

# ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH

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WEBSITE: [www.stjosephinebakhita.org](http://www.stjosephinebakhita.org)

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



## ShareLife Profile : Mitch

### Without ShareLife

- mother with mental health problems
- kicked out of home; dropped out of school
- living on the streets, stealing food to survive

### With ShareLife + Covenant House

- staying at Covenant House youth shelter
- attending on-site classes there
- getting counselling and guidance

You can work wonders!

 **ShareLife**

**2011 PARISH CAMPAIGN**

 Celebrating 35 years of  
Service to the Community

Next Sunday, June 5 is ShareLife Sunday.  
Please give generously.

Visit [www.sharelife.org](http://www.sharelife.org)

We invite the children to attend the Children's Liturgy of the Word every Sunday at the chapel.

### Mass Intention

May 28 (Saturday)

5:00 PM +Juana Laborce

May 29 (Sunday)

7:30 AM For the Parish community

9:00 AM Thanksgiving of Mikaela Berza

11:00 AM +Sonya Trinchera, +Rolando

Dizon, +Simeona Quijano

12:30 PM Open

May 30 (Monday)

7:00 PM Open

May 31 (Tuesday)

7:45 AM +Cristina Casimbon

June 1 (Wednesday)

7:00 PM Thanksgiving of Fr. Justin

Trinidad

June 2 (Thursday)

7:45 AM Open

June 3 (Friday)

7:00 AM +Ruben Esteron

June 4 (Saturday)

9:00 AM Open



### The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will be held at Merciful Redeemer Church on

June 4 at 11 AM for St. Bernard of Clairvaux School

Parents of children in Grade One are invited to attend a meeting on Sunday, June 19, 2011 at 10 AM St. Joan of Arc Secondary School to discuss their children's First Reconciliation/First Communion preparation starting in September.

### Pastor's Desk

Congratulations to all Confirmandi in our parish and in our schools. The Sacrament of Confirmation, which they have received, completes their Christian Initiation. Blessed Elena Guerra reminded us that the Holy Spirit did not come only for the Apostles, but for all believers in every place and in every age, if they only want Him, if they only invoke Him, and if they only prepare a place for Him in their hearts.

As May is the month we also honour the Blessed Mother, we entrust ourselves to her motherly care and prayers. No disciple of Jesus knows the Holy Spirit more intimately than our Blessed Mother Mary. The Holy Spirit always dwelt in her immaculate heart. The Holy Spirit was the sole director of all her interior and exterior acts. Mary always obeyed Him, always acted in harmony with Him, always glorified Him.

Blessed Elena Guerra tells us that "if we fear that we cannot receive the Holy Spirit due to our unworthiness or our having committed many sins, there is a sure means to remedy this problem. Let us take a look into the Cenacle: Mary is there, praying with the Apostles and for the Apostles. Let us unite ourselves with Mary. She will pray with us and for us, and the Holy Spirit cannot refuse His Immaculate Spouse anything that she will ask for our benefit."

*Eternal Divine Spirit, I offer you all the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the apostles gathered in the Cenacle to which I unite all my prayers beseeching You to come soon to renew the face of the earth.*

O Mary, who by the power of the Holy Spirit, conceived the Saviour of the world, pray for us.

Our parish is having a **Vacation Bible School** for children in Kindergarten, Grade One and Grade Two

July 4 to 8, 2011

9:00 AM to 12 PM

Venue: St. Edith Stein Catholic Elementary School

If you are interested to register your child, the registration forms will be available from May 7 & 8 in all the Masses.

The cost is \$50 payable to St. Josephine Bakhita Parish



### Third Annual Parish Walkathon of Hope

June 11, 2011

The cost of the registration is \$10

and all registered walkers will receive a free t-shirt. All donations to the cause will receive a tax receipt

Thank you for supporting our Building Fund  
\$557,218

Every donation counts, no matter how small and done regularly, will bring us closer to the \$5 Million target to start the construction of our new church.

**JACOB - PRAYER: BATTLE OF FAITH, CALL FOR PERSEVERANCE**

VATICAN CITY, 25 MAY 2011 (VIS) - Continuing with his catecheses on prayer, Benedict XVI spoke in today's general audience about the Patriarch Jacob and his fight with the unknown man at the ford of the Jabbok.

The Bible, explained the Pope, describes Jacob as an astute man who obtains things through deception. At a certain point, he sets out to return to his homeland and face his brother, whose firstborn birthrights he had taken. Jacob waits overnight in order to cross the ford safely but something unforeseen occurs: he is suddenly attacked by an unknown man with whom he struggles the entire night. The story details their struggle, which has no clear winner, leaving the rival a mystery. "Only at the end, when the struggle is finished and that 'someone' has disappeared, only then will Jacob name him and be able to say that he had struggled with God".

Once the fight is over Jacob says to his opponent that he will only let him go if he blesses him. Jacob "who had defrauded his brother out of the first-born's blessing through deceit, now demands [a blessing] from the unknown man, in whom he perhaps begins to see divine traits, but still without being able to truly recognize him. His rival, who seems restrained and therefore defeated by Jacob, instead of bowing to the Patriarch's request, asks his name. ... In the Biblical mentality, knowing someone's name entails a type of power because it contains the person's deepest reality, revealing their secret and their destiny. ... This is why, when Jacob reveals his name, he is putting himself in his opponent's hands. It is a form of surrender, a complete giving over of himself to the other".

Paradoxically, however, "in this gesture of surrender, Jacob also becomes the victor because he receives a new name, together with the recognition of his victory on the part of his adversary". The name "Jacob", Benedict XVI continued, "recalls the verb 'to deceive' or 'to supplant'. After the struggle, in a gesture of deliverance and surrender, the Patriarch reveals his reality as a deceiver, a usurper, to his opponent. The other, who is God, however, transforms this negative reality into a positive one. Jacob the deceiver becomes Israel. He is given a new name as a sign of his new identity ... the mostly likely meaning of which is 'God is strong, God wins'. When, in turn, Jacob asks his rival's name, he refuses to say it but reveals himself in an unmistakable gesture, giving his blessing. ... This is not a blessing obtained through deceit but one given freely by God, which Jacob can now receive because, without cunning or deception, he gives himself over unarmed, accepts surrender and admits the truth about himself".

In the episode of the fight at the ford of Jabbok, the Pope observed, "the people of Israel speak of their origin and outline the features of a unique relationship between God and humanity. This is why, as also affirmed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 'from this account, the spiritual tradition of the Church has retained the symbol of prayer as a battle of faith and as the triumph of perseverance'".

"Our entire lives", concluded the Holy Father, "are like this long night of struggle and prayer, passed in the desire of and request for God's blessing, which cannot be ripped away or won over through our strength, but must be received with humility from Him as a gratuitous gift that allows us, finally, to recognize the face of the Lord. And when this happens, our entire reality changes: we receive a new name and God's blessing".

## Youth Ministry

Saint Josephine Bakhita Youth Group meeting will be held on Sunday, May 29th from 2:30-4:30 pm at St. Peter's Church at Ninth Line. All young people from Grade 7-12 are welcome.

### Youth Speak News

The Catholic Register invites high school and university students to join our team as a correspondent for the 2011-2012 school year. You'll get published in a national newspaper and report on news from your community while sharing your thoughts on faith, culture and current issues. Learn from professional journalists. The year culminates with an expense-paid retreat in Toronto. The application deadline is June 30, 2011. For more information, contact Vanessa Santilli at [vanessa@catholicregister.org](mailto:vanessa@catholicregister.org) or see [www.catholicregister.org](http://www.catholicregister.org) for details. Click on the "Youth" tab and "YSN application."

### WORKING WONDERS FOR THE YOUTH...

Mitch was 15 when he was kicked out of home by his mentally unstable mother. He lived on the streets, stole food, dropped out of school. To ward off the cold, "finding grates was the big thing". Mitch was saved from the dangers of the streets by Covenant House, a ShareLife agency. Today, he lives in the agency's shelter and attends its on-site high school. In 2009, ShareLife agencies provided residential programs for 1,500 young people. An additional 40,000 were also given food, shelter, guidance, care and education. Please support ShareLife.

*Current Sharelife Collection: \$11,160*

Parish Goal for 2011: \$21,000

Third Sharelife Collection - June 3, 2011

Please give generously. You can work wonders





**Dr. Cecille Rubic-Pangilinan**  
Dentist

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