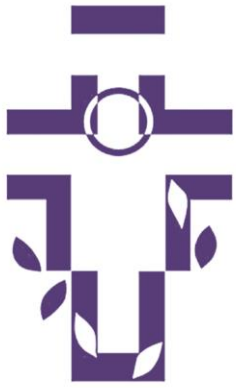


*Second Sunday of Advent  
December 8, 2024*



*Growing  
in Spirit,  
Community,  
and Service*

# Bonnie News

*Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure*



*Saint John the Baptist in the Desert (c. 1637-39), Simone Cantarini (1612-1648), Etching print, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Source: Wikicommons*

## *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*

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*www.st-bonaventure.ca*

Leave your sorrows and tears,  
put on your garments of joy:  
The one who is coming  
comes on the clouds.

The love of God guides us;  
his glory is our light:  
The one who is coming  
comes victorious!

Why do you not hasten  
toward the day of your God?  
The one who is coming  
comes for our joy!

Prepare his way,  
accept his pardon;  
each of us will see  
the grace of God  
on the day of judgment!

Happy the one who believed  
that one day would be fulfilled  
the words of our God  
for all whom he loves!

Behold, the times are come  
when the Lord of justice  
will fulfill his promise of Peace  
for all whom he loves!

## LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

### NEXT WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 9	9 AM	† Teresa Kremer
Tuesday, December 10	9 AM	† Virgilio Ungab
Wednesday, December 11	9 AM	† Claudine Fox
Thursday, December 12	9 AM	† Guadalupe Tubero and Lourdes Tusi
Friday, December 13	9 AM	Shuk-Chun Wong Brothers, Sisters and Benefactors of the Order † Giovanni Abbruzzese † Grazia Maida † Angela Colasanti
Saturday, December 14	5 PM	† Norm Bell
Sunday, December 15	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	10 AM	† Magdalena Trinidad
	12 PM	† David Hui
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	† Anna Szatmary
	Bl. Sac.	† Christopher Harris
	Our Lady	Intention of Vinodh Loganadhan

### SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY IN 2024

This year, the celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. The celebration of the Second Sunday of Advent takes precedence on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

### 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 am.

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND ~ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Will you join us?** Our **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound** bring the Holy Eucharist to parishioners who are confined to their homes due to illness, disability or the aging process. We are looking for new members to be part of this wonderful ministry. Your compassionate presence and prayers will provide the sick and homebound with a sense of community, spiritual support and belonging. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please email [homebound@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:homebound@st-bonaventure.ca) or call 416-447-5571 ext. 590.

### 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*.

## PRAYERS AND BEST WISHES FOR FRANK CARDINAL LEO

The faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto offer our prayers and best wishes for the newest members of the College of Cardinals, including our chief shepherd, the Archbishop of Toronto, Frank Cardinal Leo. This weekend, Cardinal Leo is in Rome as one of the 21 new cardinals from around the world gathered with Pope Francis. Please pray for our new cardinal as he begins this important role of service to the Church. Regional Masses to celebrate Cardinal Leo and the beginning of the Jubilee Year will take place early in 2025. More details will be shared in the coming weeks.

## NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

The Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council, founded by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1998, proposes that the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12) be a National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples. All are invited to join their Indigenous sisters and brothers in a special way this day through prayer and acts of solidarity.

## 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](http://sharelife.org/donate).

**ADVENT GIVING TREE IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL NEEDS - DUE BY DECEMBER 15TH**

The Giving Tree will be set up in the back of the church. This year, we are supporting: Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the Sisters of Life -Toronto, and Greenview Lodge Seniors Residence. Please take a tag off the tree and return the gift by Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. **Thank you for your generosity!**

**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**

**BLOOD DONOR CLINIC - FRIDAY DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> FROM 3 - 7 PM - MAIN HALL**



**Canadian Blood Services** **Société canadienne du sang**

Your donation Matters!

It matters to every patient across Canada because it's something we can do today to help others wake up healthier tomorrow. Please

consider being a blood donor. Join Canada's Lifeline: Book now at [blood.ca](http://blood.ca) or call 1-888-2 DONATE

**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](mailto:gyu@hawthornschool.com)  
Hawthorn School, 101 Scarsdale Rd, Toronto M3B 2R2

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



**Save the Date! *the Promise***

**St. Bonaventure Church, Main Hall**  
**Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**  
**and**

**Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm and 7:30 pm**  
**Tickets: \$30 and Free for children 12 & under**

**Purchase tickets online at [stclareinn.org](http://stclareinn.org)**

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](mailto:trena@st-bonaventure.ca)

**Tuesday December 17<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:trena@st-bonaventure.ca)

**Tuesday January 7<sup>th</sup> 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. More information to follow!

**Save the Dates: February 4 and 18, 2025.**

## 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](mailto:frtom@st-bonaventure.ca)

### Associate Pastor

Fr. Peter Knaapen, OFM Conv  
Ext. 233  
[FrPeter@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:FrPeter@st-bonaventure.ca)

### Lay Pastoral Associate

Gregory Beath  
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### Parish Manager

Connie Durante  
Ext. 224  
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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](mailto:trena@st-bonaventure.ca)

### St. Clare Inn Office:

1320 Leslie Street, Suite 200  
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9 416-690-0330  
[info@stclareinn.org](mailto: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](http://www.saintanthonyofpadua.net)

## REFLECTION

“...and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” (*Luke 3:6*)

Each person has a life story. It begins when a person is born, helpless and naked, infinitely valuable to his mother maybe but not of much account in the world at large. From that beginning on, each person is trying to get somewhere, to be something. At every stage, he is hoping that if he could *only*—only what? Well, only learn to ride the bike, win the girl, finish the degree, land the job, buy the house, get the raise—then, oh, then, he would have gotten what he wanted to have. He would be what he wanted to be.

But what is it we *really* want to have and to be? What is the point of anything we strive for in our lives? When all is said and done, none of us is getting out of this world alive. And when we face that fact, what difference does anything make? Each chapter of a person’s life leads inexorably to the next, until it leads to death. As we face death, will we care at all anymore about all those things that we struggled to have and to be during any of the earlier chapters of our lives?

It can be that we will. A person can write the story of his life in such a way that the main theme is the Lord and the things of the Lord. Those things last through death, into the world that is the ever-lasting last chapter for the lives of the Lord’s people. Our Psalm [Ps. 126] illuminates that last chapter brilliantly. In that world, on the other side of death, all the failures, all the sins, all the pains—everything that caused tears in earthly life will be redeemed into joy. Even if a person ended the earthly story of his life with only seeds of faith, hope, and love, he will reap the fruit of those seeds with rejoicing in the world to come. At that time, each of the Lord’s people will look at what he has gotten and think he must be dreaming. He will look at what he himself has become and find it so hard to believe and so good that he bursts into laughter of joy. This end of the story is what is worth living for.

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**May the Lord bless you and keep you!**