

FEB
2018

life.

Respect Life Monthly Gathering Focus

Hidden in Plain Sight:

HUMAN
TRAFFICKING

Tuesday February 20 at 7p

Speaker: Debbie Shinskie

Our Lady of Lourdes Church
400 Westchester Blvd, Slidell

CHURCH TEACHING:

Catechism of the Catholic Church 2414
The seventh commandment forbids acts or enterprises that for any reason - selfish or ideological, commercial, or totalitarian - lead to the enslavement of human beings, to their being bought, sold and exchanged like merchandise, in disregard for their personal dignity. It is a sin against the dignity of persons and their fundamental rights to reduce them by violence to their productive value or to a source of profit. St. Paul directed a Christian master to treat his Christian slave "no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother, . . . both in the flesh and in the Lord."

PRAYER:

Please see St. Josephine Bakhita prayer on reverse side.

HERE and AROUND the ARCHDIOCESE...

Feb 4 God's Special Children Monthly Mass - 2pm, St. Francis Xavier, 444 Met. Rd
<http://www.godsspecialchildren.org>

Feb 8 Feast Day of our SAINT of the MONTH: Sudanese St. Josephine Bakhita
International Day of Awareness & Prayer Against Human Trafficking. Join the Archdiocese as we all go **silent on social media for 24 hours! DON'T POST...PRAY!**

Feb 8 * Prayer Service** for all victims, survivors, and perpetrators of sex and labor trafficking after the 6p Mass in Church

Feb 9-17 Human Trafficking Novena – See flyers in back of Church on the Respect Life Table

Feb 10 * St. Anthony's Nursing Home** monthly visit – 2nd Saturday every month.

Meet after 8:30a Mass at **St. Edward's**. We pray for and visit residents who do not get many visitors. Call 874-9225 for info.

Feb 18-19 Archdiocesan Safe Haven Sunday - Focused time and resources to address the harmfulness of pornography and other online threats in marriages, family life and culture. Check the church bulletin and flyers in the back of church for information.

March 3 Archdiocesan Human Trafficking Symposium — A Light in the Darkness

9am-3pm at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church in New Orleans. Archbishop Aymond will open the event with prayer. Experts from the Department of Justice, FBI, Free Indeed Home, Times-Picayune, & Catholic Relief Services. Symposium is free & lunch is included, RSVP required. For more info: 504-286-1119 or respectlife@arch-no.org

Corporal Work of Mercy: We are collecting **GIFT CARDS from big box stores** (Walmart, etc) for the **Entire Month of February for the Free Indeed Home**, a local safe house for domestic girls **12-17 years old who are survivors of sex trafficking**. Please drop cards off at Parish Office.

*****The Free Indeed Home is currently hiring women who feel called to work with the girls** they have in residence at the home. Part time or full time. Childcare experience preferred. The Free Indeed Home is a faith-based home. For info, call 985-373-4446 or email beth@lacaht.org.

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE... 888-3737-888

Please be aware of the signs of trafficking... <http://polarisproject.org/recognize-signs>
It is better to report a suspicious incident & be wrong than to be right & say nothing.

For more info on Human Trafficking: <http://respectlife.arch-no.org/human-trafficking>

***** EVERY WEDNESDAY, 8:30 am - 10:30 am:** Join a group from **St. Edward's to pray and witness** at the **ABORTION FACILITY at 2701 General Pershing** (near Baptist Hospital)

Capital Punishment/Mercy behind Bars Email respectlife@arch-no.org for details on:
1) Sign up for our **Messages of Mercy Pen Pal Program**; 2) Help prepare one of our **Packages of Mercy** for the Re-Entry 72 program; 3) Join a **Journeys of Mercy** trip

Have You Lost a Child through Miscarriage, Stillbirth, Or Abortion?

New Orleans Catholic Cemeteries is offering **the opportunity for families to memorialize their lost babies by name with a bronze plaque** with the baby's name (\$100.00/plaque). Contact respectlife@arch-no.org

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands,
No feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which
He looks with compassion on
this world,
Yours are the feet with which
He walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with
which He blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are
the feet, yours are the eyes,
you are His body.
Christ has no body now on
earth but yours.

Saint Teresa of Avila

**If you desire to use
your God-given**

IDEAS,

TIME,

TREASURE,

or

TALENT

**to help the Church in
areas of**

POVERTY, RACISM,

IMMIGRATION,

CRIMINAL JUSTICE,

HUMAN TRAFFICKING,

or any

RESPECT LIFE ISSUE,

Call Yvette at 874-9225

SAINT OF THE MONTH

St. Josephine Bakhita – February 8



St. Josephine Bakhita was born in Sudan in 1869 and enslaved as a child. Eventually she was sold to an Italian diplomat and taken to Italy, where she was later brought to freedom through the help of the Conossian Daughters of Charity. Through their guidance, she learned about God and served him faithfully until her death in 1947. In October 2000, she was canonized by Pope John Paul II, at which point he noted that "in St. Josephine Bakhita we find a shining advocate of genuine emancipation. The history of her life inspires not passive acceptance, but the firm resolve to work effectively to free girls and women from oppression and violence, and to return them

to their dignity in the full exercise of their rights" (St. Bakhita's Canonization Mass, October 1, 2000).

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Migration and Refugee Services, Publication No. M7-266

St. Josephine Bakhita,

You were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery. Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us. Amen.