

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH

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

WEBSITE: www.stjosephinebakhita.org

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



We celebrate Holy Mass at

St. Joan of Arc Secondary School

3801 Thomas Street,
Mississauga, ON L5M 7G2

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
12:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday, Thursday 7:45 a.m.
Wednesday, Friday 7:00 p.m.

St. Peter's Mission Church

Ninth Line, north of Britannia Road

SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday 7:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 7:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.

DEVOTIONS

- Our Lady of Perpetual Help every Wednesday after the 7:00 p.m. Holy Mass
- Chaplet of the Divine Mercy every Friday after the 7:00 p.m. Holy Mass
- Solemn Vespers and Benediction every First Friday 7:30 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" (Pope John Paul II) and "Model of Hope for the twenty-first century" (Pope 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.

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr. Mark Achilles Villanueva
Sr. Cristina Ovejera, Fdccc
Sr. Necy, Guan, Fdccc
Fatima Chan

Pastor
Pastoral Assistant for Adult Formation
Pastoral Assistant for Children & Youth
Parish Secretary

MINISTRIES

Volunteer Coordinator
Children's Liturgy
Children Religious Education
Eucharistic Ministers
Lectors
Ushers
Altar Servers
Social Concerns
Choirs

Anusha De Silva
Rory Agellon
Chanel D'Mello
Max de la Cruz
Tim Marchand
Miguel Basurto
Joanna Aguilar
Patricia Scire
Jamie Marr
Raul Manzanares
Suzanna Pereira
Ronald Pasajol
Cora and Boyer del Rosario

Church's Environment

PARISH FINANCIAL COUNCIL

Chairperson Tel de la Cruz

PARISH FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Chairperson Roman Lim

ST. PETER'S MISSION

Chairperson JC Cadieux

Knights of Columbus
Daughters of Isabella
Couples for Christ
Legion of Mary

Tony Ciuffo - Tel. 905-542-9883
Rita Venantius - Tel. 905-824-7223
Toti Quijano - Tel. 905-567-3236
Cristina Manzanares - Tel. (905) 812-0891

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 4:00 p.m. or any time by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents who wish to have their children baptized must fill out a baptismal form and submitted to the parish office. The baptismal form is available at the parish office, after all our weekend Masses at the school, or from our website. Once the parish office receives the form, the pastor will set up the appointment to process your application.

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples planning to be married must contact the parish priest one year in advance. A marriage course is required. The pastor will arrange the wedding ceremony with Merciful Redeemer Church or St. Peter's Mission Church. For additional information, please contact the parish office.

Funerals

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

Elementary 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) 821-2607

Secondary School

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

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

www.stjosephinebakhita.org

Please do not forget to request for your box of Sunday Envelopes.



Children's Liturgy

Children from JK to Grade 5 are invited to participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word during our Sunday Eucharist.

Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m., and Sundays at 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m., and 12:30 p.m.

MASS INTENTION

November 27 (Saturday)

5:00 PM For Catechists in our parish

November 28 (Sunday)

7:30 AM For the Parish Community
9:00 AM +Clara Babich Vidoris,
11:00 AM For the Faithful Departed
12:30 PM +Anastacio Ocsan
Thanksgiving of Crist, Tom, and Family

November 29 (Monday)

7:00 PM For the Faithful Departed

November 30 (Tuesday)

7:45 AM For the Faithful Departed

December 1 (Wednesday)

7:00 PM Open

December 2 (Thursday)

7:45 AM Open

December 3 (Friday)

7:00 PM +M. Show Reddy

December 4 (Saturday)

9:00 AM For the Faithful Departed

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION Confirmation

Our confirmation candidates will present their Letters of Request to Fr. Mark and the community on the following dates:

For candidates from St. Bernard, St. Edith Stein, Public and Private Schools: December 4 & 5 at all Masses.

For candidates from St. Faustina and St. Simon Stock Schools: December 11 & 12 at all Masses.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

God has made Himself known to us through His Word, which was spoken in various ways and most significantly in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the Prologue of St. John's Gospel we find the summary of our Christian faith: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...and the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth* (Jn. 1:1. 14 NRSV). As we enter into the Season of Advent and Christmas, we are confronted once more with the mystery of the Word becoming flesh as St. John's wonderfully expressed in his gospel. I am very grateful to the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, for providing us a means to understand a little bit more about this mystery of our faith: his post-synodal reflection on the Word of God.

The Holy Father wants us to grasp the different meanings of the Word and at the same time understand its unitary sense. Hence, the musically-inclined pope proposed to us the metaphor of a polyphonic hymn. A hymn that consists of many independent melodic voices. There is only one Word, but this one Word is communicated in many ways: the Word referring to God the Son, who before all ages is one in being with God the Father; it also refers to God the Son, who became human in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin, and therefore is one in being with us. This is the core of our Christian belief. This Word is also realized in creation, as well as, in salvation history: through the prophets, the incarnation, death, and resurrection of the Son of God, the preaching of the apostles, and the living Tradition of the Church, which includes both the Old and New Testaments, and the ongoing proclamation of the Good News and the deepening reflection of the same Word by the whole people of God down through the ages.

Since the eternal Word of God is identified with Jesus Christ, all of creation reason for being in Him. The Book of Psalms clearly points out to us: *By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth* (Ps. 33:6). For this reason, we are invited to acknowledge the Creator by contemplating his creation. This reminds me of our patron saint, Josephine Bakhita. As a young girl, growing up in Sudan, Bakhita learned to love nature. She was fascinated by the rising and the setting of the sun. She was filled with wonder as she admired the glittering stars at night. She was amazed at the rich variety of tropical vegetation and she often asked: *Oh, who is the Master of all these beautiful things? How I would like to meet him and pay him homage!*

Creation is the setting in which the entire history of the love between God and his creation develops, writes the Holy Father. It is because of love that God created everything. It is because of love that God has created the human person in His image, gifted with a body, reason, freedom, and conscience among many others. And again, it is because of love that from the moment of creation God determined to be part of what He has created. This was the reason for the Word to become flesh so that all of creation may be gathered together (recapitulate) in Christ as the first-born of all creation as in the Letter to the Colossians states: *All things were created through him and for him* (1:15-16). Referring back to the same metaphor of polyphonic hymn, the Holy Father illustrates this mystery to us: that just as in the entire musical composition, there would be a 'solo', either by a musical instrument or voice, which would play a prominent role and would provide the definition of the music, that 'solo' is Jesus, *the centre of the cosmos and of history, for in him converge without confusion the author and his work*. It would be wise of us, therefore, to build our lives on this foundational truth.

Building Committee

The Building Committee will meet on December 2, 2010 at 7:30 PM in the Parish Rectory to discuss the various matters brought to our attention by Mr. David Finnegan, Director of Planning and Properties of the Archdiocese in our meeting last October.

THANK YOU

Our parish's "Bread and Beverage Sunday" hospitality ministry was hosted by the Couples for Christ, las weekend. Thanks so much to Toti and Emma Quijano and all the CFC members for the generous service accorded to our parishioners.

Social Concerns "Sponsor a Person in Need for Christmas" and Food Drive

Christmas is not always a happy time for everyone and with this in mind we are calling on the parishioners to help make someone else's Christmas special. We have people in our community who need our help this Christmas. If you have the means to help and would like to sponsor someone in need please see the Social Concerns Members in the hall after mass to sign up. If you can't help that way a simple donation to the food drive either as a food donation or a grocery gift card would also be greatly appreciated. Please check expiry dates on food. All donations and sponsored gifts are due by Dec. 12 at the end of the 12:30 mass. Thank you in advance for answering the call for help of those who most need it this Advent Season.

Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale

The Daughters of Isabella will be holding a Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale on December 11 & 12 at all the Masses at St. Joan of Arc School. They will also be raffling a very nice gift that weekend. Parishioners who wish to donate bake goods for this sale are welcomed. Please contact Rita Venantius at (905) 824-7223.



St. Josephine Bakhita Youth Ministry
invites you to . . .

The Bakhita Christmas Bonanza

Grades 7 - 12

Sunday, Dec. 19th, 2010, 2:30 – 4:30pm

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Social Concerns Ministry!



Your Box of Envelopes for 2011
are ready for pickup at the Hallway.

If you own Envelope Box numbers 373, 470, 606, and 764
please see Fr. Mark after the Mass.

Thank you for supporting our Building Fund
\$468,075.25

Your Advent Focus - The Manger or the Mall?

Written by Audrey Ferrer

Anticipating the birth of a new baby is an exciting experience that involves a busy time of preparation. The season of Advent, as such, presents many opportunities to prepare for Christmas. But how will you prepare? A friend asked me what I will focus on – the manger or the mall? It is often easy to forget the significance of Jesus' birth. However, let us remember that he came to give hope, peace, and joy to the world; especially to the poor, the weak, and the oppressed. Let us remember, while most of us enjoy the privilege of basic comforts, we have brothers and sisters overseas who are less fortunate. Sometimes we think, "I can't really do anything to fix that problem because I'm just one person". The Ministry of Social Concerns at St. Josephine Bakhita would like to offer one suggestion on how you can make a difference. This Advent, why not use or shop for "fair-trade" goods? What is "fair trade"? Read on!

Many of our cousins in developing countries work in conditions that are unjust and inhumane. Some of these disturbing conditions include long work hours with no overtime pay (e.g. 16 hour days), exceedingly low wages (that can barely pay for rent and transportation), sexual harassment and abuse, and health risks (e.g. unsanitary drinking water, poor ventilation, malfunctioning equipment, etc.) While working on projects abroad, I have heard countless stories of injustice. The one that strikes my mind the most, because I am a new mother, was when I was in Nicaragua researching community organizations. There was a pregnant woman working in a factory who, one day, began to experience pain. To keep up with the high demand of retailers (in North America) constant production is essential, so the pregnant woman was told she would lose her job if she left to see a doctor. She, along with her baby, died a few hours later, because she could not risk losing the only income for her family. There, in that story, lies the image of Mother Mary and baby Jesus, crucified for the sake of consumerism and profit. And of course, there are countless horror stories of labourers working on plantations (for coffee, tea, cocoa, bananas, sugar, etc). Pesticides are sprayed on the fields while workers harvest causing a high incidence of cancer among them. Labourers who speak out and demand basic rights are fired, hurt, or murdered. The stories go on and on.

While "free-trade" agreements are not the direct cause of this injustice, they have encouraged companies to take their production overseas, often in countries that turn a blind eye to human rights and environmental abuses. In response, wherever possible, a movement towards "fair-trade" has sprung up. Labourers attempt to start their own cooperative business and sell their products in our market. This means they set fair working conditions for themselves and earn more fair wages since profit goes directly to them rather than "middlemen"

This Advent season, when purchasing gifts for your colleagues, friends and family, why not purchase items that you know has been made under humane work conditions? Consider buying beautiful hand-craft Christmas cards for those you love, while remembering the workers overseas who also have family. Finally, with the onset of cold winter days, think, "What would Jesus brew?", and drink fair-trade coffee with a conscience.



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Dentist

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