

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

THIRTYSECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME | NOVEMBER 12, 2023

*At midnight, behold the Holy One comes!
...the wise ready with oil in their lamps
enter the wedding feast...*

Matthew 25:1-13



Reflection and Design: Joyelle Proot, SSND

STAY AWAKE

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches the importance of remaining awake, of staying vigilant. In reading the story of the ten virgins, we might ask, "could they not share one ounce of oil; could they not hold hands in the darkness so all would be included?"



These questions miss the big question: are our hearts awake to recognize Christ? The oil for the lamps is the love of God dwelling in the depth of every soul. When we walk with each other on the journey, our love reveals God's love. Choosing love cultivates light in the darkness. Persevering in love keeps us awake to the cries of the community.

We are invited to the Wedding Feast. With hearts open wide to God's love we become a light to the nations. Let us remain awake, resounding the Good News of Salvation which has come into the world. St. Josephine Bakhita, you are with us.

– Father Mitch

SAVE THE DATE:

- November 12** Congress XIII revisited. (flyers in back of church)
- November 15** Bible Study, St. Nicholas, 1:00, The Book of Sirach
- November 19** Unity Mass: 10:00am Most Holy Trinity: Celebrating those who have gone before us.
- November 19** The Black Church, "This is our Story, this is our Song. (flyers in back of church)
- November 23** Thanksgiving Mass, 9:00 am, Most Holy Trinity
- December 2** Advent Preparation, begins with 9:00am Mass, Most Holy Trinity Church
- December 2** Jazz Festival, St. Nicholas Church

NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION, online, November 19, 3:00 pm: A Black Catholic Community's Perspective, Part III on "The Black Church: This is our story. This is our song." (The PBS presentation hosted by Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and his book lay a foundation for continued discussion.)

Please RSVP by 1pm November 19 for this free Zoom event. Email: LwangaStL.Extra@gmail.com. You will receive an auto reply email containing the Zoom link.

COLLECTION: 11/5/23 - \$5,270.00 THANK YOU

MASS SCHEDULE

Noon Mass: Monday-Friday, St. Nicholas

Sunday, November 12

9:00am Sts. Teresa and Bridget

First Lector: Phyllis Alcorn

Second Lector: Harold Bailey

Eucharistic Ministers: Dee White, Toni Elston, Sr. Georgene

11:00am St. Nicholas

First Lector: Alice Prince

Second Lector: Carlton Prince

Eucharistic Ministers: Albert Washington, Jayne Thompson, Bill McHugh

Sunday, November 19

10:00am Most Holy Trinity

First Lector: Mary Grayson

Second Lector: Dee White

Eucharistic Ministers: Mike Freymuth, Mattie Patterson

NOMINATIONS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL AND FINANCE COUNCIL:

We are accepting nominations for parishioners who have discerned God's call to serve in these ministries. A Parish Council will be formed with 10-12 members and a Finance Committee with 5-6 members. Parishioners may self-nominate or nominate someone else as a candidate. (Please tell nominees of their nomination). Nominations are accepted during November and members selected in December. With the name of the person and which council you are recommending the person serve, please place your nominations in the collection basket.

WE CELEBRATE, WE REMEMBER, WE ARE BLESSED BY ALL WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE:

As you enter church you are invited to enter the names of your loved ones in the Book of Remembrance which will be placed on the altar during Mass. Please bring a photo of your loved ones that will be displayed in a place of honor in the church during November.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS OPPORTUNITY: Share an hour to two between 9-noon on a Monday, helping deliver food from our St. Nicholas Food Pantry to homebound neighbors within the city limits. Contact Doris: 517.673.6003

WEEKLY PUBLICATION: Please email, any item to be considered for our church Sunday publication, to S. Janice at sjanice@mhtstl.org by the previous Friday, 3:00 pm

AFRICAN AMERICANS ON THE PATH TO SAINTHOOD



Servant of God Mother Mary Elizabeth Lange (1784-1882): Elizabeth Lange, a native of the Caribbean, is believed to be Cuban born of Haitian descent. She is the foundress of the Oblate Sisters of Providence (1829-1832), the first religious congregation of African American women in the Catholic Church. On July 2, 1829, Elizabeth and three other women professed their vows and became the Oblate Sisters of Providence with the goal of educating and evangelizing African Americans. They educated youth and provided a home for orphans. Freed slaves were educated and some entered the Oblate congregation. They nursed the terminally ill during the cholera epidemic of 1832, sheltered the elderly, and served as domestics at St. Mary's Seminary. Mother Elizabeth lived through disappointment and opposition until God called her home in 1882 at the St. Frances Convent in Baltimore, Maryland.

Venerable Father Augustus Tolton (1854 –1897): Father Tolton is the first Roman Catholic priest publicly known to be black when he was ordained in 1886. A former slave who was baptized and reared Catholic, Tolton formally studied in Rome. He was ordained in Rome on Easter Sunday at the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran. Fr. Tolton led the development and construction of St. Monica's Catholic Church as a black "National Parish Church," which was completed in 1893. Tolton's ministry to black Catholics quickly earned him national attention within the Catholic hierarchy. "Good Father Gus," as many called him, was known for his eloquent sermons, his beautiful singing voice, and talent for playing the accordion. He is the subject of the 1973 biography *From Slave to Priest* by Sister Caroline Hemesath.



FRIENDS OF MOST HOLY TRINITY, ST. NICHOLAS, AND STS. TERESA AND BRIDGET have been invited to the November 19, 10:00 UNITY MASS and Brunch celebrated at Most Holy Trinity. We want to celebrate with them our new beginnings and express our gratitude for their ongoing participation in and generous support of our parishes. They are valued partners in our mission as volunteers at our four food pantries, eliciting gifts to serve the poor, or regular contributions to keep our churches available for worship and community. Their support is invaluable to our mission. We thank them and encourage them to continue to connect with our growing faith community.

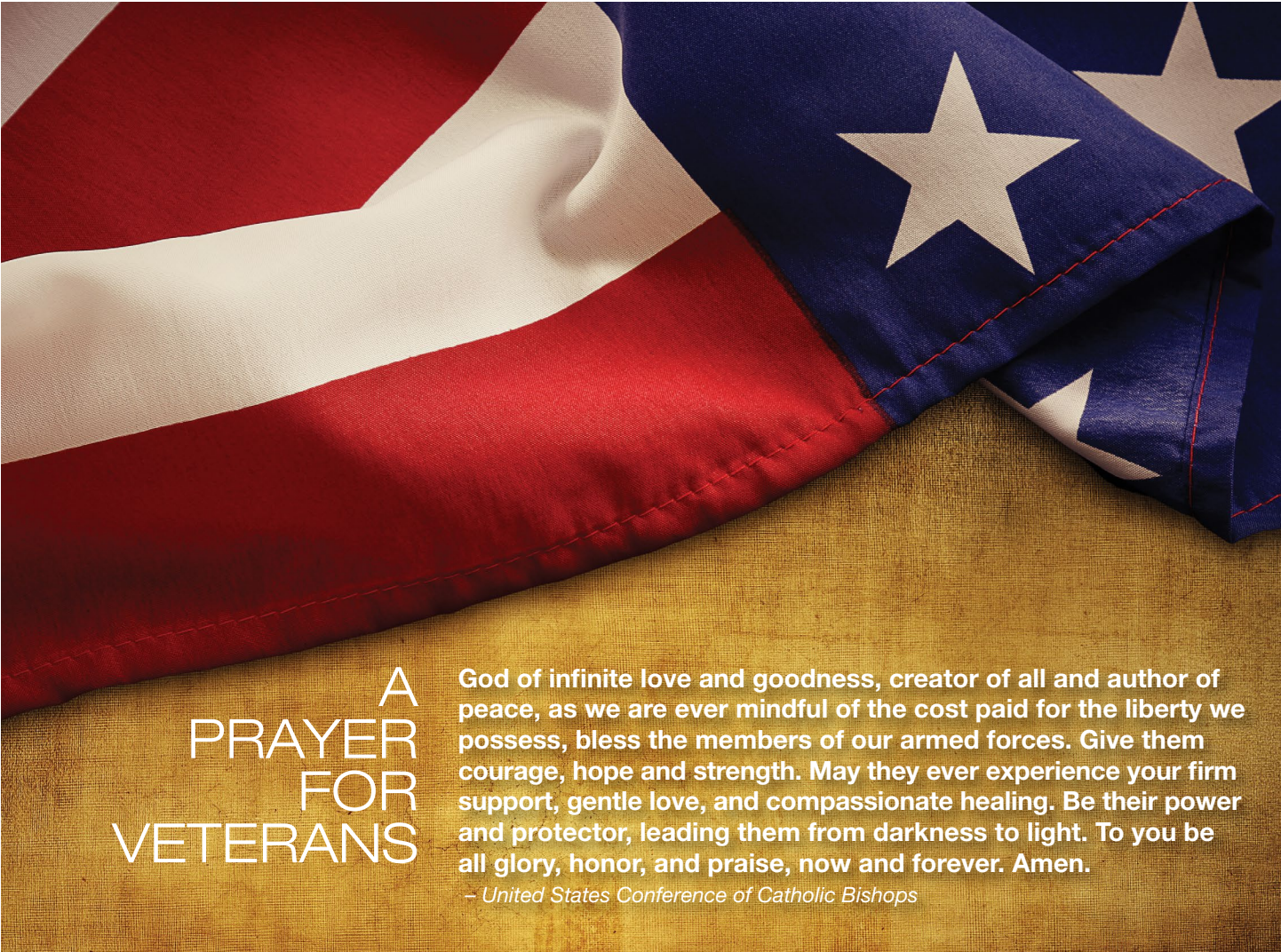
REMEMBERING THOSE FROM OUR PARISH WHO HAVE ENTERED THE ETERNAL EMBRACE OF OUR LOVING GOD THIS YEAR: On November 19, we remember all with love as their names are read and candles brought forward by a family member or a member of the parish. Their prayers bless us with love and support as we continue our life journey.

HONORING OUR VETERANS: This morning all those who have served in the armed forces will be called forward. We proudly thank them. Our loving God blesses them abundantly in the hardships they faced and the sacrifices they have made.

EMAIL FOR OUR NEW PARISH: info@stbakhitastl.org

THIS MORNING: "A PLACE AT THE TABLE," 12:30pm, St. Nicholas Church Hall. This documentary two-hour film features the five African Americans on the Path to Sainthood. The movie explores the heroic, holy lives of our black women and men who witnessed to their Catholic faith in extraordinary ways. Pizza and drinks will be offered. There will be an optional opportunity for informal conversation after the film. This event is sponsored by the Racial equity Team of SMOS Living Justice Ministries and the Stewardship Committee of St. Josephine Bakhita. For more about the film see: <https://www.blacksaintsmovie.com/>

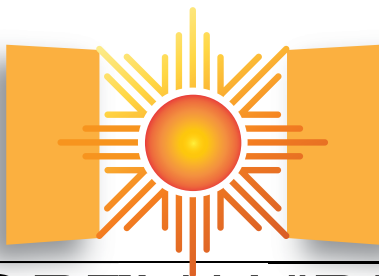
WE LOVE GOD THROUGH ADORATION AND SERVICE: In his homily closing the first session of the Synod, Pope Francis reflected on two verbs: "to adore and to serve." He emphasized that, "The first principle and foundation from which everything begins ever anew: Loving God with our whole life and loving our neighbor as ourselves." Pope Francis concludes, "The amazement of adoration, the wonder of worship is something essential in the life of the Church... May we grow in our worship of God and in our service to our neighbor. We go forward with joy."



A
PRAYER
FOR
VETERANS

God of infinite love and goodness, creator of all and author of peace, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, bless the members of our armed forces. Give them courage, hope and strength. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love, and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor, and praise, now and forever. Amen.

– United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



OPEN WIDE
OUR DOORS

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

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Reverend Mitchell Doyen
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Bulletin Staff:

Ms. Jean Lopez
S. Janice Munier, SSND
S. Joyelle Proot, SSND

Director of Maintenance

Rodney Jones

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SERVICES

Most Holy Trinity

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food/Utility
Assistance
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 9:00 – 12:30
4335 Warne Ave, 63107
314-535-9794 (during operating hours)

St. Nicholas

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

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
314.289.6106 ext, 1171

Sts. Teresa & Bridget

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), PREPARATIONS FOR BAPTISM,
CONFIRMATION, MARRIAGE:** Contact Sister Janice at 314.241.9165