

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

Rectory address: 3600 Forest Bluff Crescent, Mississauga, ON L5N 7W2

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Pastoral Team

Rev. Mark Achilles Villanueva, Pastor

Rev. Michael Ho, Deacon

Rev. Gerry Steyn, Deacon

Cecilia Vaz, Administrative Assistant

Fatima Chan, Secretary



*We saw his star
in the East
and have come
to worship Him*



116-1

BUILDING BAKHITA AS A FAMILY OF FAITH

Total Pledges to date : \$1,052,730

Our heartfelt thanks to the families that have already made a pledge

WOW! We have had great support by our ambassadors in visiting fellow parishioners! Over half of the parish has been contacted!

The ambassadors are planning to call all remaining parishioners. Please welcome them as they want to provide you with information about our new church building plans and the Archdiocesan initiatives.

Question of the week: Why a 5 year pledge period? Raising \$1,500,000 over a 5-year period will help us achieve our goals without putting undue financial pressure on our parishioners and supporters.

Knowing the intentions of parishioners at the beginning of the period allows the parish to plan. All pledges can be changed at any time and are not legally binding. We realize that some people may not be in a position to pledge for this period of time. Gifts given one year at a time over the five year campaign are also most appreciated.

Let's thank our ambassadors for their dedication to serving the world that God loves.

Already visited? Our parish ambassadors will be calling you to bring in your pledge card! If you have been visited, we are asking that you return your card to the Rectory!

For more information about the Archdiocesan campaign see: www.archtoronto.org



Mass Intention

Saturday (January 2)

5:00 PM +Open

Sunday (January 3)

7:30 AM For the Parish Community

9:00 AM Thanksgiving of Janae Rodrigues

11:00 +Richard Valere & Lina de Montbrun, +Tomas and Romana Ramos, +Nene de Leon

12:30 PM +Alain Nkenda, 25th Anniversary of Elizabeth & Peter Tadeo

Monday (January 4)

7:00 PM Open

Tuesday (January 5)

7:30 AM Thanksgiving of Mila Stapells

Wednesday (January 6)

7:00 PM Open

Thursday (January 7)

7:30 AM +Lydia

Friday (January 8)

Please note that there will be no 7 PM Holy Mass. The Thanksgiving Mass of Fr. Mark will be held at Saviour of the World Chinese Church at 4:30 PM

Saturday (January 9)

9:00 AM For our Parish Benefactors and their families

Thank you for supporting our Building Fund

Invested in the Archdiocese

\$1,407,537

Architectural & other Fees

\$599,368.30

Total Building Fund Collected

\$2,006,905.30

Please remember to pray daily for our church building project

Family Life: A Pilgrimage for Experiencing the Joy of Forgiveness

"We often see pilgrims journeying to shrines and places dear to popular piety. These days, many of them are making their way to the Holy Door opened in all the cathedrals of the world and in many shrines. But the most beautiful thing which emerges from the word of God today is that the whole family goes on pilgrimage. Fathers, mothers and children together go to the house of the Lord, in order to sanctify the holy day with prayer. It is an important teaching, which is meant for our own families as well. Indeed, we could say that family life is a series of pilgrimages, both small and big."

"For example, how comforting it is for us to reflect on Mary and Joseph teaching Jesus how to pray! This is a sort of pilgrimage, the pilgrimage of education in prayer. And it is comforting also to know that throughout the day they would pray together, and then go each Sabbath to the synagogue to listen to readings from the Law and the Prophets, and to praise the Lord with the assembly. Certainly, during their pilgrimage to Jerusalem, they prayed by singing the Psalm: "I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem?."

"How important it is for our families to journey together towards a single goal! We know that we have a road to travel together; a road along which we encounter difficulties but also enjoy moments of joy and consolation. And on this pilgrimage of life we also share in moments of prayer. What can be more beautiful than for a father and mother to bless their children at the beginning and end of each day, to trace on their forehead the sign of the cross, as they did on the day of their baptism? Is this not the simplest prayer which parents can offer for their children? To bless them, that is, to entrust them to the Lord, just like Elkanah and Anna, Joseph and Mary, so that he can be their protection and support throughout the day. In the same way, it is important for families to join in a brief prayer before meals, in order to thank the Lord for these gifts and to learn how to share what we have received with those in greater need. These are all little gestures, yet they point to the great formative role played by the family in the pilgrimage of everyday life."

"At the end of that pilgrimage, Jesus returned to Nazareth and was obedient to his parents. This image also contains a beautiful teaching about our families. A pilgrimage does not end when we arrive at our destination, but when we return home and resume our everyday lives, putting into practice the spiritual fruits of our experience. We know what Jesus did on that occasion. Instead of returning home with his family, he stayed in Jerusalem, in the Temple, causing great distress to Mary and Joseph who were unable to find him. For this little "escapade", Jesus probably had to beg forgiveness of his parents. The Gospel doesn't say this, but I believe that we can presume it. Mary's question, moreover, contains a certain reproach, revealing the concern and anguish which she and Joseph felt. Returning home, Jesus surely remained close to them, as a sign of his complete affection and obedience. Moments like these become part of the pilgrimage of each family; the Lord transforms the moments into opportunities to grow, to ask for and to receive forgiveness, to show love and obedience."

"In the Year of Mercy, every Christian family can become a privileged place on this pilgrimage for experiencing the joy of forgiveness. Forgiveness is the essence of the love which can understand mistakes and mend them. How miserable we would be if God did not forgive us! Within the family we learn how to forgive, because we are certain that we are understood and supported, whatever the mistakes we make."

"Let us not lose confidence in the family! It is beautiful when we can always open our hearts to one another, and hide nothing. Where there is love, there is also understanding and forgiveness. To all of you, dear families, I entrust this most important mission: the domestic pilgrimage of daily family life? which the world and the Church need, now more than ever."

Bottle Drive

The Knights of Columbus will again collect your empty wine bottles after the holidays. The empty wine bottles will go to support the Special Olympics. Thank you for your support!

The Theology of the Body

January 23 at 9:30 AM

St. Ignatius Loyola Parish Hall

2300 Burnhamthorpe Rd. W., Mississauga

"How can I live my life in a way that brings happiness and fulfillment?"

Singles, engaged couples, married couples, and youth 18+ are encouraged to attend

Come celebrate Rev. Fr. Mark Villanueva's

Silver Sacerdotal Jubilee

on

Friday, January 8, 2016

Mass 4:30 pm

Saviour of the World Church

30 Bristol Road West, Mississauga

Reception at Capitol Banquet Hall

6435 Dixie Road, Mississauga

Cocktails 6 pm

Dinner 7 pm

Entertainment and dancing to follow

Cost - \$55 per person (Adult)

\$25 per child

Dress code - Formal

For tickets, please contact:

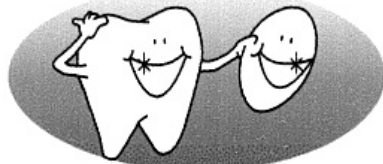
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