, Robert Coldwell, Michael Contreras, Jesse Corona, Aurora Corral, Brayden Vossler Corson, Jim Dodge, Bobby Embesi, Harold H. Emmers, Jr., Greg Evans, Lisa Everett, Missy Fouts, Joseph Gallagher, James Geary, Mary L. Broussard-Gee, Kenny Gordon, Ellis Goss, Mack Harper, Mitzi Harper, Georgia Hohensee, Danette Isaacs, Lupe Kaminski, Madison Koopmann, Noemi Lopez, Charlie Lozano, Jr., Barrett Mandel, Marc Maraccini, Rachele Marchisio, Frank Martone, Russell Neal, Diem Le Nguyen, Richard Ornelaz, Carmen Ortiz, Reyna Parkhurst, Walker Pennington, Wyatt Pennington, Stan Petty, Anthony Phillips, Irma Phillips, Jose Rodriguez, Kent Rogers, Richard Ramirez, Kyle Rosenfeld, Anita Roth, Nelda Ramos Ruiz, Alveraize Saizan, Maria Senjudo, Patricia Simon, Sam Sinclair, Anthony Sliva, Louise Slott, Bradley Smart, Lance Smith, Doris Soukup, Michael Spears, Albert Stocker, Michael Svemith, Christine Swiech, Ken Switzler, Consuelo Estrada Torres, Merlita Velasquez, Linda Webb, Carolyn & Gary Webber, Chuck Woodruff, Frances Wooley, Dee Worrell, & Calvin Sing Yeung

Pray for Our Nation

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Wednesday	2 am—3 am
Thursday	1 am—2 am
Thursday	2 am—3 am
Thursday	1 pm—2 pm
Thursday	7 pm—8 pm
Friday	9 pm—10 pm
Saturday	1 am—2 am

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