



St. Maximilian Kolbe Church

Love the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Son Jesus with a pure and sacrificial heart.

130 ST. MAXIMILIAN LANE • TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08757

December 7, 2025



ADVENT

Pastor

Rev. Stephen M. Piga

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Carlos Castilla

In Memoriam:

Rev. Francis E. Santitoro

Founding Pastor - 1985

Deacon

Thomas C. Yondolino

Assistant to the Pastor

Josephine Micciulla

Trustees

Carol Petrocelli

Robert Zaratini

Music Director

Mr. Tarcisio Pono



Prayer to

Saint Maximilian Kolbe

We rejoice in your elevation to the honors of the altar,

dear St. Maximilian Kolbe. We thank you and praise God for your loyalty to Christ, your devotion to Mary Immaculate, your total surrender to the divine will.

In the midst of painful trials, you had the courage to say: "For Jesus Christ I am prepared to suffer still more." Generous to the end, you volunteered to lay down your life for a prisoner sentenced to die by starvation.

With confidence in your power of intercession, we now present our needs to you.

*(Here mention your prayer request.)
Obtain for us also to abide always in God's friendship, that we may glorify Him with you in heaven for all eternity. Amen.*

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses

Tuesday & Saturday~7:00 am
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
& Friday~8:30 am

Weekend Masses

Saturday~4:00 pm
Sunday~7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am & 1:00 pm

Confessions

Wednesdays~1:00-2:00 pm
Saturdays~3:00-3:45 pm

Holy Day Vigil Masses

4:00 pm

Holy Day

7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Baptisms

First Sunday of the month

Weddings

Contact parish one year in advance.

Our mission is "To connect people to God and one another and to spread the kingdom of God." Our vision is to see and realize God's reign of righteousness, justice, and peace in the world. Together, we hope to make a lasting difference in our lives, in our community, and in our world.

Phone: 732-914-0300/**Fax:** 732-240-9517/**Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm/**Friday: Closed**

Web: www.stmaximiliankolbechurch.com/**E-Mail:** stmaximiliankolbechurch@gmail.com

December 7, 2025/Second Sunday of Advent

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

"It is a holy and wholesome thing to pray for the living and the dead." (II Mac. 12:46)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025

7:00 am Charlotte Amoruso
Req. Joseph Farrell, Jr.

4:00 pm Victoria Dupray &
D'Antonio Family
Req. Diane Dupray

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

7:00 am Frank Malloy
Req. Walt & Bernadette Stupinski

9:00 am Vincent Obiso
Req. Family

11:00 am Gaetano DiPalma
Req. Sam & Judy DiPalma

1:00 pm Vincent Bove
Req. The Bove Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025

7:00 am All Parishioners
Living & Deceased

9:00 am All Parishioners
Living & Deceased

11:00 am All Parishioners
Living & Deceased

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025

7:00 am Eleanor Walsh
Req. Marilyn & Donna

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

8:30 am Christine Eva Turchio
Req. Love, Mom

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025

8:30 am Nancy & Joseph Alburnio
Req. Joanne Miller

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2025

8:30 am Denise Tuite
Req. Maureen Kennedy

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025

7:00 am Richard Peter Barrett
Req. Karen Barrett

4:00 pm Frank & Edith Bilski
Req. Wendy & Nicholas Zimbardi

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

7:00 am The Doyle & Oliviero Families
Req. Katie & Lou Oliviero

9:00 am Josephine Marolla
Req. Cosimo Marolla

11:00 am Thomas Ronan, Sr.
Req. Michael & Eileen D'Egidio

1:00 pm Vincent Obiso
Req. Family



DAILY READINGS

Sunday, 12/07/25— Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Monday, 12/08/25— Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday, 12/09/25— Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday, 12/10/25— Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

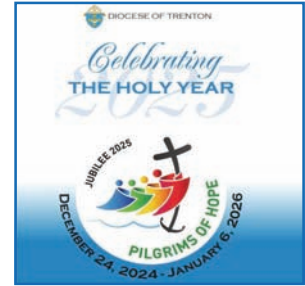
Thursday, 12/11/25— Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday, 12/12/25— Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38

Saturday, 12/13/25— Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13



From the Pastor's Desk



Hello everyone,

On this the 2nd weekend of Advent as we approach the great celebration of the birth of our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, true God and true man, our great High Priest who saves us and intercedes for us, we also look forward to tomorrow when we will celebrate His wonderful Mother, our Mother too, the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Immaculate Conception.

The meaning of the title “Immaculate Conception”, which even Mary called herself when she appeared to the youngster Bernadette at Lourdes, is that she was born without original sin by the grace of God, the only one of us who received such a miraculous singular blessing.

It is interesting to note that football has taken that name by a term called, “the immaculate reception”. That term is applied to only one play that occurred on December 23rd, 1972, which the NFL—the National Football League—now calls the greatest play in its history. Briefly, the Pittsburgh Steelers were losing 7-6 in a playoff game with only 22 seconds left in the game and it was 4th down for them. Their quarterback, the famous Terry Bradshaw, threw a desperation pass that bounced off the helmet of the opposing player but ricocheted into the air and into the hands of Franco Harris, a Steeler running back, who caught it full speed just before it hit the ground and raced into the end zone for a game winning touchdown.

They named it the immaculate reception because it seemed so miraculous. Did those who named it know about Mary and her Immaculate Conception? They must have!

Another football term that is used in practically every game from high school to the pros is called the “Hail Mary”. That is when a team is so desperate it throws a very long pass to the end zone into a group of receivers and defenders hoping for a miraculous catch by their team usually at the end of the game or at the end of the first half.

Even though probably the players are non-Catholics, perhaps Muslim or Jewish or pagan, still they hope for a miracle using the name of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Both these examples show something of Mary’s influence! She is our greatest Intercessor after Jesus Himself, and even people who inexplicably scoff at our devotion to our Blessed Mother unconsciously recognize the possibility of her miraculous intercession on their behalf!

So, let us celebrate this Monday the great feast day of our Heavenly Mother Mary with joy and love in our hearts. And let us continue to pray for one another as the intercessors that we are through our Baptism.

Fr. Steve

Monday, December 8, 2025 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
Monday December 8th,
is a
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
MASS TIMES:
MONDAY DECEMBER 8:
7:00, 9:00, & 11:00 AM
THERE IS NO 4:00 PM VIGIL
MASS ON DECEMBER 7TH.
The Parish Office will be
CLOSED December 8th.



Christmas Mass Schedule

THE CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE WILL BE:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH:

4:00 PM VIGIL MASS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH:

7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM.

The weekend Masses will be:

Saturday December 27th @ 4pm &

Sunday December 28th at 7:00 am, 9:00 am,
11:00 am & 1:00 pm.

**THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF
GOD, NEW YEAR'S DAY IS A HOLY DAY OF
OBLIGATION. MASS TIMES WILL BE:**

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31TH

4:00 PM VIGIL MASS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1ST:

7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM.

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED
DECEMBER 24—DECEMBER 26 &
DECEMBER 31—JANUARY 2.**

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

December 6, 2025 to December 12, 2025

BREAD & WINE-CHURCH

Florence Tramutola
Req. Daughter, Marie

SANCTUARY CANDLE-CHURCH

Rev. Francis E. Santitoro
Req. Family

ALTAR CANDLES-CHURCH

Rev. Vincent J. Coppola
Req. Family

Advent Penance Service



SAINT MAXIMILIAN KOLBE
PENANCE SERVICE:

December 10th 12:30-2pm

There WILL BE confession
on Saturday, December 13th
3:00-3:45 pm

THERE ARE NO CONFESSIONS:
Wednesday December 24th,
&
Wednesday December 31st.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A CHRISTMAS

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

DECEMBER 16, 2025
12 NOON

IN THE PARISH HALL

Open to all who have volunteered
in 2025 in any capacity!

PLEASE RSVP BY DECEMBER 8TH
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MAUSTIN@STMAXIMILIANKOLBECHURCH.COM

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NEW YEAR'S EVE

FREE

DEC
31

COMMUNITY
LUNCH

12-3
PM

FREE

BANQUET HALL

If you need a hot meal, or your family is far away or you're looking to spend an afternoon with friends, JOIN US!

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

A Hot Meal; Background Music;
Desserts; Soft Drinks, Coffee & Tea!

Ring in the New Year EARLY with an afternoon of delicious food, & great company!

*Reserve your spot by Dec. 18th
spaces are limited!*

CALL 732-914-0300

START THE NEW YEAR WITH A LUNCH TO REMEMBER

Prayers and Inspirations

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

His Word today, by Rev. William J. Reilly
Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ
Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025


"Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the glory of God. Yes, I affirm that Christ, became the servant of the Jews because of God's faithfulness in fulfilling the promises of the patriarchs, whereas the Gentiles glorify God because of his mercy. As scripture has it 'therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and I will sing to your name.'"

We continue this season of anticipation and expectation. How special it is. Saint Paul reminds us of those in former times, how they longed for, yearned for the one who was to come as Messiah and Savior of us all. He later would tell us that we are no different, but all are one in Christ Jesus.

Today when there is such hate, division, and separateness, we need to seek Jesus who unites not divides. May this be part of our advent prayer this week.

'Come Lord Jesus.'

THE REIGN
of God
is AT
HAND



PLEASE JOIN US ON THURSDAYS AT
9 AM FOR ADORATION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT
THURSDAY SERVICE WILL INCLUDE:
9 AM – 10 AM PRAYER AND
ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT &
10 AM-NOON SILENT ADORATION

Join us on Tuesdays for our weekly Bingo!

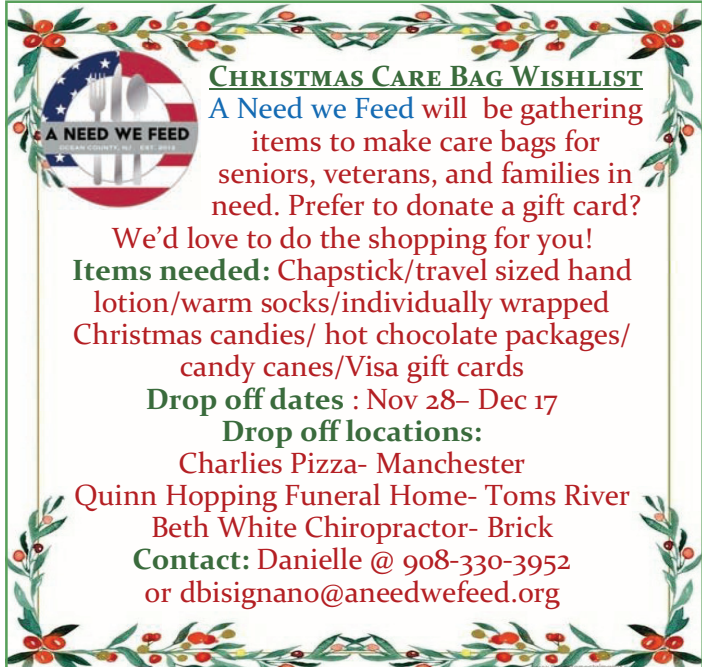


Doors open at 10 am and
close at 11:55 am.
Food and beverages are sold.
**Without you we cannot
succeed!**

December 9 is the last
bingo for 2025.

There is NO BINGO December 16,
December 23 and December 30.

**Bingo will resume on
January 6, 2026!**



CHRISTMAS CARE BAG WISHLIST
A Need we Feed will be gathering
items to make care bags for
seniors, veterans, and families in
need. Prefer to donate a gift card?
We'd love to do the shopping for you!
Items needed: Chapstick/travel sized hand
lotion/warm socks/individually wrapped
Christmas candies/ hot chocolate packages/
candy canes/Visa gift cards
Drop off dates : Nov 28– Dec 17
Drop off locations:
Charlies Pizza- Manchester
Quinn Hopping Funeral Home- Toms River
Beth White Chiropractor- Brick
Contact: Danielle @ 908-330-3952
or dbisignano@aneweefeed.org

 The **ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY** welcomes everyone to celebrate with them at their annual

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10th
12 NOON

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questions: Anna 732-581-2247
TICKETS: WENDY 732- 232-2489

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS

Plan G?

What is Plan G? “G” is for God; Plan “G” is God’s Plan! Unfortunately, sometimes it takes us to try—and to fail—through Plans A through F (*those which are our own plans*) before we realize or “give in” to the reality that God’s Plan is always best, because it’s always perfect—because He is Perfectly Loving and Wise! God’s Plan (aka His Will for us) is always totally good, because He is All-Good—all the time! When you go before the Lord this week, you might bring to Him any plans you may be hatching on your own, apart from Him, and ask Him in great humility and confidence what He thinks of them, and what He advises you to do—or not to do—with His Help and Guidance!

For I know full well the plans I have for you, plans for your welfare and not for your misfortune, plans that will offer you a future filled with hope. Jer 29:11

Be a St. Max Sentinel:

**Spend some time this week with the Lord,
Who waits in the Tabernacle for
YOU.**

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY
January 23, 2026

11:00 AM | Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold, NJ

Mass for Life
& **Life Expo**

 celebrated by Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M.



- Pray in solidarity with those travelling to Washington, DC for the national March for Life
- Engage with local life-affirming organizations that promote human dignity from womb to tomb
- Foster friendships, network and strengthen bonds to build a culture of life in our community

STANDING TOGETHER FOR Life

dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life



ASK NOT
what your church can do for you,
ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO
FOR YOUR CHURCH

WEEKEND LECTORS NEEDED!

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING!

CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT

732-914-0300 FOR MORE INFORMATION!

HEALING MASS

WHEN: Thursday, December 11th at 12:00 (noon)

WHERE: St. Pio of Pietrelcina Church

1100 Grand Central Ave (Rt 35 N) Lavallette

The celebrant is Fr. Joy Chacko. Prayer teams

and music (Mark J.L. Mattheiss) from NJ

Campus Graduates/Students of Encounter

School of Ministry.

All welcome to join us for a Mass with healing prayers.

For more info: DawnRusinko@Gmail.com

Ministry Meetings



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

SAINT MAXIMILIAN KOLBE COUNCIL 10899

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Would you like to join us?

We are Catholic men of faith and men of charitable action. Our strength derives from our shared faith and being the world's largest family - church - and community oriented organization. We offer members, and their families, a wide variety of activities with people who share the same beliefs and values. In Toms River for over 25 years, with over 100 members, we engage in a wide range of activities to engage with all aspects of our domestic church. We meet every second Wednesday of the month at 9:45 am in the Parish Hall. We begin with the recitation of the Rosary and the business portion of the meeting starts at 10:00 am.

For membership or transfer to their Council contact

Joe Accardi @ (973) 980-8775



Join Now for FREE

Promo Code: BLESSEDMCGIVNEY



SAINT MAXIMILIAN COLUMBIETTES



We are an organization of Catholic women dedicated to our Patronesses, Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Therese the Little Flower and Saint Joan of Arc.



We are an affiliated Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus Council. [We meet the second Thursday of the month at 11:00 am in the Parish Hall.](#) We begin with the recitation of the Rosary. If you are interested in joining the Columbiettes or would like additional info, please contact:

Maria Sciancalepore (908) 447-6361



THE LEGION OF MARY

Do you know anyone who is homebound and misses receiving Communion, or would like a visit while praying the rosary? We also offer to bring the pilgrim statue of the Blessed Mother to grace your home for a week.

The Legion of Mary is an international association of men and women of the Catholic Church. The mission is for active members to serve God under the banner of Mary by practicing the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. The spirituality of the Legion of Mary is based on "total dedication" to Christ and the Holy Spirit through devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Our meetings take place on Monday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00 am.

For more information, call:

Cheryl Winters (215) 356-2507



ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

THE CANDLE OF PEACE

"May hearts be filled with His divine peace and may it flow into the lives of those encountered."

God's presence is known only through faith, a work of the Holy Spirit within us. However blessed with faith we can fail in our duty to give His

Presence due reverence. We should never be ashamed or feel funny to show and share our faith.

Where there is no Fear (Awe) of the Lord, there is no faith. Where there is Fear (Awe) of the Lord, there is faith."

(excerpt for a Catholic homily)

Prayer is an act of faith. It is "....the raising of one's mind and heart to God...."

"Where two or three are gathered in My Name, there am I in the midst." Matthew 18:20

Anna (Pres. RAS) 732-581-2247 akefr26@gmail.com



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Gifting of a prayer shawl is a year round activity. The gifting of a prayer shawl is a perfect way to show someone who needs a little bit of comfort that they are not alone. Each prayer shawl is unique and created with prayers offered while it is being made. The PSM also continues to make lapghans for individuals who may be home bound and/or use a wheelchair. (There is no fee for the shawls or lapghans, but donations of full skeins of worsted weight yarn or monetary donations are accepted. They can be dropped off at the monthly PSM meetings.) "Special Order" white Christening blankets are available for a cost of ten dollars (\$10.00) to defray the cost of the yarn. **New members are always welcome to join the group.** Information about the Prayer Shawl Ministry and its offerings can be obtained from:

Lorraine Pietrucha @ 732-569-6997 or Lorraine Shubsda @ 732-281-3445 as well as the officers of the Legion of Mary, The Columbiettes and the Rosary Altar Society

CURSILLO ULTREYA

The Cursillo Ultreya is a lay movement part of the Diocese of Trenton, that operates under the authority and leadership of the Bishop of Trenton. It proposes no new type of spirituality, but simply a method through which one's spirituality may be developed, lived & shared, encouraging a close relationship with Christ. The Cursillo movement seeks to share the experience & benefits of the movement with a broader audience, fostering a wider community of faith, all are welcome to attend. We schedule meetings every third Thursday of the month at St. John's Parish Center 619 Chestnut Street Lakehurst, NJ. Questions or more info contact David & Alice Riggio@ (732) 323-0216 or Barbara Cipriano @ (732) 323-8878

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