



*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**

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[www.st-bonaventure.ca](http://www.st-bonaventure.ca)

*Feast of the Baptism of the Lord  
January 12, 2025*

# Bonnie News

*Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure*



*The Baptism of Christ* (c. 1510), by Joachim Patinir (circa 1480-1524)  
Oil on panel. © Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna. Source: Wikicommons, Public Domain.

### **Epiphany on the Jordan: A Sonnet by Malcolm Guite**

Beginning here we glimpse the Three-in-one;  
The river runs, the clouds are torn apart,  
The Father speaks, the Spirit and the Son  
Reveal to us the single loving heart  
That beats behind the being of all things  
And calls and keeps and kindles us to light.  
The dove descends, the spirit soars and sings  
'You are beloved, you are my delight!'

In that quick light and life, as water spills  
And streams around the Man like quickening rain,  
The voice that made the universe reveals  
The God in Man who makes it new again.  
He calls us too, to step into that river  
To die and rise and live and love forever.

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/>

## LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

### THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, January 13	9 AM	† Francis Cheung
Tuesday, January 14	9 AM	† Remegio Bustos
Wednesday, January 15	9 AM	† Luke Wong
Thursday, January 16	9 AM	Mary Fitzpatrick
Friday, January 17	9 AM	David and Christine Alon, in thanksgiving Jacob Votryba, in thanksgiving The Parishioners † Derick Searle † Grazia Maida † All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, January 18	5 PM	† Maria Esperanza Godoy
Sunday, January 19	8:30 AM	Larry Lamantia, in thanksgiving: 100 years young!
	10 AM	† Joyce Dias Lamoureux
	12 PM	† Pierre C. Kayumba
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	† Derick Searle
	Bl. Sac.	† Blanca Graciela
	Our Lady	† Martin Frank

### LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

Liturgy of the Word with Children is celebrated at the 10 a.m. Mass for children ages 4-9.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE JUBILEE YEAR ~ RECONCILIATION



A Jubilee year is a sign of reconciliation because it establishes a “favorable time” (cf. 2 Corinthians 6:2) for conversion. We are called to put God at the center of our lives, growing toward Him and acknowledging His primacy. Even the Biblical call for the restoration of social justice and respect for the earth stems from a theological reality: if God is the creator of the universe, He must be given priority over every reality and partisan interest. It is God who makes this year holy by bestowing on us His own holiness.

As Pope Francis recalled in the 2015 Bull proclaiming the Extraordinary Holy Year, “Mercy is not opposed to justice but rather expresses God’s way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe. [...] God’s justice is his mercy given to everyone as a grace that flows from the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thus, the Cross of Christ is God’s judgement on all of us and on the whole world, because through it he offers us the certainty of love and new life” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 21).

In practical terms, reconciliation involves receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation, taking advantage of this time to rediscover the value of confession, and experiencing God’s personal words of forgiveness. There are some Jubilee churches that stay open continuously to make available the sacrament of Reconciliation. You can prepare yourself to receive the sacrament by following a guide.

Source: <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/segni-del-giubileo/riconciliazione.html>

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION AT ST. BONAVENTURE PARISH

Confessions are heard on a weekly basis on Saturdays from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Confessional Room. In addition, you can always make an appointment with Fr. Peter or Fr. Tom.

## A REFLECTION ON RECONCILIATION

In the journey of our daily life, the Pope observed, we can often lose sight of the beauty of our new life in Christ, with harmful consequences for our relationships with God and with others. “We remain on our way, but we need a new signpost, a change of pace, direction to help us find again the way of our Baptism, our original beauty, the sense of going forward,” he said.

“Brothers and sisters,” Pope Francis continued, “what is the way to resume the path of new life? It is the way of God’s forgiveness.” God’s forgiveness “puts us back together again... cleanses us within, returning us to the condition of our baptismal rebirth.”

But, the Pope said, while it is necessary for us to have open and contrite hearts - like the leper who cried out to Jesus, “If you will, You can make me clean” - our own efforts are not enough. “Only God knows and heals the heart; only He can deliver it from evil.”

Pope Francis emphasized that this is what Jesus wants for us, so that we might be renewed, free, happy, and able to continue along the path of our new life.

“Let us not grieve Him; let us not put off our encounter with His forgiveness, for only if put back on our feet by Him can we get back on the road and see the defeat of our sin, wiped out forever,” the Pope said. “Let us not forsake God’s forgiveness, the Sacrament of Reconciliation,” which is not just a devotional exercise, but “the foundation of Christian existence.”

Pope Francis called on those who administer the Sacrament of Confession to “put God’s forgiveness back at the centre of the Church.”

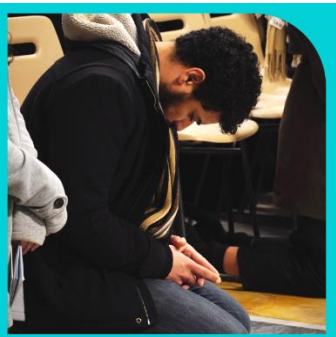
He invited priests to always grant forgiveness to those who ask for it, and to help those who might be afraid to confess their sins “to approach the Sacrament of healing and joy with confidence.”

Finally, Pope Francis reminded the faithful that Jesus can purify all our faults, inviting them to come to Confession with the prayer, “Jesus, I believe you can purify. I believe I need your forgiveness. Renew me, and I will walk again in new life.”

Source: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2024-03/pope-francis-put-god-s-forgiveness-at-the-centre-of-the-church.html>



## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE JUBILEE YEAR ~ PRAYER



There are many reasons and ways to pray, but at the root of prayer is always the desire to be open to God's presence and His offer of love. It is the Spirit of the Son that calls the Christian community to prayer and allows each person to return to the Father. It was Jesus who entrusted His disciples with the Lord's Prayer, which is commented on by the Catechism of the Catholic Church (cf. CCC 2759-2865).

The Christian tradition also offers other texts, such as the Hail Mary, that can help to find words to address God: “By a living transmission—Tradition—the Holy Spirit in the Church teaches the children of God to pray” (CCC 2661).

The of prayer opportunities on the journey show that the pilgrim holds the path to God “in his heart” (Psalm 83:6). Refreshment is also provided by the various stops and opportunities for rest along the way, which are often organized around shrines, sanctuaries, and other places filled with spiritual significance, where one realizes that – before us and alongside us – other pilgrims have also passed along and traveled those same roads. Indeed, the paths leading to Rome have often been trod by many saints.

Source: <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/segni-del-giubileo/preghiera.html>

## A REFLECTION ON PRAYER ~ FROM AN INTERVIEW WITH RUTH BURROWS BY AMY FRYKHOLM

Prayer can never be a failure. If I used that expression it would refer to how people express themselves: “I can't pray”; “my prayer is a failure”; “I pray and nothing happens; I'm praying to myself.” This is to have a completely false idea of prayer.



## GROWING IN *Spirit, Community, and Service*

To believe in the God of Jesus Christ is to know that, through what God in his love has done for us, there is absolutely no barrier between God and ourselves. We have free access. God is always available, always there, always with us—with you, with me. What is more, we know that God made us in love, precisely because God wants us wholly united to him for his and our total happiness.

Now, if we really believe that—and we must, surely, if we set aside some time to pray, affirm God's (or Jesus') loving presence and offer ourselves to him to do in us all he wants. He will not fail to purify us and gradually transform us as he unites us to himself. How can it matter that we do not feel it is happening?

Prayer is essentially God's work. Our part is to give time, do our best to keep attention, surrender ourselves as best we can. Then we can be sure that God works. Faith does not ask for signs, for tokens. When we really grasp that prayer is essentially God's business, not ours, we will never talk of failure, no matter how unsatisfactory prayer seems to us.

- Amy Frykholm's full interview with Ruth Burrows, O.C.D. published in the April 4, 2012 issue of the Christian Century, can be found here: <https://www.christiancentury.org/article/2012-03/prayer-god-s-work>

### HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND



Our parish has an active Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound. Our Eucharistic Ministers provide pastoral visits and bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are unable to attend church because of illness, disability or age. If you or someone you know might benefit from this ministry, please contact us at [homebound@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:homebound@st-bonaventure.ca) or at 416-447-5571 ext. 590 and let us know.

### 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*, + *Christopher Harris*, + *Blanca Graciela*, + *Martin Frank*,  
and +*Thelma Jonathan*.

### PRAYER NETWORK REQUESTS

Network members pray daily for your prayer intentions which are held in confidence. New members are welcome! Please call Teresa Krijgsman at **416-709-8150** with your prayer intentions or if you would like to join the prayer network.

### HELPING OTHERS

#### CASSEROLES FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE



**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

Our casserole makers are part of a collective effort to serve, individuals facing hunger, who come to the Good Shepherd for a daily meal. The need is great!! We invite you to consider being a casserole maker. We welcome new volunteers to join in this Mission of Mercy. Recipes and pans are available in the cupboard at the back of the church. Thank you in advance!

## 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/>



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 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)

**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**

This presentation will cover: • Importance of digestive health for immune health, metabolism and mental health • Probiotics and what they do for us • What are the prebiotics and how they help our digestive system • Why we need fiber and fiber friendly foods • What's kombucha? How does it help us and samples to try • Q/A at the end

*The presenter is Whitney Hilts, Regional Manager of Living Well Services who is trained in healthy aging, including: healthy eating, exercise, and mental health.*

**Tuesday February 4th 10:00AM to 11:30AM**

**Downsizing Property Options - Not just Condos**

Condos are a safe, convenient and affordable downsizing option, but they certainly are not the only one! Join me as I share property options beyond just a condo apartment. We'll cover:

- condo and freehold senior friendly housing
- the pros and cons of buying vs renting
- financial considerations for each option presented

Presented by Sharon Parenteau, Sales Representative S.M.A.R.T Realty Solutions.

**Save the Dates: February 18th, March 4th, March 18th.**

## CONTACT US

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### Pastor

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### Lay Pastoral Associate

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### Parish Manager

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ARE YOU REGISTERED? IF NOT, ASK AN USHER  
FOR A PARISH REGISTRATION FORM TO COMPLETE

### Ministry for Maturing Adults

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### St. Clare Inn Office:

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[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

‘...heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”’ Luke 3:21-22

Christ is bathed in light; let us also be bathed in light. Christ is baptized; let us also go down with him, and rise with him. John is baptizing when Jesus draws near. Perhaps he comes to sanctify his baptizer; certainly he comes to bury sinful humanity in the waters. He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake and in readiness for us; he who is spirit and flesh comes to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water....

Jesus rises from the waters; the world rises with him. The heavens like Paradise with its flaming sword, closed by Adam for himself and his descendants, are rent open. The Spirit comes to him as to an equal, bearing witness to his Godhead. A voice bears witness to him from heaven, his place of origin. The Spirit descends in bodily form like the dove that so long ago announced the ending of the flood and so gives honour to the body that is one with God.

Today let us do honour to Christ’s baptism and celebrate this feast in holiness. Be cleansed entirely and continue to be cleansed. Nothing gives such pleasure to God as the conversion and salvation of men and women, for whom his every word and every revelation exist. He wants you to become a living force for all humankind, lights shining in the world. You are to be radiant lights as you stand beside Christ, the great light, bathed in the glory of him who is the light of heaven. You are to enjoy more and more the pure and dazzling light of the Trinity, as now you have received - though not in its fullness - a ray of its splendor, proceeding from the one God, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

- Except from a sermon by Saint Gregory of Nazianzus (*Oratio 39 in Sancta Lumina*, 14-16, 20: PG 36, 350-351, 354, 358-359).

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