



*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,
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Tel: 416.447.5571

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www.st-bonaventure.ca

*First Sunday of Lent
February 22, 2026*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



Jésus transporté par l'esprit sur une haute montagne (c. 1886 and 1894), James Tissot (1836-1902). Gouache over graphite on grey wove paper. Brooklyn Museum. Public Domain. Source: Wikicommons.

LI *Miserere mei, Deus* by Malcolm Guite

He calls you to discern his time and season.
The sempiternal season of his mercy
Lifts like the sun above your dark horizon.

Expose your darkness, sing your *miserere*,
His light will judge, and judging, heal your sin.
Then bathe in sheer beauty, as Allegri

Sounds out your penitence, and let Christ clean
Your soul once more and scrub out every stain
Washing you thoroughly. For he has seen

What you confess and what you hide. Again
He mends your broken bones and makes for you
A clean heart, comes to comfort you again,

Comes with his Holy Spirit to renew
The spirit in you, calling you to sing
Of all your loving God has done for you.

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, February 23	9 AM	† Mrs. Annie Soans
Tuesday, February 24	9 AM	† Michael McCarter
Wednesday, February 25	9 AM	† Peter Glowcezski
Thursday, February 26	9 AM	† Nabor Sequeira
Friday, February 27	9 AM	Intentions of Radek Votruba & Family Intentions of Lucy Xie & Dave Alon † George De Gannes † Ivy Lyn † All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, February 28	5 PM	Intentions of Bartolome & Herarda Barrientos
Sunday, March 1	8:30 AM	† Vinodh Loganadhan
	10 AM	Parishioners
	12 PM	† All Souls in Purgatory
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Intentions of J & J Carvalho
	Bl. Sac.	† Peter Glowcezski
	Our Lady	† Vinodh Loganadhan

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, + Diane Marchisello and + Suzanne McCallister.

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.





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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

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>

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.

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-Holy Longing

<https://prayasyougo.org/series/holy-longing-lent-2026-110>

This Lent we'll be encountering God in and through our own holy longings, the yearnings that stir most deeply within us. Each week we'll spend time in Scripture, prayer, and dialogue with the Trinity - you'll have time to speak, to reflect, and to listen for the gentle answers of God.

Franciscan Media: The Ups of Lent-Lift Up! Give Up! Take Up! This season invites us to do all three.

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/st-anthony-messenger/the-ups-of-lent/>

Pray: Pray everyday during this Lent

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

CCCB Journey Through Lent 2026:

<https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-lent/>

Reflections based on the readings for Sunday Mass will be available weekly from Ash Wednesday until Palm Sunday. Designed for individuals, families, and communities, *Journey Through Lent* encourages viewers to reflect on the Sunday readings. This year's reflections are presented by: The Most Reverend Daniel J. Miehms, Bishop of Peterborough (in English); The Most Reverend Juan Carlos Londoño, Auxiliary Bishop of Québec (in French)

Daily Prayers by Email: from the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate USA

<https://oblatesusa.org/spiritual-support/daily-prayers-by-email/>

Prayer is an important spiritual discipline that God calls us to as missionaries of His Gospel. Through daily prayer, we are able to advocate for those around us, grow in our faith and please the Lord. The Missionary Oblates are dedicated to fulfilling the spiritual and physical needs of those around us - including yours! Our daily prayers are one of the best ways that we can bless you and support you in your relationship with God. Begin every day with the words of the Lord written on your heart.

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



PLEASE NOTE: The film “The Life of St. Josephine Bakhita. From Slave to Saint” and the general meeting to be held on February 22, 2026, has been postponed. More information to follow.

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.

SHARELIFE

This Lent, you are living the Gospel by supporting ShareLife

Lent is a time to open our hearts, to see Christ in those who suffer and to respond with love. When someone in our parish community is struggling - grieving alone, unsure of where to turn - your gift can transform their life. By supporting ShareLife, you can reach more people, lift more burdens, and remind our brothers and sisters that they are not alone.



The first ShareLife Sunday collection is on March 22. Our parish goal this year is \$125,000.

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!

2026 KOFC PANCAKE BREAKFAST 50/50 WINNER!



The Knights would like to thank all who attended the pancake breakfast on **Sunday, February 15** and participated in the 50/50 raffle. The **winning ticket number is 001226**. If this is your ticket, please contact **Grand Knight, Franklin Godoy** at GK5080@ontariokofc.ca to claim your prize. Once more, thank you to everyone who participated and supported our parish community.

Feedback about the event and suggestions for future events would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the email provided above.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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, 10 AM to 11:30 AM

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.

Tuesday, March 10, Main Hall, 10 AM to 11:30 AM

The Woman at the Well, An Encounter with a loving and compassionate God

As we journey through Lent, on the 3rd Sunday, we hear the story of the Samaritan Woman meeting Jesus at the Well and how her life was dramatically changed by that meeting.

We will spend time in reading, reflecting and meditating on this gospel and enjoy some time in group sharing. Looking forward to having you join us to help deepen our Lenten experience!

Presented by: *Trena Finnegan*

Save the Date: March 24, Main Hall, 10 AM to 11:30 AM

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

ST. CLARE INN SPRING FUNDRAISER EVENT ON MAY 1ST



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

**Early Bird Tickets
available for
purchase after
each of the masses
on Sunday March
1, 2026.**

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
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Parish Manager

Connie Durante
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ARE YOU
REGISTERED? IF
NOT, ASK AN

Ministry for Maturing Adults

mma@st-bonaventure.ca

Administrative Assistant

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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

“Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” Matthew 4:4

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus is hungry and Satan tempts him. “Turn these stones into bread,” he says to Jesus. And Jesus rebuffs the temptation by saying to Satan, “Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from God.” Imagine a host asking one of his guests, “Would you like some ham?” How perplexed the host would be if his guest answered, “Man does not live by ham alone!” The question was not whether the guest would like to eat ham and nothing but ham. The question was just whether he would like some ham now. Why not say, “Sure! Thanks!”? So why doesn’t Jesus do the miracle? And why does he reject Satan’s urging by pointing out that man does not live by bread alone? *Of course*, we don’t live just on bread! But bread is one of the things by which human beings live. In another place Jesus himself explains that no good father will give his son a stone if his son asks for bread. Here is Jesus hungry and having only stones. Why shouldn’t he have bread instead? When a guest says to the host who is offering him ham, “Man does not live by ham alone!” he might be using these words to communicate to his host the thought, completely perplexing in the circumstances, that human beings live on other stuff besides ham.

But, of course, there is another interpretation. The guest might also be telling his host, graciously, that he is full. There are other things to eat besides ham, and a person who has no ham doesn’t need to be hungry, because he has eaten an abundance of those other things. And that is what Jesus is telling Satan, isn’t it? Anyone who has the word of God does not lack what human beings need to live. “No thanks,” Jesus is telling Satan: “I’m full.” This is the message to Satan, and also to us. Jesus, who is the Word of God, gives to every person who will receive him what she needs to live, even if she has no bread. And, for good measure, Jesus gives them bread, too. He, the living cornerstone, gives himself to his own as the bread of life.

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May the Lord bless you and keep you!