Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 25, 2026

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure

Growing in Spirit, Community, and Service



"Mother and Child" (1883), Christian Krohg (1852-1925). National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Norway. Common domain. Source: Wikicommons.

XVIII *Diligam te, Domine* by Malcolm Guite

I will behold you, and be satisfied.
My strength my rock my buckler and my shield!
You came to rescue me, I saw you ride

The wind's swift wings, I saw the waters yield
To you, as you reached down to lift me out
Out of the whelming panic, where I reeled

And flailed in fear of death. You heard my shout
My anguished cry for help, and carried me
And held me safe and put my fears to rout.

And now you give me back my liberty
You strengthen my weak hands and set my feet
To dancing lightly as a deer, as free

As any in the forest, and as fleet.
Soon you will call and draw me in your love
To that still place where earth and heaven meet.

Source: https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/2020/06/13/rescue-me-a-response-psalm-18/

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/

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, October 26	9 AM	† Gordon Petch
Tuesday, October 27	9 AM	† Joyce De Gannes
Wednesday, October 28	9 AM	† Celestine Mbakogu
Thursday, October 29	9 AM	† Cesar Mescallado
Friday, October 30	9 AM	† Deo Bansavatar † Larry Brown † Rochelle Labrador † Elsie Heatherman † Connie O'Sullivan
Saturday, October 31	5 PM	Intention & Thanksgiving of Leong Family
Sunday, November 1	8:30 AM	† Mackie Ortega
	10 AM	The Parishioners
	12 PM	† George & Joyce De Gannes
Sanctuary Lamps Bl. Sac.	Intention of Rolko Family	
Bl. Sac.	Gratitude & Special Intentions	
Our Lady	Intention of Kent & Melyssa Hollister	

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**

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, + Tom Lloyd, + Joseph Cusimano, + Kathleen Fitzgibbons, + Patricia McQueenie, + Colleen Maida, + Zoe Duffy, + Louise Pappalardo, + Andrew Long, + Wendy Dingillo, + Julita Torres, + John Obeyesekere, + Paul Farrell and + Rayburn Veary.

PRAYER NETWORK REQUESTS

The Prayer Network is a group of parishioners who pray daily for all the prayer requests received by the Network. 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.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

I am sure you heard about the Redemptorist priest from Ecuador who recently died while celebrating Mass. The priest had just spoken about death during his homily and while standing at the altar, a crucifix that was hanging behind the priest fell on him. He was 53 years old. The actual incident was shown on social media, and it was very unsettling to watch. Many people are asking why God would allow such a tragedy to happen during Mass and by a sacred image of Jesus. It is very difficult to make sense of it. Some people are saying it was divine punishment.

We should be careful not to rush to some kind of supernatural explanation for what occurred. Even sacred objects, such as a crucifix, obey the laws of physics. God should not be blamed for bad engineering or someone's carelessness. Certainly, God could have stopped the crucifix from falling. We also know, however, that God does not stop every tragedy from occurring. We are not spared from suffering. We believe, however, that death does not have the final word; Christ has conquered sin and death! We are encouraged to pray for the priest who was killed, as well as for his grieving family and parishioners.

I would like to express my thanks to Ken Costa for presenting a financial update last weekend at all the Masses. For the benefit of those who may have missed Ken's presentation, you will find it printed in this bulletin. I am pleased that contributions to the parish have increased in the past six months and I extend my gratitude to all those who faithfully support St. Bonaventure. As Ken mentioned, however, our expenses have also increased, and this is something the Finance Council will be taking a closer look at.

To be as transparent as possible with the parish, the Finance Council agreed that we need to begin publishing our weekly offertory contributions in the bulletin. You will find last week's total in today's bulletin. This will become a regular part of our weekly bulletin.

Ken also mentioned that printing the weekly bulletin is one of our larger expenses. Many parishes have advertisers listed on the back of their bulletins which help defray the printing costs. This is something we are actively looking into. In the meantime, we are also cutting down on the number of pages we use for the bulletin.

I once again strongly encourage our extraordinary ministers of holy communion as well as our lectors and altar servers to sign up electronically for helping at a particular Mass. I encourage you to get into the habit of doing so early in the week and then check again on Saturday morning to see if there are any openings. It is so important that we have enough ministers at each of our Masses.

On November 17 at 6:00 pm, the annual Cardinal's Dinner will take place at the Pearson Convention Centre. This dinner is a community and charity event uniting religious, business and political leaders to raise funds for local charities not funded by traditional sources. The keynote speaker will be his Eminence, Frank Cardinal Leo. Tickets are $225 per person or $2,250 for a table of ten. If anyone is interested in attending this dinner, please see me our contact the parish office.

I was invited by the Knights of Columbus to join them last Wednesday at the Good Shepherd Ministries to help serve a meal. I have to say that it was an eye-opening experience to see so many homeless individuals and people struggling financially. I have never seen anything like it. We served meals for two continuous hours, feeding approximately 500 men and women. While I was serving the bread, I realized how often I take basic things for granted and I was truly humbled by the experience.

In case you are not aware, our K of C, our CWL and the K of C 4th degree, each go to the Good Shepherd Ministries once a month to serve meals. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to them for their willingness to help with this much needed ministry. I also would like to thank all those parishioners who bake casseroles on a regular basis for this organization. Your willingness to feed the poor is truly a blessing.

Peace,
Friar Albert

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Council Report to the Parishioners of St. Bonaventure

October, 2026

As I said during my last report to you back in June, the Finance Council is committed to two things: (1) finding cost savings wherever we can so that every dollar you donate does the most good; and (2) reporting our findings to you on a more frequent and a more timely basis.

To that end, we will today consider the parish finances for the first six months of 2026, and I am delighted to report that, over this period, many of our most important revenue items are up significantly from the same period last year. Simply put, back in June when I asked those of you who could to please consider giving more, you responded. The total offertory for the first six months of 2026 rose by 15% year over year, with donations made through Donate Now in particular rising by 66%. Financial support from the Conventual Franciscans also more than doubled from the previous year. These are big increases, and to all of you who took our June message to heart and responded and to everyone who continues to support our great parish community, thank you.

I wish I could stop there but we must also consider the expense side of the ledger and, unfortunately, everything from insurance and utilities to maintenance and repairs cost us more than it did a year ago. Total expenses for the first six months increased by 44%, and thus our deficit actually widened, although it should be noted that this was due in part to costs we are unlikely to face again, which is good.

Higher costs are a fact of life it seems, but in terms of trimming our expenses there is one expense we need to take a closer look at and that is the cost of printing the parish bulletin. If you are like me, you like the bulletin the way it is, but like me you may also be surprised to learn that it costs nearly a dollar to produce just one. This is for two reasons: (1) it is often upwards of 8 pages which, as church bulletins go, is a lot; and (2) it is printed in colour and colour printing costs many times as much as does black and white. So we may have to consider switching to black and white and we will definitely look at shortening things up, particularly since a lot of the material being printed is the same from one week to the next.

It is a great honour to be a part of the Finance Council and to engage with all of you on this important topic. As always, we welcome your input, and we look forward to reporting to you again soon. Until then, thank you all for your continued financial support of the parish and for everything you do to make St. Bonaventure the very special place that it is. God bless you all.

Ken Costa
On behalf of the Finance Council of St. Bonaventure

PARISH COLLECTIONS – OCTOBER 17/18

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish. The Collections last week were:

- **Regular Collection:** $6,732.00
- **World Mission Sunday Collection:** $2,738.00
- **Tip Tap Terminals:** $ 200.00. Thank you to all who chose to give electronically.

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

A NOTE ABOUT RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Several people are taking the consecrated Host and then "dipping" it into the Precious Blood. The Church does not allow this practice (intinction). This restriction helps prevent drops of the consecrated wine from falling onto the floor or fingers. If an individual tries to "dip" the Host into the chalice, the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion have been instructed to prevent this from happening by placing their hand over the chalice. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

PLEASE NOTE: DAILY MISSALS

Please return daily missals (Living with Christ) to the back of the church so other parishioners can use them. If you need a personal copy, please subscribe from en.novalis.ca or call 1-800-387-7164 (toll free).

UPCOMING EVENTS

ST. BONAVENTURE YOUTH MINISTRY

Our next session will be on Friday, **October 30th at 6:30pm**. It will be a Halloween (Hallow's eve) party which will include food, snacks, and games. All that attend is more than welcome to dress up in Halloween costumes, as long as it's church appropriate. A reminder that the ministry is open to both High School students and Grade 8 students who have already been confirmed. Hope to see you there!

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!

Euthanasia: The Canadian Legislation and a Catholic Response
Tuesday, October 27, 2026 – 10:00 AM Location: Main Hall
Presenter: *James Shaughnessy*
James Shaughnessy has worked as a social worker for over 25 years, primarily with the Catholic Children's Aid Society and Catholic Family Services. He was ordained a permanent deacon in 2010 and currently serves at Good Shepherd Parish in Thornhill. His ministry includes serving at Tendercare Nursing Home and at St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Clare's Residence for Women. He also serves as a mentor, along with his wife Helen, at St. Augustine's Seminary, supporting men in the diaconate formation program. James and Helen have two stepchildren and four grandchildren.

Save the Date – Upcoming Sessions: November 10 & 24, and December 8 & 22, 2026
More details to follow.

MEMORIAL MASS – NOVEMBER 2, 2026

St. Bonaventure Parish will gather for a Memorial Mass on **Monday, November 2, 2026**, at **7 p.m.** to remember in prayer those who have gone before us this past year. Invitations have been sent to the families of those remembered under "Faith & Prayer." If you have not yet received an invitation, please email Kathryn at kathryn@st-bonaventure.ca with your contact information, and she will send you the details.

CONTACT US

Ministry Centre (Office)
1300 Leslie Street
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9
Office: 416-447-5571

Pastor
Fr. Albert Scherer, OFM Conv.
Ext. 234
fralbert@st-bonaventure.ca

Associate Pastor
Fr. Reto Davatz, OFM Conv.
Ext. 233
frreto@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
mma@st-bonaventure.ca

Administrative Assistant
Kathryn MacInnis
kathryn@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 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

"On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." ~Matthew 22:40

…[A]s a college freshman I had Fr. Robert Boyle, S.J., for English literature. He was a great teacher, without question, and one proof of his greatness lay in a statement he often made: "If you want to know what is happening in a work of literature, look what love is doing." Look at what love is doing! "What?" my barely 18-year-old self gasped. I had never known explicitly that love was such a big deal. I thought it was something parents have for you and tell you about it over and over. Could it really be the key to plays, poems, novels, short stories and literature? The key to humanity? Gulp. I had better pay attention.

We went through Shakespeare, Hopkins, Joyce, Keats, Milton, and I can't remember how many more. The clouds parted and I began to see that Boyle was right: characters' lives do center around something called "love" or the lack of it. Try it out when you read your next serious novel or short story. Which character acts out of real regard for the other(s) and which does not? What happens as a result?

Oh, and what about love in our own lives? Have you discovered that love is quite a bit more than pretense, more than an ideal, more than just a thing we crave from others, and certainly more than just pleasure? Have you seen that learning to love is the very air inhaled by such everyday importances as work, relaxation, attractions, happiness? Without love's living atmosphere none of these could breathe, nor could we. In Sunday's Gospel Jesus says this in no uncertain terms…[:] "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. ... You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." "What?" we might exclaim (as I did in college). We thought that law consisted of commands placed upon us from the outside, rules whose violation would bring punishment! What is this about law depending on love? Well, take a look. God does not fail at love. God waits. God says, "how wonderful that you are learning!" God says, "I love every person on earth. And you: you are my beloved. I am at your side as you learn to open to me and to others."

You and I do not judge ourselves as succeeding in this very often, so we need laws to help us. But the root of law and of life is love of others. It is loving concern under God for human persons. Ultimately, it is an imitation of God's love for us. "Look what love is doing."

~John Foley, S.J., "Look at What Love is Doing," *Spirituality of the Readings*, St. Louis Sunday Liturgy Website.

May the Lord bless you and keep you!