



# 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

May 10, 2026



### **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 Zaratín

### **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/](http://www.stmaximiliankolbechurch.com/)**E-Mail:** [stmaximiliankolbechurch@gmail.com](mailto:stmaximiliankolbechurch@gmail.com)

# May 10, 2026/Sixth Sunday of Easter

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

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

### SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026

7:00 am John J. Matlosz  
*Req. Wife, Carolyn*

4:00 pm All Mothers  
Living & Deceased

### SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2026

7:00 am All Mothers  
Living & Deceased

9:00 am All Mothers  
Living & Deceased

11:00 am All Mothers  
Living & Deceased

1:00 pm All Mothers  
Living & Deceased

### MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026

8:30 am Multiple Intention Mass

### TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

7:00 am Mario A. Marano  
*Req. Wife, Mary D. Marano*

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026

8:30 am John & Marian Reddy  
*Req. Sister-in-Law, Annie*

### THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026

8:30 am Laura Ruggiero  
*Req. Mom, Dad & Anthony*

### FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026

8:30 am Margaret Pinter  
*Req. Charles & Margaret Soffel*

### SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

7:00 am Millie Smaldone  
*Req. Daughters*

4:00 pm All Parishioners  
Living & Deceased

### SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026

7:00 am All Parishioners  
Living & Deceased

9:00 am All Parishioners  
Living & Deceased

11:00 am All Parishioners  
Living & Deceased

1:00 pm All Parishioners  
Living & Deceased



### DAILY READINGS

Sunday, 5/10/26— Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

Monday, 5/11/26— Acts 16:11-15; Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday, 5/12/26— Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday, 5/13/26— Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday, 5/14/26— Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17

Friday, 5/15/26— Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday, 5/16/26— Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28

Monday, May 11, 2026 at 8:30 am

**Multiple Intention Mass**

In Memory of: Rev. Francis E. Santitoro  
The Santitoro Family (Living & Deceased)

Rev. Frank Porazzo & Porazzo Family  
John & Katherine Marino – Anniversary,  
**Req. Aleta Mary Marino**

Carol Lotito Anderson – 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,  
**Req. Frank & Madeline Lotito**

Victoria Hartman – Birthday,  
**Req. Aleta Mary Marino**

Thanksgiving to Blessed Virgin Mary,  
**Req. Ralph & Sallie Donato & Family**

Dawn Reiner,  
**Req. Wendy & Nicholas Zimbardi**

Lucille Rohde, **Req. Daughters**

Maureen Biddulph,  
**Req. Paddy & Agnes Kelly**

Myron Kucharski, **Req. Love, Joan & Family**

Rosemary Briffa,  
**Req. Husband, Charlie Briffa**

Anthony Briffa, **Req. Love, Mom & Dad**

Manuel Ping Ping Villanueva  
& Marina Cristobal,  
**Req. Cynthia Tan**

Maria Alice Vieira, **Req. Maria Vieira**

Abandoned Souls in Purgatory,  
**Req. Anonymous**

Ann Kurpiel, **Req. Brian Peltier**

Chester Magda, **Req. Rose Magda**

The Pirrone Family,  
**Req. Margaret Martino**

Licia Conforti,  
**Req. Cousin Vito & LaShawn**

Susan McConway, **Req. Family**

Ellen Peixto, **Req. Margaret Thomas**

David Briffa – Living, **Req. Wife, Toni**

Tom Morgan – Healing,  
**Req. Maria Fanizzi**

Salvatore DeVito,  
**Req. Sandy & Bill O'Brien**

Thomas Dougher, **Req. Peter Guariglia**

++++  
**Please join us in praying for the  
intentions mentioned in this bulletin.**  
++++

**SPECIAL INTENTIONS**  
May 9, 2026 to May 15, 2026

**BREAD & WINE-CHURCH**

John R. & Katherine Marino  
**Req. Aleta Mary Marino**

**SANCTUARY CANDLE-CHURCH**

Rev. Vincent J. Coppola  
**Req. Family**

**ALTAR CANDLES-CHURCH**

Rev. Francis E. Santitoro  
**Req. Family**





## From the Pastor's Desk



Hello everyone,

Last weekend we crowned the Blessed Virgin Mary at the 11:00 Mass. I'm sure all over the world Catholic Churches did the same, as May is known as Mary's month. The reason why the Church gives to Mary the month of May is because Spring is in its fullest bloom with beautiful new life all around us and Jesus, of course, IS the fullness of life and came/comes to us through the beautiful Virgin Mary.

I can remember at my St. Luke's Grammar School the May crownings of Mary. We loved them because the whole school left the stuffy classrooms and the books and went outside in the fresh May weather to stand in front of the life size statue and enjoy the time outside. Perhaps you, too, can remember May crownings of Mary. It was always little 1<sup>st</sup> communion girls—and boys—who did the actual crownings.

Is it really that important in the life of the Church and in our lives? (Since we are the Church, that sentence is redundant). Yes, it is. I recently was reminded of this upon seeing a painting painted around the year 1440. Painted by an anonymous artist now referred to as Olivetan Master, the painting is called, "Coronation of the Virgin with the Trinity and Saints".

In the center of the painting, Mary is being crowned by Jesus Himself as the Father and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove look on. The Father, Jesus, and Mary are all dressed in vibrant blue robes. All around their centered enclosure, there are many identifiable saints watching with great solemnity and happiness like St. Peter and St. Paul, St. Augustine, St. Benedict, St. Bernard of Clairvaux, St. Anthony, St. Francis, St. John the Baptist, St. Agnes and St. Mary Magdalene, to name a few.

The painting reminds us that Mary is being crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth and all of Heaven is on board with that, including the Holy Trinity! We of Earth unite ourselves with the Heavenly Host when we too celebrate the wonderful May Crowning of Mary! Let us pray for the grace to always keep her close to our hearts and always to remember the exalted position of our humble Virgin Mother.

*Fr. Steve*

# 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

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**May 10, 2026**

**Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.'**

The gospel of John provides the opportunity to think about the great promises and rewards which Jesus offered to His closest associates. As He speaks in the gospel, and especially in the priestly prayer, we have the chance to renew our desire to keep the commandments of love of God and neighbor. As we do, we discover others like ourselves in whom the Lord resides, and we love them. Why? He tells us that He will ask the Father to send, to provide the Holy Spirit, our advocate to remain in us and in them He reveals Himself to us. May He continue to speak to His Father in our behalf.



Have you responded to the Bishop's letter? We're blessed by the St. Maximilian Kolbe parish families who have already stepped forward in faith. Help us keep moving toward our goal, every gift strengthens ministry here and throughout the Diocese.  
Make a gift today at [giveaca.org](http://giveaca.org)

## **CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS**

Having been a member of New York Protestant high society, Elizabeth Ann Bayley even danced at George Washington's Second Inaugural Ball when she was a teen! Just a few years later, after marrying William Seton, an international businessman and starting a family with him, Elizabeth Ann Seton, found herself to be a young widow with five children, drawn to Catholicism, with a costly conversion decision to make. *For the sake of the Eucharistic Lord, was she willing to suffer the loss of family ties and much-needed financial support?* ...After much prayer and discernment, her answer was yes!

When Bishop John Carroll encouraged Elizabeth to move to Maryland, and to found a religious community of sisters to provide the newly independent Nation's Catholic school-aged children, initially especially the girls, with a strong Faith-based education, she was grateful, as well as apprehensive. Thankfully for the great good of our entire young Nation, Elizabeth Seton did as she was called, founding the Sisters of Charity, and St. Joseph's Academy, in Emmitsburg, MD, near Gettysburg and Mount St. Mary's Seminary. As the Bishop hoped, Mother Seton's Sisters went forth in the years and decades to come—even to today-- establishing a network of Catholic schools, in which they taught, as well as Catholic hospitals, in which they served in numerous roles, especially as administrators and nurses. In 1975, Elizabeth Ann Seton, *debutante, wife, mother, widow, convert, disowned family member, single parent (even one who buried two children and prayed for a wayward son), teacher, and religious order foundress*, was canonized as the first American-born Saint! With gratitude and great fondness, more than one hundred years after her death, many Catholic parishes, schools, and hospitals still choose to bear her name!

As was entirely fitting given the Lord's Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist being the Living Truth tugging at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's heart, as the impetus for her conversion, our first American-born Saint served the recent Eucharistic Revival in two ways. She served as one of its patron saints, and her Emmitsburg Shrine became one of the pilgrimage gathering points.

Not surprising, our magnificent church building honors St. Elizabeth Ann Seton with one of the many beautiful stained glass windows which remind us of many of our American canonized members in the Communion of Saints whose intercession we might request. Before spending time with the Eucharistic Lord this week, you might stop by the window-image of St. Elizabeth, asking for her intercession that the Lord might give you a share of her fervor for the Holy Eucharist. As you think about all the challenges this holy woman experienced, you might relate to any one of them, asking the Lord's healing and strength to carry your cross with the same grace with which our sister-Saint, through tears and trust, carried hers with the Eucharistic Lord!

***Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears [reverses] the Lord is to be praised.*** Prv 31:30

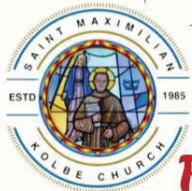
**Be a St. Max Sentinel:  
Spend some time this week with the Lord,  
Who waits in the Tabernacle for YOU.**

Saint Maximilian Kolbe Church Celebrates 250 years of

**America**



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR  
**SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL BASH**



**JULY 5, 2026 | 2:00-5:00 PM**

**FOOD 50/50 & RAFFLE PRIZES GAMES**

**Tickets are ON SALE NOW after weekend masses & in the Parish Office!**

Music and Entertainment by:  
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**Tickets are \$15.00 & under free!**

**Tickets must be purchased by JUNE 15!**



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**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SAINT MAXIMILIAN KOLBE CHURCH**



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

**ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY**  
**MOTHER'S DAY CARNATION SALE**  
AFTER ALL MASSES  
Saturday May 9 & Sunday May 10



**WHAT DOES VATICAN II REALLY SAY?**



The **ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY** welcomes everyone to hear Diocesan Vocation Director Director of Deacon Formation **FR. CHRISTOPHER COLAVITO'S** insightful explanation  
Wednesday, May 20th in the chapel  
11:00 recitation of the Rosary followed by **Father Colavito** concluding with refreshments in the hall



**JOIN US ON TUESDAYS FOR OUR WEEKLY BINGO!**



Doors open at 10:00 am & close at 11:55 am.  
**BINGO HELP NEEDED IN THE KITCHEN FROM 9AM- 12 PM!**  
Please call 732-914-0300 if interested.

**SUNDAY SOCIAL**  
**IN THE CHAPEL NARTHEX**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 17**  
FOLLOWED BY THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH  
AFTER THE 9:00 AM AND 11:00 AM MASSES  
**PLEASE JOIN US!**  
ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED IN ASSISTING WITH SUNDAY SOCIALS ARE WELCOME!  
PLEASE CONTACT: WENDY 732-232-2489



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS & COLUMBIETTES ARE HOSTING AN



**"Unlimited" Pancake Breakfast** for Parishioners, their families and friends at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish Hall on **Sunday, May 31st** from 8:00am to 12:00pm  
THE PRICE FOR BREAKFAST IS \$8.00pp  
CONTRIBUTIONS COLLECTED WILL GO TOWARD THE BENEFIT OF OUR PARISH.

Please attend, indulge in your choice of plain / banana pancakes \* PLUS \* all served with hot / cold beverage & support St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish.  
**THANK YOU AND VIVAT JESUS!!!!**  
**Sunday, June 28th**  
plain / apple spice pancakes \* PLUS \*

St. Maximilian  
Kolbe Church

41st  
Anniversary Dinner  
Dance

Tickets: \$35 Per Person

Let's come together & celebrate!

Tickets ON SALE NOW now after weekend  
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Dinner provided by Mangia Restaurant: Meatballs \* Chicken \* Pasta  
Veggies \* Salad \* Rolls \* Dessert \* Coffee \* Tea \* Beverages \* BYOB

50/50 Raffle & Door Prizes

Music: DJ Anthony Di Dio

August 16 2pm-6pm



## SAINT MAXIMILIAN KOLBE CHURCH

SENIOR  
Lunch &  
Learn

Thank you to all of our guest  
speakers, funeral homes, financial  
services, and ministries for making  
the day so successful!



# Ministry Meetings



## **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**SAINT MAXIMILIAN KOLBE COUNCIL 10899**

**Who are the Knights of Columbus?**

**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**



## **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**

Our Lady of Fatima's key quote highlighting her role as a caring mother is: **"Trust me, love me, believe all I say because I am your Mother, a loving Mother, who cares for all of you."**

### **LOVE HER MORE THAN EVER**

Love, respect, and adoration for mothers are shown in many ways: hugs, words, actions, gifts, and prayers. The time with them might not have always been perfect, but that's how life is - ups and downs. Whether our mothers are still with us or not, we should never stop showing our love for them.

Think of the love Jesus had for His Mother (and her for Him), even when he caused her sadness by being lost.

**"Despite her distress, he affirmed his purpose (his divine mission) and remained obedient: Jesus' love for Mary allowed their familial bond to exist within the context of his obedience to God."**

We too may have caused sadness to our mothers, or they to us, but hopefully we abide by God's fourth commandment (obedience to God):

**"HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER!"**

**"The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of a mother." St Therese of Lisieux**

### **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**

Anna (Pres. RAS) 732-581-2247 [akefr26@gmail.com](mailto:akefr26@gmail.com)

## **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

# Fellowship Group

All are welcome to join us each week for spiritual growth as we read and reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings. This group can provide encouragement, insight, and fellowship.

**The group will meet in the parish hall on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm beginning May 5th.**



Let's embark on this journey together and open the door to meaningful connections and enriching discussions centered around faith! Bibles are welcome but not needed!

For more info call:

Linda Capobianco 732-278-7283

# Men's Ministry

Connection, Accountability, Encouragement & Prayer

## **SAINT MAXIMILIAN KOLBE MEN'S MINISTRY**

All are welcome to join Father Steve and Frank Preta the Men's Ministry Manager for our continuing men's ministry group which will meet the second Monday of every month. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>** from 1:00 pm until 2:30 pm in the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Bingo Hall. If you are interested in attending please call Frank @ 973-713-1128 or email at [fpretat1008@gmail.com](mailto:fpretat1008@gmail.com).

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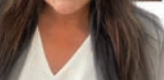
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