



St. Maximilian Kolbe Church

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

130 SAINT MAXIMILIAN LANE • TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08757

September 13, 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

Anna Roma
Robert Zaratin

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

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

September 13, 2026/Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

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



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

7:00 am Carol Muller
Req. Don & Georgianna Forlenzo

4:00 pm William & Mary Cleary
Req. Joan, Judy & Billy

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

7:00 am Eugene Quandt
Req. Lou & Katie Oliviero & Family

9:00 am Edward Hayes
Req. Maureen Hayes

11:00 am Mabalina Finch - 1st Anniversary
*Req. Brenda B. Oakes
& Peter L. Hener*

1:00 pm Giuliano & Lida Zaratina
Req. Robert Zaratina

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

8:30 am Multiple Intention Mass

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

7:00 am Lawrence D'Auria - 5th Anniversary
Req. Dolores D'Auria

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

8:30 am Katie O'Connell
Req. Patrice O'Connell

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

8:30 am Leandro Nadera
Req. Sallie & Ralph Donato & Family

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

8:30 am Virginia Battle
Req. Husband, Ron

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

7:00 am Rose Ann Dwyer
Req. Mary Cimmello

4:00 pm Mary Zaccaria
Req. Celeste Jachts

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

7:00 am Daniel Angelo, Maria de Jesus
& Carlos Angelo
Req. Fatima Angelo

9:00 am Rose Ann Dwyer
Req. Walter & Bernadette Stupinski

11:00 am Eileen Keelen - 1st Anniversary
Req. Susan Yura & Sam Borowski

1:00 pm Giuliano & Lida Zaratina
*Req. Robert & JoAnn
& Giulio Zaratina*

“The Rosary is the chain that links us to heaven,” St. Maximilian Kolbe



DAILY READINGS

Sunday, 9/13/26— Sir 27:30—28:7; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

Monday, 9/14/26— Nm 21:4b-9; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Tuesday, 9/15/26— 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Jn 19:25-27

Wednesday, 9/16/26— 1 Cor 12:31—13:13; Lk 7:31-35

Thursday, 9/17/26— 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 7:36-50

Friday, 9/18/26— 1 Cor 15:12-20; Lk 8:1-3

Saturday, 9/19/26— 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Lk 8:4-15

Monday, September 14, 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

In Thanksgiving, **Req.** Christine Riola

Lucille Rohde, **Req.** Daughters

Maureen Biddulph - 2nd Anniversary,
Req. Paddy & Agnes Kelly

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

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

Marguerite A. Porcaro - Birthday,
Req. Aleta Mary Marino

Susan McConway, **Req.** Family

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

Reginald Goodman, **Req.** Megan Callaghan

Kermit T. Burdette, **Req.** Jimmy Perciante

Lois Bushman, **Req.** Pat Guerin

JoAnn Borrelli, **Req.** Ralph & Dorothy Genova

Francisco Russo, **Req.** Rose Magda

Victoria Russo, **Req.** Rose Magda

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

Edward Velazquez, **Req.** Patty Manzo

Kathleen Osborn,
Req. Steve & Charlene Siciliano

Esmeria Vieira, **Req.** Maria Vieira

Redenta Cafiero, **Req.** Maria Mastroviti

Anthony Mazzarella,
Req. Wife, Diane Mazzarella

Christopher Mazzarella,
Req. Love, Mom Diane Mazzarella

Eileen Hayden, **Req.** Nikki & Michael Carr

Grace Madison, **Req.** Rose Del Gaudio

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

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Special Intentions

September 12, 2026 to September 18, 2026

Bread & Wine-Church

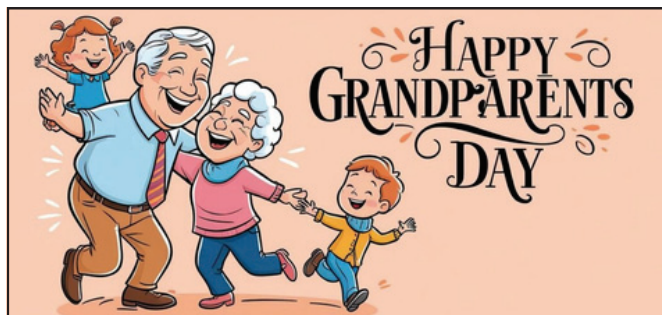
Rev. Francis E. Santitoro
Req. Family

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,

Some people have been asking, “Where have you been and how come you haven’t written your usual column in the bulletin?” The answer is that I have been on my second and last two week vacation this year, spent once again up at my family condo in Spring Lake Heights which is across the railroad tracks from Spring Lake. We’re the poorer side but still pretty nice!

My neighbors up there don’t know me because I haven’t lived there yet. But little do they know that my beloved mother bought the place in 1984 and so it has been hers and then my sister Beth’s and now mine for the past 42 years.

As a history major from college long ago (Lafayette 1973-77, a very liberal education that was very nicely counter-balanced by 6 years in a very conservative seminary, St. Charles 1996-2002, just another example of how God prepared me to be a good priest—but am I?—I ask myself that question most every day), I like the dates of the past. Just this Saturday, the 12th, I celebrated with the Bishop and many others the 50th anniversary of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Whiting. And of course before my vacation we celebrated here our 41st anniversary with once again a beautiful dinner/dance party in the bingo hall.

All of this has got me thinking of other catholic churches in the area and their history. St. Luke’s was founded in 1982 and St. Justin’s in 1972. But St. Joseph tops us all by being founded in 1882, 144 years ago! But St. John’s in Lakehurst tops even them, founded in 1874!

All this reminds me of how young our country is, and how we are indeed a nation of immigrants as many Catholics came to our country after the Civil War and beyond. Now by the grace of God we have Catholic churches in every shore town right up and down the coast! We, in Toms River, have 4! As we look on these past days, we realize how good and generous God has been to us Catholics!

Our first reading this weekend reminds us to think of future days. It reads, “Remember your last days, set enmity aside; remember death and decay, and cease from sin!” We do not know when our time will come but of course it will. Remember the past with fondness and thanksgiving, and look forward to and resolve to make real a virtuous and peaceful future!

For all who do not know, we do pray special first Saturday prayers every first Saturday every month after the 7:00 am mass; also, after the 8:30 am mass every Monday, we pray a novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary and re-dedicate ourselves to her. Make it your routine to come and join us!

Fr. Steve

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

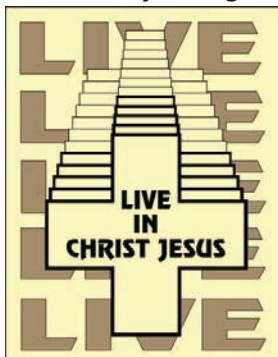
HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

**Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 13, 2026**

"Forgive your neighbor's injustice, then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven. Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord? Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself, can he seek pardon for his own sins?... Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor, remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults."... "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?"

As the Lord speaks in these passages today, I ask: 'Which is more difficult, to ask forgiveness or to forgive?' Forgiveness is an attitude of love and concern to set things right. The adage, 'forgive and forget' is noble, but it is hard to forget. A wise spiritual guide said it another way, 'forgive and remember without bitterness.'

I leave the hurt behind and don't allow the scar to keep me from offering the healing which someone else seeks. How powerful is the gift of forgiveness. May we use it well.



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

Heralded as one of television's most widely viewed prime time religious shows, *Life Is Worth Living*, which first aired in 1951, featured the humor, moral clarity, and masterful teaching style of (then) NY Auxiliary Bishop (now Ven. Archbishop) Fulton J. Sheen.

Faithfully watched each week by Catholics and non-Catholics, as well as by those of no faith, Bishop's Sheen's style—authentic and engaging, while filled with dependable, trustworthy authority—earned him the prized 1952 Emmys the year's "Most Outstanding Television Personality" (over such "big-name" secular contenders as Lucille Ball and Arthur Godfrey).

Seemingly a one-man show on the air, when asked about the reason for his television success, Bishop Sheen immediately credited Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John-- his unmatched team of scriptwriters!

As much as his televised teaching on timely and timeless matters was based in and backed by Sacred Scripture, as well as Sacred Tradition and Universal Church teachings, his priesthood was fueled by daily adoration of the Eucharistic Lord, with those who knew the Bishop reporting that no matter the circumstances, he always took time and found a way to worship the Lord, present to him—as He is to us—in the Tabernacle.

This week, when you are in the Lord's Holy Eucharistic Presence, please consider praying for all our St. Max Sentinels who keep watch on our behalf, and for the homebound who offer us so much prayer support. Likewise, you might pray for all those who participate in so many seen and unseen ways in weekly Adoration. May God reward all of them, as together, we fulfill with gratitude and love the Lord's angel's succinct life-giving reminder, highlighted below!

Worship God. Rv 22:9

Be a St. Max Sentinel:

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



The
ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY
WELCOMES ALL
PARISHIONERS TO
**PRAY OUR LADY OF
SORROWS ROSARY**
AND HEAR THE INSPIRATIONAL STORY OF
THE CRUCIFIED CHRIST



of
ST. HELENA CHURCH
in AMITE, LOUISIANA.

**WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16TH**

ROSARY @11:00 in the
PARISH HALL

PRESENTATION +
3min. VIDEO CLIP

REFRESHMENTS @ 50/50



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

Doors open at 10:00am

& close at 11:55am.

**Food and beverages
will be sold.**

Eucharistic Ministry For the Homebound

Would you like to bring cheer to a homebound person by bringing Jesus to them? The need is great, and we can't do it without you. We are always in need of individuals to bring Communion on Sunday mornings to those who are unable to join us. For more info or to sign up, please call Ginny @ 732-914-0300

Without volunteers, we'd
be a nation without a soul.

**THE PEACE IN THE STORM
PROJECT**

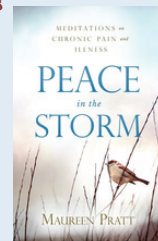
FAITH FELLOWSHIP GROUP

For persons living with chronic
illness, ongoing pain, & other life
challenges.

**Meetings will be held @ 1PM on
the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the
month in the Parish Hall,
beginning September 21!**

**Co- Facilitators are still needed so
please consider volunteering for this
important ministry!**

For more info on
volunteering please
contact Wendy @
732-232-2489



Dear grandmother, dear
grandfather, the Lord's
closeness will grant to
all, even the frailest
among us, the strength
needed to embark on a
new journey along the
path of dreams,
memory and prayer.

- Pope Francis



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**Eucharistic Ministers
are needed to visit:**

**The Arbors &
Holiday City Complete
Care**

the first Wednesday of each month.

**If you are Virtus trained &
fingerprinted, please consider
volunteering! If interested please
contact Wendy @ 732-232-2489**



**BISHOP'S
Anniversary
+
BLESSING**

All couples
celebrating their
1st, 25th or 50th
(or more)
anniversary of
Catholic marriage
during
the 2026 calendar
year



October 18, 2026
Co-Cathedral St. Robert Bellarmine, Freehold

REGISTER AT: WWW.DIOCESEOFTRENTON.ORG/BISHOPS-ANNIVERSARY-BLESSING



**SUNDAY
SOCIAL**

IN THE NARTHEX

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 20TH**

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



**It's official, we are
now on Facebook!**



We created this page to stay connected with you, share exclusive updates, & provide an easier way for you to get up-to-date information.

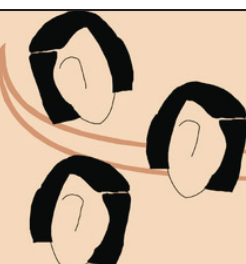
You can expect to find:

- Upcoming events.
- Announcements.
- Emergency updates
- Saint of the day
- & so much more...

Head over to our website click the Facebook Page & give us a "Like" or "Follow" to join our community!

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**Be true
to God's Laws**

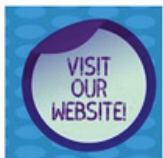
Love one another



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.



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

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS

the

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

welcomes you to join them at their
ANNUAL COMMUNION LUNCHEON



WITH GUEST SPEAKER

FATHER DEAN GAUDIO

ON

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

"THE MANTLE AND THE MESSAGE: HOW TEPEYAC CHANGED THE AMERICAS"

OCTOBER 4th @ 12:30

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NEVER FORGET

Almost everyone can remember where they were on Sept. 11, 2001, when hijacked planes flew into the Twin Towers and the Pentagon. Twenty-five years after September 11, 2001, the attacks that changed our city and nation forever continue to shape American life. Their effects are felt in airport security, expanded government surveillance, debates over privacy and liberty, public trust, conspiracy theories, and the culture of war-themed video games. The legacy also remains personal for victims' families, survivors, and first responders living with long-lasting health effects. As a new generation grows up without personal memories of 9/11, It is our shared promise — made 25 years ago — to "NEVER FORGET" so those born after 9/11 learn its significance and enduring legacy. As we commemorate this anniversary, a new generation will learn about the unimaginable loss we experienced through classroom textbooks, anniversary broadcasts, museums, and the inspiring stories of bravery, compassion, unity, and service that are told by survivors. As we reflect on the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks of let us "NEVER FORGET" those who lost their lives, the recovery efforts made by emergency professionals, the bonds formed among strangers, and the next generation impacted by that fateful day.

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

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 meets in the Parish Hall every Tuesday from 6pm—8pm.



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

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY



"The Blessed Mother has indicated that suffering is a "treasure" that cleanses the soul, helps one learn who their true friend is (God), and prepares them for heaven." This is from St. Faustina Kawalska's diary and fits perfectly with the spirituality of Our Lady of Sorrows.

ETERNITY

Grandparents Day, transforming the challenges of aging from a "waste" into a "treasure" of grace.

As we live, even when we get older we still have emotional and physical mixed feelings: love, laughter, sadness, and illness. We should not want to be free of this part of our God-given earthly life. Instead, as Catholics, we should embrace the reality of our struggles with faith, hope, and profound trust in God.

Thereby, as we deal with what we have on earth, we should still be seeking God's all-loving mercy, because it will bring us to the ultimate joy of perfect and eternal happiness, which is waiting for us in union with God in heaven.

St. Paul wrote in Romans 5:3–4, "suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope". This aligns with the theology of the Exaltation of the Cross.



Have a blessed, healthy, loving, fun grandparents day!

Anna (Pres. RAS) 732-581-2247

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

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, SEPTEMBER 14th 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 fpret1008@gmail.com.

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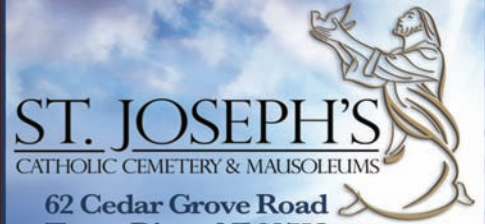
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StJosephCemeteryTR.org/cemetery

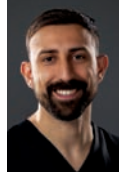
Deacon Christopher Buono, Mgr.

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