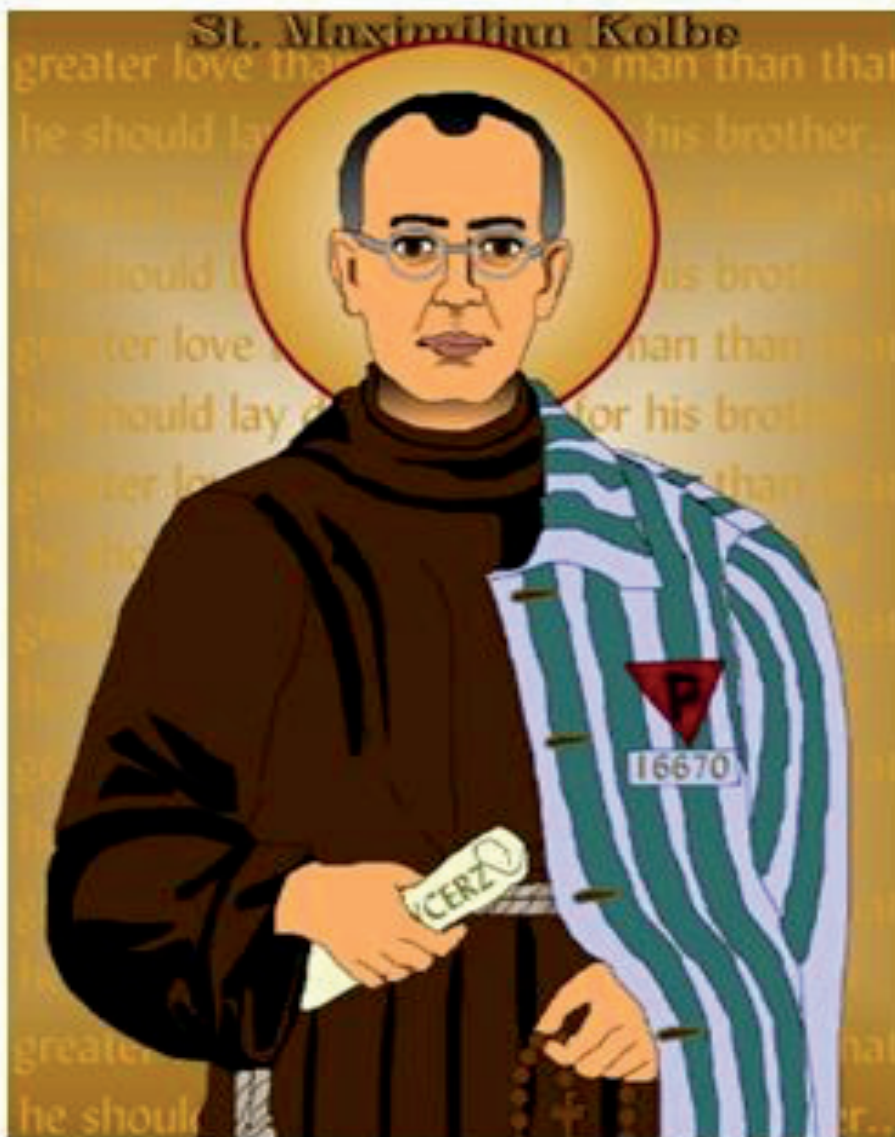


# ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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

(except this coming  
Tuesday, Oct 17: 7 pm)

8:30 am: Wed.- Friday

## Confessions

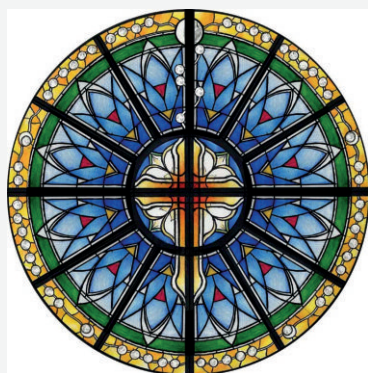
30 minutes prior to  
Tuesday 6:30 pm Mass

After Friday 8:30 am Mass

Saturday: 3 pm—4:30 pm

Or by appointment: 281-955-7324.

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: OCTOBER 15, 2023



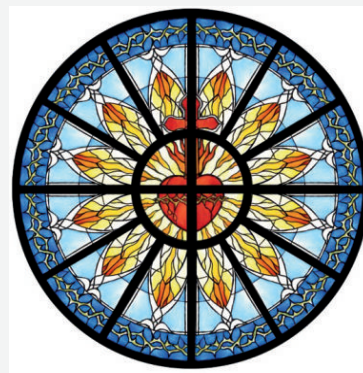
Parish Office Hours  
Monday – Friday 9 am – 5 pm

10135 West Road  
Houston, TX 77064

Parish Office: 281-955-7324

Fax: 281-955-7328

Email: [www.stmaximilian.org](http://www.stmaximilian.org)  
[stmaximilian@stmaximilian.org](mailto: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 David Persich • 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 (Facilitator)  
 Patricia Fahy (Recorder)  
 John Garcia  
 Dennis Taylor  
 Esteban Teran  
 John Syzdek  
 Jeanette Coury  
 Leslie Escobar  
 Jan Hains  
 Edward Lock  
 Thomas Spjut

### 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  
 Madelyn Henderson

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**Pray for the repose of the souls of our faithful departed:**

**Katherine Anderson †**, niece of Mary Ann Harvey  
**John Christian Alega †**, son of Dave & Marisol Alega

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.  
 —And let perpetual light shine upon them.  
 May they rest in peace. —Amen.

May their souls & the souls of all the faithful departed,  
 through the mercy of God, rest in peace. —Amen.

For consolation and God's healing graces upon the family & friends of the deceased. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness & doubt that comes from grief. —Amen.



**Pray for our parish!**



**CONFIRMATION MASS**  
for high school candidates

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 at 7 pm**

Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Celebrant

Confessions will begin at 6 pm. \*Note this  
Mass will begin at 7pm instead of 6:30 pm.

The Knights of Columbus will be selling tamales after the Masses next weekend, October 21 & 22.



### 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

**October 15, 2023**

Dear Friends in Christ,

We were so fortunate with the wonderful weather we had for our Fall Festival last Saturday. With the extreme heat all summer, then the much needed rain of last week, we had a beautiful cool day with no rain for the festival. It seemed like we had more people attending as compared to last year's festival. People were in such a joyful, upbeat & light hearted mood due to the weather & really enjoyed the festival. Thank you to all who worked so hard to plan, coordinate & execute the festival. Thank you to all who volunteered to work in any capacity. I am amazed how clean the parish campus is the Sunday morning after the festival. Thank you to all who cleaned up the campus so quickly. It is too early to give you any financial results on the festival. But as soon as we can, we will provide such figures.

This coming Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, Cardinal DiNardo will celebrate the 7 pm Mass and administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to some 30+ high school candidates. Note: the Tuesday Mass is normally at 6:30 pm. But for this one Tuesday only, the Mass will be at 7 pm. I am inviting the entire parish to come to this Mass since the Cardinal will be the celebrant, even though most of you have no connection to those who are being confirmed, other than they are our parishioners.

Mark your calendar to attend our parish International Festival after the Saturday 5 pm Vigil Mass on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> in Kolbe Hall. This is the first time this International Festival is occurring since it was suspended when Covid occurred. It is a wonderful opportunity for our parish to come together to celebrate our cultural diversity with a food tasting from various cultures & live music. See p. 5 on how you can become involved in this event.

Our next blood drive is Sunday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. See p. 5 on how you can make an appointment to give blood. Though walk ins will be welcomed, you are encouraged to make an appointment ASAP. Please give the gift of life by donating blood. Remember: blood cannot be manufactured. The blood banks are always in need of more blood. How would you feel if you are seriously ill and had to wait until more people donated blood?



St. Maximilian Kolbe, pray for us!

*Lawrence W. Jozwiak*

Fr. Lawrence W. Jozwiak  
Pastor

Recently, our Auxiliary Bishop, Italo Dell'Oro, issued a letter, reminding that the November elections are coming. Naturally, the Church cannot endorse any particular candidate. But Bishop Italo stated the Church can advance the Church's position on nonpartisan issues that may be decided by voters. That includes taking a position on the Harris Health Bond Proposal that will appear on the November ballot. If this bond proposal is approved by the voters, \$2.9 billion would be added to improve health care & mental health services for the 1.2 million residents of Harris County who do not have health insurance.

Bishop Italo reminded us that 30 years ago, the U.S. Catholic Bishops issued a statement entitled "A Framework for Comprehensive Healthcare Reform," affirming that "every person has a right to adequate healthcare." They added that "this flows from the sanctity of life and the dignity that belongs to all human persons, who are made in the image of God."

This bond proposal will assist the Harris County Hospital District, doing business as the Harris Health System, as the public healthcare provider serving the residents of Harris County through an integrated network of 2 hospitals (Ben Taub & Lyndon B. Johnson) & nearly 40 clinics, health centers & specialty facilities. Its mission is to improve the health & well-being of all residents, through comprehensive medical services & programs delivered in collaboration with academic & medical school partners: Baylor College of Medicine, UTHealth Houston & MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Pending approval of the bond, construction of a new LBJ Hospital & planning of and design for the new community clinics & upgrades to Ben Taub Hospital can begin in 2024. More info will be included in a coming bulletin to explain how this \$2.9 billion will be spent to meet the growing need for more health care in Harris County.

What will this cost the property owner to fund such a bond proposal? If approved, financial support of the bond translates to about a two cent tax increase for property owners—meaning an owner of a \$300,000 property would pay about \$6 a month for the bond. Although most people do not want more taxes, we have to ask ourselves how important is health care to people who are in need. And what can we do to help others in need?

**"The Cross is the school of love."**

**"The most deadly poison of our time is indifference."**

—St. Maximilian Kolbe

**"There is no greater love, than to lay down one's life for one's friend." John 15: 13**



## Liturgy Corner for Weekend Masses

Scripture readings: Hymnal: #1173  
Order of Mass: Hymnal #166—#187



Gathering Hymn: #961—Remember Your Love

Gloria (inside cover of hymnal)

Gospel Alleluia

Profession of Faith/Creed: #174 or inside cover of hymnal

Preparation Hymn: #938—We Come to Your Feast

Holy, Holy, Holy

Mystery of Faith

Amen

Lamb of God

Communion Hymn:

#943—Bread of Life from Heaven

Table of the World (no hymn #)

Sending Forth Hymn: #775—Go Make a Difference



### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** "On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food & choice wines, juicy, rich food & pure, choice wines." (Is 25:6-10)

**Psalms:** "I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life." (Ps 23)

**Second Reading:** "In every circumstance & in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed & of going hungry, of living in abundance & of being in need." (Phil 4:12-20)

**Gospel:** "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come." (Mt 22:1-14)

### READINGS for the WEEK

**Monday:** Rom 1:1-7; Ps 98:1bcde, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Lk 11:29-32

**Tuesday:** Rom 1:16-25; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Lk 11:37-41

**Wednesday:** 2Tm 4:10-17; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9

**Thursday:** Rom 3:21-30; Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab; Lk 11:47-54

**Friday:** Rom 4:1-8; Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11; Lk 12:1-7

**Saturday:** Rom 4:13, 16-18; Ps 105:6-7, 8-9, 42-43; Lk 12:8-12

**Sunday:** Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21

**"Our Lady has never refused me a grace through the recitation of the Rosary."**

*St. Padre Pio*

**Weekend Homilies** are recorded & posted on our parish webpage:

<https://stmaximilian.org/homily>



p. 4

## Mass Intentions



### Saturday, October 14

St. Callistus I

5 pm Jim Cruise †

### Sunday, Oct. 15 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8 am Justina Hendrix †

10 am Lindsay Bowker †

12 Noon Parishioners of St. Maximilian

### Monday, October 16

St. Hedwig,  
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

8:30 am Maria Quiroz †

### Tuesday, October 17

St. Ignatius of Antioch

7 pm Donald Heltz †

**This Tuesday only, Mass is at 7 pm, not 6:30 pm.**

### Wednesday, October 18

St. Luke

8:30 am Jerelyn Walker †

### Thursday, October 19

St. John de Brebeuf  
& Isaac Jogues

8:30 am Ralph I. Parman †

### Friday, October 20

St. Paul of the Cross

8:30 am Julius Stephen Gruettner, Jr. †

### Saturday, October 21

5 pm Carol Ann (Sissy) Geary †

### Sunday, October 22

29th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

8 am Justina Hendrix †

10 am Parishioners of St. Maximilian

12 Noon James W. Cozart, Jr. † and

David & Camila Thiam †

## 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> Then click on the date of the readings you would like to read (in English or Spanish). Click on "Listen Podcasts" to hear the Word recited. Click on "View Videos" to hear a reflection. Click on "Get Daily Readings e-mails" to have the daily readings sent to your email. Or go to our parish website (<https://stmaximilian.org/>) to secure the readings.

### Food Pantry is open: Wednesdays at 3:30 pm

[FoodPantry@stmaximilian.org](mailto:FoodPantry@stmaximilian.org)

The pantry could use the following items: 7.5-15.8 oz canned pasta-Chef Boyardee, SpaghettiOs, 10-19 oz canned soup meals-chicken noodle, vegetable beef, etc., no "cream of" soups, ramen noodle soup, 14-15.25 oz canned fruit, 4 oz fruit cups, 5-12 oz canned tuna, 4-12.5 oz canned chicken, 4.6 oz Vienna sausage, 24 oz Hunts pasta sauce, 12-24 oz spaghetti, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, body soap, & toilet paper. No outdated food products please. The Food Pantry is not able to accept any medications or alcoholic beverages. Updated 10/5/23



**Kolbe Seniors**, watch for your Flocknote sign-up for the meeting on Friday, Oct. 20. RSVP by Tuesday the 17th to receive a lunch. We will be playing Left, Right, Center so bring plenty of quarters or \$1 bills depending on how big a spender you want to be. Joy Boxes need to be returned at the meeting if you took one last month. Sign up for Miniature Golf on Nov. 4 & Magical Winter Lights on Dec. 3. Call/text/email Becky Keels at 713-724-1075 or [stmax.kolbe.seniors@gmail.com](mailto:stmax.kolbe.seniors@gmail.com)

## INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

**Please join us in celebrating  
the cultural diversity of  
St. Maximilian Kolbe with a food  
tasting from various cultures  
and live music.**

**Saturday, Nov. 4: 6 pm -9 pm.**

If you or a group of you are interested in representing a particular country or ethnicity, reach out to:  
Madelyn Henderson ([madelyn.henderson@gmail.com](mailto:madelyn.henderson@gmail.com)),  
Angie Willis ([angiemwillis@gmail.com](mailto:angiemwillis@gmail.com)), or  
Nancy Reece ([ngr\\_77095@yahoo.com](mailto:ngr_77095@yahoo.com)).

## WE WELCOME YOU!



## Walk-for-Life Fundraiser—Donations Still Being Accepted Online through Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>

To donate, visit [www.stmaximilian.org](http://www.stmaximilian.org), scroll down to DONATE FOR RUN/WALK FOR LIFE, click on "tab here", choose a St. Max team member.

St. Max Respect Life Team

Karen at 281-639-1999, [kcom-stock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kcom-stock@sbcglobal.net)



## Pray for life in all stages of life!

### Weekly Devotional Prayer: All 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.

**Coffee & Donuts every Sunday,**  
Plan to join us for fellowship in the Education Bldg.

**Blood Drive-Sunday,  
November 5<sup>th</sup>  
8 am—1:30 pm  
Kolbe Hall**



Walk-ins are welcome, but we recommend to pre-register using this QR code—this will reduce your wait time!

Sponsor code: 3113

[https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/354874](https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/354874)



## St. Maximilian Fall Festival Committee and Committee Support Team:

Josie & David Arredondo  
Valerie & Dillard Delafosse  
Janis & Marco Echeverria  
Desiree & Jim Jarecki  
Jeanne Lejeune  
Melanie Manalang  
Joy & John Onorato  
Christina Quach  
Julian Salinas  
Mayra & Travis Wade

Sandra & Vince Castro  
Shane Willis  
Karen & Barry Gaston  
Patrice & Kye Krus  
Steve Malek  
Rebecca Mitchell  
Dana & Guy Pike  
Marian Rearick  
Dennis Taylor  
Angie & Sean Willis



**The light shines in the darkness, & the darkness has not overcome it.**  
**John 1:5**

**That Man Is You! (TMIY)** is back this fall with a new program called The Light of Men. Elevate your mind

on things that are above. The 13 week fall semester contains powerful videos on the Light of Christ, Winning the Culture War, each of the Seven Deadly Sins, objective and subjective arguments for God's existence, from renowned Catholic speakers like Dr. Peter Kreeft, Dr. Ralph Martin and Matthew Leonard. **All men are welcome. Come join us every Friday in the Education Building from 5:30am-7am.** Breakfast is served. Video begins about 6 am. Small group discussion at 6:30am. Closing prayer 7am sharp. Call or text Tom Comstock at 281-380-0403 for more info.



## p. 6 THIS WEEK AT ST. MAXIMILIAN

### Sunday, October 15 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coffee & Donuts	Gajowniczek Bldg	after Masses
<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>
<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
RCIA Session	Room 215	11:30 am
<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>12 Noon</b>
Confirmation Rehearsal	Church	1:15 pm
Jr. High Youth Group	Higgins Bldg.	4:00 pm
Adult Faith, Prophets	Room 215	6:30 pm

### Monday, October 16

<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>
Kolbe Kids EC Program	Gajowniczek Building	9:00 am
Power Prayer Hour	Chapel	7:00 pm

### Tuesday, October 17

Kolbe Kids ECH Program	Gajowniczek Building	9:00 am
Legion of Mary meeting	Room 203	5:00 pm
Confession	Church	6:00 pm
<b>Confirmation Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
ACTS Team Meeting	Room 212	7:00 pm

### Wednesday, October 18

<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>
Kolbe Kids ECH Program	Gajowniczek Building	9:00 am
Food Pantry	Higgins Building	3:30 pm
Rosary	Chapel	6:30 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Canticle Hall	6:30 pm
Evening Prayer	Chapel	7:00 pm
High School Youth Group	Higgins Bldg.	7:00 pm

### Thursday, October 19

<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>
Kolbe Kids ECH Program	Gajowniczek Building	9:15 am
Youth Faith Formation; Thursday Classes	Gajowniczek Building	6:30 pm
Adult Faith Book Club Meeting	Room 214	6:30 pm

### Friday, October 20

That Man Is You!	Gajowniczek Building	5:30 am
<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>
Confession	Church	9:00 am
Adult Faith, Prophets	Room 215	9:30 am
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd	Room 110	10:30 am
Kolbe Seniors Monthly Meeting	Kolbe Hall	11:00 am

### Saturday, October 21

First Reconciliation Workshop	Kolbe Hall	9:00 am
Consolation Ministry Meeting	Kolbe Room	2:00 pm
Confession	Church	3:00 pm
<b>Vigil Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>

### Sunday, October 22 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coffee & Donuts	Gajowniczek Bldg	after Masses
<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>
<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
RCIA Session	Room 215	11:30 am
<b>Mass</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>12 Noon</b>
Youth Faith Formation, Sunday Classes	Gajowniczek Building	2:30 pm
Jr. High Youth Group	Higgins Bldg.	4:00 pm
Adult Faith, Prophets	Room 215	6:30 pm

### ACTS Men's Retreat Team '24 Is Forming!

The 2024 ACTS Men's Retreat is set for **Jan. 25-28!** Men of ACTS, plan to join Team Director Wayne Pelingon as the new retreat preparation begins. Let's ignite our St. Max ACTS community anew! All who have attended an ACTS retreat are invited to join the Retreat Team. Team meetings take place on Tuesdays in Room 212 of the Gajowniczek Building. For details or to sign up, contact Wayne at 713.966.9832.

Ladies, the **2024 ACTS Women's Retreat** is just around the corner on **February 15-18!** Watch for word soon on our newest team



director & meeting details. Then invite the Holy Spirit & all your female friends along for a spiritual journey like no other. ♥

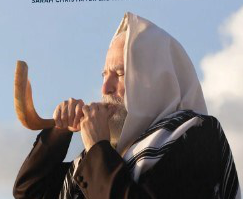
### *The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy*

God sent prophets to speak to His , draw closer to God & acpeople to help them reject sin & self-ishnesst with justice and generosity. It is nearly impossible to understand the work & message of Christ Jesus without seeing how God used prophets to guide His people earlier in salvation history.

### *The Prophets*

Messengers of God's Mercy

SARAH CHRISTYER and THOMAS SMITH



Join us for a 10-session study. The class will be offered:

- 6:30 pm Sundays on Zoom or in room 215 starting on Sept 10 OR
- 9:30 am Fridays in room 215/216 starting on Sept 15.

For Zoom info, pgo to the Adult Faith Formation page on our website: [www.stmaximilian.org/adult-formation](http://www.stmaximilian.org/adult-formation) If you would like to reimburse the parish for the cost of the materials, it is \$35. Contact Molly Smith for more info:

[molly.smith@stmaximilian.org](mailto:molly.smith@stmaximilian.org)

### "The Chosen"

Join us in watching this popular series on "the big screen" in **Kolbe Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month after the 5 pm Mass in Kolbe Hall** (around 6:15 pm). We are now meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday for the Fall. Go to the Adult Faith Formation page on our website to see the showing schedule or to find out how to catch up on previously shown episodes.



**Next showing: Sat., Oct. 14th.**

**Come join us!**

15 DENNEGHY MASON	16 MITCHELL SCHUMANN	17 TIMOTHY SPJUT	18 CARLOS VELERO	19 JOHNPAL NGUYEN	20 KEENAN ANNICCHIARICO	21 ALEXANDER CRUZ
22 TRIEU NGUYEN	23 DCN. DAVID RAMIREZ	24 HENRY STADLER	25 JOSE VERA	26 CARLOS JAIME	27 MICHAEL JAMES ARIENZA	28 ORLANDO HERRERA
29 NAM NGUYEN	30 PEDRO RUBIO	31* JOSH SVAJDA	<div>OCTOBER '23</div> <div>HOUSTON VOCATIONS</div> <div>SEMINARIANS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT</div>			

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, GREAT HIGH PRIEST, LEAD OUR SEMINARIANS IN YOUR UNERRING FOOTSTEPS: SO THAT THEY MAY BECOME PRIESTS WHO ARE MODELS OF PURITY, POSSESSORS OF WISDOM AND HEROES OF SACRIFICE. TEACH THEM GENEROSITY AND DETACHMENT FROM WORLDLY GOODS: BUT ABOVE ALL TEACH THEM TO KNOW YOU AND TO LOVE YOU, THE ONE AND ONLY ETERNAL PRIEST. AMEN.

\*FOR FUTURE PRAYER CALENDARS, VISIT [WWW.HOUSTONVOCATIONS.COM/PRAY-FOR-OUR-SEMINARIANS/](http://WWW.HOUSTONVOCATIONS.COM/PRAY-FOR-OUR-SEMINARIANS/)





## Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 15: The First Reading

By Fr. Luke Spannagel: Step-by-Step through the Mass

After spending some time reflecting on the Liturgy of the Word as a whole, this week we begin looking more closely at each part, beginning with the **First Reading**. We might hear the lector proclaim, “A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. In the days of Ahaz, king of Judah, son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, Rezin, king of Aram, and Pekah, king of Israel, son of Remaliah...” ([Isaiah 7:1-9](#)). With all these names, which many of us may not even know how to pronounce, we might wonder: *Why do we use the Old Testament at Mass, anyway?*

**A Witness to God’s Faithfulness** As we said earlier, the First Reading at Mass is generally from the Old Testament. When we hear the stories of the Old Testament, we hear about how God called and began to form his people. If you are familiar with the Old Testament, you know there are times of faithfulness and falling away. There are prophets, judges, and other leaders that help call the people back to faithfulness. There are times where God is clearly directly involved and times where he seems to be more in the background. We learn about God’s faithfulness, even in the midst of our unfaithfulness. I am often struck by that faithfulness of God: we know we don’t deserve it, and yet there he is, consistently loving, forgiving, leading, providing, and protecting, doing all the things that good fathers do for their beloved children. Hopefully, as we hear those words each week, they remind us we can always go to our loving God and Father.



As we reflected before, generally when we talk about the Old Testament, we talk about a preparation. Through Moses, the prophets, and other writers, God was preparing his people (and us) to receive the truth about Jesus—that he truly is the Messiah who came to set us free from sin and death so that we might live with the Father forever. The Old and New Testament work together: the Old prepares for the New, and the New tells us what we’ve been waiting for, namely, Jesus Christ (cf. *Dei Verbum*, no. 15).

**The Family of God** But why do we need all those names? The whole Bible, even parts we don’t understand or that don’t seem helpful, is part of God’s precious word to his people. Charles Belmonte reminds us that, just as every particle of the Body of Christ is precious, so too is every word (and name) of the Bible. Sometimes the readings may seem “obscure” to us because we don’t understand the ancient cultures of the Middle East. Sometimes they just mildly hint at one of the great mysteries of God and their importance can be easily overlooked. Sometimes we stumble over the names or we don’t understand the poetic language. “Nevertheless, we can be sure that if we do our best, the Holy Spirit will give us enough capacity to grasp whatever we may need for our sanctification and mission in life. And even if what we have read [or heard] does not stay in our memory, the Word of God has purified and nourished our souls” (Understanding the Mass, p. 85)



We might think that the names aren’t that important, but what they show us is a continuous string of people who are in relationship with God, an ongoing family which the Lord is building over time. Just like we remember the names of our grandparents and great-grandparents because they are part of our family tree, so too do we remember the names of these people who in some way had (and still have) an important part to play in God’s family tree. As the Church teaches, “Christians should

accept with veneration these writings which give expression to a lively sense of God, which are a storehouse of sublime teaching on God and of sound wisdom on human life, as well as a wonderful treasury of prayers; in them, too, the mystery of our salvation is present in a hidden way” (*Dei Verbum*, no. 15).

One of my favorite things about the Old Testament is that God teaches us little by little. There is always a story to go with what we hear; there is always a bit-by-bit explanation for what God is trying to tell us. The Old Testament isn’t just strange names and long stories with some songs and poetry mixed in. It is God speaking to us and saying gradually, “Come a little closer... Please get to know me... You will find happiness in me... I want to take care of you... I will send the Messiah to save you... I am your loving Father.”

### For Reflection:

1. In light of the insights on the significance of names and genealogy in the Old Testament, revisit Jesus’ genealogy in [Matthew 1:1-17](#) and/or [Luke 3:23-38](#). Recall what you know about any of the persons whose names feature in these genealogies. For any names you do not recognize, pause and invite the Lord to help you see more clearly how he accomplishes his work through men and women throughout salvation history.
2. Do you have a written or visual “family tree” of your own heritage? If not, consider developing one for yourself or with your family. Take time to pray in thanksgiving for God’s presence through your genealogy, and lift up any persons in particular need of healing or mercy.

**Source:** <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/post/do-this-in-remembrance-of-me-part-15-the-first-reading>

### Collection for the Week of Oct. 2-8, 2023

Collections	\$18,724
Maintenance & Repair	\$1,191
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,915</b>

*Faith Direct is received twice a month.*

Archdiocesan Second Collection	\$50
--------------------------------	------

### We reached our 2023 mandatory amt: \$150,000!

- Amount Paid so far: **\$152,836**  
(**\$2,836 paid over goal**)
- Amt pledged to be paid: **\$10,069**
- Amt paid + to be pledged: **\$162,905**  
Amt. **over mandatory amt: \$12,905**
- **394 donors out of 2163 households**



Learn the Bible through Kahoot Bible Trivia, cf. p. 9.



## CONGRATULATIONS to the WINNERS of the Fall Festival Raffle Ticket prizes:

VISA Gift Card for \$500

LG UHD 65" A1 Thin Q TV

VISA Gift Card for \$400

Nintendo Switch OLED Special Edition

VISA Gift Card for \$300

JBL Xtremem3 Portable Speaker

VIZIO Sound Bar

VISA Gift Card for \$200

BEATS Fit Pro Wireless

VISA Gift Card for \$100

Alfredo Lopez

Joshua Rozas

Carolyn Harris

K. Grimwood

John Penaflorida

Tina Smith

Mary Jo Haubenreich

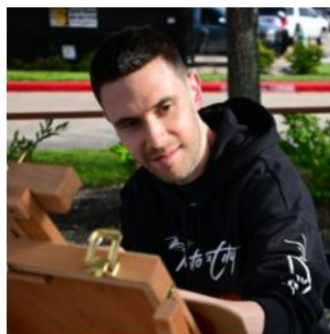
Mike Galla

Elva Adame

Jeff Kopecky



To all the volunteers who helped in any way with the St. Maximilian Fall Festival! Thank you to those attended!





# BACK TO SCHOOL BIBLE BLITZ

[https://kahoot.it/challenge/03969352?challenge-id=1bc07edd-95c9-4583-bcc4-ae621078ec50\\_1696870988643](https://kahoot.it/challenge/03969352?challenge-id=1bc07edd-95c9-4583-bcc4-ae621078ec50_1696870988643)

- Starts September 3rd and runs until November 19th.
- Look for the link each week in the bulletin or on the St. Maximilian Kolbe website.
- Grab your Bible, click the link, type in your family name and take the quiz.

Please feel free to use a code name if you want privacy.

This is not about getting a grade.

This is not about measuring how much anyone knows about the Bible.

This is for fun to help us all feel more comfortable with the Bible.



## KAHOOT BIBLE TRIVIA!



CHALLENGE OTHERS AT THE PARISH ON YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUNDAY READINGS AND WIN PRIZES! SCAN QR CODE TO PLAY!

# QUIZ



# Come join us!

Fri, Oct. 27  
6 to 8pm

If you want to "host" a trunk, please contact Molly Smith at [molly.smith@stmaximilian.org](mailto:molly.smith@stmaximilian.org)

## ST. MAX YOUTH FALL 2023

**Junior High**

**High School**

Sundays 4:00-5:30 p.m.  
Starting - September 10

Wednesdays 7:00-8:30 p.m.  
Starting - September 13



Text - StMaxYM to 84576 to join Flocknote!

## First Reconciliation Workshop

Saturday, October 21st

9 am, Kolbe Hall

Contact Molly for more information

[molly.smith@stmaximilian.org](mailto:molly.smith@stmaximilian.org)



Fall Spring Schedule  
Formation:

Many sessions open for Faith

- Sunday afternoons 2:30-4pm Grades Pre-K to 12
- Thursday evenings 6:30-8pm Grades Pre-K to 8
- Homeschool session Grades K-8

<https://stmaximilian.org/children-youth-faith-formation>



## 2023-2024 (CCE) Calendar Faith Formation- Fall / Spring

Parents are the  
first teachers of  
their children in all  
things, especially  
in the ways of faith.

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
							31													

FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													

Sunday Session 2:30p - 4p  
PreK - 12th Gr.

Thursday Session 6:30p - 8p  
PreK - 8th Gr.

Registration Deadline  
1st Deadline August 14  
2nd Deadline August 29

Parent Meeting  
First day of class,

CFISD  
Student Holiday

**OCTOBER: For the Synod**  
*We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening & dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, & allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.*

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

That we learn to depend on God to supply for our all needs.

**"My God will fully supply whatever you need..."**  
 - Philippians 4:19

God really does provide for those who are grateful & generous. This is very difficult for people that don't live a stewardship lifestyle to believe. People are skeptical & say it's just coincidence. If you are skeptical, try living a stewardship lifestyle for just one month – be generous with your gifts of time in prayer, talent in charitable works, & treasure, then see how God provides for your needs.

Formed.org is offering a new 7-part series called **Jesus and the Eucharist**. Made with the help of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, the series gives examples of pursuing virtue & faith in the modern world. Catholic Bishops, professors & speakers lend insight to help renew the understanding of the gift of the Blessed Sacrament. **The first 4 sessions of Jesus and the Eucharist are entitled:**

- 1) **What's our Story?** (1 hr, 55 min)
- 2) **Who is Jesus?** (1 hr, 51 min)
- 3) **Am I saved?** (1 hr, 53 min)
- 4) **Why a Church?** (1 hr, 59 min)

The remaining 3 sessions have yet to be released. To gain access to this series of Jesus & the Eucharist, go to: <https://watch.formed.org/jesus-and-the-eucharist-a-small-group-series-for-eucharistic-revival>

**If you are not registered with Formed.org, registering on FORMED is easy!**

- Go to <https://formed.org/signup>
- Enter our parish zip code 77064 & select our parish
- Enter your name & email



### EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT:

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

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

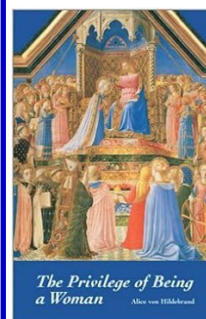
*"So you could not keep watch with me for one hour?..."*  
 —Mt 26:40

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Lisa Abbott, Eleanor Antunez, Rudy Archuleta, Lupe Batey, Melissa Batey, Norma Bodin, Bill Carew, Maria Bueno, Aurora Enciso, Missy Fouts, Joseph Gallagher, James Geary, Elizabeth, Anna Goodman, Soledad Haren, Georgia Hohensee, Madison Koopmann, Rachele Marchisio, Craig McKnight, Arma Morrison, Maria Mien Nguyen, Richard Ornelaz, Rose Pennell, Stan Petty, Irma Phillips, Walker Ponder, Marian Rearick, Alveraize Saizan, Maria Senjudo, Guillermo Stewart-Gaynor, Ken Switzler, Consuelo Estrada Torres, Ngoc Anh Uy, Linda Webb, Carolyn & Gary Webber, Frances Wooley, & Chuck Woodruff

**Pray for an end to violence. Pray for Israel.**

**Have You Moved? Changed your Phone Number or Email Address? If you have it is important to let us know in the parish office. Call 281-955-7324 to update your information.**



St. Max Book Club  
**The Privilege of Being a Woman**  
 by Dr. Alice von Hildebrand  
**Thursdays @ 6:30 pm,**  
**Room 214 of the Education Bldg.**

The book will contrast the secular and the supernatural to see God's blessings to women as exemplified in the Blessed Mother who shows us how to be receptive to God.

**Power Hour Prayer Time** *Need a spiritual boost?*  
 Join us at 7 pm on Monday nights in the Immaculata Chapel. One hour of prayer includes the Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, consecrations & litanies to Jesus & Mary along with meditation music & hands on healing prayer. Call Jeanette Coury at 281-914-3676 for more info.

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>12 Midnight—1 am</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>7 am—8 am</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>1 am—2 am *NO ADORER*</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>2 am—3 am</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1 am—2 am</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>2 am—3 am</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1 pm—2 pm *Most in need*</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>4 am—5 am</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6 pm—7 pm</b>



Updated: 10/9/2023





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