

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

3200 Thomas Street, Mississauga, ON L5M 0V6

Tel. (905) 826-1143 Fax (905) 826-0489 Email parishoffice@stjosephinebakhita.ca



SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass

5 PM

Sunday Mass

7:30 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM and 12:30 PM

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

7 PM

Tuesday, Thursday

7:30 AM

Saturday

9 AM

DEVOTIONS

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena

Every Wednesday following the 7 PM

Mass

Daily Rosary before every Mass

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy every Friday
after the 7 PM Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every
First Saturday of the month from 9:30
AM to 12 Noon.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents who wish to have their children
baptized must fill out the online baptismal
request form available on our parish
website. The date of the baptism will be
arranged during the interview. A Baptism
Instruction for parents and sponsor will
also be required.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4 PM or any time by appointment

OUR MISSION

The Mission of the Parish is to be a Catholic, multicultural community, 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” and “model of hope for the Twenty-first century”. We are a people who weave together this neighbourhood as:

- ◆ A community of faith, committed to live the Greatest Love of Jesus 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 man and woman, child and youth, to equal discipleship.
- ◆ 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 is called to be the strand that God will use to weave a tapestry that is intricate and exquisite in this place.

PASTORAL TEAM

Pastor

Rev. Mark Achilles Villanueva

Deacons

Deacon Gerry Steyn

Deacon Michael Ho

Deacon Roman Lim

Administrative Assistant

Cecilia Vaz

Assistants

Clifford Jumapit

Benjamin Alcantara

Volunteer Assisstants

Marina Taguicana

Agnes Lim

Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9 AM to 9 PM

Saturday 9 AM to 7 PM

Sunday 9 AM to 3 PM

RECTORY

3600 Forest Bluff Crescent

Mississauga, ON L5N 7W2

(289) 997-2105

SCHOOLS

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

St. Faustina

St. Edith Stein

St. Simon Stock

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Secondary
School

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Couples planning to be married must contact the pastor one year in advance. A Marriage course is required. For additional information, please contact the pastor

MASS INTENTION

SATURDAY (December 2)
 5:00 PM Special intention of Virginia Caballero, Doc Harry Cacha, Nicole & Hannah, Thanksgiving of Alfred Victor Aguilar, +Jamil Nabhan

SUNDAY (December 3)
 7:30 AM + Julian & Mary Fernandes, +Joseph & Stanny Fernandes, +Beato & Beatrice Marbela
 9:00 AM +Ernedo & Lydia Calcetas, +Ruben & Reynaldo Aurea Esteron, +Clarence Lobo, +Ciprian & Jessie Roach, +Anthony Pinto
 11:00 AM +Felisa Lanuzo, +Monica Noronha, +Gabirel Noronha, +Lesli D’Mello, +Connie Neubert, +Magdalene Anthicques

MONDAY (December 4)
 7:00 PM +Res Pinto, +Rosaline Martin

TUESDAY (December 5)
 7:30 AM +Percy Perera, Thanksgiving of Deann & Cherry Collings

WEDNESDAY (December 6)
 7:00 PM +Joseph Cygal, +Edgardo Guinto, Thanksgiving of Rachel & Daniel Xo

THURSDAY (December 7)
 7:30 AM Open

FRIDAY (December 8)
 7:00 PM For the Parish Community

SATURDAY (December 9)
 9:00 AM Open

5:00 PM +Laurise Nabhan, +Lira Mascarenhas

HERE IT IS

Well, it is Advent again. We are seeing some white dustings on the streets especially when we wake up in the morning. Advent is a wonderful season. It is that happy/sad time of year when we ready ourselves for the birthday of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ! This commemoration was underscored for me two months ago when I visited Bahrain. At the Grand Mosque, I met a well-educated guide who passionately explained to me, a non-Muslim, what it means to declare: “There is no God, but Allah, and Muhammad is His prophet.” For followers of Islam, there is only the Creator, who made everything that exists possible. Mohammed was the prophet among many prophets, but He is not to be understood as intermediary between us and the Creator. In Islam, there is no such thing as the Mystery of the Incarnation and the guide at the Mosque was very empathic about it. Indeed, what makes us Christians, Christian, is our fundamental belief that God loved the world so much, He became human. The Creator became part of creation itself. As the Church Fathers loved to say: God became human, so we, humans will become divine! This is central to our belief system. Take this out and everything collapses. It is the primary reason why we celebrate Christmas. It is Jesus’ Birthday Party. We celebrate it with more fervour and excitement.

Now, it is the same Jesus, who also promised to come again. He will no longer be born and laid in a manger as what happened 2000 years ago in Bethlehem. He will come in great glory, with a blast of trumpets, and as Judge of the Living and the Dead. It would be nice if we know when, but we don’t - the suspense can produce in us various emotions - it is probably why we do not like so much this waiting game - waiting is hard.

The Church, through the four weeks of Advent, help us go through this process. We invite everyone to enter into it as best as one could muster. If I may suggest, ask yourself: “What it is that I would like to do to prepare for Jesus’ coming this season?”

SUNDAY OFFERING

Offertory	\$ 3,418.30
Building Fund	\$ 855.00
Mass Stipend	\$ 380.00
Liturgical Fund	\$ 65.00
Flower Donation	\$ 10.00
Baptism	\$ 430.00
Candle Offering	\$ 348.70
Shepherds’ Trust	\$ 625.00
Missal	\$ 185.00
ShareLife	\$ 220.00
Rectory	\$ 50.00
Total	\$ 6,587.00

CHRISTMAS NOVENA

The Advent season is rather very short this time around. The Fourth Sunday, for example, is just a couple of hours. Our last Mass is at 12:30 PM and after only 3 hours, we begin our Christmas Eve Masses.

The Christmas Novena is another tool in our tool box to help us grow deeper in our intimacy with the Lord and to reflect on some aspect of our Christian faith. Yes, we will celebrate the Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin for Advent and Yes, we will help catechize each other and together, we pray that this Christmas will be even more meaningful and more holy as the last Christmas celebrations that we have had.

“Put Jesus back to Christmas” - is a constant reminder to all of us during this holiday season. There is so much secularism out there. We are inundated with Ads and before we know it, we have maxed out our credit cards. Let us help each other. Come and join Fr. Mark for nine evenings of Mass. Let us accompany the Blessed Mother as she birthed Christ, first in her heart, and then, into the world.

May this Advent/Christmas Season make us truly the Body of Christ in the midst of the world’s many challenges.

Archdiocesan Consultation Underway – your assistance is requested!

Our archbishop, the Most Rev. Francis Leo, is inviting Catholics throughout the archdiocese to share their key priorities to help inform and guide an updated Pastoral Plan. To participate in the consultation, visit: www.archtoronto.org/consultation to complete a brief survey by December 15, 2023, where you can offer your suggestions and insights.

The process should take just a few minutes and we ask that you complete the short survey as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing from the Catholic community throughout the archdiocese. Thank you in advance for sharing your insights, ideas and discernment.

**BRING JOY TO OTHERS
THIS CHRISTMAS!**

We are partnering once again this Christmas Season with St. Vincent de Paul at Merciful Redeemer Parish. We will be collecting Gift Cards to bring cheer to families who are in need. A St. Vincent de Paul Box will be placed by the Parish Desk for you to drop your gift. We hope to receive these Gift Cards before the 15th of December. Thank you for your generosity!

**HELP US TO DECORATE
OUR CHURCH FOR CHRIST'S
BIRTHDAY**

We are asking for donations to offset the cost of flowers and Tree to decorate our church for the festivities.

Our Ministry of Arts & Environment have started to raise some funds for this purpose, but it is not enough. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated.



**NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER
AND DANCE**

December 31, 2023

Parish Hall

organized by the Knights of
Columbus

**COPING WITH GRIEF AT
CHRISTMASTIME**

Wednesday, December 6, 7 PM
via Zoom

For many among us who bear the weight of silent struggles, Christmastime can be a difficult period marked by quiet grief, lingering sadness and a profound sense of loneliness. We want you to know that you are not alone. Join us on Wednesday, December 6 at 7 p.m. for our ShareLife Speaker Series event “Coping with Grief during Christmastime” with Amanda Wendelgass of CFS Counselling + Wellbeing. This is more than just a virtual gathering – it will be a shared space where we’ll explore practical coping skills, extending a hand of support to make Christmastime a bit more manageable for those who need compassion most.

REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/coping-with-grief-at-christmastime>
CONTACT: Jennifer Lazo
EMAIL: jlazo@archtoronto.org

CONFESSIONS

Monday to Friday 5 PM to 6 PM
Saturday 4 PM to 5 PM

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

December 23

5 PM Saturday Vigil Mass
7 PM Last Day of Christmas Novena

December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:30 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, and 12:30 PM

December 24

Christmas Eve Masses
5 PM, 7 PM, 9 PM, and 11 PM

December 25

Christmas Day
7:30 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, and 12:30 PM

December 26

Feast of St. Stephen
7:30 AM

Please note that the Church and the Office will be closed for the day and also on December 27 throughout the day.

December 27

Feast of St. John
7 PM

December 28 to 31 (including Sunday)
Regular Schedule

December 31

New Year's Eve
5 PM


January 1

New Year's Day and Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
9 AM, 11 AM, and 12:30 PM

Please note that there will be no 7:30 AM Mass on January 1.

January 2

St. Basil
7:30 AM



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