

## **Church Tour:** *All are Welcome in God's House*

Pause before entering church, remind them that they are about to enter God's house. God's house is also our house, but it is a holy place. We are here to pray, get close to God and to listen to Him. Stress Reverence and Respect.

Stop at the baptismal font and explain that this helps remind us that we are children of God. We became members of God's family when we were baptized and this helps us remember our promise to follow Jesus. When we make the Sign of the Cross, we recall who God is (Trinity) and who we are (His child).

Explain whenever you pass in front of the Altar, that we bow (bend at waist reverently) because we recall what Jesus did for us out of his great love for us (died for us).

We genuflect (drop to our right knee and make Sign of the Cross) whenever we pass the Tabernacle that contains The Body of Christ/Blessed Sacrament. At St. Max, that is in the chapel behind the main worship space.

Visit the stained glass windows. Explain how Mary is our Heavenly Mother watching over us, and can procure for us many graces. Pray for us who have recourse to thee, words from the Miraculous Medal ( via St. Catherine Laboure).

Explain how the Last Supper is represented with the 12 disciples and how the Last Supper was the First Mass.

St. Maximilian Kolbe is our patron saint-- a Polish Franciscan friar who began a movement called the Militia of the Immaculata (a spiritual army, consecrating lives to Jesus through Mary). He earned both a crown of purity and martyrdom (point out the 2 crowns in picture). During WWII at Auschwitz concentration camp, he gave up his life so another man could live.

Explore statues of St. Joseph/Mary/Stations of Cross/etc. St. Joseph is the patron saint of the universal Church and a powerful intercessor.

Remind them that when we come to Mass, Jesus comes to us in His Word (Bible), His People, His Priest, but ESPECIALLY through the Eucharist. He made Himself very small so that He could come and be very close to us. He gives us His Very Self, His Love and His Graces so that we can go out and love others as He does. Come to Mass every week to be filled with the Graces we need.

Come visit Jesus often. We will soon visit the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. It is good to just BE with God. You may want to just spend time sitting in the pews and taking in the quiet time a little

## Church Terms

What is the name of the wooden bench you sit on at church? (Pew)

What is another name for the holy water fountains or fonts? (Stoup)

What is the name of the table of the Lord in the sanctuary? (Altar)

What is the name of the cup that holds the Blood of Christ? (Chalice)

What is the name of the wine that has been consecrated by the priest at Mass? (Blood of Christ)

What is the name of the bread that has been consecrated by the priest at Mass? (Body of Christ or Blessed Sacrament)

What is the name of the cup with a lid for the Body of Christ in the Tabernacle? (Ciborium)

What are the small pitchers of water and wine for the Mass called? (Cruets)

What is the name of the podium where the lector reads the Lectionary at Mass? (Lectern)

What is the name of the large podium? (Ambo)

What is the name of the cross carried at the beginning/end of Mass? (Processional Cross)

What is rung during the Consecration of the Mass? (Bells)

What is the name of the ornate receptacle used to place the Body of Christ? (Tabernacle)

What is the name of the chair that the priest sits on? (Presider's Chair or Celebrant's Chair)

What is the name of the light that always burns when the Blessed Sacrament is present? (Sanctuary Lamp)

What is the name of the book that has the church hymns or songs in it? (Hymnal)

What is the name of the liturgical book containing all instructions needed for Mass? (Missal)

Which book is read during the Liturgy of the Word and read by the lector? (Lectionary)

What's the name of book that priest or deacon reads the Gospel from? (Book of the Gospels)

Which book does the priest pray from during the Mass at the altar? (Sacramentary)