

*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**

**9 am: Monday to Friday**

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Saturday: 9 to 10 am**

### **Ministry Centre**

**Hours**

**10 AM– 4 PM**

**Monday, Wednesday,  
Friday**

**and by appointment on  
Tuesday & Thursday**

**1300 Leslie Street,  
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9  
Tel: 416.447.5571  
Fax: 416.447.4082**

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

[www.franciscans.org](http://www.franciscans.org)

*Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
November 12, 2023*

# Bonnie News

*Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure*



James Tissot (1836-1902), *The Wise Virgins (Les vierges sages)*, 1886-1894. Opaque watercolour over graphite on gray wove paper. Brooklyn Museum.

Face to face with our limits,  
Blinking before the frightful  
Stare of our frailty,  
Promise rises  
Like a posse of clever maids  
Who do not fear the dark  
Because their readiness  
Lights the search.  
Their oil  
Becomes the measure of their love,  
Their ability to wait—  
An indication of their  
Capacity to trust and take a chance.  
Without the caution or predictability  
Of knowing day or hour,  
They fall back on that only  
Of which they can be sure:  
Love precedes them,  
Before it  
No door will ever close.

- T. O’Gorman, “Face to face...”, *The Advent Sourcebook* (Liturgy Training Publications, 1988).

## LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

### THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, November 13	9 AM	† Elizabeth Ann Farah
Tuesday, November 14	9 AM	† Josef Sitar
Wednesday, November 15	9 AM	† Terence O'Grady
Thursday, November 16	9 AM	† Grazia Maida
Friday, November 17	9 AM	† Edmond Odette † Andrew and David Tomcik † Herbert Hill † Silvia Cheryk and Everett Barrett The Friars
Saturday, November 18	5 PM	The Parishioners
Sunday, November 19	8:30 AM	† Nimfa Chua
	10 AM	† Victor Pappalardo
	12 PM	† George DeGannes
Sanctuary Lamps    Bl. Sac. Bl. Sac. O.L. Chapel		Intentions of the Bourgeois-Bent Families
		† Sheila Cheryk
		Intentions of Joyce DeGannes

### REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

A remembrance "Book of the Deceased" has been placed in the alcove that contains our memorial "Tree of Life." Here you may enter the name(s) of your deceased loved ones whom you wish remembered in the prayer of the community throughout the month of November.

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are heard on a weekly basis on Saturdays from 9 to 10 am in the Mary Chapel. In addition, confessions are heard on the first Monday of the month from 1 to 2 pm. Finally, you can always make an appointment with Fr. Peter or Fr. Tom to celebrate this Sacrament in which we encounter our merciful God.

### ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

## Interested in Altar Serving?

### Contact us!

- Great engagement
- Grants community hours
- Helps out the community



[altar.servers@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:altar.servers@st-bonaventure.ca)

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY ~ NOVEMBER 17



Marianne Stokes (1855-1927), *Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Spinning for the Poor* (1895), oil on canvas. Private collection.

Born in 1207, Elizabeth was the second child of Andrew II and Gertrude of Hungary. As a royal daughter, even in her infancy the issue of marriage was an important one. Ultimately, she was betrothed to Landgravin Hermann I of Thuringia.

Elizabeth was an outstanding child who directed all her actions and intentions to God. She was intelligent, well-educated, and a willful young girl who practiced penance regularly, refused to go to Mass in embroidered sleeves or gloves (as she felt that these luxuries were unnecessary and gaudy), and regularly gave alms to the poor. She was often lost in prayer and, at an early age, put herself under the protection of the Blessed Virgin and Saint John.

Elizabeth was married at fourteen. Hermann I had died in 1216; so instead, she married his brother, Ludwig. The match proved to be a happy one. Ludwig loved her deeply and was a kind-hearted husband. He was generous and wary of misusing his power. His priority was the service of God, and therefore their philosophies and personal morals intertwined perfectly. In 1223, the Franciscans arrived in the area and presented to Elizabeth the vision of their founder and their way of life. She built a monastery for the Franciscan order in 1225 at Eisenach.

Ludwig traveled to Cremona in 1226 on behalf of Emperor Frederick II. In his absence, he left control of his finances and household to Elizabeth who in turn distributed alms, including state robes and ornaments, to all parts of the territory. In addition, she built a twenty-eight-bed hospital below Wartburg castle and visited the residents daily to attend to their needs. The following year, after a brief return to Thuringia, Ludwig embarked on a crusade with the emperor and died shortly thereafter. Elizabeth was left with three children and became a widow at the age of twenty. She was deeply upset at the loss of her beloved husband.

Trouble was not far behind. In 1227, she felt compelled to leave Wartburg castle for moral reasons. Ludwig's brother, Heinrich Raspe, who assumed the regency of Elizabeth and Ludwig's son, disapproved of her management of her dowry. He offered to provide her with enough to subsist on each day, but nothing more. Without extra money, she could not provide for the poor of the community and her conscience would not permit her to act without regard for others. She did not agree to Heinrich's terms and ultimately, she removed herself to Marburg. Her last act was the completion of the Franciscan hospital at Marburg in the summer of 1228 using resources from her dowry. After this, she devoted her heart and soul to aid the poor and sick, especially the most severely afflicted. She died only a few years later at the age of twenty-four.

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary is the first royal Franciscan tertiary to be canonized. Within only four years of her death, Pope Gregory IX, declared her a saint. She is most remembered for her gentle, charitable nature and complete devotion to God. Her popularity was immediate with the people living in the regions in and around Germany and Hungary. She is still remembered today for her many works of charity. (Adapted from an essay written by Kimberly Fabbri, 2005. Last Revision: 18 December 2005. Copyright © MMV Prof. Pavlac's Women's History Site, King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA.)

*St. Elizabeth is one of the patron saints of the Secular Franciscans. She is also patron saint of hospitals, nurses, bakers, brides, countesses, terminally ill children, exiles, homeless people, lace makers, and widows.*

## 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:

+ Gerald Desjardins, + David Hui, + Teresa Brown, + Patricia Docherty, + Nina Jagaric, + FlordeLiz Noriel,  
+ Donna McGuinness, + Claudine Fox, + Anita Baker, + Cecily Foss, + Madeline Fotyi, + Anthony Narayan,  
+ Dennis Szechy, + Martha Fogh, + Kevin O'Sullivan, + Oliver Figueiredo, + Marcelina Manankil, + Mildred Cope,  
+ Raneé Nadarajah, + Douglas Woollings, + George De Gannes, + June Burns, + Neil Pinto, + Geraldine Holen,  
+ Dorothy Ying, + Vincent Chaisson, + Neil Buchanan, + Clement Leung, + Andrew Tomcik, + Ross Abbott,  
+ Lois Theriault, + Marion Shaw, + Ignatius McHugh, + Giovanni Boscarino, + Emily Cusimano,  
+ Wallace Lamerton, + Marie Berndorff, + Sam Savona, + Victor Pappalardo, + John Tasker, + Jim Meyer,  
+ Marjorie McGinty, and + Gerry Devlin,

and our beloved, whose names are inscribed in our Book of the Deceased this month of November.

## PRAYER NETWORK REQUESTS

Network members pray daily for your prayer intentions which are held in confidence. New members are welcome! Please call Patricia Floros at 416- 444-0424 with your prayer intentions or if you would like to join the prayer network.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SERAPHIM & CHERUBIM CHORUS, CHRISTMAS CONCERT ON DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:30 PM

✨ 'When You Believe' - A heartwarming Christmas concert series by the Seraphim & Cherubim Chorus, unfolds like a holiday story told in song. Join us on an uplifting voyage through the most beloved melodies of Christmas past, present, and future with a few magical surprises along the way. Let's ring in the season together December 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm at St. Bonaventure Parish. Advanced tickets available online at

[www.seraphimandcherubim.ca](http://www.seraphimandcherubim.ca)

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus-Council #5080 would like to welcome the Knights of Columbus -Cardinal McGuigan Assembly #0865 as they will be holding their monthly meetings at this parish. The Assembly conducts the honour guard for the Knights of Columbus and the meetings will be held on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

## ARCHDIOCESAN CONSULTATION UNDERWAY

As presented in the preceding letter, share your thoughts to assist with future planning. Archbishop Francis Leo is inviting Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto to share their three key priorities to help inform and guide an updated Pastoral Plan. To participate in the consultation, visit:

[www.archtoronto.org/consultation](http://www.archtoronto.org/consultation) and complete a brief survey by December 15, 2023.



October 31, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May Jesus and Mary be in your soul.

It has been a true blessing and joy to spend time with so many Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto since my arrival in March 2023. This includes the dedicated priests and deacons, religious women and men as well as the numerous laity, parishioners, volunteers and all those who are working to strengthen the Body of Christ in our archdiocese in ecclesial movements and associations, as well as those serving in education, healthcare, social services and institutions.

The Archdiocese of Toronto is blessed with an abundance of workers in the vineyard of the Lord. I am grateful for your role in reflecting the face of Christ to all those we encounter each day. In his Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5-7), our Divine Lord Jesus taught us that, as his disciples, we are salt of the earth and light of the world (Mt. 5:13-16). In fidelity to the mission to evangelize entrusted to the entire Church, let each one of us make every effort so as to proclaim Jesus Christ, bear witness to the Gospel and serve with a compassionate heart.

In 2013, our Archbishop-emeritus Cardinal Thomas Collins launched a Pastoral Plan to focus our attention and identify areas of emphasis to help bring us closer to the Lord, our faith and one another. It is now an appropriate time to review the current Pastoral Plan, updating the vision through the lens of 2023 and our current reality.

I would ask for your assistance in helping to identify what you believe to be key priorities and objectives as we move forward as a faith community. To be clear, this is not a synodal process – the synodal consultation requested by the Holy See, you may recall, took place locally in 2021-2022. Rather, I am reaching out to our archdiocesan family to solicit your thoughts and dreams, what you believe to be your **three key priorities** for our archdiocesan Pastoral Planning for the next decade. I encourage you to ground your reflection and responses in prayer to the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, so that He may inspire, guide and animate this Archdiocesan ecclesial process of consulting the Body of Christ.

I invite you to visit [www.archtoronto.org/consultation](http://www.archtoronto.org/consultation) to participate in our wide-spread consultation. We have made every effort to ensure the process is brief and efficient. Options are also available should you consult with others and wish to offer a group or hard copy submission. Please make sure every effort to complete your feedback by **December 15, 2023**. We will then gather and analyze the results which will help guide us as we discern and craft an updated Pastoral Plan, to be shared at an appropriate time in 2024.

Be assured of my ongoing gratitude for all that you do and witness and prayers for your loved ones and communities. Let us entrust this consultation and reflection to the maternal mediation of Mary, Mother of the Church and through the powerful intercession of our archdiocesan patron, Saint Michael the Archangel.

Yours Sincerely in Jesus with Mary,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis Leo".

Most Rev. Francis Leo  
Archbishop of Toronto

MINISTRY WITH MATURING ADULTS

**Nurturing Our Spirituality in the Second Half of Life  
With a Focus on Care of the Body, Mind and Spirit**



Coffee and Conversation: 9:45 - 10:00 am

Meeting: 10:00 - 11:30 am

November 14<sup>th</sup>: **TOPIC: Travel to Spain**

Come join us for coffee, tea, Spanish cookies and conversation November 14th, 9:45 to 10:00 then enjoy our presentation on Travel to Spain. Photos, Food (recipes), Beverages (suggestions) and more.

*Presenters: Richard Strange & Curtis McDonnell*

December 12<sup>th</sup>: **TOPIC: Advent Reflection - From Darkness to Light**

An opportunity to take time out from our busy schedules and ponder the Reason for the Season! The morning will include presentation, music, prayer, small group sharing and a time for reflection.

*Facilitated by Trena Finnegan.*

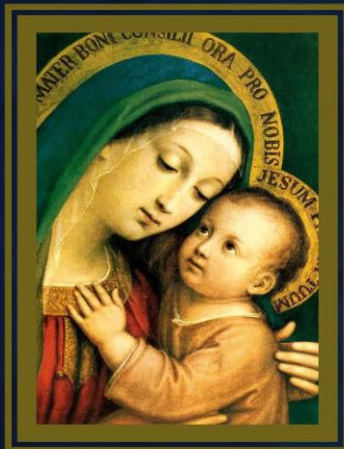
ALL ARE WELCOME! ADVENT RETREAT, SPONSORED BY THE CWL



## Lessons from the Mother of a Miracle Child

An Advent Retreat in Image, Song and Story

with **Christine Way Skinner**, B.A., M.Div.,



**Saturday, November 25, 2023**

**9 am—12 noon**

**St. Bonaventure Parish Hall**

Hosted by the **St. Bonaventure  
CWL Parish Council**

Please Register with **Waveney Duarte**  
at [waveneyduarte@rogers.com](mailto:waveneyduarte@rogers.com) or 416-444-6719



## HELPING OTHERS

### SHARELIFE 2023 PARISH CAMPAIGN - LIVING THE GOSPEL

## ShareLife update: Your gift will be matched!

*Your year-end gift will double in value! From now until December 31, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched up to \$500,000.*

Did you know that, through your support, no one is turned away from ShareLife-funded agencies due to inability to pay? One of these agencies whose work you make possible is Catholic Cross-cultural Services (CCS). Thanks to you, CCS can provide settlement and mental health services for immigrants and refugees, including those fleeing war.

Our parish has currently raised \$82,103.70 toward our goal of \$94,000. Double the impact of your kindness by giving at the parish with a ShareLife envelope or anytime at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate)

### CASSEROLES FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE



The Good Shepherd Ministries is a place where no person is refused a hot meal. Judgement is not passed on anyone. All are welcomed.

The Casseroles Cooks sent 49 assorted casseroles in October to assist with this program. Thank you!! More cooks are needed. If you have thought of a private safe way to reach out to the hungry in our city perhaps this mission of mercy could be your way to help.

Recipes and pans are available for this purpose and found in the cupboard at the back of the church. Kindly remember to sign for pans needed.

*Matthew 25: 35-37 ~ Here, Jesus links feeding the hungry to ministering to himself, I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink.*

Caring for the vulnerable, hungry people is not only following Jesus' lead, is akin to caring for Jesus.

### SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



#### Sharing God's love with others through acts of service

**"May the Lord always be with you and may you always be with Him. We are to become vessels of God's compassionate love for others." ~Saint Clare of Assisi**

"The poor are valuable in the eyes of God because they remind us how we should live the Gospel, like beggars reaching out to God. The Church encourages us to open wide our hands to our brothers and sisters in need. ...remembering the poor is a fundamental aspect of Catholic teaching, and the Church calls on us to practice solidarity and compassion towards those in need." -Magisterium AI

Our confidential helpline is: **416-447-5571 Ext. 570** for those who need assistance. In addition to donating through our poor boxes located at 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/>



**Special Need: Used winter clothing in good condition for 10-year-old boys (size 10-12) and one-year-old toddler boys (size 18-24 months). Please bag and leave at Ministry Centre marked SSVP. Thank you!**

## 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  
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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

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)

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  
1340 Leslie Street  
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9  
416-393-5263  
<https://www.tcdsb.org/SCHOOLS/STBONAVENTURE/>

Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
416-447-5571 ext 570

Casseroles for the Good Shepherd Centre, contact  
[casseroles@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:casseroles@st-bonaventure.ca)

## REFLECTION

***“The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’” ~Matthew 25:8***

“They didn’t get in because they had to go try to find oil. Something no good event planner would ever have let happen somehow happens in this story. Clearly, the oil is key. So, we should ask, what is this all-important oil? To find out, the Armenian fathers first paid special attention to Jesus’ own stories about oil.

One of Jesus’ most famous oil stories is about a Samaritan who finds a wounded man by the side of the road after religious leaders have passed by without helping him. The first thing the Samaritan does is to pour oil on his wounds. Oil, in other words, is healing. By giving it, the Samaritan puts the wounded man on the road toward wellness.

A second oil story from the Gospels recounts how a woman anointed Jesus’ head with very expensive, fragrant oil, symbolically showing that she understood his approaching death – something even his loving disciples didn’t want to acknowledge. Love that spares no expense to validate the beloved is also oil. Without it, we are all indeed in darkness. With it, we light up the way into the kingdom that is already among us.

In other words, the Armenian fathers said, the wise virgins could not give the foolish any of their own oil, even if they wanted to. We can only store up the oil of kindness, care, healing and validating love by doing those things ourselves. No one else can be loving on our behalf. No one else can create the light of our compassion. That’s just how it is. And one day, there will be no more time to accumulate oil. We will either have it, or we won’t.

So, in the end, did the foolish virgins get in, or did they not? The story itself doesn’t tell us, but the *Drnbatsek* [Palm Sunday] service [of the Armenian Rite] says that for us, foolish as we are, the door to eternal happiness will indeed be opened. And so we can hope that there is still time to wisely supply ourselves with the oil of compassion, charity, and love, in order to shed light on the arrival of the Groom who has invited us all to be part of his most joyous and eternal celebration of loving union with humanity.”

*~Dr. Roberta Ervine, “Armenians on the Wise and Foolish Virgins” from Vemkar.us, posted April 15, 2019.*

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