

# E - Zine

## Feel the Spirit

As pastor at St. Genevieve Parish (Slidell, LA ) and Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (New Orleans East), I was always drawn into the singing of the traditional spiritual, *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*. I'm sure you recall the first lines of the lyrics, "Every time I feel the Spirit movin' in my heart I will pray..."

That's where my thoughts are today approaching the great feast of Pentecost, May 23, 2010. (The word 'Pentecost' comes from the Greek; it means 'fiftieth'. Pentecost Sunday ends the season of Easter and follows a week's worth of weeks - 7 x 7 = 49).

That first Pentecost the disciples were gathered in the Upper Room: praying and remembering. Scripture recalls tongues of fire appeared over their heads and they were no longer the same. They went out into the streets witnessing to the good news of Jesus Christ. The words were carried with the power and authority of the Holy Spirit into their ears and their hearts.

In our on-going ministry outreach of evangelization at the Black and Indian Mission Office, we remind ourselves and one another, how blessed we are as an Easter People, a faith-filled people of

hope, a Spirit filled people! People – that's more than one person. We are a called-together-community who through Baptism first received the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is often considered the birthday of the Church! Annually we affirm our common mission to be Church, to tell the story of Jesus in Worship and Word and through proclamation and witness. We the evangelized become the evangelizer in our homes, workplaces, schools, grocery stores, playing fields ... wherever we find ourselves.

*Every Time I Feel the*

*Spirit* comes to closure with "Oh, I have sorrow and I have woe, I have heartaches here below. But while God leads me I'll never fear for I know that He is near." I pray, may that Spirit of Jesus blow afresh on you and your parish faith community this Pentecost even in the midst of life's burdens. Alleluia!



Father Wayne Paysse  
Executive Director

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[www.blackandindianmission.org](http://www.blackandindianmission.org)

### St. Katharine Drexel: 1-2-3 = 10



St. Katharine Drexel  
October 1, 2000

#### 10th Anniversary of the Canonization of ST. KATHARINE DREXEL

Weekend Celebration:

October 1 ~

Xavier University Jazz Ensemble Concert

October 2 ~

Dinner Under the Stars/Silent Auction

*Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament Motherhouse,  
Bensalem, PA*

October 3 ~ Anniversary Mass of Canonization

*Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Philadelphia, PA*

For more specific information, please contact Sr. Pat Downs, SBS  
at 215-244-9900 x 402 or [skdcenter@comcast.net](mailto:skdcenter@comcast.net)

### INSIDE

Black Madonna	2
Grants Available	2
St. Josephine	3
Matthew 19:14	3
Collaboration	4
Whatchacallit?	4
Look It Up	4



## Black Madonna: Hail Mary, full of grace...

The Ethiopian-Egyptian Mother (St. Maryum Sion) and Child are the original Black Madonna and Child. The European Mother Mary and Child are based on the African icon. In modern day Ethiopia, The Black Madonna is called St. Maryum Sion (Holy Mother of Zion); Christians and Catholics call our Divine Mother... "Mary, Mother of God."

The Black Madonna and her Baby were honored in Europe long before the slave trade, and continue to be

given homage until this very day in many different forms and by many different names: For example, in Russia she is known as Our Lady of Kazan, and in Poland, Our Lady of Chezstachovia.

Few people are aware that when communism ended in Russia in 1993, one of the first things the Russian people did was to construct a beautiful cathedral on the Red Square, dedicated to "Our Lady of Kazan," the Black Madonna and Child. France

has an extraordinary amount of Black Virgin images, perhaps more than any other nation.

In this month of May, traditionally dedicated to the Mother of God and our Mother, too, make time to pray to Mary under whatever title is meaningful to you: Black Madonna, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Mary Queen of Peace, etc. Place your concerns into her hands and know always "to go to Jesus, through Mary."

## Evangelization Grants

### GUIDELINES FOR REQUEST

*Limited pool: 1st come 1st serve basis*

1. Must be written; no requests by phone, please.
2. Submitted individually (no group plan i.e. the 4 of us from St Ann)
3. State - in ONE paragraph - why I am interested and how it might impact my life/ministry

**DEADLINE:** June 6, 2010 - requests to be sent to Father Wayne Paysse [info@blackandindianmission.org](mailto:info@blackandindianmission.org) or 2021 H Street, NW, Washington, DC, 2006

**ANNOUNCEMENT** of Grant Awards, the week of July 5, 2010

The Black and Indian Mission Office has several financial grants available to assist individuals who would like to participate in the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators Annual Meeting/Workshops, September 23-25, Providence, RI.

[www.nabcaonline.org](http://www.nabcaonline.org)

### UPON RETURN

Please submit a 50 word report on something you liked or learned. Your comments are for potential use in one of the office's publications.

## COLLABORTION AND COMMITMENT

The Diocese of Youngstown, OH, St. Jude Community Center (New Orleans) and the Marianite Sisters of Holy Cross were a trinity of good news to the Everage Family. They partnered to rehabilitate a home damaged by Katrina for Lisa Everage, long-time employee of the sisters who had lost everything in the flood. The article by Sr. Joyce Hanks, MSC, *From the Ashes of Katrina*, can be found at

<http://www.holycrossjustice.org/Perspectives/perspectives.htm> Click publications; latest issue of Perspectives, then past issue.



**"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Mt. 19:14**



**"It is better to be a child of God than king of the whole world." St. Aloysius Gonzaga**

## Saint Josephine Bakhita (1865-1947)

Born in Olgossa in the Darfur region of southern Sudan, Bakhita was kidnapped at the age of seven and sold into slavery. She was re-sold several times. Bakhita's body was mutilated by those who enslaved her, but they could not touch her inner spirit. In her memoirs written much later, she recalls that dishes of white flour and salt along with a knife were brought in by a woman who cut more than sixty patterns in her skin. She then filled them with the flour and salt to ensure Bakhita's permanent scarring. In 1883 she became the "property" of an Italian consul in Khartoum, Sudan.

Two years later he took Bakhita to Italy and gave her to his friend Augusto Michieli. Bakhita became nanny to Mimmina Michieli, whom she accompanied to Venice's Institute of the Catechumens, run by the Canossian Sisters. While Miss Mimmina was being instructed, Bakhita, too, felt drawn to the Catholic Church. She was baptized and confirmed in 1890, taking the name Josephine. The future saint refused to return to the Michieli's home. During the ensuing court case, the judge concluded that since

slavery was illegal in Italy, she had actually been free since 1885.

Josephine entered the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later. In 1902, she was transferred to the city of Schio, northeast of Verona, where she assisted her religious community through cooking, sewing, embroidery and welcoming visitors at the door. She soon became well loved by all who had contact with her. Josephine Bakhita acknowledged that Mary, Most Holy, was her advocate. On her death bed her last words were "Our Lady! Our Lady!"

The first steps toward her beatification began in 1959. She was beatified in 1992 and canonized October 1, 2000, St. Josephine Bakhita, the same day as St. Katharine Drexel.

Please see [www.blackandindianmission.org](http://www.blackandindianmission.org), *Profiles in Faith* for more on both saints.

A small group  
of thoughtful people  
could change  
the world.  
Indeed,  
it's the only thing  
that ever has.  
MARGARET MEAD



## Black and Indian Mission Office

What-cha-call-it?



Stay-at-home-Missionary!



The Black and Indian Mission Office supports Catholic evangelization efforts among Black, Indian and Indigenous communities throughout the U.S.

The Catholic Negro-American Mission Board has been shining the light of Christ within Black communities since 1907.

OK, what comes to your mind when you hear the word *missionary*? Is it people going to places far away, eating strange foods, experiencing a different culture and climate to bring Jesus' message? Well that could be accurate but only partially so. Baptism calls each of us to be a missionary, witnessing to the Good News of the Gospel, beginning right here at home and "to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

The Black and Indian Mission has a campaign to promote consciousness of what it means for each of us to be a STAY-AT-HOME-MISSIONARY. Have we got a deal for you ... there are no meetings and no dues! We recommend the following to live the call to be missionary:

- Offer one Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be each day for all missionaries world-wide.
- Pray for the evangelization efforts in our Black Catholic Parishes. Remember the good works and struggles of pastors, staff and the faith community in molding and shaping the local Church-in-Mission.
- Plug into the legacy of St. Katharine Drexel and make at least a monthly visit to the Blessed Sacrament Pray for the faith development of children in our parish and school religious educational programming across the United States.
- Pray the Mission Rosary ([www.missionrosary.org](http://www.missionrosary.org)) for an increase of vocations to the priesthood, religious life, permanent diaconate and all ministries among "People of Color" throughout the global family.
- Learn more about the lives of the Saints. Visit *Profiles in Faith* on our website and learn more about Mother Mary Lange, Venerable Pierre Toussaint, St. Josephine Bakhita, and more. Let them inspire you to put your faith into action!.
- Become an Apostle of Solidarity through sacrificial, monetary support of the Catholic Negro-American Mission Board.

### LOOK IT UP...

The Scriptures are filled with stories of the awareness of the Holy Spirit at work and the mysteries of life. The Spirit, the third person of the Blessed Trinity, works in many ways:

- gives life ( [John 7:38](#) )
- gives gifts ( [1 Corinthians 12](#) )
- counsels ( [John 14:26](#) )
- encourages ( [Acts 9:31](#) )
- steps in on our behalf ( [Romans 8:23](#) )
- builds up ( [Romans 8:27](#) )
- leads us to obedience ( [2 Corinthians 3:5](#) )
- brings to mind ( [1 John 2:20, 27](#) )
- energizes and makes effective ( [Acts 1:8](#) )



Come  
Holy  
Spirit

Visit us on the web at [www.blackandindianmission.org](http://www.blackandindianmission.org)

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