

**FEBRUARY 5, 2023**

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
7026 FM ROAD 957  
SCHULENBURG, TX 78956  
**ST. JOHN, TEXAS**



**ASCENSION OF OUR LORD CHURCH**  
11134 FM 957  
SCHULENBURG, TX 78956  
**MORAVIA, TEXAS**



**REV. MSGR. JOHN C. PETERS, V.G., PASTOR**

REV. JOHN AFFUM

REV. JAMES DVORAK

P.O. BOX H ♦ HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS 77964 ♦ (361) 798-5888 ♦ (361) 798-4970 FAX

Website: [www.shcatholicchurch.org](http://www.shcatholicchurch.org)

E-mail: [rectory@shcatholicchurch.org](mailto:rectory@shcatholicchurch.org)

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**St. John the Baptist Church**

Saturday..... 6:00 p.m.  
(on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>)  
Sunday ..... 9:30 a.m.  
(on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>)  
First Friday .....8:00 a.m. followed by Holy Hour

**Ascension of Our Lord Church**

Saturday..... 6:00 p.m.  
(on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>)  
Sunday ..... 9:30 a.m.  
(on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>)

**MARRIAGES**

Consult the Pastor six (6) months in advance before making any plans or decisions.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Welcome to our parish family. Please stop by the Rectory or call to register.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Please call the rectory.

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Saturday Evening—5:30 p.m.

**GENERATIONS OF FAITH (RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)**

Dana Daughtry 713-822-3019-cell or 979-562-2381  
EWTN-Cable Channel 71 or Dish Channel 261  
Direct TV Channel 370 **RADIO:** 99.9 FM & 94.3 FM

**WEBSITES**

Cemetery: [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org)  
(Click on “Catholic Cemeteries”)  
Safe Environment: [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org)  
(Click on “Safe Environment Program,” then on “eAppsDB”)

**PARISH CONTACTS**

**St. John the Baptist Church**

Elsie Farek.....979-562-2159

**Ascension of Our Lord Church**

Robert & Mary Kendall.....361-217-0624

**HALL RENTAL**

**St. John the Baptist Church**

Frank Forestier.....713-501-9860 (cell)  
Barbara Appelt .....832-643-4590 (cell)

**Ascension of Our Lord Church**

Kathy Guenther ..... 979-562-2124 (home)  
..... 979-562-2328 (work)  
.....979-743-0369 (cell)

**CEMETERY**

**St. John the Baptist Church**

Dorothy Berger.....979-562-2187

**Ascension of Our Lord Church**

Kathy Guenther .....979-562-2124  
..... 979-562-2328 (work)  
.....979-743-0369 (cell)

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## MASS SCHEDULE

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### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	February 4	6:00 p.m.	Anita Etzler	Moravia
Sunday	February 5	9:30 a.m.	George Vasek	St. John

### Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	February 11	6:00 p.m.	Evelyn Novosad	St. John
Sunday	February 12	9:30 a.m.	Bernice Jurica	Moravia

### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	February 18	6:00 p.m.	L. A. & Vera Wenglar	Moravia
Sunday	February 19	9:30 a.m.	Adolf B. & Adela Kutac & Anna Marie Kutac	St. John

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### February 5: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16

Through the power of God, we can be a light to the world by our loving concern for others, especially the poor and the oppressed.

### February 12: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 (1b)/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

In Jesus is revealed a new wisdom, a new law, a new way of living. Happy are they who choose to keep his commandments and follow his ways.

### February 19: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 (8a)/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48

Offer no resistance to one who persecutes you. Rather, love your neighbor as you love yourself. As the Lord is gracious and merciful, treat others in the same way, humbling yourself before the Lord.

**Ministry Schedule has been made. If there is a change, you will be notified.**

**The Mass is live-streamed at Sacred Heart Catholic Church on Facebook. The link for the Mass is: <https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartCatholicChurchHallettsville> and also broadcast on the Radio Stations FM 99.9 & FM 94.3 on Sunday at 8:00 a.m.**

**ASCENSION CHURCH CLEANERS FOR FEBRUARY:** Arlene Becan, Janis Hrnecir

**ASCENSION CHURCH USHERS FOR FEBRUARY:** Hilbert Henke, Jr., Dale Janak

**ST. JOHN CHURCH USHERS FOR FEBRUARY:** Darryl Kutac, Darrell Demel

The Sacred Heart **ADORATION CHAPEL** needs an Adorer on Tuesdays at 2:00 a.m.  
Contact Charlene Bradbury at 361-798-6191 if interested.

**ST. JOHN PICNIC MEETING** – will be Wednesday, February 15 at 6:30 p.m.  
at the St. John Hall.

### **ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

Saturday, February 4 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Kullen Kutac, Dylan Orsak

Sunday, February 5 – 9:30 a.m. – St. John – Layne Sevcik, Trent Sevcik

Saturday, February 11 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John – Brant Redman, Barrett Redman

Sunday, February 12 – 9:30 a.m. – Moravia – Bryce, Cullen & Zoe Machicek

Saturday, February 18 – 6:00 p.m. – Moravia – Dylan Orsak, Kullen Kutac

Sunday, February 19 – 9:30 a.m. – St. John – Dillon Goedrich, Mary Beth Krischke

## **From the Desk of Msgr. John**

February is known for Love since so many people celebrate Valentine's Day. This is a good time for us to pray for good marriages and for good family life. At this time, we also pray for families who are having difficulties and struggles. We pray that they will look to God and the Blessed Mother for counsel and direction.

If you are in a good marriage and have a good family, thank God. If you are having difficulties and facing challenges in your marriage and family, pray for strength and seek help.

## **PRO-LIFE CORNER**

Political setbacks will happen, but the Catholic Church will always proclaim the sanctity of human life. It's an article of faith for us: human beings are created in the image and likeness of God, and the destruction of unborn children is a terribly violent act and a grave sin.

[Bishop Thomas Tobin]

**APPLICATIONS FOR ALTAR SERVERS** have been distributed to students at Sacred Heart CCD classes and at Sacred Heart School. Current servers and new servers interested in serving at any of our parishes need to complete this form and return it to the next CCD class or to school by Feb. 8. The form will also update contact information. Servers currently on our listings who do not renew interest by returning the form will be removed from the serving rotations.

**Mandatory training** for new and current servers will be held during the Sacred Heart CCD class on March 1 and during school for Sacred Heart students. **If your student would like to serve, forms are available in the back of the Ascension and St. John churches** or contact the Sacred Heart Rectory. Forms should be returned in the collection basket by February 19. Trainings will be scheduled as needed.

**SACRED HEART MEN'S ACTS RETREAT** – will be held March 16-19 at Cathedral Oaks with round trip transportation from Sacred Heart Church in Hallettsville. The theme is "I Was Blind and Now I See." The cost per retreatant is \$175 which includes the registration fee of \$25. Registration forms with more information are in the back of church and online at <https://www.shcatholicchurch.org>.

**Catholic Daughters #797** – 2023 dues of \$25.00 are now owed. Checks payable to CDA #797 can be mailed to Catherine Lyssy, Financial Secretary, 380 CR 170, Hallettsville, TX 77964. **Craft Day** – will be Monday, February 6 at 2:00 p.m. at the Family Center.

**GRIEF MINISTRY** – Parents of children who have died at any age, please join us for our monthly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 14 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the Parish Hall at Assumption Catholic Church in Ganado, Texas. Call team member Pat Hoelscher with any questions at 979-257-9984.

There will be a **PILGRIMAGE MASS AT THE DESIGNATED DIOCESAN SHRINE OF STS. CYRIL AND METHIDIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH IN DUBINA** on Sat., Feb. 11 at 11:00 a.m. with a Czech choir. A covered dish lunch will follow in the adjacent KJT Hall. Bring a food dish to share with others. The annual membership meeting of the Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas (CCFT) will follow the meal. The public is invited to all events. Those attending the luncheon are asked to RSVP to (832) 437-4077.

**THE GABRIEL PROJECT** is excited to host its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual “Let’s Taco ‘Bout Babies” Bingo Benefit on Thursday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Club Westerner at 6 p.m. to help the ministry to cover expenses for the Mother Baby Services & The Bethlehem Maternity Home. There will be a Taco Bar & drinks along with Purse Bingo & hunting gear. **Tickets** are \$50 each (which includes the meal, drink & 10 bingo games). **Sponsor tables** for 8 can be purchased for \$1,500 and **Side tables** for 12 for \$800 or become an **Event Sponsor** for \$5,000. All can be **purchased** online at [victoriagabrielproject.org](http://victoriagabrielproject.org) or at the Gabriel Project Office, 101 W Convent, Victoria. For information contact [michele.rohde@ampf.com](mailto:michele.rohde@ampf.com).

*Ash Wednesday – February 22*

Good stewards realize they really don't own anything. It all belongs to God. It is not so much that God owns them, but they are not ours because we are called to offer them to him.

The reality is that you and I were born naked and with nothing. We will die naked and with nothing. If we really could possess something material, there would be a way to take it with us. But alas, it all slips through our grasp and passes away. And even though all of us came from dust and to dust we will return, through Jesus Christ we will live forever in a perfect state. The only thing we can take with us? Our hearts and whether or not we loved.

The ***SACRED HEART FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ANNUAL MEETING*** will be held on Monday, February 6 at the KC Hall in Hallettsville. All members are invited to attend. Registration will begin at 6:00 p.m. A short meeting and meal will begin at 6:30 p.m. There is no charge. Door prizes will be given away. Please mark your calendar!

**Area Events:**

- ➔ **CDA & KC Turkey & Dressing Dinner, Mentz** – Sun., Feb. 5, 11:00 a.m., St. Roch Parish Hall, 1600 Frelsburg Road, Mentz. Drive-thru only, cookies included. \$15 per plate. Drawing for great prizes.
- ➔ **St. Mary’s Parish Festival, Victoria** – Sun., Feb. 5, 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Victoria Community Center, BBQ brisket & sausage 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; live & online auctions, raffle, beer garden, cake wheel, kids games

***Diocese of Victoria Men’s Conference – Be a man, Be a Saint*** – will be Saturday, February 25, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church, Victoria. **Cost:** early birds \$35 per person; after February 1, \$40 per person. Six registrations for the cost of five. Priests, deacons, seminarians are free. To register visit [www.victoriadiocese.org](http://www.victoriadiocese.org). The **keynote speaker** will be Father Larry Richards along with Mass celebrant Bishop Brendan Cahill as well as Gary Marek and Deacon Joe Machacek. Adoration and Confession will be available.



**Attention KC’s #2433 and CDA #797 Members**

On Saturday, February 25, 2023, the Knights of Columbus and Catholic Daughters of the Americas of Sacred Heart Parish are celebrating their 100 Years Anniversary. There will be a Mass, Cocktail Hour, Dinner and Dance. We are asking for any pictures that you may have of events, members, etc. over the years for a presentation. If you have any that you are willing to share, contact Phyllis Steffek at 713-816-7252 or [plsteffek@gmail.com](mailto:plsteffek@gmail.com). We look forward to having you join in this celebration.

**Next Bulletin: Sunday, February 19, 2023**

**All announcements can be sent by email to the Rectory at**

**[rectory@shcatholicchurch.org](mailto:rectory@shcatholicchurch.org) or can be called in to the Rectory to 361-798-5888.**

**Any announcements after the due date and time, will be published in the next bulletin, if applicable.**

**Bulletin Deadline: 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2023**

# Memorials

## **St. John Seminary Burse**

### **In Memory of Leonard Sumbera**

Milton & Diane Holub - \$30

Barbara Appelt -\$20

Stuart & Joanie Krischke -\$20

Lorene Kubenka - \$10

Marcus Kallus - \$10

Paul & Helen Flessner - \$20

## **St. John Building Fund**

### **In Memory of Leonard Sumbera**

Flo Mozisek -\$25

James & Diane Wessels - \$30

David & Connie Shimek - \$50

Thomas & Vicky Kainer - \$50

Johnnie & Cynthia Barton - \$25

Henry Kutac - \$20

Bernard & Pearl Garner - \$10

Mr. & Mrs. John Kana - \$20

Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Banse - \$10

Annette Beiersdorfer - \$25

Chad & Denise K. Pauler - \$100

## **St. John Cemetery Fund**

### **In Memory of Leonard Sumbera**

Harold & Earline Fietsam - \$20

James Kroboth - \$30

Marcus & Sharon Bujnoch - \$10

James Stanzel - \$10

Patrick & Ann Pfertner - \$50

Donald & Karen Kutac - \$20

John & Karen Bienski - \$25

Weston & Virgie Holub - \$50

Maurice Wick & Rosalie - \$25

Drew & Carrie Brossman - \$40

Nathaniel Loth - \$25

Gary & Ann McBride - \$25

Bobby & Peggy Mendel - \$25

Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Berger - \$25

Joyce Muske - \$25

## **St. John Cemetery Fund**

### **In Memory of Herbert Pauler**

Larry & Darnell Varley - \$20

## **St. John Church**

### **In Memory of Leonard Sumbera**

Leo & Joyce Janda - \$30

Glen & Donna Lux - \$20

Elroy & Barbara Holik - \$25

Guy & Michele James - \$100

A. J. Kucera - \$30

Alphonse & Donna Hermis - \$50

## **Ascension of Our Lord Building Fund**

### **In Memory of Ervin Neskora**

Arlene Holmes - \$30

### **In Memory of Samantha Holub**

David & Dorothy Young and Family and Adela

Filip - \$50

Dolores Janak - \$25

### **In Memory of Donna Coldewey**

Wilma & Richard Schaefer - \$15

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Herman - \$15

Melba & Jim Hynes - \$20

Connie & Dwayne Burton - \$50

Glen & Sophie Cernik - \$50

Dennis & Barbara Janak - \$50

Charlene Pillow - \$20

### **In Memory of Clinton Cernik**

Sherry Hale - \$50

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

February 2023

Sacred Heart, St. Mary, St. John and Ascension Churches

Msgr. John C. Peters, VG, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### Flee temptation

Christians are meant for Heaven.

Yet, the world can work against our efforts for holiness. St. Peter tells us to "escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires" (2 Peter 1:4). Ask God often to protect you from sin, to give you the wisdom and courage to make good choices and, become sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. God will reveal when you've messed up, and rejoice with you when you get it right.



### Serve without complaint

Every job has aspects about it that are tedious, messy, and unrewarding, yet they are necessary. However, they can be opportunities to grow in virtue: humility, patience, self-discipline, etc. When you dread doing your work, smile and say a prayer, "and your Father, who sees in secret, will repay you" (Matthew 6:4).

"The works of God are all of them good; in its own time every need is supplied" (Sirach 39:16).



## Take steps to share your faith during Lent

Jesus didn't intend for the Great Commission - "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19) - to be a heavy burden.

He meant witnessing to His love to come through the natural course of living a Christ-inspired life. Consider making more disciples this Lent:

**Live a Catholic life.** Non-believers may hear what we say about Jesus, but they are persuaded by seeing how our love for Him shapes our lives. It is critical that worship - Sunday Mass, Confession, Scripture - informs our life choices. When we spend time in Jesus' presence, His character rubs off on us.

**Bring Christ out into the world.** Jesus asked that we care for the poor and needy, thus acting as His hands and feet in the world. We may not be able to solve all of their problems, but we can show them the reality of Christ's love in their lives.

Talk about God's plan. God wants us each to experience the peace He offers.

Help others know that God's love is personal and He has a specific plan for each of us.

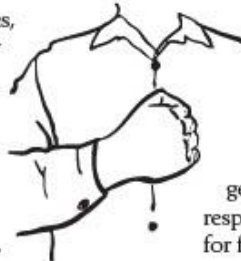
**Invite.** Some people will be ready to "come and see," so consider inviting seekers to Mass. Others might be ready to "take up and read." Share your favorite inspirational reading. If you need other suggestions, ask your pastor or favorite religious.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics strike their chests?

When we use our voices, our minds, and even our bodies during prayer, we pray with deeper meaning and enthusiasm. During the Confiteor at Mass, for example, we strike our chest three times, saying,

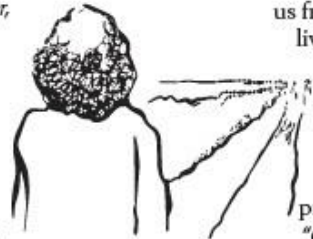


"through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault." It's an ancient symbol of sorrow and repentance for having offended God or hurting our neighbor. Such a gesture reminds us to take responsibility for our actions and pray for forgiveness and grace to change.

## Lent leads us back to God

*"For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment"* (Joel 2:13). Lent may be a penitential season, but it is also a wonderful reminder that no matter how we let sin interfere in our relationship with God, He always wants us back. Gracious and merciful is He.

*"Return to me with your whole heart."* Throughout the year, sin creeps into our daily lives almost without our noticing. A bad habit such as using bad language or gossiping can keep



us from loving God fully. Lent is a time to examine our lives and sweep aside whatever keeps us from giving God our whole heart.

*"Rend your hearts, not your garments."* God doesn't just want outward acts of repentance. Our Father wants a change of heart. Start with Confession and then practice virtues such as prudence, temperance, and fortitude.

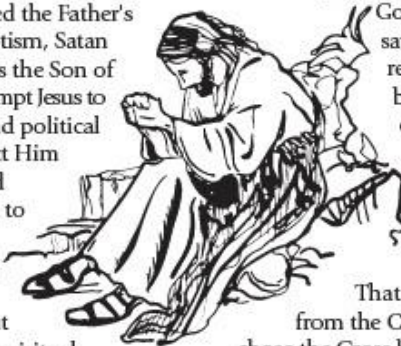
*"Gather the people, notify the congregation."* Become more active in your parish to build it up. Consider attending Mass more often than just once a week.

### from Scripture

#### Matthew 4:1-11, Victory in the wilderness

In this passage, Jesus is tempted by the devil. Having witnessed the Father's declaration at His baptism, Satan tested Jesus' identity as the Son of God. His goal was to tempt Jesus to embrace an earthly and political mission and to distract Him from the suffering and death that would lead to the world's salvation.

Satan tempted Jesus to satisfy His hunger with a miracle – to put physical needs above spiritual needs. In His response, Jesus taught us to put spiritual needs first and to entrust both body and soul to God's care. Next, Satan commanded Jesus to jump from



the temple roof in an effort to force God to miraculously save Him. Again, Jesus refused. God is not to be forced or controlled.

Finally, Satan offered to surrender all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus would worship him.

That would save Jesus from the Cross. Instead, Jesus chose the Cross because it was the only way to save us. When tempted to do what's "easy" versus what's morally right, ask for the strength to choose what's right.

### Q & A What's a simple way to explain the Faith, if asked?

St. Peter says to be ready to *"account for the hope that is in you"* (1 Peter 3:15). Consider using this simple, five-point explanation, inspired by Bishop Michael Jackels:

**Pinky:** The smallest finger recalls our weakness and need for a Savior.

Although Jesus redeemed us, we're still weak and must pray for God's graces daily.

**Ring finger:** To save us, Jesus took on our human nature, "wedding"

Himself to us. At Sunday Mass, we worship God and become one with Him in Holy Communion.

**Middle finger:** Jesus was raised up on the Cross for sins, then raised from the dead. We attend Confession monthly and receive the saving graces. We hope to be raised to eternal life.

**Pointer:** Jesus' call is universal, yet personal. He singled you out and chose you to follow Him; only you can give Jesus your "Yes" – in word and deed.

**Thumb:** Lastly, hitchhikers point their thumbs to ask, "Are you on my way?" Likewise, we're called to ask, "Are you going His Way?" (John 14:6).



### Feasts & Celebrations

Lent begins February 22, and is devoted to the Passion of Our Lord. One form of observance is to pray the Stations of the Cross and meditate on Jesus' walk to Calvary.

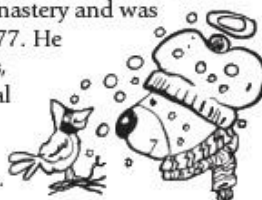
**February 1 – St. Brigid of Ireland (525).** Born to an Irish chieftain and an enslaved mother in Ireland, St. Brigid founded a monastery for monks and nuns at Kildare and served as abbess until her death.

**February 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes (1858).** A heavenly "lady" appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous, a poor girl

from a village in France and a miraculous spring emerged from a nearby cave. The "lady" revealed herself as the "Immaculate Conception," the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**February 22 – Ash Wednesday.** The first day of Lent. Ashes are placed on the foreheads as a sign of penance.

**February 27 – St. Gregory of Narek (1003).** Born in Armenia to a devout Christian family, St. Gregory entered the Narek Monastery and was ordained in 977. He wrote treatises, letters, mystical poems, and Scripture commentaries.



### Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.  
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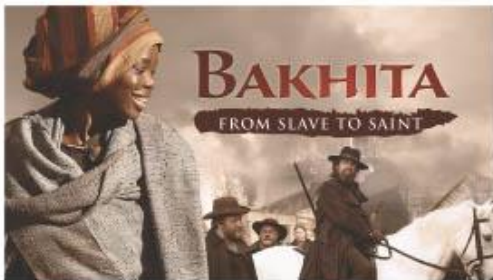
# THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of February 05, 2023



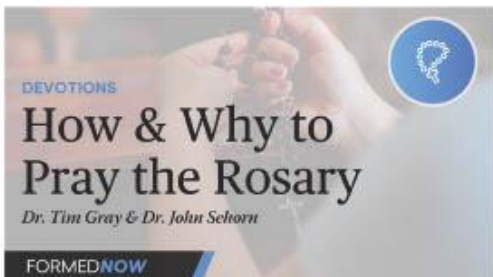
## Bernadette

Millions of people each year go on pilgrimage to Lourdes, a place where miracles frequently occur. Explore the origins of this miraculous place of encounter with the Lord in this movie which depicts Mary's apparitions to St. Bernadette.



## Bakhita: From Slave to Saint

Bakhita: From Slave to Saint tells the incredible story of St. Josephine Bakhita. Originally born in Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped by slavers and was eventually sold to a merchant in Italy. By the grace of God, she lived a heroic life of forgiveness and mercy which led her to become a saint.



## How and Why to Pray the Rosary

As we celebrate Our Lady of Lourdes this week, we invite you to learn more about the Rosary! Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they discuss how they pray the Rosary and how it has changed their lives!

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.