

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

September 26, 2021



26th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

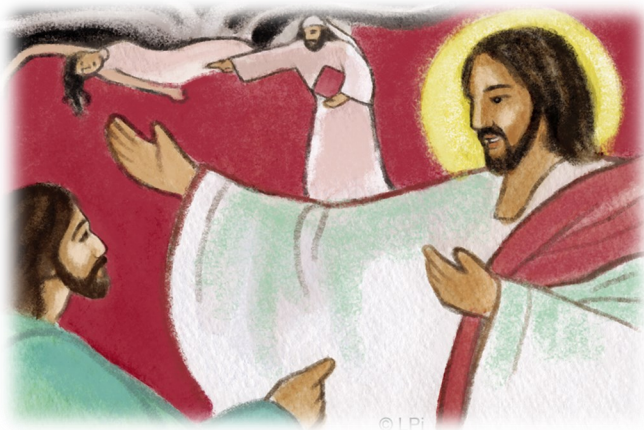
MISSION STATEMENT

We Worship ~ We Teach ~ We Care

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

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

September 26, 2021
26th Sunday in
Ordinary Time - Year B



Jesus replied, *“Do not prevent him. For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.”*

Mk 9:39a, 40-41

GOSPEL MEDITATION

What are the little ones? They are the poor, the marginalized, the women and men at the well, the Zacchaeus’ looking for Jesus from a tree, those mired in sin, the blind who want to see, and the lame who want to walk. They are the lepers and the different ones who have been told that they are unclean, and the ones who suffer from abuse and grave injustices and oppression. They are children who want nothing more than to be loved and enjoy celebrating their innocence. These are all the little ones and they are all vulnerable. Life already brings them burdens, we don’t need to add to them.

St. Oscar Romero said, “When the church hears the cry of the oppressed it cannot but denounce the social structures that give rise to and perpetuate the misery from which the cry arises.” Why are so many people still so gravely hurting? We have the resources and the means to make things better. We choose not to. There are still those things called greed, pride, lust, apathy, jealousy, gluttony, and anger that prevent us from seeing each other and people to be loved and not objects to be used. Is this how God intended things to be?

God loves what is good and upright. It doesn’t matter who did it or where it came from. In God’s eyes, the end result is always faith, hope, and love. Those will always unite a person with God. We fill our lives with many things that are not good either for ourselves or for others. All of us have to work to discover what it is, exactly, that leads to the world’s brokenness. There are people, systems, and ideologies in place that foster oppression and injustice rather than equity and fairness. Sadly, our complacency can be the greatest evil. Turning a blind eye, ignoring the truth, and believing that we are helpless to fix so great a problem, does little to move us closer to the kingdom of God. As members of the Body of Christ, we cannot condone anything that keeps people in misery.

As it is said, charity begins at home. Perhaps a good place to start is with our own households and making sure their foundations are properly laid.

©LPi



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

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



Mass Intentions

Saturday: **Anne Marie Alcamo**
by Nat Alcamo

Sunday 8:30 am: **For The Parishioners**
10:30 am: **Michael Kovich**
by Tom and Lynnette Smith

Monday: **Ashley Marie Devine**
by Brendan Coughlin

Tuesday: **Sophie M. Kalinowski**
by Lori and Terry Braun

Wednesday: **Kristen Feeney**
by Jim and Peggy Shea

Thursday: **The Holy Souls**
by Mike Gallas

Saturday: **Michael and Angela Castellano**
by Michael Castellano

Sunday 8:30 am: **For The Parishioners**
10:30 am: **Peggy Bostwick**
by Marion Colvin

***Note: Confessions are held
on Saturdays in the church from
3:00 to 3:45 pm.
Other times by appointment only.***

Readings for the Week

Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday: Nm 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6;
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Monday: Zec 8:1-8; Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23; Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Jn 1:47-51

Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Bar 1:15-22; Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Mt 18:1-5, 10

Sunday: Gn 2:18-24; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16

MASS SCHEDULE

**DAILY: Monday thru Thursday @ 9:15 am
(NO MASS ON FRIDAY)**

SATURDAY: 4:00 pm

SUNDAY : 8:30 am & 10:30 am

ST. MAX PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

10 am to 1 pm



Sanctuary Light

In Memory of Peggy Bostwick

Bread and Wine

For Victims of Abortion



Altar Flowers

Available

***(Please call the parish office to
request your intentions).***



Katie Scully ~ Eileen Long - Geri Williams
Mary DeWaters ~ Elaine Madere
Regina Chmil ~ Marge McDonald
Charles Brunner ~ Lillian Bellis
Miroslawa 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 September 26th were \$3,920.

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

FAITH formation



Faith Formation September 2021-Registration

**Faith Formation Classes started 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 am until 10:15 am. 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.



Little Rock Scripture Study

St Max restarting Little Rock Scripture Group on October 26th, at 10 am

If you need a book to follow the program, a study set can be ordered for you. Please contact me if you have any questions. 570-646-6424.

Thank you, Judy Grace, DRE

ONLINE SCRIPTURE STUDY



The St. Maximilian Kolbe Scripture Study discussion group meets live on Zoom Tuesday mornings @10:30 am. New members are always welcome. For more information on how to join, contact Judy in the parish office. We would love to “see” you.

We have settled on two times (both on Thursdays) for our book club and invite you to sign up for one!

Dates are as follows:

**October 14th, 21st, and 28th,
and November 4th, 11th, and 18th**

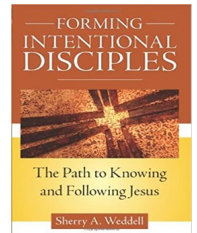
Times are:

Afternoons, 1:00pm-2:30pm (in person)

OR

Evenings, 7:00pm-8:30pm (via Zoom)

Anyone interested is asked to sign up by Sunday, September 26th for either the afternoon or evening sessions by contacting Lynn Ruezinsky at LRuezinsky@optonline.net or 908-251-4054. Books will be ordered for everyone who signs up, and anyone able is asked to pay \$14 to cover the cost of the book. (Payment may be made in person or by mailing to the parish office, Attn: Book Club.) Thank you! We look forward to fruitful discussions!



Living to the Max Youth Group Meets Every Wednesday

Download the “Remind” app and search “Youth Group” so you can get updates about the group.
Email: reesecup2018@gmail.com for more info.



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Will take place on Saturday, October 2nd at
12 noon in the St. Max “Barking” lot.



If your child(ren) would like to participate in the Joyful Noise Choir, please call, text, or email Juliet Dunham 570.262.9225 (voice or text) juliet.the.great@gmail.com

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

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Breaking the Stewardship Mold

Have you noticed how we always tend to pigeonhole one another — and ourselves? “I could never serve on the Parish Council. That’s for Rick and Ellen and that whole group of people who have done it for years.” “Greg takes care of faith formation in the parish — he always has. He doesn’t need my help.” “I can’t afford to give the big bucks like those families who sit up front can. My offering wouldn’t matter even if I did increase it.”

Thinking like this is a good indication that we aren’t in conversation with God about what His will is for our lives. If we have already decided what we are and are not meant to do, we aren’t likely to pray over it, to discern it.

We have to be open to the spirit of the Lord wherever it leads us, regardless of what we or others have come to expect from us. We human beings come to believe that we are such good judges of what others can offer — or what we ourselves can offer. But God has plans for us to which we aren’t privy. God calls everyone to serve Him in the way that pleases Him best, and only He can decide what that is. Everyday Stewardship demands a continual accounting of who we can be, what we can offer — even if it’s outside our comfort zone, even if it’s something that never occurred to us before.

There’s only one Person who can tell us what God wants from us. Do we even think to ask Him?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



It’s easy to join our parish !

Go to: stmaxkolepoconos.org
and click *Join*.

Fill in your basic information & a member of our parish staff will contact you. Or, call the parish office 570-646-6424 for a registration form.



Do you know someone who is interested in becoming a fully initiated Catholic Christian?

RCIA may be for them! “RCIA” stands for the RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS. It is a *process* especially designed for:

- those interested in finding out more about being a Catholic Christian
 - adults and children age 7 and older who desire to be baptized in the Catholic Church (Catechumens)
 - those baptized in another faith tradition who desire to become Catholic (Candidates)
- baptized Catholics (Candidates) who would like to complete their sacraments of initiation (First Communion and Confirmation)

If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about becoming a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church, please email St. Max’s RCIA Team at StMaxRCIA@gmail.com or call the parish office.

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RCIA ~ WHY might I feel called to be part of the RCIA Team at St. Max?

The RCIA Team ministers to those interested in becoming fully initiated Catholic Christians through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. There are many roles within an RCIA Team. Volunteers are helped to discern the gifts and talents they bring to the ministry and are guided to use these attributes in a variety of ways as we journey in faith with our Catechumens and Candidates. Roles are as follows:

Catechist: Plans and shares knowledge

Team member—hospitality: Creates a warm, welcoming environment

Team member—liturgy/prayer: Helps to create the prayer space, and prepares and/or leads prayer

Team member—godparent or sponsor: Becomes a close friend and/or mentor to the catechumen or candidate

Team member: Leads *or* participates in the Liturgy of the Word dismissal (either by actually ‘breaking open’ the word or by simply and joyfully sharing life experiences that link to the word and homily)

Team member—communicator: Looks for opportunities for people to share their personal journeys with the community; facilitates links between the group and the broader parish

If you would like to find out more about becoming part of our RCIA Team, please email StMaxRCIA@gmail.com or call the parish office. Thank you for considering sharing your gifts with this very rewarding ministry!

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

**Attention: Adult Members
of St. Max**

Come and join us for a "Parish Meet & Greet"

**When? Wednesday, October 13th
– from 4:30-6:30 P.M.**

**Where? Murph's Hideaway,
Rote 940, Pocono Lake**

Come and meet your fellow parishioners and
enjoy the camaraderie.

Cash Bar and Light Snacks

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON NEWS

October is Respect Life Month

and the first Sunday in October is designated as
Respect Life Sunday. The Most Rev. Joseph C.

Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, will celebrate
**Respect Life Sunday Mass on October 3 at 10:00
a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Scranton.**

The Mass is open to the public. Faithful from
across Diocese of Scranton are invited to attend
Respect Life Sunday Mass and focus on God's
precious gift of human life and our responsibility
to care for, protect and defend the lives of our
brothers and sisters.

For those unable to attend in person, the Mass will
be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television of
the Diocese of Scranton and livestream on the
Diocese of Scranton website and social media
platforms.

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**Please join us for a one hour webinar on October
19th at 7PM with Deacon Ed Shoener.** Deacon Ed
will be discussing the books he and Bishop John
Dolan helped to create, *Responding to Suicide: A
Pastoral Handbook for Catholic Leaders* (named
Resource of the Year by the Association of
Catholic Publishers) and *When a Loved One
Dies by Suicide: Comfort, Hope, and Healing for
Grieving Catholics*. Deacon will also speak about
his continuing work in **Grief and Bereavement
Ministry** at Cathedral Parish. To register for the
webinar or to learn more, please contact Jennifer
Housel (570-207-2213 x 1104) at the Diocese.

**St Maximilian Kolbe Parish
Social Concerns Announcements**

**Due to the steady increase of COVID-19 in our
area, the committee decided we could not safely
host any Community dinners this fall.**

**We join our St. Max family in praying for an end
to the pandemic.**

**"Essentials" Collection for Family Promise of
Monroe County on October 16th & 17th**

Our St. Max Social Concerns Committee is
sponsoring our annual fall collection of items for the
families currently being sheltered by Family Promise
of Monroe County. There will be baskets by the
doors of the church on October 16th and 17th to collect
your donations.

Our Parish Family has always been very generous to
these families in need. We humbly thank you for
your continuing support. Items requested for this
collection are: *paper towels, toilet paper, trash bags,
tissues, baby wash, body wash, toothbrushes and
toothpaste, laundry detergent and dryer sheets.*

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Who was pope during Vatican II?

- A. Pope John Paul II
- B. Pope John XXIII
- C. Pope Benedict XV
- D. Pope Pius IX

(The answer is on the last page of the bulletin)



**St. Max has a "give away"
section in the Narthex:**

There is a corner shelf with books, as well as a table
with rosaries, prayer cards, and calendars near the
cry room entrance. There is also a bin to place any
Weis receipts, and a basket under the table for lost
and found. We ask that you do not place any
brochures or cards of your own in this area. Rather,
if you have something that you would like to share
with the parish, please bring it to the Parish Office
and we will get it displayed.

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

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Who are the little ones? They are the many and varied faces of people who see hope in Jesus' message about the Kingdom of God. They have come to believe that there is a different world to be had: a place where everyone has a home, all have an equal opportunity to share in God's bountiful gifts and blessings, where justice reigns, truth presides, and peace fills hearts. The little ones are those who may have left their former views behind, perhaps even their former lives to follow Jesus and believe in the Beatitudes as God's world vision. They are the poor, the marginalized, the women and men at the well, the Zacchaeus' looking for Jesus from a tree, the blind who want to see, and the lame who want to walk. They are the lepers who have been told that they are unclean, and the ones who have learned that suffering and death are nothing to fear. These are all of the little ones. Jesus gathers and protects them as a shepherd guards his sheep. Whoever causes one of these little ones to sin deserves the greatest wrath. Be more concerned about what people are doing than where they came from.

Support Catholic Schools



"As a Catholic School, one of the things we do best is we help each student grow. We work to bring each student to his or her full potential!"

- Jeff Lyons, Principal
Notre Dame Jr./Sr. High School, East Stroudsburg

Donate Now: annualappeal.org

GIFTS OF ANY AMOUNT ARE APPRECIATED

2021 Diocese of Scranton
DIOCESAN
ANNUAL APPEAL



Trivia Answer: B

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday: St. Vincent de Paul, Priest: His preaching to peasants across France attracted donations from the wealthy that enabled him to build hospitals, homes for orphans and the elderly poor, and buy freedom for more than 1,200 galley slaves. Today, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul cares for the poor in 132 countries.

Tuesday: St. Wenceslaus, Martyr: He stood for Christian values in the midst of the political intrigues which characterized 10th century Bohemia and by his death did what he was unable to do while he was living. He made Bohemia Christian.

St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs : In the 17th century (1633-1637) St. Lawrence Ruiz and his companions shed their blood for Christ in Nagasaki, Japan. These martyrs were members of the Order of St. Dominic. They were nine priests, two religious, two sisters, and three laymen. Among the latter was Lawrence Ruiz, a family man from the Philippines. They abundantly sowed the missionary seed of Christianity with the example of their life and death.

Wednesday: Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels : Each of the archangels performs a different mission in Scripture: Michael protects; Gabriel announces; Raphael guides. Earlier belief that inexplicable events were due to the actions of spiritual beings has given way to a scientific world-view & a different sense of cause and effect. Yet believers still experience God's protection, communication, & guidance in ways which defy description. We cannot dismiss angels too lightly.

Thursday: St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church: Known mostly for his translation of the Scriptures from Hebrew into Latin, *Saint Jerome* was also an inspiring writer of letters and commentaries.

Friday: St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church: St. Therese distilled the Gospel message, "Unless you become like little children, you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven" (Mt. 18:3) into practical, lived terms that everyone can understand. Her own life experiences of immense suffering and struggle were the means by which God led her to this profound Gospel expression.

Saturday: The Holy Guardian Angels: Jesus points out that all people, even little children, have a guardian angel, and that the angels are always in Heaven, always looking at the face of God throughout their mission on earth, which is to guide and protect us throughout our pilgrimage to the house of our Father. As St. Paul says, "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to minister for them, who shall receive the inheritance of salvation?" (Hebrews 1:14).

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