

*Epiphany of the Lord
January 5, 2025*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



*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**

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www.st-bonaventure.ca



Adoration of the Magi (1905), by Edward Burne-Jones (1833-1898)

Tapestry weave of silk, wool and cotton. © Musée d'Orsay. Source: Wikicommons, Public Domain.

In Too Much Light

The Magi had one only star to follow,
a single sanctuary lamp hung low,
gold ornament in the astonished air.
I am confounded in this latter day;
I find stars everywhere.

Rumor locates the presence of a night
out past the loss of perishable sun
where, round midnight, I shall come to see
that all the stars are one.

I long for this night of the onement of stars
when days of scattered shining are my lot
and my confusion. Yet faith even here
burns her throat dry, cries: on this very spot
of mornings, see, there is not any place
where the sought Word is not.
Under and over, in and out, this morn
flawlessly, purely, wakes the newly born.
Behold, all places which have light in them
truly are Bethlehem.

- Jessica Powers (Sr. Miriam of the Holy Spirit, OCD), 1964.



Detail of Mosaic of the Three Magi, Sant'Apollinare Nuovo, Ravenna. Av © José Luiz Bernardes Ribeiro, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=52677084>

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

The Feast of the Epiphany reveals the breadth and depth of God's love for us in the gift of His Son. Shepherds and kings come from near and afar to worship Him. No one is too exalted, no one is too lowly. Everyone has been blessed by God and is called to respond to His love.

In this New Year may the Lord show Himself to you in a special way. Among His many blessings, may you enjoy good health and prosper in every endeavor.

Finally, a sincere word of thanks for the many greetings and gifts that you shared with the members of the parish Staff and the Friars. We are indeed grateful and look forward to the New Year before us.

Sincerely,
Fr. Tom

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, January 6	9 AM	Intentions of Breda Loganadhan
Tuesday, January 7	9 AM	† Marion Beath
Wednesday, January 8	9 AM	† Kenneth Viegas
Thursday, January 9	9 AM	† Nick Albanese
Friday, January 10	9 AM	Christina and Ernest Leong The Chang Family Renata and Marie Therese † Josef Sitar † Lino Ammaturo † Felisa and Aguida Lacap † Ernesto Bustos
Saturday, January 11	5 PM	† David Tomcik
Sunday, January 12	8:30 AM	† Diana Pritchard
	10 AM	† Gerry and Oris McCann
	12 PM	The Parishioners
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	For peace in Ukraine
	Bl. Sac.	Intention of David Wong
	Our Lady	Intention of Vinodh Loganadhan

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN ~ CHRISTMAS PAUSE

Liturgy of the Word with Children resumes this Sunday at the 10 a.m. Mass.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE JUBILEE YEAR ~ PILGRIMAGE



The jubilee calls for us to set out on a journey and to cross boundaries. When we travel, we do not only change place physically, but we also change ourselves. Hence, it is important to prepare ourselves well, to plan the route, and learn about the destination. In this sense, the Jubilee pilgrimage begins before the start of the journey itself: the starting point is the decision to set out. The etymology of the word “pilgrimage” is quite telling and has undergone little change in meaning over the years. The word comes from the Latin “*per ager*,” meaning “across the fields,” or perhaps from “*per eger*” meaning “border crossing”: both possible origins point to the distinctive aspect of undertaking a journey.

In the Bible, Abraham is described as a person on a journey: “Go forth from your land, your relatives, and from your father’s house” (Genesis 12:1). With these words Abraham begins his adventure, which ends in the Promised Land, where he is remembered as a “wandering Aramean” (Deuteronomy 26:5). Jesus’ ministry can also be seen as a journey, from Galilee to the Holy City of Jerusalem ... “As the time drew near when Jesus would be taken up to heaven, he made up his mind and set out on his way to Jerusalem.” (Luke 9:51). Christ himself calls His disciples to walk this road, and even today Christians are those who follow him and set out after Him.

The journey takes place gradually: there are various routes to choose from and places to discover; it is made up of particular sets of circumstances, moments of catechesis, sacred rites and liturgies. Along the way our traveling companions enrich us with new ways of understanding things and fresh perspectives. Contemplation of creation is also part of the journey and helps us to realize that care for creation “is an essential expression of our faith in God and our obedience to his will” (Pope Francis, Letter for the Jubilee 2025). Pilgrimage is an experience of conversion, of transforming one’s very being to conform it to the holiness of God. During the pilgrimage, one also shares in the experience of those who, for various reasons, are forced to leave their homelands to seek a better life for themselves and their family.

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

For those unable to travel to Rome to visit the designated basilicas within the Eternal City and the Vatican, each diocese designates “pilgrimage churches” to visit throughout the Jubilee Year. With the opening of the Holy Door at St. Michael’s Cathedral, the following churches throughout the Archdiocese have also been designated: **Shrines** ~ Martyrs’ Shrine, Midland

Central Region • St. Paul’s Basilica & St. Mary’s Parish, Toronto • St. Edward the Confessor Parish, North York

Western Region • Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Etobicoke • St. Mary’s Parish, Brampton

Eastern Region • St. Barnabas Parish, Scarborough • St. Gregory the Great Parish, Oshawa

Northern Region • St. Padre Pio Parish, Kleinburg • St. Mary’s Parish, Barrie

A REFLECTION ON PILGRIMAGE

“Pilgrimage is a space where you reinforce this idea of coming together so that when you go back home, you really take something new with you,” says Filomeno Lopez, a writer and theologian from Guinea Bissau. “This is especially true for us Africans because we know that the most important part of life is togetherness.”

The act of a long and strenuous pilgrimage, too, is one Mr. Lopez says is integral to instilling empathy for the migrant experience. In Mr. Lopez’s view, Christ himself came to Earth as a migrant from the heavens, and the human experience itself is an amalgamation of temporary journeys and quests for salvation. Thus, we are all guests in the natural world, and it is up to us to honour its sanctity. “The nature of a human being is to be a pilgrim,” he said. “Jubilee is a period to stop for a while and think about what is really needed in life. As a pilgrim, we are here for such a short period. Before I leave, what can I leave to others?”

Source: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2024-11/jubilee-2025-rome-vatican-pilgrims.html>

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE JUBILEE YEAR ~ HOLY DOOR



From a symbolic viewpoint, the Holy Door takes on a special significance: it is the most powerful sign of the Jubilee, since the ultimate aim of the pilgrim is to pass through it. The opening of the door by the Pope constitutes the official beginning of the Holy Year. Originally, there was only one door, at the Basilica of St. John Lateran, which is the cathedral of the Bishop of Rome. Later, to allow as many pilgrims as possible to take part in the Jubilee experience, the other Roman Basilicas also opened their own holy doors.

In crossing the threshold of the Holy Door, the pilgrim is reminded of the passage from chapter 10 of St John's gospel: "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture." Passing through the Holy Door expresses the decision to follow and be guided by Jesus, who is the Good Shepherd. The door is a passageway that ushers the pilgrim into the interior of a church. For the Christian community, a church is not only a sacred space, to be approached with respect, with appropriate behavior and dress code, but it is a symbol of the communion that binds every believer to Christ: it is a place of encounter and dialogue, of reconciliation and peace which awaits every pilgrim, the Church is essentially the place of the community of the faithful.

In Rome, this experience takes on a special significance because of the special links between the Eternal City and Saints Peter and Paul, the apostles who founded the Christian community in Rome and whose teachings and example are models for the universal Church. The tombs of Saints Peter and Paul are located in Rome, they were martyred here; and together with the catacombs, these sacred sites are places of continuous spiritual inspiration. Source: <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/segna-del-giubileo/porta-santa.html>

A REFLECTION ON THE DOOR OF OUR HEART ~ JOYCE RUPP

I am convinced that peace among nations will not happen until there is true peace within the hearts of individuals. Within my own life a stronger peace has gradually taken root, mostly due to my commitment to daily, personal meditation. When I open the door of my heart and spend time with the Holy One, I become aware of what thwarts my effort to be peaceful. If I tend to the source of the distress, this, in turn, leads me to greater serenity. Then, when I move beyond the door of my heart into the wider world, this embraced peace accompanies me. Unless I deliberately choose to turn away from inner harmony, I can count on it to bless the people and the work of my life. ~ Joyce Rupp, *Open the Door: A Journey to the True Self*, Sorin Books, 2008.

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, and + Blanca Graciela.

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.

THE JUBILEE PRAYER ~ WRITTEN BY POPE FRANCIS

Father in heaven,
may the **faith** you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of **charity** enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed **hope**
for the coming of your Kingdom.
May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.
May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, **Pilgrims of Hope**,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen.

For the Jubilee Prayer in other languages, please see: <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025/prehiera.html>

HELPING OTHERS

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/>

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!

THE NEEDLEWORK GUILD OF CANADA - 'JOYCE'S JOYFUL KNITTERS'



Do you knit or would like to learn? Come and see what we are all about. Joyce's Joyful Knitters meet on a Wednesday morning after mass on the second week of each month. Our next gathering is January 8, 2025, in the Francis Room in the Parish Hall. We have light refreshments and share our knitting challenges and successes. Our knitted items are donated to several shelters in Toronto.

**If you can't make it on January 8th, please join us on February 12th.
All are welcome!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO THE GIVING TREE THIS CHRISTMAS

On behalf of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Greenview Lodge, The Sisters of Life and the young mothers they serve, we would like to express our sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude to each of you who supported the Giving Tree this Advent and Christmas season. Your generous donations and support help to make an impact and a world of difference! ***Thank you for your kind support!***

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!



A special note of thanks to our many volunteers who helped make our Christmas season extra special. We thank our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound, Ministers of Hospitality, Altar Servers, Music Ministers and the Choir, Children's Liturgy Team, Sunday Coffee Teams, Volunteer Screening Team, Collection Counters, the Knights of Columbus, CWL members and, to those who helped decorate the church. We appreciate all your efforts during this busy time. Thank you for all that you do for our Parish!

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

Tuesday January 7th from 10:00AM to 11:30AM, Main Hall

Move it or Lose it! Practical ways to stay physically active and fit as we age.

Exercise is good for all of us. Good for strengthening the body, sharpening the mind and balancing mood. If that is so, why do so many of us struggle to start and maintain a regular and purposeful exercise routine especially as we age? In this talk, Michael Carrera a fitness professional will highlight some simple strategies to get you moving, build strength, flexibility and help you overcome barriers that get in the way of your health and wellness goals.

Michael Carrera has a master's degree in exercise science and has authored and co-authored four books: Periodization Strength Training for Sports (2nd ed.), The Catholic Workout book and DVD, Conditioning Young Athletes and Soul Winner. Soul Loser. A Remarkable Story of Finding Meaning in the Wisdom of the Day. Two of his books have been translated into multiple languages. Michael was recently ordained a Permanent Deacon for the Archdiocese of Toronto. He lives in Toronto, Canada, with his wife and four children.

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

Ministry Centre (Office)

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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

“When they saw the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.” Matthew 2:10

The Christmas mystery has two parts: the Nativity and the Epiphany. A deep instinct made the Church separate these two feasts. In the first we commemorate God’s humble entrance into human life, the emergence and birth of the Holy, and in the second its manifestation to the world, the revelation of the Supernatural made in that life. And the two phases concern our inner lives very closely too. The first only happens in order that the second may happen, and the second cannot happen without the first. Christ is a light to lighten the Gentiles as well as the glory of his people Israel. Think of what the Gentile was when these words were written - an absolute outsider. All cozy religious exclusiveness falls before that thought. The Light of the world is not the sanctuary lamp in your favorite church. It is easy for the devout to join up with the shepherds and fall into place at the crib and look out into the surrounding night and say, “Look at those extraordinary intellectuals wandering about after a star, with no religious sense at all! Look at that clumsy camel, what an unspiritual animal it is! We know the ox and the ass are the right animals to have! Look what queer gifts and odd types of self-consecration they are bringing; not the sort of people who come to church!” But remember that the Child who began by receiving these very unexpected pilgrims had a woman of the streets for his faithful friend and two thieves for his comrades at the end: and looking at these two extremes let us try to learn a little of the height and breadth and depth of his love - and then apply it to our own lives.

- From Evelyn Underhill, *Light of Christ: Addresses Given at the House of Retreat, Pleshey, in May 1932* (London: Longmans, Green, 1944).

May the Lord bless you and keep you!