



*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**

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

*Second Sunday of Lent  
March 1, 2026*

# Bonnie News

*Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure*



*Verklärung auf dem Berg Tabor (1506-1508), Jan Joest von Kalkar (c. 1450-1519). Oil on oakwood. Kalkar Kreis Kleve, Katholische Pfarrkirche Sankt Nikolai. Source: Bildindex der Kunst und Architektur. Public domain.*

*Your unbearable gentleness* by Raissa Maritain

Your unbearable gentleness, Lamb of God,  
Whose touch dissolves, or destroys like fire.

I am yours, I am yours—what am I in your sight ?  
I would know myself, but in your life-giving light.

O make haste your face on mine to impress,  
That you find in me no unshapeliness

When you judge me with your clemency  
For eternity.

Raissa Maritain, « Your unbearable gentleness », *A Lent Sourcebook : The Forty Days*. Book I. (Chicago : LTP, Archdiocese of Chicago, 1990, 135.

## LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

### THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, March 2	9 AM	† Peter Glowczewski
Tuesday, March 3	9 AM	† Geoffrey Prabhu
Wednesday, March 4	9 AM	† Ireneo Mendoza Calingasan & Celedonia Calingasan
Thursday, March 5	9 AM	† Nelia Arelland
Friday, March 6	9 AM	Vocations Intention of Marla Zupan † Faustin Adrian D'Costa † Miguel De Los Santos † Kenneth Mackinnon Sr.
Saturday, March 7	5 PM	Recovery of Mary Perusco
Sunday, March 8	8:30 AM	† Roselyn & Ralph Javier
	10 AM	† Maria Fernanda Jasmin
	12 PM	Parishioners
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	† Suzanne McCallister
	Bl. Sac.	† John Carvalho
	Our Lady	Intention of St. Bonaventure Daily Rosary Prayer Group

### 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](mailto: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 + John Carvalho.

### 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 MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

**Evangelization!** For the past twenty some years, the church has been reminding us that we are called to be missionary disciples and encourage us to be so. Evangelization remains atop the goals of the Archdiocese of Toronto's pastoral plan. You might be asking yourself anew: "How can I evangelize - proclaim the Gospel." The most powerful credential an evangelizer can hold is the lived witness to the Gospel. And what better saint do we have than Francis of Assisi as a model for us to follow Christ and live his Gospel. This year is the **800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death**, and to commemorate this Pope Leo has designated January 10, 2026, to January 19, 2027, as a *Year of Grace*. In life, in death, and in eternal life, St. Francis has been an instrument in God's Grace to His people. St. Bonaventure's is a Franciscan parish. Our hope during the *Year of Grace* is that every person who enters our church will experience an outpouring of God's grace through the intercession of the Poverello of Assisi.

During each remaining month of the Year of Grace, we will highlight an aspect of the life of St. Francis to help us deepen our witness to the Gospel and share it with others. St Francis died on October 13, 1226. Although uncertain of the date of his birth, we know his rebirth in God's Spirit came with his conversion and embrace of the Gospel. This month we will focus on the conversion of St. Francis. Please see the advertisement for the **March Lenten Retreat** and the opportunities to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**.

Fr. 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>

LENTEN RETREAT - MARCH 9, 11, & 12 AT 7PM

# ✦ Lenten Retreat! ✦

Don't miss this Extraordinary  
Lenten Retreat in this Year of Grace

As part of our **Year of Grace** celebrations  
we welcome **Most Rev. John Corriveau, OFM Cap.**,  
former Minister General of the Friars Minor Capuchin  
and **Bishop Emeritus of Nelson, BC**,  
to lead our parish Lenten Mission!

*St. Francis: Call to Conversion*

**Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup>,  
and Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>**

Come be inspired, renewed, and uplifted as we enter  
more deeply into this sacred season.

**A rare opportunity—join us and bring a friend!**

Refreshments to follow in the  
Main Hall of the Parish Centre.

When: **March 9, 11, 12**

Time: **7:00PM**

Where: **St. Bonaventure  
Church - 1300 Leslie Street**

## CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION DURING LENT

Lent is an opportune time to celebrate the reconciling love and healing grace our Lord offers us as we prepare to renew our baptismal dignity at Easter. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a most natural way to celebrate God's mercy, forgiveness and healing. Forgiveness of sins is what God does. Receiving, celebrating, and living from God's reconciling grace is what we do.

**Regular Weekly Confessions:** Saturdays from 9am to 10am.

**Day of Reconciliation: Wednesday, March 18, 2026**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered:

- From 9:45am to 10:45am, 12 noon to 1pm  
and a

- **Communal Penance Service** at 7pm:

The communal service is an opportunity to join our sisters and brothers in asking for forgiveness during this important time of the year. All are invited to come together examine our lives through the life-giving lens of Sacred Scripture in a prayerful spirit, followed by an examination of conscience and concluding with individual confessions, penance and absolution. Several priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

## 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

### 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, have 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.

#### March: Lenten Season of Giving

This March, our Catholic Women's League invites all members to embrace our monthly theme, “Lenten Season of Giving.” Throughout the month we will be incorporating three simple but meaningful acts of generosity that reflect the spirit of Lent:

1. Celebrate the World Day of Prayer - Join with Christians around the world in prayerful solidarity and reflection.
2. Volunteer at a Soup Kitchen - Offer your time and compassion to serve those in need with our community.
3. Adopt a Single Parent for a Day - Support a single parent through a thoughtful gesture, practical help, or an act of kindness that lightens their load.

As a council, we will weave these suggestions into our Lenten journey, encouraging one another to live out faith through intentional acts of love and service.

#### Monthly Motivations 2026-2027 - Legumes for Fortunes

Please drop off donations of dried beans/chickpeas/lentils at the back of the church. You may also prefer to donate to the Community Share Food Bank online and they will spend the money wisely.

## SHARELIFE



Through ShareLife, you bring hope to those who need it most.

David is a senior who faced overwhelming loss and uncertainty. His wife passed away, his health declined, and he felt forgotten. But in his deepest sorrow, he found hope. When he turned to his pastor, he was guided to Catholic Family Services of Toronto, a Catholic Charities agency you support through ShareLife where he was welcomed with open arms. Because of your kindness, David found the support he needed to heal, regain stability, and rediscover his sense of purpose.

But unfortunately, there are many more like him - seniors facing isolation, families struggling to put food on the table, refugees trying to rebuild their lives, and young parents fighting for a brighter future. Through ShareLife, you helped over 40 Catholic agencies bring hope to those who need it most.

The first ShareLife Sunday collection is on March 22. Our parish goal this year is \$125,000. Please give at the parish using ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharlife.org/donate](http://sharlife.org/donate).

## 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.



**March items: Canned Fish.**

*Please Drop off your donations at the back of the church behind the toddler area. Thank you!*

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](mailto: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/>

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, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>ST</sup>



**Spring Fundraiser Event on May 1<sup>st</sup>**

St. Clare Inn invites you for an evening of dinner • live entertainment • raffles • auctions • and more

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL**

**DEADLINE MARCH 6**

Scan to buy your tickets now



**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.  
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### Associate Pastor

Fr. Peter Knaapen, OFM Conv  
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### Lay Pastoral Associate

Gregory Beath  
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### Parish Manager

Connie Durante  
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[connie@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto: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](mailto:mma@st-bonaventure.ca)

### Administrative Assistant

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### St. Clare Inn Office:

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Toronto, ON M3C 2K9 416-690-0330  
[info@stclareinn.org](mailto: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](http://www.saintanthonyofpadua.net)

## REFLECTION

**“Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.”**

***Matthew 17:1***

What does Jesus, in this mood of the holiest of hearts, then do? He prays. He goes away from human beings, he climbs a high mountain in order to hold converse, there in the quiet solitude of the mountain, in the restfulness of the long nights, with his father in Heaven, with his God, in whom that fate is meaningful, in whom even a defeat becomes a victory. Jesus loved these nights of prayer that bring human beings, their decisions, and their fate before the face of the eternal one. We read of these nights of prayer before the selection of the apostles, after the many miracles of healing in Capernaum, after the first multiplication of loaves of bread. So Jesus prayed also in this mood at this period in his life. There he will have prayed to the father for his unbelieving people, for his apostles and disciples for faith and strength in the coming days of suffering. He will have said to his father: See, I come to do your will. I am ready to drink the cup, to be baptized with the baptism of suffering. Yes, it presses down upon me, until it is accomplished.

No one goes unheard before the face of God. The Father hears the pleas of his much-beloved son. Union with God, which Jesus otherwise holds hidden in the ultimate depths of his soul, now fills up all the chambers of his soul, It embraces his body, drawing it, too, into the blessedness of God's light and God's unity. "His face was like the sun, and his clothes were as radiant as light." And still more: there appeared to him Moses and Elijah, the great proclaimer of the law and the prophets. And Jesus in between them as a sign that the law and the prophets have their goal and their fulfillment; as a sign that he gives the power of fulfilling the law from within; that he is the wellspring and the plenitude of every Spirit at work in the prophets and presently to be poured forth upon all who believe in him. And because all redemption and all Holy Spirit takes its departure from the cross, they talk with Jesus about the leave taking he is supposed to set forth upon in Jerusalem. And just as at the baptism, the voice of the Father confirms here, too, that this poor, praying Jesus, consecrated for suffering, and heroically prepared for the cross, is God's very beloved son.

This, then, is the meaning of the transfiguration for Jesus himself: in the dark night of earthly hopelessness the light of God shines, a human heart finds in God the power which turns a dying into a victory and into the redemption of the world.

Source: Karl Rahner, Sermon on the Transfiguration of the Lord, found at <https://thevalueofsparrows.wordpress.com/2013/08/06/sermon-the-transfiguration-of-the-lord-by-karl-rahner/>

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