

# St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Father Joseph M Arsenault, SSA, Pastor  
Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Feb. 27, 2022

Shine like lights in the world as you hold on  
to the word of life. Phil 2



View of autumn colors near Lake Mrzla Vodica in Croatia's Gorski Kotar region. Source: TheAtlantic.com, A Photo Trip to Croatia.

## KEEPING IN TOUCH



This past week turned out to be not what I thought it would be.

The plan for the week was full of work and meetings. However, I awoke on Monday morning not feeling the greatest. It seemed as if I had a cold.

By Tuesday, I seemed to be getting worse. To be safe, I decided to get tested to ensure it was not COVID. The test did come back negative. By Wednesday evening, I seemed to be getting better.

Being sick is never fun and there is lots of catching up to be done now!

###

On another note, this week we start Lent. Where has the time gone!

On Wednesday, we will begin with Ash Wednesday where we will be marked with the Sign of the Cross on our foreheads with ashes. This sign reminds us of the shortness of our lives and our need to turn away from sin and to live the Gospel.

I encourage everyone to do acts of penance, love, and giving. May this Lent be for us ALL a time of coming closer to our Lord as we walk closely with Him.

Blessings,  
Father Joseph M Arsenault, SSA

## Mass Intentions

*The 4 p.m. Saturday Mass will be celebrated at Holy Family during March.*

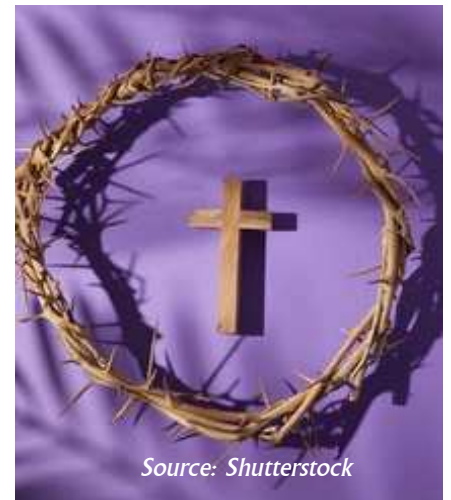
Feb. 27 - 9 a.m. Sunday Mass  
Edie Kovach  
William Baric Sr.  
Mara Kucenic  
Miro Jadric

March 3 - 8 a.m. Thursday Mass  
Jon Charles Rahija  
Mark Cindrich

March 6 - 9 a.m. Sunday Mass  
Matt Thomas  
Mike Zelieznick  
Dragutin and Barbara Cavlovic  
Margaret Dumovich

*Mass intentions are available for the 9 a.m. Sunday and 8 a.m. Thursday services.*

*If you would like to request an intention, please call the church at (913) 371-0627, or email [OurCroatianParish@gmail.com](mailto:OurCroatianParish@gmail.com).*



Source: Shutterstock

**But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,  
and all the things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33**

# Lent - A Time for Renewal

This week, we begin preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter.

The word "Lent" comes from the Middle English word meaning springtime. Lent is the Church's spring, or time for renewal and a reminder of the new life of baptism.

## Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday (March 2) is an important day for Catholics. It opens the Lenten season of fasting and prayer.

The wearing of ashes comes from ancient traditions of public penance. Ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. They humble us and serve as a reminder about our fleeting life on Earth.

And, as the priest marks our forehead with ashes, he may say, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," or "repent and believe in the Gospel."

Although some like to wear the ashes throughout the day, it is acceptable to wash the forehead after the Mass.

## Ash Wednesday obligations

Catholics, 18 to 59 years old, should fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means eating only one regular meal during the day plus two smaller portions that do not equal a full meal. Nothing should be consumed between the meals.

Those whose health or ability to work may be jeopardized by fasting are excused.

Additionally, anyone 14 and older must abstain from meat on these two days as well as each Friday.

*Sources: Catholic.org, CatholicHerald.org, USCCB.org (US Conference of Catholic Bishops)*



## Ash Wednesday Services

10 a.m. - St. John the Baptist

5:30 p.m. - Holy Family

## Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross in Croatian is planned. It will be at 5:30 p.m. each Friday during Lent at St. John the Baptist.

## Easter Week services (April 12-17)

The schedule is being finalized and will be published in the coming weeks. Services at St. John the Baptist will include:

3 p.m. - Good Friday

Noon - Holy Saturday for Blessing of Food

9 a.m. - Easter Sunday Mass

A Chrism Mass will open Holy Week - 8:30 a.m. at Savior Pastoral Center.

Holy Thursday service will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Family Church.

**St. John the Baptist Church**  
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(913) 371-0627 FAX: (913) 342-3324

**Email:** OurCroatianParish@gmail.com  
**Web:** stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.com  
**Facebook:** St. John the Baptist Croatian Parish  
**Instagram:** OurCroatianParish

### Mass Schedule:

**9 a.m. Sundays, 8 a.m. Thursdays, & \*4 p.m. Saturday**

(\*Saturday Mass is held at St. John's in February, April, June, August & October & December; it is held at Holy Family in opposite months.)

**PRAYER LINE: (913) 281-4448**

## Weekly Collections

	Feb. 19, 2022	Feb. 20, 2022
<b>Envelopes:</b>	\$ 1,585	\$ 1,023
<b>Building Fund:</b>	\$ 370	\$ 10
<b>Candles:</b>	\$ 35	\$ 111
<b>Poor:</b>	\$ -	\$ 17
<b>Mass Intentions:</b>	\$ -	\$ 70
<b>Priest's Retirement:</b>	\$ 25	\$ -
<b>Black &amp; Indian Mission</b>	\$ 20	\$ 40
<b>Food Kitchen:</b>	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Funeral Donation:</b>	\$ -	\$ 110

(Jerry Fabac, Mark Cindrich)

# Our Parish News

## Our deepest sympathies to the Skradski Family

Mike Skradski died unexpectedly on Feb. 18, 2022, at his home. He was 89.

He was born in Skradsko Selo, Yugoslavia, now Croatia. After completing his military service, Mike volunteered with the government program to rebuild post World War II Yugoslavia. There, he learned many skills.

While helping his brother build a house in Karlovac, Mike met a young widow (with two daughters) who became his wife. Together, the family immigrated to Kansas City, KS, and received citizenship in 1975.

Mike worked numerous jobs, including Acme Printing Ink Company (later, INX International Corp.) from which he retired in the 1990s.

He loved being a father, grandfather and great-grandfather - building child-sized furniture and always keeping chocolate bars handy. He enjoyed animals and kept a menagerie of pets through the years.

Survivors include daughter Ann Mikan Vardijan (Ivan); son-in-law Miroslav Staresinic; grandchildren Diana Staresinic-Deane (Jim Deane), David Staresinic, and Michelle (Vardijan) Eskina; and great-grandchildren Joseph Staresinic, Ruth Staresinic, Alexis Eskina, and Zachary Eskina.

He was preceded in death by his wife Ana Makar Mikan; parents Jura and Milka (Bradica) Skradski; daughter Mary Mikan Staresinic; grandson Ivan Vardijan; brothers Josip, Marko, Nikola and Mirko Skradski; and sisters Lojzika Vukmirovic and Ljubica Halovanic.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Feb. 25 at the church with burial at Mount Calvary Cemetery in KCK.

We send our sincere condolences to the Skradski family and mourn the loss of our friend and parishioner.

## Lunching with seniors

Yes! After a brief hiatus, the Seniors will begin their monthly luncheons. The next one will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 9, in the church basement.

The group took a little break due to the weather. Good call, with all that snow, ice and cold!

Want to join the fun? It's a monthly lunch with bingo, prizes and friendship. The Senior group is open to anyone who is 55 or older. It includes lovely people from our parish and other local churches.

They help with church activities and have fun in the process. Come on down and make some new friends.

Need information? Call Joanne at (913) 281-4448, or email [OurCroatianParish@gmail.com](mailto:OurCroatianParish@gmail.com).



Just a fun picture of three boys hanging out in front of St. John's auditorium. No date or other information.

Source: *Diamond Jubilee Book*.

## New bulletin editor coming next week!

In late March 2020, the COVID quarantine began and our church closed.

Phyllis Hampton had an idea to keep parishioners connected – online bulletins. She asked if I would help. Before retirement, I was a newspaper reporter and later worked in communications where I created publications.

The hardest things about writing bulletins during a pandemic is the lack of events. So, together, we learned a lot about saints and the history of Catholic holidays. We shared sweet memories of our school days and smiled at pictures from the St. John's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book.

Months passed and when the church reopened, Phyllis had retired. So the online bulletins continued.

Now, our parish office has reopened and it is time to return the bulletin to the capable hands of our new administrative assistant, Loren Tran.

My work will shift to the Croatian Festival and my love of travel.

A huge thank you goes to Bernadette Horvat who faithfully proof-read each bulletin.

Thanks to all who shared information about people and activities at St. John's. Our greater parish community now reaches far and wide through Facebook, email and our website.

Kathy Lally Bareiss