

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME | FEBRUARY 4, 2024

God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalm 147



*darkness lifts
suffering*

tender Presence enfolds

Reflection: Patricia Obremski, SSND; Design: Joyelle Proot, SSND

SAINT JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

Today we celebrate the Feast of Saint Josephine Bakhita. We honor her and seek her intercession for our mission grounded deeply in her spirit. As “we open wide our doors and our hearts to worship, evangelize, and serve all God’s people,” we follow her, loving in such a way that the oppressed and the oppressors experience freedom in Christ.



I remain grateful for the Holy Spirit whose grace we all experienced on the day we received our new name, our Patron Saint, our spiritual guide in the new mission of our new parish. At the very hour in which Archbishop Rozanski declared St. Josephine Bakhita to be our name, on the morning of Wednesday, October 11, Pope Francis, in Rome, during his weekly Angelus Audience at noon, “departed from his prepared remarks, looked up, and asked, ‘what is the spirit of St. Bakhita?’” Pope Francis then talked about the gift of our Saint Josephine Bakhita; her ability to forgive oppressors bringing freedom to the oppressed and the oppressors. In the exact moment of our founding as St. Josephine Bakhita Parish, Pope Francis gave us personal instruction, for all to see. I still get goose bumps whenever I think of it, which is every day. His invitation inspires our, “yes!” We join St. Josephine Bakhita in saying, “no” to oppression and “yes” to freedom in Christ. We have begun our life together as a parish. We know God will bring this good work to completion.

St. Josephine Bakhita, you are with us.

– Father Mitch

CONGRATULATIONS EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

As you are commissioned today, the assembly is grateful for your faithful service of offering communion each week or bringing communion to the homebound. Like all ministry, this is a great honor and responsibility. Your reflection on its meaning and practice deeply enriches our awareness of the mystery of Christ and our call to be Body of Christ.

COLLECTION: 1/28/24 – \$8,550.00 THANK YOU!

MASS SCHEDULE

**Noon Mass, Monday through Friday
St. Nicholas**

**February 4: Unity Mass at Sts. Teresa and Bridget
Celebrating St. Josephine Bakhita**

10:00 Unity Mass

First Lector: Francis Warren

Second Lector: Korky Buhr

Eucharistic Ministers: Brenda Tillman, Toni Elston, Ella Scott

**February 11: St. Teresa and Bridget
9:00 Mass**

First Lector: Tom Nolan

Second Lector: Walter Milner

Eucharistic Ministers: Harold Bailey, Maureen Nolan, Pam White

11:00 Mass

First Lector: Ingrid Clark Jackson

Second Lector: Rochelle Jones

Eucharistic Ministers: Alice O’Bryant, Toni Elston, Albert Washington

DEAR FRIENDS,

Archbishop Rozanski has asked us to choose one of our churches as a primary worship site. Between now and Easter we continue our discernment; we will celebrate the Sacred Triduum, the Liturgy of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil, in our designated “Parish Church.” We take guidance from Archbishop Rozanski and the Decrees issued at Pentecost and then again on October 11, which sets a course for our journey as one parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

The work of choosing a primary worship site is important. The work of forming a faith community is most important. We open wide our hearts, welcoming God’s will and grace, for what is revealed to us. St. Josephine Bakhita, you are with us.

– Father Mitch



**COMING SOON: First fish fry,
February 16, noon – 6 pm.**

To volunteer, please call 314.422.5964. Please place Fish Fry donations (5 cake mixes of the same kind and icing but not

Baker’s Choice) in the bin provided in the back of the church. Besides delicious food, this is a great opportunity for welcoming and including all as we meet and greet our guests.



CELEBRATING OUR FIRST ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA FEAST DAY

St. Josephine Bakhita is a disciple whose faith was forged through suffering and courageous love. For 12 years she was enslaved. Finally, an owner from Italy bought her; treated her respectfully, though she remained an enslaved person.

After 10 years of brutality, having an “owner” who was somehow tolerable, she met the Conossian Sisters. Through them she knew Christ as her Savior. With His love, she courageously risked her life. She refused to travel back to Sudan with her “owner.” The Italian citizen who claimed Bakhita as his “property,” appealed to the Attorney General of Italy who referred her case to the courts. The court ruled that Bakhita was a free person, that she never should have been enslaved. Bakhita remained with the Conossian sisters the rest of her life, becoming beloved Saint Josephine Bakhita.

ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA NOVENA CONTINUES:

The novena continues to be celebrated in St. Nicholas Church at noon masses, ending on her feast day, February 8. Pray the novena at home using the prayer booklets and gathering online through Zoom at 6:00 pm. For the link to the booklet and zoom meeting, please email aprince@pathwaysunited.org.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Mission Advancement Administrative Associate

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Louis Province is looking for an administrative associate in the Mission Advancement department. The successful candidate will be extremely detail oriented, organized, a good project manager, familiar with basic accounting functions/reporting, skilled in Excel, Word and Outlook (Office 365), and comfortable working with a CRM database.

This position requires excellent communication, both written and spoken. Candidates must be available for occasional evenings/weekends (approximately 5 times per year). Submit resume with cover letter to hr@csjsl.org.

WE CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

AFRICAN AMERICANS AND ART

“In the fields of visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary and other forms of cultural expression, the African American influence has been paramount.

African American artists have used art to nurture history, community memory and empowerment.

Artistic and cultural movements such as the New Negro, Black Arts, Black Renaissance, hip-hop, and Afrofuturism, have been led by those of African descent and set the standard for trends around the world.

In 2024, we examine the history and life of African American arts and artisans.”

– ASALH 2024 Statement on the Theme of Black History Month

Elisabeth Margaret Welch (February 27, 1904 – July 15, 2003) was an American singer, actress, and entertainer, whose career spanned seven decades. Her best-known songs were “Stormy Weather,” “Love for Sale” and “Far Away in Shanty Town.” She was American-born, but was based in Britain for most of her career.



PHOTO: ALLAN WARREN



PHOTO: HERBERT BEHRENS

Louis Daniel Armstrong (August 4, 1901 – July 6, 1971), nicknamed “Satchmo,” “Satch,” and “Pops,” was an American trumpeter and vocalist. He was among the most influential figures in jazz. His career spanned five decades and several eras in the history of jazz.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS: This is the list of birthdays we have so far for February. If you would like your birthday to be included with the March Birthdays,

please sign the paper in back of church with your name and birthdate. We want to celebrate your special day with you.

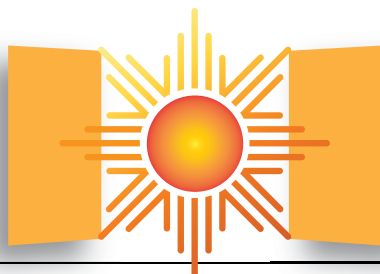


HAPPY BIRTHDAY and God's Blessings

FEBRUARY

2 John Bowman, Sr.
6 Pat Smith Thurman
7 Michelle Towles
Joe Tracy
10 Mary Simon
13 Adrian Stillman

16 Donna Maysey
17 Terry Bacott
20 Keith Oliver
20 Me Me Oliver
21 Marie Tolbert
21 John Bowman, Jr.



**OPEN WIDE
OUR DOORS**

St. Josephine Bakhita
Most Holy Trinity, St. Nicholas,
Sts. Teresa & Bridget Sites

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH

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ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SERVICES

Most Holy Trinity Site

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food/Utility Assistance
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 9:00 – 12:00
4335 Warne Ave, 63107
314-535-9794 (during operating hours)

St. Nicholas Site

Food Pantry sponsored by Ascension SVDP
Mondays (except holidays): 10 – noon
701 N 18th St., 63103
314.289.6101 ext. 1171

St. Nicholas (Off-site)

Food Pantry sponsored by Immacolata SVDP
First and Second Tuesdays: 9:00 – 11:00
Hot meal, snacks, fellowship; Dine in or carry-out
1414 N. Taylor Ave, 63110
314.289.6101 ext. 1171

Sts. Teresa & Bridget Site

Food Pantry/Utility Assistance/Store Vouchers
Tuesday, Thursday 9 – noon
Bag Lunches for homeless
Sts. Teresa & Bridget Hall
2431 N. Grand Blvd., 63106
314.531.1169

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA), PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, MARRIAGE: Contact Sister Janice at 314.241.9165