



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

*The Ascension of the Lord
May 17, 2026*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



The Ascension (1879), Gustave Doré (1832-1883). Oil on canvas.
© Musée des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Paris, Petit Palais. Public domain. Source: Wikicommons.

XLVII Omnes gentes, plaudite by Malcolm Guite

That wrongs may be redressed and wars may cease
He must be king of earth as well as heaven
We must invite him here, to make his peace

Within us and between us, that forgiven,
We may release forgiveness here on earth,
Working and spreading like a holy leaven,

A secret of the kingdom, heaven's breath,
A kindling from the place where Christ is king
For he has triumphed and defeated death

And even now he calls our hearts to sing
Sing praises in the kingdom still to come
And in the one already here, to bring,

Ourselves, our arts and music, trumpet, drum
And tabor, all to make a merry noise,
For heaven's king has made the earth his home!

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, May 18	9 AM	† Con Hyde
Tuesday, May 19	9 AM	† Cesar Urrutia
Wednesday, May 20	9 AM	† Frances Fong
Thursday, May 21	9 AM	† Marta Kedrzycki
Friday, May 22	9 AM	Intention of Jerry Ma Intention of Alexandre Ngarhodjim † All Souls in Purgatory † Jeffrey Becker † Mary Lou Gray
Saturday, May 23	5 PM	† Alex Rosario
Sunday, May 24	8:30 AM	† Fernando Godinho
	10 AM	The Parishioners
	12 PM	Intention of Obioma Osuji - Birthday
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Personal Intentions
	Bl. Sac.	Intention of Janice & Hubert
	Our Lady	Personal Intentions

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 or call Mary Catherine directly at 416-303-0269.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



“Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.”

Congratulations to the 38 youth and 11 adult parishioners, who were confirmed by Bishop Kasun early Saturday afternoon, and to their parents and sponsors.

Special thanks to the parish catechists who made the Confirmation program both run smoothly and be a source of joy for the youth. Ben, Kathy, Ryan, Sue, and Tina: thank you for your generosity of time and Christian spirit. Thank you, also, to the members of the youth group who helped run the Confirmation retreat last weekend, especially:

Caleb, Isabella, Madeleine, and Michaela. Your faith-filled enthusiasm made it a day of joyful witness and community for the confirmandi.

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.

SUNDAY COFFEE CANCELLED

Please note there will be no coffee on Sunday, May 17th.

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, + Nealia Somasundaram, + Jennie Mayer, and + Tom Lloyd.

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.

HELPING OTHERS

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL)



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.

May: Month of Mary - Mother of the Poor

This May, our Catholic Women's League invites all members to embrace our monthly theme, "Month of Mary - Mother of the Poor." Throughout the month we will be incorporating three simple but meaningful acts of generosity that reflect the spirit of Mary:

1. Say the rosary with your family.
2. Wear a red dress on May 5th for the Red Dress Campaign
3. Collect diapers, baby formula, and baby clothing for mothers in crisis or pregnancy centres.

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 REFUGE

The Casserole project at St. Bonaventure continues to support the hungry in our city. We average about 60 each month. Please think about joining this "Mission of Mercy." Your help is needed to expand our contribution. Men and women coming to the good Shepherd for a meal are increasing in number. No one is refused. If you have any questions, call **Ann Fellin at 647-526-5066**. **Pans are readily available in the cupboard at the back of the church.** To all those who continue to support this most needed and worthy cause, thank you!!

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Marygrove Camp and Camp Ozanam: Providing a subsidized overnight camping adventure for eligible children.

Marygrove Camp welcomes girls ages 5-13 for an 8-day camping adventure on the shores of Georgian Bay

Camp Ozanam welcomes boys, ages 7-12 for a 7-day camping adventure on Deer Lake

in South River.

Both camps provide a fully subsidized camp opportunity (no fees) for children from families who are experiencing difficulties as follows: Families who cannot afford to take their children on vacation due to restricted income, illness, lack of funds, and other challenges. Transportation is provided by luxury couches to and from the camps. Call our SSVP helpline to check eligibility and leave a message for Judy: 416-447-5571, ext. 570. Sessions, July through August, are filled on a first come/first served basis.



SHARELIFE - SHARELIFE

**May 17, 2026 - World Day of Social Communication
Through ShareLife, you support human connection**



On the 60th World Day of Social Communication, we are invited to pause and connect with each other - for the Church, for the world, and for the future we are helping to shape together. In this moment, one truth remains clear: the Church endures because of the strength and love of parishioners like you. Your support of ShareLife supports human connection across the world, making a difference in the lives of thousands of people in our community and beyond - funding more than 40 agencies, which help children and youth, families in crisis, seniors, immigrants and refugees, people with special needs, international development and missions, and vocations.

The third ShareLife Sunday is May 31. Thus far we have raised \$116,295.75 or 93% toward our goal of \$125,000. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

ST. CLARE INN - SPRING FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who attended *Home Is Where Hope Grows*. Because of your generosity and your belief in our mission, we achieved an impressive **\$70,000**, our highest fundraising result in years. Your support continues to amaze us. We cannot express enough how deeply we appreciate you showing up for St. Clare Inn. It is because of people like you that we can walk alongside women like Linda and their families.

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!

**Gentle Fit - Fitness Class Tuesday, May 26, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM Location: Main Hall
Presenter: Eva Rudmik - Fitness instructor, accredited member of Ontario Fitness Council.**

Join us for a gentle movement class designed for beginners, with modifications demonstrated using a chair. Please wear comfortable clothing and running shoes. Water bottles will be available, but feel free to bring your own. Come ready to move, have fun, and bring a friend! Please arrive by **9:45am**. *Movement is Medicine*. All are welcome!

**Save the Date - Upcoming Sessions: June 9 & June 23, 2026
More details to follow.**

FRANCIS 800 - YEAR OF GRACE: "MARY, SURE SIGN OF HOPE"

Dear Parishioners,

May the Lord give you His peace!

May is the month the Church has dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God. For this reason, we have chosen this month to highlight St. Francis' devotion to Mary as we observe the Franciscan Year of Grace.

As a young man and still uncertain as to what he should do with his life, St. Francis heard the message from the crucifix in the rundown Church of St. Damian (San Damiano): "Francis, rebuild my Church, you can see it is in ruins." As it turned out, St. Francis rebuilt three churches: San Damiano, San Pietro and an abandoned Benedictine chapel under the patronage of Our Lady of the Angels. It was in this third rebuilt church that St. Francis felt God's protective guidance and love more than any place on earth. He called this place the Portiuncula. Here is what St. Bonaventure has to say about the Portiuncula in a biography of St. Francis:

This place the holy man loved more than other places in the world; for here he began humbly, here he progressed virtuously, here he ended happily. This place he entrusted to his brothers at his death as the most beloved of the Virgin. (The Major Legend of St. Francis, II, 8)



<https://www.eohsjwesternusa.org/pilgrimage/the-portiuncula-a-chapel-within-a-church/>

St. Francis wanted his followers to enjoy the same protection and guidance that he experienced through the intercession of Mary, Mother of God and Mother of the Church. As we celebrate the 800th Anniversary of the Death of St. Francis, we heed his advice to turn to Mary for guidance and protection as we live our lives today. We turn to Mary for what many believe to be what we need most today: Hope!



<https://www.notredamedeparis.fr/en/understand/sculptures/our-lady/>

On Saturday, May 23 Dr. Josephine Lombardi will present: "Mary, Sure Sign of Hope" at 11a.m. in the Main Hall of the Parish Centre. Dr. Lombardi is an award-winning author who has worked as a parish minister, university campus minister, high school chaplaincy leader, teacher educator through O.E.C.T.A., professor of Religious Education, Brock University, retreat facilitator, faith formation consultant, and program coordinator in the Diocese of Hamilton. Presently, she is academic dean and associate professor of systematic and pastoral theology at St. Augustine's Seminary.

CONTACT US

Ministry Centre (Office)

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ARE YOU REGISTERED? IF NOT, ASK AN USHER
FOR A PARISH REGISTRATION FORM TO COMPLETE

Ministry for Maturing Adults

mma@st-bonaventure.ca

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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

REFLECTION

“And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:20

At schools such as Saint Louis University the students and their life-networks always fly away at the end of each school year. Or at least drive away. The school always misses them. In my own college days, if I stayed on after the last day, there were empty halls and rooms and broad, completely undisturbed yards of grass. Yes, we were all glad to have the year done. But at the same time, why were the buildings deserted, and where is the buzzing life of intermingling students? Is zoom is the wave of the future?

All this must be a pointer to the hollowness that the disciples surely felt after the crucifixion. It was true especially of the women who had loved Jesus so much. The passion had been the worst part for all of them. What sort of lives could Jesus' followers find after the very center of their lives had been taken away? Well, you say, there was the resurrection. Correct. But we have seen how confusing this was to the disciples. Doubting Thomas said, “I will not believe this unless I put my hands on him. And Jesus' new presence did not last so very long, did it? Suddenly there was this week's “Ascension,” and didn't it empty their lives all over again? We might say that Jesus had graduated from life into Life. Having tunneled through the tight passageway of death—as you and I certainly will do one day—he had given everything he was and everything he possessed to the Father. Out of sheer love.

Instead of there being nothing left for humankind, there was now humanity transformed: a divine human person who had opened himself all the way and who was now marked with the totality of love. He was on his way back to the dynamic, swirling, Trinitarian circle of love from which his humanity had issued in the first place. After the Resurrection he had lingered only in order to tell us about it, to comfort us, to ease the loss! “Stay in Jerusalem until my Spirit comes to fill your heart,” Jesus said to his followers (Ascension, First Reading). They were going to be filled “with all humility and gentleness, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit.” (Second Reading)

Can you or I follow Jesus in his resurrection and ascension, his immense act of humble love poured into us and ever since known to be the Holy Spirit? Jesus would continue to be alive within the world after all, but in a different form: the Holy Spirit's presence within our own human bodies. Loss and absence have been turned into real presence. In the Eucharistic Prayer and in Communion we take his body and blood into our own body and blood. His Spirit helps us accept his life, death, and resurrection. These settle into us and into others around us. This real presence now abides forever in our midst, urging us, gently nudging us to say yes.

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May the Lord bless you and keep you!