

Saint Josephine Bakhita Parish



27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female." - Mk 10:3-6

PASTORAL STAFF:

Rev. George M. Couturier, Pastor

Deacon Michael J. Ward, Deacon Emeritus Michael A. Shelto

To visit our website go to: www.saintjosephinebakhita.org or www.sjbrh.org

To follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/saintjosephinebakhita/>

A Roman Catholic Community

MASST INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

ANTICIPATED SUNDAY MASS

4:00PM At St. James Church
DARLENE BYSIEWICZ, Requested by
Husband Raymond

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00AM At St. Elizabeth Seton Church
DANIEL & CELESTE CAMILLERI,
Requested by Bob & Janet

11:00AM At St. James Church
ROBERT BRENNAN, Requested by Laura

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

8:30AM At St. Elizabeth Seton Church
RITA LAUZIER, Requested by Gene &
Janice Clifford

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

NO MASS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

8:00AM At St. James Church
MADELINE CARANGELO (16th Anniversary),
John & Vivian Orsini

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

WEEKDAY

8:30AM At St. Elizabeth Seton Church
WILLIAM FLENO JR. (Birthday Remembrance),
Requested by Fleno & Hennessey families

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

ANTICIPATED SUNDAY MASS

4:00PM At St. James Church
FRANK FAMMARTINO, Requested by
Fammartino family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00AM At St. Elizabeth Seton Church
ROCCO LARAIA (4th Anniversary),
Requested by wife Cora & family

11:00AM At St. James Church
DOLORES SPERA (Birthday Remembrance),
Requested by family

SAINT JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

SAINT ELIZABETH SETON CHURCH

Sunday 9:00AM
Monday & Friday 8:30AM

SAINT JAMES CHURCH

Saturday Vigil 4:00PM & Sunday 11:00AM
Tuesday & Thursday 8:00AM



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION AND CELEBRATION

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Mondays - 6:00pm at St. Elizabeth Seton until further notice - masks, hand sanitizer, and social distancing required.

Baptism: For information about preparation class and to set a date please contact office.

Matrimony: The Archdiocese of Hartford requires a minimum of six month notice and preparation. Please contact Pastor.



Lucien Levesque

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 3, 2021



Sunday: Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [cf. 5]/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

Monday: Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8 [3]/Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10 [15]/Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9 [9]/Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12a]/Lk 11:27-28

Next Sunday: Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [14]/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

Parish Giving

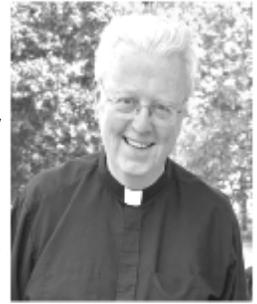
SAINT JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH

WEEKLY SUPPORT *09/26/2021

Weekly Offertory: \$ 8,406.00
Online (weekly & maintenance): \$ 3,701.00



The following reflections were prepared and offered by Pastoral Council Chairpersons, Michael Camileri and Kasey Harding, on the occasion of Father George Couturier's 40th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood:



On behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council and our entire community of Saint Josephine Bakhita Parish, we are honored to share a few words of reflection celebrating our genuine and deep appreciation and love for Father George and for his priestly and pastoral leadership of our entire parish family.

Congratulations to Father George on 40 years of inspiring and leading thousands of parishioners and others - few people have the opportunity you have had to truly change lives, celebrate with people in their best moments, pray and mourn with them in their saddest or most challenging times and have a deep and lasting impact on so many people.

In a homily earlier in September, Father George shared some of the factors he considered when trying to determine if a seminarian would be a good priest. We thought it would be a fun party game to turn those questions back to Father George and see how he would do on his criteria - which he noted are aligned with the philosophy of Pope Francis. Here are the questions he would ask (we left the young parts in so he could enjoy being called a young man for a few seconds):

- 1. Does this young man have a strong faith?*
 - 2. Does this young man like people?*
 - 3. Could this young man potentially be a good spouse and father?*
- Does this young man truly encounter people? Does he look them in the eye? Does he pay attention to them? Does this young man believe in the value of every person?*

Whether you have known Father George for decades or only a few months, we are guessing you didn't have any trouble answering those questions and quickly appreciating why Father George is such an effective, holy, human, humorous, kind, and good priest. Our young priest, Father George, has earned our respect and love for all of these reasons and many more.

But, we are also guessing Father George doesn't - and maybe can't - fully understand the depth and scope of his impact on so many people. As the angel Clarence says in "It's a Wonderful Life": "Each man's life touches so many other lives." It's not just the parishioners he has helped, inspired, or guided, it's the people those parishioners then interact with, help and serve. It's really incredible when you start to think about the impact this one truly good and great man and priest has had.

And, can any of us who were a part of the pre-merger parishes of St. James and St. Elizabeth Seton imagine a priest and leader who could have more effectively led us through the sometimes challenging and often emotional process of merging these two parishes into one much stronger St. Josephine Bakhita Parish? We had the pleasure and honor, along with many of you, to be a part of the merger process with Father George and we were regularly astounded at how he was able to collaboratively and successfully work with leaders of both parishes to move us forward so successfully, including those times when he had to draw a line in the sand, as all effective leaders have to do from time to time.

Of course, a merger wasn't enough a test of his pastoral leadership skills, so he was then tested with the deadly COVID-19 pandemic. Like every other parish and community, we lost too many members to COVID-19 and we say a silent prayer in their memories. Father George was faced with a seemingly no-win situation in how to deal with the pandemic. But, working closely with parish staff, clergy and lay leadership, he acted quickly and decisively to provide streaming Masses and to find many other ways to creatively minister to his parishioners, while keeping everyone as safe as possible. He understood that people's faith and their Church community is vital to their lives and he found ways to keep that thriving as much as he could.

But, we could discuss Father George for hours - his incredible sense of humor, his love of music and his beautiful singing voice, his occasional enjoyment of a good glass of whiskey, his acts of love and kindness in the quiet moments, his enjoyment of history, his ability to connect with all different kinds of people, his passionate dedication to justice and peace, and so much more, but we are trying to keep this shorter than one of his homilies (only kidding, we all love his timely, meaningful and helpful homilies).

We think Father George's priestly leadership can best be described in these excerpts from Teddy Roosevelt in his famous "The Man in the Arena" speech: "The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs... but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause."

Or the words of Pope Francis: "No vocation is born of itself or lives for itself. A vocation flows from the heart of God and blossoms in the good soil of faithful people."

Did not Jesus say: "By this all [people] will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another?"

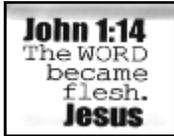
Happy anniversary Father George and thank you for everything you have done for each of us and so many thousands of others. We wish you many years of continued health, happiness, and joy.

God bless you now and always.

The Pastoral Council and Parishioners of Saint Josephine Bakhita Parish

***Bakhita Bible Study
Returns in October:***

*“Jesus the Word Made Flesh:
Gospel of John Chapters 1-10”*



More than we realize most Christians these days look at Jesus Christ through the lens of John’s Gospel, which is a long and deep meditative account of Jesus ministry and vision of his identity. This first part of John’s gospel presents Jesus as the personal revelation of the unseen God and develops selected words and deeds of Jesus into several great dramas to demonstrate the power and love of God working in him. This study will help you understand the scope of this monumental and unique gospel as well as its personal implications for the lives of disciples today. Join us for a deep dive into these great dramas that reveal so much about our faith! In light of the evolving COVID pandemic this series will be held

“online only” with six sessions starting on **Wednesday, October 13 at 7:00 PM.** Email Deacon Michael at: saintjimdeacon@gmail.com to register

Check out the Website at :

<https://www.saintjosephinebakhita.org/bible-study>

for deadlines for registering and book ordering details.

Hope to “see” you in October!!!!

PLEASE JOIN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD’S
40 DAYS FOR LIFE PEACEFUL PRAYER WALK
Held on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood,
1030 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford, Ct. **This year’s
fall campaign is September 22 through October 31, 2021.
Vigil hours are 6:00am through 6:00pm.**

Sign up for your Day or Hours to Pray!

Please contact Coordinator, Teresa Wells, Via Text at 203-314-9816 or email twells@prolifeministry.org

Regarding Parking:

- The Citgo gas station across the street welcomes 40 Days for Life participants to park in his lot.
- **DO NOT PARK** in Planned Parenthood parking lot or your vehicle will be towed.
- Large parking available on New Park Avenue just up from the Corner Pug.



All Vigil participants are requested to read and sign the **STATEMENT OF PEACE** before coming out to pray during the campaign. This is available on the 40 Days for Life website. God bless you and thank you for your public witness.

See you on the Sidewalk!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Therein lies the...rib

“If I were God...” is a dangerous way to start a sentence, but how many of us do this? Probably more regularly than we would like to admit. Even if we don’t verbalize the sentiment, we likely think it from time to time. Most of us finish that statement with some genius, original idea for eradicating difficulty and pain from the world. *If I were God, I wouldn’t let anyone go hungry. If I were God, all wealth would be equally distributed. If I were God, war wouldn’t exist.*

I imagine that, when we think thoughts like these, God shakes His head and wonders why we don’t look a little harder at the whole of His creation — because I can promise you, it’s never lacking.

When Adam had a need for a companion, God used what was available: Adam’s rib. Everything that He had put into place was already perfect, already complete. Woman was a new creation, but not a new species. Adam searched through all of creation to find the perfect mate, but God had tucked the answer inside of His creation all along.

I’m guilty of it as much as anyone else — looking to Heaven with a chip on my shoulder. “Why haven’t you sent me what I need? I’ve been asking over and over again.” But have I even thought to look inside of myself?

Where is the rib you are missing today? What are the opportunities God has set before you? What are the needs that He is ready to fulfill, if only you would stop wasting time lamenting all the solutions that don’t fit the bill? *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS @LPI*



Maybe You, Or Someone You Know, Wants To Become A Catholic....

Times such as those we are living through now often prompt people to examine what we believe, how we make sense of the world and examine just what we live by, and why, and where “all this seems to be going.” The Catholic Christian faith relates directly to these questions and explores these realities with a wisdom of nearly 2,000 years. If you desire to explore becoming a Catholic, we are certainly happy and eager to help. Maybe you know someone who may be interested as well. We’re glad to help them out too. If so...contact Deacon Michael at dcnmichael@sjbrh.org (best) or by phone at 860-529-3222 Ext 14 and leave a message and we’ll get back to you.



Last May the Vatican announced the 7 year Laudato Si' Action Plan. Through this Action Plan we are invited to embrace the call to work toward an integrated ecology. Pope Francis invites us to understand more deeply our relationships with God, one another, and the rest of creation, and to live accordingly. We are each responsible for caring for the world God has entrusted to us. Catholics around the world are invited to begin a Forty Day Journey of Prayer and Preparation starting October 4 and ending on November 14 - the Global Day of Prayer for the Poor. Learn more here: <https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/> and on our parish website at: <https://www.saintjosephinebakhita.org/care-for-creation>

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE BY BUD OZAR - OCTOBER 3, 2021

In today's gospel, Jesus encourages married couples to throw away the marriage rulebook. Rules are for those with "hardened hearts." Married couples are called to be a sacramental reflection of God's Faithful and selfless love... a place where people live and love beyond rules and formulas.



Blessing of the Animals
Celebrated Sunday, October 3, at 12:30
 On the Plaza between St. James Church and the Parish Center

This custom is conducted in remembrance of Saint Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. Francis wrote a Canticle of the Creatures, an ode to God's living things. "All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures."

Humans, please join us with a leashed or caged pet to receive a special blessing for your pet, and to socially distanced mingle with your fellow animal lovers.

Virtual Daily Prayer with Fr. George

Fr. George livestreams **Evening Prayer - Monday - Friday at 5pm using Facebook & the Parish Website**. The recordings remain available afterward on the Parish Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/saintjosephinebakhita/>

All are welcome!

OUR PARISH GREETERS are entrusted with promoting a sense of community and warmth to all who come to worship. They are the first point of contact for the celebration of the Liturgy and play a vital role in creating a feeling of welcome and a sense of belonging.

PLEASE JOIN OUR MINISTRY

Contact Sandy Ambrose to learn more: amb321@cox.net

HOLIDAY FAIR
Saturday, November 20th
Parish Center -
Saint James Church



AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

Our Holiday Committee is already hard at work on the Silent Auction. If you want to help, ask a business you frequent to donate something or donate something yourself. Below are some ideas.

- ◆ **New higher-end merchandise:** Designer Pocketbooks, TV's, Electronics
- ◆ **Services:** landscaping, leaf raking, meal preparation, accounting, legal
- ◆ **Tradesman:** carpentry, plumbing, electrical
- ◆ **Gift Cards:** We will take partially used cards, please specify the \$ amount- place them in an envelope marked "Holiday Fair" & drop in our offertory boxes at either church
- ◆ **Travel packages:** Donate time at a vacation home you own
- ◆ **Signed sports memorabilia or ticket to a great sporting event**
- ◆ **Something fabulous** we haven't thought of!

Your donations are **TAX DEDUCTIBLE**. Your donations will not only help our church community, it will help you!

Questions or want to donate, contact:

Pat: bearduds@aol.com or Denise: neeceemae@sbcglobal.net

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA
HOLIDAY DAY FAIR
COOKIE WALK AND BAKE SALE
November 20, 2021



Calling all Bakers!!

It's time to get your special recipes ready.

Questions contact:

MaryAnne DiPasquale at 860-529-2304 or

Linda Regina at 860-563-9550

Knit, Crochet & Sew Good Works



Knit, Crochet and Sew Good Works will again have Irish Knit sweaters, quilts, baby items, home décor items and more at the Holiday Fair. To pre-order, preview, or for pricing, or to customize a fall/holiday table runner, contact Vivian Orsini at vorsini24.com



Office Hours:

The parish office at St. James campus is open for business. You may stop by between the hours of :

9:00am and 2:30pm (Monday thru Friday)

CHURCH MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Monday, October 4

9:00am: Evening Prayer Shawl Mtg, Worship Space (SES)

Tuesday, October 5

7:00pm - 8:30pm: Charismatic Prayer Grp., Rm G (SES)

6:30pm - 8:00pm: Holiday Fair Mtg., Parish Center (SJ)

Wednesday, October 6

1:00pm-4pm: Knit, Crochet, Sew, Good Works; Fr. Shea (SJ)

All BULLETIN announcements must be submitted to the Rectory office by **THURSDAY AT NOON** to be included in the following week-end's bulletin - please remember to submit early due to available space—we always try to honor all submissions possible. **You may email your request to Pam & Carrie at office@sjbrh.org**



Saint Josephine Bakhita Parish Staff Contact Information

Pastoral Staff

Fr. George Couturier: frgeorge@sjbrh.org 860-529-8655
Dcn Michael Ward: dcnmichael@sjbrh.org 860-529-3222

Music Ministry

Elizabeth Husmer: elizabeth@sjbrh.org—860-529-3222
Joy O’Sullivan: joy@sjbrh.org—860-529-8655

Faith Formation

Monica Piombino: monica@sjbrh.org—860-529-1274
Beth Mulvey: beth@sjbrh.org—860-529-1274

Rectory Office (860-529-8655)

Carrie Silvia: office@sjbrh.org

Pam Funk: office@sjbrh.org

Gisele Reyngoudt: gisele@sjbrh.org

Lisa Orchen: communications@sjbrh.org

Parish Pastoral Council: parishcouncil@sjbrh.org

Saint Elizabeth Seton (860) 529-3222

St. James Church (860) 529-8655

Rectory Office Hrs: Mon—Fri 9:00am-2:30pm
767 Elm Street Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Church Addresses:

St. James: 767 Elm Street Rocky Hill, CT 06067

St. Elizabeth Seton: 280 Brook St. Rocky Hill, CT

JANUARY 7-9, 2022,

IN THE SPIRIT OF TRUST, WOMEN'S RETREAT AT HOLY FAMILY PASSIONIST RETREAT CENTER, WEST HARTFORD

- Our retreat theme *In the Spirit of Trust* will explore the notion of trust and how it is gained, as well as lost. We will share our personal faith experiences of trusting in God’s providence and help one another to build a foundation for lasting trust in the one who created us and loves us. And in the process, we hope to become more trustworthy Christian people on the journey of faith, bringing about a world of justice and peace as members of the Body of Christ. To register visit holyfamilyretreat.org, call us at 860.760.9705 or find the registration forms in the back of the church. Cost is \$325. Please join the women of our parish on this inspiring retreat!

Grief Support

Do you find yourself in need of a compassionate ear for your grief due to the loss of a loved one from the coronavirus? Send your name , email address and phone number to me via email and I will connect you to a local bereavement minister from the parish:
frgeorge@sjbrh.org

AT ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH

OCTOBER 3, 2021



PLEASE JOIN US on Facebook or Through the Website Fr. George will bring Mass to you **LIVE** at 9am & 11am <https://www.facebook.com/saintjosephinebakhita/> www.saintjosephinebakhita.org or www.sjbrh.org



THANK YOU!

to our Food Pantry Ministry

Amazing Grace Food Pantry has acknowledged our recent donation of 500 pounds. Each month more that 700 families “shop” at Amazing Grace and over 24,000 food items are distributed free of charge to those families.

SAVE THOSE TOILETRIES: Drop off any unused travel-size toiletries you get at hotels in the bins at either Saint Elizabeth Seton or St. James Church. We’ll take them to the homeless shelters for their clients. The smaller sizes works especially well for them.



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