

*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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www.st-bonaventure.ca

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 26, 2025*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



Ezra reads the Law (c. 245 AD), Synagogue Interior wood panel.
Dura Europos, Syria. Public Domain. Source: Wikicommons.

How God Speaks

Not with face slap or body slam
Rarely with lightening bolt or thunderclap

But in sighs and inclinations leanings
The way a baby suckles breath

The green current of the hazel wand
Curves toward the underground spring

The man in cashmere flesh does arrive
Holding out his arms he is wide

As any horizon I've ever traversed desert for
He brings thread count to my bed

Fire to my oven With a towel tucked
In his jeans he soaps my hair

Then finger combs it dry
I massage a knot from his neck

His mouth is well water
His gaze true and from

His tongue he brings the blessed Word

Mary Karr, *Tropic of Squalor*. New York: HarperCollins, 2018.

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, January 27	9 AM	† Anna Szatmary
Tuesday, January 28	9 AM	† Margaret King
Wednesday, January 29	9 AM	† Gregorio and Dolores Torres
Thursday, January 30	9 AM	† Marie Kung
Friday, January 31	9 AM	Dermot Giles and Family † Hillary and Damian Kavanagh † Grazia Maida † Mario Nasturzio † Sofronio Bautista
Saturday, February 1	5 PM	† John and Maria Hanrahan
Sunday, February 2	8:30 AM	† Florinda Ortuoste
	10 AM	The Parishioners
	12 PM	† Mildred Cope
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	† Thelma Jonathan
	Bl. Sac.	† Jeanette Bertheau
	Our Lady	Intentions of Vinodh Loganadhan

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD ~ JANUARY 26, 2025

After so many centuries, during which we have become accustomed to it [the proclamation of the Word], it still retains its power of novelty and revelation. The proclamation of the gospel is always based on the reading of the Law enlightened by prophecy. But, this continuity comes across something new: Jesus, the ‘anointed,’ on whom the Spirit rested, “sent to bring glad tidings to the poor,” whose appearance inaugurates the new age of salvation. Jesus, the eternally living Word of God, the “Amen” of the Father, fulfillment of the Scriptures, on whom our eyes are fixed.

The book is still read in the assembly. In the Church, there are, first of all, the “apostles” who announce the good news; secondly, there are the ‘prophets’ who, in its light, interpret the signs of the times; and third, the “teachers,” then all those whose gifts are put at the service of the entire body. But each of us, whatever our vocation and place in the Church and the assembly, must—above all—learn from Jesus to “read” the Book.

May the liturgy of this Sunday remind us of and turn us toward Jesus when we open the Book that the Church gives us! May we keep our attention fixed on him when the reading is made in the assembly!

Then, kneeling, prostrate before the Lord, we may, with the whole Church, sing in faith and thanksgiving:

Today, we celebrate Jesus Christ who died for our sins AMEN!

rose from the dead AMEN!

and we await him till he returns AMEN!*

On September 30, 2019, on the liturgical memorial of St. Jerome, Pope Francis announced that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time would be celebrated as the Sunday of the Word of God. This year it falls on Sunday, January 26, 2025.

*Source: *Days of the Lord: The Liturgical Year*. Vol. 6 Ordinary Time, Year C. (Collegeville: The Liturgical Press, 1991), 26-27.

SCRIPTURE SHARING GROUP AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S

The Scripture Sharing group meets every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Oak Room of the Parish Centre to prepare for the readings for the upcoming Sunday. Reflecting on the spirituality of the scriptures before Mass can have a great impact on hearing the Word proclaimed on Sunday. Participation via ZOOM is available. For more information, please contact Tom: tom.burns6727@gmail.com

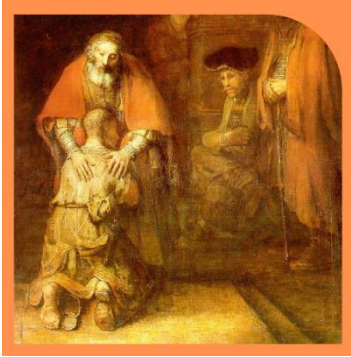
LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

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

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.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE JUBILEE YEAR ~ INDULGENCE



The Jubilee Indulgence is a concrete manifestation of God's mercy, which goes beyond and transforms the boundaries of human justice. This treasury of grace entered human history in the witness of Jesus and the saints, and by living in communion with them our hope for our own forgiveness is strengthened and becomes a certainty. The Jubilee indulgence allows us to free our hearts from the weight of sin because the reparation due for our sins is given freely and abundantly.

In practical terms, the experience of God's mercy involves some spiritual acts indicated by the Pope. Those who cannot make the Jubilee pilgrimage due to illness or other circumstances are nonetheless invited to take part in the spiritual movement that accompanies the Jubilee year, offering up the sufferings of their

daily lives, and participating in the Eucharistic celebration.

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

A REFLECTION ON THE GIFT OF INDULGENCE IN Q & A FORM BY FRIAR RICK RICCIOLI, OFM CONV.

DEAR FRIAR RICK: I have heard that Pope Francis, during the [Jubilee] Year..., has revived the old and antiquated practice of indulgences. What is an indulgence? And what is the tradition based on? Martin Luther was scandalized by the way the Church abused the practice of indulgences during his days. Don't you think, Friar Rick, that the Church risks reverting back to her past mistakes?

It's certainly not my area of expertise, but perhaps I can help shed some light into the matter. But first we need to recall our understanding of sin and purgatory. When we sin we break our relationship with God. When we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation we are completely forgiven by God. However, we sometimes hold on to aspects of those sins whether in our memory, in our shame or even in still being tempted. When we sin, we not only offend God, we also do damage to ourselves... these are known as the temporal effects of sin. When we die and come before the presence of God, we need to let go of all these effects, all the shame, all the deceit, and simply stand before God in humility and gratitude. This is a process of purgation, of letting go, which we call purgatory.

The wonderful thing is that we never face this process alone. Whether here on earth or at the time of our passing we are always part of the Body of Christ. This communion we share with all of the saints strengthens us on our journey towards God, and we believe it assists us with the prayers and love of those who are our brothers and sisters. The Church teaches us that based on what St. Paul wrote in the Letter to the Colossians (1:24) we can help make up for what is wanting in the Body of Christ.

Over time this gift of prayer and love was 'packaged' in what we call indulgences. In order to quantify it better the Church spoke in terms of days or years or full indulgences. This was not meant literally as no one knows what the process of purgation is like or how long it takes for each one of us. The other part of it is that the person had to do certain things to obtain this indulgence, like go on a retreat, a pilgrimage, say certain prayers, pray the Stations of the Cross in a Franciscan Church. Other times an indulgence was given for acts of charity towards the Church. This is where it got out of hand sometimes.

The point is that our participation in helping overcome those last remnants of sin as well as the grace of the Communion of Saints will help us embrace the Lord. For the {Jubilee} Year... Pope Francis extends a plenary indulgence to all those who, anywhere in the world, visit designated churches and shrines, celebrate the

Sacrament of Reconciliation and receive Communion. This indulgence is also extended to prisoners and to those in nursing homes as long as they visit the chapels available to them. For more in-depth information consult the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1471 to #1479.

Source: <https://www.messengersaintanthony.com/content/gift-indulgence>

HOW AND IN WHAT WAYS MAY THE JUBILEE PLENARY INDULGENCE BE OBTAINED?



All the faithful, who are **truly repentant** and free from any affection for sin (cf. *Enchiridion Indulgentiarum*, IV ed., norm. 20, §1), who are **moved by a spirit of charity** and who, during the Holy Year, purified through the **sacrament of penance** and refreshed by **Holy Communion**, **pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff**, will be able to obtain from the treasury of the Church a plenary indulgence, with remission and forgiveness of all their sins, which can also be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory.

Fulfilling the above, the plenary indulgence of the Jubilee Year is obtained when combined with: Pilgrimages to the Jubilee Churches in Rome, the Holy Land, or those designated in the local diocese, or b. Pious Visits to Sacred Places (Shrines), or c. Works of Mercy and Penance.

Those faithful who are truly repentant of sin but who cannot participate in the various solemn celebrations, pilgrimages and pious visits for serious reasons [cloistered nuns and monks, the elderly, the sick, prisoners, workers in hospitals and care facilities who provide continuous care for the sick] can obtain the Jubilee Indulgence, under the same conditions, if they are united in spirit with the faithful taking part in person, especially when the words of the Pontiff or the Bishop are transmitted through means of communication. To obtain the Jubilee plenary indulgence in this way the above-mentioned faithful are to: offer up the sufferings or hardships of their lives and recite the Our Father, the Profession of Faith, and prayers in conformity with the objectives of the Holy Year. For a fuller description of the Jubilee Indulgence, please see:

<https://www.archtoronto.org/siteassets/media/offices--ministries/sub-sites/jubilee/catechetical-resource-on-plenary-indulgences-during-the-jubilee-year.pdf>

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 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,
+ Thelma Jonathan, + Jeanette Bertheau and + Edward Baker

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. Please drop off your January casseroles by January 27. Thank you in advance!

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - YOUR DONATIONS HELP !



We received a thank you card from one of our Neighbours in Need. We have permission to share the message of gratitude with our parishioners through the bulletin. These are the words in the card ...



“To all the sponsors and volunteers and people who support this cause.

Thank you so much for being so kind, caring and compassionate and generous to the families who are really in need. There are families who unfortunately struggle a lot due to mental health issues and physical health issues and cannot do things that makes their ends meet. So, helping us during our crisis and also, during festive times is very helpful.

Thank you for everything.

Sabrina and Family

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!”

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

COMMEMORATION OF INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

Christian Jewish Dialogue of Toronto’s Commemoration of International Holocaust Remembrance Day will be held on Monday, January 27, 2025, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at East End United Church/Danforth Multifaith Commons, 310 Danforth Ave., Toronto, M4K 1N6

This is an in-person event sponsored and recommended by the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and Religious Relations with Judaism. The Archdiocese of Toronto is a member of the Christian Jewish Dialogue of Toronto. Join us as we honour the memory of the victims of the Holocaust with a vigil on the 80th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, paying tribute to both survivors and liberators, and recommit ourselves to a culture of encounter, "living in an open and neighbourly spirit, sharing our joys and sorrows, our human problems and preoccupations" (*Dialogue and Proclamation*, #42). This city-wide event is part of The Dialogue of Life “In Our Time,” a commemoration marking the 60th anniversary of the Vatican Declaration on Interreligious Dialogue *Nostra Aetate*.

The event is organized by the Danforth Jewish Circle and the East End United Regional Ministry and is sponsored by Christian Jewish Dialogue and the Office for Promoting Christian Unity and Religious Relations with Judaism, Archdiocese of Toronto.

MINISTRY WITH MATURING ADULTS

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

Tuesday January 28th, 10:00AM to 11:30AM - Mian Hall **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 - Main Hall **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.

Tuesday February 18th 10:00AM to 11:30AM- Main Hall **Cultivating an Attitude of Gratitude and experiencing Joy in Life's second Act**

We continue exploring the needs that Sr. Schaeffler identifies in her writings and focus on the need to be grateful as we live out our life in the second act.

We will spend time in small groups, pondering, wondering and discussing these needs with guided questions.

We will then explore and share in the large group creative ways to practice, celebrate and live out these needs so that we can continue to enjoy life to the full.

Facilitated by: Trena Finnegan, Coordinator - Ministry with Maturing Adults

Tuesday March 4th, 10:00AM to 11:30AM - Main Hall

Preparation for Ash Wednesday, March 5th, Lenten Reflection - *The Woman at the Well, John 4:1 - 42* **An Encounter with a Loving and Compassionate God**

We will spend the morning reflecting on this Lenten scripture passage and have a time where we are led into the "desert" to look at our inner selves. There will be a time for coffee and sharing in small groups together.

Facilitated by: Trena Finnegan, Coordinator - Ministry with Maturing Adults

Tuesday March 18th, 10:00AM to 11:30AM - Main Hall

Living Out Our Time and Talent Using God's Gifts

During this morning session we will hear from parishioners and others who are using the time and talent that God has given them and in turn they are experiencing a deepening of their faith and being energised. This time of reflection will help us use our own time and talent in the second half of life. We look forward to a joy filled and fun filled morning together!

"We are gifted in certain ways and sometimes we don't even realize it. Perhaps this is an occasion, an opportunity, to ask, 'How am I gifted?'" - Archbishop Francis Leo

Facilitated by: Trena Finnegan, Coordinator - Ministry with Maturing Adults

Save the Dates: April 8th, April 22nd, May 6th, May 20th.

A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO



On the second Sunday of February each year, the Archdiocese of Toronto celebrates Marriage Sunday. In 2025, it will be celebrated on the weekend of February 8/9. This occasion highlights the importance of the institution of marriage rooted in faith, affirms couples who strengthen our faith community through their witness, and complements World Marriage Sunday celebrations that take place across North America. Parishes and the lay faithful are called upon to affirm the sacrament of Matrimony and to honour married couples in the community. We are also grateful to those who assist couples as they prepare for marriage and to those engaged in marriage

enrichment programs or lay movements to support the sacrament of Matrimony.

We also extend our loving support to those who have lost a spouse or have experienced the pain and suffering of a broken relationship. If you are in need of assistance during these difficult days, please seek out programs and resources in your own parish or throughout our diocese so that we may accompany you through the healing process.

As part of Marriage Sunday 2025 celebrations, Bishop Ivan Camilleri will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2025. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 9, 2025 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment. All are welcome to attend. *Couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversary in 2025 may register for reserved seating.* All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass. The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m. Registration and other important information can be found at: www.archtoronto.org/marriage.

We extend special thanks to married couples throughout the archdiocese, who, through their witness, remain a shining example of faith, commitment and love!

CAFÉ 65 - SENIORS LUNCH & ENTERTAINMENT - CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, 33 OVERLAND DRIVE, TORONTO

A new year starts, and we welcome you to **the first 2025 Café 65 Seniors' Lunch & Entertainment program on Thursday, February 13th!** After lunch, **Bruce Tournay** will entertain us with "**Valentine Vibes**" - **music to warm the heart.** " With a strong musical theatre and church background Bruce has enjoyed performing as a pianist and vocalist for over thirty years. Bruce was showcased on the mainstage for Carnival Cruise Lines. His experience entertaining in so many environments has given him an engaging presence and a repertoire of songs that entice the audience not only to reminisce but also to clap along, sing along and even dance!!!"

Lunch (noon) followed by entertainment - \$20. In the **Parish Hall, Church of the Ascension.**

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD SCHOOL NOW REGISTERING FOR 2025/2026 (NEW FAMILY RATES)

Have you heard of Mary, Mother of God School? We are an affordable private school (Grades K-12) located in the Roncesvalles/Parkdale area. Deeply rooted in the Catholic tradition with a special devotion to Our Lady, we have an excellent academic program, a dynamic and joyful student life, and small classes where each student is known and loved. We are now interviewing for September 2025: please visit our website at www.marymotherofgodschool.org or call us at 416-531-7897.

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

Trena Finnegan
Ext. 550
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St. Clare Inn Office:

1320 Leslie Street, Suite 200
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9 416-690-0330
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

REFLECTION

**“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.”
Luke 4:18**

Two men unroll parchment scrolls and each reads his to the people. Their proclamations signal the beginning of a vast new era. One man is Ezra the scribe, and the other is Jesus of Nazareth. Four centuries separate their readings. Let's look.

We find Ezra in the First Reading. He is in Jerusalem after the return of the Jewish exiles from captivity in Babylon.... They arrived to find Jerusalem a ruined city with widespread moral decay. Reconstruction of a urban center is immensely difficult, as we know from our own day. Ezra worked long and hard to bring back the ecclesiastical and civil fiber of Jerusalem and the nation. At last a new temple was finished in 516 BC, and the ruined city walls were rebuilt. Now Ezra stood up on a high wooden platform built for the occasion so he could be heard and seen, and he “read plainly” from the scroll that held “the book of the law.” He started reading at daybreak and continued until midday! Not only did they have their city again, but also they now had heard the Word of God again. And finally there was again a temple where they could worship. Their new era had begun!

Four centuries later we find Jesus of Nazareth making a similar return. He is going back to Galilee, the region where he grew up. He has been baptized and has spent time in the desert. His trip is now “in the power of the Spirit,” Luke says, and it takes him to his hometown of Nazareth. Like Ezra, he takes up a scroll, this one containing the book of Isaiah—much of which, coincidentally, had been written during the Jewish exile. He reads the passage, which says that the Spirit of the Lord has sent him to “bring glad tidings to the poor, ... to let the oppressed go free,” to proclaim a time of favour from the Lord (Is 61:1-2). This is what Ezra had done in the First Reading, but Jesus' mission is much, much more. A far greater new era has begun. Jesus sits down, at the same level as the people. He says almost casually, “today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.” His mission is to rebuild their hearts, not just their city, to return them to God, who is their real home. Would they accept this startling new epoch? Will we? Stay tuned for more next Sunday.

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May the Lord bless you and keep you!