



*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**

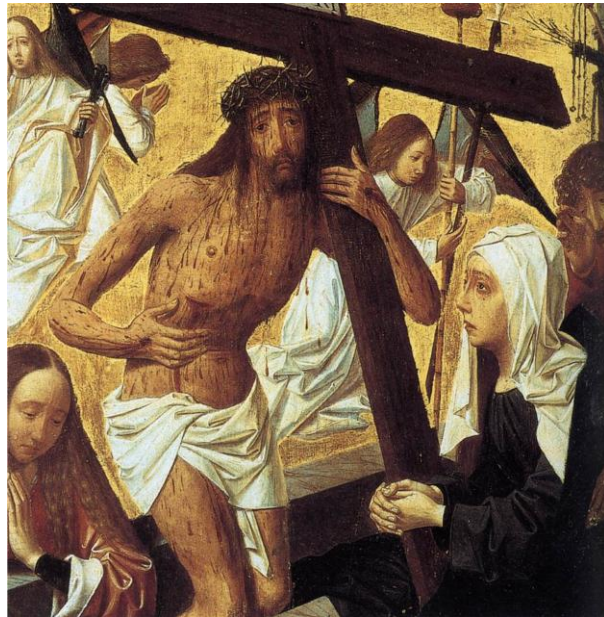
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<https://stbonaventuresdo.archtoronto.org/>

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord  
March 29, 2026*

# Bonnie News

*Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure*



*Man of Sorrows (c. 1495), Geertgen Tot Sint Jans (C. 1455/65-1485/95). Oil on panel. Museum Catharijneconvent, Utrecht. Public Domain. Source: Wikicommons.*

### **The Sign of the Cross by Sr. Miriam of the Holy Spirit, OCD**

The lovers of Christ lift out their hands to  
the great gift of suffering.  
For how could they seek to be warmed and clothed  
and delicately fed  
to wallow in praise and to drink deep draughts  
of an undeserved affection,  
have castle for home and a silken couch for bed,  
when He went forth, wounded and hated,  
and grudging of even a place to lay his head?

This is the badge of the friends of the Man of Sorrows:  
the mark of the cross, faint replica of His,  
become ubiquitous now; it spreads like a wild blossom  
on the mountains of time and in each of the crevices.

Oh, seek that land where it grows in rich abundance  
with its thorny stem and its scent like bitter wine,  
for wherever Christ walks He casts its seed  
and He scatters its purple petals.

It is the flower of His marked elect, and the fruit  
it bears is divine.

Choose it, my heart. It is a beautiful sign.

Sr. Miriam of the Holy Spirit (Jessica Powers), "The Sign of the Cross", from [Selected Poetry of Jessica Powers](#). E. Siegfried and R. Morneau, eds. (Washington: ICS, 1999), p. 150.

## LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

### THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, March 30	9 AM	† Thanksgiving of Mr. & Mrs. Lee
Tuesday, March 31	9 AM	† Gerald Blasby
Wednesday, April 1	9 AM	† Louis & Marie Fung
Holy Thursday, April 2 Mass of the Lord's Supper	7 PM	Intention of Priests of Conventual Franciscans
Good Friday, April 3 The Passion of the Lord	12 PM	<i>No intentions permitted</i>
	3 PM	<i>No intentions permitted</i>
Holy Saturday, April 4 Easter Sunday, April 5	8 PM	The Parishioners
	8:30 AM	Intention of Laurie Bildfell - Healing
	10 AM	† Peter Glowczewski
	12 PM	† Rebecca & Mariano Nazal
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Intentions of the Sick of the Parish
	Bl. Sac.	Intentions of the Bereaved of the Parish
	Our Lady	Intention of Radek Votruba & Family

### 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, + Suzanne McCallister, + Jorge Carvalho,  
+ Justyn Klym, + Patrick Doty, and + Nealia Somasundaram.

### 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.



### MINISTRY CENTRE HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Please note that the Ministry Centre will be closed on Good Friday, April 3, Easter Sunday, April 5, as well as Easter Monday, April 6. We will reopen on Tuesday with our regular office hours.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR EASTER**



As we prepare to celebrate the joy of the **Resurrection**, we are looking for helping hands to decorate the church for **Easter**. We would love to have you join us! Decoration Day is Holy Saturday at 9:30AM. If you're able to help, please contact the Ministry Centre or email our Administrative Assistant, Kathryn at [kathryn@st-bonventure.ca](mailto:kathryn@st-bonventure.ca).

**LAST WEEKS OF LENT AND HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**



**THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM ~ THE GREAT THREE DAYS  
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Holy Thursday, April 2 at 7 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in repose in the Parish Hall after Mass concludes with Night Prayer at 10 p.m.

*Please note: no morning Mass on Holy Thursday*

**COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

Good Friday, April 3 at 12 noon and 3 p.m.

**Blessing of Easter Food Baskets**

Holy Saturday, April 4 at 11 a.m. in the church

*Please note: confessions will not be heard on Holy Saturday*

**THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night- Holy Saturday, April 4 at 8:00 p.m.

*First celebration of the Resurrection with the Sacramental Initiation of our Elect.*

Easter Sunday, April 5 at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH - GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION, FRIDAY APRIL 3 AT 3 PM**

**St Francis of Assisi Parish, 72 Mansfield Ave., Toronto**

Following a tradition that goes back to 1962, St. Francis of Assisi Parish will be holding the annual Good Friday Procession. The procession includes religious statues, music, bands, and people representing different characters associated with the Passion of Christ. We are looking for Volunteers of all ages to participate in the procession. To volunteer, visit the parish website at [www.stfrancis.ca](http://www.stfrancis.ca) and follow the instructions. Volunteer registration deadline is March 29, 2026.



**Contact: St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Phone: 416-536-8195**

## 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.

#### March Theme: Lenten Season of Giving

The Toronto Diocesan Council invites us to deepen our Lenten Journey through simple acts of compassion. This month, we're encouraged to **join the World Day of Prayer, lend a hand at a soup kitchen, and support a single parent for a day.** Small gestures offered with love become powerful signs of faith in action.

#### 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.

### CASSEROLES FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Could you make a casserole once a month, or even every two months? Each one makes a big difference. 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. Pans are available at the back of the church. **Last day to bring casseroles for March: Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.**

### SHARELIFE



#### With your support of ShareLife, despair turns into hope

When Eulogio learned his wife was pregnant - not just with one baby, but with twins - his joy multiplies. He dreamed of raising David and Emmanuel with the same love and care he had given his firstborn, determined to provide them with a warm home and a future full of possibility.

But then, a devastating accident cost Eulogio his job, leaving his family without a reliable way to put food on the table or keep warm in the bitter cold. The weight of hunger and uncertainty grew heavier each day. Because of your kindness, ShareLife and Canadian Food for Children were able to step in, ensuring this family had food to sustain them. But there are more families in need. With your gifts to ShareLife, you can enable more fathers like Eulogio to hold their children close and carry the Strength to face tomorrow.

**Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).**

**We have received \$88,984 in donations this past week towards our goal of \$125,000 or 72% of our parish goal. Thank you so much for your generosity.**

### HOLY THURSDAY - COLLECTION FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

There will be a special collection on **Holy Thursday for the Society of Saint Vincent De Paul** St. Bonaventure Council. Your contribution continues to help our neighbours in need.

### GOOD FRIDAY - COLLECTION FOR THE NEEDS OF THE HOLY LAND

The **Good Friday collection "Needs of the Holy Land"** is coordinated by the **Commissariat of the Holy Land**. These funds are used for the upkeep of the sanctuaries and to help with Pastoral work, Catholic schools and social assistance in the Holy Land. For more information please visit: [www.commissariat.ca](http://www.commissariat.ca)

"Today, more than ever, it is urgent to rebuild not only buildings and infrastructure, but also relationships, trust, and hope. On Good Friday, as we contemplate the Crucifix, we ask you not to forget the Holy Land, to remember in prayer and concrete charity those who continue to live and bear witness to the Gospel in the Places of Redemption. Your closeness is a precious sign of hope and fraternity: help us to give hope and sow peace!"

*Fr. Francesco Ielpo OFM, Custos of Holy Land*

## 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: **Save the Date: April 14 & 28, May 12 & 26 and June 9 & 23**  
**More information to follow.**

### ST. CLARE INN SPRING FUNDRAISER EVENT ON MAY 1ST



**Friday, May 1, 2026. 5:30pm - 10:00pm**

**Parkview Manor, 55 Barber Greene Road**

**Tickets: \$120 each or \$1100 for a table of 10.**

Scan QR code or visit [www.stclareinn.com/events/](http://www.stclareinn.com/events/) to purchase your ticket(s)



**Join us for an inspiring evening of dinner, live entertainment, raffles, auctions, and more!**

St. Clare Inn is a non-denominational, privately funded transitional home helping homeless women facing mental health challenges. Learn more at [www.stclareinn.com](http://www.stclareinn.com)

### YEAR OF GRACE - APRIL THEME: FRATERNITY & COMMUNIO



As we continue our journey through the **Year of Grace**, the month of April invites us to reflect on **Fraternity and Communio** - our shared life in Christ and the call to deepen the bonds of community.

To celebrate this month's theme, all parishioners are warmly invited to an Evening of prayer on Sunday, April 12 in the church.

Following prayer, we will gather in the Parish Hall for an Easter Dessert Potluck, a joyful opportunity to share fellowship and sweet treats together. Bring a favourite dessert to share or simply come and enjoy the company of our parish. Let us continue to grow in unity, gratitude and grace.

### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK - SAVE THE DATE

**Volunteer Appreciation Week - April 19 - 25, 2026**

Please save the date for our upcoming Volunteer Appreciation Week Event happening April 19<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to celebrating all our wonderful volunteers. More information to follow!

## 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](mailto:frtom@st-bonaventure.ca)

### Associate Pastor

Fr. Peter Knaapen, OFM Conv  
Ext. 233  
[FrPeter@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:FrPeter@st-bonaventure.ca)

### Lay Pastoral Associate

Gregory Beath  
Ext. 258  
[gregb@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:gregb@st-bonaventure.ca)

### Parish Manager

Connie Durante  
Ext. 224  
[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

Kathryn MacInnis  
[kathryn@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:kathryn@st-bonaventure.ca)

### St. Clare Inn Office:

1320 Leslie Street, Suite 200  
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

### “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” ~Mt. 21:9

They soften his pathway, laying out palm branches before him and even spreading their own coats on the road. He is their man. They treat him as a king!

The Church procession reaches the front of the church, with parishioners holding actual palm fronds to illustrate the story. Mass continues, and the readings come. And now the tables are turned. In the second Gospel, we hear a reading of the passion according to Matthew. Here, Jesus the king is handed over to authorities, betrayed by one of his own disciples, and he completes his kingly entry to Jerusalem by receiving a royal robe of mockery and a crown of pain. He did not turn away from this mockery. In fact he “set his face like flint” toward his humiliation (as it says in the First Reading of Sunday’s Mass; see also Luke 9:51-55). This reading states the contrast beautifully. It is a passage from Isaiah, and is called the “Third Song of the Suffering Servant.” The first part of this reading says, “The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them.” This he did, and was applauded for it, treated like a king. The second part says, “I have not rebelled, have not turned away. *I gave my back to those who beat me ....*” Jesus knew well this passage from Isaiah.

So Palm/Passion Sunday presents a huge contrast between the world’s view of kingship and the holy and humble meaning of it. The Church has set up Sunday’s liturgy specifically for this purpose. Jesus begins as a hero and ends as an object of ridicule.

In this contrast, Jesus shows himself as a man of great humility. Each of us, including Jesus, is designed to love and be loved, to empty ourselves of any bad habit or out-of-control urge that pushes us toward pride. We become ourselves by remaining true to the God of Love who lives within us. Neither shame nor renown can pull us away from this, if we follow Jesus in his humility. And *then* God will highly exalt him. God will say to the crowd, you were right about throwing palms, but not if you were trying to create a worldly hero. Real glory and greatness reside in quiet, unrelenting love, no matter how other people react. We are in the presence of great truth here.

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