



Minute of Mercy

MARTYRDOM

The history of the Church is full of many martyred Catholic saints, who received recognition for great deeds or meritorious conduct. Many lost their lives in defense of the faith, while others were themselves the mothers of important saints. Many were also honored for their contributions to the Church and their community.

One such saint we are focusing on this week is St. Maximilian Kolbe. According to Fr. Michael Gaitley, "one great passion of his life was to come to know the mystery of Mary." St. Maximilian 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.

He became a Polish Franciscan Friar, and in 1941, was arrested by the German Gestapo and eventually transferred to the German death camp of Auschwitz. Here, he volunteered to die in the place of a stranger, thereby securing his martyrdom. He was canonized a saint on October 10, 1982.

Please pick up a flyer on the Year of Mercy table to learn a great deal more about this amazing saint!

Mercy in Action

*This week's **Mercy in Action** is for all of St. Peter Parish to pray the St. Michael Prayer for persecuted Christians at home and throughout the world. The prayer can be found in the bulletin, on the Year of Mercy table, and on the St. Peter Parish App.*