

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH

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

WEBSITE: www.stjosephinebakhita.org

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



The **Mission of the Parish** is to be a Catholic, multicultural community of faith, called to witness and proclaim, to celebrate and share the Hope and Charity we have in Jesus Christ as exemplified by St. Josephine Bakhita, our "Universal Sister" (John Paul II) and "Model of Hope" (Benedict XVI).

We are a people who weave together this neighbourhood as:

- a community of faith, committed to live the Greatest Love of Jesus Christ Crucified, and Mary, Mother of Charity at the foot of the Cross.
- a community of prayer, nourished by the Word of God, the Eucharist, and the traditions of the Church, reflected in the way we live and celebrate.
- a community that welcomes every woman and man, child and youth, of all cultures, to equal discipleship in Jesus Christ.
- a community that is missionary, open to the needs of the world, committed to the promotion of justice, peace, and the stewardship of creation.
- a community that is not afraid to face its pain and yet deeply trust "in the hope that saves."

We believe that each one [of us] is called to be the strand that God will use to weave a tapestry in this place; a tapestry that will be intricate and exquisite.

All new parishioners are welcome to register. Registration forms are available at the entrance to our worship space on Sundays. You can also register online at:

www.stjosephinebakhita.org

Please do not forget to request for your box of Sunday Envelopes after you register. You may also wish to use the Pre-Authorized Form of Giving. Forms are available.

SCHOOLS

St. Bernard of Clairvaux Tel. (905) 542-9203
St. Edith Stein Tel. (905) 824-5777
St. Simon Stock Tel. (905) 785-7434
St. Faustina Tel. (905) 821-2606

St. Joan of Arc Secondary School Tel. (905) 285-0050

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Mark Achilles Villanueva	Pastor
Rev. Michael Ho	Deacon
Sr. Necy Guan, Fdccc	Pastoral Assistant
Sr. Linda Carandang, Fdccc	Pastoral Assistant
Mrs. Fatima Chan	Secretary

MINISTRIES

Volunteer Coordinator	Anusha De Silva	Financial Council	
Children's Liturgy	Rory Agellon	Chairperson	Tel de la Cruz
Eucharistic Ministers	Max de la Cruz		
Lectors	Tim Marchand	Fundraising Committee	
Ushers	Miguel Basurto	Chairperson	Roman Lim
Altar Servers	Hartoni Ashali		
Choirs	Jamie Marr	Building Committee	
	Suzanne Pereira	Chairperson	Rita Borg
	Raul Manzanares		
	Ronald Pasajol	St. Peter's Mission Church	
Arts & Environment	Cora & Boyer del Rosario	Chairperson	JC Cadieux
Youth Ministry	Jamie Lyn Venantius		
Social Concerns	Patricia Scire	Knights of Columbus	Tony Ciuffo 905-542-9883
Sacramental Preparation		Daughters of Isabella	Rita Venantius 905-824-7223
RCIC	Liza Capule	Couples for Christ	Toti Quijano 905-567-3236
RCIA	Roman Lim	Legion of Mary	Cristina Manzanares 905-812-0891
First Reconciliation/Eucharist	Chanel D'Mello		
Confirmation	Clara Fernandes		

We celebrate Holy Mass at

St. Joan of Arc Secondary School
3801 Thomas Street
Mississauga, ON L5M 7G2

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday	5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM
	11:00 AM
	12:30 PM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday, Thursday	7:45 AM
Wednesday, Friday	7:00 PM

St. Peter's Mission Church
Ninth Line, north of Britannia Road

SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday	7:30 AM
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WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday	7:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM

DEVOTIONS

- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena every Wednesday after the 7 PM Holy Mass
- Chaplet of the Divine Mercy every Friday after the 7 PM Holy Mass
- Solemn Vespers and Benediction every First Friday at 7:30 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 PM or any time by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents who wish to have their children baptized must fill out a baptismal form to be submitted to the parish office. The baptism form is available on our parish website, at the parish office, or at the desk at the entrance to our worship space. We celebrate baptism during our Sunday Eucharists or anytime by agreement with the pastor.

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples planning to be married must contact the priest one year in advance. A marriage course is required. The wedding will either be held at Merciful Redeemer Church or at St. Peter's Mission Church.

Funerals

Losing someone through death is very difficult for anyone. To help you plan the funeral, please contact the parish office. We will hold the Liturgy at Merciful Redeemer or at St. Peter's Mission Church.

Observations on a recent change in government policy re: proposed anti- bullying legislation

For some time now we have all been particularly concerned about making sure that our schools are safe and welcoming places for everyone. This concern has been reflected in new educational policies over the last several years, and most recently in proposed legislation such as Bill 13 and Bill 14. For the comments of the Ontario bishops concerning these bills, and the wider issue of bullying that has occasioned them, I refer you to our brief published on the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario website.

For the moment, I would simply like to comment on the recent change in government policy concerning one method of addressing one form of bullying, and of providing personal support for some students, namely Gay-Straight Alliances.

All of those who care about Catholic education are committed to assuring that Catholic schools are formed by the principles of the Gospel, in which all people are treated with love and respect. As we Christians put it, not as some pious platitude but as a practical norm for life: Catholic Schools must be places where each person is received as Christ.

This may not always happen in a Catholic school, for we are all sinners, but we earnestly try to live up to this standard. We have a rich array of spiritual resources, and methods developed out of our faith tradition, which not only fight bullying, but shape a school environment that is welcoming to all. Our schools also provide competent and compassionate personal support for individuals. We also consistently have sought, and continue to seek, to work together co-operatively with the Ministry of Education to assure that Catholic schools meet and exceed all government standards.

Bullies use many excuses to mistreat others - it is usually because someone stands out in some way. If any students are mistreated, because of whatever factor attracts the attention of the bully, then that is evil. Our concern is that all students be welcomed and loved, and that none be bullied. In Catholic schools we seek to attain that goal through methods that arise out of our Christian faith tradition, are shaped by it, and are in harmony with it.

A "Gay-Straight Alliance" is a particular method of addressing one form of bullying, and providing personal support. The GSA model was developed in the United States in the 1980's. Because this model is so closely related to a movement with particular views concerning the human person and the issues of life, people who disagree with those views are understandably concerned that the model can serve as a means not only to address bullying, but to promote the views with which they disagree. Those who share those views will no doubt wish to use the GSA methodology. They are certainly free to do so.

I question, however, why provincial legislation should make this particular method normative in a Catholic school, which has its own different but effective methods of attaining the goal of addressing bullying and providing personal support for all students, ones which, unlike GSAs, arise out of its own fundamental principles and are in harmony with them. If the point is that there is something unacceptable about those Catholic principles, then I find that troubling, and wonder whether caricatures of Catholic faith are in play. I recognize, of course, that even among Catholics the richness of our faith, and the reasons for its teachings, have not always been communicated effectively. This is even more true within the popular culture in which we live, the sea in which we all swim.

GSAs are the only particular method or strategy mentioned by name in Bill 13. That is interesting. Now, with the recent change in policy, if any student insists on this particular method, then the trustees and principals who are responsible for the religious foundations of the school are compelled to agree.

As pastor of a large diocese, on the road constantly visiting the people, I have again and again heard concern from parents and educators about the proposed imposition of the GSA methodology on Catholic schools. That same concern has been expressed to me by people of other faiths, since parents often choose to send a child to a Catholic High School precisely because they expect a particular approach to life which is largely in harmony with their family and faith convictions.

Names of organizations carry with them a distinct content: if someone asks you to join the Liberal, Conservative or New Democratic Party, you rightly expect something different from

Mass Intention

Saturday (June 2)

5:00 PM +Leticia Saring,
+Veronica Fernandes

Sunday (June 3)

7:30 AM For the parish
9:00 AM +elias Leitao, Julia &
Jose Cabral
11:00 AM +Richard Valere, +Lina
de Montburn, +Wadeh Zakhem,
+Peter Hoang
12:30 PM +Robert Hernandez,
+Alan Nkenda

Monday (June 4)

7:00 PM Open

Tuesday (June 5)

7:45 AM Thanksgiving of AJ
Alcantara

Wednesday (June 6)

7:00 PM Open

Thursday (June 7)

7:45 AM Thanksgiving of Michelle
Encarnacion

Friday (June 8)

7:00 PM +Charles & Adeline
Gomes

Saturday (June 9)

9:00 AM Open
5:00 PM +Muriel Guerra

Thank you for supporting our
Building Fund

\$1,039,356

One method of supporting the Parish financially is the Pre-Authorized Form of Giving. At the moment, there are 85 families that have chosen this method. If you wish to participate in this program, a form is available at the desk.

each. These groups each have their own traditions, their own shape. So the key issue is not just the name itself, but the content connected with the name, with the "brand". Is it something that you want, or something that is in harmony with your basic principles? If it is, then fine; but it should not be imposed on a community.

Some questions come to mind:

1. Why is a piece of provincial legislation being used to micromanage the naming of student clubs?
2. Why are Catholics not free to design their own methods to fight bullying, and provide personal support to students, as long as they attain the common goal of a welcoming and supportive school? Why must they instead be compelled to accept a particular method that comes from a different approach to the great issues of life?
3. The leadership of students is crucial in the fight against bullying, and in making their school a place of love and respect for all. In fact, the most effective way to stop bullying may well be the example of fellow students. Students work together with the adult leadership of the school to promote the good of all. But trustees and principals are legitimate stewards of the spiritual tradition of the school, and in a Catholic school, that includes the Catholic faith tradition. Why should the power of provincial law be used to override that legitimate adult authority so that this one particular method can be imposed by any student who wants to do so?
4. With the principle established that the legitimate local authority is nullified in this case, then is any student free to introduce any program, any club, or any advocacy group relating to any issue? Over a year ago, I heard the principle behind this new policy expressed this way: "if a student wants it, he or she has got it." That may sound attractive, but it is a very shallow and distorted view of student leadership. Trustees and principals are legitimate adult stewards of the common good of the school community at the local level, and it is not helpful when Queen's Park moves in to remove that responsibility.
5. Apart from whatever one thinks of the idea of GSAs, in any particular school is a GSA the most effective method to help students being targeted by bullies? Who makes that decision in a local school? Is it those adults who are entrusted with responsibility for the local school community and all of its members? The new policy says that they do not. Is that wise?

To the members of our Catholic community: I urge you to reflect on the implications for Catholic education of this sudden government change in policy, and of the extraordinary privileging of one particular way of dealing with bullying and personal support. Catholic educators should be free to make sure that Catholic schools are loving learning environments in which every person is treated with love and respect, and to do so in a way that arises out of our faith tradition and is in harmony with it. We need to consider the path ahead.

To our friends and neighbours of other faiths, or of no faith, including those who disagree with any or all of the beliefs of the Catholic Church, and those who personally support the beliefs that form the context for GSAs: please consider the implications for all when legislation is enacted that overrides the deeply held beliefs of any faith community in our province, and intrudes on its freedom to act in a way that is in accord with its principles of conscience. If it happens to us, it can happen to you, on this and other issues. When religious freedom becomes a second class right, you also will eventually be affected.

There is no reason for this controversy. We all want schools that are loving and welcoming places for everyone. We simply ask that diversity be respected in our society, and that we be able to attain the common goal of welcoming schools, and of personal support for students, using methods that are in harmony with the faith we cherish.

Thomas Cardinal Collins
Archbishop of Toronto
President, Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario



One more week to go! Parish Walkathon of Hope

Come out! Let us get acquainted with our parish geographical area. Get some exercise...Have fun with fellow parishioners... and Lunch that includes a hamburger/pizza slice/or hotdog, drink, and ice cream! All these while raising money for our Church Building.

Muslim-Catholic Student Dialogue: The Roles of Women in Catholicism & Islam

Sunday, June 17, 2012 - 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. University of Toronto Multi-Faith Centre (2nd floor, Multi-Purpose Room), 569 Spadina Ave., Toronto. Come and join Catholic and Muslim students in a thought-provoking discussion!

The Muslim-Catholic Student Dialogue is supported by the Office of Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto and the Canadian Council of Imams. We strive to foster mutual and deeper understandings of the Islamic and Catholic faiths. The Dialogue supports uniting and life-giving friendships between Catholic and Muslim students through thought-provoking dialogues on topics related to both faiths.

For more information, contact Vivian Kwok at 416-934-3400, ext. 506 or vkwok@archtoronto.org. You can also join the Facebook group at [on.fb.me/muslimcatholicstudentdialogue](https://www.facebook.com/muslimcatholicstudentdialogue).

Pilgrimage of Love: Walking Pilgrimage from Toronto to the Cross of Teopoli

July 7 - 15, 2012

The 14th annual Pilgrimage of Love, organized by The United Society for children from economically disadvantaged homes, will take place from July 7 to 15, starting from All Saints Church in Etobicoke and ending at the Holy Cross of Teopoli, near Gravenhurst. All are invited to participate for the whole pilgrimage or for part of it. If unable to walk, financial support is also appreciated. For more information, please call 416-243-7319 or visit www.teopoli.com.



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