

# ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH

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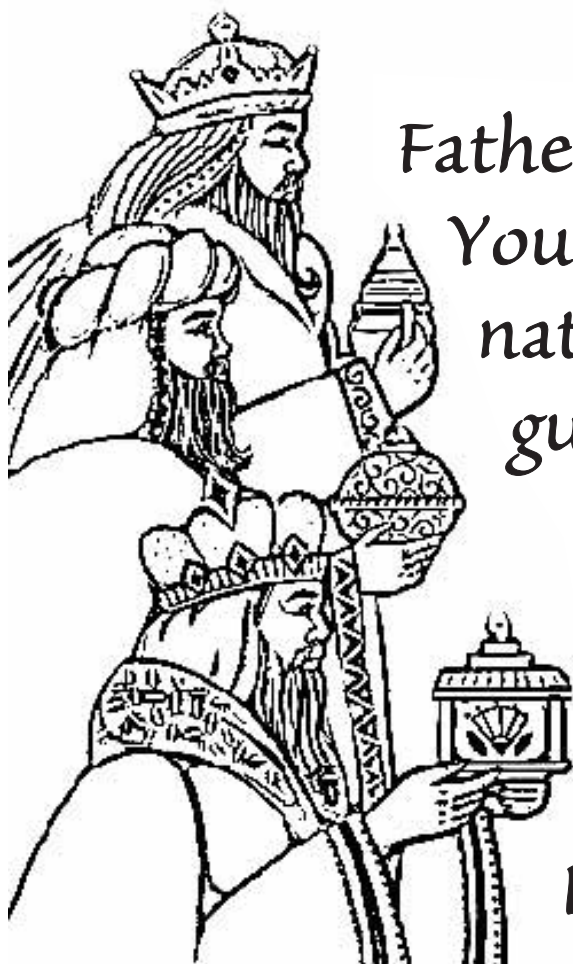
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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

## PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Mark Achilles Villanueva  
Rev. Michael Ho  
Rev. Gerry Steyn  
Ms. Cecilia Vaz  
Mrs. Fatima Chan

Pastor  
Deacon  
Deacon  
Administrative Assistant  
Secretary



*Father, You revealed  
Your Son to the  
nations by the  
guidance of a star.*

*Lead us to Your  
Glory in Heaven  
by the  
Light of Faith.*



Holy Mass for the Residents of Viva  
on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 3 PM

**Theology of the Body**

Begins January 14 - 7 to 9 p.m.

St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Hall

2300 Burnhamthorpe Rd. W., Mississauga

Discovering the master plan for your life: unfolding God's plan for human love, life, marriage and family. Scripturally-based teaching of St. John Paul II. Presented over four consecutive Wednesdays. Request an information flyer or pre-register at [TOB@bell.ca](mailto:TOB@bell.ca).

*Join other Catholics on tour to Australia and New Zealand  
with Fr. Mark from November 17 for twenty-one (21) days*

*or*

*Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Belgium & France  
from May 11 for thirteen (13) days*

*For further information, please call Helina 647-294-4116 or Stan 647-463-9057*

*Tour is arranged by International Heritage Tours*

**Regis College Film Series: "The Hidden Roots of Love"**

Begins January 14 - 7 to 9 p.m.

Regis College invites you to a series of eight evenings to help you deepen your spiritual life. Small group discussion led by John O'Brien, SJ. Continues on Wednesdays for eight weeks until March 11. Free. For more information and to pre-register, please visit [www.RegisCollege.ca/Film](http://www.RegisCollege.ca/Film) or call 416-922-5474, ext. 221.

**Building Committee Meeting**

The Building Committee will meet on Monday, January 5, at the Rectory starting at 7 PM

Fr. Mark will be away from January 9 to February 4.

Msgr. Terence D'Souza and Fr. Idara will be celebrating the Masses

They will be assisted by Deacon Gerry and Deacon Michael.

Please do not hesitate to contact Fr. Mark at (416) 821-5964 or send him an email at [parishoffice@stjosephinebakhita.ca](mailto:parishoffice@stjosephinebakhita.ca) if you need to touch base with him. You can also relay your message to Cecilia or Fatima.

**COME & SEE**

**WEEKEND**

For single Catholic men, 18 and older, who are considering a possible call to the Diocesan Priesthood

St. Augustine's Seminary

January 30 to February 1, 2015

contact the Office of Vocations for more information

[vocations@archdioceseo.org](mailto:vocations@archdioceseo.org)

416-968-0997

**Mass Intention**

**Saturday (January 3)**

5:00 PM - Alvita Furtado

**Sunday (January 4)**

7:30 AM For the Parish Community

9:00 AM - John D'Silva

11:00 AM Thanksgiving of Nelly and Tony Dungo

12:30 PM Open

**Monday (January 5)**

7:00 PM Thanksgiving of Mila Stapells

**Tuesday (January 6)**

7:30 AM Departed family and friends of Wilson

**Wednesday (January 7)**

7:00 PM - William Isaac Pereira

**Thursday (January 8)**

7:30 AM Departed family and friends of Anthony & Sybil Gomes

**Friday (January 9)**

7:00 PM Safe trip for Fr. Mark

**Saturday (January 10)**

9:00 AM For parish benefactors and their families

5:00 PM Open

If you wish to offer Holy Mass for yourself or for your loved one, see Cecilia at the desk when you come for Sunday or Mass or use the form on our parish website.

Thank you for supporting our  
Building Fund

Invested in the Archdiocese

\$1,588,345.36

Architectural & other Fees

\$25,895.00

**Total Building Fund Collected**

**\$1,714,240.46**

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

**The Feast of Epiphany**  
**Pope Francis**

Today we are celebrating the Epiphany, that is, the "manifestation" of the Lord. This Solemnity is tied to the biblical narrative of the coming of the Magi from the East to Bethlehem in order to pay homage to the King of the Jews: an episode on which Pope Benedict gave a magnificent commentary in his book on the infancy of Jesus. This precise moment was the first "manifestation" of Christ to the nations. Thus, the Epiphany brings to the fore the universal opening of the salvation brought by Jesus. The Liturgy today acclaims: "Lord, every nation on earth will adore you", because Jesus came for us all, for every nation, for everyone!

**EPIPHANY**



Thus, this Feast lets us see a double movement: in one direction, the movement of God towards the world, towards humanity — the whole of the history of salvation, which culminates in Jesus — and in the other, the movement of men towards God — let us think of religions, of the quest for truth, the journey of the nations toward peace, interior peace, justice, freedom. And this double movement is driven by a mutual attraction. What is it that draws God? It is love for us: we are his children, he loves us and wants to free us from evil, from sickness, from death, and to bring us to his home, to his Kingdom. "God, by his sheer grace, draws us to himself and makes us one with him" (Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, n. 112). And from us too there arises a love, a desire: the good always draws us, truth draws us, life, happiness, beauty attracts us... Jesus is the meeting point of this mutual attraction, of this double movement. He is God and man: Jesus. God and man. But who took the initiative? God, always! God's love always comes before our own! He always takes the initiative. He waits for us, he invites us, the initiative is always his. Jesus is God made man, made flesh, he is born for us. The new star that appears to the Magi was a sign of the birth of Christ. Had they not seen the star, these men would not have set out. The light goes before us, truth goes before us, beauty precedes us. God goes before us. The Prophet Isaiah said that God is like the flower of the almond tree. Why? Because in that region the almond is the first to flower. And God goes ever before, he is always the first to seek us, he takes the first step. God goes ever before us. His grace precedes us and this grace appeared in Jesus. He is the Epiphany. He, Jesus Christ, is the manifestation of God's love. He is with us.

The Church stands entirely within this movement of God toward the world: her joy is the Gospel, to mirror the light of Christ. The Church is the people who have experienced this attraction and bear it within, in their hearts and in their lives. "I would like to say — sincerely — I would like to say to those who feel far from God and from the Church — I would like to say respectively — to all those who are fearful or indifferent: the Lord is also calling you to be a part of his people and he does so with deep respect and love!" (cf. *ibid.*, n. 113). The Lord is calling you. The Lord is seeking you. The Lord is waiting for you. The Lord does not proselytize, he loves, and this love seeks you, waits for you, you who at this moment do not believe or are far away. And this is the love of God.

Let us ask God, on behalf of the whole Church, let us ask for the joy of evangelizing, for we were "sent by Christ to reveal and communicate the love of God to all men and to all peoples" (*Ad Gentes*, n. 20). May the Virgin Mary help us all to be missionary-disciples, little stars that mirror his light. Let us pray too that hearts be open to receiving the proclamation, and that all men and women may be "partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel" (Eph 3:6).

**Sunday Collection**  
**December 21, 2014**

Offertory	\$ 3,050.40
Building Fund	\$ 1,751.50
St. Peter's	\$ 1,785.10
Wednesday Offering	\$ 200.00
Stipend	\$ 210.00
Sacramental Preparation	\$ 75.00
Religious Frame	\$ 70.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,142.00</b>

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED  
 LIFE CELEBRATION**

On Monday, February 2, 2015, the Church celebrates the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life.

In the Archdiocese of Toronto we are blessed to have living and serving among us more than 1,000 religious men and women of over 100 different religious congregations. This World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life is a wonderful opportunity for us to thank God for the gifts of these religious sisters, brothers and priests and to pray for God's blessing upon them in their efforts to faithfully live the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience.

On Sunday, February 1, 2015 at 3 p.m. at St. Paul's Basilica, there will be a special Mass presided by His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins, in celebration of the vocation and witness of these special men and women religious who are such an important part of the life and ministry of the Church in our archdiocese. All are welcome to attend.

**PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO UPDATE YOUR  
 PARISH REGISTRATION IN CASE YOU HAVE  
 CHANGED ADDRESS RECENTLY.**





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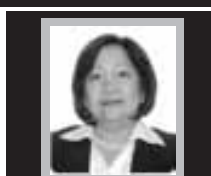
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