

## Ideas for celebrating Black Saints

### Saint Josephine Bakhita

*"Seeing the sun, the moon, and the stars, I said to myself: 'Who could be the Master of these beautiful things?' And I felt a great desire to see Him, to know Him, and to pay Him homage".*



Read the quote above to the children. Ask them to draw/paint a picture of what they think Saint Josephine saw.



### Research

Ask the children to research the countries where the black saints came from. Saint Augustine and Saint Monica came from Thagaste in the Roman Empire. This can be related to the Romans topic in History.



### Slavery



Saint Josephine Bakhita, Saint Moses the strong and Saint Benedict's parents were all slaves. Older children could perhaps research modern slavery. Use the words of Saint Josephine to start a debate, **"If I were to meet those who kidnapped me, or even those who tortured me, I would kneel down and kiss their hands. Because, if those things had not happened, I would not have become a Christian and would not be a Sister today."** How do the children feel? Would they be as forgiving?

### Hope/Happy Box



Many of the saints showed great courage in times of difficulty. The children can make themselves a hope or happy box for the times when they are feeling sad, upset, lonely or unwell. The best hope boxes have kind messages from friends that cheer you up. A photograph of a special memory from a birthday, celebration, holiday or your family. A stress toy or something to cuddle. Small gifts or trinkets can also go in the box. Something to eat or smell (make sure it isn't something that will go off). The messages can be written in school and the boxes made at home.