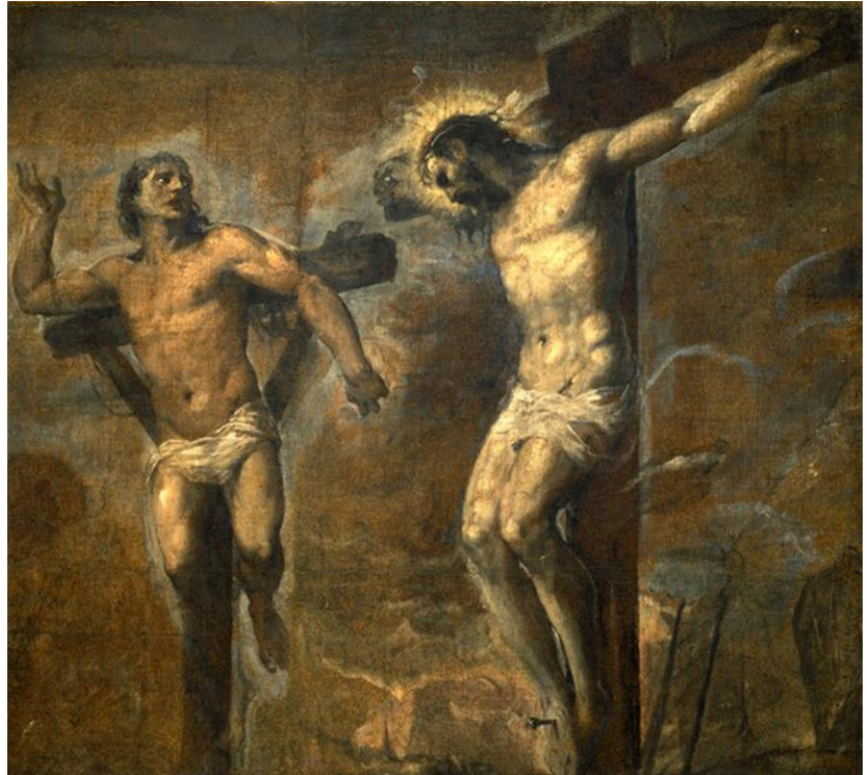


*Growing
in Spirit,
Community,
and Service*

*Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
November 23, 2025*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



*Christ and the Good Thief, c. 1566. Titian (1490-1576). Oil on Canvas.
Pinacoteca Nazionale di Bologna. Public Domain. Source: Wikicommons.*

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,
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9***

Tel: 416.447.5571

Fax: 416.447.4082

***[https://stbonaventuresdo.
archtoronto.org/](https://stbonaventuresdo.archtoronto.org/)***

**"Remember me" implored the Thief
by Emily Dickinson**

**"Remember me" implored the Thief!
Oh Hospitality!
My Guest "Today in Paradise"
I give thee guaranty.**

**That Courtesy will fair remain
When the Delight is Dust
With which we cite this mightiest case
Of compensated Trust.**

**Of all we are allowed to hope
But Affidavit stands
That this was due where most we fear
Be unexpected Friends.**

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, November 24	9 AM	57 th Wedding Anniversary of Cyril & Marle Castelino
Tuesday, November 25	9 AM	† Catherine Valenti
Wednesday, November 26	9 AM	Intention of Dave Alon
Thursday, November 27	9 AM	† Ernie & Mary Carpenter
Friday, November 28	9 AM	The Parishioners † Grazia Maida † Odette Olliverra † May Chan † Angelica Raquel Corletto
Saturday, November 29	5 PM	† Ines Howe
Sunday, November 30	8:30 AM	† Peter Glowczewski
	10 AM	† Anna Szatmary
	12 PM	† Jennifer Khayat
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Intention of Emile Mourani
	Bl. Sac.	† Albert Lee
	Our Lady	For past, present, and future blessings

HOLY COMMUNION TO 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) ensure these parishioners remain in sacramental Communion with the Lord and united with the community. We have reintroduced the Rite of Sending, whereby: the ministers are called to the altar at the end of Communion, a prayer for them and the homebound parishioners is said, and they are given the Blessed Sacrament to take to these parishioners absent from the Eucharistic assembly.

Please be conscious of any parishioners you may know who might benefit from this ministry for a short term or longer duration. 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.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENEDICTION - MONDAY, DECEMBER 1ST FROM 12:30 - 2:00PM

Our first Monday of the month prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Please join us along with one grade of students from St. Bonaventure School for Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

12:30 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, hymn, incensation, greeting and opening prayer

12:35 Scripture reading

12:40 Reflection on the Scripture reading

12:45 Intercessions concluded with the Lord's Prayer

12:50 Children head back to school

Adoration continues with others who are present. This is open to all. A particular invitation is extended to the children's parents, grandparents, and godparents.

1:00 Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available in the Mary Chapel from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

2:00 Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament (hymn and incensation) followed by reposition.



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* and + *Joyce Chong*.

PRAYER NETWORK REQUESTS

Network members pray daily for your prayer intentions which are held in confidence. New members are welcome! Please call Teresa Krijgsman **416-444-4719** with your prayer intentions or if you would like to join the prayer network.

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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

We have recently been made aware that someone is falsely using Fr. Tom Reist's name to contact parishioners. Please note that Fr. Tom will never contact you via email for monetary requests of any kind. Please do not open or respond to these emails. Fr. Tom's official email address is: frtom@st-bonaventure.ca

HELPING OTHERS

SHARELIFE 2025 CAMPAIGN - EVERY DOLLAR YOU GIVE WILL BE DOUBLED!



NEW: Your gift will double in value! From November 3 until year end, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000.

Too often, families face their struggles in silence, unseen and unheard - but thanks to your compassion, they are seen and heard. New data shows that many food bank visitors are working age and that one in four visitors is children. Through ShareLife's Food Security Grants, parents find relief in knowing they can provide nourishing meals for their children, and seniors are able to live with dignity, free from the fear of hunger. These are just a few ways your love leads the way, bringing warmth, comfort, and renewed hope to those who need it most.

Our goal this year is **\$109,000**. To date we have achieved **\$87,556.65** or **80.3%**. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

REQUEST FOR ALL PARISHIONERS TO UPDATE THEIR INFORMATION

As we approach year-end tax receipts and envelopes for 2026, we want to ensure we have your most up-to-date information. Please email kathryn@st-bonaventure.ca if you have any changes to the following:
Home address, Phone Number, Email address, New family members.

CASSEROLES FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE

So many hungry people come to the Good Shepherd for a meal every day. Some live on the street and depend on the kindness of others to survive.

Your contribution of a casserole contributes to assist in serving the less fortunate in our community. A hot meal is a welcome necessity especially in these colder days of the year. Up to **600 meals** are provided each day and more if you count in the residents who live at the Good Shepherd. In **October** our parish community sent **67 casseroles**. This contributes to one meal.

Many, many thanks to all those who contribute to this MISSION OF MERCY.

Pans are available in the cupboards at the back of the church.

CWL INITIATIVE FOR 2025: SHARE THE WORDS



Spirituality

We are called to live in relationship with God, others and creation. Spirituality nourishes us on our faith journey enriching us as we grow. The Catholic Women's League calls us to be witnesses to the love of God through ministry and service. Connect and grow with us.

- The CWL invites all members to attend the **2025 Pin Ceremony and Luncheon on December 7** following the noon mass!

CWL CHRISTMAS PROJECT NOVEMBER 16 - DECEMBER 7

Ladies for Ladies: Help fight Period Poverty

Share in the Joy of the Season - by giving dignity, comfort, and care to those in need.

We will be collecting items from: November 16 to December 7.

Most helpful items:

- Heavey/Overnight Pads
- Maxi Thins with or without wings
- Regular Pads for moderate needs

For more information, contact Barbara Morton at bjmorton@rogers.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS PROJECT - NOVEMBER 8 - DECEMBER 7

Help Us Bring Warmth This Winter - Sock Drive for the Homeless November 8 - December 7

As the cold weather settles in, many in our city go without one of the most basic necessities: clean, warm socks. The **Knights of Columbus Council 5080** is organizing a **Sock Drive** to support two local organizations doing essential work with the homeless and vulnerable:



- Good Shepherd Ministries
- Haven Toronto

We invite all parishioners to join us by donating **new socks** (men's preferred, but all are welcome).

Donation boxes will be located at the back of the church from **November 8 to December 7**.

If you know of another organization that could benefit from this initiative, please let us know at

 KofCC5080@outlook.com

This small act of kindness can make a big difference.

Thank you for your generosity and for walking with us in service to those most in need.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: MOVED BY MERCY, SERVING IN HOPE



Doing God's Work *"A Christian is not his own master: his time is God's. This is God's work, and it will be yours as well when you have performed it. I have trust in the grace of God that you are ready to act generously when it comes to God's work." ~St. Ignatius of Antioch*

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul provides material assistance to those in need. We meet people where they are, listening without judgement, being present, respectful and encouraging.

We need more committed members to volunteer: to help with collecting donations after Mass, to expand our outreach within our parish boundaries, especially to young and expectant mothers, to help with the various duties of running a viable charitable organization. Perhaps you have some time, some expertise, some special gift to share? Contact us at [416-447-5571](tel:416-447-5571), ext. 570.

Thank you for your continuing prayers, support and generosity. New members warmly welcomed. Vincentians stand with two St. Vincent de Paul boxes after weekend masses. You may also donate through CanadaHelps:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-st-bonaventure-conference/>



UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE: THE PROMISE, NOVEMBER 28 & 29, 2025



Experience the Promise: A Musical Journey of Hope, Humility, and the Joy of

We are just three weeks away from this unforgettable experience of contemporary music and poetic storytelling that draws us through the wonder of the Advent season, reminding us of the heartfelt meaning of Christmas - kindness, faith, and hope - and celebrating the joy of the Epiphany. All in support of helping homeless women living with mental health challenges find hope and healing.

Have you gotten your tickets yet? Don't miss this beautiful event to welcome the Christmas season while making a difference!

Friday, November 28 - 7:30 PM

Saturday, November 29 - 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM

More information at www.stclareinn.com

You can purchase tickets **after all Sunday masses** at St. Bonaventure on **November 16th, and 23rd.**

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MARKET - SUNDAY DECEMBER 14, 2025

Sunday, December 14, after all masses!

Please join us for the sale of Christmas Cards and festive items for your Christmas gift giving. More information to come concerning vendors etc. 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!

If you would like more information, e-mail Ministry with Maturing Adults at: [mma@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:mmma@st-bonaventure.ca)

Tuesday December 2, 2025: 10 AM to 11:30 AM - Advent Retreat

Presenter: Sister Francis Bisland, Missionary Sister of the Precious Blood

Reflection on the Jubilee Year, "Hope Does Not Disappoint"

We journey as "pilgrims" longing for renewed freedom, purpose and most especially Hope.

All are welcome!

Tuesday December 16, 2025: 10 AM to 11:30 AM - Movie & Refreshments

Christmas with the Chosen: Holy Night

Experience the Chosen's two Christmas specials now woven together into one seamless story about Jesus' birth. This edition features an original musical performance by Andrea and Matteo Bocelli.

All are welcome!

THE SERAPHIM & CHERUBIM CONCERT - DECEMBER 7

The Seraphim & Cherubim Chorus Presents: ✨ Magic in the Air! ✨

The first snow of the season has fallen, and it's time to get festive! Come and celebrate the spirit of Christmas with the Seraphim & Cherubim Chorus, as we celebrate 15 years of music, joy and community this year. Our 15th annual Christmas concert series features beloved carols, choral masterpieces, Broadway hits and contemporary favourites. We hope you'll join us at one of our festive concerts, perfect for young, old and everyone in between. We promise you a concert that captures the wonder of Christmas in every note!

Kick off your holiday season with us on **Sunday December 7** at St. Bonaventure Parish, Don Mills at **4:30 pm!**
Advance tickets are available at seraphimandcherubim.ca.

YOUTH MINISTRY INFO NIGHT - DECEMBER 7



To all High school students at St. Bonaventure: Join us for an evening of food fellowship and fun as we introduce our vision for a youth ministry at St. Bonaventure!

What to expect:

- Brief info session about our goals for the ministry.
- Social hour with food and refreshments.
- Opportunity to connect and get involved.

Parents are welcome to attend.

SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN UP



ADVENT RESOURCES



As we anticipate the beginning of Advent, may our hearts be filled with anticipation and joy. Advent is a time of deep reflection, prayer, and preparation, reminding us of the Coming of Christ and the true meaning of Christmas. Let us enter this season of hopeful waiting, ready to welcome the Savior more deeply into our lives. Here are some online supports for your Advent reflection and prayer:

Pray as you Go: Advent Audio Retreat 2025 ~ Advent Psalms

'Advent Psalms' will bring you prayer and reflection throughout Advent, including brand new music. You can listen at your own pace, by yourself or with others. Launches Monday 24th of November with an Introduction session. <https://prayasyougo.org/>

Sacred Space Advent Retreat 2025: Christ Living Within

"Each Advent invites me again to ask: 'Is it to move forward and help to bring Christ's light into the world, which is our Christian mission in life?' This doesn't happen instantly but instead takes time to grow. The time of reflection over the weeks can help deepen our relationship with God, allowing His light to shine brighter and leaving behind anything that is not serving us well. We can do this by letting go of control and surrendering to God's love in prayer. In doing so, we can spread hope and light in the darkness, bringing kindness and compassion to those around us." *Siobhan Murphy, the writer of our Advent 2025 Retreat*

Begins on Sunday 30th of November, the first week of Advent, and concludes on Christmas Eve.

<https://sacredspace.com/events/retreat/advent-2025/>

THE ADVENT WREATH



Candles and Colours - There are four candles on the wreath, one for each week of Advent. Advent is a time of preparation and waiting. Lit candles are always a sign of the light of Christ. The liturgical colour for the season is a deep, bluish violet which represents the colour of the night sky just before dawn breaks. Three of the candles are violet, but one is pink. The pink candle reminds us that Christians know that even in the midst of darkness, the light has already come into the world. Therefore, there is cause for Joy even while we wait. The Sunday that we light this candle third is called *Gaudete* Sunday. The word *Gaudete* means rejoice.

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Sprinkle the advent wreath with holy water, pray this prayer:

Loving God, we ask you to bless this advent wreath.
Just as the circle never ends, your love lasts through all time and all seasons.
As we light the candles, may we always remember
that your Light has come into our world.
Help us to prepare our hearts
for the birthday of your Son, Jesus.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

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
trena@st-bonaventure.ca

Administrative Assistant

Kathryn MacInnis
kathryn@st-bonaventure.ca

St. Clare Inn Office:

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Toronto, ON M3C 2K9 416-690-0330
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

“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Luke 23:42

Five years ago, I came to believe in Christ’s teachings, and my life suddenly changed; I ceased to desire what I had previously desired, and began to desire what I formerly did not want. What had previously seemed to me good seemed evil, and what seemed evil seemed good. It happened to me as it happens to a man who goes out on some business and suddenly decides that the business is unnecessary and returns home. All that was on his right is now on his left, and all that was on his left is now on his right; his former wish to get as far as possible from home has changed into a wish to be as near as possible to it. The direction of my life and my desires became different, and good and evil changed places. (*A Confession*)

I, like the thief on the cross, have believed Christ’s teaching and been saved. This is no far-fetched comparison, but the closest expression of the condition of spiritual despair and horror at the problem of life and death in which I lived formerly, and of the condition of peace and happiness in which I am now. I, like the thief, knew that I had lived and was living badly. I, like the thief, knew that I was unhappy and suffering. I, like the thief to the cross, was nailed by some force to a life of suffering and evil. And as, after the meaningless sufferings and evils of life, the thief awaited the terrible darkness of death, so did I await the same thing.

In all this I was exactly like the thief, but the difference was that the thief was already dying, while I was still living. The thief might believe that his salvation lay there beyond the grave, but I could not be satisfied with that, because besides a life beyond the grave, life still awaited me here. And I did not understand that life. It seemed to me terrible. But suddenly I heard the words of Christ and understood them, and life and death ceased to seem evil, and instead of despair I experienced happiness and the joy of life undisturbed by death. (*What I Believe*)

-Leo Tolstoy, “I, like the Thief”, quoted at: <https://thevalueofsparrows.wordpress.com/2015/11/19/belief-i-like-the-thief-by-leo-tolstoy/>

May the Lord bless you and keep you!