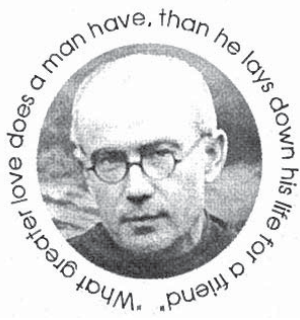


# THE MODERN SAINT

## From the Pastor's Desk

August, 2009



Volume 20, Number 7  
AUGUST 2009

### THIS MONTH

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My dear sisters and brothers in our Lord Jesus Christ,

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)*

**W**ith joy and enthusiasm, I am honored to become the new pastor of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish. In the month I have been here, it is already very evident to me that St. Max is faith-filled community full of caring and giving people. I am excited and hope-filled for our future together... I am also a bit overwhelmed at our size and everything that goes on here!



Change can be quite daunting and even difficult as it takes on many sizes, shapes, and faces throughout our lives. When change occurs (and it will!) sometimes it is planned, sometimes it is totally unexpected. Sometimes change is very minor, other times it is extremely significant. When change occurs people often long for the past and are apprehensive about the future. That is a natural tendency to remain where we are comfortable. But as followers of our Lord Jesus Christ, our attitudes should be much different than this. We should be thankful about the past and hopeful about the future, for we do not journey through life alone, nor do we experience change alone – the Lord Jesus is with us every step of the way! The one thing that never changes in our lives is the love our God has for each of us and His great desire that we are close to Him. Often when I am faced with change I sing to myself the beautiful, simple mantra written by Sr. Suzanne Toolan, S.M., based on the New Testament scripture verse above. How blessed we are to be followers of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

I would like to personally extend two invitations to you as we begin together this new chapter in St. Max's parish history.

First, my installation as your pastor will be at the 12:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, August 16. Most appropriately we will be celebrating our patronal solemnity, the feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe, that weekend. Fr. Mark Burger, pastor of St. John the Evangelist in West Chester and dean of the St. Andrew Deanery, will be present to celebrate with us. There will be a reception following the Mass.

And second, there will be up to fifty neighborhood gatherings after my installation before the Thanksgiving holiday. We need families to host and families to attend these Pulse of the Parish neighborhood meetings.

I ask you to keep me in your prayers and as I will keep you in mine as together we continue to build up that unique part of the Body of Christ which is St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish.

That's all for now. God bless one and all!  
Rev. Geoffrey D. Drew,  
Pastor

You are invited to a...

# Pulse of the Parish

## NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

with our new pastor,  
Fr. Geoff Drew

**WHEN:** MONDAY, AUGUST 17 THROUGH SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 21, 2009, 7:00-9:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** HOMES OF PARISHIONERS

**WHO:** HEADS OF PARISH HOUSEHOLDS

**WHY:** TO SHARE FELLOWSHIP, TO PRAY, TO CONNECT WITH NEARBY  
NEIGHBORING PARISHIONERS AND DISCUSS ST. MAX PARISH

Fr. Geoff is committing his time to as many as fifty neighborhood meetings before Thanksgiving to meet and get better acquainted with St. Max parishioners in an informal setting and to learn more about St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish.

Thus, as many as fifty parish households will be needed to host these gatherings in and around the neighborhoods and areas where St. Max parishioners live.

#### **What would host-parishioners have to provide?**

- A place to meet for as many as twenty adults
- Cups, plates, napkins, and utensils

#### **What would guest-parishioners have to bring?**

- A snack, hors d'oeuvres, or dessert to share
- Your own drinks (no alcohol please!)

#### **How can you become a host parishioner?**

If you are willing to be a host-parishioner, please call Kathy Wojciechowski at the Parish Office (513-777-4322) to schedule a date. Please have two or three possible dates in mind in case your first choice of a date is not available.

#### **How will we know when and where to meet?**

Once host-parishioners are identified, other neighboring parish households will receive calls from the host-parishioner or a Neighborhood Representative of the Ministry Of Care to invite you to a gathering that is near to you.

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

# Insights on the Year of the Priest

By Fr. Tom McCarthy

*It must be a year that is both positive and forward looking in which the Church says to her priests above all, but also to all the Faithful and to wider society by means of the mass media, that she is proud of her priests, loves them, honours them, admires them and that she recognises with gratitude their pastoral work and the witness of their life.*

*"Truthfully priests are important not only for what they do but also for who they are. Sadly, it is true that at the present time some priests have been shown to have been involved in gravely problematic and unfortunate situations. It is necessary to investigate these matters, pursue judicial processes and impose penalties accordingly. However, it is also important to keep in mind that these pertain to a very small portion of the clergy. The overwhelming majority of priests are people of great personal integrity, dedicated to the sacred ministry; men of prayer and of pastoral charity, who invest their entire existence in the fulfilment of their vocation and mission, often through great personal sacrifice, but always with an authentic love towards Jesus Christ, the Church and the people, in solidarity with the poor and the suffering. It is for this reason that the Church is proud of her priests wherever they may be found.*

*May this year be an occasion for a period of intense appreciation of the priestly identity, of the theology of the Catholic priesthood, and of the extraordinary meaning of the vocation and mission of priests within the Church and in society. This will require opportunities for study, days of recollection, spiritual exercises reflecting on the Priesthood, conferences and theological seminars in our ecclesiastical faculties, scientific research and respective publications. "*

- From a letter written by Cardinal Hummus (*Prefect of Congregation for the Clergy*)

One might wonder why the Holy Father chose to have a special year for priests. Well, a priest is not a priest for himself, but for the people of God. And in reality there is only One, True Priest - Jesus Christ. Those men ordained to the priesthood are instruments of Christ Himself. It is the priest who

stands in persona Christi (another Christ) when a sacrament is celebrated and conferred. It is Christ who bestows the sacrament on the person.

The priest is the gift which Christ chose to serve His people. Without the priest, Christ could no longer be present among His people; and when Christ is no longer present the Church ceases to exist. As a priest I deserve nothing. I am forever grateful for this sacred calling. The responsibility is far too great, and without grace no priest could handle this honor or the task expected.

It is by reflecting on Christ, the Priest, we come to understand why we need to honor priests and help them in carrying out their duties. Our support, gratitude, and prayers really show our gratitude for Christ by recognizing His love and mercy is alive and well in our lives. As the Cardinal's letter mentioned, there are rare occurrences when men have failed to live up to their calling and the teachings of the Church. One case involving a priest is far too many. As priests, we are constantly reminded of our sinfulness. We are not perfect; we can get angry; we can at times come across as gruff. Priests can fail like anyone else. Despite this, priests are more than themselves; our power comes not from ourselves but from Christ through the grace of ordination. So by being grateful and supportive, by sticking up for your priests in a society that likes to tear us down you recognize that Christ is truly present, that He cares for His people, that our faith is not some opium for the masses, but a reality worthy of our faithfulness.

I am certainly grateful for the priests throughout my life and to all the faithful priests who have come before me, giving me the model to emulate. May we all pray for our priests! For when the priest is evaluated so are the laity: we are One Body, and together we help bring the Gospel alive in each others lives. ✠

## Moeller 4th Quarter Honors

### First Honors

Zachary Agricola  
Lucas Agricola  
Steven Bare  
Samuel Beyer  
Matthew Ernestes  
Zachary Freeman  
Spencer Hidy  
Samuel Kornau  
Adam Kraimer

Jacob Lutz  
Michael Montour  
Lucas Schamer  
Cameron Scheidler  
Matthew Welker  
David Whitehead  
Tyler Williford

### Second Honors

Steven Anderson  
Michael Baglier  
Michael Burkart  
Nicholas Calangi  
Brenton Cates

Logan Crowe  
Stephen Dean  
Michael Gaitan  
Anthony Grethel  
Jonathan Hanes  
Jordan Klusman  
Matthew Pierce  
Carson Scheidler  
Trent Williford

## Ursuline Acadmey

## Second Semester Honors

Freshman-  
Sophomore Honors  
Alexandra Kalkhoff  
Grace Kennedy  
\Katherine Kurz  
Megan O'Brien  
Abigail Wulf  
Alexandra Fiehrer

Bethany Kaylor

### First Honors

Bridget Sullivan  
Victoria Barker  
Kathryn Florez  
Amy Krzmarzick  
Stephanie Szarwark

### Second Honors

Natalie Andrews



# Financial Peace University @St Max

## What could the PEOPLE OF GOD do for the KINGDOM OF GOD if they were debt free?

Financial Peace University is a 13-week, video-driven program taught by Dave Ramsey that teaches families to communicate about money and equips them to beat debt and build wealth God's way. The program is a biblically based accountability curriculum that will teach attendees to manage God's money and resources in a godly way. It empowers them to make the right financial decisions to achieve their financial goals, teaching them to eliminate debt, build wealth and give like never before. On average, families reduce their debt by \$5,300 and save \$2,700 in just 91 days.

### During this Life-Changing Class You Will Learn How To: Get Control of Your Money

- Follow the step-by-step process for getting out of debt and staying out of debt
- Put together a monthly spending plan that really works
- Set financial goals and communicate about money

### Stop Struggling To Make Ends Meet

- Protect your family from life's emergencies
- Eliminate the stress that comes from financial problems
- Save and invest for the future

### Tell Your Money What To Do

- Know what insurance to buy ... and what to avoid
- Get great deals on the things you buy
- Buy or sell a home the right way
- Plan for your retirement and make the right investment choices

### Change Your Family's Future

- Utilize a good money plan to strengthen your marriage
- Unlock the power of giving to change your church and your community

The instructor of FPU, Dave Ramsey, is a personal money management expert, an extremely popular radio personality and the author of the New York Times best-sellers *The Total Money Makeover*, *Financial Peace* and *More Than Enough*.

Financial Peace University will take place at St. Max, beginning this September 15. If you are ready to take the first step, please attend a free preview session on Thursday, September 3 at 7:00 in the Conference Room. At the preview session, you will see a 20 minute video presentation on FPU. In addition, there will be members of St. Max on hand to answer all of your questions about FPU.

Registration is required to attend the 13-week program. You can register by contacting Kevin Nelson at [nelsfam4@fuse.com](mailto:nelsfam4@fuse.com) or by stopping by the "FPU table" in the Welcome Area following all masses the weekends of August 8 and August 15. You can also register the evening of the free preview session. The cost of materials is \$93.

## 91 DAYS TO BEAT DEBT and BUILD WEALTH ✦

Coming Soon!  
**SAMPLE ST. MAX**  
September  
19 & 20, 2009

Where you can ...

- \* learn about the many parish ministries
- \* discover how you can help "a little" or "a lot"
- \* meet fellow parishioners
- \* sample St. Max as well as some tasty treats

## St. Max Welcomes our

## Baptisms

## Newest &amp; Smallest Parishioners

Ella Rose- daughter of Brandon & Kelly Cooley  
 Carissa Mary- daughter of William & Catherine Gehr  
 Trinity Catherine- daughter of William & Catherine Gehr  
 Kennedy Paige -daughter of Kevin & Richelle Gwin  
 McCartney Shae- daughter of Kevin & Richelle Gwin  
 Noah Joseph- son of Andrew & Caitlin Harpring  
 Anna Lynn- daughter of James & Bridget Hauser  
 Isabella Grace- daughter of Dave & Jessica Heile  
 Makenzie Collett- daughter of Jason & Tracy Huiet  
 Kaitlyn Marie- daughter of Gregory & Laura Hutzal  
 Addyson JoAnn- daughter of Thomas & Stacy Kloth  
 Keegan Michael -son of Nick & Kristina Linberg  
 Landen Christopher- son of Nick & Kristina Linberg  
 Giavanna Dolgizia- daughter of Samuele & Megan Munafo  
 Landen Ray- son of Anthony & Heather Munafor  
 Ella Vy- daughter of Long & Joann Nguyen  
 Maya Lucille- daughter of Michael & Patricia Niehaus  
 Tucker Malloy- son of William & Klaire Powers  
 Carson Joseph- son of Brad & Whitney Quiambao  
 Lucas Aaron- son of Aaron & Maureen Rieder  
 Danilo Ignacio- son of Henry & Karol Rimcom  
 Ean Jose- son of Henry & Karol Rimcom  
 Avery Grace- daughter of Matthew & Erika Schermer  
 Nicholas Matthew- son of Mathew & Kathleen Schnelle  
 Lincoln Jacob- son of Eric & Katie Schwab  
 Madeline Marie- daughter of Brent & Carrie Sitarski  
 Audrey Louise- daughter of Barry & Heather Steinke  
 Christopher David- son of Christopher & Caroline Tyler  
 Anna Christina- daughter of Frehier & Hazel Vargas  
 Ean Eugene- son of Eric & Shelley Vaughn  
 Chase Louis- son of Chad & Mary Kate Wessendorf  
 Cameron Raymond -son of Mark & Kelly Witteride  
 Allyson Olivia- daughter Edward & Tiffany Zeuch

*Watch the St. Max Family Grow!***Welcome New Parishioners!**

Joe & Pam Ambrosiano and child Jacob  
 Mike & Stephanie Baur  
 Erin Burke  
 Jon & Elizabeth Coleman and child Kallie  
 Charles Crain  
 Bob & Peggy Cregge  
 Grant & Dale Davis and children Holly, Morgan and Brooklyn  
 Nathan Ecker  
 Brian & Shaylen Gettelfinger and children Ellie  
 Michael & Mary Christine Graves  
 Diem & Lien Ha and children Bau, Hien and Jonathan  
 John Hearn  
 Chris & Sonya Hochwalt and children Chloe, Seth, Casey and Margaret  
 Donald & Barbara Klinkhammer  
 Brian & Gabriela Linblad and children Daniela and Alexa  
 Dam & Theresa Luong and child Elizabeth  
 Michael & Kristen O'Brien and children Michael, Meghan, Conlan and Patrick  
 Brian & Angela Oswald and children Hunter and Chase  
 Chris & Jennifer Sander  
 Andrew & Brianne Squibb and child Jocelyn  
 Chris & Alicia Stollenwerk and children Cabrini and Nikos  
 Riely & Kathleen Thompson  
 Peter & Stephanie Tozzi  
 Daniel & Karen Twyman and child Adelyn  
 Frehier & Hazel Vargas and children Christopher and Anna  
 Hung & Anh Vu and children Hien and Hiep  
 Chad & Kate Wessendorf Morgan and Chase  
 Kenneth & Jennifer Williams and children Isabel and Owen  
 Frank & Vicki Wilson and children Jonathan , Kathryn and Nicholas  
 Mark & Kelly Witteride and children Emily and Cameron

# Festival 2009

By Laurie McKenna

I'm a little sad as I write this article summarizing Festival 2009. I'm once again stepping down as a chairman of the festival (I have tried to do this once before – but that didn't quite work!) Anyone that knows me knows that the festival has been an addiction for me for 12 years. It's a love / hate relationship. Nothing gives me a greater sense of accomplishment than to be able to pull this off year after year: that's the love part of it. The hate part of it comes when my 50 year old body doesn't want to cooperate, or when I feel like we have to beg to get workers. It's a bit frustrating at times; but we always manage to get through it each year, even if my feet and back are still screaming at me. I have to say that my co-chair, Kevin Ricke is a pleasure, and I will miss our constant banter the most. Besides my husband, he seems to be the only person that can put up with me! He will be staying on, and Patty Eckman is stepping in to take over for me.



The festival is now behind us, and we couldn't be happier about the amount of money we were able to raise for the church this year. We knew this year was going to be a challenging one with the state of the economy. Our fear that sponsorship and overall donations would be down did not come to fruition. We had incredible weather (despite that little storm that rolled through on Sunday afternoon!). We're still in the process of paying bills so we don't have a net amount yet, but once we have all the numbers in, we will publish them in the bulletin.

The festival is our biggest fundraiser for St. Max and it couldn't possibly come together without all the wonderful committee chairmen that spend countless hours planning and fine tuning their areas of expertise. Thank you to all the awesome booth captains, and hundreds of workers that allow us to pull this off year after year. We can't do it without all of you. Another big shout out goes to all of our sponsors, many of whom come from our parish. Thank you to everyone that donated money, items for our baskets or silent auction and even desserts. Most of all thank you for buying Kolbe Kash tickets, and for coming to the festival and spending money!

We are constantly looking at how we can change things up each year. This year we added a few new game booths; Shop Around, Pump & Pow and Bowling Ball Roll. We offered a couple of premium beers and even salads! We are always looking for new people to join the festival committee. We have some folks stepping down and can always use some new blood!

This is a parish festival and we would like to hear from you. Please send us your comments about what we did well or where you think we need to improve. If you are interested in becoming a committee chairman please call or email to find out where we need help.

**Please direct comments/  
suggestions or questions to  
Kevin Ricke**  
[kmricke@fuse.net](mailto:kmricke@fuse.net)



# Good Stewards

By Stephen E. Sullivan

**A**s the representative of Saint Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Church I had the privilege of attending Living Catholic Stewardship Conference in Cincinnati, OH in late June. Attending the conference allowed me the opportunity to gain a deeper meaning of what it takes to be a good steward of our faith community. The conference offered many workshops, exchange of ideas and networking with other stewardship committee members, church staff members, and religious from other parishes across the country. Many of the attendees have a deep and abiding interest in stewardship. I hope to share those ideas with other members of our Stewardship Committee and incorporate those ideas into our many ministries in the future.

Stewardship is a very important part of our faith. Peter writes in his First Letter, Chapter 4, and Verse 10 “As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace”. Father Terry spoke so eloquently of stewardship and the importance of sharing all the gifts and God given talents we have been afforded by Christ with others in our parish and community in his last homily at Saint Maximilian Kolbe Church. Sharing those gifts and talents makes St. Max a special and unique faith community.

One of our speakers at the conference, Lorene Hanley Dunquin, outlined five ways we can make our parish a better faith community as good stewards. First, think of yourself as part of our parish family. We share a common bond, heritage and values. Second, be welcoming to each other and our guests. A simple act of kindness or expression of openness is a gift given to that person or family. Third, use your time and talents for the good of the parish and community. Even a “one-shot” opportunity to share your time and talents is worth more to our faith community than you can imagine. Fourth, attend parish events. Mass is our central focus, but participating in other ministries and events increases spirituality and builds community. Finally, pray regularly for our parish, religious and our ministries.

With over 3100 families we are a growing faith community with much to offer. Today there are over sixty ministries serving our parish from grief support, to scouting, to religious studies for all ages. In September 2009 you will receive our annual Guide Book and Directory. The directory details our various ministries and organizations. It also includes a Time and Talent form. New this year is a “Ministry Match” survey. Please take a moment to complete this form and discern the talents and gifts you would like to contribute to our parish. Then stop by the Ministry Fair the weekend of September 19-20, 2009 to meet and talk with ministry leaders to learn more of the various ministries.

Stewardship is a means by which we share God’s abundance. In sharing the gifts God and the Holy Spirit have bestowed upon me, I feel grateful for the opportunity to give back to our parish and the larger community. Please take a moment to discern your gifts and share in their abundance with others in our faith community. ✠

## The Modern Saint

(383367-241)

August 1, 2009

Volume 20, Issue 7

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

**St. Maximilian  
Kolbe Parish**

7168 St. Alban's Way  
Liberty Twp., OH 45011

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Hamilton, OH 45011  
Permit No. 241

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THE MODERN SAINT

## West Liberty Outreach

By John Moulton

Fifteen St. Max parishioners participated in the May outreach trip to Prince of Peace Parish in West Liberty, KY. The group included men and several high school aged sons who left St. Max. on Friday morning and returned Sunday afternoon. The two main projects were to help two ladies who live in the West Liberty area. One project involved improvements to a deck including a wheelchair ramp, stairs and hand rails. The lady who lives at this house is suffering from cancer and had no easy way into or out of her home. The other project included rebuilding a porch roof and adding gutters to improve water drainage.

While our physical energy was focused on these two projects, our spiritual energy was busy enjoying the fellowship of the people with whom we met and traveled. The group was hosted by Fr. Frank Brawner and Sue Brown of Prince of Peace. We were able to participate in the celebration of Mass every day and the sacrament of Reconciliation was



offered to those desiring it. This was the eighth trip for St. Maximilian Kolbe.

The next trip will be this fall on the weekend of October 16-18. If you would like to sign up for this trip or want information about the West Liberty Outreach ministry please contact John Moulton 779-0248. ✠