## Prayer in honor of Bakhita

Heavenly Father, Your Son Jesus Christ, through His suffering and death on the cross, gave Himself as a gift of love for the reconciliation and salvation of all peoples. He continues to express this love by giving us St. Josephine Bakhita. She too offered herself through her suffering in slavery. We humbly pray that through her intercession You may save her brothers and sisters in Sudan from slavery and persecution. May she obtain for her people and for the whole world the gift of justice and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Rt. Rev. Macram Max Gassis
Bishop of El-Obeid Diocese, Sudan

The Canossian Daughters of Charity, Servants of the Poor, is an international congregation of women founded by St. Magdalene of Canossa, canonized in 1988. Our actions arise from our identity born of Christ crucified, the Greatest Love. We are called to journey in simplicity. sharing a common life at the service of our brothers and sisters in every continent. Through ministries of education and human promotion. evangelization and faith formation, and pastoral care among the suffering, we strife to touch each person with the love of God. Our motto is "to make Jesus known and loved," especially to those most in need.

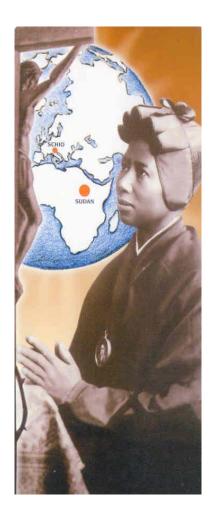
If you wish to learn more about the Canossian Daughters of Charity, please contact us at:

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St. Josephine Bakhita Canossian Daughter of Charity



Canonized October 1, 2000

By Pope John Paul II

## Bakhita Talks

"In God's will, there is great peace."

"It is an act of justice for the rich to help the poor."

"If we had no hope in the Lord, what would we do in this world?"

"The whole of my life has been God's gift; men, his instruments; thank to them, for providing me the gift of faith."

"If I were to keep kneeling the whole of my life, it would not be enough to express my gratitude to the Good God."

"The suffering, caused by illness, is more meritorious than any other self inflicted mortification."

## St. Josephine Bakhita Canossian Daughter of Charity

Josephine Bakhita was born in Sudan in 1869 and died in Schio (Italy) in 1947. This African flower, who knew the anguish of kidnapping, slavery and torture, bloomed marvelously in Italy, in response to God's grace, close to the Daughters of Charity

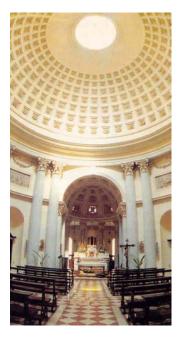
Bakhita, which means "fortunate one," is the name given her by her kidnappers. Sold and resold in the markets of El Obeid and Khartoum, she experienced the humiliations and the sufferings of slavery, both physical, mental and moral.

Fortunately, Bakhita encountered a good owner, who didn't use the lash when giving orders and treated her in a loving and cordial way.

She later celebrated the sacraments of Christian Initiation and was given the name,

Josephine, on January 9, 1890. Bakhita joined the religious institute of the Daughters of Charity of Canossa on December 8, 1896.

On May 17, 1992, Josephine Bakhita was beatified by Pope John Paul II. She was proclaimed Saint on October 1, in the Jubilee year 2000.



Schio, the Church of the Canossian House. Under the altar, rest, in a precious urn, Bakhita's mortal remains.