

**MAY 15: FEAST OF ST. ISADORE, PATRON SAINT OF FARMERS.** When St. Isadore was just old enough to wield a hoe, he entered the service of a wealthy landowner and worked faithfully on this estate for the

rest of his life. He prayed as he worked in the fields and cared for the animals. He loved the poor and faithfully gave them food to eat and share so they would also enjoy the bounty of the earth.

## BLESSING OF THE LAND

Land and life go hand in hand. Our daily bread comes from land and the work of the hands of many. The land showcases mountains, plains and canyons; earth's goodness thrives in forest and fields and in every emerging plant. Mindful of God's abundant earth gifts we pray:

*Loving Creator, show us how to be responsible stewards of the land. You graciously bless the soil, waterways and landscape. Daily you remind us of your constant love. Bless us with favorable weather, abundant crops and a vigorous community of life in all directions: East, West, North and South. We ask this through Christ our brother. Amen.*

*adapted Catholic Rural Life*



# ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION | MAY 12, 2024

*...preserve the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace:  
one body and one Spirit*

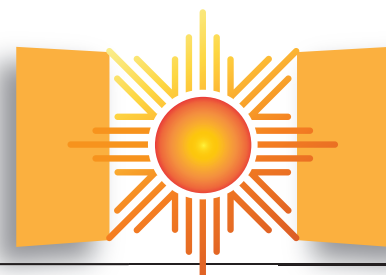
*Ephesians 4*

together as



prayer  
dedicated to

*Reflection: Joanne Dehmer, SSND; Design: Joyelle Proot, SSND*



**OPEN WIDE  
OUR DOORS**

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

### OUR MISSION:

*We open wide our doors and  
our hearts to worship, evangelize,  
and serve all God's people.*

#### 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

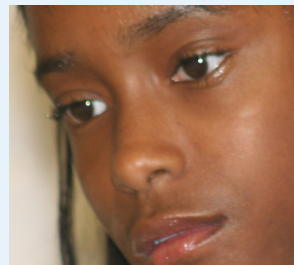
Food Pantry/Utility Assistance/Store Vouchers  
Tuesday, Thursday 9 – noon  
Bag Lunches for homeless  
Sts. Teresa & Bridget Hall  
2431 N. Grand Blvd., 63106  
314.531.1169

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



## THE ASCENSION OF JESUS TWO ENCOUNTERS WITH THE RISEN CHRIST

Jesus of Nazareth, the Risen Christ, divine and human, ascends to "heaven," securing a place in heaven for all humanity. The Risen Christ accompanies us in our journey as disciples, here on earth, which is



eternally connected to heaven through the Spirit. Jesus, resurrected, appeared to the disciples in a variety of places and circumstances. It was important that the first witnesses could testify to the living Christ, the one who conquered death, is indeed risen. We sometimes say, "if only I could see the Risen Christ with my own eyes, then..." Then what?

Christ promises to be with us always; Christ has sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in us, to give us the same power which raised Jesus from the dead. Encounter with the Risen Christ, dwelling in us through the power of the Holy Spirit, is more profound than the encounter with Christ in the garden, on the beach or in the upper room. Christ has ascended into heaven, not as a departure from us, but as a deepening of presence among and within us; Christ is all in all. We breathe deeply of the Spirit of God, dwelling within us. We are full participants in resurrection life. Saint Josephine Bakhita, you are with us.

– Father Mitch

### MASS SCHEDULE

**St. Nicholas Site: Noon Mass on Monday, Wednesday, Friday**

**Most Holy Trinity Site: Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 9:00 a.m.**

After the Tuesday evening Mass, all are invited to stay, enjoy a light supper, and Bible study in the rectory garden. Supper and books provided.

#### May 12 - 9:00 am Mass

*First Lector:* Maureen Nolan

*Second Lector:* Mike Freymuth

*Eucharistic Ministers:* Harold Bailey, S. Janice, Ken Patterson

#### 11:00 am Mass

*First Lector:* Alice Prince

*Second Lector:* Valerie Howard

*Eucharistic Ministers:* Jane Tompson, Toni Elston, William McHugh, S. Georgene

#### May 19 – 9:00 am Mass

*First Lector:* Madonna Buhr

*Second Lector:* S. Gail

*Eucharistic Ministers:* Korky Buhr, Maureen Nolan, S. Janice

#### 11:00 am Mass

*First Lector:* Jackie Forbes

*Second Lector:* Ken Patterson

*Eucharistic Ministers:* Don Elston, Alice O'Bryant, Doris Speed, Nicole Thompson

**MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING:** We honor all mothers, grandmothers, adoptive mothers, foster mothers, godmothers, aunts, and all women who will be invited to receive God's blessing through the prayer of our faith community.

**WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER** Reggie Tolbert and Kennedy Thomas, our youth, who have completed the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults will enter the Church on **Pentecost Sunday, May 19 at 11:00 am Mass.** As they embark on this sacred journey, they are filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit to grow in faith, love, and service to God.

We pray for Fisher Morrow, Son of Candace White and Grandson of Dee White, who recently celebrated his First Communion with his classmates at St. Ann Parish in Normandy. The joy of receiving Christ sustains him on his spiritual path and God's guidance is ever-present in his life.

We keep Reggie, Kennedy, and Fisher in our prayer, asking for God's blessing and protection as they deepen their commitment to Christ and His Church. God guides and blesses them abundantly.

## WOMEN OF FAITH

*Shine with God's Love*

### MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING

Loving God of all life,  
bless these women in our midst.  
Bless them with the strength of Your spirit,  
they who taught their children how to stand  
and how to walk, how to speak and  
how to pray to you.

Bless them always with a place at  
Your eternal dinner table,  
they who fed and nurtured  
the very life formed within them.

Bless all "spiritual mothers", those who selflessly  
care for the children of others. May they know  
the joy of fulfilling this motherly call to women.

Send your Holy Spirit to all mothers who sorrow for  
children that have died, are ill or estranged from their families,  
or who are in trouble or danger of any kind.

Bless all mothers today,  
now, in this life time with good things, with health,  
with joy and laughter and pride in their children,  
and surround them with many good friends.

May they who carried life within themselves  
be carried one day to Your divine embrace:  
there for all eternity, to rejoice with family and friends.

This blessing and all graces, we pray, descend upon these women  
in the name of the Triune God. Amen

Adapted from Edward Hayes, *Prayers for a Domestic Church*

**MONTH OF MAY CELEBRATES MARY:** God choose Mary to be mother of Jesus. Mary chose God. God had great things in store for Mary, and she freely chose to accept God's life for her. Mary is a great helper on the way to holiness. Mary is the mother of Jesus: we are sisters and brothers of Jesus. We too call Mary, Mother.

Jesus depended on Mary and Joseph to grow, play, and experience family and faith in the Jewish community. Mary and Joseph stand with all.



Mary desires exactly what God desires and wants what we really want: that all will be restored in Christ and everyone will live in peace with God and with one another. Then we will truly know what it means to be the People of God.

Vatican II: Constitution of the Church, Chapter 8,  
"The Blessed Virgin Mary in the Mystery of Christ and the Church."

**MAY 19, FEAST OF PENTECOST:** This day is acknowledged as the birth of the Church, since it is the day when the frightened disciples emerged from the upper room, boldly proclaiming the acts of God. All are invited to wear red next Sunday. The color represents the fire of the Holy Spirit in the flames resting over the heads of the disciples. We celebrate that same revitalizing love of the Holy Spirit bringing energy and life to all today.

**June 9, LWANGA Center Testimonial Dinner and Auction:** Six tables have been purchased for St. Josephine Bakhita Parish. Tickets are \$70.00/person. Please contact Val in the Parish Office (314.371.1190) to reserve your tickets. When you purchase your tickets, please make checks payable to St. Josephine Bakhita Parish.

**COLLECTION:** 5/5/24 - \$0 THANK YOU!