



# *St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Church*



10135 West Road † Houston † Texas † 77064 † (281) 955-7324

[www.stmaximilian.org](http://www.stmaximilian.org)

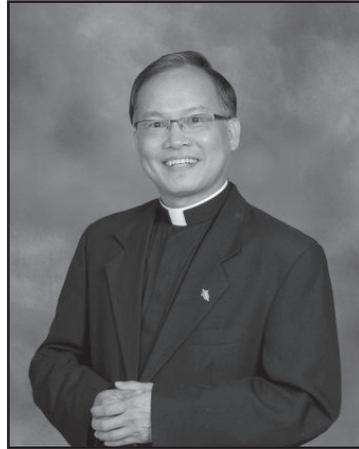
**2018 Guide Book & Directory**



# St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Community

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10135 West Rd., Houston, TX 77064  
281-955-7324



## A Letter from Our Pastor, Father John Kha Tran

Dear Parish Family:

God has called us to be a part of the Catholic Community of St. Maximilian Kolbe in Northwest of Houston. We are a diverse community with people from different backgrounds and cultures. United in Jesus' love, and embracing our diverse gifts, we witness our Catholic faith by following the command of our Lord, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to carry out everything I have commanded you. And know that I am with you always, until the end of the world." (Mtt 28:19-20).

Confident that the Lord is with us, here we form our spiritual family through Baptism. Baptism is birth into the new life in Christ. As St. Paul says, "Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life" (Rom 6:3-4). Each time we come to church, we are reminded and inspired as we look at the statue of our patron saint standing in the church's courtyard volunteering to give his life for another. Our patron saint understands the teaching of our Lord, "This is how all will know you for my disciples: Your love for one another" (Jn 13:35). And "This is my commandment: Love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you" (Jn 15:12-14)

Here at St. Maximilian Kolbe, we strive to give ourselves in serving God and ministering to others selflessly in prayer, sacraments, faith formation and charity works. We are making God's presence known to one another through our liturgical worship and Christian living. We welcome others. We pray. We love. We serve, we care and we evangelize.

Please be part of this unique Catholic Community with your participation in the ministry that God is calling you. Our strength is our love for the Lord and for one another. Together, we will fulfill our mission as members of St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Community.

Thank You for being part of St. Maximilian Kolbe's Family!

Fr. John Kha Tran



# ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

www.stmaximilian.org

**Reverend John Kha Tran, Pastor • Reverend Ignatius Dang Hoang, Parochial Vicar**  
**Deacon Art Chin-Fatt • Deacon Dennis Hayes • Deacon Bob Henkel**  
**Deacon Steve Klak • Deacon John Naber • Deacon Matt Rust • Deacon Joe Weir**

**EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATION (MASS):**

**Saturday: 5:00 PM**

**Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM**

Weekdays: 8:30 AM (Monday through Saturday)

**RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):**

We have Confessions on Saturday from 3:30 - 4:30 PM, and at other times by appointment.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**

Someone who is seriously ill, at home, or in the hospital, or who is about to undergo major surgery, should call the parish office, and arrange for a Priest to celebrate with them the sacrament for the ill.

**BAPTISM:**

**ADULT BAPTISM:** Adults who are preparing to become Catholic, will participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation at Easter.  
**INFANT BAPTISM:** We celebrate infant Baptism on the 2nd Saturday of each month, except during Lent. Parents and Godparents of infants to be baptized should attend Baptismal classes, preferably before the child is born.

**CONFIRMATION:**

Adults and older youth who have not been Confirmed should contact the Parish office.

**MARRIAGE:**

Couples who are considering marriage should contact the parish office, at least six (6) months before the couple's projected wedding date.

**PRAYER:**

Rosary: Wednesday at 6:30 PM in Immaculata Chapel  
 Evening Prayer: Wednesday at 7:00 PM in Immaculata Chapel  
 Divine Mercy Prayer: Friday at 3:00 PM in Immaculata Chapel  
 Eucharistic Adoration: Daily in Immaculata Chapel  
 Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Saturday at 4:30 PM in Church  
 Rosary: Sunday following 10:00 AM Mass

**PARISH STAFF**

Deacon Art Chin-Fatt—Pastoral Associate  
 Mary Alice Greaney—Music Director  
 Patrick Greaney—Parish Maintenance Director  
 Dana Henkel—Parish Stewardship Director  
 Jennifer Henkel—Coordinator of Youth Ministry  
 Beth Jones—Parish Business Manager  
 Barbara Knight—Director of Youth Faith Formation  
 Eileen Mace—Kolbe Kids EC Program Director  
 Yvette Neider—Parish Night Clerk  
 Miguel Perdomo—Maintenance & Handyman  
 Phyllis Schoelman—Parish Secretary  
 Diana Thomas—Faith Formation Assistant

**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Misty Battaglia	George Montes
David Everest (Facilitator)	David Rodriguez
Michel LeBlanc	Florence Shah
Melanie Manalang	Denise Simon
John Martin	Paul Simon
Ginger McKnight (Recorder)	Jorge Torres

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

Bob Colosimo	Chris Magnuson
Paul Hains	Evie Omelaz
Sean Kennedy	David Ricke
Wilfred Krenek (Facilitator)	Ali Rust

**\*\*\*VIRTUS training is required for all adults working with children. Information about the "PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN" program and the refresher course "KEEPING THE PROMISE ALIVE" is available at [www.virtus.org/virtus/protecting\\_children.cfm](http://www.virtus.org/virtus/protecting_children.cfm). Contact the parish office for your user name and password to sign-up for a training class.\*\*\***

10135 West Road  
 Houston, Texas 77064

Office: 281-955-7324  
 Fax: 281-955-7328

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm  
 Mother's Day Out Phone: 281-970-0979



## Our Patron Saint ~ St. Maximilian Kolbe

St. Maximilian Kolbe was born as Raymund Kolbe on January 8, 1894, in the Kingdom of Poland, part of the Russian Empire. He was a Polish Conventual Franciscan friar and a martyr in the German death Camp of Auschwitz during World War II.

St. Maximilian Kolbe was very active in promoting the Immaculate Virgin Mary and is known as the Apostle of Consecration to Mary. Much of his life was strongly influenced by a vision he had of the Virgin Mary when he was 12.

“That night I asked the Mother of God what was to become of me. Then she came to me holding two crowns, one white, and the other red. She asked me if I was willing to accept either of these crowns. The white one meant that I should persevere in purity and the red that I should become a martyr. I said that I would accept them both.”

One year after his vision, Kolbe and his elder brother, Francis joined the Conventual Franciscans. In 1910, Kolbe was given the religious name Maximilian, after being allowed to enter the novitiate, and in 1911, he professed his first vows.

At the age of 21, Kolbe earned a doctorate in philosophy from the Pontifical Gregorian University. He would also earn a doctorate in theology by the time he was 28.

St. Maximilian Kolbe organized the Militia Immaculata (Army of the Immaculate One) after witnessing demonstrations against Pope St. Pius X and Benedict XV. His goal was to work for the conversion of sinners and enemies of the Church, specifically, the Freemasons and he would do so with the intercession of Mary.

In 1918, he was ordained a priest and continued his work of promoting Mary throughout Poland. Over the next several years, Kolbe took on publishing. He founded a monthly periodical titled, “Rycerz Niepokalanej” (Knight of the Immaculate). He also operated a religious publishing press and founded a new Conventual Franciscan monastery at Niepokalanow, which became a major religious publishing center.

Kolbe also founded monasteries in both Japan and India. To this day, the monastery in Japan remains prominent in the Roman Catholic Church in Japan.

In 1936, Kolbe’s poor health forced him to return home to Poland, and once the WWII invasion by Germany began, he became one of the only brothers to remain in the monastery. He opened up a temporary hospital to aid those in need. When his town was captured, Kolbe was sent to prison but released three months later.

Kolbe refused to sign a document that would recognize him as a German citizen with his German ancestry and continued to work in his monastery, providing shelter for refugees - including hiding 2,000 Jews from German persecution. After receiving permission to continue his religious publishing, Kolbe’s monastery acted as a publishing house again and issued many anti-Nazi German publications.

On February 17, 1941, the monastery was shut down; Kolbe was arrested by the German Gestapo and taken to the Pawiak prison. Three months later, he was transferred to Auschwitz.

Never abandoning his priesthood, Kolbe was the victim to severe violence and harassment. Toward the end of his second month in Auschwitz, men were chosen to face death by starvation to warn against escapes. Kolbe was not chosen but volunteered to take the place of a man with a family.

It is said during the last days of his life Kolbe led prayers to Our Lady with the prisoners and remained calm. He was the last of the group to remain alive, after two weeks of dehydration and starvation. The guards gave him a lethal injection of carbolic acid. The stories tell that he raised his left arm and calmly awaited death.

St. Maximilian Kolbe died on August 14 and his remains were cremated on August 15, the same day as the Assumption of Mary feast day.

Recognized as the Servant of God, Kolbe was beatified as a “Confessor of the Faith” on October 17, 1971 by Pope Paul VI and canonized by Pope John Paul II on October 10, 1982. Pope John Paul II declared Kolbe not a confessor, but a martyr.

Kolbe is often depicted in a prison uniform and with a needle being injected into an arm. He is the patron saint of drug addicts, prisoners, families, and the pro-life movement and his feast day is celebrated on August 14.

## Parish Committees and Boards

### Pastoral Council

The goal of the Pastoral Council is to serve as a consultative body to the Pastor leading the parish community in the discernment and the expression of its mission. The Pastoral Council is currently composed of the Pastor and members of the community. Members of the Pastoral Council must be members of the community who are at least 16 years of age. The Pastoral Council meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. To express concerns or request information contact the Pastoral Council Facilitator listed in the current bulletin.

### Finance Council

The goal of the Finance Council is to serve as a consultative body to the Pastor, and to aid him in the administration of parish goods according to the norms issued by the Archbishop. The Finance Council is presently composed of the Pastor and eight parishioners. The Pastor appoints these members. The Finance Council meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. To express concerns or request information contact the Finance Council Facilitator listed in the current bulletin.

## Faith Formation

We, the Catholic Community of St. Maximilian Kolbe, will by example and word share the love and mercy of God to form and enrich the faith of all parishioners. All generations will be encouraged to learn more about their faith, liturgy, sacraments, to lead a moral life, to pray always and with devotion, and to understand fully the meaning of their lives in Christ.

### Adult Faith Formation Committee

The Adult Faith Formation Committee seeks the continuing education and spiritual growth of all our community. If you are interested in helping, planning or assisting in furthering education classes for adults, you will be welcomed with open arms. For questions or more information, please contact the parish office.

### Adult Faith Formation

Religious Education is a lifelong journey of faith-as we grow closer in our relationship with God and our community. The Adult Faith Formation team fosters and supports this journey offering a variety of classes and events for adults. New classes are beginning all the time so check the bulletin and church calendar for new offerings. Studies are offered on a variety of subjects: Scripture; Living out the Faith; or Liturgy. In addition, we offer Book Study programs and special classes during the holy seasons of the year usually during Advent and Lent.

### Couples for Christ

Couples for Christ Foundation for Family and Life is an ecclesial movement, or a private lay association that aims to build the "church of the home" by bringing families to a living relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. For more specific information, contact the parish office.

### Adult Retreat Ministry

The mission of our Adult Retreat Ministry is to provide an opportunity for the men and women of our parish to encounter the Living God, and to encourage their active participation in the life of the Church. The goals of our ministry are to foster personal and spiritual growth in our parishioners; to provide opportunities for them to learn more about and grow deeper in their Catholic faith and to provide them a place of community, spirituality, service and prayer.

### A.C.T.S. Retreat

A.C.T.S. stands for Adoration, Community, Theology and Service. ACTS can be a powerful retreat that has touched and transformed many lives, and this "gift" will allow you the opportunity to strengthen all your relationships, especially your personal relationship with our Lord. ACTS has separate men and women's retreats. Please contact the parish office for more information.

### W.A.T.Ch. Retreat

We Are The Church; through Love, with Love, in Love and service to others you will experience a renewed meeting with Jesus! Please contact the parish office for more information.

### T.M.I.Y. / That Man Is You

That Man is You! is an interactive, multimedia men's program focused upon the development of authentic male leadership. Over the course of three years, That Man is You! successively considers men in their relationship to God, to their spouse and to their children. The program content harmonizes current social and medical science with the teachings of the Church and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of man fully alive. It is particularly indebted to the teachings of the 2nd Vatican Council and Pope John Paul II. We meet each Friday morning at 5:30 a.m. in Kolbe Hall.

### S.O.S. / Sisters of the Spirit!

Join other ladies of our parish family; on the third Thursday of each month. We gather and share prayers, scripture, reflections, stories, music and food! Each month we cover a new theme/topic. Come and take some "time out" for yourself and for your spirit! Bring a friend ... or two! We meet once per month in Kolbe Hall at 6:30 p.m.

### Children & Youth Faith Formation (CCE)

St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Community strives to offer education opportunities to meet the needs of all our children and youth. For more information about Children and Youth Faith Formation, please contact the parish office.

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd** – a Montessori based, hands on exploration of the Mass and the Word of God for our Pre-School and Kindergarten children.

**Elementary Faith Formation – For our children 1st through 5th grades.** Our emphasis in these classes is teaching the foundations of our faith and church and showing the love of Jesus Christ.

**Junior High Faith Formation – For our students 6th through 8th grades.** Our goal is to help students develop a deeper relationship with Christ and our church while learning the fundamentals of our Christian Catholic faith and how to embody this in their daily lives.



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**High School Faith Formation – For our students 9th through 12th grades.** In High School, we prepare our students for the Holy Sacrament of Confirmation. In this sacrament, they are sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and strengthened in their Christian Life. 9th Grade is a year of general education. 10th and 11th grades are two years of formal preparation for this important Sacrament of Initiation. In their senior year, students may complete Confirmation (if needed) or take continuing Bible studies that will help them to solidify the habits of life long Christian learning and faith.

**Home School Program:** This program is intended for families whose schedules or circumstances prevent them from attending regular Faith Formation classes. A formalized and structured program with text books and online support assists parents in teaching their children the catechesis of the church at home.

**Children’s Liturgy of the Word:** During weekend Masses children ages 5 – 9 may come to the Chapel to hear the Word of God and Christ’s message in a child friendly way.

**Kamp Kolbe/Vacation Bible School:** This fun summer program offers our children ages 4 – 11 to experience Christ’s love and the gospel through play, music, crafts and stories. This week long program is offered in the evening at St. Maximilian Kolbe as an alternative to similar programs at nearby parishes.

## Youth Ministry

**Jr. High Youth Ministry:** The goal of this ministry is to provide 6th – 8th grade youth with an opportunity to gather for games, fellowship, discussions of our faith, and prayer time. The junior high youth meet most Tuesdays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. For more information please contact the Youth Minister through the parish office.

**Sr. High Youth Ministry:** The goals of this ministry is to assist our youth grades 9th – 12th to become strong disciples of Christ through meetings wherein they are given the opportunity to pray, worship, discuss and learn about our Catholic faith with our friends in our parish community. The senior high youth meet most Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. For more information please contact the Youth Minister through the parish office.

## Young Adult Ministry

These meetings rotate between adoration, group discussion/ learning and attending talks put on by Young Catholic Professionals of Houston. After each meeting we go out for drinks, dinner and fellowship. Our mission is to grow in communion with God and in community with each other.

## Kolbe Kids’ Mother’s Day Out and Preschool

The goals of Kolbe Kids’ MDO and Preschool program are to instill the love of God in each child; to support children’s natural curiosity, generosity, and creativity and to develop the child spiritually, socially, intellectually, physically and emotionally. We offer a center based classroom with a thematic curriculum that strives to stimulate a child’s senses and abilities in many different ways. We are open Monday – Thursday from 9:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Kolbe Kids accepts children from 18 months through four years old. School starts in September and ends in May and follows the Cy-Fair ISD school calendar.

## Worship

### Liturgical Ministries

There are many opportunities to serve within the Liturgy, and we are continually in need of liturgical ministers to serve at every Liturgy.

- \***Sacristans:** The Sacristans ensure that all necessary personnel and materials are present and prepared for each Liturgy celebration.
- \***Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** The EMHC’s distribute the Eucharist at Mass.
- \***Lectors:** Lectors proclaim God’s Word through meaningful proclamation of the sacred Scripture during Mass.
- \***Master of Ceremonies:** The MC’s assist at liturgies, enjoy fellowship and serve the Church.
- \***Altar Servers:** Altar Servers assist at liturgies, enjoy fellowship and serve the Church. To be an altar server youth must be in 5th grade. Training sessions are held periodically during the year.
- \***Ushers:** Members of this ministry offer a welcome to those who gather for Liturgy, respond to the needs of the assembled and assist one another through mutual hospitality.
- \***Greeters:** Members of this ministry give a warm welcome to all persons who gather with us in worship.
- \***Art & Environment:** The goal of this ministry is to appropriately adorn our Worship Space and to enhance the environment of our liturgical worship.
- \***Altar Linens:** Members of this ministry maintain and take care of the linens used for Mass.
- \***Wedding Coordinators:** Members of this ministry assist couples in coordinating wedding liturgies.

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## Music Ministry

The St. Maximilian Kolbe music ministry provides music in worship for all parish liturgies, including Masses, weddings and funerals. Parishioners are invited to share their musical talents and serve the parish through participation in the parish music ministry. Requirements include a love of music, a desire to sing and the ability to make a commitment to attend rehearsals.

**\*Adult Choir:** This ministry is open to singers and instrumentalists. We sing at every Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass and at all major parish liturgies. Rehearsals are held on Wednesdays beginning at 7:00 p.m. Adult Cantors rehearse with this group to prepare for liturgies.

**\*Youth Choir/Instrumentalists:** This ministry is open to singers and instrumentalists in grades 7th – 12th. We provide music at every Sunday 12:00 p.m. Mass except when the Children’s Choir sings. The Youth also sing at Christmas and Easter. Cantor training is available within this group.

**\*Children’s Choir:** This ministry is open to singers grades 2nd – 6th. We provide music at the Sunday 12:00 p.m. Mass about once every month during the school year, including Christmas and Easter. Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

**\*Accompanists:** The goal of this ministry is to provide musical support and accompaniment with pianists, organists, guitarists, etc. who share their time and talents to enrich the music of our liturgical celebrations.

## Eucharistic Adoration

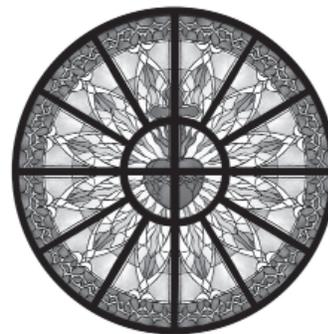
Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is available seven days a week in our Immaculata Chapel. You are invited to come and spend quiet prayer time adoring our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. For those interested in committing to a weekly Holy Hour to this ministry a simple orientation session and support will be provided to you by a Team Leader.

**\*Communion Care:** This ministry takes Communion to the sick, to the homebound, to those in the hospital and to others who are unable to participate in Mass at Church.

**\*Nursing Home Care:** This ministry shares the Lord’s love through His Word and the Eucharist with those persons who happen to be in our local nursing homes.

## Parish Mission

Parish Missions are held twice a year, usually during the Lenten and Advent seasons. Please watch the parish bulletin for dates.



## Sacred Heart Window

In his “Immaculata” prayer, St. Maximilian Kolbe says to Mary: “It is through your hands that all graces come to us from the most Sacred Heart of Jesus.” At the center of the beautiful rose window of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which is in the Church of St. Maximilian Kolbe in Houston, Texas, there is an image of the Sacred Heart, radiating glorious golden light throughout the world. From the Heart, encircled with thorns, the twelve “promises” of Our Lord Jesus go out, like intense flames of love, to be received by the uplifted, welcoming, “arms” of Mary and the believer. Supporting these “arms,” is a “Lily amongst the thorns,” like that spoken of in the 2nd chapter of the “Song of Solomon,” and frequently used as an analogy for Mary, for almost two thousand years. Nestled within each Lily is a raised jewel, a sparkling “tear” coming from the heart of Mary, sorrowed over the suffering and passion of her beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus. A large Crown of thorns encircle the whole window in its outside border, just as the Rosary encircles its sister rose window of the Rosary, on the opposite side of the church.

## Sacraments

**\*Infant Baptism:** All parents who wish to have an infant baptized at St. Maximilian Kolbe must attend a Baptism class in preparation for the Baptism. This class can be attended at our parish or another parish. Prospective Godparents should also attend a class. Birth certificates are required for infant Baptism. Baptism preparation classes are held the third Saturday of the month from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Infant Baptisms are scheduled on the second Saturday of the month, except during Lent, at 10:00 a.m.

**\*First Reconciliation/Confession for Children:** This is a special program of practical preparation offered each year beginning in September and culminating in First Confession before Advent. This program is separate from regular Faith Formation classes.

Families and children are provided with a structured program of text books; hands on practice; seminars; and a home study program to ensure each child is ready to complete their First Confession. Children must be at least seven years old, in the 2nd grade and be in their second year of Faith Formation to begin preparation for First Reconciliation. Children and students of all ages (over seven) are welcome and appropriate at this class.

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**\*First Eucharist/Communion for Children:** This is a special program of practical preparation offered each year beginning in January and culminating in First Eucharist during the Easter season. This program is separate from regular Faith Formation classes.

Families and children are provided with a structured program of text books; hands on practice; seminars; and a home study program to ensure each child is ready to receive the Holy Sacrament of Eucharist. Children must be at least seven years old, in the 2nd grade and be in their second year of Faith Formation to begin preparation for First Communion. Children and students of all ages (over seven) are welcome and appropriate at this class.

**\*Youth Confirmation:** Candidates must be in at least the 10th grade to enter the Confirmation program. For a youth to be eligible to enter into the Confirmation program at St. Maximilian Kolbe he/she must be baptized, attending Mass weekly, receiving Communion, and be participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Penance. The Sacrament of Confirmation for our high school youth will be celebrated during Mass on a date to be determined by our Archdiocesan office of the Cardinal.

**\*Adult Confirmation:** The goal here is to help Catholics renew their faith, increase their knowledge of God's word and complete the Sacraments of Initiation.

**\*Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC):** This program prepares older children (over the age of seven) to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

**\*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** This program is to provide catechesis, basic instruction and Christian formation for anyone seeking to embrace the Catholic faith.

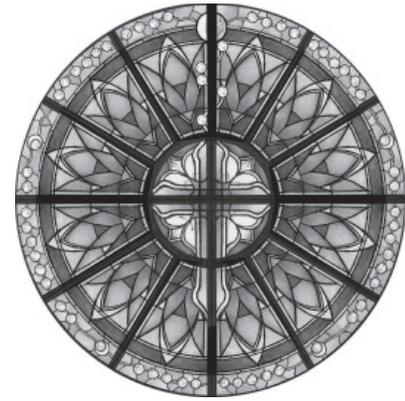
**\*Reconciliation:** Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the Church and at other times by appointment. Please contact the Parish Office for more information or to set an appointment with a Priest.

**\*Marriage:** All marriage preparation must begin at least six months prior to the desired wedding date. For additional questions, or to schedule your initial interview, please contact the parish office.

**\*Sponsor Couples for Engaged:** This ministry provides a couple-to-couple approach to marriage preparation through a five week planned sharing experience.

**\*Anointing of the Sick:** Someone who is seriously ill, at home, or in the hospital, or who is about to undergo major surgery, should call the parish office and arrange for a Priest to celebrate with them this Sacrament.

**\*Vocations:** This is to provide parishioners of all ages with opportunities to learn about the religious life and priesthood and to encourage this way of life to those who may be called.



## Rosary Window

St. Maximilian once said: “The way to the Christ is through Mary, and that path is the Rosary.” Our East Rose window has the Rosary as its theme. A white rose, a symbol of Mary, is in the center of the window. The cross of Mary’s son Jesus, emerges from the rose. The cross radiates outward, from passion colors into the gold of glory and heaven. The beads of the Rosary, faceted jewels, continue upward, flowing out from the cross as an unbroken circle, a garland of roses, becoming the border of the window. The circle of green on the outer edge of the window, symbolizes the earth, on which we now live and pray. The blues around the central cross and rose, speak of heaven. From the green earth, symbols of hands lift up in prayer, and, at the same time, open up to receive blessings and graces from above. The color of the triangles in the background, intensify, just as, the Spirit grows in a person in prayer. The whole window suggests that the Prayer of the Rosary, is a path from earth to Mary in heaven, and through Mary, to her son Jesus. Prayer, and the Rosary, make us receptive to Heaven’s many graces and blessings.

## Parish Ministries and Organizations

We are all called by Christ to serve others. There are many opportunities for Stewardship in our parish community.

**\*Evening Prayer:** We pray, as a community, the Church’s official prayer, one day a week. We meet on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Immaculata Chapel.

**\*Legion of Mary:** The goal of this ministry is to be instruments of the Holy Spirit through personal holiness and devotion to Mary, with prayer, service, and weekly meetings. We meet on Monday evenings at 7:15 p.m.

**\*Rosary:** We pray the Rosary together as a faith community and foster a devotion to Mary. We meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Immaculata Chapel.

**\*Fellowship Ministry:** The goals of this ministry are to provide an atmosphere for all parishioners to get to know each other and grow in Christian fellowship through social events, refreshments after Mass and hospitality.

**\*Kolbe Seniors:** Our seniors meet to foster fellowship and provide support to all senior members of our faith community. The Kolbe Seniors meet the third Friday of the month at 11:00 a.m.

**\*Nursery Ministry:** This ministry provides loving care to children in a safe environment while their parents attend Mass at either 10:00 a.m. or 12:00 p.m. on Sundays.

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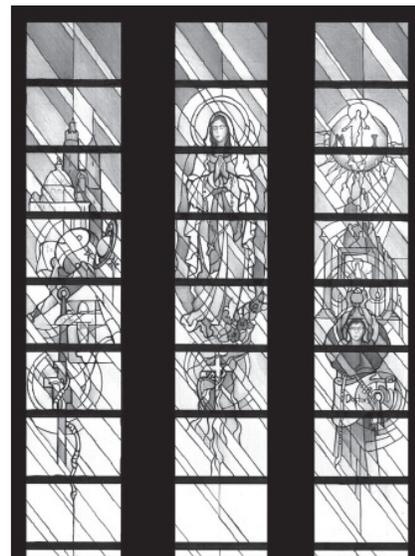
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- \***Office Volunteers:** Volunteers are needed time to time in the Parish Office to assist the staff in doing various clerical tasks, serving as the receptionist and helping with bulk mailings.
- \***Parish Festival Committee:** The Parish Festival is an opportunity for our parishioners to share their time, talent and treasure in a festive spirit while raising financial support for our Church and the community. The Parish Festival is held the first Saturday in October.
- \***Parish Library:** The library is a welcoming place established to provide Catholic resources that educate, enrich and empower parishioners to develop a stronger relationship with God and to encourage and support the staff and ministries of the Church. The library is open after most Mass times.
- \***Grief Ministry:** This ministry offers support and comfort to parishioners who have lost a loved one. It is also to educate the parish on various aspects of death and dying.
- \***Helping Hands:** Helping Hands provides meals and other appropriate assistance to families who are in crisis situations, such as bereavement or some medical emergency.
- \***Prayer Blanket Ministry:** This ministry provides blessed prayer blankets that offer prayer, love, comfort and blessings to those who are ill or suffering in any manner.
- \***Youth Sew-In Saturdays:** The Prayer Blanket ministry invites youth to our “sew-in” which are held when there is an interested group of Youth.
- \***Social Concerns:** The goals of this ministry are to raise the consciousness of the parish community concerning the social outreach mission of the church, to provide resources for the needy, to develop strategies for effective action to change difficult situations in their lives.
- \***Blood Drives:** Blood Drives are held periodically throughout the year. The Knights of Columbus Council #10720 of our parish coordinate these drives. Please watch the bulletins for upcoming Blood Drive dates.
- \***Disaster Relief Ministry:** This ministry provides shelter to people who are victims of natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, fires, etc.
- \***Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen:** The St. Maximilian Kolbe community serves this shelter on the 4th Saturday of each month providing lunch for the hungry and homeless in the downtown Houston area.
- \***Mission of Yahweh:** The St. Maximilian Kolbe community serves this shelter on the 3rd Saturday of each month providing lunch for the women and children.
- \***Prison Ministry:** This ministry evangelizes to Catholic men and women in prison through the Brothers of St. Dismas and the Mary Magdalene Project retreats.
- \***Respect Life Ministry:** The mission of this ministry is through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, with prayer and action rooted in our Catholic faith, to work to defend and promote all human life from conception until natural death. All are invited most Sundays to pray the Rosary following the 10:00 a.m. Mass.



Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

## Community Organizations

- \***Boy Scout Troop #277:** Chartered by St. Maximilian Kolbe, this troop’s goals are to develop character and servant leadership in boys aged 11 – 18 by promoting a duty to God, country, and family through the Boy Scouts of America program. The troop meets on Mondays beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- \***Catholic Daughters of the Americas:** CDA offers Catholic women the opportunity to better their lives through spiritual renewal and apostolic and charitable works for the parish, for the community, and for the nation while sharing friendship with each other. CDA meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- \***Knights of Columbus, Council 10720:** All Catholic men are invited to be fraternally involved in helping charities in the area, and in local and state Knights of Columbus programs. The Knights meet the 1st Thursday of the month for a business meeting at 7:00 p.m. The Knights meet the 3rd Thursday of every month for socializing beginning at 7:00 p.m.

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