



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

October 18, 2026



Pastor

Rev. Stephen M. Piga

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Carlos Castilla

In Memoriam:

Rev. Francis E. Santitoro

Founding Pastor - 1985

Visiting Weekend Priests

Rev. Peter Filipkowski

Rev. Rudolf Gonzalez

Rev. Edward Reading

Rev. J. Philip Vadakkekera

Deacon

Thomas C. Yondolino

Assistant to the Pastor

Josephine Micciulla

Trustees

Anna Roma

Robert Zaratini

Music Director

Mr. Tarcisio Pono

Mary, Mother of Life



Respect Life Month

October 2026

respectlife.org/celebrate

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

October 18, 2026/World Mission Sunday

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

- 7:00 am Wayne Szuba
Req. Cosmo Marolla
- 4:00 pm Richard Carter
Req. Kathy & Richard Skrocki

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

- 7:00 am Susan McConway
Req. Family
- 9:00 am Lillian Zappone
Req. Son & Daughter
- 11:00 am Pasquale Mastroviti
Req. Wife, Maria
- 1:00 pm Louis Morbelli
Req. Wife & Family

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026

- 8:30 am Multiple Intention Mass

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026

- 7:00 am Susan McConway
Req. Family

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026

- 8:30 am Daniel Joseph Kelly
Req. Love, Mom

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026

- 8:30 am Robert Weland
Req. The Paolini Family

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026

- 8:30 am Rose & Sam D'Alessio
Req. Children

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

- 7:00 am Ronald R. Beaudry
Req. Melania Scarabino
- 4:00 pm Dolores Dentzau
Req. Bill Dentzau & Debbie Glenn

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026

- 7:00 am Florence Romano
Req. Marlene & Lou Nicolaro
- 9:00 am Martha Venezia
Req. Son, Joseph
- 11:00 am Mary & Thomas Riccio
Req. Patricia Guerin & Neice
- 1:00 pm Josephine Corsi
Req. Gloria & Debbie Corsi

faith



DAILY READINGS

- Sunday, 10/18/26— Is 45: 1, 4-6; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21
- Monday, 10/19/26— Eph 2:1-10; Lk 12:13-21
- Tuesday, 10/20/26— Eph 2:12-22; Lk 12:35-38
- Wednesday, 10/21/26— Eph 3:2-12; Lk 12:39-48
- Thursday, 10/22/26— Eph 3:14-21; Lk 12:49-53
- Friday, 10/23/26— Eph 4:1-6; Lk 12:54-59
- Saturday, 10/24/26— Eph 4:7-16; Lk 13:1-9

Monday, October 19, 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

Christopher W. Campbell,
Req. Love, Mom & Dad

Gustavo Diaz, **Req.** Anthony & Blanche Lambert

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

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

Theodore Leissing, **Req.** Family

Faustino Juanita Bayani,
Req. The Mecenaz Family

Susan McConway, **Req.** Family

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

Rosario Farro - 1st Anniversary,
Req. Wife, Mafalva & Family

Mario Valinhas, **Req.** Leontina Valinhas

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

Thomas Allen,
Req. St. Maximilian Kolbe Church Bingo Staff

Valerie Davis, **Req.** Love, Mom

Charlie & JoAnn Donnarumma,
Req. Aleta Mary Marino

Patricia Soufanati, **Req.** Colleen Mabin

Cesar Angeles, **Req.** Nestor & Cecile Vasquez

Rafael & Angela Vales,
Req. Nestor & Cecile Vasquez

Augusta "Gussie" Cuccurollo,
Req. Kathleen Pelliccia

Maxine Mutchler, **Req.** Diana Kerr

Rosaleen Anne Brothers,
Req. Anna Mae & Oliver Bermingham

IN LOVING MEMORY

Parishioners we know
who have died.

Eternal rest grant to them oh Lord and let the
perpetual light shine upon them, may they
rest in peace. Amen

Special Intentions

October 17, 2026 to October 23, 2026

Bread & Wine-Church

Rev. Vincent J. Coppola
Req. Family

Sanctuary Candle-Church

Rev. Francis E. Santitoro
Req. Family

Altar Candles-Church

Patricia Gulan
Req. Husband, James





From the Pastor's Desk



Greetings, everyone, may the Lord give you grace and peace—as St. Paul starts his Letter to the Thessalonians in the second reading this weekend.

Have you ever heard a strange noise in the middle of the night that disturbs your sleep—and your peace—so much so that you have trouble falling asleep again? If you live alone, you know what I am talking about.

With the stress, pressures and tensions we can feel and be under in our lives, sometimes our peace wire we struggle so hard to hold on to can snap, without warning, and we say or do something we regret, and we live in a state of anxiety and worry for days on end.

How can we bend, but not break? Of course we rely fully on Our Lord who is always with us, who gives us that grace to accept the things we cannot change and helps us change the things we can.

But we must cooperate with His grace. If we don't maintain a serene heart, how can we help others with their overstressed feelings which we are all called to do under the commandment, "Love thy neighbor as thyself"?

With the Yankees long gone now, and the Mets long, long gone, I have been watching the WNBA women pro basketball and enjoying it. Although almost all of the players are constantly yelling at the referees, jawing at the other team or faking that they have been fouled, there is one young lady on the Golden State (SF) Valkyries who is a marvel to watch. Her name is Gabby Williams. No matter what is going on in the game, no matter how much the game is on the line, no matter how much pressure is on her to make a shot, like from the foul line, she remains perfectly composed, not with a frown, but with a cool demeanor. It's amazing. She has tremendous composure.

I watch her and I think, I want that peaceful composure too. I know nothing of her religious beliefs or lifestyle. All I know is she shows unwavering discipline using her will power to not show any emotion on the court except that she exhibits a love of the game and of her teammates. I want to show a love of the life God gave me and a love of all people I meet.

Yes, that gift is 100% from God, but it is my decision too and something that I must put into practice. My point is that we must want fully that peaceful composure and therefore we must strive to always live in faith, trusting in God providing. As it has been said, "Pray as if everything depends on God, and live like everything depends on you." Nurture always a desire to please God out of our love of Him.

The Golden State Valkyries just started the finals Saturday against the Atlanta Dream. I'm rooting for Golden State and I'm rooting—and praying—for all of you too.

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-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 18, 2026

"I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the Lord and there is no other, there is no God besides me. It is I who arm you, though you know me not, so that from the rising and the setting of the sun people may know that there is none besides me."... "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

On the day of my baptism, I was called by name and began my relationship with God. Since then, I ask myself, 'how well do I know my loving God?' For many we know about God but our goal and task is to know Him personally, to foster that relationship when He first called me. May I find Him in the scripture, in the sacraments, in His quiet voice in my prayer today.



**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

As Sacred Scripture says, the Spirit moves at Will (cf Jn 3:8), and based on its good fruits, it seems that He Willed to use the historic three-day weekend retreat at "The Ark and the Dove Inn" attended by two dozen retreatants, mostly students plus a few faculty, from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA, on February 17-19, 1967 to light the evangelical fire which has come to be known as the "Catholic Charismatic Renewal." To be fair, the weekend's well-documented charismatic events did not happen out of the blue, nor in a spiritual vacuum, although—even without any of their hearts' desires to fully encounter Him as in Baptism and Confirmation, and their earnest spiritual preparations (including prayerfully reading the Acts of the Apostles), the Holy Spirit certainly could have so gifted the attendees with His various gifts and manifestations. Besides the attendees' desire and preparation to experience the Holy Spirit in a powerful way, as in the first days of the Church (which could be seen as an "immediate cause"), commentators point to a powerful antecedent to explain why such an event occurred at that point in Universal Church history, and why no one should have been doubtful of its legitimacy nor surprised by it. Quite simply, the Church received the gift it asked for when, in preparation for the convening of the Second Vatican Council in 1961, St. Pope John XXIII, had ardently prayed for a "new Pentecost." Using the students as His instruments, the Holy Spirit powerfully obliged him! With praise and thanks to the Lord, the "Catholic Charismatic Renewal," which spread from Pittsburgh, PA throughout the Universal Church, will celebrate its sixtieth anniversary in 2027. By God's Grace, may it continue till the end of time fulfilling St. John Paul II appraisal of it as "one of the many fruits" to come from the Second Vatican Council. To that end, may it continue being a "current of grace," as Pope Francis described it during the Renewal's Golden Jubilee celebration in 2017 in Rome on Pentecost Sunday! This week when you are in the Eucharistic Presence of the Lord, you might ask Him to give you a better appreciation for and relationship with the Holy Spirit, helping you to recall what you know about Him (and His Gifts and Fruits) from catechism lessons, our profession of Faith during Mass, and your hearing what the Lord said about Him as proclaimed in the Gospels. For added help, you might ask Our Blessed Mother, the Holy Spirit's Beloved Spouse, to teach you how to better love and worship Him.

**Do you not know that your body is a temple of
the Holy Spirit within you...? 1 Cor 6:19**

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



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News & Events



We Celebrate 100 Years of World Mission Sunday!

This World Mission Sunday, **OCTOBER 18, 2026** marks the 100th anniversary of its establishment by Pope Pius XI in 1926. This centenary is an opportunity to celebrate with renewed missionary zeal. Last year, Pope Leo XIV made an appeal to us in a personal video for World Mission Sunday. His request echoed around the world:

“Please help me help missionaries everywhere.”

That’s what World Mission Sunday does: it helps Pope Leo care for the 1,130 missionary dioceses and territories under his supervision through the Dicastery for Evangelization. We are all called to be a part of this missionary work and we have a singular means to do so:

World Mission Sunday. The second collection we take up today helps extend the Church’s evangelization work to missionary lands where the Gospel is being proclaimed for the first time, as well as to places where the Church barely exists, or is too young, too persecuted, or too poor to sustain herself.

Thank you for responding to Pope Leo’s call to help him help missionaries everywhere!

The Cameos—New Jersey’s Favorite Oldies Group
St. Maximilian Kolbe Knights of Columbus Council 10899
Presents an evening of Oldies & Patriotic Songs
Sun. Nov 8, 2026 6:00pm -8:30pm (doors open at 5pm)
St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish Hall



This is a Send a Hero Home Fund-Raising event....

Desserts and hot/cold soft drinks provided. \$30pp. BYOB.
Table of 12 for \$330 (exc. premium tables).

Tickets to be sold after all Sunday Masses else contact:

Bob Zaratin @ 732.551.6275
Joe Accardi @ 973.980.8775



The ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

will be selling tickets
for this event! All
proceeds will go directly
to our ministry to
support our parish and
charitable works.

ONE DAY ONLY
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21ST 2026

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1ST Barbara: 732-644-8446
2ND Eileen: 1-551-427-7968
3RD Anna: 732-581-2247



**SUNDAY
SOCIAL**
SEATING WILL BE
AVAILABLE!

**IN THE PARISH HALL
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18**

**FOLLOWED BY THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH
AFTER THE 9:00 AM AND 11:00 AM MASSES**

PLEASE JOIN US!

News & Events

Timothy E. Ryan Home for Funerals
Lavallette, Seaside Park, Toms River,
Bayville & Jackson, New Jersey

Dear Friend,

It is said that one of the greatest gifts that God has bestowed on us is the gift of memories. Recalling memories can be comforting to us at times when we feel at our lowest. Understanding these deep feelings, the Church dedicates November to prayer for all those who have died, especially through the celebration of the Feast of All Souls.

Keeping in mind this tradition, we felt that after an especially difficult year it would be proper for THE RYAN FAMILY to remember all the faithful departed by having a Mass celebrated in their memory. In conjunction with ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE PARISH, we have arranged with Fr. Stephen Piga to have a special MEMORIAL MASS on Wednesday November 4 at 12 noon at Saint Maximilian Kolbe Church located at the end of Mule Rd. Toms River, NJ. Fr. Stephen Piga and the Ryan Family hope you can join us to remember and give thanks for the lives of those who have gone before us. Light refreshments will be served following the mass. If you will be attending please call our office at (732) 505-1900, so we will have an idea about how many will be in attendance. May the Lord Bless you and keep you in His care,
Sincerely,
The Ryan Family and Staff

SUPPORT THE CCHD ANNUAL COLLECTION ON NOVEMBER 14 TH AND 15 TH !

Your gift to the Catholic Campaign for Human Development program works to break the cycle of poverty — and 25% stays right here in our diocese, funding our Catholic organizations and ministries that empower families in our own community. Please give generously and partner with us so together we can put faith into action.

We welcome you to learn more at:

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/catholic-campaign-human-development> OR
<https://dioceseoftrenton.org/catholic-campaign-for-human-development>

Eucharistic Ministers are needed to visit:
The Arbors & Holiday City Complete Care
the first Wednesday of each month.
If interested please contact Wendy @
732-232-2489

BINGO!

JOIN US ON TUESDAYS
FOR OUR WEEKLY BINGO!
Doors open at 10:00am
& close at 11:55am.
Food and beverages
will be sold.

TRUNK OR TREAT

☆ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

☆ 5:00-7:00 PM

☆ QUINN-HOPPING FUNERAL HOME
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☆ 732-240-3800

☆ PLEASE REACH OUT IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE YOUR TRUNK SPACE!

† BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MINISTRY
You don't have to grieve alone.
If you are experiencing the loss of a loved one, we are here to walk with you.
Whether your loss is recent or happened some time ago,
you are welcome here.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:
CONTACT: LYNN TROMBINO
732-773-8637**

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 and fellowship. The next 6 weeks we will be sharing with Jesus and each other the following: **33 Days to Eucharistic Glory by Matthew Kelly!**

Books will be provided and we will start on Tuesday afternoons 3-5pm in the Ministry Meeting Room. Please bring a friend and share with us the Glory of God! Let's embark on this journey together and open the door to meaningful relationships and enriching discussions centered around our faith!

For more information call:
Linda Capobianco 732-278-7283



ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

"Where Mary is, there is the Son! ... Whoever beholds Jesus sees Mary; whoever loves Jesus loves Mary; whoever has devotion to Jesus has devotion to Mary." St. Paul of the Cross
"To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek Him the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement." St. Augustine of Hippo

WHEN WE FIND LOVE

When we finally realize what we need - and what our souls were searching - the only word fitting is love. The tender love we hold for Mary draws us to her Son, Jesus, letting everyone know we are not alone and that we have found the ultimate treasure. Through Christ, we find complete satisfaction.

Knowing His love for us is stronger than anything we can imagine, that unconditional grace ensures our hearts are full of true joy and the promise of eternal life!

"We never give more honour to Jesus than when we honour his Mother, and we honour her simply and solely to honour him all the more perfectly. We go to her only as a way leading to the goal we seek — Jesus, her Son."

St. Louis de Montfort

Anna (Pres. RAS) [732-581-2247](tel: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

Saint Maximilian Kolbe Men's Ministry

All are welcome to join Frank Preta, the Men's Ministry Manager, for our men's ministry group which will meet the second Monday of every month. [Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 19th 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.



THE PEACE IN THE STORM PROJECT ~ FAITH – FELLOWSHIP GROUP

FOR PERSONS WITH CHRONIC ILLNESS, ONGOING PAIN, AND OTHER HEALTH CHALLENGES

Meetings will be held @ 1PM on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month in the ministry meeting room

Our next meeting dates will be: Monday, October 19th and Monday, November 2

For more info contact Wendy @ 732-232-2489

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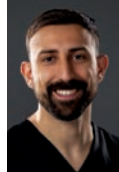
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