

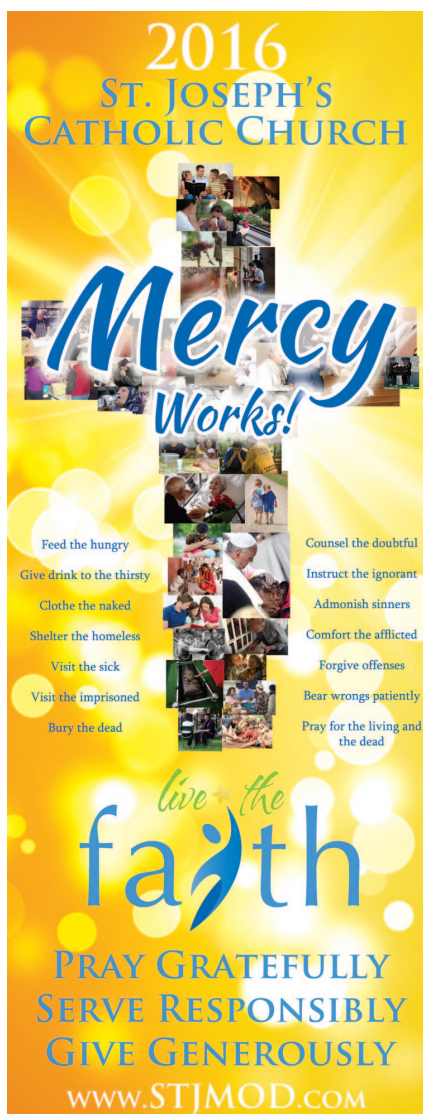


St. Joseph's Catholic Church
a Stewardship Parish

Volume 4, Issue 4 July & August 2016

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Fr. Mark:



For the year of Mercy, Pope Francis has chosen Krakow, Poland as the site for World Youth Day because it is a place where there are many examples of mercy and total commitment. This city was blessed with three great modern saints who lived here within fifteen miles of each other at the same time.

The first of these three saints was Maximilian Kolbe, who was born in 1894, and died in 1941 at the concentration camp of Auschwitz near Krakow. When he was a boy, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him and showed him two crowns representing purity and martyrdom. When he grew up, he became a Franciscan priest, who was totally dedicated to a life of absolute purity and poverty. He established the largest friary in the world with 762 members who published the largest Catholic newspaper in Poland. During World War II, he was arrested by the Gestapo and eventually sent to the Auschwitz death camp. He was starved and often beaten by the Nazi guards who hated priests as much as they hated the Jews. But he always responded with a smile and shared his bread with other starving prisoners. In July 1941, one prisoner escaped from Auschwitz and the Nazis retaliated by selecting ten prisoners to die in a starvation bunker. One of the ten cried out in despair: "O my poor wife, my poor children. I shall never see them again." Suddenly, Fr. Maximilian boldly stepped forward and offered to die in place of the man who had a wife and children, explaining "I am a Catholic priest." In the starvation bunker, Fr. Kolbe encouraged the other nine as they slowly died without food or water. He led them in singing and praying the rosary. He was the last to die, just after forgiving his executioner.

The second great Polish saint of the 20th century was St. Faustina Kowalska, born in 1905.

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Please e-mail us with your comments: livethefaith@stjmod.com

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On the Cover: Stewardship

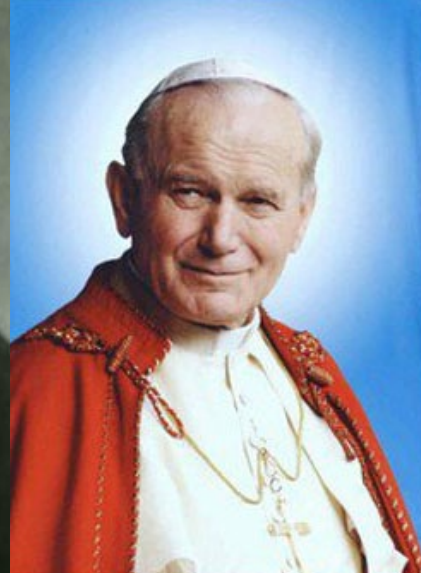
"Three Great Modern Saints"



Saint Maxamilian Kolbe



Saint Faustina Kowalska



Saint Pope John Paul II

In her famous diary she wrote that from the age of seven she began to hear God's voice calling her to be a nun. Her parents opposed this, but when she was eighteen, she had a mysterious apparition at a dance that gave her the courage to leave her family and enter a convent. During the years before the war (when Fr. Kolbe was publishing his newspaper), Sister Faustina had several visions about the future suffering of her country. Mary appeared to her "between heaven and earth" with bright rays of light emanating from her heart "some of which were covering our country" of Poland. In another apparition, Jesus told Faustina to pray for the city of Warsaw, which He said would suffer a chastisement like that of Sodom and Gomorrah. After Faustina prayed, she saw Jesus appear again and make the sign of the cross over Poland saying: "For your sake I bless the entire country." In 1931, Jesus blessed the entire world by revealing to Sister Faustina the devotion to His Divine Mercy. He appeared to her with red and white light coming from His chest and asked her to make an image of this: "I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and then throughout the world."

While St. Faustina was seeing visions of Mary and Jesus blessing her country, a nine-year-old Polish boy received his First Holy Communion and soon afterward mourned the death of his mother

and his older brother. This boy was Karol Wojtyla, who became Pope John Paul II, and another great Polish saint of this era. While Maximilian Kolbe was dying in the starvation bunker, Karol was hiding from the Nazis in an underground seminary in nearby Krakow. When Karol became Pope, he canonized Saint Maximilian Kolbe and made his feast day an obligatory memorial throughout the Church. He never met Sister Faustina, but during the last years of her life, Karol often prayed in her convent chapel, which was near the chemical factory where he worked during WWII. While bishop of Krakow, he pushed for a retranslation of the diary of St. Faustina. As Pope, he wrote an Encyclical about Divine Mercy and canonized St. Faustina in the year 2000.

These examples can help inspire us in our own lives to pray, serve and give and to make a greater commitment during our Stewardship Renewal Weekend which on September 17-18, 2016.

Fr. Mark

Visit Fr. Mark's blog...

www.stjmod.com/fr-marks-blog.html



Works for this month:

- Volunteer to do manual labor to help in the upkeep of a homeless shelter.
- Keep a list of local homeless shelters on hand to pass out to those you meet on the street.
- Become a mentor to a foster child.
- Help a family working towards adoption by hosting a fundraiser for them, or Adopt a child in need of a home.
- Donate to or volunteer with programs to further their efforts in working with the homeless. Such as Family Promise of Greater Modesto



JULY: Shelter the homeless

St. Joseph's FAMILY PROMISE MINISTRY HOSTING WEEK is coming up Sunday, July 17 - July 24TH.

-Help is especially needed with set up/take down, and laundry.

Call 551-4973 ext. 202 to help out

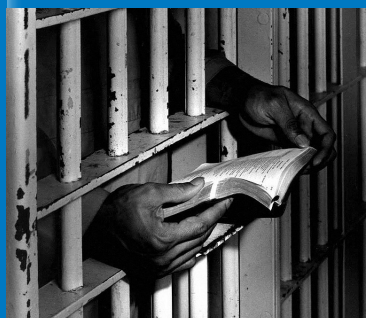
Without you, the families would miss the secure temporary home needed to help them get back on their feet and improve their life.

We have had more than one family join our parish after they experienced the love our team had for them.

This is the Year of Mercy and we especially need to show God's Mercy by helping those less fortunate. Jesus' love shining through us will help others seek Jesus even more deeply.

Works for this month:

- Donate bibles and/or spiritual reading materials to a prison.
- Mentor a teen at a juvenile correction center.
- Some people can be imprisoned by different things, not just a jail. It's important to visit them as well.
- Visit someone you think may be lonely.
- Help someone overcome an addiction and let them know they are not alone.
- Urge a friend to go to confession and be free from the imprisonment of sin.



AUGUST: Visit the imprisoned

Help those who are "imprisoned" by:

-Addictions

Refer to our parish 12-Step meetings

-Disabilities

Call the Society for Disabilities for service programs.

-Sin

Share our confession times with others.

Monday-Thursday 5-5:30pm,

Fridays 6:30pm, Saturday 8:30am & 4pm

Parish Update:



Lauren's Story

"E-giving is one of those amazing conveniences that comes with the technology of the 21st century."

"Being a mom of small children, I'm lucky if my child's shoes match at Mass, let alone remember my offering on a weekly basis. Online with E-giving, I set up my amount, the duration of my withdrawal, and

*what days of the month my money will be given. Setting up is easy, secure, and paperless. I have time to enjoy the offertory hymn rather than frantically digging through my purse to write a check or grabbing whatever cash I have on hand. **Bottom line? I have less to stress about and more time to devote to Jesus with E-giving.**"*

-Lauren, St. Joseph's Parishioner



Over 300 St. Joseph's parishioners are now using E-giving for their offertory and other gifts! Make 2016 the year you and your family begin giving with E-giving; just use the laminated E-giving cards in the pews during the offertory.

For more information, please call
551-4973, ext. 202

<https://egiving.stjmod.com/>

Food Pantry Expansion Project

Thank you for your support as we expand the parish office to provide more food pantry space.

Be a donor today to help with the \$8,000 needed to finish the project. Be a part of the ministry which helps us feed over 25,000 people a year!

<http://www.stjmod.com/svdpexpansion.html>



Coming Soon!

New St. Joseph's Website

Have suggestions on what you would like to see on the new website?

Please email Ramon Aguilar, Manager of Multi-Media and Technology Services at raguilar@stjmod.com with your ideas.



Pray Gratefully. Serve Responsibly. Give Generously.

St. Joseph's Events Calendar

July Events

Teen Mass and Breakfast

7/5.....7/12.....7/26

Tuesdays at 8am-2pm

Mass, youth room open hours, round table discussion, lunch



Come join our parish family for a Free movie night. Popcorn and lemonade provided, bring some cookies to share.

PSR Registration closes on July 31st.
No exceptions

Forms are available in the parish office.

Classes will start the
week of September 26.



St. Joseph's Workshop

Men's Ministry

Every Wednesday

6-7:30am

Fr. O'Hare Hall

Doors open at 5:45 for breakfast

August Events

I love St. Joseph's Day

Saturday, August 6

Show your love for St. Joseph's as we come together to clean, fix, update and repair,
our parish, our home.



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Begins with 8am Mass
8:30am Plaza Breakfast
Project time: 9am-12:30pm
BBQ Lunch: 12:30-1:30pm
Clean up: 1:30-2pm

Sign up on the Plaza that
morning or call
551-4973 x202

Save the Date

46th ANNUAL PARISH FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 9-11



*Sign-ups to volunteer at the festival
start August 19th!*

www.stjmod.com

Greetings from New Youth Minister Mitch Narvasa



Hi St. Joseph's!

What a pleasure it is to have been at your church for a month now.

I absolutely love it here!

*My wife, Rebecca, my daughter, Aurora, and I moved to Modesto from the Bay Area at the beginning of June. I know what you're thinking, "why would you move from the Bay Area to Modesto?!" To be honest, I don't know, but so far, we love it here! And now, we have a Modesto-born child, Glenn, who you will see baptized into our beautiful Church through St. Joseph's community. It really is an honor to be here. From the staff to the teens and the volunteers in Youth Ministry, I'm truly blessed to be here and I can't wait to get the party started with the teens and the whole Church community. **Thank you ALL for making this time of transition for my family a comfortable and welcoming one.***

God Bless you and Mary pray for you!

Mitchell Narvasa

STJ YOUTH PRESENTS!

TEEN



TUESDAYS

6/28 7/5 7/12 7/26

8AM MASS

8:45AM - 2:00PM YOUTH ROOM



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH PRESENTS

FOUNDATIONS OF THE FAITH



Session II: Affirming the Faith

"Hold Fast the Traditions"

Wednesdays at 7pm

begins

August 3rd

The second of the Foundations series, "Holding Fast to the Traditions", the second course in the Foundations of the Faith series. What began with defending the faith ("Ready With An Answer") will continue with affirming the faith - a look into the primary beliefs that make Catholic Christianity distinct from other faith groups. This 8-week class will be held every Wednesday night from 7:00 to 8:30pm, beginning August 3rd.



St. Joseph's Catholic Church
1813 Oakdale Road
Modesto, CA 95355

Get ready for the 46th Annual Parish Festival



KEEP CALM

because

MERCY ROCKS

September 9-11



WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY OF FAMILIES

Scan this image with your smart phone and
go directly to St. Joseph's web page to view
upcoming events and the latest blogs.

Visit: www.getscanlife.com for a free QR Scanner



like us on
facebook



www.facebook.com/stjmod

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm Sundays: 7:30am, 9am
(Latin), 10:30am, 12noon, 1:30pm (Español),
5:30pm & 7:30pm

*Children's Liturgy of the Word, 10:30am Sunday Mass
1:30 (Spanish) Sunday Mass*

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday 8am, Noon(Latin), & 5:45pm;
Saturdays 8am

CONFESSION

Monday through Thursday 5-5:30pm
Fridays 6:30-7:30pm during Holy Hour
Saturdays 8:30-9:30am & 4-5pm

*Homebound please call 551-4973 for a priest to visit
you by appointment.*

Our Parish Mission:

*To Evangelize God's People Beginning
with the Gift of the Holy Eucharist.*

www.stjmod.com
(209)551-4973