



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

August 2, 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

Trustee

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

August 2, 2026/Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026

- 7:00 am Dawn Marie Cimmello
Req. Mom & Donna
- 4:00 pm Frank Corsi
Req. Gloria & Debbie Corsi

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026

- 7:00 am Caroline Viola
Req. Donna, Patrice, & James
- 9:00 am Raymond Lumio
Req. Phil & Marietta Garton
- 11:00 am Leonard P. Capobianco
*Req. St. Maximilian Kolbe
Rosary Altar Society*
- 1:00 pm Peter Varela
Req. Ron & Rosanne Gregilovich

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2026

- 8:30 am Multiple Intention Mass

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026

- 7:00 am James Horner
Req. Joanne Stetter

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026

- 8:30 am Beatrice Fusaro
Req. Pat Norcia

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026

- 8:30 am Giuseppe Ingui
Req. Pat Ingui

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026

- 8:30 am Edward Clap
Req. Christina Bargone

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026

- 7:00 am Kelly Cifone
Req. William & Mary Quigley
- 4:00 pm Helen & Bill Schroeder
Req. Eileen Van Houten

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

- 7:00 am Ann Gelpke
*Req. St. Maximilian Kolbe
Columbiettes*
- 9:00 am Catherine Forde
Req. Mary & Ted Leissing
- 11:00 am The Salvi & LoVerde Families
Req. Daughter, Julia
- 1:00 pm Bernette Weber
Req. Arthur Weber



DAILY READINGS

Sunday, 8/02/26— Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

Monday, 8/03/26— Jer 28:1-17; Mt 14:22-36

Tuesday, 8/04/26— Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday, 8/05/26— Jer 31:1-7; Mt 15:21-28

Thursday, 8/06/26— Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

Friday, 8/07/26— Na 2:1, 3, 3:1-3, 6-7; Mt 16:24-28

Saturday, 8/08/26— Hb 1:12—2:4; Mt 17:14-20

Monday, August 3, 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

George Artificio,
Req. Assunta "Susan" Artificio

Father James Anyaegbu &
Faith Chat Platform,
Req. Karen Anne Joan

Lorraine Jankowski,
Req. Anthony Jankowski & Family

Beatrice Fusaro, **Req.** Christine Fusaro

Irma Garcia Milla,
Req. Carmen Elena Lemus

Rosemary Briffa,
Req. Husband, Charlie Briffa

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

Marguerite A. Porcaro 1st Anniversary,
Req. Aleta Mary Marino

Susan McConway, **Req.** Family

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

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

Bobby Iamel, **Req.** Anna Mae & Jerry Kiss

Reginald Goodman, **Req.** Patrick Baumann

Lorraine Shubsda, **Req.** Margaret Thomas

Holy Souls in Purgatory, **Req.** Mary Bohn

William Simone, **Req.** Joan Kucharski

Reggie Goodman, **Req.** Joan Kucharski

Valerie Sheridan, **Req.** Marie Sheridan

Lenny Fondetto – Speedy Recovery,
Req. Frank & Patricia Chernesky

Sarah Ann Strazza,
Req. Mathew & Mary Bandurski

Robert Kozlowski, **Req.** Nancy Holton

Marge Lawler, **Req.** Ellen & Jim Lawler

Ambrose Lawler, Jr.,
Req. Ellen & Jim Lawler

Patricia Wisniewski Startup,
Req. Ellen & Jim Lawler

Mary Ann Bowens,
Req. Barbara Chirichello &
Paul De Dominicis

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

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SPECIAL INTENTIONS

August 1, 2026 to August 7, 2026

BREAD & WINE-CHURCH

Rev. Francis E. Santitoro
Req. Family

SANCTUARY CANDLE-CHURCH

Rev. Francis E. Santitoro
Req. Family

ALTAR CANDLES-CHURCH

Rev. Vincent J. Coppola
Req. Family



From the Pastor's Desk



Hello everyone,

This weekend we are blessed with a missionary Sister Ifeoma Onwudinjo, MSHR, a member of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary. We are excited to hear about the Sisters' work in the US and in the world. Their group was founded in 1924 by an Irish Holy Ghost missionary, Bishop Joseph Shanahan, in Nigeria and since has expanded to other countries.

Most of the Sisters do not receive either salaries or stipends but solely depend on the generosity of others. I hope and pray we all are touched by the Holy Spirit to give to such a noble missionary group.

I also hope and pray she is not in any way disappointed by the lack of respect of some of our parishioners who talk so loudly to each other before mass right in Church in front of our Lord Jesus in the tabernacle. It is meant to be a place of prayer and some are trying to pray yet others don't seem to care a whit about this.

Recently we had Isaiah 6:1-8 in our weekday first reading. I was so struck by the awe and fear that the prophet expresses upon having a very real type vision of God with many angels. After hearing, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts! All the earth is filled with His glory!" and seeing the door shake and the house filled with smoke, Isaiah cries out, "Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

While in Church, we are in the presence of the King, the Lord of hosts! We should **continually exercise our faith** and always remember this and bow down or kneel and worship in prayer. We ignore God in the Church at our own peril. We should be saying, "Woe is me! I am a sinner unworthy to be in our glorious God's presence!" And we can follow it by, "Thank you so much for all of your wonderful blessings, O God of all, thank you so much!" And then we could pray, "Help me to be as kind and generous and forgiving as You!" And then, "please help me with the following problems and concerns..." And finally, "thank you so much for creating me and listening today to my prayers—I love you, Father Son and Holy Spirit, Holy Trinity one God, help me to love all others as you do. And by the way, I can't wait to receive you, Jesus, in the Eucharist! Amen."

I was asked by a parishioner to say something about the importance of Baptism, for she was worried about her grandchildren not being baptized yet. Keep praying for it to happen! St. Monica prayed for her son St. Augustine for years and years until finally he decided to become a Catholic and was baptized as an adult. God's mercy is infinite yet Jesus does say in John 3:5, "no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit". May God continue to bless us all!

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
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 2, 2026

“When he had disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them and he cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, ‘This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves.’ Jesus said, ‘There is no need of them to go away, give them food yourselves...’ But they said to him, ‘five loaves and two fish are all we have here.’”

Jesus, the miracle worker, cured individuals, sometimes by His presence, sometimes at a distance, sometimes by His touch, at times one on one, or today with vast crowds. His motive, care for all and the need of the crowds were paramount.

The disciples spoke out of concern, but Jesus said, ‘there is no need for them to go away.’ They thought it might be better to send them off, but He said otherwise. Today people are hungering for the Lord, even if they don’t know Who or What. There is no need for them to go away, for we have Jesus here to feed us and them. The miracle of the Eucharist makes Christ present among us. Our living the Eucharist can fill the emptiness others experience, either at a food pantry or the table of the Lord, in the sacraments.



**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 - 11 AM SILENT ADORATION**

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS

Do the French surnames *Marquette* and *Joliet* (or *Jolliet*) ring a bell—perhaps from elementary or high school social studies class? If so, you might recall that both men were among the long list of “New World” explorers whose names and accomplishments you likely were required to memorize for one quiz or another. What is so unique about the first man named in the *Marquette* and *Joliet* duo is that “Marquette” was French-born Father Jacques Marquette, a Jesuit missionary priest who did more than explore North America on behalf of French New World claims—he introduced the Gospel to a number of Native American tribes, who held him in high regard and affection.

However, it was the journal in which Fr. Marquette chronicled his 1673 travels, accompanied by the French-Canadian guide Louis Joliet, in search of the Mississippi River that earned him a forever spot in the annals of USA history. Even today his detailed expedition writings are studied for the invaluable information they provide about the Native American peoples, as well as native American flora and fauna, encountered along the way as Fr. Marquette contributed to the mapping of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River.

Credited with founding (in 1668) Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan's first European mission-settlement, Fr. Marquette still is remembered by Michiganders. In 2025, local newspapers recognized (and lamented) the 350th anniversary of Fr. Marquette's death (at 37 years of age), which occurred shortly after returning from his famous Mississippi River travels. Since 1896, in recognition and appreciation of Fr. Marquette's role in their state's history, Wisconsin has chosen to dedicate to him one of their two allotted statues which reside in the USA Capitol as part of the National Statuary Hall Collection. In addition, the state's *Father Marquette National Memorial Straits State Park* bears his name, as does the Jesuit university in Milwaukee, which his religious order named in honor of him: *Marquette University*.

This week, you might explore with the Eucharistic Lord the places within your mind, heart, and soul where the Lord is inviting you to let go of old defensive patterns and to allow Him to gently, peacefully bring you to new insights and understandings about yourself, trusting that He will lead you with great kindness and gentleness into a deeper, more loving relationship with Him, if only you will allow Him.

My very self you know. Ps 139:14

Be a St. Max Sentinel:

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

St. Maximilian
Kolbe Church

HAPPY 41ST
Anniversary

Dinner Dance and 50/50 Raffle Tickets are on
sale NOW after masses and
in the Parish Office!

Dinner Dance Tickets: \$35.00

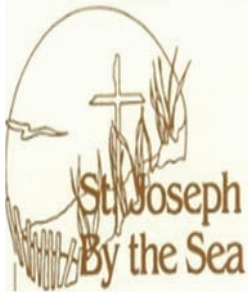
50/50 Raffle Tickets: \$5.00

Music by: DJ Anthony Di Dio

Food Provided by: Mangia Restaurant

August 16, 2026
at 2pm

News and Events



St. Joseph By the Sea is located at 400 Route 35 North South Mantoloking, NJ and they offer retreats for those who are soul searching, trying to find peace in their lives, and a God who under stands them. For a full list of retreats go to their website www.sjbsea.org or call the office at 732-892-8494

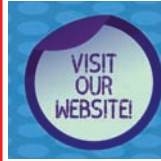


**JOIN US ON TUESDAYS
FOR OUR WEEKLY BINGO!**

**Doors open at 10:00 am
& close at 11:55 am.**

**Food and beverages
will be sold.**

Without you we cannot succeed!



Looking for mass times, ministry news, special event information, bingo updates, or how to take advantage of the many ways the church offers to remember a loved one?

Please visit our website, which is continually updated to keep you in the know!
www.stmaximiliankolbechurch.com



OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishops' Charter for the Protection Of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-296-2965 or via e-mail at:

abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org.

The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.



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What's Coming Up



MISSIONARY SISTERS
of the **Holy Rosary**

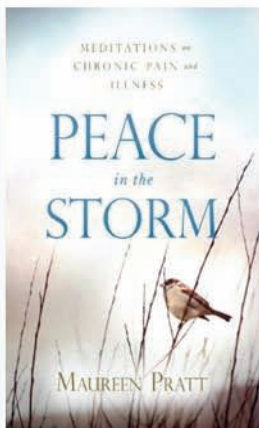
ANNUAL MISSIONARY COOPERATION PLAN APPEAL

Sister Ifeoma Onwudinjo, MSHR, a representative of the **Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary** will be with us on the weekend of **August 1st and 2nd, 2026**, asking for your help in supporting their mission work. The community was founded in Ireland in 1924 to work with the women of Nigeria, West Africa. The Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary are now an international community working in nine countries of Africa, and in Brazil. They serve in all forms of education, medical work, pastoral work, community development and agriculture, and assisting trafficked women, internally displaced families, and the homeless. They are a strictly missionary group with no institutions in the United States or Canada, so therefore rely almost exclusively on funds provided through the society for the propagation of the Faith and the generosity of the people here to support their sisters on mission. The sisters ask for your prayers of support as well as for any contribution you can make to assist them. You will be remembered in their daily prayer. If you would like to read more about them, visit their website at : www.mshr.org. Thank you for your support!



ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE CHURCH WELCOMES ***THE PEACE IN THE STORM PROJECT®*** FAITH-FELLOWSHIP GROUP

For Persons with Chronic Illness, Ongoing Pain, and other Health Challenges



The Peace in the Storm Project is a national nonprofit in the Catholic tradition, dedicated to providing caregivers and persons with chronic health conditions of all kinds spiritual and theological support for their journeys.

Our parish's small, faith-fellowship group will meet regularly, offering participants the opportunity to reflect on scripture, the sacraments of the Catholic Church, prayer, and fellowship, using the devotional, *Peace in the Storm: Meditations on Chronic Pain and Illness and Discussion Guides* for all of the seasons of the Church's liturgical year.

Anyone who is living with a chronic health condition is invited to join us!

WHERE: ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE CHURCH, TOMS RIVER, NJ

**WHEN: THE 1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS OF EACH MONTH FROM 1PM-2PM IN THE PARISH HALL
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 2026!**

REGISTRATIONS WILL BE HELD AFTER ALL MASSES ON: AUGUST 8-9 & AUGUST 22-23.

TO REGISTER BY PHONE OR FOR MORE INFORMATION:

WENDY ZIMBARDI 732-232-2489 OR WENDY_ZIMBARDI@COMAST

Discussion Guides are provided to group participants at no cost.

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

"A man who governs his passions is master of the world. We must either rule them, or be ruled by them. It is better to be the hammer than the anvil." St Dominic

HIS LOVE IS ENOUGH (Transfiguration of the Lord)

When we are in love, we tend to want to be with that person as much as possible, often following our hearts in our daily lives. Family and friends may think we should be more independent, but we often continue doing what we feel is right. Even when there are obvious reasons to let go, do we turn to God, who loves us enough? It is He we should look for, follow, spend time with (in the presence of the Eucharist), and love, thanking Him for always being there, for His forgiveness, and for His unconditional love - which is enough!

"Let us live as the Blessed Virgin lived: loving God only, desiring God only, trying to please God only in all that we do." St John Vianney

"Through her, as through a pure crystal, your mercy was passed on to us. Through her, man became pleasing to God; Through her, streams of grace flowed down upon us." St Bridget of Sweden

Anna (Pres. RAS) 732-581-2247 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 the following Tuesday evenings from 6pm—8pm: 8/11, & 8/25, and every Tuesday beginning in September.

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, August 10th** 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 fpretai008@gmail.com.

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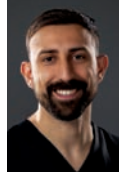
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