

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH

3600 Forest Bluff Crescent, Mississauga, ON L5N 7W2 Tel. (289) 997-2105 Fax (289) 997-2104

Email parishoffice@stjosephinebakhita.ca

WEBSITE: www.stjosephinebakhita.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Mark Achilles Villanueva

Rev. Michael Ho

Rev. Gerry Steyn

Ms. Cecilia Vaz

Mrs. Fatima Chan

Pastor

Deacon

Deacon

Administrative Assistant

Secretary

He Lives!



Alleluia, Alleluia!!

**Please note that our Holy Mass on Easter Monday
April 6 at St. Peter's Mission Church
will be celebrated at 9 AM. There will be no Mass in the evening and the
Parish Office will be closed.**

Women's Retreat
Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre
Saturday April 18, 2015
Cost is \$35.00 per person
If you wish to join, contact Janette Cutinho - Tel: 289-997-0335
Registration deadline is March 31, 2015

**Catholic Family Services of Toronto New Beginnings invite you to a talk
entitled, "The Art of Journaling for Inner Healing".**

Martez Schembri-Diskey, author, therapist and instructor, will guide us through a unique journaling approach which employs meditations, affirmations, gratitude, intentions and connections to balancing the spirit, body, mind and emotions for trauma, stress, pain management and self-care. Date and Time: Monday, April 13 at 7 p.m. Location: Catholic Pastoral Centre 1155 Yonge St. 4th Floor. Free underground parking available and adjacent to Summerhill TTC Subway Station.

**Change on the age or grade level of those who can receive the
Sacrament of Confirmation in the Archdiocese of Toronto**

The archbishop has decreed that starting on September 8, 2015 in the Archdiocese of Toronto, the Sacrament of Confirmation will henceforth be celebrated in Grade 7. Being a transition year, we will begin our registration in May at our parish.

The Sacrament of Confirmation
will be celebrated on Friday, April 10 starting at 7 PM
at Merciful Redeemer Church
for Grade 8 Students of St. Bernard Catholic Elementary school
with His Excellency Most Rev. John Boissonneau, D.D.

Senior Men's High School Retreat
The Office of Vocations is hosting a day- retreat for high-school men [Grades 10,11 & 12] at St. Augustine's Seminary on Saturday April 11, 2015 from 9:30 AM to 6:30 PM (meals included). This retreat is intended to help young men cultivate a deeper prayer life & relationship with the Lord. Short conferences, prayer, sports and socializing with other participants & seminarians will fill the day and leave those who participate with a renewed faith and greater understanding of seminary life and faith formation. Thank you in advance for your generosity as we work together building a culture of vocations. Please call us at 416-968-0997 or email vocations@archtoronto.org .

Mass Intention

Saturday (April 4)
7:30 PM Easter Vigil

Sunday (April 5)
7:30 AM For the Parish Community
9:00 AM +Jose Barbosa, +Teresa &
Luis Sousa
11:00 AM Special Intention of Sy
Family
12:30 PM For the Parish Community

Monday (April 6)
9:00 AM +Angel Gorospe Andrada

Tuesday (April 7)
7:30 AM Departed family and friends
of Omar & Maria Tadeo

Wednesday (April 8)
7:00 PM +William Isaac Pereira

Thursday (April 9)
7:30 AM Departed family and friends
of Selvarajah & Paiva Kandiah

Friday (April 10)
7:00 PM Open

Saturday (April 11)
9:00 AM For our Parish Benefactors
and friends

5:00 PM Open

To offer a Mass for yourself or your
loved one, see Cecilia at the desk or
use the form on our parish website.

Thank you for supporting our
Building Fund

Invested in the Archdiocese

\$1,604,957.54

Architectural & other Fees

\$205,081.34

Total Building Fund Collected

\$1,810,038.88

*Please remember to pray daily for
our church building project*

Children are a gift to humanity.

Children remind us that we all, in the first years of life, are totally dependent on the care and kindness of others. The Son of God was not spared this step. This is the mystery that we contemplate every year at Christmastime. The manger scene is the icon that communicates this reality in the most simple and direct way.

God has no difficulty in being understood by children and children have no trouble in understanding God. It isn't by chance that in the Gospels Jesus speaks beautiful and strong words about the little ones. This term indicates all persons who depend on the help of others, particularly children.

Children remind us that we are always children even when we become adults or if we become parents; beneath it all we keep our identity as a child. And this always leads us back to the fact that we are not given life, but that we have received it. The great gift of life is the first gift we have received. Sometimes we risk forgetting about this, as if we were the masters of our existence while instead we are radically dependent. In fact, it is a source of great joy to hear that at every age in life, in every situation, in every social condition, we are and remain sons and daughters. This is the main message that children give us with their presence: with just their presence they remind us that each and every one of us is a child.

Listing some of the other gifts that children bring to humanity the Pope highlighted their way of seeing reality, with a confident and pure gaze. Children have a spontaneous trust in mom and dad and they have a spontaneous trust in God, in Jesus, and in the Madonna. At the same time, their inner gaze is pure, not yet tainted by malice, duplicity, and the incrustation of life that harden one's heart. We know that even children have original sin, that they can be selfish, but they retain a purity and an inner simplicity. Children are not diplomats: they say what they feel, they say what they see, directly. And many times they make parents uncomfortable, saying in front of other people: I don't like this because it's ugly. But children say what they see. They aren't split persons; they still haven't learned that science of duplicity that we adults have unfortunately learned.

Children also bring with them ability to receive and to give affection. Tenderness is having a heart of flesh and not of stone, as the Bible says, Tenderness is also poetry. It is feeling things and events, not treating them as mere objects only to use them because they're useful.

The ability to smile and to cry is another gift that children bring, one which we grown-ups often block out. Many times our smile becomes a cardboard one, something lifeless and cold or even an artificial, clown's smile. Children smile and cry spontaneously. It always comes from the heart, and often our hearts are closed and we lose this ability to smile and to cry. Children, then, can teach us how to smile and how to cry again. This is why Jesus invites his disciples to become like children because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Children bring life, joy, hope, even troubles. But life is like that. They certainly also bring worries and, at times, many problems. But a society with these worries and problems is a better one than a society that is sad and gray because it is childless! And when we see a society with a birthrate of just 1%, he concluded, we can say that that is a sad and gray society because it is without children.

Sunday Collection	
Offertory	\$ 4,324.00
Building Fund	\$ 2,864.00
St. Peter's	\$ 361.05
Stipend	\$ 170.00
Wednesday	\$ 217.85
ShareLife	\$ 350.00
From the Box	\$ 11.10
Total	\$ 8,298.00

Working wonders for those entering the priesthood...

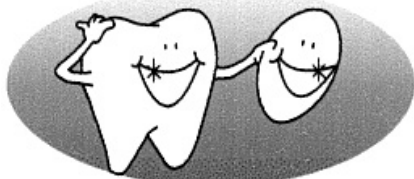
Men who have responded to God's call to dedicate their lives to His service come from all walks of life. Those who enter the priesthood come from different ages and backgrounds, economic situations, skill sets, and ethnic communities.

at ShareLife-funded agencies such as Serra House, redemptoris Mater, and St. Augustine's Seminary, they undergo extensive theological education and practical field training. Through ShareLife, you are helping sustain the vocations for priesthood and inspire discernment for God's call. Last year ShareLife helped support 80 priests and seminarians in their formation studies.

*Next ShareLife Sunday – April 12, 2015
Please give generously. You can work wonders!*

We are always looking for volunteers!

We are intending to organize a one-week Bible Camp for children in July, would you be interested to give your time and talent? Please contact Liz Capule if you are interested.



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