



Shrine of Saint Jude Thaddeus

2390 Bush St, San Francisco, CA 94115 www.stjude-shrine.org (415) 931-5919

Now in our eighty-fourth year

Our Lady of Lourdes Novena, February 2019

Calendar of Events, 2019-2020:

Our Lady of Lourdes Novena
February 3 – 11

Easter Novena
April 21 – 29

Mother's Day Novena
May 4 – 12

St. Peregrine Novena
June 1 – 9

Father's Day Novena
June 8 – 16

St. Monica Novena
August 19 – 27

St. Jude Novena
October 20 – 28

St. Jude Pilgrimage
October 26

Christmas Novena
December 25 – January 2



The Shrine of St. Jude is an apostolate of the Western Dominican Province that fosters devotion to St. Jude Thaddeus, "Patron of Difficult and Desperate cases," thereby bringing devotees to a deeper faith and closer relationship with Jesus Christ. The Shrine supports the

From the Director:

'These are illusions,' answered my mother, 'You must drive these ideas out of your head and especially not go back to Massabielle'. We went to bed but I could not sleep. The face of the Lady, so good and gracious, returned incessantly to my memory and it was useless to recall what my mother had said to me; I could not believe that I had been deceived.

—St. Bernadette Soubirous, reporting her mother's words to her, when she recounted the first apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Dear Friends of St. Jude:

It is said that if you want to ruin a bishop's day, tell him that there is someone who has seen the Blessed Virgin Mary in his diocese that wants to talk to him. This is because there are many apparitions and visions that are not worthy of belief, products of imagination, or some kind of deception. Few remember that after Lourdes there were spates of false visions or imitations that followed and caused grief and confusion in various places.

The beloved Apostle John reminds us in one of his epistles, "Beloved, do not trust every spirit but test the spirits to see whether they belong to God,



This is how you can know the Spirit of God: every spirit that acknowledges Jesus Christ come in the flesh belongs to God, and every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus does not belong to God." (1 Jn 4:2) No true vision of Mary would counsel us to those things that grieve the Holy Spirit: "bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice." (See Eph 4:20-32)

Why? Because she is the model Christian, blessed in bearing the Word-made-Flesh, Emmanuel, yes, but blessed even more in being the perfect follower and disciple, advising sagely, "Do whatever He tells you." (Jn 2:5)

For our novena in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes (February 3 – 11) I am delighted to bring in

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

another preacher who is a great lover of Our Lord and Our Lady, Fr. Dominic David Maichrowicz, O.P. (see below) What can Our Lady of Lourdes teach us, then? Can we become even greater followers and lovers of Christ, as St. Bernadette did? Let us grow closer to God, praying together in this novena; praying for one another with the same concern Our Mother showed St. Bernadette.



If you cannot make the novena in person, we will be sure to share the homily each and every day of the novena online. Don't forget to send in those petitions! We will place them on the altar and pray for them at each novena Mass and during our Liturgy of the Hours.

Yours in Christ and St. Jude

Fr. Dismas Sayre, O.P.
Director

Novena Preacher:



Fr. Dominic David Maichrowicz, O.P.

Fr. Dominic David entered the Dominican Order in the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus here at St. Dominic's, San Francisco in 2005. He grew up in Southern California, went to school on the central coast, and so it was a natural transition to keep moving up the state. Moving from a background in computer engineering to philosophy and theology was perhaps a less natural transition, but such diverse fields can actually have more in common than you might think. He earned his Master's degree in Philosophy from the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology in Berkeley, California, focusing on the works of St. Edith Stein and comparing her thought to that of St. Thomas Aquinas.

Fr. Dominic David was ordained to the Priesthood in 2013 and served for two years at St. Mary Magdalene in Berkeley, as well as did some teaching at the St. Francis de Sales School for Pastoral

Ministry for the Diocese of Oakland. He was then transferred to Holy Family Cathedral in Anchorage, Alaska, where he has served for the last three and a half years. Anchorage has provided many opportunities to give talks, to serve at a local Catholic School, to teach formation classes for aspiring deacons, to give parish missions, and to offer a number of retreats; all in addition to the regular work of a Cathedral Parish and the frequent missionary work of traveling to towns that are lucky to see a priest once a month.

We are grateful that Fr. Dominic David was able to preach our Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes, and we warmly welcome him.

**Our Lady of Lourdes
Novena,
February 3 – 11, 2019**

Masses:
Sun: 11:30 am
‡ 5:30 pm
Mon – Sat: 8:00 am
‡ 5:30 pm

**Confessions before
Masses;
Blessing with St. Jude relic
after Masses**

Mary: Our Mother and Model

By: Fr. Dominic David
Maichrowicz, O.P.

We often teach our children about all the things they should and shouldn't do: we instruct them in the commandments and teach them to examine their consciences through those commandments. And this is very good for children who need to learn right from wrong. But most of us know right and wrong by now and still find ourselves falling into sin and struggling to do the good. The problem is not so much that we kill one another; the problem is that we *want to* kill one another. We are called by our Lord not just to follow a list of external do's and don'ts but to truly change our hearts by growing in virtue and being transformed by grace into the very saints God has made us to be.

We have no greater model in this than she who was full of grace and an example of every virtue. And so for this novena we will look to our Lady, who revealed herself as The Immaculate Conception to St. Bernadette, as a guide and model for growing in the moral life through the list of her ten principal virtues enumerated by St. Louis de Montfort:

1. Profound humility
2. Lively faith
3. Blind obedience
4. Continual prayer
5. Universal mortification
6. Divine purity

7. Ardent charity
8. Heroic patience
9. Angelic sweetness
10. Divine wisdom

Coming to a greater understanding of Mary's virtues and how they are gained we hope to grow in our imitation of her – not simply trying to adhere to a list of external behaviors, but having our hearts changed, the disorder in our lives rooted out, and our nature perfected and elevated by grace, that we might share in eternal life with God.



Our New St. Jude Shrine Website Has Launched!

www.stjude-shrine.org

We've been working hard behind the scenes to update our website, and to make it easier to read on your phone or tablet as well. Here you will more easily find features and resources on St. Jude, our Shrine, Novenas, and more!

Connect with Us



Novena Prayer

Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, you are the refuge of sinners, the health of the sick, and the comfort of the afflicted. You know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings. By your appearance at the Grotto of Lourdes you made it a privileged sanctuary where your favors are given to people streaming to it from the whole world.

Over the years countless sufferers have obtained the cure for their infirmities – whether of soul, mind, or body. Therefore, I come to you, with St. Jude as my patron, to implore your motherly intercession. Obtain, O loving Mother, the grant of my requests. Through gratitude for your favors, I will endeavor to imitate Your virtues, that I may one day share in Your glory.

Amen.

What is St. Jude Oil?

When I am in the St. Jude Shrine store, occasionally someone will ask me what kind of oil is used in the little bottles of St. Jude Oil that we have. “Olive oil,” I say, “plain olive oil.” There is often a little disappointment here, as if they were expecting a rare or exotic material.

But the Bible and Scripture are full of examples of God using the simplest things and building upon them – to borrow a theological phrase, “grace building on nature.” God *loves* to use the simple things, that we may more clearly see God’s action.

In the Old Testament we see the pagan leader of the army of Syria, Naaman, sending word to the King of Israel, asking to be healed of his leprosy (2 Kings 5). Naaman expected to be sent a wonder-worker, a man of great power and might, to heal him. Instead, what he got was an instruction to go dip himself in the River Jordan seven times. Naaman felt insult – to him it would be like being told to jump in a puddle, for there were far mightier rivers in his own homeland. Nevertheless, his servants urged him to follow the prophet’s instructions, and he came to know that “there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel.” (2 Kings 5:15b).

Oil, in the Bible, is used to sweeten, to strengthen, and to heal. God uses it to anoint His chosen ones. The very word “Christian” means “anointed one.” The Church still uses

specially blessed oil in Baptism, Confirmation, the Sacrament of the Sick, Ordinations, and blessing of altars.

St. Jude Oil is a *sacramental* oil, often used to bless those who are sick. Oil has a long history, in Scripture and Tradition, for healing. It is not the material itself, olive oil, that is important here, but the Church’s blessing and the faith of those who use it.



So how is St. Jude Oil Blessed? The priest will use a relic of St. Jude, and the following rite:

Blessing of Saint Jude Oil

Priest: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: Who made heaven and earth,

God’s creature, oil, I cast out the demon from you by God the Father almighty, who made heaven and earth and sea, and all that they contain. Let the adversary’s power, the devil’s legions, and all Satan’s attacks and machinations be dispelled and driven afar from this creature, oil. Let it bring health in body and mind to all who use it, in the name of God the Father almighty, and of our Lord Jesus

Christ, His Son, and of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, as well as in the love of the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who is coming to judge both the living and the dead and the world by fire.

Priest: O Lord, heed my prayer.

All: And let my cry come unto you.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Let us pray. Lord God almighty, before whom the hosts of angels stand in awe, and whose heavenly service we acknowledge; may it please you to regard favorably and to bless and hallow this creature, oil, which by your power has been pressed from the juice of olives. You have ordained it for anointing the sick, so that, when they are made well, they may give thanks to you, the living and true God. Grant, we pray, that those who will use this oil, which we are blessing in your name, may be delivered from all suffering, all infirmity, and all wiles of the enemy.

Let it be a means of averting any kind of adversity from man, made in your image and redeemed by the precious blood of your Son, so that he may never again suffer the sting of the ancient serpent; through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

It is then sprinkled with holy water.

You can easily find this oil for a small donation at our Shrine store, or online through our web store. Unfortunately, due to customs and shipping difficulties, we cannot send this outside of the United States.