

# ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

THIRTYFIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME | NOVEMBER 5, 2023

*The greatest among you...*

*Matthew 23:11, 12*



*Reflection and Design: Joyelle Proot, SSND*

## GOD, GREATNESS, AND GLORY

What is a true measure of greatness? As we strive to become our best self, we are tempted to measure success by comparison to others. Comparing quickly devolves into two categories — winners and losers. Then, eventually, everyone loses. We cannot sustain a mad dash to world fame and fortune.



Jesus consistently invites all to trust the virtue of humility. Humility is a strong foundation out of which all the other virtues emerge — integrity, courage, service, patience, chastity, obedience, poverty, and charity. Humility is self-knowledge; an awareness that I am a beloved child of God.

When we know our identity as beloved children of God, we are no longer interested in promoting ourselves. We become committed to helping all brothers and sisters trust their own identity as beloved children of God. This is the important work of forming human community; the work animated in all the corporal works of mercy reveals the reign of God now. Who is the greatest? Only God: all glory and honor belong to God. We, members of Christ's body, reflect God's glory, share in God's glory, participate in God's own life, give God's love to the world. What on earth can be greater than that?

St. Josephine Bakhita, you are with us.

– Father Mitch

**RETIREMENT FOR RELIGIOUS** collection this morning. Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have served the Church and world. Hundreds of religious communities have served and ministered without adequate financial compensation. Many religious congregations do not have adequate retirement resources and struggle to provide for elderly members. Your gift today provides medication, nursing care and more for those who have served tirelessly and lovingly. Thank you for your generous contribution.

**HONORING OUR VETERANS:** On November 12 we pray for blessings on all those who have served their country in the armed forces. If you are a veteran, please sign the paper in back of church which ask for name and information about service.

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

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Noon Mass:** Monday-Friday, St. Nicholas

### Sunday, November 5

**9:00 St. Nicholas**

*First Lector:* Val Dowdy

*Second Lector:* Brenda Tillman

*Eucharistic Ministers:* Valerie Howard, Pam White, Dee White

### 11:00 St. Nicholas

*First Lector:* Sharonda White

*Second Lector:* Alice O'Bryant

*Eucharistic Minister:* Eloise Grimes

### Sunday, November 12

**9:00 Sts. Teresa and Bridget**

*First Lector:* Phyllis Alcorn

*Second Lector:* Meg Reask

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

### 11:00 St. Nicholas

*First Lector:* Alice Prince

*Second Lector:* Carlton Prince

*Eucharistic Ministers:* Albert Washington, Jayne Thompson, Bil McHugh

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## NOMINATIONS FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL AND FINANCE COUNCIL.

We are accepting nominations for parishioners who feel God's call to these ministries: Parish Council 10-12 members; Finance Committee 5-6 members. Nominate yourself or someone you believe is a good candidate. (Please alert nominees to your plans). Nominations are accepted during the month of November and members selected in December. With the name of the nominee and which council you are recommending the person serve, please place your nominations in the church collection basket.

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**FUNERAL MASS, CAROLYN FORD:** Tuesday, November 7, 11:00, with visitation in Sts. Teresa and Bridget Church, beginning at 9:00 am. Carolyn rests in God's loving embrace.

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

As you enter church, please enter the names of loved ones in the Book of Remembrance. This book will be placed on the altar during Mass. Also, please bring a photo of your loved ones to be displayed in a place of honor in the church during November.

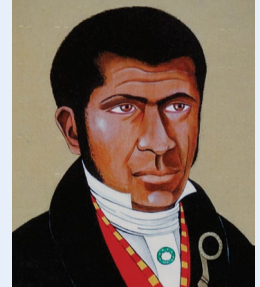
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**COLLECTION:** 10/29/23 - \$3,697.00    THANK YOU

## AFRICAN AMERICANS ON THE PATH TO SAINTHOOD



**Henriette DeLille** (1813-62) the foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Family, New Orleans. Her father was from France, and her mother was a free woman of African descent. She applied to both the Ursuline and Carmelite communities and was refused. She used her family money to found her own community, which cared for the sick and poor and opened schools. She is the first native-born American of African descent whose cause for canonization was opened.



**Pierre Toussaint** (1766-1853) was born in Haiti and came to New York City as a slave. He became a hairdresser. He prospered and was able to secure his freedom. He was a daily communicant, and with his wife, Marie Rose Juliette, engaged in charitable works. New York's Cardinal John O'Connor initiated his cause for canonization in 1991 and declared "Venerable" by Pope St. John Paul II in 1996.

Pierre's remains are interred in New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral in the cathedral crypt alongside of New York's most prominent Catholic leaders, the only layman afforded this privilege.

### SAVE THE DATES:

- November 8, 15** Bible Study, St. Nicholas, 1:00, The Book of Sirach
- November 12** Blessing of Veterans at Mass
- November 12** Movie: "A Place at the Table" after 11:00 Mass
- November 12** Celebration of Black Catholic History Month (flyer in back of church)
- November 19** Unity Mass: 10:00 Most Holy Trinity: Remembering all who have gone before us.
- November 19** A Black Catholic Community's Perspective, PBS.
- November 23** Thanksgiving Mass, 9:00 am, Most Holy Trinity

**BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH:** This tradition began in 1990 by the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus. November celebrates days for two African Catholics: St. Augustine, birthday November 13 and St. Martin de Porres, feast day, November 3. These saints have witnessed their faith, ministered to their people, and left lasting legacies in the face of prejudice, ignorance, and indifference.

### A LEADING LIGHT IN EARLY CHRISTENDOM:

Three popes were born in Africa: Saints Victor I, Melchisedech, and Gelasius I. Each shepherded the early church through tumultuous times. Early Black Saints: Cyprian, Zeno, Anthony of Egypt, Moses the Black, Pachomius, Maurice, Athanasius, Pistentius, Mary of Egypt, Cyril of Alexandria, Monica of Hippo, Augustine of Hippo, Perpetua, Felicitas, and Thecla were mystics, monastic, and martyrs.

**THANK YOU, FAITHFUL STEWARDS:** Motivated by faith and gratitude, we renewed our desire to be generous and faithful stewards. St. Josephine Bakhita faith community is blessed by the renewal of commitment of liturgical ministers and all in leadership and service ministries. Our gratitude and generosity lead us to ongoing renewal and deepening our relationship with God and each other.

**A PLACE AT THE TABLE: *African Americans on the Path to Sainthood*.** This new documentary explores the heroic, holy lives of our black women and men who witnessed to their Catholic faith in extraordinary ways.

**Sunday, November 12 at 12:30**  
**St. Nicholas Church Hall**

Pizza and drinks will be provided. Bring a cushion or blanket to make yourself cozy for the 2-hour film. We will provide an optional opportunity for informal conversation after the film. Please respond to Pam White (pamjeanwhite@gmail.com.). 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: <http://www.blacksaintsmovie.com/>.

**"I Hear Music in the Air," A CONCERT OF NEGRO SPIRITUALS, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 3-5:00 PM,** St. Alphonsus "Rock" church. A free will offering will be collected. This musical concert highlights the Spirituals as works of art that were born out of enslavement and continue to enlighten listeners today. Event features Cardinal Ritter College Prep Choraleers; Gospel symphonic Choir, Legend Singers, community gospel Choir of St. Louis, North Deanery Area Choir, voices of Praise, voices of St. Alphonsus and Motion dance ministry.





Every leaf  
speaks bliss  
to me,  
fluttering from the  
Autumn tree.

– EMILY BRONTE

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**ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH STAFF**

**Pastor**

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



**OPEN WIDE  
OUR DOORS**

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

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**ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SERVICES**

**Most Holy Trinity**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Food/Utility  
Assistance  
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 9:00 – noon  
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

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