

*Easter Sunday
April 5, 2026*



*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**

<https://stbonaventuresdo.archto.ronto.org/>

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



"The Three Marys" (1910), Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859-1937). Oil on canvas. Fisk University Art Galleries, Nashville, Tennessee. Public domain. Source: Wikimedia Commons.

"If you were not risen" by Brother Roger of Taizé

If you were not risen,
Lord Christ,
to whom would we go
to discover a radiance
of the face of God?

If you were not risen,
we would not be together
seeking your communion.
We would not find in your presence
forgiveness,
wellspring of a new beginning.

If you were not risen,
where would we draw
the energy for following you
right to the end of our existence,
for choosing you again and anew?

Source:

<https://thevalueofsparrows.wordpress.com/2018/04/30/prayer-if-you-were-not-risen-by-brother-roger-of-taize/>

AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Christ the Lord is risen! Alleluia!

In North America, Easter falls squarely within Springtime - and happily so. The first green of daffodils piercing the soil, the chirping of birds playing hide and seek, the sun higher in the sky: they all scream "life!" The Gospel message reminds us why nature would have us feel light again: He is risen! Sin and death are no match for a goodness that heals and a life that knows no end.

The Friars and Staff of St. Bonaventure's wish all of you the Easter blessings of joy, hope and abiding peace. Happy Easter!

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, April 6	9 AM	† Isabella Addison De Leon
Tuesday, April 7	9 AM	† Doris Tong
Wednesday, April 8	9 AM	† Arlene Maguire
Thursday, April 9	9 AM	† Ginny Doty
Friday, April 10	9 AM	Vocations Intention of Mary Fitzpatick † Harold Bell † Mary Lou Gray † Douglas Lafreniere
Saturday, April 11	5 PM	† Nimfa Chua
Sunday, April 12	8:30 AM	Intentions of Leomer & Dave Alon
	10 AM	† Tom Harasti
	12 PM	The Parishioners
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Intentions of Dennis and Annette Mendonca
	Bl. Sac.	For the Sick of the Parish
	Our Lady	Intention of Dave Alon

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND



If a parishioner is unable to attend Sunday Mass due to serious illness, recovery from surgery, or frailty in old age, then Extraordinary Ministers of Communion to the Homebound (specifically trained for this ministry) will bring the Eucharist to them. If you or someone you know might benefit from this ministry, please contact us by e-mail at homebound@st-bonaventure.ca or call Mary Catherine directly at 416-303-0269.

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

There will be no separate celebration of the Liturgy of the Word with Children on Easter Sunday. We will resume next Sunday, April 12 at 10 a.m. We invite children ages 4-9 to participate.

MINISTRY CENTRE HOURS DURING HOLY WEEK



Please note that the Ministry Centre will be **closed** on Good Friday, April 3, Easter Sunday, April 5 and Easter Monday, April 6. Please note the office will be open on Holy Saturday, April 4 from 3pm - 7pm. We will reopen on Tuesday with our regular office hours. We wish you a Joyous Easter!

FAITH & 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 Durbano, + Joyce Chong, + Ann O'Leary, + Michael Price, + Theresa Duffy, + Rev. Sal Badali,
+ Nabor Sequeira, + Diane Marchisello, + Suzanne McCallister, + Jorge Carvalho,
+ Justyn Klym, + Patrick Doty, and + Nealia Somasundaram.

PRAYER NETWORK REQUESTS

The **Prayer Network** is a group of parishioners who pray daily for all the prayer requests received by the Network. Nearly 45 parishioners are members of this group which began 1994. All prayer requests are kept in confidence, and no names are included when requests are passed onto the Network. Please contact **Teresa Krijgsman** at **416-709-8150** with your prayer intention or if you would like to become a member of the Prayer Network.



EASTER MEAL BLESSING



*God of glory, the eyes of all turn to you
as we celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death.
Bless us and this food of our first Easter meal.
May we who gather at the Lord's Table
continue to celebrate the joy of the resurrection
and be admitted finally to the heavenly banquet. Amen.*



SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION AT EASTER VIGIL

With joy, we welcome into the Church through the Sacrament of Initiation: **Alexis, Chanel, Ezra, Audriana, Milena, Veronika, Zoey, Aaron, Gabriel, Julia, & Anna**. May the Risen Lord accompany you all the days of your life. Congratulations!

HELPING OTHERS

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL)



Monthly Motivations 2026-2027 - Legumes for Fortunes

Please drop off donations of dried beans/chickpeas/lentils at the back of the church. You may also prefer to donate to the Community Share Food Bank online and they will spend the money wisely.

On Saturday, March 28th, the Toronto Diocesan final level of the CWL Mary Mathews Public Speaking Competition was held at Immaculate Conception Parish in Vaughn, with contestants from six regions across the GTA. Evan of St. Bonaventure School, winner of the parish and regional levels, represented North York and St. Bonaventure with poise and grace. Although he did not place first, the judges noted the exceptionally strong performances, and all six participants were celebrated as winners. The St. Bonaventure CWL and parish community are very proud of Evan. Congratulations!

Welcome, glorious of days, O happy day of the triumph of Christ,
O sterling day flowing with joy, the first day! ~ Adam of St. Victor

DR. SIMONE'S CANADIAN FOOD FOR CHILDREN

St. Bonaventure Parish collects bulk food staples (rice, pasta, soap, sugar, cooking oil, canned fish, etc.) once a month. Also, shoes, clothing, medicines, medical devices and school supplies are contributed and stored in a storage room in the Parish Centre. These items are then driven to Dr. Simone's CFFC warehouse by St. Bonaventure volunteers and pack them for shipping to approved, vetted destinations (schools, missions, etc.) Dr. Simone and his wife were challenged to start this ministry by Mother Teresa, and they have been awarded the Order of Canada for their service to the worlds less fortunate.



April items: Pasta.

*Please Drop off your donations at the back of the church behind the toddler area.
Thank you for your generosity!*

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: BUNDLE UP COLLECTION APRIL 18 & 19



We are collecting your donations at **St. Bonaventure on April 18 & 19, 2026.**

What we accept all clothing (any condition), all footwear (any condition), Bedding (any condition) drapery/towels, toys (new only).

What we do not accept Baby items (cribs, car seats, strollers, or any

other baby furniture), Construction material (any condition), Dishes (any kind), Furniture (any kind), Books/Video/Audio Cassettes.

For more information visit

www.ssvptoronto.ca or scan the QR code



We DO NOT ACCEPT appliances, baby or regular furniture, books, mattresses, dishes, construction material or video tapes
For more information visit
www.ssvptoronto.ca



STEWARDSHIP

Tip Tap Giving Now Available

We have received many requests from parishioners who would like the option to make their donations using a credit or debit card. We are pleased to announce that **Tip Tap machines are now available at the back of the church for your convenience.**

The machines offer preset donation amounts of **\$5, \$10, \$20, and \$50.** They are simple to use, fully functional, and **eligible for tax receipts.**

How It Works

1. **Select the donation amount** you wish to give.
2. **Tap your credit or debit card** against the machine.
3. **Wait for the green lights** to confirm your donation.
4. **Scan the QR code** posted below the machine.
5. **Enter your information** to receive your tax receipt.



You only need to register your card **once.** All future taps using the same card will automatically be eligible for a tax receipt—no additional steps required.

If you need any additional information, please contact the parish office at **416-447-5571.**

Thank you for your generosity and for your continued support of the parish.

**For us, the faithful, Christ has begun a bright new day,
eternal and inextinguishable. God is the author of this wonder.
From impossible beginnings God has produced wonderful results.**

~ Anonymous hymn, 2nd Century

SHARELIFE

Wishing you a blessed Easter from ShareLife



This Easter Sunday, we hold gratitude for the Lord Jesus, our Saviour; and for you who brings the hands of Christ to our brothers and sisters in need. We witness how you live in the Gospel wholeheartedly, opening your heart to the poor, the vulnerable, and the marginalized. It is through your love that our family of faith is strengthened. We wish you and your loved ones a blessed and peaceful Easter, blooming with hope.

The second ShareLife Sunday of the year is April 26. Thus far we have raised:

\$102,599 toward our goal of \$125,000

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope,
online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CATHOLIC REGISTER IS AVAILABLE

Catholic Registers are available for parishioners to take. These trusted publications offer inspiring articles, reflections on faith and daily life, Church news, and practical resources to help nourish your spiritual journey. Please take a copy home with you and enjoy some meaningful reading this week.

FRANCISCAN YEAR OF GRACE - APRIL THEME: *FRATERNITY & COMMUNIO*

As we continue our journey through the **Franciscan Year of Grace**, the month of **April** invites us to reflect on *Fraternity and Communio* - our shared life in Christ and the call to deepen the bonds of community.

As an expression of this month's theme, all parishioners are warmly invited to celebrate **Evening Prayer** in the style of Taizé on the **2nd Sunday of Easter, April 12 at 7 p.m. in the church.**

Following Evening Prayer, we'll gather in the Parish Hall for an **Easter Dessert Potluck**: a joyful opportunity to share fellowship and sweet treats together. Bring a favourite Easter dessert to share or simply come and enjoy the company of our parishioners. You can drop off your Easter dessert in the Main Hall before Evening Prayer from 6:30 to 6:50 p.m.. Let us continue to grow in gratitude, unity, and joy in the Risen Lord and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.



DAY OF REFLECTION AND PRAYER FOR THE BEREAVED AT MANRESA JESUIT SPIRITUAL RENEWAL CENTRE

Manresa Jesuit Renewal Centre 2325 Liverpool Rd., Pickering, ON L1X 1V4
Saturday, April 11, 2026 9:15am - 5:00pm

"Where is God in my Pain? How is God working in my grief?" Grieving a loved one can shake or give a new shape to our faith. At this gathering, you will have the opportunity to share your grief story in a community of faith and to reflect in a prayerful way on your experience, to draw renewed strength and hope to continue the journey. Facilitated by: Sr. Claire Marchal and Mary Hyland

Suggested Offering: \$75 per person (includes lunch)

Please Contact: Mary Hyland - 905-441-0957

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
By the Lord has this been done, a marvel in our eyes.

—Psalm 118:22-23

MINISTRY WITH MATURING ADULTS



Ministry With Maturing Adults with the Focus on Nurturing our spirituality in Body, Mind and Spirit in the Second Half of Life

We aim 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 (10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.), usually twice monthly, September to June. We look forward to welcoming you and feel free to invite a friend!

Funeral Preplanning

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 - 10:00 AM

Location: Main Hall

Presenters: Glen Day and Natasha Muzzatti, Heritage Funeral Home

Learn more about the funeral planning process and the peace of mind that comes with planning ahead. Making funeral arrangements in advance allows you time to consider your options and create a service that truly reflects your values and wishes. Family members may also be included in the planning, helping to ensure the service meets the needs of everyone involved.

Liturgical Music as a Vocation

Tuesday, April 28, 2026 - 10:00 AM

Location: Church

Presenter: Ken de Los Santos, Singer & Pianist

Music in the morning! Enjoy live liturgical music and an engaging presentation by Ken de Los Santos, exploring music as a calling and its role in worship and ministry.

**Save the Date - Upcoming Sessions: May 12 & May 26, and June 9 & June 23, 2026
More details to follow.**

ST. CLARE INN SPRING FUNDRAISER EVENT ON MAY 1ST



Friday, May 1, 2026. 5:30pm - 10:00pm Parkview Manor, 55 Barber Greene Road. Tickets: \$120 each or \$1100 for a table of 10.

Scan QR code or visit www.stclareinn.com/events/ to purchase your ticket(s)

Join us for an inspiring evening of dinner, live entertainment, raffles, auctions, and more!

St. Clare Inn is a non-denominational, privately funded transitional home helping homeless women facing mental health challenges. Learn more at www.stclareinn.com



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK - SAVE THE DATE

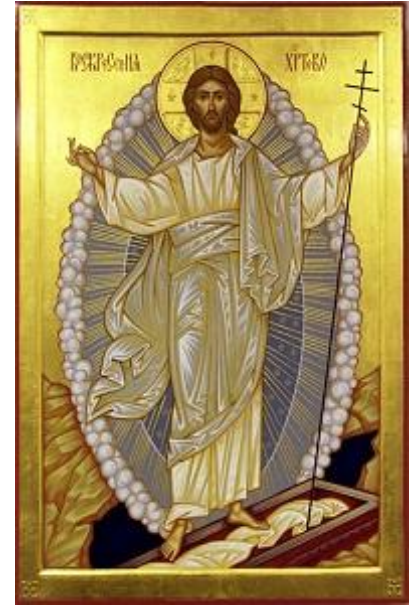
Volunteer Appreciation Week - April 19 - 25, 2026

Please save the date for our upcoming Volunteer Appreciation Week Event happening April 19th. We look forward to celebrating all our wonderful volunteers. More information to follow!

**Let us, therefore, be glad on this day whereon our Jesus,
by his resurrection, opened to us the way of life. - Missal of St. Gall**

AN EASTER SERMON BY ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Is there anyone who is a devout lover of God?
Let them enjoy this beautiful bright festival!
Is there anyone who is a grateful servant?
Let them rejoice and enter into the joy of their Lord!
Are there any weary with fasting?
Let them now receive their wages!
If any have toiled from the first hour,
let them receive their due reward;
If any have come after the third hour,
let him with gratitude join in the Feast!
And he that arrived after the sixth hour,
let him not doubt; for he too shall sustain no loss.
And if any delayed until the ninth hour,
let him not hesitate; but let him come too.
And he who arrived only at the eleventh hour,
let him not be afraid by reason of his delay.



For the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first.
He gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour, as well as to him that toiled from the first.
To this one He gives, and upon another He bestows. He accepts the works as He greets the endeavor.
The deed He honors and the intention He commends.

Let us all enter into the joy of the Lord!
First and last alike receive your reward; rich and poor, rejoice together!
Sober and slothful, celebrate the day!

You that have kept the fast, and you that have not, rejoice today for the Table is richly laden!
Feast royally on it, the calf is a fatted one.
Let no one go away hungry. Partake, all, of the cup of faith.
Enjoy all the riches of His goodness!

Let no one grieve at his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed.
Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again; for forgiveness has risen from the grave.
Let no one fear death, for the Death of our Savior has set us free. He has destroyed it by enduring it.

He destroyed Hades when He descended into it.
He put it into an uproar even as it tasted of His flesh.
Isaiah foretold this when he said, "You, O Hell, have been troubled by encountering Him below."

Hell was in an uproar because it was done away with. It was in an uproar because it is mocked.
It was in an uproar, for it is destroyed. It is in an uproar, for it is annihilated.
It is in an uproar, for it is now made captive. Hell took a body, and discovered God.
It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it did not see.
O death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is thy victory?

Christ is Risen, and you, O death, are annihilated!
Christ is Risen, and the evil ones are cast down!
Christ is Risen, and the angels rejoice!
Christ is Risen, and life is liberated!
Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead;
for Christ having risen from the dead, is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!

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

mma@st-bonaventure.ca

Administrative Assistant

Kathryn MacInnis
kathryn@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 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

“I have seen the Lord,’ and she told them that he had said these things to her.” Matthew 28:7

Each year, when we reach the summit of the mountain that is Easter, the Easter Vigil echoes with a word that has not been spoken since Ash Wednesday, but will accompany us through the liturgical year from now on. It is an unusual word that is not native to the English or even the Latin liturgical vocabulary: the word “alleluia.” As a matter of fact, it sounds less like a meaningful word than the babbling of a child, and when it is sung with many notes for the final vowel, this impression becomes even stronger.

“Alleluia” does, of course, have a meaning. It is a Hebrew word, and down the centuries the church has brought it with her, untranslated (like “amen”), as a product of the Jewish soil from which she herself sprang and as a reminder of her earliest days. The word is a cry of jubilation meaning “Praise the Lord,” and occurs frequently in the psalms.

But the translation does not explain why the Church chose and retained this word from the Hebrew language of prayer in order to express her Easter jubilation, even though in later centuries her own children did not understand the meaning. I think the Church meant to say: “In the presence of the mystery that we celebrate on Easter, the mystery of our redemption, our usual intelligible vocabulary is inadequate; when faces with the superabundant mercy of God we can only stammer in amazement like children.”

Our Alleluia, especially in developed musical form, is like the yodeling of an Alpine shepherd, who at daybreak sees the morning sun touch the snowy peak with the first delicate tint of rose. The feelings in the shepherd’s heart at this moment cannot be expressed in well-chosen words he may have learned in school; he must yodel his feelings.

This is how it is with us Christians: As we gaze at the Sun that has risen high over the darkness and cold of our Good Friday, all well-chosen words are useless. We can only stammer out our Alleluia of wonder and jubilation.

–Balthasar Fischer, *Signs, Words, & Gestures*. M.J. O’Connell, trans. (New York: Pueblo, 1981), 51-52.

May the Lord bless you and keep you!

CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! HE IS TRULY RISEN! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!