



*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

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www.st-bonaventure.ca

*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 15, 2026*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



*Procession of the Law (1850), Solomon Alexander Hart (1806 - 1881).
Oil on canvas. Jewish Museum, London. Public Domain. Source: Wikicommons.*

A Poison Tree by William Blake

I was angry with my friend;
I told my wrath, my wrath did end.
I was angry with my foe:
I told it not, my wrath did grow.

And I waterd it in fears,
Night & morning with my tears:
And I sunned it with smiles,
And with soft deceitful wiles.

And it grew both day and night.
Till it bore an apple bright.
And my foe beheld it shine,
And he knew that it was mine.

And into my garden stole,
When the night had veild the pole;
In the morning glad I see;
My foe outstretched beneath the tree.

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, February 16	9 AM	† Yousep Khanania
Tuesday, February 17	9 AM	† Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday, February 18	9 AM	† Leonardo Sr. & Mercedes Alon
Thursday, February 19	9 AM	† David Tomcik
Friday, February 20	9 AM	The Friars † Gerald Blasby † Alejandra Cabenela † Liberata Pompilio † Garry Potter
Saturday, February 21	5 PM	† Linda Stoddard
Sunday, February 22	8:30 AM	Parishioners
	10 AM	† Patrick & Helen Barry
	12 PM	† Neil Pinto
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Intention of Dave Alon
	Bl. Sac.	Intention of Christine Votruba & Family
	Our Lady	† Carlos Cavalcanti

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.

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, and + Diane Marchisello.

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.



LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

All children aged 4-9 are invited to participate in this parallel, age-appropriate celebration of the Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Mass. A parent is welcome to accompany a child who is too shy to participate on their own.



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A LENTEN MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

With Easter early this year (April 5th), so goes Ash Wednesday. It seems we are barely out of the Christmas Season and it's time to "Repent and believe in the Gospel!"

In this Year of Grace in which we commemorate the 800th Anniversary of the Death of St. Francis, let us look to him as a model of turning away from sin (penance) and drinking deeply from the waters of new life. On Wednesday, the ashes on our heads in the form of a cross will be a lingering reminder that, when we are baptized, we were branded as a child of God and follower of Christ. Two years before his death, St. Francis was branded with the marks of Christ's passion in his flesh. The brand of our baptism is as enduring as the wounds of St. Francis. His wounds prepared him for his Passover from this world to the next. The ashes of our Lent will help prepare us to celebrate Christ's death and resurrection at Easter.

Have a blessed Lent and let it be a Lent in the spirit of St. Francis.

Friar Tom

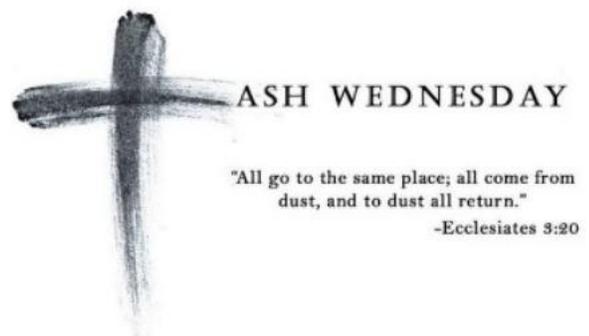
FAMILY DAY CLOSURE

Please note that the Ministry Centre will be **closed on Monday for Family Day**. We will **resume regular hours on Tuesday, February 17th**. Wishing everyone a joyful and relaxing Family Day!

ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 18, 2026

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18. Masses with imposition of ashes at 9 a.m. (includes the school community) and 7 p.m. A Liturgy of the Word with imposition of Ashes at 12 noon.

Ash Wednesday is a universal day of fasting and abstinence from meat. The law of "abstinence from meat" binds those who are 14 and older; the law of "fasting" binds those from 18 to 59 years of age. Parents and educators are reminded of their duty to introduce children gradually to the understanding and practice of penance. The actions modeled by adults will be the greatest influence in this matter. Christian fasting obtains its full meaning when we deprive ourselves of food to be more open to prayer, to share more in the suffering of those who are starving and to save money to give to the poor. Fasting is a penitential discipline.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS ~ FRIDAYS THROUGH LENT

Each Friday during Lent after the 9 AM Mass. We will also have stations of the cross Friday evenings on March 13 and March 27, when the devotion will take place at 7 PM.



LENTEN MESSAGE FROM HIS EMINENCE FRANK CARDINAL LEO

Lenten Message 2026 His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

We invite you to take a moment this Lent to read Cardinal Leo's inspiring Lenten Message for 2026. Printed copies will be available at the back of the church, and you can also read it online using the PDF link in the bulletin.

<https://www.archtoronto.org/siteassets/media/offices--ministries/pastoral-ministries/office-for-ecumenical-and-interfaith-relations/documents/cardinal-leo---lenten-message-2026.pdf>

LENTEN ONLINE RESOURCES

Sacred Space: Lent 2026 - Practical Christianity: <https://sacredspace.com/events/retreat/lent-2026/>

For many, Lent is a time of sacrifice. We give up our favourite food or drink. We try to break a habit or change some behaviour. We stop doing something. But what if, instead of stopping, we start doing something? What if we were to start putting our faith into practice? Every day. No matter how desperate we feel. Nor matter how much we despair. No matter how difficult times are. Would it make a difference? Yes! Yes, it would. This retreat gives a few hints for prayerful reflection on each day's readings during Lent. Readings from both the Old and New Testaments help focus our mood and thoughts on how we can live our faith. It also offers a daily challenge to put our faith into practice.

Mary Murphy, the writer of our Lent 2026 Retreat, hails from Co. Kildare in Ireland and lives in a village in southwest Hungary. She moderates the prayer requests for Sacred Space and is a fan of Ignatian spirituality.



Pray as You Go

Lent Retreat 2026: The Pace of Grace

[Pope's Monthly Message - February 2026 - Pray As You Go](#)

[Work in Progress | Franciscan Media](#)

Pray

Pray everyday during this Lent

<https://hallow.com/lent/>

[Daily Prayers by Email - Missionary Oblates Of Mary Immaculate USA](#)

HELPING OTHERS

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.



February items: Cooking Oil.

Please Drop off your donations at the back of the church behind the toddler area.

Thank you for your generosity!

CASSEROLE FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Many who come to the Good Shepherd rely on a hot meal for survival. Some live on the streets and depend on the kindness of others. St. Bonaventure has long supported this mission by sending casseroles and volunteers to serve these meals—but we need your help.



Could you make a casserole once a month, or even every two months? Each one makes a big difference. We need **65 casseroles** to provide one full meal each month. This is true community outreach: prepare a casserole at home, freeze it, and bring it to the Ministry Centre. No one who receives this meal will know you—but what a blessing to help feed the poor.

Pans are available at the back of the church. Thank you to all who already contribute to the Mission of Mercy!

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) THEME OF THE MONTH

The Catholic Women's League incorporates a "theme a month" model to help councils live out the national focus "**Blessed are the Poor**" throughout the year.

February: A Month of Love and Compassion

For the month of February, we will be collecting dried beans/chickpeas/lentils at the back of the church for those less fortunate. You may also prefer to donate to the Community Share Food Bank online and they will spend the money wisely.



Social Justice - Blue for the Broken. Light for the Lost. Hope for All.

On Sunday February 22, 2026, the CN Tower will glow blue in powerful solidarity with victims and survivors of human trafficking. This date marks the National Day of Awareness of Human Trafficking—a moment for all of us to pause, pray, and recommit ourselves to building awareness and acting against this devastating crime. Blue, the colour of hope and vigilance in the fight against human trafficking, will light up the Toronto skyline throughout the evening, broken only by a 5-minute light show at the top and bottom of every hour.

CWL members are warmly invited to witness this meaningful illumination in person! Gather, stand in solidarity, and let your presence be a visible sign of our collective commitment to justice and dignity for all. We will share future announcements regarding a time and place to meet at the CN Tower. Photographs will be shared on our social media channels and will help us celebrate our shared mission and amplify awareness across the province. If you unable to attend in person, the lighting will also be visible via the CN Tower live webcam: <https://www.cntower.ca/live-views> If you are unable to attend please consider wearing your CWL scarf or pin to church on February 22 to support building awareness.

This special lighting request was submitted by the Toronto Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, Social Justice Chair, as part of our ongoing commitment to advocacy, awareness, and hope.

At the February 22, 2026, general meeting we will share a presentation on Human Trafficking and will devote time to pray together for victims of this terrible crime.

SHARELIFE

ShareLife Turns 50: Announcing the 2026 ShareLife Campaign

2026 marks the 50th anniversary of ShareLife. As we approach our first ShareLife Sunday collection on March 22, let us come together in celebration and compassion to meet our Parish Campaign goal. By reaching this goal, our agencies will continue to: Uplift young mothers and their babies, Enable more men to pursue priestly vocations, Connect seniors with dignity-affirming resources, Fight against hunger in our communities, Help families in times of need



Your support of ShareLife makes these programs possible, among many others. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharlife.org/donate.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: MOVED BY MERCY, SERVING IN HOPE

Are you called to become a Vincentian?

We can harm or heal those around us in so many ways. It does not need to be a miracle! A greeting, a look, a smile, a touch can bring the peace of Christ to someone in desperate need of reassurance - and no less can they harm and wound. ~HW

We are inviting people into a vocational experience, persons moved by the Gospel. One member, Domenica, said this, "The work of SSVP fills my cup in a world that empties it."



Online and one-to-one orientation and training are provided. A vulnerable sector check is necessary for full membership. For more information, please email Jack or Judy at john.cole@sympatico.ca. Contact us at 416-447-5571, ext. 570.

Thank you for your continuing prayers, support and generosity. New members warmly welcomed. Vincentians stand with two St. Vincent de Paul boxes after weekend masses. You may also donate through Canada Helps: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-st-bonaventure-conference/>

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.

2025 DONATION TAX RECEIPTS - THANK YOU!

Our 2025 Donation Tax Receipts are being processed. You will receive them in the mail after **February 16, 2026**. This receipt includes your regular donations, Pre-Authorized Giving, any donations for the second collections and your ShareLife donation if it was made through the parish.

You will receive a receipt from the **Archdiocese of Toronto** for any donations of securities, donations made by credit card through Donate Now and for ShareLife if it was made directly to ShareLife.

Thank you for your generosity!

Reminder: Please Pick Up Your 2026 Envelope Boxes

If you have not already done so, please take a moment to pick up your envelope boxes.

Thank you very much for your attention and cooperation!

UPCOMING EVENTS

CWL BAKESALE - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026



Calling all Bakers! If your oven has a “special ministry”, or you just love spreading joy through sugar, we’d love your delicious creations. Bring your goodies to the Parish Hall before or after any Mass that Sunday. Partnering proudly with **The Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast!**
February 15, 2026, After ALL masses.

NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Silver Rose Program - Our Lady of Guadalupe

The **Silver Rose**, a symbol of prayer, unity, and respect for life, will be visiting **St. Bonaventure Parish** from **February 15 to February 17**.

During this time, parishioners are invited to come and spend time in prayer before **Our Lady of Guadalupe**, Patroness of the Unborn and of the Americas.

🕯️ Special Rosary Prayer Evening

Date: Tuesday, February 17

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: St. Bonaventure Parish

This rosary-centered prayer service is an opportunity to pray for **respect for life, the spiritual renewal of our communities, and the intentions of families.**

All are warmly invited to attend.

Pancake Breakfast

Breakfast on **Sunday, February 15**, from **9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**, at the **St. Bonaventure Parish Hall**.

Enjoy a delicious breakfast of **pancakes, sausages, fruit, and coffee/tea.**

🍷 **Tickets:** \$10 Adults | \$5 Children (4-12)

📄 Tickets available after all Masses, at the Parish Office, and on the day of the event.

💻 **E-Transfers accepted:** send to koc5080treasurer@outlook.com
(E-transfer tickets will be collected at the entrance on event day.)

🎁 **50/50 Draw** during the event.

🐟 Please consider donating **cans of tuna** in support of the local food bank. Bring your family and friends and support this great parish tradition!

Volunteers Welcome - Knights of Columbus

The **Knights of Columbus - St. Francis Council 5080** warmly welcome **men and women** of our parish who feel called to serve and support our parish and community.

You **do not need to be a Knight** to volunteer. Whether you can help occasionally or more regularly, your time and talents are truly appreciated, and there is a place for everyone to help.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact us at: 📧 GK5080@ontariokofc.ca

Please note that, in accordance with the Knight of Columbus requirements, **all volunteers are required to complete a police background check.**

Thank you for your generosity and for helping us build a stronger, more caring parish community.



DON MILLS RETIREMENT RESIDENCE - MARDI GRAS PANCAKE BRUNCH - FEBRUARY 17, 2026

Tired of the Cold and snow? Join Don Mills as we travel to New Orleans for a Mardi Gras Celebration Pancake Brunch!

Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 9:30am - 10:30am. 2 Green Belt Drive North York. To RSVP, please call Ewa or Robert at 647-660-1068.



CWL - THE LIFE OF ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA, FROM SLAVE TO SAINT - FEBRUARY, 22 AT 1:30PM

All are invited by the CWL to attend a 'must-see' film on Sunday, **February 22 at 1:30pm**, on the Life of St. Josephine Bakhita, from slave to Saint, a film Pope Benedict XVI calls "a beautiful film."

Josephine Bakhita: As a child this first Sudanese saint was kidnapped by Arab slave traders. A Muslim owner named her Bakhita, meaning "lucky"; other owners included an Arab chieftain and a Turkish general. She endured years of cruelty, even torture, before being sold to an Italian consul who planned to free her. He took her to Italy, where she worked as a nanny for another family. In 1889 she won her freedom in court. She was baptized Josephine, entered the Canossian Sisters and served her order in Italy for more than 50 years as a cook, seamstress and doorkeeper.



The Catholic Register - 2007

St. Josephine Bakhita c. 1868 - 1947 feast-February 8

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!

Next Session:

Tuesday, February 24: A Place of Worship for the People of God: A tour of our church led by Greg Beath.

The Christian community is a spiritual house. Plunged into the Lord's death and resurrection at our Baptism, we arise a new creation from the sacred waters as holy people: the new temple built of living stones (see 1 Peter 1:5). Our worship of God is a participation in the action of Jesus Christ, who is the perfect temple. We have no temple, but Christ himself. The place in which we gather to worship God is made holy because of our oneness with the Lord and the actions of our communal prayer. Our church reflects the Mystical Body called together Sunday after Sunday to grow more fully into the likeness of Christ. The church building is designed, built and appointed in such a way to facilitate our full participation in the worship of God and our growth in holiness. Join us for a tour of our church to explore the unique relationship between our place of worship, the People of God and the One who continues to call us into being. We will begin our tour in the Main Hall of the Parish Centre at 10:00am.

Greg has been a member of the pastoral team since 2015. His primary ministry is supporting faith formation within the parish. Following studies at Regis College (M.Div.), and pastoral work in the Archdiocese of Toronto, he continued graduate studies at Saint John's University in Minnesota, where he obtained a M.A. in Liturgical Studies. One of his graduate papers explored the hermeneutics of liturgical space.

If you would like more information, e-mail Ministry with Maturing Adults at: mma@st-bonaventure.ca

Save the Dates for the Winter Sessions:

March 10: Lenten Retreat, presented by Trena Finnegan

March 24: St. Francis and the Mystery of Salvation (Stigmata), Presented by Fr. Tom Reist

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER EXPERIENCE - MARCH 7-8, 2026

WWME Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience - **March 7-8, 2026, Fall in Love Again!**

Are you ready for more growth and happiness in your marriage or priesthood? Join us on March 7-8 at Queen of Apostles for a weekend that could change your life. Discover the Secrets to a Lasting, Supportive, and Transformative Marriage!

This weekend is for couples, whether you are newlyweds or have been married for decades. It's also perfect for priests looking to deepen their relationship with their community. Contact us NOW: Christian & Elixabeth Arroba, 416-554-4439 or 416-554-7062 christian.elizabeth.arroba@wwme.org

VIDEO: FDS 2026 Live your best life in love.mp4 https://wwme-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/christian_elizabeth_arroba_wwme_org/IQBWkqFH6j1DQoVDRghc2YGNAQbFtgo9LSEG6SuQ1FeKl74>

Weekend information and Application Form: Click here

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfkub4xnzz97n_nk49QJB89IC_UHuO4arjUPyedqtD-MkQggw/viewform?usp=header>

ST. CLARE INN SPRING FUNDRAISER - MAY 1ST 2026



Spring Fundraiser Event on May 1st

St. Clare Inn invites you for an evening of dinner • live entertainment • raffles • auctions • and more

EARLY BIRD tickets available!

DEADLINE MARCH 6

www.stclareinn.com

Happy
Family
Day

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:

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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

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets...” Matthew 5:17

In the Gospel Reading Christ says that he has not come to do away with the law but to fulfill the law. In fact, no one will get into heaven unless his righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the law-observing scribes and the Pharisees. The scribes and Pharisees thought that murderers and adulterers are shut out of heaven. As Christ explains it, sins in your heart, such as hatred or lust, will shut you out of heaven just as effectively. This is a perplexing saying, isn't it? What happened to salvation by faith and not by works? Isn't the law of the old covenant re-placed by the new covenant of grace? How are we to understand Christ's saying that he has come to fulfill the law?

And it's also a troubling saying, worrying enough to make a person groan out loud. Isn't the burden of guilt heavy enough without Christ's telling people that they will be excluded from heaven unless their righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees? The burden of the Law was great enough, wasn't it? What happened to Christ's saying, "come unto me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest"? (Mt 11:28)

But think about heaven. Those in heaven have everlasting life. What would that life be like if Christ's saying were false? If it were false, a person who hated his brother or lusted after some-one else's wife could still have everlasting life in heaven. And now think about living forever in the psychic pain of surreptitious hatred or secret lust. How could anyone with such a psyche be in heaven? Anywhere a person like that goes automatically ceases to be heaven. His own unrighteousness will make him miserable. He carries the absence of heaven in his unrighteous heart.

And so Christ is correct: no one will enter into heaven whose righteousness does not exceed the righteousness mandated in the law. This is a very heavy burden indeed. What could anyone do to carry it? The solution is to listen when Christ says, "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." The rest which righteousness gives comes to us only when we come to Christ.

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May the Lord bless you and keep you!