

The Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux & St. Stanislaus Kostka

August 9, 2026

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Website: www.bestchurch.net

The people of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka are a "Living Mosaic of God's People," who seek salvation through worship, education, stewardship and service, proclaiming our faith in God and in our heritages.

PARISH STAFF

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Iveth Parada

Religious Education

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SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE

June—July—August

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

SUNDAY

9:00AM – English

10:30AM – Polish

12:30PM – Spanish



CHURCH ADDRESS

1235 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS

1232 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

Saturday and Sunday: Closed
or by appointment

Monday - Friday: 10:00 am-2:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATIONS

Saturday: 4:15 pm

By request: After Mass

Sunday - Saturday: Mornings



Saturday – August 8... St. Dominic
5:00PM...+ Bob Chanda, req. Wife Mary Ellen

Sunday – August 9...19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00AM...+ Ragozzino Family, req. Antonia Riello
10:30AM...+ 11 rocznica Julia Panasik, od Syn i Rodziną
12:30PM...+ Yolanda and Bernadine Colletta,
req. Angela Negri
+ Manuel Manotoa and Marieta Pillajo
req. Nelson

Monday – August 10... St. Lawrence
9:00AM...+ Frank Apisa, req. Gelsomina Scirocco

Tuesday – August 11... St. Clare
9:00AM...Frank Apisa, req. Antonia Riello

**Wednesday – August 12...St. Jane Frances
de Chantal**
9:00AM...+ Antonio and Lucia Simeone, req. Family

Thursday – August 13...Sts. Pontian and Hippolytus
9:00AM...+St. Anne, req. Armond Apisa

Friday – August 14...St. Maximilian Kolbe
9:00AM...+ Viola Pratt, req. Johanna Merkle

**Saturday – August 15... The Assumption
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
9:00AM... +Jim Rushforth, req. Parish Family
5:00PM...+ Salvatore and Raffaele Mandato,
req. Angela Negri

Sunday – August 16...20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00AM... + Jim Rushforth, req. Family
10:30AM...+ Trzecia rocznica śmierci Zofii Kapolki,
od syna i rodziny
+ Maria Balewicz, z rodziną
12:30PM...+ Manuel Manotoa and Marieta Pillajo
req. Nelson

THE TABERNACLE CANDLE will burn this week
for the health of **our Parishioners.**

THE BREAD AND WINE FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST
is in memory of **Karol Wojewodka.**

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For those whose health is challenged in any way
especially for **Marian Parcinski, Mike Parise,
Giovani Todaro, Pat Cook, Margaret Honora, George Gray,
Thomas O'Rourke, Olga Skolka and Zena Kazmierski.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the
Faithful Departed especially **Jim Rushforth.**

STEWARDSHIP

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"He said, 'Come.' Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus." - MATTHEW 14:29

When you hear Jesus calling, do you respond immediately and trust that He knows what He's doing? If so, you are walking on water! When we say "yes" to Jesus, we feel the power of His presence in our lives. We can feel the freedom it gives us! Listen how Jesus is calling you to live the extraordinary life He has intended for you.

Domingo 19º del Tiempo Ordinario

"Él dijo, 'Ven', Pedro salió del bote y comenzó a caminar sobre el agua hacia Jesús." - Mateo 14:29

¿Cuándo oye que Jesús lo llama, responde inmediatamente y confía que Él sabe lo que está haciendo? ¡Si es así, usted está caminando sobre el agua! Cuando le decimos "sí" a Jesús, sentimos el poder de su presencia en nuestras vidas. ¡Podemos sentir la libertad que Él nos da! Escuche como Jesús lo llama a vivir la vida extraordinaria que Él ha destinado para usted.



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

After fleeing from the revenge of the King of Israel, Elijah hid in a cave, but at the command of God, he went outside and stood on a mountain. There the Lord came to him, not in the wind nor in the earthquake, but in a "tiny whispering sound."

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

Paul is deeply pained because the Jews - in spite of everything that has been given to them - have rejected Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Matthew vividly recounts the event of Jesus walking on the water. When the disciples see this, they are terrified, and Jesus chastises them for their fear. Peter begs Christ to let him walk on the water; he is at first brave but begins to sink and loses faith, crying out, "Lord save me!" Christ rescues him for his faltering faith.

Religious Education Registration **2026-2027**



Online Registration:

Now *through* September 1st

www.bestchurch.net

In-person Registration:

August 31st & September 8th
from 9am-3pm.

Parish office- 1232 George St.

***Registrations received after September 8th
will incur a late fee of \$50.***

Classes begin Wednesday, September 30th

Registration Fees:

One Child: \$90.00

Two Children: \$150.00

Three Children: \$190.00

Sacramental Fees:

First Communion: \$35.00

Confirmation: \$45.00



Online payment:

Saturdays:

5:00PM English Mass of Anticipation

Sundays:

9:00 AM English

10:30 AM Polish

12:30 PM Spanish

Monday - Saturday:

9:00 AM English

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

After hours by appointment

Calling All Women of Faith!

We are excited to announce the re-launch of the
Parish Women's Faith and Fellowship Group.

This revitalized ministry invites women of all ages and backgrounds to deepen their relationship with Christ, build meaningful connections with one another, and live out their faith through prayer, reflection, service, and fellowship.

Whether you are a mother, grandmother, student, professional, retiree, or simply seeking a place to belong, this group is for you. We welcome women wherever they are on their faith journey and believe that every woman has a unique gift to share in the life of the Church.

Why Are Women's Faith Groups So Important?

Women's faith groups provide sacred spaces where women can grow spiritually, share their joys and challenges, and find strength in community. In today's busy and often isolating world, women need places where they are seen, heard, and valued, not only for what they do, but for who they are as beloved daughters of God.

Faith groups offer encouragement, deepen understanding of our Catholic faith, and foster lasting friendships rooted in Christ's love. They help women discover new ways to pray, serve, and lead within their families, parish, and community.

Together, we learn that we are not alone and that God works powerfully through the support, wisdom, and witness of others.

Women's groups are places of healing, purpose, and mission, where we listen to God and to one another as we discern how the Holy Spirit is calling us to grow and serve.

Join Us!

Fall 2026 Meeting Dates

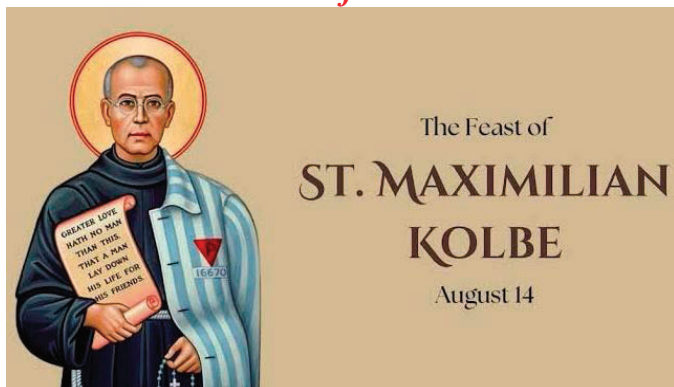
Tuesdays, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Parish Center

September 29, 2026

Bring a friend and join us for an evening of prayer, conversation, encouragement, and fellowship. For more information or to become involved in planning, please contact:

Mary Landriau at mlandriau703@verizon.net.

The Saint of the Week:

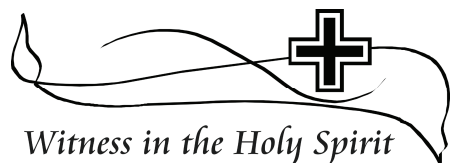
St. Maximilian was born Raymond Kolbe in Poland, January 8, 1894. In 1910, he entered the Conventual Franciscan Order. He was sent to study in Rome where he was ordained a priest in 1918.

Father Maximilian returned to Poland in 1919 and began spreading his Militia of the Immaculata movement of Marian consecration (whose members are also called MIs), which he founded on October 16, 1917. In 1927, he established an evangelization center near Warsaw called Niepokalanow, the "City of the Immaculata." By 1939, the City had expanded from eighteen friars to an incredible 650, making it the largest Catholic religious house in the world.

To better "win the world for the Immaculata," the friars utilized the most modern printing and administrative techniques. This enabled them to publish countless catechetical and devotional tracts, a daily newspaper with a circulation of 230,000 and a monthly magazine with a circulation of over one million. Maximilian started a shortwave radio station and planned to build a motion picture studio—he was a true "apostle of the mass media." He established a City of the Immaculata in Nagasaki, Japan, in 1930, and envisioned missionary centers worldwide.

Maximilian was a ground-breaking theologian. His insights into the Immaculate Conception anticipated the Marian theology of the Second Vatican Council and further developed the Church's understanding of Mary as "Mediatrice" of all the graces of the Trinity, and as "Advocate" for God's people.

In 1941, the Nazis imprisoned Father Maximilian in the Auschwitz death camp. There he offered his life for another prisoner and was condemned to slow death in a starvation bunker. On August 14, 1941, his impatient captors ended his life with a fatal injection. Pope John Paul II canonized Maximilian as a "martyr of charity" in 1982. St. Maximilian Kolbe is considered a patron of journalists, families, prisoners, the pro-life movement and the chemically addicted.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

For all the engaged couples who are planning to get married or those who are married civilly and would like to receive the sacrament of matrimony, we will offer a course of Pre-Cana on Friday nights.

Starting: September 4th, Fridays at 8:00PM

Place: Office building

If you are interested, please talk to Fr. Marcin or Fr. Bernardo.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)

For those Catholics who did not complete their full initiation (Catholics who may have been baptized but who were never confirmed or received First Communion), or are non-Catholics who are considering becoming Catholic, we offer the time of preparation that will begin on **September 21st** (Monday) at **7:00pm in the parish office.**

If you are interested in learning more about the Christian faith, the Catholic Church, or about becoming Catholic, please contact:

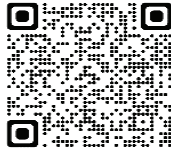
Fr. Bernardo, at vicar@bestchurch.net.

ROOF DONATION

This August we will fix the roof of the school building. The cost of the roof repair is \$73,000.00 plus additional cost to remove the gravel and old roof. If you are able to help, you can write on your roof donation check's memo line: **Restricted – Roof.**
Thank you for your generosity!!

ANNUAL²⁰²⁶ APPEAL

The 2026 Annual Appeal has begun! Each year we are invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese. Your sacrificial support makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus. Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives within our Archdiocese. Our parish goal this year is **\$29,654.60**, and we already collected **\$26,030.00!** Please make a gift online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing, scanning the QR code:



Or use the envelopes available in the pews and entrances.

Collection for August 2

On Line... \$ 2,648.00

In Pew.... \$ 4,004.00

Total... \$ 6,652.00



ON LINE
GIVING
IT IS
POSSIBLE TO
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YOUR FAITH GIVING TO
"PARISH GIVING."



**SIMPLY GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE FOR
FURTHER INFORMATION**

From Fr. Marcín

After feeding the crowds with five loaves and two fish – as we saw last Sunday – Jesus commands the disciples to get into the boat and return to the other shore. He dismisses the people and then climbs the hill, alone, to pray. He immerses Himself in communion with the Father.

During the crossing of the lake by night, the disciples' boat is hindered by a sudden wind storm. At a certain point, they see someone walking on the water, coming toward them. Upset, they think it is a ghost and cry out in fear! Jesus reassures them: "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." Then Peter answers: "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." A challenge. Jesus tells him: "Come." Peter gets out of the boat and takes a few steps; then the wind and waves frighten him and he begins to sink. "Lord, save me," he cries, and Jesus grasps him by the hand and says, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?"

This Gospel is an invitation to abandon ourselves trustingly to God in all moments of our lives, especially in moments of trial and turmoil. When we have strong feelings of doubt and fear and we seem to be sinking, in life's difficult moments where everything becomes dark, we must not be ashamed to cry out like Peter: "Lord, save me." Just as Jesus immediately reached out His hand and grasped that of His friend Peter, so too will He help us. Jesus is the Father's hand who never abandons us, the strong and faithful hand of the Father, who always only wants what is good for us. As the narrative about the Prophet Elijah reminds us today, God is not in the loud sound, God is not the hurricane, He is not in the fire, He is not in the earthquake. However, God is the light breeze that never imposes itself, but asks to be heard.

Having faith means keeping your heart turned to God, to His love, to His Fatherly tenderness, amid the storm. Jesus wanted to teach this to Peter and the disciples, and also to us today. In dark moments, in sad moments, He is well aware that our faith is weak. All of us are people of little faith, all of us and because our faith is weak, our journey can be troubled, hindered by adverse forces. But He is the Risen One! Let's not forget this: He is the Lord who passed through death in order to lead us to safety. Even before we begin to seek Him, He is present beside us lifting us back up after our falls, He helps us grow in faith. Maybe in the dark, we cry out: "Lord, Lord!" thinking He is far away, but He says, "I am here."

Fr. Marcín

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