



# Josephine "Sister Catherine" Trtek

AUG 31, 1936 - JAN 13, 2024



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# Josephine "Sister Catherine" Trtek

AUG 31, 1936 - JAN 13, 2024

**O**ur beloved Sister Catherine was born on August 31, 1936, and went to be with the Lord on January 13, 2024.

A native Oregonian, Sister Catherine was an only child, raised in Scappoose by her parents, Joseph and Josephine Trtek. As her father was a pilot for the US Military during WWII, Sister Catherine was exposed to a lot of worldly experiences while moving from base to base and exploring the country by railroad alongside her mother. Due to the extensive travels, Sister Catherine was initially homeschooled by her mother. When Sister Catherine first attended St. Fredrick Grade School (in 3rd grade), she was so impressed by her teacher (a nun), the seeds were planted firmly for the path she would later take. Sister Catherine graduated from St. Mary's Academy, in 1954. She then enrolled in Marylhurst College, in Lake Oswego, before entering the Convent on St. Valentine's Day 1957, with the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon.

Education was something Sister Catherine felt very passionately about. She would spend decades of her life sharing her gift for teaching with countless students, having a significant impact on their life paths. In the 1960's, she began teaching music at Regis High School, in Stanton, Oregon, as well as St. Boniface, in Sublimity, Oregon. During this time, she would expose her student choirs to education on an international level, traveling with them in Europe for performances. In 1970, Sister Catherine was transferred to La Salle High School, where she taught courses on Religion and Death and Dying. In 1974, Sister Catherine transferred community and became a Sister for Christian Community where she started teaching Music in the Portland Public Schools until her retirement.

Sister Catherine helped care for both of her parents until they passed away, and later became a volunteer Chaplain at Providence Medical Center for ten years. Sister Catherine passed away at that same hospital where she had served numerous families, on January 13, 2024.

Services for Sister Catherine will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at the St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Scappoose, Oregon. A visitation will be held at 10:00 am, followed by a



## Obituary

**Josephine "Sister Catherine" Trtek**

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Funeral Mass at 11:00am and Committal at the St. Wenceslaus Cemetery. The church will host a reception following the burial.



# Events

## Josephine "Sister Catherine" Trtek

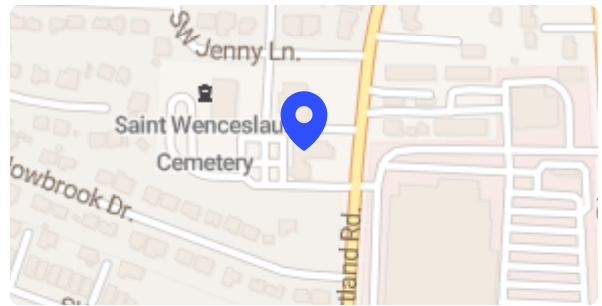
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### Visitation

**Saturday**, February 10, 2024

10:00 AM - 10:45 AM PT

**St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church**  
51555 SW Old Portland Rd, Scappoose OR  
97056

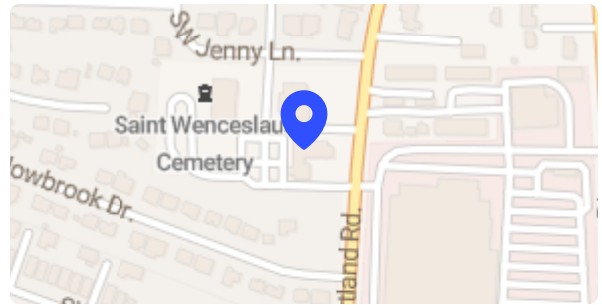


### Funeral Mass

**Saturday**, February 10, 2024

11:00 AM PT

**St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church**  
51555 SW Old Portland Rd, Scappoose OR  
97056

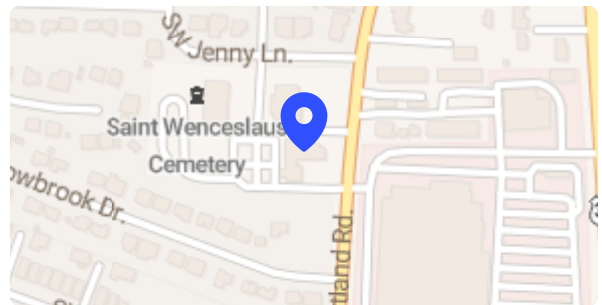


### Committal Service

**Saturday**, February 10, 2024

12:00 PM PT

**St. Wenceslaus Catholic Cemetery**  
51555 SW Old Portland Road, Scappoose OR  
97056






# Events

## Josephine "Sister Catherine" Trtek

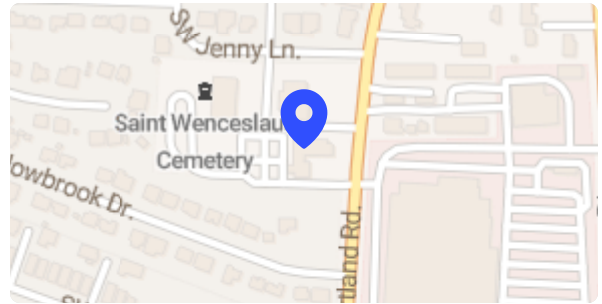
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### Reception


 **Saturday**, February 10, 2024

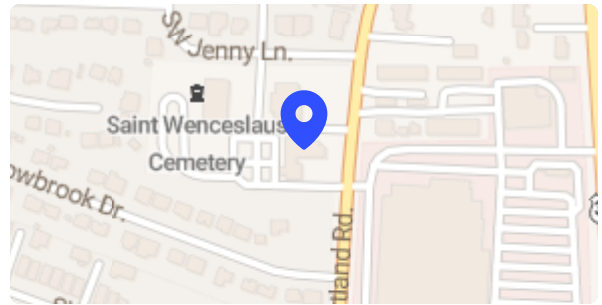
 12:00 PM PT

 **St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church**  
51555 SW Old Portland Rd, Scappoose OR  
97056



### Cemetery Details

 **St. Wenceslaus Catholic Cemetery**  
51555 SW Old Portland Road, Scappoose OR  
97056





## Tribute Wall

## Josephine "Sister Catherine" Trtek

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BC

**Becki Cook** posted:

I just learned of Sr Joseph Catherine's passing. We kept in touch with cards and letters and when I didn't hear from her last Christmas I did wonder if she was ill or had possibly passed away! She was my piano teacher at St Boniface and choir director at Regis! She was such an amazing person and had a great influence on so many! I was fortunate to attend her 50th Golden Jubilee Celebration of her being a religious nun! I know she is at peace and with Our Lord in heaven!!!

September 8 at 2:16 PM

SP

**Sue Pfannenstiel** posted:

My sweet cousin, Sister Catherine, you blessed my life with kindness and love. I will miss hearing that welcoming voice when ever I spoke with you. May you rest in the arms of Jesus and fly with God's angels. I will forever miss you. Sue Pfannenstiel

February 20 at 8:15 AM

BS

**Bishop Ken Steiner** posted:

I'm just reading Sr. Catherine's obituary, and didn't realize that our vocations and careers were so similar. I didn't realize she was older than me by a couple months. I followed her at a distance, but do remember being at a couple of her parent's anniversaries, or they may have been her own Silver and Golden Jubilees in Scappose My prayers for her, her family, and her religious communities as well as my prayers to her in thanksgiving for a well lived and faithful vocation of love and service for God's People. Bishop Ken Steiner ('36).

February 16 at 8:38 AM

NR

**Nancy Roth** sent a Healing Tears - Yellow and White to the Trtek family.



February 8 at 4:15 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Kathy Bukovi Hauck** posted:

What a beautifully written obit and wonderful picture of Sister Catherine! Our family adored her and she was a blessing to us. My mother and I certainly enjoyed her and her parents while we were cruising together; what fond memories I have. She certainly will be missed but has many in heaven awaiting her arrival; blessings to those left behind.

February 7 at 9:56 AM



**Traci (Robinson) Damman** March 10 at 5:28 PM

Sister Catherine or Ms. Trtek as she was known to her students was my choir teacher in 8th grade. I always played in band but I saw all the fun that the choir had and I decided to join my last year in middle school. She was so fun and so pleasant. Because of her ability to connect with students is what made her choir classes so popular. I will always remember her. Thoughts and prayers to everyone who knew her.



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Josephine by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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