

*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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 8, 2026

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



Detail of Heart-shaped tea-light candle holder, Himalayan salt, photo Olga Ernst taken 31 January 2019.
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Was it light? by Theodore Roethke

Was it light?
Was it light within?
Was it light within light?
Stillness becoming alive,
Yet still?
A lively understandable spirit
Once entertained you.
It will come again.
Be still.
Wait.

Source: *Poetry for the Spirit*, edited by Alan Jacobs (Barnes & Noble, 2002),
p. 480, quoted at
<https://www.journeywithjesus.net/poemsandprayers/3865-was-it-light>

GROWING IN *Spirit, Community, and Service*

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, February 9	9 AM	† Marie Desjardins
Tuesday, February 10	9 AM	† Jude Weerasinghe
Wednesday, February 11	9 AM	† Bernard Holmes
Thursday, February 12	9 AM	† Joyce De Gannes
Friday, February 13	9 AM	Brothers and Sisters of the Order † Friar Briant Cullinane † Grazia & Domenic Maida † Geoffrey Prabhu
Saturday, February 14 Sunday, February 15	5 PM	† Lily JW Chiu
	8:30 AM	Parishioners
	10 AM	† Aileen Moore
	12 PM	† George De Gannes
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Intention of Teresa Krijgsman - Healing
	Bl. Sac.	† Marguerite Bourgeois
	Our Lady	† Nimfa Chua

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.

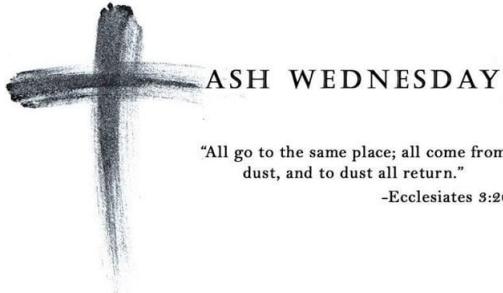


STATIONS OF THE CROSS ~ FRIDAYS THROUGH LENT



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

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.

HELPING OTHERS

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

Reaching out with care: Members are encouraged to visit parishioners in seniors’ residences, bringing small care packages, offering companionship, and - most importantly - praying with them. These are simple acts of presence and kindness and can brighten a day, ease loneliness, and remind our sisters and brothers that they remain cherished members of our parish family.

Supporting the Coldest Night of the Year: The Toronto Council also invites us to consider sponsoring participants in the **Coldest Night of the Year** event, a nationwide walk that raises awareness and funds for those experiencing homelessness, hunger, and hardship. To learn more or to support a local team, visit: en.cnoy.org/home

Raising Awareness About Human Trafficking: The Toronto Diocesan Council encourages councils to host parish speakers on the issue of human trafficking. Many will remember last year’s impactful presentation by Richard Dunwoody, who was joined by a trafficking survivor and safe-house supervisor. Their testimonies opened our eyes to the hidden suffering in our communities. We hope to offer another session this year as we continue our commitment to compassion, awareness, and meaningful action.

CASSEROLE FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD

As the cold days settle in, 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.

Last day to bring casseroles for January: Monday, January 26. Pans are available at the back of the church. Thank you to all who already contribute to the Mission of Mercy!

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

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul provides material assistance to those in need. We meet people where they are, listening without judgement, being present, respectful and encouraging.

We need more committed members to volunteer: to help with collecting donations after Mass, to expand our outreach within our parish boundaries, especially to young and expectant mothers, to help with the various duties of running a viable charitable organization. Perhaps you have some time, some expertise, some special gift to share?

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/>

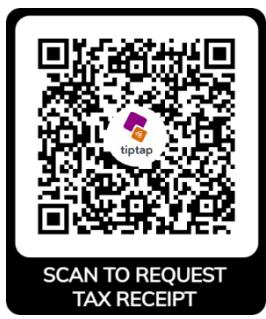
"For myself, I became a Vincentian because I wanted to make a difference and help people in need. The reason I stay involved is that my spiritual relationship with God has become stronger while being a Vincentian and I want that relationship with God to continue to become stronger; and I also want to continue being part of helping people in need and giving back to my community. I believe that I will continue to be a Vincentian for as long as I am physically able to do so" ~Unknown

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.

GROWING IN *Spirit, Community, and Service*

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.

For those who give through PAG or Donate Now, there are small envelope boxes available for the second collections. These boxes are not numbered, so you may select any box.

Please remember to clearly write your name and address on the front so we can ensure your donations are recorded accurately. If you need help locating your box, please speak with one of the Ushers. The boxes have been moved recently, so they may no longer be in alphabetical order.

Thank you very much for your attention and cooperation!

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUTH MINISTRY SESSION 2 - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH AT 7:00PM

Join us for our next Youth Ministry gathering this Friday, February 13th at 7:00PM in the Francis Room!

All high-school youth are welcome and encouraged to come out for a great evening of fun, faith and community.

Come hungry - we're starting the session with something to eat!

We can't wait to see you there!



CWLY 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.

GROWING IN *Spirit, Community, and Service*

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: Friday, February 16

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.



Don Mills
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

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 10: Beating the Winter Blues! During this time of year, the effects of *grief* can leave us "frozen in our tracks." In these early months, the world *outside* of us much like the world *inside* of us can be frigid, colourless, silent and still. We often ask ourselves, "How can I manage what I am *feeling*?" "Is there actually *something* to look forward to?" "Will I *endure* until the spring arrives?" Hence in this seminar, Arcangelo explores the *signs* and *symbolism* of winter. Together, we note certain insights that can in fact, assist us through our seasonal journey.

Arcangelo Limanni is a registered psychotherapist working for Catholic Family Services of Toronto as the New Beginnings Program Promoter. In 2005 he began his studies at the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto and in 2016 obtained a master's degree in religious education. He graduated from the Master of Arts in Counselling Psychology at York University in 2024. He has a special passion for grievers and has personal experience in bereavement, separation/divorce and other unrecognized loss. Through his own experiences and outreach, Arcangelo approaches grief and loss through *enthusiasm, empathy* and *education*. He gives back to the grieving through support group facilitation, public speaking and community engagement.

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

Save the Dates for the Winter Sessions:

February 24: Church Tour, presented by Gregory Beath

March 10: Lenten Retreat, presented by Trena Finnegan

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

ST. BONNIE'S JOYFUL KNITTERS - NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 11 AT 10 AM



Part of the Needlework Guild of Canada, our knitting group at St. Bonaventure's shares our handiwork with those in need, helping to support 22 agencies. Our work is entirely accomplished by volunteers. We meet the second Wednesday of each month in the Francis Room of the Parish Centre. We provide items for infants, toddlers, children, teens, and adults. Knitted items may include hats, mitts, scarves, shawls, etc. Please come and see what we are all about. A friendly group will welcome you. For more information, please call 416-447-5571.

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 at 3:15 pm on the following Mondays: **February 9, April 13.** For more information: Contact Queenie Yu at 416-444-3054 or gyu@hawthornschool.com Hawthorn School, 101 Scarsdale Rd, Toronto. www.hawthornschool.com

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

“You are the salt of the earth....You are the light of the world.” (Matt 5:13, 14)

In the Gospel Reading, Jesus says that Christians are supposed to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. And he has harsh things to say about Christians who are dark and insipid. They're fit for nothing except being trampled under foot, he says. And you know what he means. When the dark wintry streets are dangerous with ice and snow, the city puts salt on the roads, and all the traffic crunches over it.

Given that sort of threat, who wouldn't want to know what we are talking about here?

Well, here's something to notice. Salt and light share a funny characteristic. Each of them is discernible by sense perception—we taste salt, and we see light—but neither of them is usually meant to be a direct or main object of perception. Nobody makes salt for dinner. We put salt on the chicken, but the chicken is the dinner. The chicken tastes better if we salt it; and enjoying the chicken, not the salt, is what we are after. Light is like this, too. We turn on a light not in order to look at the light, but in order to look at other things by means of the light.

So if a Christian is the light of the world, he is enabling the world to see something other than himself. And what Jesus goes on to say makes it clear that this something else is in fact the Lord. A Christian is to let his light shine in such a way that the world glorifies God. The worldly people couldn't glorify God if God were in darkness for them. So a Christian's life is to shine in such a way that what people see is the Lord.

The image of salt is similar. If a Christian is the salt of the earth, he makes something else appeal to the taste of earthly people. And that will be God too. The earthly will savor the goodness of God when *Christians* are the salt of the earth.

So to be light and salt is to live our lives in such a way that the earthly and the worldly are drawn to “Taste and see that the Lord is good.” (Psalm 34:8) It's a challenge, isn't it?