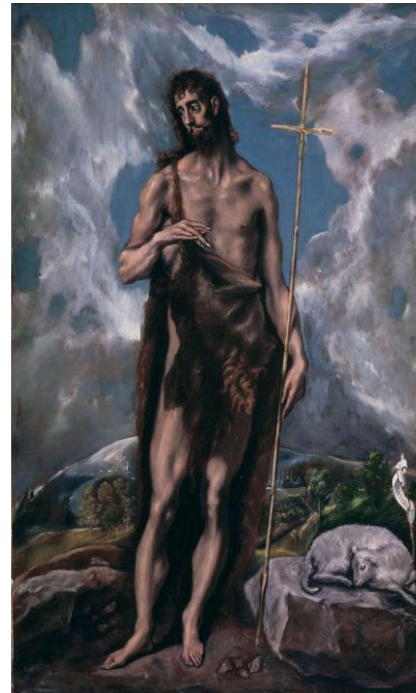


*Growing
in Spirit,
Community,
and Service*

*Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



Saint John the Baptist (c. 1600), by El Greco (1541-1614), Oil on canvas.

© Legion of Honor, Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco Source: Wikicommons, Public Domain.

Mass Times

Sunday Eucharist

*Saturday Vigil: 5 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am, 10 am
and 12 noon*

Weekday Eucharist

Monday to Friday: 9 am:

Sacrament of

Reconciliation

Saturday: 9 to 10 am

Ministry Centre

Hours

Sunday:

9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Monday, Tuesday,

Wednesday, Friday:

9:30 am to 4 pm

Thursday: Closed

Saturday:

3 pm to 7 pm

*1300 Leslie Street,
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9
Tel: 416.447.5571
Fax: 416.447.4082*

www.st-bonaventure.ca

Advent Sunday by Christina Rossetti

BEHOLD, the Bridegroom cometh: go ye out
With lighted lamps and garlands round about
To meet Him in a rapture with a shout.
It may be at the midnight, black as pitch,
Earth shall cast up her poor, cast up her rich.
It may be at the crowing of the cock
Earth shall upheave her depth, uproot her rock.
For lo, the Bridegroom fetcheth home the Bride:
His Hands are Hands she knows, she knows His Side.
Like pure Rebekah at the appointed place,
Veiled, she unveils her face to meet His Face.
Like great Queen Esther in her triumphing,
She triumphs in the Presence of her King.
His Eyes are as a Dove's, and she's Dove-eyed;
He knows His lovely mirror, sister, Bride.
He speaks with Dove-voice of exceeding love,
And she with love-voice of an answering Dove.
Behold, the Bridegroom cometh: go we out
With lamps ablaze and garlands round about
To meet Him in a rapture with a shout.

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

NEXT WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 16	9 AM	Special Intention of the Lee Family
Tuesday, December 17	9 AM	† Janet Miklas-Moffat
Wednesday, December 18	9 AM	† Dr. Dominic Ng
Thursday, December 19	9 AM	† Raymond Fung
Friday, December 20	9 AM	Elizabeth Joseph and Family The Friars † Alejandra Ramos † Melanie Badali † Jens Skafte † Dematira Bibat † Holy Souls in Purgatory † Virgilio Dichoso Guerta
Saturday, December 21	5 PM	† Martine Ramos
Sunday, December 22	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	10 AM	In Thanksgiving from the Gabriel Family
	12 PM	† David and Teresa Hui
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	† Warren Mak
	Bl. Sac.	Intentions of the Hisey Family
	Our Lady	Intention of Vinodh Loganadhan

A RETURN TO THE CONFESSIONAL ROOM FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

We've returned to using the Confessional Room for celebrating the Sacrament. The Confessional Room is located beside the infant and toddler crying room. Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m.. In addition, you can always make an appointment with Fr. Peter or Fr. Tom to celebrate this Sacrament of God's mercy.

ADVENT DAY OF CONFESSIONS - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024

Advent Day of Confessions for our parish is Wednesday, December 18, 2024. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at the following times in the Confessional Room: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., and 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., in addition to the regularly scheduled times on Saturdays. For other opportunities that the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at parishes throughout the Archdiocese, please consult: <https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/confession/home/confession-times/>

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND



Our parish has an active Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound. Our Eucharistic Ministers provide pastoral visits and bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are unable to attend church because of illness, disability or age. If you or someone you know might benefit from this ministry, please contact us at homebound@st-bonaventure.ca or at 416-447-5571 ext. 590 and let us know.

CASSEROLES FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE- DUE DATE IS DECEMBER 30, 2024

Please have your completed casseroles dropped off at the Ministry Centre by Dec 30th for pick up. Thank you!

PRAYER



In our charity we remember those who are ill and all who have requested a remembrance in our prayers.

We commend to the Lord the members of our parish who died recently:
+ James Long, + Bernard Nottage, + Anna Szatmary, and + Christopher Harris.

PRAYER NETWORK REQUESTS

Network members pray daily for your prayer intentions which are held in confidence. New members are welcome! Please call Teresa Krijgsman at 416-709-8150 with your prayer intentions or if you would like to join the prayer network.

ADVENT RESOURCES

Pray as you Go, Pilgrims of Hope: Advent 2024

This new liturgical year is also the opening of the Jubilee Year within the church, to which everyone is invited. This year's retreat is 'Pilgrims of Hope'. Advent is above all a time of hope. As pilgrims of hope, our Advent journey invites us to travel in confidence, looking to the birth of Jesus as the source of all hope for our world. The retreat can be found online with the link below and offers weekly installments. <https://pray-as-you-go.org/series/70-pilgrimsofhopeadvent2024>

Advent Retreat with Cardinal Collins: Come Lord Jesus

Each day of Advent Cardinal Collins will share with us insights for the season. This retreat is available the Daily TV Mass. <https://dailytvmass.com/news/advent-retreat-with-cardinal-collins/>

Sacred Space Advent Retreat 2024: We Need Never Walk Alone

Let us begin our Advent journey together, praying each day with scripture and in the Presence of the One for whom we are waiting. Advent is an opportunity to spend time quietly resting in God's loving arms and ponder the wonder and mystery of Jesus. It is a perfect time to renew our faith, hope and love, reflect on our relationships with ourselves, others and God, and focus on what matters most in life. <https://sacredspace.com/events/retreat/advent-2024/>

HELPING OTHERS

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



You have now been given life's great treasure; when he comes the Lord will ask for what he has entrusted to you. -St. Cyril of Jerusalem

By visiting people in need in their homes and walking alongside to guide them to resources to break the cycle of poverty, we give them hope for the future.

Your generous donations to our poor boxes and through Canada Helps do help us make a difference. Thank you!



Our confidential helpline is: 416-447-5571 Ext. 570. In addition to donating through our poor boxes located at our three main exits, online donations can be made securely through our QR code or the following link: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-st-bonaventure-conference/>

SHARELIFE CAMPAIGN UPDATE: MAKE A SHARELIFE GIFT , YOUR YES WILL GO TWICE AS FAR!

NEW: Your gift will double in value! From November 1 until year end, **your contribution** to our parish's ShareLife campaign **will be matched** by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000.

Our goal this year is \$119,000. To date we have achieved \$74,497.64. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - ANNUAL SOCK DRIVE



The Knights of Columbus is asking for donations for its annual Sock Drive to be held in December at all the weekends masses. Two large boxes with labels will be placed at the back of the church and parishioners are asked to drop off items in the boxes.

All donations will be given to Homeless Shelters.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COFFEE MONDAYS FOR SENIORS AT HAWTHORN SCHOOL



As a gesture of respect and gratitude for senior citizens in the community, the students at Hawthorn School would like to invite all seniors to Hawthorn's monthly Coffee Mondays. Join us! Enjoy complimentary coffee, snacks and a performance at 3:15 pm on the following Mondays:

December 16, January 20, February 10, March 3, April 14, May 12, June 9

For more information: Contact Queenie Yu at 416-444-3054 or gyu@hawthornschool.com
Hawthorn School, 101 Scarsdale Rd, Toronto M3B 2R2

THE PROMISE - ADVENT CONCERT IN SUPPORT OF ST. CLARE INN



The Promise
St. Bonaventure Church, Main Hall

Friday December 20th at 7:30 pm
and
Saturday December 21st at 2 pm and 7:30 pm

Purchase tickets online at
stclareinn.org

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Monday, December 23 after the 9:00 am Mass. We will begin after the Rosary. If you would like to help, please come let us know by calling the Ministry Centre at 416-447-5571

MINISTRY WITH MATURING ADULTS

Ministry With Maturing Adults



With a focus on nurturing our spirituality in body, mind and spirit in the second half of life and finding meaning and purpose in our daily life, always with a spirit of gratitude and practicing welcoming and hospitality to those we encounter each day in our families, communities and beyond.

We hope to provide you with helpful and relevant information from our own presentations and our partners in the community while meeting and enjoying our Tuesday morning gatherings, usually twice monthly! There is no need to pre-register for these events below. Just come and you will be warmly welcomed! And feel free to invite a friend! If you would like more information, email: Trena Finnegan, Coordinator Ministry with Maturing Adults: trena@st-bonaventure.ca

Tuesday December 17th 10:00AM to 11:30AM Francis Room

Coping with the Loss of a Loved One during Christmas and other Holiday Celebrations

We warmly welcome you to come and join us in a small group setting to remember those you will be missing this Christmas and explore possible new ways that might help you be more present to yourself, other family members and friends as you experience this time of loss.

We will learn from an experienced Grief Counsellor some new coping skills, recall a good moment in the life of our dearly departed one, have some time of prayer and enjoy coffee with others in our supportive community here at St. Bonaventure Parish.

RSVP or if you would like more information email Trena at trena@st-bonaventure.ca

Tuesday January 7th from 10:00AM to 11:30AM, Main Hall

Move it or Lose it! Practical ways to stay physically active and fit as we age.

Exercise is good for all of us. Good for strengthening the body, sharpening the mind and balancing mood. If that is so, why do so many of us struggle to start and maintain a regular and purposeful exercise routine especially as we age? In this talk, Michael Carrera a fitness professional will highlight some simple strategies to get you moving, build strength, flexibility and help you overcome barriers that get in the way of your health and wellness goals.

Michael Carrera has a master's degree in exercise science and has authored and co-authored four books: Periodization Strength Training for Sports (2nd ed.), The Catholic Workout book and DVD, Conditioning Young Athletes and Soul Winner. Soul Loser. A Remarkable Story of Finding Meaning in the Wisdom of the Day. Two of his books have been translated into multiple languages. Michael was recently ordained a Permanent Deacon for the Archdiocese of Toronto. He lives in Toronto, Canada, with his wife and four children.

January 21st 10:00AM to 11:30AM

Spiritual essentials for Life's Second Act

A Workshop looking at our needs as we live out the second half of our life - Based on the writings of Janet Schaeffler, OP

We continue exploring the needs that Sr. Schaeffler identifies and focus on The Need to Ask and Explore Questions and The Need to Continue to Learn and Grow. We finish our session with looking at the Need to be Grateful. Workshop facilitated by: Sandra Nelson and Trena Finnegan

Tuesday January 28th 10:00AM to 11:30AM

Enhancing Your Gut Health

A Presentation by Delmanor, Wynford Retirement Living

The presenter is Whitney Hilts, Regional Manager of Living Well Services who is trained in healthy aging including healthy eating, exercise, and mental health.

This presentation will cover:

- Importance of digestive health for immune health, metabolism and mental health
- Probiotics and what they do for us
- What are the prebiotics and how they help our digestive system
- Why we need fiber and fiber friendly foods
- What's kombucha? How does it help us and samples to try
- Q/A at the end

Save the Dates: February 4 and 18, 2025.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - A MESSAGE FOR FR. TOM

Dear Parishioners,

Peace and blessings!

I would like to bring you up to date with respect to our construction project and its financing:

Cross Removal, Tower Demolition, Courtyard and Walkway Paving

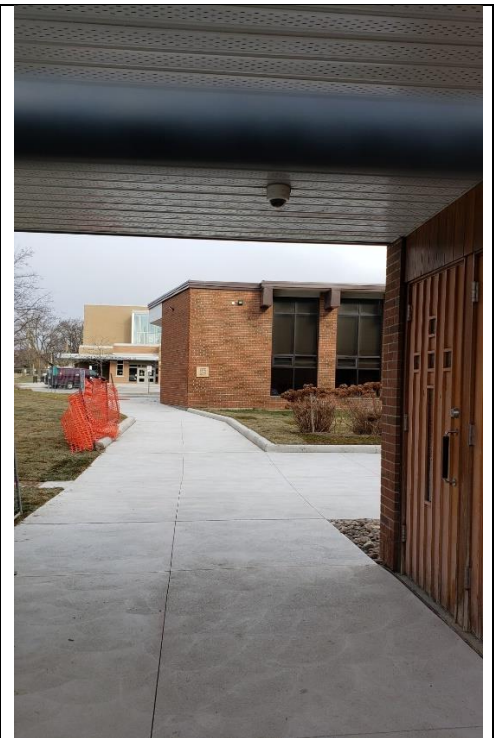
By and large the walkways around the church are finished. The pavers, many of which were cracked and chipped, have been replaced with concrete. There are some finishing touches that still need attention.



Walkway in front of Ministry Centre



Turning Circle



Walkway in Front of Church and Hall

GROWING IN *Spirit, Community, and Service*

Although the cross and tower have been removed, the courtyard is not yet complete. The intake vents for the furnace draw air from the pit at the foot of the coloured glass window. The grill covering the pit has not yet been installed. There are some issues concerning the pavement in the courtyard that are being discussed. Thus, for reasons of safety, access to the courtyard will be deferred until springtime.

The drainage of surface water from the courtyard and new walkways has been a considerable part of this project. The installation of the drainpipes involved excavations in front of the church and old friary. There is still a fair amount of cleanup to do.



Open Pit for Exhaust, Grate Needed

Walkway from Church to Old Friary

Walkway Between Church & Hall

Financing

When the work began last March, the projected cost of the entire project was \$1,364,002, including HST of 13%. This amount allowed for contingencies that typically arise in the course of this kind of project. We have, in fact, had to make adjustments that have resulted in costs amounting to \$36,400. The total amount allotted for contingencies was \$100,021.

We tasked ourselves to raise \$130,000 over six maintenance collections in 2024. The total for the six collections is \$110,436. In addition, there were some donations made aside from the collections. These amount to \$15,000. Finally, the CWL Bonnie Tea Party has yielded \$17,940. From all sources, we have raised a total of \$143,376.

A sincere word of thanks to all of you for your generosity. THANK YOU!!! The work is not yet complete, and all the bills have not been paid, but as of now, we are on target.

Fr. Tom

CONTACT US

Ministry Centre (Office)

1300 Leslie Street
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9
Office: 416-447-5571

Pastor

Fr. Thomas Reist, OFM Conv.
Ext. 234
frtom@st-bonaventure.ca

Associate Pastor

Fr. Peter Knaapen, OFM Conv
Ext. 233
FrPeter@st-bonaventure.ca

Lay Pastoral Associate

Gregory Beath
Ext. 258
gregb@st-bonaventure.ca

Parish Manager

Connie Durante
Ext. 224
connie@st-bonaventure.ca

ARE YOU REGISTERED? IF NOT, ASK AN USHER
FOR A PARISH REGISTRATION FORM TO COMPLETE

Ministry for Maturing Adults

Trena Finnegan
Ext. 550
trena@st-bonaventure.ca

St. Clare Inn Office:

1320 Leslie Street, Suite 200
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9 416-690-0330
info@stclareinn.org

St Bonaventure School

1340 Leslie Street
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9 416-393-5263
<https://www.tcdsb.org/SCHOOLS/STBONAVENTURE/>

Casseroles for the Good Shepherd Centre

416-447-5571 ext 580

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

416-447-5571 ext. 570

St. Anthony of Padua Mission Aid

1320 Leslie Street, Suite 100
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9
416-690-9904 www.saintanthonyofpadua.net

REFLECTION

“He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” (Luke 3:16b)

The readings for this Sunday are about rejoicing. The First Reading tells God’s people to shout for joy, and the Second Reading exhorts Christians to rejoice always. The Gospel Reading says that John the Baptist preached good news to the people. So what did John the Baptist say? What is there to rejoice about? It helps in thinking about this question to have some sense of what the bad news is.

The Second Reading follows the call to rejoice with an exhortation to have no anxieties. The bad news is everything that raises those anxieties. The First Reading spells out some of it. There are enemies; there are misfortune—sickness, poverty, unemployment, natural disaster, and all the rest. It is possible to find some peace about all these things by bringing them to God in prayer and putting your trust in him. At any rate, that is the antidote to these anxieties recommended by this reading. But a person can have anxieties that are harder to bring to God. There are the relationships you have broken, the wreckage you have made of things at home, the failures you are culpable for at work. Sin can paralyze any effort at joy, in loving relationship with God and others. You can put your trust in God; but what happens when you know that God can put no trust in you? What happens to joy in the face of this thought? *That* is the bad news.

But this is also where the good news comes in. The First Reading promises that *God* will rejoice over *you*. And why? The answer is also in the First Reading: God will renew you; and when he does, you will be so lovely that God himself will make songs about you and for you, and he himself will sing them to you. That is amazing good news, isn’t it? But how can it be? This is where the good news of John the Baptist comes in. Christ will baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit will then dwell in you. Christ is Emmanuel, God with us, and he brings God the Holy Spirit into us. When God is with you and in you, how can you keep from singing for joy.

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May the Lord bless you and keep you!