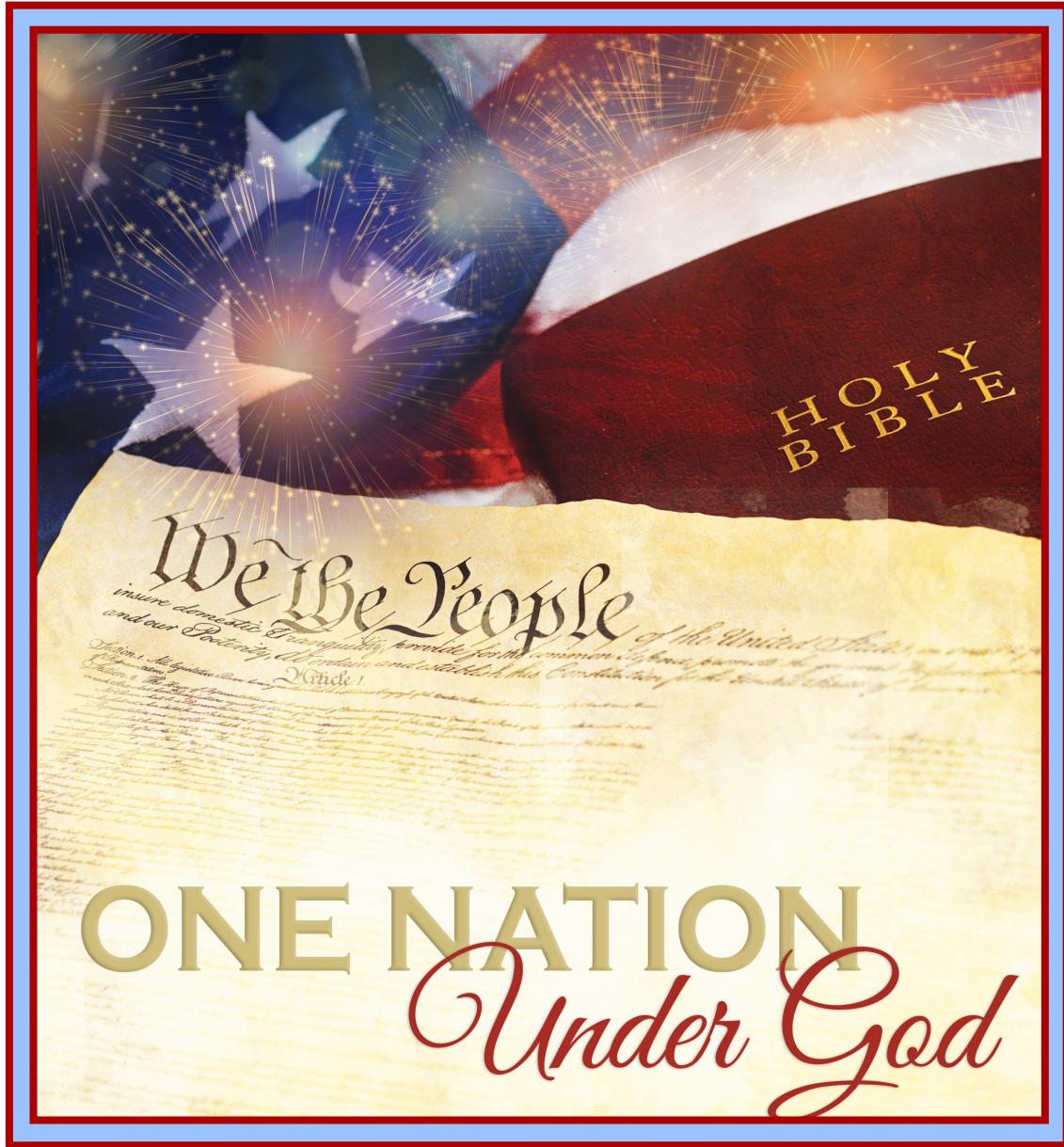


# St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

## July 4, 2021



### MISSION STATEMENT

We Worship ~ We Teach ~ We Care

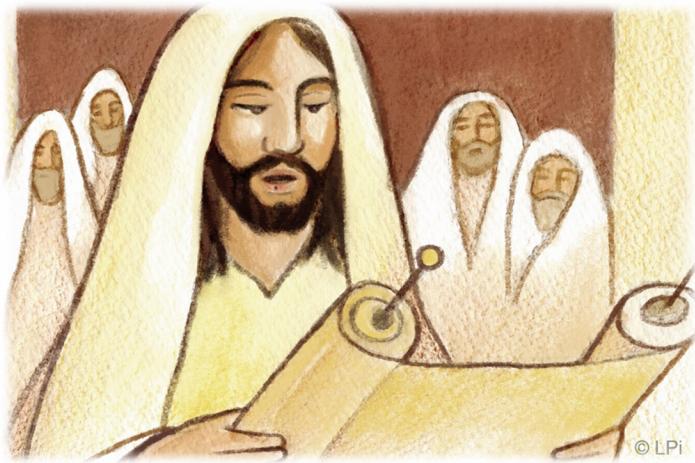
5112 Pocono Crest Road  
PO Box O  
Pocono Pines, PA 18350  
570-646-6424

Mass Schedule:  
Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

# July 4, 2021

## 14th Sunday

### in Ordinary Time



*Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.” So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. ~Mk 6:4-5*

### GOSPEL MEDITATION

It's all so ordinary that we can easily miss it. The seagulls hunting and diving for mollusks at the beach offer a display of determination and precision as they gather their food for the day. It's simply what these creatures do. Yet, there's a magical artfulness and skill to their work that speaks volumes about the One who breathed life into their being. This is pretty much the way it is with God's presence. God comes in common ways through common things and ordinary people. Sadly, we are so engulfed in our little worlds of order and ideas to notice the beauty and wonder of it all. Many have numbed themselves to the Divine spark at the essence of all life because that's just the way it is. What's so special about it? A sunset is a sunset and a seagull is a seagull. That's precisely what they thought about Jesus too. After all, isn't he just the carpenter's son? What merit can his words possibly have?

If we're looking for God to come in an event that is so dramatic and intense that it knocks our socks off, then think again. When pondering God's relationship with His people and God's action in our lives, we have to go back to the stable and the recurring, creative, unending power of God's presence. It was a quiet, run-of-the-mill kind of night. There was nothing spectacular or extraordinary. To the naked eye, a woman gave birth to a child and there wasn't anything extraordinary to see. We have a hard time understanding God's ordinary-ness. Jesus grew up in an ordinary town, had neighbors and did normal human things. Perhaps that's why we don't always like the Gospel. It doesn't dazzle us with extraordinary things but simply challenges us to take a different look at our ordinary stuff. That makes us uncomfortable. We prefer things as they are. Our lack of faith can even cause us to take offense at what Jesus says and does, dismissing it as folly.

God's life-giving presence continues to sustain that seagull in flight and keep all things in being regardless of whether we have the faith to see and understand this. Our personal agendas, preconceived ideas, misconceptions, and expectations can often cause us to be hardened and blinded to what God is doing or desiring to do. While God continues to do what he has done for all eternity, faith is needed for God's presence to bear fruit. The blinders we wear and the expectations we bring to life can often prevent us from seeing graced moments that radiate with God's graceful presence. They also prevent God's transforming, healing, and hope-filled vision for our world from being realized. Without faith, God won't be able to do much for us either.



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

**Reverend Sean G. Carpenter**  
~ Pastor

**Deacon Tom Amoroso**

**Judy Grace**  
Director of Religious Education  
~ stmaxreligiously@ptd.net

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

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

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

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



## Mass Intentions

Saturday: **Robert Cimeo** by Pam Cimeo

Sunday 8:30: **For The Parishioners**

10:30: **Tom McAndrew** by Family

Monday: **Arielle Bisono**

by The Bisono Family

Tuesday: **Brian Hurley**

by Dick & Mary Miraglia

Wednesday: **Jay Crandall (healing)**

by Knights of Columbus #13752

Thursday: **Deacon Frank Gisoldi**

by Knights of Columbus #13752

Saturday: **Peggy Bostwick** by June Schott

Sunday 8:30: **For The Parishioners**

10:30: **Patricia Champion**

by Laura and Harry Bacon

*Note: Confessions are held on Saturdays in Father Sean's office from 4 to 4:45 pm.*

*Enter the side entrance of the church and go to waiting area down the stairs.  
(Other times are by appointment only)*

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
Our Summer Schedule for Saturday Mass at 5 pm continues throughout the summer until September 12th, when mass will return to 4 pm.



**Sanctuary Light is Available**

**Bread and Wine**

**Is for Victims of Abortion**



**Altar Flowers are Available**



Katie Scully ~ Eileen Long - Geri Williams

Mary DeWaters ~ Elaine Madere

Regina Chmil ~ Marge McDonald

Charles Brunner

Lillian Bellis ~ Mirostawa Trochimowicz

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

## Readings for the Week

Saturday: Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29

Sunday: Ez 2:2-5; 2 Cor 12:7-10; Mk 6:1-6a

Monday: Gn 28:10-22a; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33; Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Mt 10:24-33

Sunday: Am 7:12-15; Eph 1:3-14; Mk 6:7-13



*A Warm Thank You to those who continue offertory support to our parish during these difficult times.*

*Donations for June 20th were \$4,263.*

*Your donations may be placed in the basket when leaving mass; by mailing to the church, or by online giving. Please contact the parish office if you want information on how to donate online.*

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



## Faith Formation September 2021 Registration

Registration forms are available for this year's Faith Formation classes.

Those classes that prepare children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion (First and Second Grades) and Confirmation (Seventh and Eighth Grades) will be held at St. Max between Masses on Sundays, from 9:00A.M.-10:15A.M. There will be a fee of \$20.00 for those four classes to cover expenses.

Grades Three, Four, Five and Six will meet virtually as they did this past year. There will be no cost to parents for these grades.

If you would like to pick up a Registration Form, they are available in the office during business hours, or you can call Judy at 570-646-6424. One will be mailed or emailed to you.

Judy Grace  
Director of Religious Education

### 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 Judy in the parish office.

### ONLINE SCRIPTURE STUDY



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 Judy in the parish office. We would love to "see" you.



Little Rock Scripture Study

### **St Max looks forward to restarting Little Rock Scripture Group in September.**

Back in March of 2020, before the pandemic hit the Poconos, the Little Rock Scripture Group started studying "Life Eternal". We would like to know who would be interested in attending in September, starting with "Life Eternal".

A study set can be ordered for you if you do not have one and wish to sign up. Please contact Judy in the Parish Office if you have any questions.

### **NEW MASS HYMNALS HAVE ARRIVED.**

**This weekend July 3/4 and next weekend July 10/11 the new hymnals will be in the Narthex. If you ordered a copy for yourself, pick it up. If you donated a copy in memory of a loved one, stop by the table to place a label in the hymnal and set it in the pew of your choice.**

### **LIVING TO THE MAX YOUTH GROUP**

Plans are being made for a one night Vacation Bible School Field Day Event. The event will take place from 4 pm to 8 pm on Wednesday, July 28th. This is open to all children ages 4 to 12. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Contact the Director of Religious Education, Judy, in the parish office for more information.

**ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE  
ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 10TH**

**POCONO FARM  
COUNTRY CLUB  
CONTEST - GAMES -  
AWARDS - PRIZES**



**Format-4 Person Team Scramble-4 Flights**

**LIMITED TO 132 GOLFERS**

**TEE OFF AT 12:30 PM**

**\$125. Golf & Dinner**

Dinner will be held at Lake Naomi Clubhouse  
(subject to Covid restrictions)

Cash bar—6 pm      Dinner Buffet—7 pm

Dinner only \$50.

Sign-up by Aug. 3rd

Forms for sign-up and  
sponsors will be in the narthex, office and  
in the bulletins 6/26 & 7/3.

For more info contact Mike 570-646-6007 or  
Kathy 201-925-7718

**ST. MAX MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday: 5 pm**

(May 29 through Labor Day Weekend)

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

**Daily Mass: Mon-Thurs @ 9:15 am**



Please see all the updated Diocesan guidelines that are sent to you by Flocknote. If you are not receiving them, please call the office and give them your email address. Per the Diocese of Scranton, anyone not fully vaccinated is still expected to wear a mask during all Masses. Anyone who has been fully vaccinated does not need to wear a mask inside the sanctuary. As you seat yourself, we ask that you follow social distancing protocols.

**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."*

**NEXT WEEKEND**

**Essentials Collection for Family Promise ~ July 10 & 11**

Family Promise helps local communities coordinate their compassion to address the root causes of family homelessness. They address the issue holistically, providing prevention services before families reach crisis, shelter and case management when they become homeless, and stabilization programs once they have secured housing to ensure they remain independent. They tap existing local resources to empower families towards economic stability. Families come to Family Promise in crisis; FP helps them rebuild their lives with new skills and ongoing support. Family Promise of Monroe County provides emergency shelter, meals and support service to at-risk and homeless children and their families in Monroe and Pike counties through a collaborative network of community volunteers.

In addition to providing prepared meals to families served by Family Promise, our St. Max Social Concerns Committee also sponsors several "*Essentials Collections*" throughout the year to offer an opportunity for our Parish Family to help provide necessary supplies for sheltered families. Our next collection will during the weekend of July 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. *Please place your donation of any of these requested items in the bins by the church exits: Laundry Detergent, Dish Liquid, Kitchen/Bathroom Cleaning Supplies (Disinfectant Cleaners, Sponges, Scrub Brushes, and Brillo Pads), Kitchen Trash Bags with Ties, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Tissues, Bar Soap and Liquid Hand Soap.*

*Thank you for sharing God's Love with our brothers and sisters!*

**A "THANK YOU!" FROM SOCIAL CONCERN**

**St Max's Social Concerns Committee thanks all those who donated new  
board books to Nurse-Family Partnership during our Father's Day weekend collection.  
The books will be a great tool, helping first time moms bond with their babies.**

**May God bless these new families!**



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

## St Maximilian Kolbe Parish

### Social Concerns Schedule of Activities

**July 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>** – An “Essentials” Collection for Family Promise of Monroe County.

List of requested items will be published later.

**August 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>** – Collection of goods for Women’s Resources of Monroe County.

Their “Wish List” will be published later.

**September 12<sup>th</sup>** – **FREE** Community Dinner – This date is tentative. Guidelines from the CDC, the Diocese of Scranton and Father Sean will determine if this dinner can be held.

**October 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>** – “Essentials” Collection for Family Promise of Monroe County

**October 24<sup>th</sup>** – **FREE** Community Dinner – This date is tentative. Guidelines from the CDC, the Diocese of Scranton and Father Sean will determine if this dinner can be held.

Please check future bulletins and posted flyers for more information. The Committee sincerely appreciates the continued support of Father Sean, the parish staff and our parish family!

Please check future bulletins and posted flyers for more information.



**It's easy to join our parish !**  
Go to: [stmaxkolepoconos.org](http://stmaxkolepoconos.org)  
and click **Join.**

Fill in your basic information and a member of our parish staff will contact you. Or, call the parish office at 570-646-6424 to have a registration form mailed to you.

**ST. MAX PARISH OFFICE HOURS**  
**MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY**  
**10 am to 1 pm**

### DO YOU NEED A HELPING HAND?

**Can you give a helping hand?**

The Helping Hands of St. Max is willing to provide rides to the doctor’s office and/or pickup medicines for parishioners, as needed. Anyone who is in need of such help, please contact Jean Sockol at 727-542-2280 for more information.

There is also a need for parish members willing to drive and/or run errands for fellow parishioners. If you are available to help, please contact Jean.

**Serve**  
...serve one another humbly in love.  
GALATIANS 5:13

*If you are interested in being a Eucharistic Minister, Lector or Commentator, Altar Server or Usher, please call the Parish Office. Training for these positions will be scheduled in August and September.*

### Notre Dame Jr/Sr High School Raises the Standards!

Our Catholic school in East Stroudsburg prepares students for full and meaningful lives. Students from 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade learn daily about their faith, excel in their academics, and practice good citizenships. Prayerfully consider the benefits a Catholic Education for your child at Notre Dame Jr/Sr High School.

Tuition assistance is available. Call our office today to learn more! 570-421-0466 or visit us online at [www.ndhigh.org](http://www.ndhigh.org)

**Our Parish is seeking two additional members for our Finance Council. Our Next meeting will be in July. If you would be able to assist in this area, we would be happy to have you join the team. Please call the parish office if you are interested.**

## LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

God never ceases to proclaim His Word. His life-giving presence continues to sustain all things and keep them in being regardless of whether there is the faith to receive or perceive Him. Our personal agendas, preconceived ideas, misconceptions, and expectations can often cause us to be so hard of heart and obstinate that we fail to see what God is trying to do. While God remains ever present, faith is necessary for God's power to bear fruit. As we celebrate our country's independence, let us not forget the difference between liberties and freedom. While the liberties we have are most welcome treasures, only freedom from what blinds, deceives, and weighs us down can bring happiness. God is all about healing, transformation, and hope. In order for God to do what God does best, we have to invite Him in and see Him for who he is. Otherwise, God's will for humanity will be something at which we simply take offense, a common reaction when something challenges or unsettles us.

### 97th Annual St. Ann's Solemn Novena

The closing mass for the novena will be on Monday, July 26th—Mass begins at 7:30 pm and will be celebrated by Bishop Bambera.

Our Parish is coordinating a carpool or bus trip to Scranton for the mass. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for those interested in attending.

### FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

- |          |                                      |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Monday:  | St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest;        |
| Tuesday: | St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr |
| Friday:  | St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest      |

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

#### The Prophecy of You and Me

Prophet. There's a heaviness to this word. It's weighted down with meaning. We think of prophets and we think of Charlton Heston with wild hair and a booming voice, reaching out his hand to work wonders of nature by the grace of God. We think of prophets and we think of ancient Biblical history — someone far away, someone so removed from our everyday life. A prophet is someone who knows something we don't.

When I let you in on this secret, it might scare you at first: in a way, God is calling you to be a prophet. He is calling me. He is calling anyone who hears the truth of the Gospel. However, there is no need for the megaphone and the wild locusts. This prophet gig might not be what you're thinking.

What does a prophet do? He hears and testifies to the truth, even when it's uncomfortable, even when it's unpopular, even when it results in, as Paul says, "weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions and constraints." A prophet doesn't have to be smart or rich or ordained; heck, he doesn't even have to be particularly willing.

All a prophet has to do is listen to the truth. The truth we receive from Christ, through the Gospel and the sacraments, is a mighty gift. But it is a gift that we are not meant to simply keep for ourselves. In possessing it, we are compelled to also pass it on, to share it, to let the Spirit set us on our feet.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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