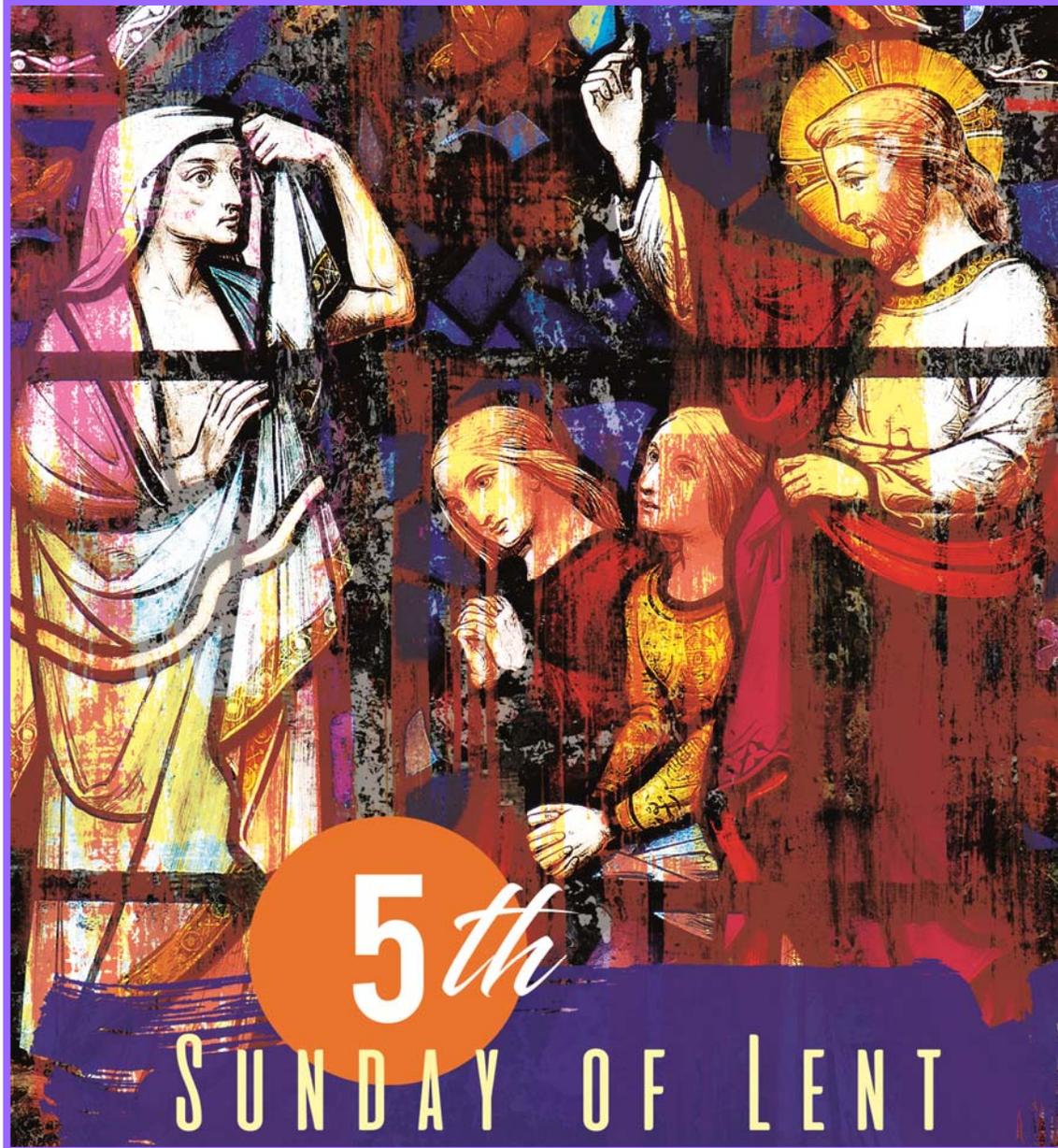


St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

March 29, 2020



MISSION STATEMENT
We Worship ~ We Teach ~ We Care

5112 Pocono Crest Road
PO Box O
Pocono Pines, PA 18350
570-646-6424

Mass Schedule:
Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am
Saturday Confessions 3:00 pm

March 29, 2020

5th Sunday of Lent



*JESUS TOLD HER, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."
John 11:25-27*

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Even though we say that we believe, there is a part of us that doesn't. There are many times in our lives when we experience death, whether it be the physical death of someone we love, a failed relationship, the loss of a job, or a broken dream. As we are going through these death experiences, we can easily find ourselves reaching out to God to make it better and fix it! We think that the proper order of life is to maintain the things of this world, especially those things that are essential to our sense of well-being and security. We do not like change. The grieving that comes from our death experiences can keep us stuck and in despair. If we have lost something or someone of great value, the very meaning and essence of life is lost with them. We need gentle companions to lift us from despair and that is precisely who God desires to be in our life as well.

God calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, "Come out!" He desperately wants to show us the path to hope and the new life that is possible after loss and death. But our faith can be weak, and we still prefer to cling to the memory of what we had rather than the joyful possibilities of tomorrow. We sometimes live as if God is not real and that the transformative power of His resurrected presence is a story found in the Bible rather than a narrative unfolding in our lives.

God is the God of surprises, not our demise. God opens new possibilities, begins new chapters, creates new verses, and brings us to new heights! We spend so much time and energy ruminating over what we left behind yesterday that we are far too tired to see what can unfold tomorrow. Loving someone new doesn't negate our past loves. Embracing the love of a person, God, or life itself tomorrow doesn't diminish the love of yesterday. Each of our loves is different, and one cannot be replaced by another. They don't cancel each other out. God truly has tended to every detail of our lives, and if we listen to each detail, we find that they all lead us back to Him. Jesus wants us to come out of our closed-up tombs. Are we going to listen this time?



St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish Staff

Reverend Sean G. Carpenter

~ Pastor

Deacon Frank Gisoldi

Deacon Tom Amoroso

Melissa Laverty

Pastoral Associate ~ St.MaxMelissa@outlook.com
Coordinator of Religious Education

Juli Reese

Office Manager ~ Stmaxkol@ptd.net

John Marcinkowski, Jr.

Coordinator of Music ~ jjm1105@ptd.net

Visit us on the web @ www.stmaxkolbepoconos.org

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE, PRIEST AND MARTYR, PRAY FOR US

 *Mass Intentions*

March 28th through April 5th		
Saturday	4:00 pm	Anne Marie Alcamo by Nat Alcamo
Sunday	8:00 am	For The Parishioners
	10:30 am	William H. Binns Jr. by Bill and Eileen Binns
Monday	9:15 am	Joseph Litwienski by Joe Litwienski Jr.
Tuesday	9:15 am	Chester Butryn by Wife and children
Wednesday	9:15 am	Betty Ann Sowinski by Marion Colvin
Thursday	9:15 am	Kathryn Cerra by Joan and Allan Hild
Friday	9:15 am	Communion Service
Saturday	4:00 pm	John and Christina Mc Kenna by Theresa Lockyer
Sunday	8:00 am	For The Parishioners
	10:30 am	Christopher Madere by Marybeth and Greg Landry



Saturday Confessions are suspended until further notice

First Friday Adoration Is suspended until further notice



Sunday Collection 3/15/2020..... \$ 2,018.

Thank You for Your Generosity

Notice regarding mass intentions that were scheduled prior to the suspension of public attendance ordered by Bishop Bambara

Any mass previously scheduled St. Maximilian, daily or weekend, will still be celebrated with the intention requested. Those masses will be celebrated in private by Fr. Sean and Fr. Vito.

Thursday April 2 is the Feast Day of St. Francis of Paola

Francis was born at Paola, Italy and was educated at the Franciscan friary of San Marco there, and when fifteen became a hermit near Paola. In 1436, he and two companions began a community that is considered the foundation of the Minim Friars. He built a monastery where he had led his eremitical life some fifteen years later and set a Rule for his followers emphasizing penance, charity, and humility, and added to the three monastic vows, one of fasting and abstinence from meat; he also wrote a rule for tertiaries and nuns. He was credited with many miracles and had the gifts of prophesy and insight into men's hearts. The Order was approved by Pope Sixtus IV in 1474 with the name Hermits of St. Francis of Assisi (changed to Minim Friars in 1492). Francis established foundations in southern Italy and Sicily. Pope Sixtus II ordered him to France due to the illness of King Louis XI. Francis spent the rest of his life at the monastery of Plessis, France, which Charles VIII built for him. Francis died there on April 2nd and was canonized in 1519.



Readings for the Week March 28th through April 5th

- Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53
- Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45
- Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Jn 8:1-11
- Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30
- Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42
- Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59
- Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42
- Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56
- Next Sunday: Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14-27:66

FAITH FORMATION UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Until further notice, all Faith Formation Classes have been suspended. Parents, if you have not already done so, contact Melissa Lavery, Coordinator of Religious Education and Pastoral Associate, at 570-646-6424, or by email at St.MaxMelissa@outlook.com to make arrangements to pick up homeschooling materials.



The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish on Monday, April 27, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Our celebrant will be the Most Reverend Joseph Bambera, Bishop of the Diocese of Scranton. **Practice for Confirmation will be Thursday, April 23, at 6 p.m.**

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish on Sunday, May 3, 2020 at the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

The Last of Day Faith Formation Classes is Sunday, May 3.

SCRIPTURE STUDY FOR COUPLES

Our parish would like to begin a Scripture Study group for Catholic married couples. If you would be interested in attending this study, contact Melissa in the parish office at 570-646-6424 or by email at St.MaxMelissa@outlook.com. If enough couples are interested, the study will begin this spring.

Little Rock Scripture...

is on temporary hiatus. Once our group starts back up, we will alert all parish members by email. All are invited to attend this group that meets on Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. in the parish hall. Using both videos and written materials, this program is designed to help bring Catholics to a greater understanding of the Bible. During Lent, the group is studying *Life Eternal*. For more information, call or stop by the parish office.



Parish Life

DAILY MEDITATION FOR CATHOLICS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

If you would like to receive the monthly publication *The Word Among Us*, annual subscriptions are available for \$20 per year, beginning in Lent. *The Word Among Us* includes daily meditations based on the Mass readings and inspirational essays and stories of the saints and other heroes of faith that encourage you to go out and live the Word. To purchase a copy, contact Melissa in the parish office.

HAVE THE BEST LENT EVER

Best Lent Ever is a free email program that can help to guide you on an incredible 40-day journey to become the best version of yourself. Sign up for free online at BestLentEver.com/Parish Signup.



PRAYER FOR HEALING VICTIMS OF ABUSE

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by his blood on the cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters
who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.
Soothe their restless hearts with hope,
steady their shaken spirits with faith.
Grant them justice for their cause,
enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into wholeness.
Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in
justice. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Parish Life

Bishop Bambara has a video address online.
Go to the diocese website at
www.Diocesefscranton.org

As a reminder - all parish activities and faith formation classes are suspended until further notice. Look for emails from the parish staff for updates. At the time of this publication, the following applies:

- Confessions will be by appointment only.
- The church will be open from 9 am to 12 pm for private prayer, No one is to come to the church or parish hall at any other time.
- Faith Formation students please follow instructions you have been given to pick up homeschooling materials.

To find out more about our
Parish Community and what we offer

Go to our website:

www.stmaxkolbepoconos.org



Jay Crandall ~ Bill Gleason ~ Richard Snell
Kim Maria Giganti ~ Fr. Ed Kearns ~ Jennifer Royall
Deacon Frank ~ Joan Harrigan
Samson Colborn ~ Bette Jayne Kovich
Jamie Nderitu ~ Maurice Berger ~ Sal Rullis
Bill Goodwin ~ Msgr. Fitzpatrick
JoAnn Berger ~ Ryan Miller ~ Frank Ware
Cathy Valente ~ Fr. Anthony Urban ~ Jenyl Moody
John Mercer ~ Joan Mercer ~ Patricia Langevin
Lynn Shelley ~ Josephine Papa ~ Katherine Kraus
Katie Scully ~ Theresa Lockyer
Chrissy Johnson ~ Michael Dembinski
.....***And For All Members, Family and Friends that
are in need of Prayers, Lord Hear Our Prayer.***

Hospital Visits - Due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the parish is unaware when a parishioner is in the hospital. If you or a loved one would like a hospital visit from Father Sean, contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Parish Life

THE PARISH OFFICE IS CURRENTLY CLOSED

**IN AN EMERGENCY YOU CAN LEAVE A
MESSAGE AT 570-646-6424 AND SOMEONE
WILL GET BACK TO YOU AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.**

Ways to Celebrate Mass

- Go to www.Diocesefscranton.org to view live streaming masses around the Diocese.
- Blue Ridge TV-13 televises Sunday Mass from the Church of St. Luke in Stroudsburg, Sundays 9:30 am.
- The same mass can be viewed online by visiting www.Churchofstluke.org, click on mass schedule on the right side of the homepage and a link will open.
- Daily and weekend masses are broadcasted live on www.CatholicTV.org—in English and Spanish
- Masses are also celebrated live, every day online at EWTN.com

CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Question:

What is the difference between a basilica and a cathedral?

Answer:

Basilicas are churches that are so titled because of their antiquity, dignity, historical importance, or significance as centers of worship. A cathedral is the principal church of a diocese, which contains the chair of the bishop, or “cathedra” in Latin. The chair is the symbol of the bishop’s teaching authority.



*K of C Meetings are suspended until further notice
~ <http://knights13752.webs.com/>
~Facebook: Knights of Columbus Pocono Pines*

*Bulletin submissions can be emailed
to Marion Colvin at: mcol@ptd.net
Please submit two weeks prior to publication date
otherwise we cannot promise publication date desired.
~ Thank You*

Parish Life

Year of Saint Joseph

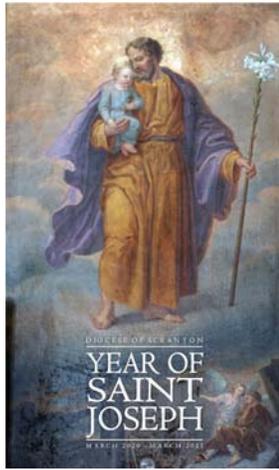
This year marks the 150th Anniversary of Pope Pius IX's decree naming Saint Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and foster-father of Jesus, as the Patron of the Universal Church. In commemoration of this anniversary and recognizing the fitting time for the Church to invoke the intercession of this guardian, His Excellency, Bishop Joseph C. Bambera has declared this year as a "Year of Saint Joseph" to be observed in the Diocese of Scranton from March 19, 2020 to March 19, 2021. Bishop Bambera states, "Just as Saint Joseph watched over and protected the Lord Jesus while he was on earth, we need Saint Joseph to watch over and provide for the Church today. His intercession on behalf of the Universal Church is vital as the world faces so much upheaval and pain, and particularly as it confronts the uncertainty and pain of the coronavirus epidemic."

Bishop Bambera invites all of the faithful to renew their devotion to Saint Joseph during this commemorative year, and to seek his powerful intercession to safely guard the Church from all evils, just as he protected the Holy Family from harm. Please look for future opportunities and resources to celebrate this year in your parish and on the Diocese of Scranton website: dioceseofscranton.org. and type in St. Joseph in the search box. Available on the website are many resources pertaining to the year of St. Joseph, including a nine-day Novena.

May 1st is the Memorial of St. Joseph the Worker

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK...

We face death every day. Whether it comes with the actual death of someone we love (or someone we don't even know), a failed relationship, the loss of a job, a broken dream, or pondering our own mortality, death is always around us. What does death say to us? What we believe about our death experiences is going to say volumes about how we live our lives. Jesus comes to us today just as he did many years ago to people who were struggling with loss and death and wondering what to do. He calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, "Come out!" Jesus leads us out of death and gives us hope. There is always hope. There is always transformation. Although we may not always see where the road of life is taking us or see God's presence with us on our journey, we will be brought to a new place and be given new life. Walk with God and listen to Him call you. Tomorrow, there awaits another surprise.



Parish Life

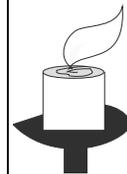
Everyday Stewardship for Lent – Committed

Jim Valvano, Jimmy V to many, said the iconic words, "Don't give up; you can never give up." The former coach of the NC State men's basketball team was dying of cancer, yet he refused to throw in the towel and give in to his disease. His words exemplified the best of the human spirit we all share. Sometimes, living out those words seem much more difficult than saying them.

These words are also important for our faith life. The life Jesus calls us to is not easy. When working toward a life of greater generosity and surrender of all to God, we are prone to fall flat on our face many times. We are not called to this life only when we are strong. It is how we respond when times are the most difficult that truly defines us as disciples and stewards. The world may think we are down for the count, but rising again gives testimony that in Christ we are stronger.

Commitment takes a willingness to do the things needed to get stronger and build our spiritual muscles. We cannot expect to find success in the spiritual life unless we continue to work on our resolve and grow in our knowledge of the faith. A marathon runner would never be able to make it to the finish line unless they have trained and prepared in advance. We must work hard to stay the course and prepare for the race at hand. No matter what this life may have in store for us, we are called to not give up. God will never give up on us.

Week of March 29, 2020



Sanctuary Light

In Honor of Fr. Edward Kearns
by Peggy Bostwick

Bread and Wine

For Victims of Abortion



Altar Flowers

No Flowers during Lent

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4.

Parish Life

Prayers for Military and Government Service



We welcome new parishioners.

If you would like to join St. Maximilian, registration forms may be found in our church narthex and in the parish office or if you prefer, you can register online at www.stmaxkolbepoconos.org.



HA Valerie Novak ~ Sr. Airman Charlie Maldonado
Alston Smart, Jr. ~ Eugene Maslar, Jr
Sgt. Matthew Price ~ 1st Lt. Mark Gaido
Airman Patrick Alminde ~ TECH Sgt. William D. Olsen
Seaman Nicole Beckman ~ Cpl. John P. Bramley
Lt. Joseph V. Yuskaitis, Jr. ~ PFC Joshua Bruner
Major Thomas M. Smith ~ S Sgt. Amber Keppol
2nd Class Petty Officer DC2, Jeffrey Royall
Sgt. Andrew Malave ~ Sgt. Matthew Ponce
SPC E-4 Lars Hicks ~ Lance Corporal Kevin Horoszewski
ITSN Grace Fruauff
Lord, hold our troops in you loving hands.

THE PARISH OFFICE IS CURRENTLY CLOSED

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POSSIBLE.**

Around the Diocese

VILLA OF OUR LADY RETREAT HOUSE

is in need of volunteers to help in the dining room and kitchen during weekend retreats. Please call Sister Jolanda for more information at (570) 839-7217.

Refresh Your Faith

Catholic Women's Conference

June 20, 2020

University of Scranton, Byron Center
www.cwcnepa.com 570-872-8630
Sponsored by the Diocese of Scranton

2020 Catholic Charismatic Conference

Fri, Sat., Sun., July 31, Aug 1st & 2nd
at the University of Scranton

Go to scrantonccconference37.homestead.com
or call 570-344-2214 for more information.

After April 1st registration forms will be available at the
Bulletin Board of the www.CCRSSCRANTON.ORG

Ecumenical Bereavement Support Group Meets Monthly at St. Max (suspended until further notice)

It is not necessary to be a member of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in order to attend. The format is open and ongoing and the content of the meeting is selected to address the needs of those present. Anyone who has experienced a loss due to death, divorce, or separation is encouraged to attend. Through the use of audio, visual, and printed materials the group offers information about the stages of grief and the emotional, physical, mental, and spiritual effects that may be experienced by those who are grieving. For directions or more information, please call Lynnette at 839-9346 or 570-242-6165, or email her at tomlyn65@ptd.net.

Meals on Wheels Volunteer Drivers Needed

Can you spare 2-3 hours once a month to deliver meals to the homebound in the Tobyhanna/Tunkhannock Twshp. areas?

If interested, call Sue Snell @ 570-646-7163 or Linda at the Meals on Wheels office @ 570-424-8794.

Monsignor McHugh School is having an
Open Enrollment for PreK-8th grade.
Call today for a tour and see what GREAT things we
are doing. 570-595-7463

FOOD PANTRY NEWS: Five Loaf House

133 Fire House Rd., Pocono Pines

Distributions are to qualified persons & families only on the
2nd Monday of the month and the Tuesday following that

New Monday Hours: ~8:00 am to 11:00 am;
~12:00 pm to 2:00 pm; ~2 pm to 4 pm. by appt.
& Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Food Donations are accepted on Mon/Tues only,
from 9 a.m. -11 a.m. or call 570-646-7456.