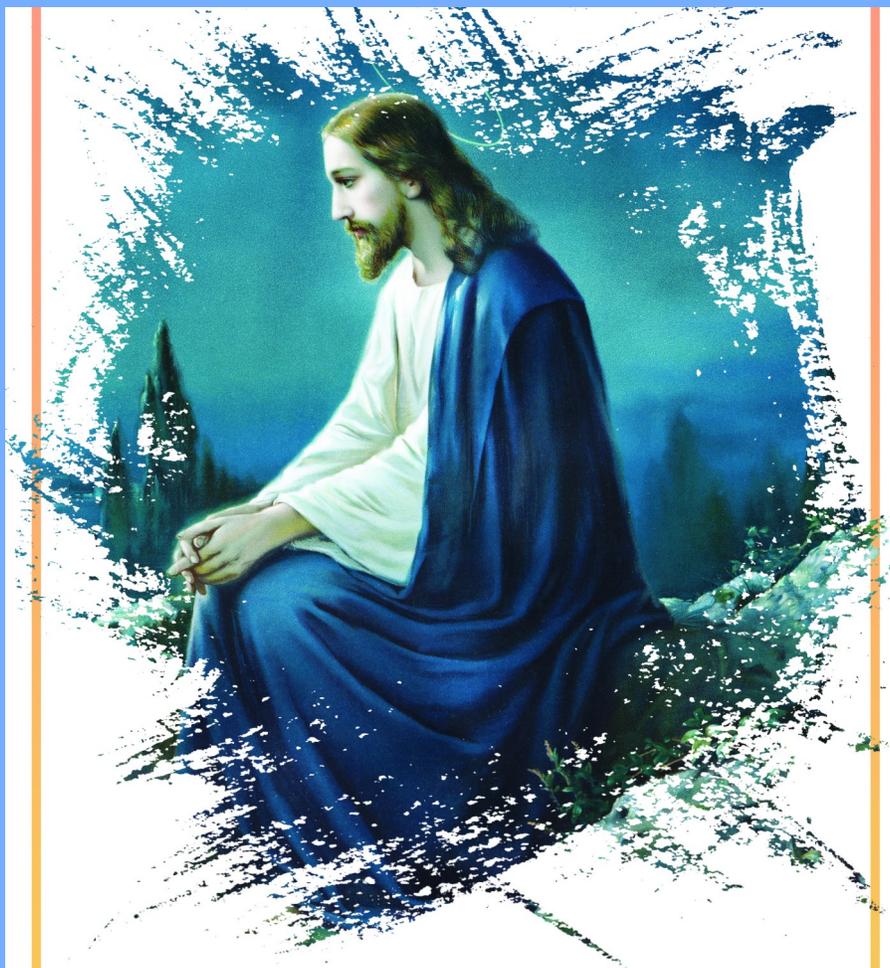


St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

November 14, 2021



"HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY, BUT MY WORDS WILL NOT PASS AWAY." - MK 13:31

33RD 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

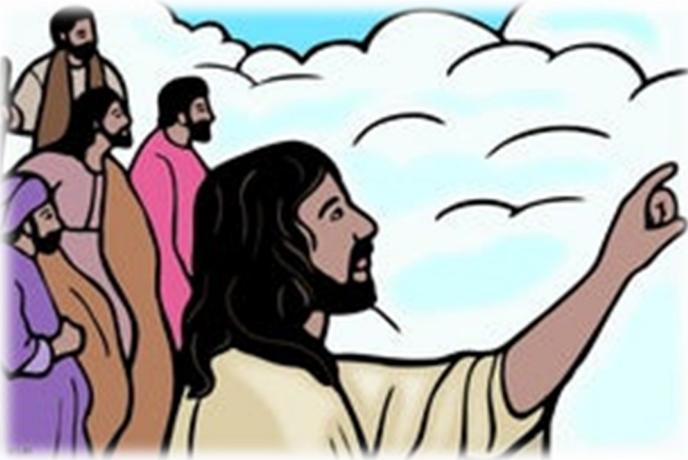
November 14th, 2021
33rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time - Year B

GOSPEL MEDITATION

And then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in the clouds’ with great power and glory.” Take a moment to ponder these words from today’s Gospel. How does this image make you feel? For people to truly understand the significance of this message, something profound has to happen within. If we find ourselves reacting with a sense of dread or fear, we have to step back and ask why. Our answer will reveal a great deal about our relationship with God. It’s hard to fall in love with a God of whom we are afraid. God does not want us to be afraid. Nor does He want us to align our wills to His in order to avoid some kind of horrendous eternal consequence. That sounds like too much of a superficial power play on the part of God who continues to seek out His children in love.

In order for these words to carry any type of significant meaning for us, they have to resonate with and touch us on a deeper level. They have to be able to connect some dots and have meaning for us in order for this promise to change our lives. Sometimes we get preoccupied with the uncertainty of our deaths. Not knowing when or how we will eventually die can be unsettling. But, more so than needing an answer to the “when” of death, the “what” of death answer we provide has more significance. What happens to us when we die? Whether we die during the natural course of our lives or when Christ comes again, the experience is the same. If we believe that we are meant to live in union with God eternally and that death completes and does not diminish us, then it is worth our time and effort to wait in vigilant hope of the Lord’s coming in glory. Our journey back to God is something beautiful to be desired, not dreaded or feared.

Sadly, many folks believe that life is no more than a random occurrence without any purposeful direction or meaning. Death is simply death and nothing more. For them, the Second Coming of Christ and God’s eternal promise have no meaning. When we understand the truth about who we are, it changes things up. We then can see ourselves as works in progress who have the choice to either resist the inspirations of the Divine Artist or give into the wonderful creativity of His will. Life awaiting the fullness of Christ to come becomes an unfolding of Divine surprises and abundant joy. God is eternally merciful, forgiving, and welcoming. It is only when we directly reject this gift and turn our backs on Love itself that we have anything to fear. ©LPi



“Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, not the Son, but only the Father.”
 ~Mk 13:30-32



St. Maximilian Kolbe

Parish Staff

Reverend Sean G. Carpenter

~ Pastor

Deacon Tom Amoroso

Judy Grace

Director of Religious Education

~ stmaxreligiosed@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: Deacon F. Edmund Lynch
by Aline Lynch

Sunday 8:30 am: For The Parishioners
10:30 am: John and Jane Scaglione
by Rosalie Richardson

Polish Mass Sunday 1:00 pm: For Intentions of All Deceased Members of our Polish Community & Families

Monday: Robin Stubanis
by Mike & Terry Logan

Tuesday: Peggy Bostwick
by Maurice & JoAnn Berger

Wednesday: Bob Smith
by Arlene & Pete Petras

Thursday: Inger Bachalski
by Richard & Gloria Bachalski

Saturday: Robert Diaz, Sr.
by The Colon Family

Sunday 8:30 am: For The Parishioners
10:30 am: Gerry Johnson
by James & Maureen Butler



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

MASS SCHEDULE

DAILY: Monday thru Thursday @ 9:15 am
(NO MASS ON FRIDAY)
SATURDAY: 4 PM
SUNDAY 8:30 & 10:30 AM

Readings for the Week

Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Lk 18:1-8
Sunday: Dn 12:1-3; Heb 10:11-14, 18Mk 13:24-32
Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63;
Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29; Lk 19:41-44
Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday: Dn 7:13-14; Rv 1:5-8; Jn 18:33b-37

TOMEK Thanksgiving Service:

The Top of the Mountain Ecumenical Council will hold a Thanksgiving Service here at St. Max on **Tuesday, Nov. 23rd at 7 p.m.**

There will be collection at the service to benefit the ministries served by TOMEK.

All are welcome to attend!



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).

ST. MAX PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

10 am to 1 pm



Katie Scully ~ Eileen Long - Geri Williams
Mary DeWaters ~ Marge McDonald
Charles Brunner ~ Lillian Bellis
Miroslawa Trochimowicz ~ John Scomillio
Joan Aronowitz

If you know someone in need of prayers and would like to have them added to this list,



Donations for October 31st were \$4,054.
Many Thanks to those who support our Parish.

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

FAITH formation



Faith Formation 2021 Classes started Sept 19th Registrations still being accepted

Please note time of classes: Because many families prefer to attend the 8:30 Mass on Sundays, Faith Formation Classes will now begin at 9:15 am. They will dismiss at the same time as always—10:15am.

Grades 1st & 2nd, preparing for Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion, will now meet in the Church Hall from 9:15 to 10:15 am.

Grades 7th & 8th, for Confirmation, will meet in the classrooms from 9:15 to 10:15 am.

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. ~Judy Grace

Registration forms are available in the office during office hours – Monday- Thursday, 10 am to 1 pm. Please call the office if there are any questions.

St Max has restarted Little Rock Scripture Group Tuesdays at 10 am

The group meets in the Church Hall. We are currently Reading “Life Eternal”. We have books and/or printed study materials available for you to follow. Contact Judy Grace, DRE at 570-646-6424 if you have any questions. All are Welcome.

ONLINE SCRIPTURE STUDY



The St. Maximilian Kolbe Scripture Study discussion group meets live on Zoom Wednesday 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.

Our parish intern, Lynn, is forming a team of adults who will meet over the next few months to discuss adult faith formation. The focus will be on discerning what parishioners may need in order to live as disciples of Jesus to the fullest extent possible and beginning to address those needs with a short study or discussion group to be offered this coming Spring. The hope is to gather input from a diverse group of parishioners – young & older, male & female, and multi-racial/ethnic. If you or someone you know of is interested in or has ideas regarding the faith formation needs of our adults, please contact Lynn at LRuezinsky@optonline.net or (908)251-4054. Thank you!

Ministry Volunteers: There is a table in the Narthex for all current ministry volunteers, as well as anyone who would like to volunteer. It includes copies of the current schedule, a roster to help you find a sub when needed, and a sign-up sheet for anyone wishing to help as Usher, Altar Server, Eucharistic Minister or Lector. These sheets will be checked weekly.



**Living to the Max Youth Group
Meets Every Wednesday at 6:30 pm**
Download the “Remind” app and search “Youth Group” so you can get updates about the group.
Email: resecup2018@gmail.com for more info.

Book Club Meeting:

Remaining dates is: November 18th

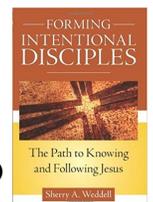
Times are:

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

OR

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

Anyone interested is asked to sign up for either the afternoon or evening sessions by contacting Lynn Ruezinsky at LRuezinsky@optonline.net or 908-251-4054.



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

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

Giving Until it Hurts

In the time of Christ, sacrifice was nothing new to the Jewish people. The Israelites were experts at sacrifice. So, after centuries of every kind of offering imaginable, what was so special about Christ's? What made it so different from the sacrifices offered by the Levitical priests for centuries before his death?

Well, to adequately answer that question would consume whole volumes. And, of course, the first and most important reason is that Christ was the son of God and the savior of the world, not a random (if "unblemished") lamb offering. It was only by the blood of Christ that we could be redeemed.

But another answer is this: Christ's sacrifice cost him. In fact, it cost him everything. The offerings made by the Israelites through their priests cost them too, of course. They gave of their flocks, of their household stores, of their wealth. But Christ gave differently. He gave of himself. He gave until it was all gone.

Such is the highest form of stewardship: the gift of self to the point of discomfort. It can take a multitude of forms and I am not saying we are all called to be nailed to the cross. In fact, for most of us, our gifts will not involve physical discomfort at all. But certainly, stewardship demands discomfort. It demands that we go against our human nature of putting ourselves first, of thinking primarily of our own needs and desires. And most of all, it demands love. For that, above all else, distinguished the gift Christ gave us.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Winter Coats: There are a limited number of winter coats in children's sizes available for those in need.

Please contact Steve Glinane,
570.977.4617.

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.

"We know earthly death is not the end, but rather the door through which we must pass to gain eternal life. Because of our belief and hope in the Resurrection, we can face death not with fear, but with preparation... We prepare for eternal life by choosing to love and follow God now, in our daily lives and decisions."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

"Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing"

respectlife.org/end-of-life-considerations

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What sin does the Sacrament of Baptism remove?

(Answer is found on the last page of the bulletin).

Saint Joseph Sunday Missals

Each family is welcome to take a copy of the New Saint Joseph Sunday Missal for 2022 on your way out of the church. Baskets will be at the exits or copies can be picked up from the Parish Office.

St. Max has a new "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.

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St Maximilian Kolbe Parish

Social Concerns Announcements

Social Concerns' Volunteers and Friends are Cooking Again!

On October 7, volunteers began another rotation of cooking for sheltered families served by Family Promise of Monroe County. Each and every Thursday through Dec. 16, our driver will deliver to Tannersville **five** complete evening meals (entrée, sides, salad, fruit and/or dessert, enough to feed 8+ adults) plus multiple bottles of juice. Paper plates and bowls, napkins, plastic eating utensils and cases of water are also donated. These dedicated cooks stepped forward in August 2020, preparing meals *for a full year* with only a short break. When the call went out asking for their help again, they eagerly responded. If you would like to help with this vital ministry, contact Mary Miraglia at miraglia@ptd.net or 570-234-6646.

“We know earthly death is not the end, but rather the door through which we must pass to gain eternal life. Because of our belief and hope in the Resurrection, we can face death not with fear, but with preparation... We prepare for eternal life by choosing to love and follow God now, in our daily lives and decisions.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,
“Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing”
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ADVENT MEDITATIONS

This Advent, don't get caught up in the busyness. Don't get lost in the anxiety of preparing for a day. Joyfully anticipate the coming of the person of Jesus through an encounter with his Most Blessed Mother. The *Rejoice! Advent Meditations with Mary Journal* not only lets you walk beside Mary during the first Advent, but also lets you get to know her in a way you haven't before.

Each day, in a few short pages, Fr. Mark Toups provides you with a word, a reflection, a Psalm, a reading, and a prompt, all to help guide your prayer. And anyone able is welcome to meet in the parish hall Thursday afternoons (1:00pm-2:30pm) to discuss their prayer experiences for the week.

To sign up for the discussion group or to be part of St. Max's bulk order of "Rejoice!" (even if you are unable to participate in the discussion group), please use the sign-up in Flocknote or contact Lynn Ruezinsky at LRuezinsky@optonline.net or 908-251-4054. Deadline for the book order is Sunday, November 14th and anyone able is asked to pay \$9 to cover the cost of the book. (Payment may be made in person or by mailing to the parish office, Attn: Advent Book.) Thank you!

Have a Blessed Advent!

THANK YOU

Our Parish recently received a check for \$287.03. Because of our members who remember to save their Weis Mkt. register receipts and turn them in to us we are able to take advantage of this program. Receipts may be dropped in a basket in the Narthex (or in the collection basket).

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Question: Why do some sacraments leave a character or mark on the soul? Don't all sacraments affect the soul?

Answer: All sacraments mediate grace and connect us to Christ and to the Church. Some sustain us in our faith journey, while others help us heal from the effects of sin. Each one offers a share in God's life, giving us what we need to be faithful followers of Jesus. But some sacraments change us in ways that are irreversible. The three sacraments that leave a character are Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders. We are literally different people because of the effect of the grace of those sacraments. We are changed at the core of our being in such a fundamental way that we can not go back to what we once were.

In Baptism, we are freed from original sin, initiated into the Body of Christ as adopted sons and daughters. In Confirmation, we are given the fullness of God's Spirit, sealed in his grace and gifted with what we need to live a Christian life. In Holy Orders, a priest is marked as an 'alter Christus,' another Christ, and is once and forever a priest who offers sacrifice, forgives sin, and acts in the person of Christ. In these three sacraments, we are conformed more closely to Christ, reflecting his love and truth. ©LPi

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

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Every human being asks and answers a very important existential question. What happens to us when we die? The answer we provide will determine how we chart the course of our existence. It will also determine whether the Second Coming of Christ will be of any concern to us. For many, life is simply a random occurrence with no significant intention or meaning about it. For these people, their eventual death, and the end of the earth as they know it, have little importance beyond their personal consequences. But, for people of faith our natural death and the Second Coming of Christ have huge implications. It is to these things that our faith speaks volumes and can bring a keen understanding and direction that the secular world simply cannot provide. This is where the call to vigilance and the primordial virtues of faith, hope, and love become useful and meaningful. We are works in progress who can either resist the inspirations of the Divine Artist or give into the wonderful surprising creativity of his will.

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



SAINT OF THE WEEK EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH

St. Elizabeth of Hungary | Feast Day November 17

Although her life was short, St. Elizabeth of Hungary (1207 – 1231) is recognized for her love of the poor and suffering, and as patroness of Catholic charities and the Secular Franciscan Order. The daughter of the King of Hungary, she chose a life of penance instead of leisure, which made an impact on the “commoners” she served.



St. Elizabeth married Louis of Thuringia when she was 14. Deeply in love, they had three children. Despite their wealth, she led a life of prayer, sacrifice, and service to the poor and sick under the spiritual direction of a Franciscan friar.

After six years of marriage, her husband died in the Crusades, and St. Elizabeth was grief-stricken. Her husband’s family did not look kindly upon her and mistreated her before finally throwing her out of the palace. However, the return of her husband’s allies from the Crusades resulted in her being reinstated, since her son was legal heir to the throne.

St. Elizabeth joined the Secular Franciscan Order in 1228 where she cared for the poor in a hospital she founded in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. She died in 1231, but her great popularity resulted in her being named a saint only four years later.

This Sunday’s Gospel:

Jesus speaks of his Second Coming at the end of time and warns his disciples:
“Be watchful! Be alert!”
How are you preparing for judgment day?

Trivia Answer: Original Sin

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