



*Growing
in Spirit,
Community,
and Service*

*Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 30, 2025*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



The Return of the Prodigal Son (1920), Anto Carte (Belgian). Public Domain.

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

XXXIV Benedicam Domino by Malcolm Guite

He raises and delivers us from death,
And even now he shows us how to live
That we might savour life with every breath,

That we might taste and see, might truly thrive
Might see the good days that he wants for us
And make the best of all he has to give.

And so he comes to live as one of us
And teaches us afresh the ways of peace.
He lives the fullest life in front of us

And shows us how to break the bonds, release
The captive, seek the truth that sets us free
To choose the right and do it, to increase

The reach of love, the possibility
Of fruitful life together, and to hear
The poor cry out and help them speedily.

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, March 31	9 AM	† Friar David Suckling, OFM Conv.
Tuesday, April 1	9 AM	† Peter Glowczewski
Wednesday, April 2	9 AM	† Louis Fung
Thursday, April 3	9 AM	† Eugenio Fellin
Friday, April 4	9 AM	Kay Lyn Intentions of the Leong Family Intentions of Ricky Geromo Vocations † Lino Ammaturo † Miguel de los Santos
Saturday, April 5 Sunday, April 6	5 PM	† Bartolome and Gerarda Barrientos
	8:30 AM	The McHugh Family
	10 AM	† Joseph Fellin
	12 PM	The Parishioners
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Intentions of the Leong Family
	Bl. Sac.	Intentions of Olivia Tano
	Our Lady	Personal Intentions

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.

ARCHDIOCESAN LENTEN DAY OF CONFESSIONS

This Lenten season, parishes in the Archdiocese of Toronto will be holding a Day of Confessions during the 4th Week of Lent between March 30 and April 5, 2025.

The friars at **St. Bonaventure Parish** will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on: **Wednesday, April 2 during the following times: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., 12 noon to 1 p.m., and 7 to 8 p.m.**

The Confessional Room is located at the back of the Church beside the north/east narthex.

For special confession times at other parishes during this 4th Week of Lent, please see:

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/offices-and-ministries/sub-sites/confession/home/confession-times/>

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

Liturgy of the Word with Children is celebrated during the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass. Children aged 4-9 are invited to hear and respond to God's Word. The volunteers guide the children through this communal liturgy, helping them to listen, understand and respond to God's Word.

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.

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ~ FRIDAYS THROUGH LENT



Each Friday during Lent after the 9 AM Mass, except for April 11th, when the devotion will take place at 7 PM.

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, + Edward Baker, + Joyce De Gannes, + Rochelle Labrador,
+ Vinodh Loganadhan and † Barbara Makowicz.

THE JUBILEE PRAYER ~ REFLECTION ON THE VERSES



We conclude *our reflection on each of the verses of the Jubilee Prayer. Today's verse: "To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen."*

The Jubilee prayer concludes with a doxology that praises the One who rightly deserves our praise. From the Catechism of the Catholic Church, par. 2369, we read: "Praise is the form of prayer which recognizes most immediately that God is God. It lauds God for his own sake and gives him glory, quite beyond what he does, but simply because HE IS. It shares in the blessed happiness of the pure of heart who love God in faith before seeing him in glory. By praise, the Spirit is joined to our spirits to bear witness that we are children of God (Cf Rom. 8:16), testifying to the only Son in whom we are adopted and by whom we glorify the Father. Praise embraces the other forms of prayer and carries them toward him who is its source and goal: the 'one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist.' (1 Cor. 8:6)"

When was the last time you simply praised God for who God is, without asking anything in return?

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

MULTIPLE COLLECTIONS THIS WEEKEND OF MARCH 30, 2025

We have multiple collections this weekend. First collection is for the Regular offertory and for Easter Flowers. Second Collection is for ShareLife. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

THIS WEEKEND IS SHARELIFE SUNDAY



ShareLife Sunday marks the first collection for our parish's annual campaign. But ShareLife is more than a parish collection. It is how we, as Catholics in the Archdiocese of Toronto, bring the hands of Christ to those in need. From children to seniors, and everyone in between, more than 40 ShareLife agencies are there each step of the way.

As a family of faith, we lift each other up from our lowest moments. Nick's life had an easy start – he came from a good home, where he was raised with a strong work ethic, and he welcomed a son. But living with a mental illness, he struggled more than some. Deep inside, he felt like something was missing, and he devastatingly fell into addiction. With your helping hand, he rose up through the DARE Program at Good Shepherd.

"By the grace of God, I am still alive," he proclaims. "I'd love to be able to give back what was so freely given to me. I am taking roles of service, giving back as much as I can. I was afraid I'd never be able to feel the way I feel. I am very grateful that I have been given this opportunity to be sober." Thanks to your support, he is no longer just surviving—he is thriving, with a heart full of hope and a future filled with promise.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

<https://sharelife.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/FINAL-SL-Cardinal-Leo-Thank-you-letter.pdf>

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

Every Life Is Worth Living

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering. Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living. Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need and teach us to be merciful to all.

Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



What does the Society of St. Vincent de Paul do at the parish level?

Pairs of members, called Vincentians, visit persons and families in need and offer them practical help in the form of gift cards for groceries, clothing and essentials. We listen to them with care and compassion and endeavour to guide them to resources to help break the cycle of poverty, thereby giving them hope for the future.

What else, besides visiting, do Vincentians do?

We are a registered charity so we can always use members who have computer skills, time and willingness to hold a "poor box" after mass, help in running zoom meetings, camp registrations, advertising, assistance with clothing collections, and spiritual reflections. And finally, we count on your prayers and donations! For more information, please call our helpline and leave your name and telephone number, expressing your interest in learning how you may be able to help. 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/>

JOYCE'S JOYFUL KNITTERS



If you knit or crochet or would like to learn you are welcome to come to Joyce's Joyful Knitters. We are a member of The Needlework Guild of Canada Toronto Branch. We meet in the Parish Centre, Francis Room, on the second Wednesday of each month after the 9:00 mass. We share our achievements, challenges and a cup of coffee / tea and treat. We are a registered charity, and all our items are distributed to several agencies throughout Toronto. Next date April 9, 2025.

LENTEN CHALLENGE - MAKE A CASSEROLE FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Thank you to all the parishioners who responded to the plea for more casseroles. On short notice, 35 new cooks joined the team. The rest will surely respond in April and in the months to come. **We sent a total of 87 casseroles to the Good Shepherd in March.** This is amazing and the highest number to date. Thank you to all the regular cooks who have donated and still do after years of service to this Mission of Mercy. This collective effort enables us to share with others the blessings we receive. What a blessing awaits all who hear the plea for help. Recipes and pans are available in the cupboard at the back of the church. Please drop off your frozen casserole to the Ministry Centre during office hours, anytime in April. **Last drop off date for April is the 28th.**

CWL INITIATIVE FOR 2025: SHARE THE WORDS

Family

My Catholic Women's League is like family. Wherever you live in Canada, you can find or start a council in your parish. Sisters, mothers, aunts and grandmothers are ready to share their wisdom. Catholic family values are abound at the Catholic Women's League.

Come join our family.



Save the date! Our next CWL General Meeting is on
Thursday April 24th at 7 pm in the Main Hall.
We hope to see you there!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES: JOIN FR. PAUL LININGER, FOR A LENTEN RETREAT - APRIL 7 & 8, 2025

Whatever happened to Matthew 25: 31-46?

Interested in finding out? Do you have 90 minutes to spare?

If so, we want to invite you to join us for an opportunity to learn about what has been called the "best kept secret of the Catholic Church", namely **Catholic Social Teaching**.

Please join us as we welcome Fr. Paul Lininger, OFM Conv., Ph.D., the Director of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) and Chair of the JPIC Commission of Our Lady of the Angels Province of the Conventual Franciscan Friars. He also serves as the JPIC Animator for the Conventual Franciscan Friars Federation of North America.

Monday April 7 at 7 pm, Main Hall

Fr. Paul will conduct a special presentation of the key principles and ethical guidelines rooted in the Catholic Church's social doctrine. These teachings provide a framework for moral and ethical decision-making in the context of social, economic and political issues.

Tuesday April 8 at 7 pm, Main Hall

Fr. Paul will continue the conversation about Catholic Social Teaching and Synodality. Please join us.

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, usually twice monthly, September to June. We look forward to welcoming you and feel free to invite a friend. A sincere thank you to all who bring a snack to share! If you would like more information, email Trena Finnegan Coordinator Ministry with Maturing Adults: trena@st-bonaventure.ca

Tuesday April 8th, 10:00AM to 11:30AM - Main Hall

Inflammation and the Immune System, A Presentation by Delmanor, Wynford Retirement Living

The body is under constant surveillance for potential danger and ready at any moment to send its army of repair chemicals to the scene to fight infection, heal injuries, repair normal wear, and tear, and protect the body from premature aging/illness. Inflammation is a protective action that the body uses so that healing can take place, but it can also be destructive to cells, organs, and tissues. We discover why this concept can be so confusing and how to promote healthy aging.

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

Tuesday April 22nd, 10:00AM to 11:30AM - Main Hall

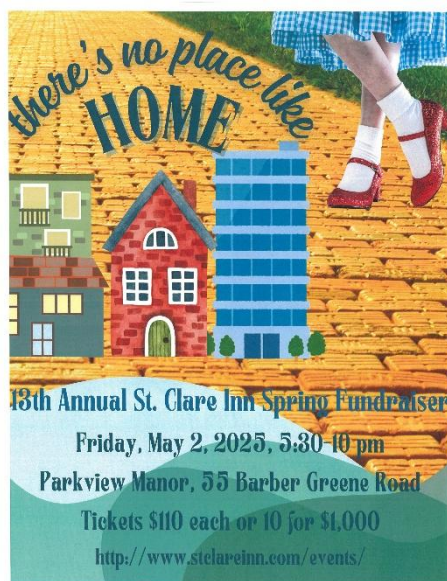
Are we really listening? Learn practical ways to be Empathic

Empathic listening is the deepest form of listening that helps you understand another's perspective and allow them to feel safe, heard and validated. It is an essential and learned skill to build and strengthen any meaningful relationship in a way that shows compassion and caring. Dr. Sagrati will provide practical ways to use empathic listening to help strengthen our relationships with our families, friends and community.

Bio: Dr. Sandra Sagrati is a clinical psychologist, who works with children, teens and adults. She obtained her doctoral degree at the University of Toronto, worked at the CAMH, and now works in her own private practice, Toronto West Psychology. She has published research in the areas of depression and anxiety, and has recently published a book, Pivot Self-Talk: Stop Asking All the Wrong Questions.

Save the Dates: May 6th, May 20th, June 3rd and June 17th

13TH ANNUAL SPRING FUNDRAISING EVENT IN SUPPORT OF ST. CLARE INN, FRIDAY MAY 2, 2025



"No Place Like Home"

Parkview Manor, 55 Barber Greene Road

Friday, May 2, 2025, 5:30 - to 10 PM

This evening will feature live music, a full dinner, silent and live auctions and some fantastic surprises!

Our 2025 theme, "No Place Like Home," embodies the comfort, joy, and transformative spirit of St. Clare Inn.

Tickets are: \$110/each or discounted price of \$900 for a table of ten. So, grab your friends; entertain some clients and help us fill the Inn. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of this event, please contact:

info@stclareinn.org

LAST WEEKS OF LENT AND HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Day of Confessions

Wednesday, April 2 from 9:30-10:30 a.m., 12-1 p.m., and 7-8 p.m.

Stations of the Cross

Friday, April 4 after Morning Mass

Friday, April 11 at 7 p.m.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Saturday, April 12 at 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 13 at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM ~ THE GREAT THREE DAYS

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Holy Thursday, April 17 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 18 at 12 noon and 3 p.m.

Blessing of Easter Food Baskets

Holy Saturday, April 19 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 19 at 8:30 p.m.

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

Easter Sunday, April 20 at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 noon

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR EASTER



We are looking for some volunteers to help us decorate the church for Easter.
We will be gathering in the church on Holy Saturday, April 19th at 9:30 am.

If you would like to help, please contact the Ministry Centre
at 416-447-5571 or email us at admin@st-bonaventure.ca

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
trena@st-bonaventure.ca

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

“...treat me like one of your hired hands.” ~ Luke 15:19

One of the greatest challenges of the spiritual life is to receive God's forgiveness. There is something in us humans that keeps us clinging to our sins and prevents us from letting God erase our past and offer us a completely new beginning. Sometimes it even seems as though I want to prove to God that my darkness is too great to overcome. While God wants to restore me to the full dignity of sonship, I keep insisting that I will settle for being a hired servant. But do I truly want to be restored to the full responsibility of the son? As a hired servant, I can still keep my distance, still revolt, reject, strike, run away, or complain about my pay. As the beloved son, I have to claim my full dignity and begin preparing myself to become the father.

It is clear that the distance between the turning around and the arrival at home needs to be traveled wisely and with discipline. The discipline is that of becoming a child of God. Jesus makes it clear that the way to God is the same as the way to a new childhood. "Unless you turn and become like little children you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven." Jesus does not ask me to remain a child but to become one. Becoming a child is living toward a second innocence: not the innocence of the newborn infant, but the innocence that is reached through conscious choices.

How can those who have come to this second childhood, this second innocence, be described? Jesus does this very clearly in the Beatitudes. Shortly after hearing the voice calling him the Beloved, and soon after rejecting Satan's voice daring him to prove to the world that he is worth being loved, he begins his public ministry. One of his first steps is to call disciples to follow him and share in his ministry. Then Jesus goes up onto the mountain, gathers his disciples around him, and says: "How blessed are the poor, the gentle, those who mourn, those who hunger and thirst for uprightness, the merciful, the pure of heart, the peacemakers, and those who are persecuted in the cause of uprightness." These words present a portrait of the child of God. It is a self-portrait of Jesus, the Beloved Son. It is also a portrait of me as I must be. The Beatitudes offer me the simplest route for the journey home, back into the house of my Father. And along this route I will discover the joys of the second childhood: comfort, mercy, and an ever-clearer vision of God. And as I reach home and feel the embrace of my Father, I will realize that not only heaven will be mine to claim, but that the earth as well will become my inheritance, a place where I can live in freedom without obsessions and compulsions.

~ Henri Nouwen, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*. (New York: Doubleday, 1992), 53-54.

May the Lord bless you and keep you!