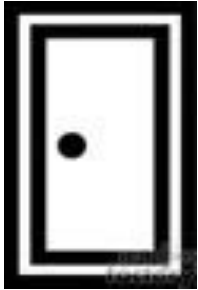


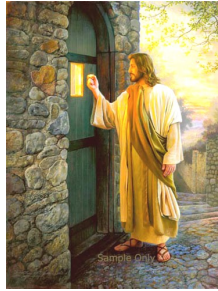
# EPHPHATHA

FEBRUARY IS DEDICATED TO THE HOLY FAMILY

FEBRUARY, 2012



Will you  
open or  
close  
your  
door



To the  
King of  
Glory  
this Lent



February 2012—

*Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he will dine with me.* (Rev. 3:20)

This month we begin Lent. The doorway to Easter. The following is a reflection on that door.

A door hangs normally upon two or three hinges. These hinges allow it to swing open and close. A door may either be shut or open. Shut to close off sound, entrance, or exit. Open to allow just the same without hindrance. But more importantly, and less thought of, a door is a place of encounter.

An encounter is a meeting; sometimes prearranged but often unplanned.

It was at a gate Pope Leo I met Attila the Hun. In this meeting at a door, a gate, two great men arranged a truce, a meeting of wills, and the saving of two peoples.

Coming to a door and suddenly meeting an adversary can be fearful. Often though we are expecting the unexpected at this meeting place.

“Then the Lord said to Cain, ‘Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.’” (Book of Genesis)

Warned that sin is at the door, the threshold, why should one worry. Such a meeting, an encounter, has been forewarned, almost, pre-arranged. But note how the meeting is arranged, how the posture of one over the other, will gain an advantage of one over the other.

Crouching is a posture of either submissiveness, cowardice, or of hiddenness. Of many attributes, the Evil One, Lucifer, the Devil would not be characterized as submissive or cowardly. No, it is in cloak of seemingly invisibility the Evil One wishes to be unnoticed until swiftly he is upon his prey.

A door, the place of encounter is also a prearranged meeting place for the Divine. Closed it performs as a barrier of protection, but open creates vulnerability. It is in this vulnerability that the Divine Word can be spoken and received. “Ask and it will be given to you; seek; and you will find; knock and the DOOR will be opened to you,” Jesus said.

This Lent, open the door to your life to Jesus and allow Him to enter as the King of glory.



## SPECIAL DAYS IN FEBRUARY

02-Presentation of the Lord

03-St. Blaise/St. Ansgor

06-St Paul Miki & Companions

08-St. Jerome Emiliani/ St. Josephine Bakhita

12- Lincoln's Birthday

14-St Cyril/St Methodius

Valentine's Day

17-Seven Holy Founders of Servite Order

20-Presidents' Day

21-St. Peter Damian

**22-ASH WEDNESDAY**

Washington's Birthday

23-St. Polycarp

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Jill Allison who works at St. Thomas Aquinas Church is also an interpreter. She would like for all to know that she would be willing to interpret at the Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Mass. If any Deaf would like to attend that Mass you are asked to sit in front on the lector's side where Jill will be. This is a great opportunity for those who would like to attend Mass at least once a week especially during Lent which begins this month. Thank you, Jill!**



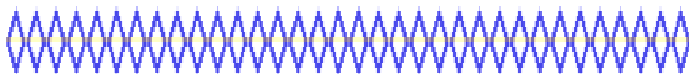
We welcome another interpreter-Teri Tasker. She wants to brush up on her signing and would like to become involved with the interpreting at the Sunday Masses. We welcome you Teri and wish you the best.



We put out the welcome mat for:

Heriberto Ruvalraba who moved here 6 years ago. It is always good to see new members added to our community.

### REMINDER TO ALL



Hopefully all of you have seen the note in the Catholic Advance some time ago inviting all of you to be aware of the d/Deaf in your area to make them aware of services offered to them. We have very good interpreters who are well-prepared and present at the Sunday Masses. It is up to you to invite others and to let Fr. Ken or Tom Racunas know their names and addresses. We also have a monthly newsletter we would like to send to them. Please be on the alert!

### History of the Catholic Deaf

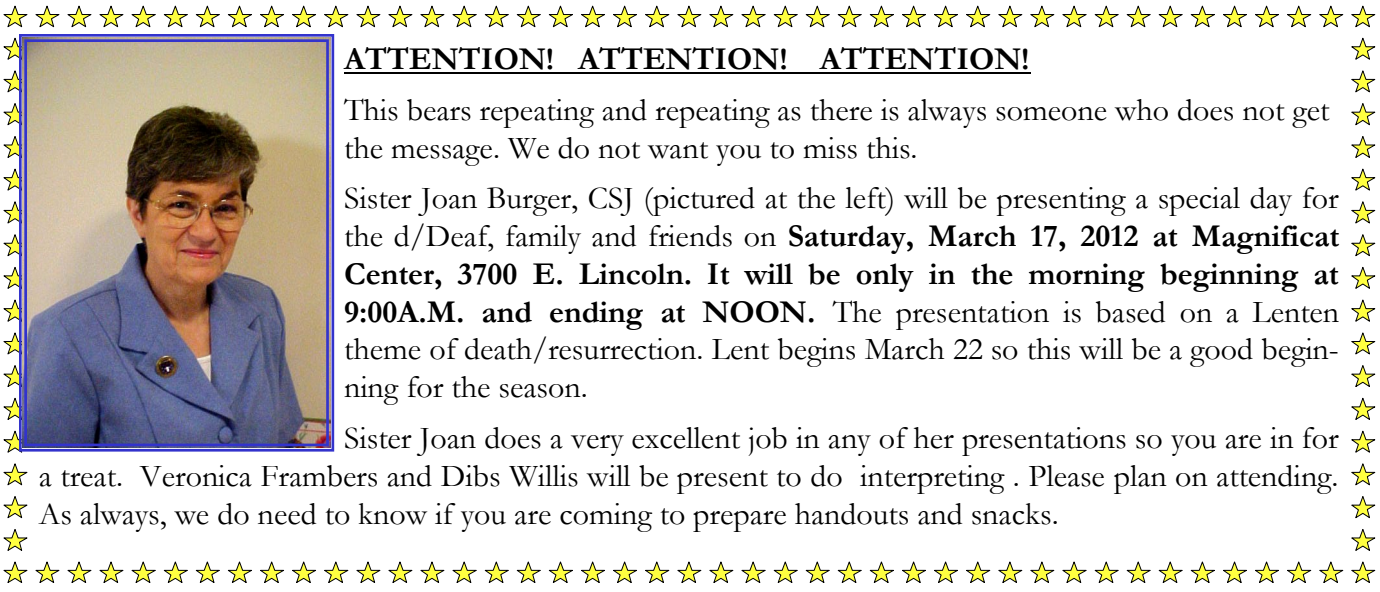
A history is in progress of the Catholic Deaf in the Wichita Diocese. If any of you reading this remember any item of interest that could be used in the history, it would be appreciated if you would send that to Sister Eula either by email to:

[elinnebur@csjoseph.org](mailto:elinnebur@csjoseph.org) -or-

3700 E. Lincoln, Wichita, KS 67218.

DEADLINE: February 8, 2012

Thank you!



**ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!**

This bears repeating and repeating as there is always someone who does not get the message. We do not want you to miss this.

Sister Joan Burger, CSJ (pictured at the left) will be presenting a special day for the d/Deaf, family and friends on **Saturday, March 17, 2012 at Magnificat Center, 3700 E. Lincoln. It will be only in the morning beginning at 9:00A.M. and ending at NOON.** The presentation is based on a Lenten theme of death/resurrection. Lent begins March 22 so this will be a good beginning for the season.

Sister Joan does a very excellent job in any of her presentations so you are in for a treat. Veronica Frambers and Dibs Willis will be present to do interpreting . Please plan on attending. As always, we do need to know if you are coming to prepare handouts and snacks.

**DID YOU KNOW**

Christina Weber has been taking her skills and 17 years of experience as a faith-based marriage and family therapist to a new group of Catholic women on the world wide web ([www.catholicwomensguide.com](http://www.catholicwomensguide.com)), Since May, 2011, she has been partially transitioning from therapy into coaching and educating Catholic women to have phenomenal relationships with themselves, God and the people in their lives. Her book, "*The Catholic Women's Guide to Healthy Relationships: 12 Supernatural Keys to Make Good Relationship Great and Improve Difficult Ones*" will be out this Spring. You can subscribe to her free Ezine "The Catholic Women's Guide" and receive her free special report. "Living Relationships in 3s: Building Your Personal Foundation of God's Love" by going to her website. Another great free resource that would be ideal to use for Lent is Christina's "Virtual Self-Directed Weekly Come Coaching Update". By devoting thirty minutes per week of prayer, reflection and journaling, Christina guides you through a virtual coaching process to help you target and improve your relationships from a Catholic world view.

**THE GREATEST MAN**

THE GREATEST MAN IN HISTORY JESUS HAD **no servants**, yet they called

Him **MASTER**. Had **no degree**, yet they called Him **Teacher**. Had **no**

**medicines**, yet they called Him **Healer**. He had **no army**, yet **kings**

**feared Him**. He won **no military battles** , yet **He conquered the world**.

He **committed no crime**, yet **they crucified Him**. He was **buried in a**

**tomb**, yet **He lives today**. I feel honored to serve such a Leader who

Loves us!



### ARE YOU AWARE?

The picture at the left is that of St. Josephine Bakhita. She was kidnapped at the age of 7 or 9 by Arab slave traders. Over the course of 12 years she was resold again 3 more times and then given away. The trauma of her abduction caused her to forget her own name. she took the one given to her by the slavers –*bakhita*, Arabic for *lucky*.. She was forcibly converted to Islam. In El Obeid Bakhita was bought by a very rich Arab merchant and employed as a maid. After years of torture as a slave, especially scarification and tattooing; resold again and again she was eventually left in the custody of the Canossians Sisters. There was some attempt by a former owner who wanted to take her again into slavery. She was now of age and in Italy where she now lived, slavery was not legal and she was free to enter in the Canossians Community. Only 12 years after her death in 1947 the process began for her canonization. Pope John Paul II canonized her on October 1, 2000. Because of her history there is currently a movement to designate her as the patron saint of human trafficking.

Every year, 1000s of men, women and children fall into the hands of traffickers, in their own countries and abroad. There are human beings being forced into prostitution, sexual exploitation, forced labor, slavery or similar practices, servitude or the removal of organs. Every country in the world is affected by trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims. More and more is being published about this evil. It is estimated that there are approx. 27 million slaves around the world and we call these times –modern. Around half of trafficking victim in the world are under the age of 18. We definitely need to return to a good moral life.

### ASH WEDNESDAY begins on February 22nd.

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!” (2 Cor. 6:2)

We have been through Ash Wednesday routine many times, but today as we enter this season of renewal we are at a place where we have never been before. This Ash Wednesday is the acceptable time for God to transform our lives. After reading about human trafficking perhaps this season of Lent is a good time to also pray for the conversion of those involved in human trafficking to turn away from sin and believe the Good News.

Lent is a season that reminds us to repent and get our lives, centered, our priorities straight, and our hearts clean. Ash Wednesday is a somber day of reflection on what needs to change in our lives if we are to be fully Christians.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- 04-Robert Hoheisel
- 07-William Starks
- 12-Ava Frambers
- 13-Christopher Frambers
- 19-Veronica Frambers
- 26-Samuel Willis

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

09- Elaine Aaron &  
Wayne Hemmen

**PRAY  
FOR RAIN**

Pray for  
PEACE  
And ask  
God  
to reign in  
our hearts