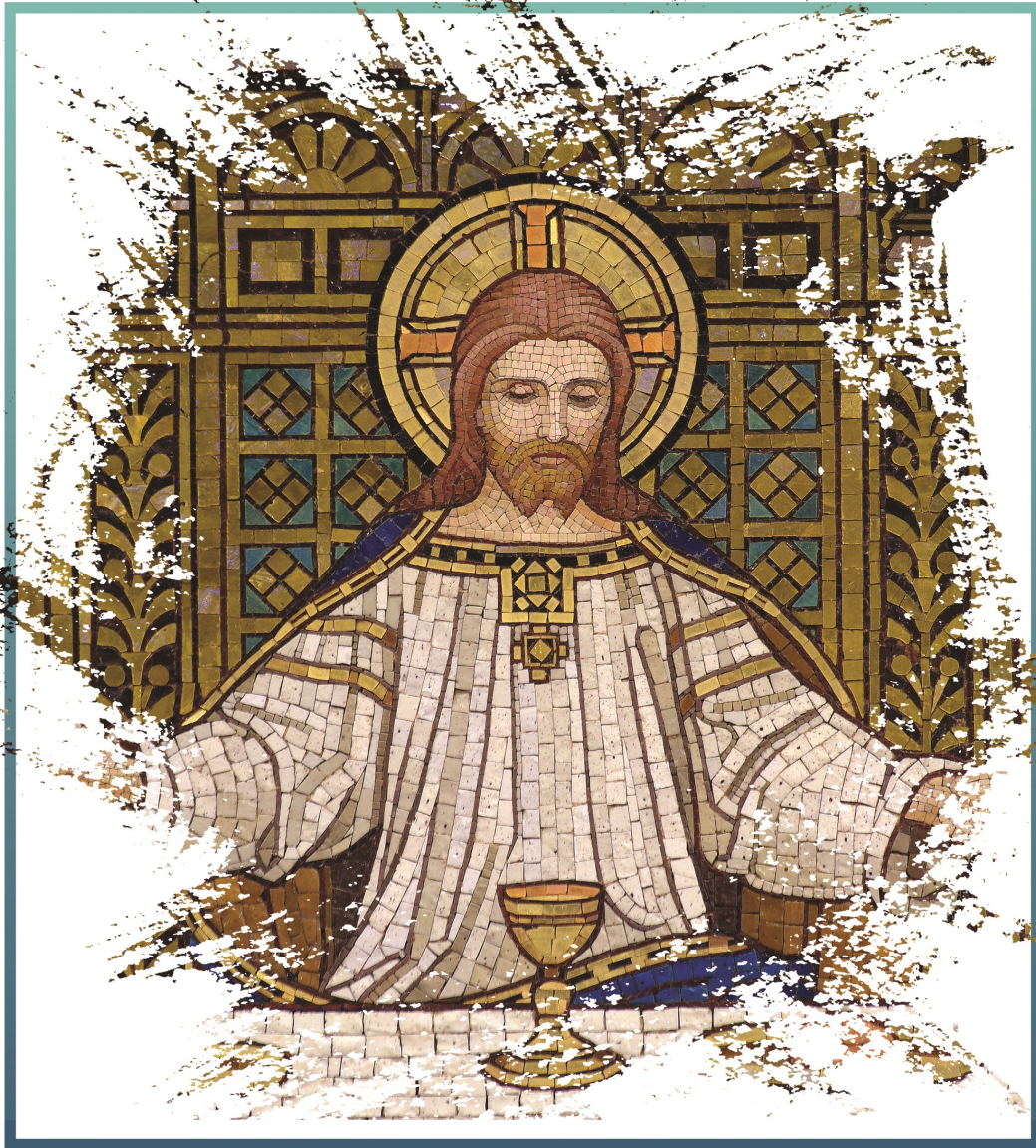


St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

February 13, 2022



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

February 13, 2022
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C



“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Behold, your reward will be great in heaven.” ~Lk 6:22,23b

GOSPEL MEDITATION

What has been the most difficult challenge you faced in your life? Many difficult human experiences can “turn up the heat” in our lives, causing us to question the why of things or even fall into despair. Some people just somewhat passively accept what life brings, even death, and chalk difficult experiences up to happening “because they do.” They seemingly endure and move on. Taking life at face value, there really is no ultimate meaning to things. It’s easier to ignore that inner prompting calling us to understand why. It’s there whether we admit it or not. To question or not to question — that is the question! People sometimes give up the God search because it causes too many questions. Once we open the door to the possibility of God’s existence, then all of the awkward, challenging, and tragic pieces of life have to find their place.

It gets messy. But the search is so important to living. We can easily dry up and become arid, abandoning any hope for purpose and meaning because it’s too difficult and non-rational at times. In searching for answers to the how and why of life, human beings also embark on a search for God. When one finally stumbles upon the real living tangible presence of God, then that discovery allows life’s ironies and tensions to be held side by side with the all-encompassing totally unconditional, unmerited love of God! Then when life’s heat gets turned up, difficulties and challenges abound, dryness and heartache become the norm, the soul remains in joyful repose. There is no fear.

The beatitudes celebrate life’s ironies and tensions, holding them all together in the Kingdom of God. Poverty, hunger, weeping, being insulted and hated are not things we would normally associate with being God’s friends. But they are! In fact, those who experience these uncomfortable realities of life are actually better off than those who do not. This is what makes Jesus’ message so intriguing! Don’t give up questioning. Questioning the apparent inequities and polarities of human experience will certainly challenge one’s faith. But it’s the only way to deepen it.



St. Maximilian Kolbe
Parish Staff

Reverend Sean G. Carpenter
 ~ Pastor

Deacon Tom Amoroso

Judy Grace
 Director of Religious Education
 ~ stmaxreligious@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: Allana Calder
by Grandma Irene & Grandpa Neil

Sunday 8:30 am: For The Parishioners
10:30 am: Eugene Gartner and Daughter Denise
by Joan Gartner

1:00 pm Polish Mass: Tadeusz & Stanislaw Domanski
by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Domanski

Monday: Joan Carroll
by Gail and Al Huff

Tuesday: John Slagle
by Michael Booth

Wednesday: Marie DeVito
by Judy Grace

Thursday: Emil Cheslack
by Lynn Ruezinsky

Saturday: Jean Carbone
by Lynn Ruezinsky

Sunday 8:30 am: Marge McDonald
by Alberta Scalia
10:30 am: For The Parishioners



Sanctuary Light
In Memory of Peggy Bostwick



Bread and Wine
For Victims of Abortion



Altar Flowers
Available for your intention

Please call the office to offer intentions.

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Jer 17:5-8; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20;
Lk 6:17, 20-26

Monday: Jas 1:1-11; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27; Mk 8:22-26

Thursday: Jas 2:1-9; Mk 8:27-33

Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26; Mk 8:34—9:1

Saturday: Jas 3:1-10; Mk 9:2-13

Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23;
1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38



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

MASS SCHEDULE

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

SATURDAY: 4:00 pm

SUNDAY: 8:30 & 10:30 am



Donations

January 30th.....\$ 3,385.
Many Thanks to All who continue to
support our Parish.



Katie Scully ~ Eileen Long
Mary DeWaters ~ Charles Brunner
Lillian Bellis ~ Miroslawa Trochimowicz
John Scomillio
Joan Aronowitz ~ Christopher Mortensen

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

ST. MAX PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

10 am to 1 pm

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

FAITH formation



Faith Formation Classes

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

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

Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 have Virtual classes.

Please contact Judy Grace in the Parish Office for any questions.

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.

In person Scripture Sharing is postponed until Spring. Restart date will be announced.



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: reesecup2018@gmail.com for more info.

Facebook Live Online Mass Option: Saturday, 4 p.m. mass will be live streamed. To access the Masses live on Facebook, go to Facebook.com and in the search engine, type “St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, Pocono Pines, PA.”

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish Bereavement Support Group Meets the Second Wednesday of Each Month at 2 P.M.

The Monthly Meeting of the Bereavement Support Group is held downstairs in the Parish Hall on the second Wednesday of each month at 2 pm. *Until further notice, all participants will continue to wear masks and to observe social distancing in order to protect others in attendance who may be medically vulnerable.*

It is not necessary to be a member of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in order to attend this ecumenical group. The format is open and ongoing (not limited to a fixed number of sessions) and the content of the meeting is selected to address the needs of those present. Anyone who has experienced a loss due to death, divorce, or separation is encouraged to attend. Through the use of audio, visual, and printed materials the group offers information about the stages of grief & the emotional, physical, mental, and spiritual effects that may be experienced by those who are grieving. A lending library contains materials that are helpful for children, adolescents, and adults. The compassionate presence of people who have journeyed through the bereavement process offer support for the newly bereaved and for those who may have delayed the process or who still need assistance. For directions or more information, please call Lynnette at 839-9346 or 570-242-6165, or email her at tomlyn65@ptd.net.

Coming to St. Max's for Lent!



Alpha is a great opportunity to meet new people and explore faith together in an open, informal environment. This Lent at St. Max's, we'll offer opportunities to view video clips or videos (you choose which length) when and where you want. We'll also offer a number of opportunities – day and night, in-person and virtual – to talk with parishioners about what you're thinking and to hear what others have to say. Give up just a little bit of your time and gain so much in return! For more information or to sign up, please visit <https://stmaxkolbepoconos.org/faith-formation>. We hope you'll join us!

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

The 2021-2023 Synod on Synodality



As you may know, Pope Francis is inviting Catholics both in the mainstream of church life and on the margins to voice their dreams, ideas and concerns in preparation for the Synod of Bishops in 2023. As part of this preparation, Pope Francis is calling for the 2021-2023 Synod on Synodality and inviting the Church to *gather* and to *listen* to each and every Catholic to find the Church's path forward at this time in our history. This is a moment for the voice of God's people to be heard to give voice to the direction of the Church and an opportunity for this ancient and tested model to find relevance in light of today's challenges and opportunities.

St. Maximilian Kolbe parish is offering two ways for parishioners to participate in this synod. In-person listening sessions will be held in the parish hall on Tuesday, March 22nd. Parishioners may sign up for either the afternoon (3:00pm-4:30pm) or the evening (6:30pm-8:00pm) listening session through Flocknote or by contacting our parish intern, Lynn, at LRuezinsky@optonline.net or (908) 251-4054. Those who are unable to attend an in-person session or would prefer to participate in the synod through an online survey can access the survey at <https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/synod-on-synodality/>. The Holy Father seeks to hear every voice. Please prayerfully consider participating either in person or online. Thank you!

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD (ADSUMUS SANCTE SPIRITUS)

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.



This Sunday is

World Marriage Day

World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family – the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice, and joy in daily married life.

ANNOUNCING AN INTER-GENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION FESTIVAL



Calling all adults and children - join your fellow parishioners for a fun-filled festival in preparation for Lent.

We will enjoy Pizza, fellowship and fun activities as we plan to follow the "Road to the Resurrection".

The Festival will be on Friday, February 25th

We will begin eating our Pizza at 4:30 – come when you can. Activities will begin around 5:30.

Sign-ups are required so we know how much pizza and supplies to have on hand.

You can sign-up on Flocknote, in the office or in the Narthex.

Hope to see you then!

Stay Connected to God.

Check this out....morningoffering.com

This website offers free daily devotional email including wisdom from the saints, classic books on Catholic spirituality,

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: How many months are holy oils kept for use?
(Answer is found on the last page of the bulletin).

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



“Essentials Collection” for Family Promise of Monroe County on February 26th and 27th

On the weekend of February 26/27, our St. Max Social Concerns Committee is holding their ***Winter Essentials Collection for Family Promise of Monroe County***. 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; the organization helps them rebuild their lives with new skills and ongoing support. Because of your continuing generosity, St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish Family has been able to put into practice the Corporal Works of Mercy in service to those in need, and we are deeply grateful for your assistance.

REQUESTED ITEMS ARE:

Household Items: *NEW* Pillows (Child and Adult sizes), Pillow Cases (*New or Gently Used*), Kitchen Trash Bags with ties, Cheese Grater, Measuring Cup & Spoons, Sponges, Scrub Brushes, Brillo Pads, Dish Detergent, Paper Towels, Napkins, Paper Cups, Toilet Paper, Laundry Detergent, Kitchen/Bathroom Cleansers

Health & Personal Care Products: Shampoo & Conditioner (Adult & Child), Hairspray, Hairdryer, Combs & Hair Brushes, Toothpaste, Bars of Soap, Liquid Soap, Razors (Men & Women), Deodorant (Men & Women), Feminine Products, Tissues, Sunscreen, Pain Medication (Tylenol, Motrin, Advil), Bath Towels, Wash Cloths, Bath Mats

Collection containers will be located near the exits to receive your donations.

LIVE THE LITURGY
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The human heart will always find itself wanting unless it finds its rest in God. Many people haven't yet figured out that pursuing purely secular ideologies and interests and side stepping their relationship with God causes them to fall short of their potential. When we seek our satisfaction, seek our strength, and establish priorities based entirely on the things of this world, we come up empty. There is never enough and we are always reaching for more. We develop distorted senses of justice, lose our moral axis, and lower our benchmarks for change, growth, and development. That is why knowing the beatitudes and God's vision they contain is so important. They remind us that our consumption, success driven lives can actually hurt and exploit others; quickly moving us away from God's idea of how things need to look. God ultimately will set things straight. We can assist in that mission now by trusting, hoping, and looking to God for our cues for how to live, set goals for ourselves and discern the best way to share this world with our brothers and sisters.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
Planted Near Water

We all know that there are times when life can feel, as Jeremiah writes, empty and wasted. There are moments when we think we resemble a barren bush, thirsting in the desert sun.

That's why it is imperative for us to know the location of our water source. I promise you, it's closer than you think. God never planted a seed in barren ground.

For me, it's the Mass. Going to Mass is where I find total peace and renewal. I don't have any great theological explanation for this — Mass is simply where I can truly rest in God for a time, where nothing and no one in the world can touch me. And wouldn't you know it, it's in the toughest times that I need Mass the most — that my roots stretch harder for that water.

Woe to the rich, says Jesus — woe to the popular, to the content, to the happy. It's not because He hates to see us smile. It's because He knows our humanity. He knows our limitations. He knows that when things are going really well, we often stop looking for God.

What replenishes you as a disciple, as a steward, as a Christian? If it feels far away or hard to reach, why is that? How can you bring it closer?

We are all trees planted near water, to yield our fruit in due season. Let's pray for the strength to know where our water source is, and to seek it both in good times and in bad.

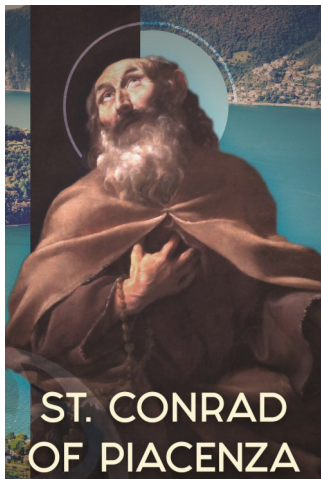
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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

SAINT OF THE WEEK EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH

St. Conrad of Piacenza—February 19

The history of St. Conrad of Piacenza is quite fascinating. A member of one of the most noble



families of Piacenza, he was known for his utmost honesty. One day while out hunting with friends, he thought he saw some game in an area of brush and ordered his attendants to set fire to the brush in order to scare it out of hiding. Unfortunately, the dry brush quickly ignited, and fire started to spread. Soon, the surrounding area was engulfed in flames.

Unfortunately, a known arsonist happened to be in the same area as the fire. This man was later imprisoned, tried, and condemned to death for the damage. But on his way to his execution, St. Conrad of Piacenza, full of guilt, stopped the proceedings and confessed to the fire. To make restitution for the damages, Conrad had to sell all his belongings, which reduced him to poverty. Soon after, he decided to retire to a hermitage, where he became a hermit of the Third Order of St. Francis, and his wife entered the Order of Poor Clares. ©LPi

*Try Jesus,
if you don't like Him
the devil will take you back.*

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.



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 to be mailed to you.



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Trivia Answer

Answer: 12 months

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