Growing in Spirit, Community, and Service

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
November 22, 2026

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



Sheep and Goats (1673), Karel Dujardin (Dutch, 1626-1678). Oil on copper.
The National Gallery, London. Source : The National Gallery website. Public domain.

The Mercy of God *by Jessica Powers (Sr. Miriam of the Holy Spirit, OCD)*

I am copying down in a book from my heart's archives
the day that I ceased to fear God with a shadowy fear.
Would you name it the day that I measured my column of virtue
and sighted through windows of merit a crown that was near?
Ah, no, it was rather the day I began to see truly
that I came forth from nothing and ever toward nothingness tend,
that the works of my hands are a foolishness wrought in the presence
of the worthiest king in a kingdom that never shall end.
I rose up from the acres of self that I tended with passion
and defended with flurries of pride;
I walked out of myself and went into the woods of God's mercy,
and here I abide.
There is a greenness and calmness and coolness, a soft leafy covering
from the judgment of sun overhead,
and the hush of His peace, and the moss of His mercy to tread.
I have naught but my will seeking God; even love burning in me
is a fragment of infinite loving and never my own.
And I fear God no more; I go forward to wander forever
in a wilderness made of His infinite mercy alone.

Source: https://cusan.org/CUSA-Blogs/Administrators-Blog/the-mercy-of-god

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/

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, November 23	9 AM	† Gerard Duarte
Tuesday, November 24	9 AM	† Frances MacDonald
Wednesday, November 25	9 AM	† Karen Beach
Thursday, November 26	9 AM	† Antonia Ortuoste
Friday, November 27	9 AM	Intention of Rev. Sr. Marie Rita Fernandes Special Intention of Celine Massaroni † Rory Delfino † Ndue Kaza † Gjergj Maklaj
Saturday, November 28	5 PM	Special Intention of Pat MacDonald
Sunday, November 29	8:30 AM	Intention of Radek Votruba & Family
	10 AM	† Anne Szatmary
	12 PM	The Parishioners
Sanctuary Lamps Bl. Sac.	† Romualdo Alipon	
Bl. Sac.	† Young Seock Kim	
Our Lady	† Hazel L. Rodrigues	

PARISH COLLECTIONS – NOVEMBER 14/15

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish.
The donations received were:

- **Regular Collection:** $6,335
- **Second Collection (Shepherd's Trust):** $7,575.25
- **Tip Tap Terminals:** $310

Your faithful stewardship enables us to continue our ministry, maintain our parish, and serve those in need.

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL)

Membership Renewal Season is Coming
Membership renewal will begin shortly. The good news? Membership fees remain $40. For less than the cost of a few fancy coffees, your membership helps support the League's work in faith, service, and social justice locally, provincially, and nationally. That's a pretty good return on investment.

ST. BONAVENTURE GIVING TREE – BEGINNING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Beginning **Friday, November 27**, our ***Giving Tree*** will stand as a sign of Christ's love for those in need. Each tag shows where to purchase a gift card from and where it will go. Simply take a tag, buy the assigned gift card(s), and bring it to the Ministry Centre or place it in the offertory collection basket. Your generosity brings warmth and hope to those who need it most this season of giving. Thank you and may God bless you for your kindness. More information to come.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MARKET – SUNDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2026



Come one come all to St. Bonaventure's Annual Christmas Market! We have some wonderful vendors you won't want to miss.

Date: November 29th
Time 9:30 am – 1:30 pm (after ALL Masses)
Location: Main Hall

GROWING IN *Spirit, Community, and Service*

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

A couple of parishioners have asked me why I use the Nicene Creed at Mass and not the Apostles' Creed. I would like to use this article to explain. The Apostles' Creed was first used at baptisms in ancient Rome. The Nicene Creed was drawn largely from the works of the Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople, which affirmed that Jesus is both God and a human being. Originally, it too was used with those who were to be baptized.

Either Creed may be recited at Mass on Sunday. The Roman Missal suggests, however, that the Apostles' Creed is especially appropriate during the Lent and Easter seasons. The Apostles' Creed is acclamatory and is easily committed to memory (This is the one that is used when reciting the rosary). The Nicene Creed is a bit longer and is common to many Christian Churches.

The Nicene Creed is normally recited at Sunday Mass (as well as holy days, solemnities) because it summarizes our core beliefs about the Holy Trinity, as well as the divinity of Jesus. It is the heart of the Christian faith and serves as a renewal of our baptismal promises each time it is recited.

I reached out to the Archdiocese seeking clarification regarding the use of the Nicene Creed in Canada. They affirmed what I have written above and stressed that the faithful should be familiar with both Creeds. I discussed this with Friar Reto, and we agree that we will normally use the Nicene Creed at Sunday Mass. During the Lent and Easter seasons, we will use the Apostles' Creed.

From my limited time here at St. Bonaventure, it seems that most parishioners know the words of the Nicene Creed. I did learn recently, however, that the Nicene Creed that is on the inside back cover of the Catholic Book of Worship III (green book) is the old translation, thus causing some confusion with several of the words. We plan on ordering pew cards so that everyone has the correct translation. I hope that you find this explanation beneficial. If you need further clarification, please feel free to speak to me or Friar Reto.

I am very happy to report that now three parishioners have come forward to launder the church purificators. I am so grateful to these individuals for their willingness to serve our parish in this way.

This coming Thursday, the United States will be celebrating Thanksgiving, and I will be travelling to Buffalo to celebrate with my family. I will return the following Sunday.

Peace,
Friar Albert

MINISTRY WITH MATURING ADULTS



The Architecture of the Heart: Keeping a Quiet Space for God during this Advent season
Tuesday, November 24, 2026 – 10:00 AM, Main Hall
Presenter: Fr. Reto Davatz
This retreat tries to show us how silence of the heart can make this period of joyful waiting one that helps us be more ready to receive the Christ-child come Christmas time.

YOUTH MINISTRY

At our last Youth Ministry event, we were blessed with a talk from Friar Reto. He took us through the Sunday Gospel reading on the parable of the talents. It challenged us to think about the talents God has given us, and how we can use them for His Kingdom. The talk was followed by Eucharistic Adoration, and ping pong after that. We look forward to our next meeting which will be on Friday, November 27 at 6:30 pm. There will be food, a brief presentation/discussion, followed by a social hour. Hope to see you there!

FREE NATIVITY SCENE CRAFTING WORKSHOP

Join us on **Saturdays November 28 & December 12 from 9:30 am – 12:00 pm** for ***The Nativity Scene Project***. A hands-on family workshop to prepare for Advent! Children and parents will craft a Nativity from upcycled materials. There is no cost, all you need to do is register Orfe EcoArt Program Registration. For more information see full flyers on the bulletin boards at the back of the church or visit www.orfeart.com.

CONTACT US

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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

St. Clare Inn Office:
1320 Leslie Street, Suite 200
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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

Holy Communion for the Homebound
Mary Catherine 416-303-0269
homebound@st-bonaventure.ca

Prayer Network Requests
Teresa Krijgsman
416-709-8150

REFLECTION

"All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats…" Matthew 25:32

We've seen that scripture often compares the people of God to sheep. But some of those same scripture passages go on to compare people who aren't following God to goats—and the comparison isn't flattering. How are goats different from sheep? While sheep graze primarily on grass, goats will eat anything they can find: clothes off a line, dog food (a favorite), toys, grass, vegetables, cardboard, and even some toxic plants. Goats are extremely curious and intelligent. They're easily trained, but they're also known for escaping pens. They test fences and will climb on or push through barriers. Rather than staying together like sheep, goats spread out. They seldom feed side-by-side. Goats fight, butt, make a lot of noise, have turf wars, and play favorites with their kids or abandon them.

It's not hard to recognize human behaviors in these characteristics. We all know people who will "eat" anything, who are always looking for new ideas and new relationships. They have an off-with-the-old-and-on-to-the-new way of thinking, but some of those new ideas are poison to the soul. These "goats" may look full and rich, but they are really only harming themselves, heading toward life without God. Testing barriers? Some people feel trapped by rules meant to protect them from harm. They rebel and push away any restraint in order to experiment with drugs, alcohol, sex, crime, or whatever appeals at the moment. Sometimes they suffer the consequences. Often they cause those around them to suffer as well. What about fighting with each other instead of functioning as a community? I could name a few politicians who fit that description. A few church leaders as well. That kind of conflict is rooted in selfishness and a "me first" attitude that keeps people from remembering that we're created to be part of a flock.

We've already seen that sheep have more than their share of defects. But even with all their struggles—their wandering, their timidity, their tendency to follow the crowd—they have one characteristic we need to embrace wholeheartedly: they listen to their shepherd. I'd rather be a sheep gazing in the pastures of the Lord than be a goat nibbling the chaff Satan feeds his flock. How about you?

From Francine Rivers, *Earth~Testing the Boundaries: Reflections on How God Speaks through Nature*, quoted at:
https://thevalueofsparrows.wordpress.com/2018/10/23/earth-testing-the-boundaries-by-francine-rivers/

May the Lord bless you and keep you!