

February 8, 2019



ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH

FIAT NEWSLETTER

# Social Action and Youth

Dear Friend of Annunciation Parish & School,

As baptized Christians, we are called to serve others in Jesus' name. We are Christ for others. Did you know there are a number of resources available for helping to teach children and youth about Catholic Social Teaching and current issues? Here are some examples:

Resources from [Catholic Relief Services](#), with a special section for [families](#);

Resources for K-8 from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on [combating racism](#) (They also have high school and college resources available.);



The Poverty USA web site, by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has numerous [resources on poverty](#), including educational resources for children and youth;

Children's [storybooks](#) on Caring for God's Creation.

These are just a few of many quality resources available for parents and educators to use. And in a few weeks we will once again be participating in our annual [CRS Rice Bowl](#) Lenten Outreach, which provides excellent resources for educators and families!

Sincerely,

Dr. Sandi Chakeres,  
Director of Faith Formation

## Our Lady of Lourdes - February 11

February 11 is the optional memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes. According to Saint Bernadette, the visionary at [Lourdes](#) in 1858, the Virgin Mary proclaimed herself "The Immaculate Conception." Saint Pope John Paul II also designated February 11 as [World Day of the Sick](#). 2019 celebrates the 175th anniversary of the birth of [Saint Bernadette Soubirous](#) and the 140th anniversary of her death. We have a stained glass window here at Annunciation Parish which depicts Saint Bernadette and Our Lady of Lourdes.



**FIAT: Faith In Action Today**  
**Annunciation Parish & School**  
**Religious Education/Faith Formation News**  
**Dr. Sandra Chakeres**  
**Director of Faith Formation**  
**513-861-1295**

[faithformation@annunciationbvmparish.org](mailto:faithformation@annunciationbvmparish.org)  
[www.annunciationbvmparish.org](http://www.annunciationbvmparish.org)  
[www.facebook.com/annunciationbvmparish](https://www.facebook.com/annunciationbvmparish)

### Special points of interest:

- Know a family who will have a child in kindergarten next year? If so, invite them to our 2019 [Kindergarten Round-Up](#) on Friday, February 22, from 8:00-9:30 a.m.!
- Make sure your calendars are marked for our March 5th [Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Celebration](#) - including our Pancake Dinner!
- Follow us on [Facebook](#) to get all our latest news and see all our latest photos!

\*\*Icon at top left of page: Archangel Gabriel (Annunciation), 16th Century, Russian Heritage, Location: Andrei Rublev Museum in Moscow. Used with permission of St. Isaac of Syria Skete (Orthodox Byzantine Icons, Inc.); 25266 Pilgrims Way, Boscobel, WI 53805 www.skete.com

## Saint Josephine Bakhita - Sixth Grade Patron Saint



**Saint Josephine Bakhita**

Josephine Bakhita was born around 1869 in the African country of Sudan, probably in the area around Darfur which is so much in the news these days. We don't even know what Josephine's real name was. She was captured and sold into slavery at a young age, and was given the name *Bakhita*, which means *lucky one* or *fortunate one*. She eventually ended up in Italy, where she became a Christian. After spending time as a catechumen (someone preparing for baptism), she celebrated the sacraments of initiation (baptism, confirmation and Eucharist) on January 9th, 1890, and was given the baptismal name Josephine. This experience was so powerful for her that she was often seen kissing the baptismal font while exclaiming, "Here I became a daughter of God." Josephine Bakhita joined a religious order, the [Canossian Daughters of Charity](#), and professed her religious vows on December 8, 1896. For fifty years in this religious order, she served in various ways such as cooking, sewing, and greeting people at the door.

Josephine Bakhita died a natural death from a painful disease on February 8, 1947. Her last words were, "Our Lady! Our Lady!" She was invoking Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

On October 1st, 2000, Saint Pope John Paul II canonized Josephine Bakhita. She is our first Sudanese Saint, and is patron of Sudan. Her feast day is February 8th. Josephine's slave name, Bakhita, means *fortunate one*. How fortunate *we* are to have such a wonderful role model!

Due to the years young Bakhita spent enduring the mistreatment and injustice of slavery, she is often invoked in intercessory prayer to end slavery and human trafficking. The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General has designated February 8 as an [annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking](#).

Saint Josephine Bakhita is one of the Patron Saints of our sixth grade class at Annunciation School. You can find more resources on Saint Josephine Bakhita [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Sunday, February 10, 10:10-10:50 a.m.: Reconciliation Family Preparation
- ◆ Wednesday, February 13, 7:00-8:00 p.m.: [Eucharistic Holy Hour](#)
- ◆ Thursday, February 14, 9:30 a.m.: Morning Prayer
- ◆ Monday, February 18: Presidents' Day; Parish Office & School Closed 8:00 a.m. Mass as usual
- ◆ Thursday, February 21, 9:30 a.m.: Morning Prayer
- ◆ Friday, February 22: [Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter The Apostle](#) (8th Grade Feast Day)
- ◆ Friday, February 22, 8:00-9:30 a.m.: [Kindergarten Round-Up](#)
- ◆ Tuesday, February 26, 6:00-8:00 p.m.: Annunciation School Living Wax Museum
- ◆ Thursday, February 28, 7:00 p.m.: [Baptism Preparation](#)

***It's Happening at  
Annunciation!***

## Apostles to the Slavs

Did you know that it is not Saint Valentine we celebrate on our Universal Roman Catholic Liturgical Calendar February 14, but rather Saints Cyril and Methodius? These two 9th century brothers, known as the "Apostles to the Slavs," have a fascinating story and are great models for evangelization! In 1980, Saint Pope John Paul II named them co-patrons of all Europe (along with St. Benedict). Read what Saint Pope John Paul II wrote about these "Apostles to the Slavs" in his "[Slavorum Apostoli](#)."



**Saints Cyril and Methodius  
Zahari Zograf, 1848  
Troyan Monastery, Bulgaria**

# ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## Kindergarten Round-Up!

### Enroll Now!

#### All 2019-2020 Kindergarten Families

Join us at Annunciation School for our Annual Kindergarten Round-Up. Prospective students will shadow with the current kindergarten class while parents have an opportunity to ask questions and learn about Annunciation's:

- Academics
- Catholic Identity
- EdChoice Scholarship
- Diverse Student Body
- Holistic formation of the student
- Dynamic Parent Teacher Organization

**Friday, Feb. 22 from 8 – 9:30 AM**

To Register/Inquire: Call the school office at [513-221-1230](tel:513-221-1230)

Or email Principal Ertel at [aertel@abvmcincy.org](mailto:aertel@abvmcincy.org)

-- Coffee/Bagels/Fruit provided for parent forum --

**Clifton's Neighborhood School Since 1914!**

3545 Clifton Avenue Cincinnati, OH 45220