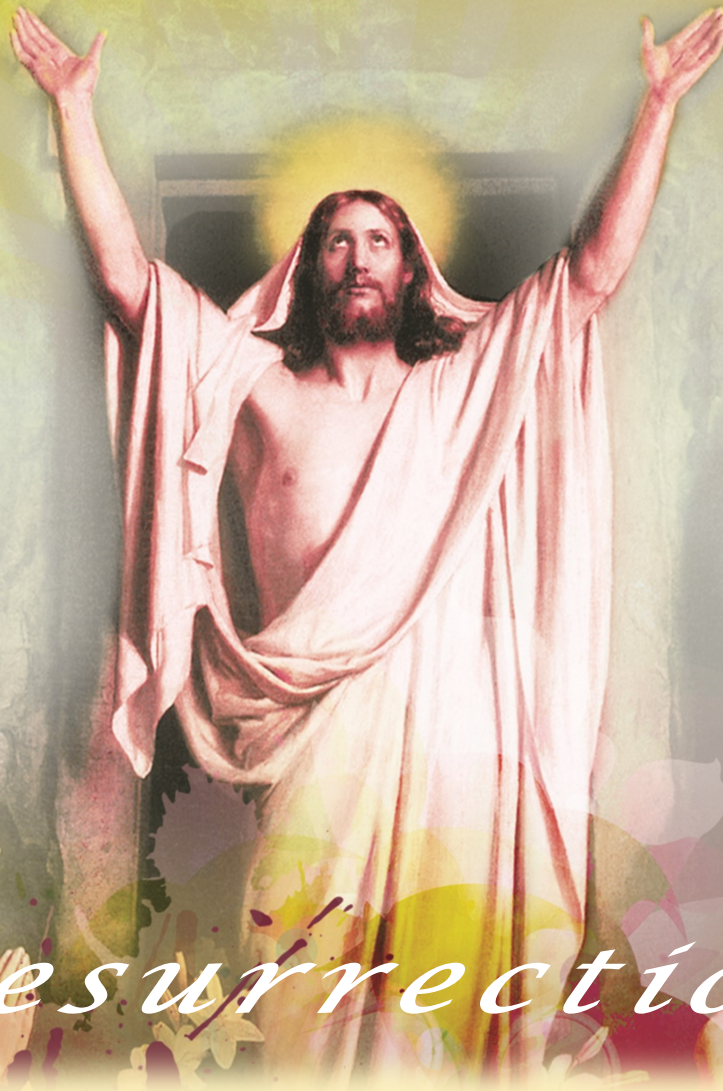


# St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

## April 4, 2021

E A S T E R   S U N D A Y



*Resurrection*

### 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 8:30 am & 10:30 am

# April 4, 2021

## Easter Sunday



*He bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Jn 20:5-7*

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

Who are you? This question was most assuredly asked of Jesus on the day of resurrection and it is a question asked of each of us. Our identities can be described in so many ways. We can start with our gifts and our talents, expertise and unique personality expressions. We can describe things we like and things we prefer to set aside. As descriptive and captivating as these can be, none come close to our essence, our real and true self. While accurate in their own right, the self who lives and interacts with the world is the self we want others to see, the one we project. But there is much more to us just as there is much more to Jesus.

Jesus could describe himself based on all of the same criteria we use for ourselves. After all, Jesus is totally human. With all that people witnessed and all that Jesus knew about his physical human self, his divinity also shined forth. There was so much more to know about him. Whereas once Jesus was transfigured on top of a mountain before his disciples' eyes, so today he is transfigured before our eyes as he reveals his resurrected self as the Christ. Alleluia, Christ is risen! His glorified presence stands before us showing us that we are all much more than we see ourselves to be and show to others. We have a depth, purpose, and essence that go way beyond the superficial treasures of our existence to the very core of who we are.

Within each one of us is a spark of Divine Love where creature and Creator meet, and we are known uniquely by the name God whispers to us. It is not the earthly name that was given to us but the one that flows from Divine Power and claims us as one who is special and chosen in God's eyes. This is the self that will rise one day with the eternal Christ of God and live eternally as God provides. This is the self that when free from all superficial constraints layered upon it in this life can discover and know freedom in a way never possible before. This is love lifting us up and transforming us into who we really are, not who we want or need ourselves to be. Who are you? A special, unique child of God who has been fashioned in God's image, sustained by the power of God's love and kept eternally with the Blessed Trinity in heaven. Get to know this deeper, truer self as it is who you really are. ©LPi



**St. Maximilian Kolbe**  
**Parish Staff**

**Reverend Sean G. Carpenter**  
~ Pastor

**Deacon Tom Amoroso**

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

**Juli Reese**  
Office Manager ~ Stmaxkol@ptd.net

**John Marcinkowski, Jr.**  
Coordinator of Music ~ jjm1105@ptd.net

Visit us on the web @ [www.stmaxkolbeponos.org](http://www.stmaxkolbeponos.org)

St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr, pray for us





## Mass Intentions

**Saturday:** Loretta Stodnick  
by Knights of Columbus #13752

**Sunday:** Easter Mass Intentions  
**FOR THE PARISHIONERS**

**Monday:** Easter Mass Intentions

**Tuesday:** Easter Mass Intentions

**Wednesday:** Easter Mass Intentions

**Thursday:** Easter Mass Intentions

**Saturday:** Easter Mass Intentions

**Sunday:** Easter Mass Intentions  
**FOR THE PARISHIONERS**

**BREAD & WINE: For Victims of Abortion**



*Confessions will be heard  
by appointment.*

*Please call the parish office  
to schedule an appointment.*



A warm *Thank You* to those who continue offertory support to our parish during these difficult times. Donations for weeks ending March 14th and March 21st totaled \$5,268. Your donations may be placed in the basket when leaving mass; by mailing to the church, or by online giving.



### *Celebrate Easter*

*~Holy Saturday, April 3  
Easter Vigil Mass - 8 pm*

*~Easter Sunday, April 4  
English Mass at 8:30 am and 10:30 am  
Polish Mass at 2 pm*

*“Like us, Christ entered the world through the womb of a woman. He willingly experienced the fullness of human suffering. He breathed his last on the Cross at Calvary in order that He might save us. Therefore, ‘God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end’ (Spe salvi 31).”*

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

“Respect Life Reflection: Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life” (Citing Pope Benedict XVI, *Spe salvi* © 2007, Libreria Editrice Vaticana.

### **Readings for the Week**

Saturday *Vigil*: Gn 1:1-2:2; Gn 22:1-18;  
Ex 14:15-15:1; Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18;  
Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6;  
Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28;  
Rom 6:3-11; Mk 16:1-7

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-49; Col 3:1-4;  
Jn 20:1-9

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15

Sunday: Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-3

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# FAITH formation

## **Faith Formation Classes Updates and Reminders**

This year, students in the parish's Faith Formation program in grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are learning about their faith using the online program *My Catholic Faith Delivered*. This year, the parish is covering all costs for the program. It's not too late to get started if your child hasn't already done so. For more information or if you need to reset your child's login password, contact Melissa in the parish office.



## **GOD BLESS OUR FAITH FORMATION STUDENTS WHO WILL CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION SATURDAY, MAY 1, DURING THE 4 P.M. MASS**

Prayers are requested for our second grade students as they continue their formation for this Sacrament with their teacher, Mrs. Ann Negvesky:

Gunner Gonzalez  
Brendan Keane  
Torin Murphy  
Samantha Van Buskirk  
Bryan Vinci  
Lyssa Weaver



## **GOD BLESS OUR FAITH FORMATION STUDENTS WHO WILL CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

Prayers are also requested for our eighth grade students as they continue their formation for this Sacrament with their teachers, Dr. Maureen Rinehimer and Mr. Bruce Reese. Confirmation will be held on Saturday, May 22, and Sunday, May 23.

Zoe Biso	Nathaniel Cornejo
Patrick Domanski	Madelynn Drivon
Megan Hejnowicz	Dylan Horoszewski
Ayden Hull	Klaudia Kononczuk
Gerald Negvesky	Michael Peterson
Jusette Suardi	

## **Engage**

Don't miss the new online program *Engage*, brought to you by the Word on Fire Institute.

If you registered your email address with the parish, you will automatically receive the *Engage* program via email.

If you would like to share your email address with the parish, contact the office @ 570-646-6424.

## **CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

Adults who would like to become members of the Catholic Church are welcomed into a process of inquiry and formation. It is open to those who have never been baptized, those baptized in another Christian Church and those baptized as infants in the Catholic Church but who have not received further catechetical formation nor, consequently, the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist.



The St. Maximilian Kolbe Scripture Seekers discussion group meets live on Zoom every Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. New members are always welcome. For more information on how to join, contact Melissa in the parish office. We would love to "see" you.



## **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

In order to understand and appreciate the Sacrament of Baptism, expectant parents are required to attend Baptism preparation. Currently, preparation takes place online. A call to the parish office approximately four months before your child is due will make the scheduling of your pre-Baptism session easier and give you ample time to prepare for this Sacrament of Initiation to the life of grace. For more information, contact Melissa in the parish office.



St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr, pray for us





Katie Scully ~ Eileen Long - Geri Williams  
Mary DeWaters

Fr. John Boyle - Regina Chmil  
If you know someone in need of prayers  
and would like to have them added to this list,  
please call the Parish Office.

## **NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS** **AT ST. MAX**

**MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY**  
**10 am to 1 pm**



## **LIVE THE LITURGY** **INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

About today's feast, St. Augustine writes:  
*"And he departed from our sight that we might return to our hearts and find him there. For he left us, and behold, he is here."*

Christ's resurrected presence lives not only in the highest heaven but in the fragile human heart. Christ's life inspires us and moves us to see a future for every human being and discover our true purpose and meaning. Every human being has a desire to live, and this cry can be heard within. There is a longing for a connection with Someone greater than ourselves that gives an import to our existence that we cannot supply. Today, our deepest questions find answers.

## **VIRTUAL GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

This can be a difficult time to navigate grief, particularly during this ongoing period of social distancing. Please consider joining the virtual grief support group offered by Cathedral of Saint Peter Parish in Scranton.

*Anyone is welcome; you do not have to be a member of the parish to participate.* The group will convene online, Wednesday evenings 6:30 to 7:30. The dates of the virtual meetings will be April 7, 14, 21 and 28.

For more information, please contact:  
Deacon Ed Shoener at [570-814-5133](tel:570-814-5133) or at [570-344-7231](tel:570-344-7231).

"When God created each of us, He did so with precision and purpose... let us treat each person as the masterpiece that he or she is."

St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr, pray for us



Welcome to Flocknote

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish is now using a new system for communication called Flocknote, which has replaced our traditional email system. If you would like to receive news and updates from our parish, but have not received any, please call the parish office and check if we have your correct email address on file.

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday 4 pm**

**Sunday - 8:30 am & 10:30 am**



Daily Masses: Mon.~Thurs. at 9:15 am

All masses will be on a first come, first serve basis. Overflow seating will be in the parish hall with live television. Everyone is required to wear a mask and ushers will take everyone to their seats, following social distancing protocols. We humbly ask for your patience and cooperation with this arrangement.

To access the Masses live on Facebook -

Saturday @ 4 pm; Sunday @ 8:30 & 10:30 go to Facebook.com and in the search engine, type  
*"St Maximilian Kolbe Parish,  
Pocono Pines, PA."*

Online Masses will also continue on the Pocono Catholic YouTube site at

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/  
UC\\_38MQDvW5w347cmZpbTDgQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_38MQDvW5w347cmZpbTDgQ).

You can access this Mass featuring Fr. Sean and Fr. Gregg at any time on Saturday or Sunday.

Hi St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish Family,  
It has come to our attention that posters advertising a Mass in the Polish language at St. Stanislaus Cathedral in Scranton have been distributed in our area. Our parish just wants to make people aware that this Mass is not a Roman Catholic Mass. This is the cathedral of the Polish National Catholic Church which broke away from the Roman Catholic Church in 1897.

## **EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

### **A Happy Ending Isn't the Whole Story**

"Is there a happy ending?"

When my kids were young, we never made it past the first whiff of any narrative tension before I got this question. As soon as whatever princess or furry woodland animal who was the hero of the story got into any small scrape, they wanted that reassurance, "Is there a happy ending?"

I can't say I blame them. Don't we all feel that way sometimes? We enter into a relationship with someone or some situation, and we just want to protect ourselves. We want to know it's not going to go badly — or, if it does, that we will be able to come back from it. It's a human instinct, a reflex. Our inclination to protect ourselves makes it so that we sometimes want to press fast-forward on the bad stuff and skip straight ahead to the happily-ever-after.

Easter is the ultimate happy ending. It's the day of miracles. The day when all the stones roll away and all the sins are forgiven. It's the day that puts everything right.

But if we learned anything from this week — from the Passion and death of the Lord — it's that we can't press fast-forward on the hardships of life. That tension, that loss, that fear — it's crucial, isn't it? As Catholics, we are who we are because of Easter. But Easter doesn't happen without Good Friday.

So, does the story of salvation have a happy ending? We know it does. But we also remember that the ending isn't all that matters.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr, pray for us





### ***AN EASTER PROCLAMATION***

***The hosts of heaven exult and sing aloud in mighty triumph!  
Let the earth be glad as glory alights and night reigns no more.  
Let the Church rejoice at the victory of her Lord and Master,  
Who paid the debt of Adam,  
Who frees those doomed to die,  
Who heals the broken-hearted and bind up their wounds,  
Who forgives the sinner and raises up the lowly,  
Who destroys death forever,  
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.  
God our Father, eternal is your love for us!  
Christ the Son, in victory you reign!  
Holy Spirit, set the Easter fire ablaze in our hearts.  
Together you live and reign and ransom your people,  
one God forever and ever.  
Amen.***