St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

July 25, 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

We Worship ~ We Teach ~ We Care

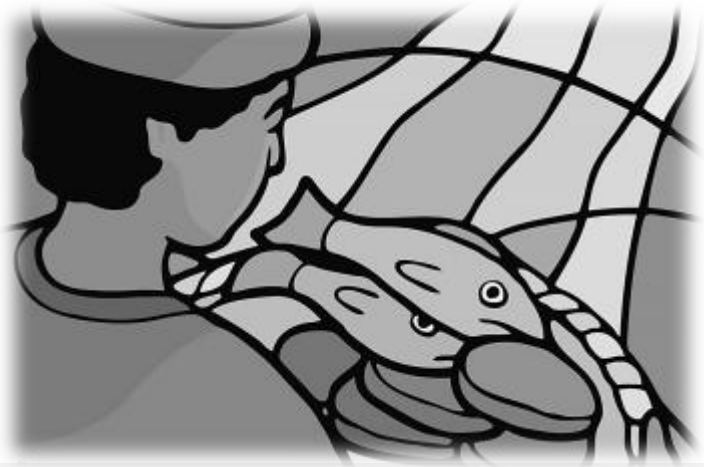
5112 Pocono Crest Road
PO Box O
Pocono Pines, PA 18350
570-646-6424

Mass Schedule:

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

July 25, 2021
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year B



"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many? Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted.
~Jn 6:9,11

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.stmaxkolbepoconos.org

GOSPEL MEDITATION

*S*t. Oscar Romero said, "We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is the beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest."

There were a group of ladies many years ago who made quilts. They were beautiful creations reflecting inspirational designs artfully composed from the simple scraps of fabric each woman would bring to their individual pieces. There was no plan for the finished project as each finished work became the combined creation of what each woman contributed. They abounded in vibrant colors and dazzled the beholder with intricate patterns and their myriad textures. They were so beautiful that they became coveted family treasures passed from generation to generation. Those women never realized the power of their work. Countless babies rested in the comfort of those quilts warmly nestled in the legacy of tradition they were fortunate to inherit. They adorned countless homes with their beauty and brought joy and solace to many faces.

We cannot do everything. We are not meant to. Our work in life is to contribute our individual piece, a piece that reflects the unique thumbprint I claim as my own. We only have to do small things well. Then, as St. Oscar Romero reminds us, the Lord's grace will enter and do the rest. We have to trust that this is true just as those women trusted in the eventual beauty of their final work.

Eucharistic blessings are blessings that start small and multiply. We all come to life with only a few loaves of bread and a few fish. Not any single one of us has all that it takes to transform our world. Who knows what God will do with the little we have and how many will benefit from our kindness, compassion, wisdom, courage, conviction, love, warmth, zeal, faith, and hope? That young lad never dreamed that his few leftovers would do all that they did. God shows up in unexpected ways! Where would life's adventure and fun be if it were any other way? Being able to be part of bringing God's creative, transforming, healing to the world opens us up to wonder, awe, and excitement! We can all bring our little piece to the bigger work of God that can result in being a coveted jewel passed generation to generation. This is good news indeed!

Bread and wine transform into Christ's Body and Blood and we become what we eat. Trust that.

©LPi

Mass Intentions

Saturday: **In Honor of Donald C. Dempsey, III**
by The Family
Sunday 8:30: **For The Parishioners**
10:30: **Pat Champion**
by Pat and Jack Connors
Monday: **Maureen Kreseski**
by David and Erin Miller
Tuesday: **Robin Stubanis**
by Mike & Terry Logan
Wednesday: **Margo Erazo**
by Her Family
Thursday: **Jeffrey Burton**
by June Schott
Saturday: **Ann Marie Alcamo**
by Nat Alcamo
Sunday 8:30: **Ed, Helen & Stephen Nidweski**
by Ed & Roseann Nidweski
10:30: **For The Parishioners**

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)

Readings for the Week

Saturday:	Ex 24:3-8; Mt 13:24-30
Sunday:	2 Kgs 4:42-44; Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15
Monday:	Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday:	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday:	Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46
Thursday:	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Jn 11:19-27
Friday:	Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Mt 13:54-58
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

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 Ray & Nellie Paglione
by Ed & Roseann Nidweski

Bread and Wine
For Victims of Abortion

Altar Flowers
In Memory of Mario & Grace Nocelli
by Rae and Richard Triciuzzi

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

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.

Stewardship

sharing the gifts we have been given

***A Warm Thank You** to those who continue offertory support to our parish during these difficult times. Donations for July 12th were $6,273. 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.

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.

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.

Fun Event for Ages 4 to 12

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FIELD DAY

Wednesday, July 28th, from 4pm to 8pm.

~DINNER AND SNACKS SERVED

~Meet in the church at 4 pm for an opening prayer and break into groups.

~Visit 5 different stations for 2 games, 2 crafts and 1 Bible station.

~The evening will end around 7:30 pm for music and a closing prayer.

SIGN-UP IN THE NARTHEX AFTER MASS,

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:

July 28th– Help with VBS Field Day, 3:45-8 pm.

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.

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

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.
St. Max Parish is coordinating a carpool to Scranton for the mass. Call the parish office for more information.

ST MAX PARISH PICNIC

SUN. AUG. 15TH, 12:30 pm

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.

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 beginning on **July 31/Aug 1.** These will be packaged by the Living to the Max Youth Group on August 18th and sent to Valor House.

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.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

It's All in the Basket

St. Therese of Lisieux made a point of going the extra mile in kindness towards those people who really got under her skin. It was part of her own brand of Everyday Stewardship — thanking God for all His creation, even the parts with which, in her own humanness, she struggled to cope.

I think about this a lot when I challenge myself to give thanks for things that bother me and people who challenge me. When I do this, I envision Christ giving thanks over those insufficient loaves. How many of us would see that paltry little basket and kick a rock in frustration because we can't feed all our people? "You didn't give me enough, Lord! You didn't give me enough patience, enough money, enough creativity, enough stamina to be a good steward. If you had given me more, I could also give more!"

In those moments of despair, we need to take a good look at the life God has given us. We need to look at the trials and the challenges and the shortcomings. The hopes that didn't pan out, the disappointments that keep cropping up. Somewhere therein lies what we need to be the steward God asks us to be, just as St. Therese's own stewardship was defined by the people she simply couldn't stand. God does not give us all we want. He does not give us all we ask for. He does us one better: He gives us all we need. It's all in the basket. — *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

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

There will be a Mass in the Polish language celebrated at St. Ann's Monastery Shrine, in Scranton, on the Feast of St. Ann, July 26 at 1:30 p.m. There will be singing of Polish hymns before Mass. Anyone interested in singing in the choir is asked to go to the choir loft before Mass. All are welcome to attend!

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!

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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.

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 thanks you.

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 for us

LIVE THE LITURGY
INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

God shows up in unexpected ways! Just when we think we have God's agenda figured out, another surprise comes. Expecting to find God only in some places hinders us from finding Him everywhere. Who would have thought that a young boy's few loaves and fishes would feed thousands of people? The disciples were probably just as amazed as everyone else when this feast appeared before them. Sometimes, we find it difficult to believe that God can do amazing things with something small and simple. Yet, grasping this truth is really at the heart of understanding the power of the Eucharist. Having the Body and Blood of Christ made present for us is one amazing wonder. Actually being fed and nourished by that gift is another. Now being able to become what we have eaten, God can do tremendous things with the simple, humble gifts of our lives. All we have to do is realize that God dwells within us. When we do, then everyone we encounter and everything we do has the power to become a sacramental moment. When done with great love even the smallest gesture can be multiplied exponentially. Now, that's amazing!

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday: Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary had good, faithful parents who raised her with a love and devotion to God like none other except Jesus Christ Himself. Joachim and Anne serve as role models for parents and both deserve to be honored and emulated for their devotion to God and Our Lady Mary, the Mother of God

Thursday: St. Martha Many of us find it easy to identify with Martha in the story Luke tells. Martha welcomes Jesus and his disciples into her home and immediately goes to work to serve them.

Friday: St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. A man who vigorously pursues a goal may produce results far beyond his expectations and his intentions. Thus it was with Peter " of the Golden Words," as he was called, who as a young man became bishop of Ravenna, the capital of the empire in the West.

Saturday: St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest The founder of the Jesuits was on his way to military fame and fortune when a cannon ball shattered his leg. While healing from injury, he spent time reading a life of Christ and lives of the saints. His conscience was deeply touched, and a long, painful turning to Christ began. It was during this year of conversion that Ignatius began to write down material that later became his greatest work, the *Spiritual Exercises* .

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

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