



*Growing
in Spirit,
Community,
and Service*

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

*Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



La Visitation avec Marie-Jacobie et Marie-Salomé (1491), by Domenico Ghirlandaio (1448-1494).
Tempera on panel. © The Louvre. Source: Wikicommons, Public Domain.

The Visitation by Malcolm Guite

Here is a meeting made of hidden joys
Of lightnings cloistered in a narrow place
From quiet hearts the sudden flame of praise
And in the womb the quickening kick of grace.
Two women on the very edge of things
Unnoticed and unknown to men of power
But in their flesh the hidden Spirit sings
And in their lives the buds of blessing flower.
And Mary stands with all we call 'too young',
Elizabeth with all called 'past their prime'
They sing today for all the great unsung
Women who turned eternity to time
Favoured of heaven, outcast on the earth
Prophets who bring the best in us to birth.

Malcolm Guite, *Sounding the Seasons: Seventy sonnets for Christian year* Norwich: Canterbury Press.

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

NEXT WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 23	9 AM	† Roselio A. Pedragosa, Sr.
Tuesday, December 24	4 PM	Family and Friends of Gwen Fitzgerald
	7 PM	† Marjorie Mitchell
	10 PM	The Parishioners
Wednesday, December 25	10 AM	† Bernadette Badali
	12 PM	† Joseph D'Souza
Thursday, December 26	9 AM	† Stephen Lim
Friday, December 27	9 AM	Gayathri and Christopher Yogarajan † Percival and Charlotte Pinheiro † Josef Sitar † Pauline MacKinnon † Friar Boniface Reinhart, OFM Conv. † Gregory Dosman
Saturday, December 28 Sunday, December 29	5 PM	† Joan Rex
	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	10 AM	† Raymond Fook Yuen Lam
	12 PM	† Alexandra Zoppos
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Children of the Parish
	Bl. Sac.	Families experiencing fractured relationships
	Our Lady	Intention of Vinodh Loganadhan

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN ~ CHRISTMAS PAUSE

Liturgy of the Word with Children will resume on January 5, 2025 at the 10 a.m. Mass.

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.

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.

HELPING OTHERS

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!

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

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Minday, 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



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 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

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

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

Save the Dates: February 4 and 18, 2025.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (Holy Day of Obligation)

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24th

4 pm (Children's Mass) ~ Live animals at 3 PM, prior to the Mass.

{Children will have an opportunity to pet the animals from 3 to 3.55 PM.

Come & join us for this fun activity}

7 pm (Carols begin at 6:40 pm)

10 pm (Carols begin at 9:40 pm)

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th - 10 am and 12 noon only

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Saturday, December 28th - 5 pm

Sunday, December 29th- 8:30 am, 10 am and 12 noon

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Holy Day of Obligation)

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31st - 5 pm

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1st - 10 am and 12 noon only

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 4th - 5 pm

Sunday, January 5th - 8:30 am, 10 am and 12 noon

(Liturgy of the Word with Children resumes today at the 10 a.m. Mass)

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 11th - 5pm

Sunday, January 12th - 8:30 am, 10 am and 12 noon

The Ministry Centre (Parish Office) will be closed on:

Dec. 24 at 1 p.m., Dec. 25 and 26, Dec. 31 at 1 p.m. and Jan. 1 and 2.

Please note: the Ministry Centre is regularly closed on Thursdays, except by appointment.

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

**“When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb.
And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit” (Luke 1:41)**

In the Readings for Sunday, there is the sketch of a wonderful world. In that world there are angels, who take care of human beings. There is a ruler, who shepherds people and protects them. By his power and his goodness he brings peace to all the earth. There is peace for the troubled psyche of every person too. God turns each unsettled, uneasy, unhappy heart to himself. And, turned to God, every heart can be at peace. There is salvation from sin and even holiness. God has redeemed his people and consecrated them to himself. They are the saints of God. And there is glory.

Who was this Elizabeth? An ordinary Jewish woman of her time, distinguished by her barrenness and not much more. And yet look at her in the Gospels, filled with the Holy Spirit and exercising the office of prophet to Mary, mother of the Lord. She is glorious in this story, isn't she? In the world sketched by the Readings there is the glory and beauty of holiness available for all God's people.

But consider the everyday world we live in. Do we find angels, majestic rulers, goodness protecting the people, peace in the world, holiness in our hearts, glory in our lives? Look around the mall, listen to the news media. What world are the writers of the Readings living in? And yet our own experience of grace gives us hope in the world of the Readings, doesn't it? The ugliness and the evil, so easy to see, overlie a deeper reality, which we can sense in the quiet moments of our lives when, like Mary, we are open to the call of the Lord. The everyday world of the mall and the news media, which looks so compelling, is a thin thing which will crumple and dissolve in time. What will remain is the world we hear about in Sunday's Readings.

In Deuteronomy, Moses tells the people, “The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms!” (Dt 33:27). Underneath, in the refuge of the everlasting arms, is where the truth of the Readings lies. And the Truth behind the Readings lies in the womb of Mary, waiting to be born.

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May the Lord bless you and keep you!