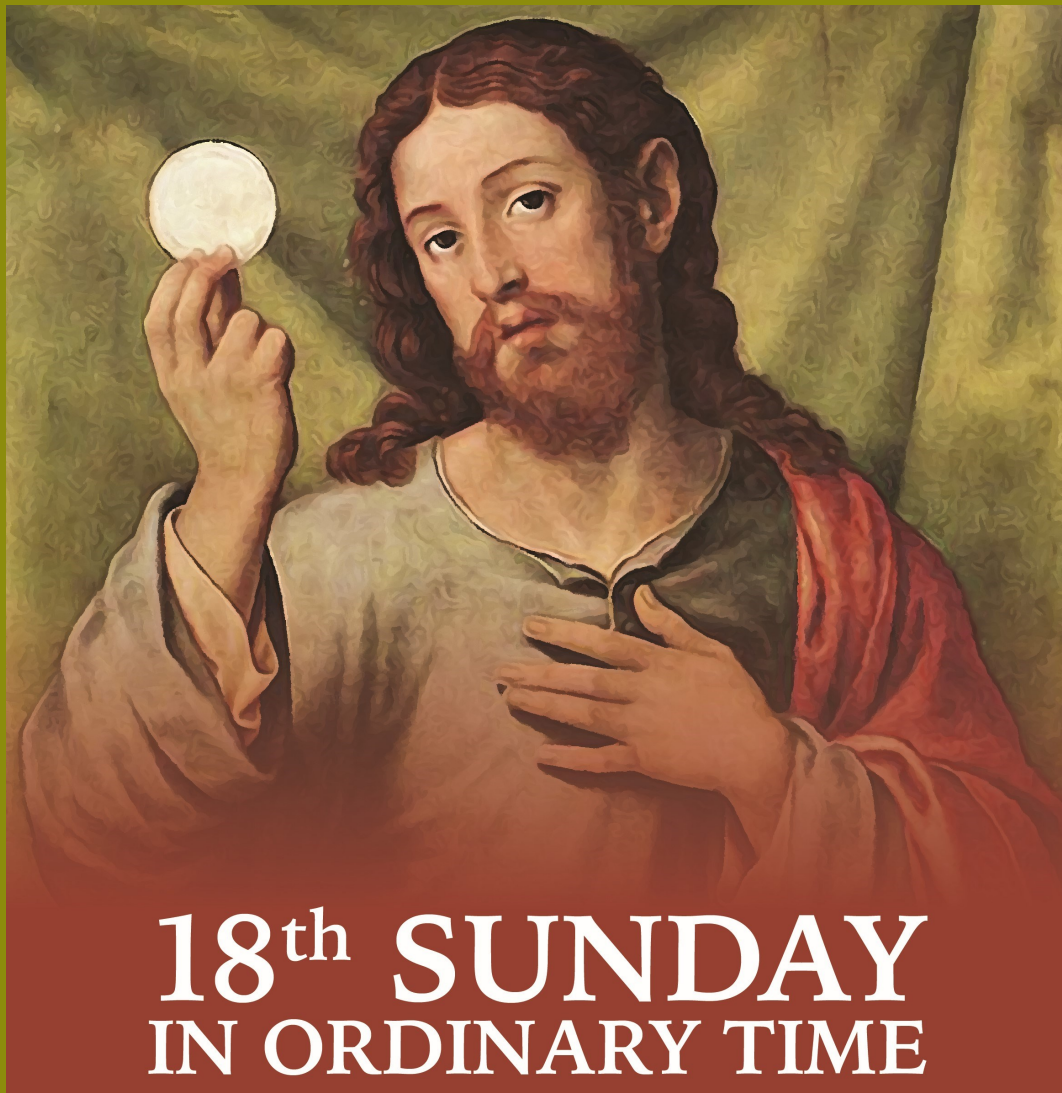


St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

Aug 1, 2021



MISSION STATEMENT

We Worship ~ We Teach ~ We Care

5112 Pocono Crest Road
PO Box 0
Pocono Pines, PA 18350
570-646-6424

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

August 1, 2021
18th Sunday in
Ordinary Time—Year B



Jesus said to the, “Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ~Jn 6:32-33

GOSPEL MEDITATION

“You cannot see the forest for the trees” is a widely known saying that can bring wisdom to our understanding of our journey. Often, our sight becomes limited to what is immediately before us. We lose touch with lessons and experiences from the past and promises and hope for the future. As human beings, we have the privilege of being able to choose things. What I like and don’t like, want, and don’t want can be major preoccupations of our minds and hearts. Our preferences and desires begin to define us more than the simple fact of our being. Who we are matters more than what we are or what we have. If we don’t move beyond the external and superficial stuff to what really is of essence, we risk becoming very unsettled, disorientated, angry, and unhappy. We fail to see the bigger picture of hope and promise that lies ahead and the Divine Presence that has sustained and carried us before.

We like it when the “now” time of our lives satisfy us. Even the people who witnessed Jesus feed the five thousand got confused and distracted. It felt good when thousands of people were able to eat. They wanted to know what they could do to get this to happen again! But Jesus quickly reminds them that this is not the point of this sign. As much as the now time of our lives is of concern, it is not what is ultimately important. We need to learn the difference between being and doing, drawing more strength from who we are and who God is rather than what is happening around us and the choices we can make. Jesus is the true bread that came down from heaven. Jesus is the very incarnate presence of God who sustains life and assures us that we will not perish. This is not easy to understand and feel. We have to practice being in the presence of ourselves, others, creation, and God. We are brought to a holy place when we encounter the sacredness of being. This is real prayer.

Then, we learn to trust. It is when we cease trusting that we start to become afraid, uncertain, apprehensive, and doubtful, and overly self-concerned. We even start to grumble. God has our back. That is the essential powerful message of the living bread come down from heaven. God, who is alpha is also omega, the beginning and the end, and has everything in between in his care as well. A woman once remarked that her most powerful God moment happened when she and her husband cuddled with their new baby for a time. Without exchanging words and using only the affection communicated through sight and touch, they rested in being with each other. This brought them to the sacred, where they realized that a greater Being was with them. It was real. They knew that they were part of something bigger, intimate, and profound. When we rest in the Living Source of life, we will find that our souls are no longer hungry or thirsty.



St. Maximilian Kolbe
Parish Staff

Reverend Sean G. Carpenter
 ~ Pastor

Deacon Tom Amoroso

Judy Grace
 Director of Religious Education
 ~ stmaxreligioused@ptd.net

Juli Reese
 Office Manager ~ Stmaxkol@ptd.net

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

Visit us on the web @ www.stmaxkolbeapoconos.org

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



Mass Intentions

Saturday: **Ann Marie Alcamo**
by Nat Alcamo

Sunday 8:30: **Ed, Helen & Stephen Nidweski**
by Ed & Roseann Nidweski

10:30: **For The Parishioners**

Monday: **Helene Hardy**
by Pam Cimeo

Tuesday: **Dr. Francis Ford**
by The Braun Family

Wednesday: **Estelle Mihalak**
by June Schott

Thursday: **Ryszard Wesorowski**
by Polish Friends

Saturday: **Patricia M. Binns**
by Parents, Bill and Eileen

Sunday 8:30: **Robin Stubanis**
by Mike and Terry Logan

10:30 **For The Parishioners**

1 pm Polish Mass: Wladyslaw Chorzepa
by The Polish Community

**Note: Confessions are held
on Saturdays in the church from
4 to 4:45 pm.
Other times by appointment only.**

Readings for the Week

Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12

Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Eph 4:17, 20-24;
Jn 6:24-35

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25~14:1, 26-29a, 34-35;
Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13; Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mk 9:2-10

Saturday: Dn 6:4-13; Mk 17:14-20

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8; Eph 4:30—5:2; Jn 6:41-51

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.
Sunday Masses: 8:30 and 10:30 am
Daily Mass: 9:15 am, Mon-Thurs. (no mass Fri)**



**Sanctuary Light
In Memory of Peggy Bostwick**

**Bread and Wine
For Victims of Abortion**



**Altar Flowers
Available for Your Intention**



Katie Scully ~ Eileen Long - Geri Williams
Mary DeWaters ~ Elaine Madere
Regina Chmil ~ Marge McDonald
Charles Brunner ~ Lillian Bellis
Mirostawa Trochimowicz ~ John Scomillio

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



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

Donations for July 12th were \$5,278.

***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



Faith Formation September 2021-Registration

Summer is almost half over and school is right around the corner. **Faith Formation Classes begin on Sunday, September 19th.**

Those classes preparing for Sacraments, 1st & 2nd for Reconciliation and First Communion, and 7th & 8th for Confirmation, will meet here at St. Max. Class times are Sundays at 9:00 A.M. until 10:15 A.M.

The cost of these classes is \$20.00 per child to cover expenses.

Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 will have virtual classes. There is no cost to parents for these classes. However, family involvement is encouraged. Each lesson is only about 40 minutes. If you have any problems understanding how to proceed with virtual classes, please let me know. The teachers and I will be more than happy to help any way we can.

Registration forms are available in the office during office hours – Monday- Thursday, 10 am to 1 pm.



Living to the Max Youth Group Meets bi-weekly

Download the "Remind" app and search "Youth Group" so you can get updates about the group, meeting dates, etc.

Schedule:

August 11th—TBD— "We Teach" Lecture
August 18th-7-8pm "We Care" Valor service project
August 25th—Meeting 7-8:45pm
August 28th-TBD—Youth Group Outing



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.

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.

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.

Mission Statement Reflection:

"We Worship. We Teach. We Care"

~For one week, starting Wednesday, August 11

We Teach at 7 p.m. in the church.

Msgr. Grimalia will be here to speak.

~Saturday, August 14, mass at 9:15 am —

**We Worship – We Celebrate
the Feast Day of St. Max.**

~We Care Donations, both monetary and goods for Valor House will be accepted through Aug 17.

These will be packaged by the Living to the Max Youth Group on August 18th and sent to Valor House. Items needed are: Jeans (new), T-shirts, Underwear, and Travel sizes of Soaps, Shampoo and Deodorant. No additional items being accepted at this time. ~Thank You

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

ST, MAXIMILIAN KOLBE

PLAYERS ARE FILLED TO CAPACITY

SPONSORS STILL BEING ACCEPTED

**ANNUAL GOLF
TOURNAMENT**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 10TH
POCONO FARM
COUNTRY CLUB**



**CONTEST - GAMES - AWARDS - PRIZES
TEE OFF AT 12:30 PM**

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

**Cash bar—6 pm Dinner Buffet—7 pm
Dinner only \$50.**

Forms for sponsors will be in the narthex and office.

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

TOMEC SUMMER PICNIC

**Top of the Mountain Ecumenical Council
Friday, August 13th at 5 pm.
at Pocono Lake Wesleyan Church Pavilion.
Each family should bring a dish to share.
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and Drinks
will be provided.**

ST MAX PARISH PICNIC

SUN. AUG. 15TH, 12:30 pm

This is our chance for fellowship which we have surely missed. A pre-wrapped lunch and games for everyone to enjoy, following the 10:30 am mass.

**PARISH
PICNIC**

Call the Parish Office to sign up.

Hello St. Max Family, We wanted to share with you a letter from Michael Boris who is one of our seminarians. He received some of the wonderful cards and words of encouragement that were sent out in May.

*Dear Friends of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish,
I greatly appreciated receiving your cards and words of encouragement. Thank you for praying for me and all of the seminarians. I have never visited your parish before, but I hope to one day. You are in my prayers and enjoy the rest of your summer.*

God Bless!

Sincerely,

Michael Boris, Seminarian

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Practicing Graciousness in the Desert

Looking back over my journey of parenthood, I know there were days when I traveled the extra mile for my children. I made their toast the way they like it, let them play in the park an extra ten minutes, or let them go to the movies with their friends and I finished up the chores on my own. And then, it happened: the attitude. The request for the smallest thing from one of them is met with disdain or bewilderment.

Sometimes you can be made breathless with the ingratitude of another person who takes so much and with so little shame, only to scoff at the idea that they, too, give even the smallest amount.

But if we're being honest with ourselves, we will admit that we do the exact same thing to God. Haven't we all been the Israelites in the desert at one point or another? God has parted our Red Sea in some way. He's led us out of some great trial, given us some great blessings. But then we run into a little resistance somewhere along the way and we throw up our hands. How could you do this to us, Lord? How could you ask this of us? No, I can't go any further. No, I won't do any more.

Persisting in the blindness to the many ways God continues to protect us is nothing short of a temper tantrum. It robs our Everyday Stewardship of its graciousness, of our ability to accept with joy the trials of life because we are also constantly aware of its blessings. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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

St. Max's Social Concerns Committee thanks all those who donated to their recent "Essentials" Collection for Family Promise of Monroe County. Your gifts will be used by those families with children who are served by Family Promise. Whether homeless, at risk of being homeless, or having recently secured housing, items for daily living are still necessary. Your generosity is truly appreciated! We humbly thank you.

St Maximilian Kolbe Parish

Social Concerns Schedule of Activities

**Collection for Women's Resources of
Monroe County – August 28 & 29 -**

This is a corrected date.

Bins will be placed by the church exits for your donated items, which will be used at their local shelter. Women's Resources' mission is, "To end domestic and sexual violence for all women, children and men in our community."

They have supplied this Shelter Wish List: Gift Cards (Walmart, Weis, Shop-Rite, Giant), Dish Soap, Laundry Detergent, Hair Brushes, Deodorant, Journals, Cleaning Supplies (any kind), Mops, Brooms, Disposable Gloves, Lysol Disinfectant Spray & Cleaners, Paper Products (bath tissue, paper towels, tissues), Trash Bags, Tin Foil, Can Openers, Twin Blankets & Comforters, Twin Quilted Mattress Covers, Towels, Coffee, Sugar, Condiments (ketchup, mayo, spices, seasonings). *The women, children and men served by Women's Resources thank you!*

September 12th & October 24th –

FREE Community Dinners – Dates are tentative. Guidelines from the CDC, the Diocese of Scranton and Father Sean will determine if dinners can be held.

October 16th & 17th –

**"Essentials" Collection for Family Promise of
Monroe County**

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!

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.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

How many books are in the New Testament?

- A. 34
- B. 27
- C. 56
- D. 18

(See the answer on bottom of next page)

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



It's easy to join our parish !

**Go to: 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. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr, pray

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday:	St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop; St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest
Wednesday:	St. John Vianney, Priest
Thursday:	The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major
Friday	The Transfiguration of the Lord
Saturday:	St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions; St. Cajetan, Priest; BVM

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

When we lose our ability to trust, we become afraid. When we are afraid, we may begin to grumble and question whether where we are is where we need to be. For us who have faith, we even question whether God is who God says He is. Trust is so important to our success on our journey. Often, the road of our lives can become a bit treacherous. We may find ourselves feeling more unsettled than comfortable and less fulfilled than we would like to be. As much as we try, the pieces of our puzzle don't quite fit together as they ought. We wonder if we will ever experience happiness again. Then, something reminds us that God is very much present in this mess we call life. God is still bringing hope out of despair and life out of death. After all, God is the true bread that comes down from heaven to give life. All that is necessary is for us to trust in this truth, even when we may be lacking in some of life's essentials. The God who gives life is the same God who sustains it. He is also the same God who assures us that we will not perish.

The answer is B

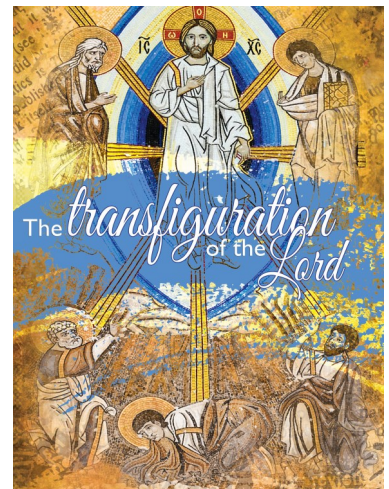
There are 27 books in the New Testament

Did you get it right?

Friday August 6th

Once on the mountain, Matthew 17:2 states that **Jesus "was transfigured before them; his face shining as the sun, and his garments became white as the light."**

At that point the prophet Elijah representing the prophets and Moses representing the Law appear and Jesus begins to talk to them.



WHY DO WE DO THAT?

- CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Question: What can I do to help our family practice our faith each day?

Answer: Some families practice their religion together as just another event on their schedule: go to church, observe Lent, help at the parish picnic, go to a meeting, volunteer time, make your confession, use your envelope... But the focus needs to be on who we are—God's people, in relationship with him, loved, forgiven, and redeemed, and called to live and proclaim the Gospel. Our awareness of God's presence and our sense of mission are supported by the daily rituals, celebrations, and traditions that help us stay focused. Sharing our faith strengthens us and clarifies the beliefs and values of Christian living.

Daily family practices include time for prayer—before meals, before bed, before important meetings and activities. Attend Sunday Mass together and discuss the homily afterward. Create family celebrations for holy days and holidays. Make religion a regular part of your discussions. Include others, especially the elderly and the less fortunate, in your activities and charitable efforts. By applying the virtues of faith, hope, and love to each day, faith becomes part of who your family is. It influences how you act towards others, what you value, and how mindful of God you are. Faith is the leaven of life that helps all of us rise to our calling and dignity as God's people. ©LPi

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