



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time ♦ February 7, 2021

Rising before dawn, he went to a deserted place, where he prayed.

Mark 1:35

Mission Statement: Stirred by the Holy Spirit, the mission of Holy Family Parish is to evangelize our community with the transforming power of Christ through love and compassion for God and neighbor.

Pastor

REV. KYLE J. SANDERS
ksanders@arch-no.org

Sacramental emergency: 985-237-0972

Office

985-839-4040
Monday-Thursday: 8 am - 4:30 pm
Friday: 8 am-1 pm

Location / Mailing Address

1220 14th Ave, Franklinton, LA 70438

Website

www.holyfamilyfranklinton.org

Parish Email

holyfamilyfranklinton@arch-no.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am, 11 am, 3 pm (español)
Tues/Wed: 5 pm
Thurs/Fri/first Sat: 9 am

Confessions

Saturday 3-4 pm, and by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of each month,
9:30 am-4:30 pm

Marriages

Contact Fr Kyle at least six months
prior to anticipated date.

Baptisms

Contact Fr Kyle: 985-839-4040

Charitable Outreach

Friends of St Francis: 985-201-5882

Religious Education

Renée Herbert: 985-630-1121

Youth Ministry

Fr Kyle: 985-839-4040

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday, noon.

From Our Pastor

THE SAINTS AND THE WORD OF GOD — REFLECTIONS ON POPE BENEDICT'S *VERBUM DOMINI*

Sometimes it seems better to let Pope Benedict speak for himself. In these final two paragraphs on the section on the interpretation of Scripture, he shares how the lives of the saints are the greatest of all interpreters of Scripture. I'll leave you with his words:

"The interpretation of sacred Scripture would remain incomplete were it not to include listening to those who have truly lived the word of God: namely, the saints. Indeed, '*viva lectio est vita bonorum.*' The most profound interpretation of Scripture comes precisely from those who let themselves be shaped by the word of God through listening, reading and assiduous meditation.

"It is certainly not by chance that the great currents of spirituality in the Church's history originated with an explicit reference to Scripture. I am thinking for example of Saint Anthony the Abbot, who was moved by hearing Christ's words: 'if you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me' (Matthew 19:21). No less striking is the question posed by Saint Basil the Great in the *Moralia*: 'What is the distinctive mark of faith? Full and unhesitating certainty that the words inspired by God are true ... What is the distinctive mark of the faithful? Conforming their lives with the same complete certainty to the meaning of the words of Scripture, not daring to remove or add a single thing.'¹ Saint Benedict, in his Rule, refers to Scripture as 'a most perfect norm for human life.'² Saint Francis of Assisi – we learn from Thomas of Celano – 'upon hearing that the disciples of Christ must possess neither gold, nor silver nor money, nor carry a bag, nor bread, nor a staff for the journey, nor sandals nor two tunics ... exulting in the Holy Spirit, immediately cried out: "This is what I want, this is what I ask for, this I long to do with all my heart!"'³ Saint Clare of Assisi shared fully in the experience of Saint Francis: 'The form of life of the Order of Poor Sisters' – she writes – 'is this: to observe the holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.'⁴ So too, Saint Dominic 'everywhere showed himself to be a man of the Gospel, in word as in deed'⁵ and wanted his

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From Our Pastor, continued

friars likewise to be 'men of the Gospel.' The Carmelite Saint Teresa of Avila, who in her writings constantly uses biblical images to explain her mystical experiences, says that Jesus himself revealed to her that 'all the evil in the world is derived from not knowing clearly the truths of sacred Scripture.'⁶ Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus discovered that love was her personal vocation by poring over the Scriptures, especially Chapters 12 and 13 of the First Letter to the Corinthians; the same saint describes the attraction of the Scriptures: 'No sooner do I glance at the Gospel, but immediately I breathe in the fragrance of the life of Jesus and I know where to run.'⁷ Every saint is like a ray of light streaming forth from the word of God: we can think of Saint Ignatius of Loyola in his search for truth and in his discernment of spirits; Saint John Bosco in his passion for the education of the young; Saint John Mary Vianney in his awareness of the grandeur of the priesthood as gift and task; Saint Pius [Pio] of Pietrelcina in his serving as an instrument of divine mercy; Saint Josemaria Escrivá in his preaching of the universal call to holiness; Blessed [now Saint] Teresa of Calcutta, the missionary of God's charity towards the poorest of the poor; and then the martyrs of Nazism and Communism, represented by Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), a Carmelite nun, and by Blessed Aloysius Stepinac, the Cardinal Archbishop of Zagreb.

"Holiness inspired by the word of God thus belongs in a way to the prophetic tradition, wherein the word of God sets the prophet's very life at its service. In this sense, holiness in the Church constitutes an interpretation of Scripture which cannot be overlooked. The Holy Spirit who inspired the sacred authors is the same Spirit who impels the saints to offer their lives for the Gospel. In striving to learn from their example, we set out on the sure way towards a living and effective hermeneutic of the word of God" (VD, 48-49).

¹ *Moralia*, Regula LXXX, XXII: PG 31, 867.

² *Rule*, 73, 3: SC 182, 672.

³ Thomas of Celano, *First Life of Saint Francis*, IX, 22.

⁴ *Rule*, I, 1-2.

⁵ Blessed Jordan of Saxony, *Libellus de principiis Ordinis Praedicatorum*, 104, Monumenta Fratrum Praedicatorum Historica, Rome, 1935, 16, p 75.

⁶ *Vita*, 40, 1.

⁷ *Story of a Soul*, Ms C, 35v.

Altar & Rosary Society welcomes you

Our Altar & Rosary Society welcomes new members any-time! This group prays for our parish family, and provides vessels, vestments, flowers, and other things of beauty for our church. Next meeting: **Tues 2/9, 10 am.**

A Virtual Lenten Retreat In Daily Life



Would you like to experience Sacred Scripture—not just study it?

Do you have a deep desire to grow in your faith and prayer life?

Are you seeking a deeper relationship with the Lord through prayer?

Would you like to experience a directed retreat without interrupting your daily life?

A LENTEN RETREAT IN DAILY LIFE MAY BE FOR YOU!

❖ **Where:** Online via Zoom
❖ **Opening Session:** Sunday, February 21, 2021 2:00-4:00pm (Group Experience on Zoom)
❖ **Closing Session:** Thursday, March 25, 2021 7:00-8:30pm (Group Experience on Zoom)

Personal prayer with Scripture for approximately 30 minutes a day
Weekly private guidance by experienced spiritual directors. (Available in Spanish and English.)

Please register by Friday, February 12, 2021 as enrollment is limited to the availability of spiritual directors.

Cost: \$40.00 (Adjustments can be made.)

Register on the web: <https://nolacatholic.org/asc> or telephone (504) 861-3254



2501 Maine Ave.
Metairie, LA 70003
(504) 861-3254
<http://nolacatholic.org/asc>
archspirctr@arch-no.org

HALOS

next meeting
of HALOS:
Mon 2/8, 7 pm

Healing After Loss to Overdose or Suicide

HALOS is an informal, Christian support group for family and friends grieving a loved one lost to overdose or suicide. The group, led by Deacon Chris Schneider, is committed to supporting one another by embracing feelings, sharing conversations, and nurturing one another through spiritual guidance. Our mission is to help each other transform mourning and grieving into a journey of healing. Join us on the 2nd Monday of every month, 7 pm, at St Margaret Mary (Evan Building), Slidell. To learn more, call Donna, 985-201-2143.

On finding Jesus, Simon said,
"Everyone is looking for you."

Mark 1:37

He whom you seek
seeks you.



Saint Josephine Bakhita, pray for us!



Josephine Bakhita was born in Sudan in 1869 and died in Vicenza, Italy (near Venice) in 1947. Our Heavenly Father, who “cares for the birds of the air and the flowers of the fields,” guided her through the unspeakable sufferings of kidnapping and slavery to human freedom and to the freedom of faith, and finally to the consecration of her whole life to Him for the coming of His Kingdom.

Bakhita was not the name her parents gave her at birth. Kidnapped at the age of eight, sold and resold in the Sudanese slave markets, she experienced the humiliations and sufferings of slavery, both physical and emotional. The fright and trauma were so extreme that she forgot her own name. Bakhita—“lucky”—was the name mockingly given her by her kidnappers.

Eventually, Bakhita was purchased by an Italian consul, Callisto Legnani. For the first time since she was kidnapped, no one used the lash when giving her orders; rather, she was

treated lovingly and cordially. In the consul's residence, though she yearned for her family, she experienced peace, warmth, and even moments of joy. When political situations forced the consul and his family to return to Italy, they brought Bakhita with them.

On their arrival, Legnani gave Bakhita to his friend Augusto Michieli and his wife. When the Michielis' daughter Mimina was born, Bakhita became her caretaker and friend. A business venture in Egypt necessitated Mrs Michieli to move there with her husband. Mimina and Bakhita were left in the care of the Canossian Sisters in Venice. There Bakhita came to know about God whom “she had experienced in her heart without knowing who He was” ever since she was a child. “Seeing the sun, the moon and the stars, I wondered: Who could be the Master of these beautiful things? And I felt a great desire to see Him, to know Him and to pay Him homage...”

After several months in the catechumenate, Bakhita received the sacraments of Christian Initiation and the new name, Josephine. It was January 9, 1890. She could hardly express her joy; her big, expressive eyes sparkled, revealing deep emotion. From then on, she was often seen kissing the baptismal font and saying: “Here, I became a daughter of God!” With each new day, she became more aware of who this God was, whom she now knew and loved, who had led her to Him through mysterious ways, holding her by the hand.

When Mrs Michieli returned to take back Mimina and Bakhita, the latter, with unusual firmness and courage, expressed her desire to remain with the Canossian Sisters and to serve the God who had shown her so many proofs of His love. Under Italian law, the young African was of age, and so enjoyed freedom of choice. Thus, Bakhita remained in the catechumenate, hearing the call to give herself totally to the Lord as a religious. In 1896 Josephine Bakhita was consecrated forever to God, whom she tenderly called “my Master.”

For over 50 years, this humble, witness of the love of God lived in the convent in Vicenza, engaged in various duties. When she attended the door, she would gently lay her hands on the heads of the young students in the Canossian school and caress them. Her amiable voice, with the musical inflection of her native country, was pleasing to the little ones, comforting to the poor and suffering, and encouraging to all who knocked at the convent door. Her humility, simplicity, and constant smile won the hearts of all the citizens. Her sisters in the convent esteemed her for her inalterable sweet nature, her exquisite goodness, and her deep desire to make the Lord known: “Be good, love the Lord, pray for those who do not know Him. What a great grace it is to know God!” In Vicenza, she was, and still is, known as “Mia Moretta—our Black Mother.”

As she grew older, despite long, painful years of illness, Bakhita continued to witness to faith, goodness and Christian hope. To visitors who asked how she was, she would respond, smiling: “As the Master desires.” Mother Bakhita breathed her last on February 8, 1947 at her convent, surrounded by the Sisters. During her agony, she relived the awful days of her slavery and at times begged caregivers, “Please, loosen the chains... they are so heavy!” Her last words were: “Our Lady! Our Lady!” and her final smile testified to her encounter with Mary. Crowds quickly gathered at the convent for one last look at their beloved Mia Moretta, and to ask her prayers from heaven. The fame of her sanctity has spread to every continent; many have received graces through her intercession. The cause for her canonization began in 1959. In 1978, Pope John Paul II proclaimed her Servant of God, and in 2000, he canonized her a Saint. She is the patron saint of kidnapped and trafficked persons, and of Sudan.

-adapted from http://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/ns_lit_doc_20001001_giuseppina-bakhita_en.html

**I am definitively loved!
Whatever happens to me,
I am awaited by this Love.
And so my life is good.**

**St Josephine Bakhita
feast day February 8**

Please pray for:

Steve Allemore; Sandra Andras; Adam Authement; D. Barrois; Baldassaro Family; Phil Bateman; Jim Bradle; Donna Bruney; Chris Buquoio; Johnson Chouest; Flo Clemons; Carolyn Combel; Heidi David; Al Davis; Briley Davis; Corey Davis; Paula Davis; Gloria Easley; Bill Ferrante; Tristan Freeman; Frank Gennusa; Roberto Gomez; Ronnie Herbert; Pete Hillebrandt; Gayle Horton and Family; Keaton Family; Sheila Laurant; Henry, Tina Lirette; Keith Long; Christy Lorio; Jean Lugo; Geary Molony; Marie Oswald; Mickey Power; Denise Rednour; Cody Reed; Joyce Stall; Violeta Thomas; Al Triche; Nick Tullier; Lillian Vishno; Special Intention (RL).

Names stay on the list for three months. To add someone, call 839-4040 or email holyfamilyfranklinton@arch-no.org.

This week's Scripture readings

<u>Mon 2/8</u> Josephine Bakhita Virgin	Genesis 1:1-19 Psalm 104:1-2,5-6-12,24,35 Mark 6:53-56
<u>Tues 2/9</u> Ordinary Time Weekday	Genesis 1:20—2:4 Psalm 8:4-9 Mark 7:1-13
<u>Wed 2/10</u> Scholastica Virgin	Genesis 2:4-9,15-17 Psalm 103:1-2,13-18 Mark 7:14-23
<u>Thurs 2/11</u> Our Lady of Lourdes	Genesis 2:18-25 Psalm 128:1-5 Mark 7:24-30
<u>Fri 2/12</u> Ordinary Time Weekday	Genesis 3:1-8 Psalm 32:1-2,5-7 Mark 7:31-37
<u>Sat 2/13</u> Ordinary Time Weekday	Genesis 3:9-24 Psalm 90:2-6,12-13 Mark 8:1-10
<u>Sun 2/14</u> Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46 Psalm 32:1-2,5,11 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1 Mark 1:40-45

The Sanctuary Lamp burns constantly to proclaim the Real Presence of Jesus in the tabernacle. It also burns **February 7-13** in memory of **Billy Power** by request of Bill Power.



If you wish to reserve the Sanctuary Lamp, please call our office, 839-4040. Over half of 2021 is already reserved.

Mass Intentions

2/6	5 pm	Phyllis Baracco +André Cerigny +Gene Grabbe +Jill LeBlanc +Shirley LeBlanc +Wayne Smith
2/7	8:30 am	Our Parishioners
2/7	11 am	Ruby Altentaler +Dot Baldassaro +Jerry Cancienne +Diane Gennusa +Billy Power +Jimmy Richoux
2/7	3 pm	Aidan Ibarra
2/9	5 pm	Colin MacIver
2/10	5 pm	+Cindy Marsh
2/11	9 am	+Julie Womack
2/12	9 am	+Patsy Clesi

Upcoming events

- 2/6 1st Saturday devotion: Rosary 8:30 am, Mass 9 am
- 2/6 Confessions 3-4 pm
- 2/7 Bible Study 9:45 am
- 2/7 CCD 9:45 am
- 2/9 Altar & Rosary Society 10 am
- 2/9 RCIA 6 pm
- 2/10 Y-Prep 6 pm
- 2/10 CYO 7 pm
- 2/11 Friends of St Francis 9:30 am
- 2/11 Knights of Columbus 7 pm

The current month's calendar is always downloadable at www.holyfamilyfranklinton.org/parish-calendar, dated the 1st of the month. Printed copies are on the bookshelf in the church and on the table in the office hallway.

When I reach heaven,
I will say to God:
“Eternal Father, now you can judge.”
And to St Peter:
“Close the door, I’m staying.”

St Josephine Bakhita

Stewardship Report

regular collection	\$ 2,906.00
building fund	\$ 70.00
Thank you for your sacrificial giving.	