

*Growing
in Spirit,
Community,
and Service*

*Solemnity of Saint Francis of Assisi
October 4, 2026*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure

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



*Madonna Enthroned with the Child, St Francis and Four Angels, detail, (c.1278-1280),
Cimabue (1240-1302). Lower Basilica of San Francesco, Assisi.*

Saint Francis of Assisi

c.1181 - 1226

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

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, October 5		9 AM	† Gerlinde Strangemann
Tuesday, October 6		9 AM	† Joselito Garcia
Wednesday, October 7		9 AM	† Ireno Calingasan
Thursday, October 8		9 AM	† Wendy Dingillo
Friday, October 9		9 AM	Brothers, Sisters, & Benefactors of the Order † Rory Delfino † Erasmus Lobo † John Michael Lytle † Esther Villaroel-Hiller
Saturday, October 10 Sunday, October 11		5 PM	† Nimfa Chua
		8:30 AM	Healing Intention for Jerry Krueger
		10 AM	The Parishioners
		12 PM	Healing Intention for Klodian Prenga
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Thanksgiving for Installation of Fr. Albert as Pastor	
	Bl. Sac.	Franciscan Friars, Poor Clares and Secular Franciscans	
	Our Lady	For the Poor and the Marginalized	

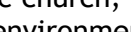
PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION (YOUTH) 2026-2027

Please note the registration deadline this year: October 9, 2026

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN



Children's Liturgy of the Word



All children ages 4 to 9 are invited to participate in this parallel celebration of the Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Mass. Prayer leaders help the children pray with and understand the scripture readings in a manner suited to their developmental level. **We are seeking enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers to support this vital and popular program.** As a volunteer in this ministry of the Word, you will help usher the children to and from the church, lead the children in prayer, facilitate the reflection and discussions, and create a welcoming environment. Training will be provided. All volunteers will be required to complete a mandatory screening process. Contact Nancy Vanseader at 647-501-7744 or nvanseader@rogers.com if you are able to help.

SACRAMENTS AND ST. FRANCIS

I once spoke to my friend, an old squirrel, about the Sacraments—
 he got so excited
 and ran into a hollow in his tree and came
 back holding some acorns, an owl feather,
 and a ribbon he had found.
 And I just smiled and said, “Yes, dear,
 you understand:
 everything imparts
 His grace.”

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Bishop Robert Kasun to St. Bonaventure Church. Bishop Kasun will preside at the 10 am Mass on Sunday and install me as your pastor. I have had the pleasure of meeting Bishop Kasun twice so far; first at my orientation a few weeks ago and then at the Zone meeting which took place this past Thursday. Thank you, Bishop Kasun, for being with us today.

Last Saturday I participated in my first Linda's Walk, which benefited St. Clare Inn. God blessed us with a beautiful day, and it was so great to see so many people participating in the walk. I must admit I was a bit sore Saturday evening. I think it's time for me to start walking on a more regular basis! After the walk was finished, we had a nice lunch in our hall. The entire event was well organized, and I commend the organizers and all the volunteers for working so hard to make Linda's Walk a great success.

As you read in a past bulletin, our own Bonnie Beverley was honoured last Sunday at a special Mass at St. Michael Cathedral Basilica. Bonnie, along with ten other individuals from various parishes received the St. Michael's award for their faithful and dedicated service to their respective parishes. Over a thousand people filled the Cathedral for a beautiful Mass, with Frank Cardinal Leo presiding. I had the opportunity to meet the Cardinal before Mass, and I found him to be very friendly and personable. Congratulations, Bonnie, and thank you for all that you do for St. Bonaventure's Parish. We are grateful for you!

I hope that you were able to see some of the news coverage of Pope Leo's trip to France. During his trip, the Holy Father met with 7 survivors of clerical abuse. While speaking to journalists after their meeting, one of the survivors stated that Pope Leo listened attentively to their personal stories of abuse and was genuinely concerned for each person. I was captivated by the prayer vigil that the Pope had with young people. It was moving to see thousands of them praying with Pope Leo and listening as he spoke to them.

As people in Paris waited on the streets for the Pope to arrive, the news showed priests on the sidewalk hearing confessions. What a great moment of reconciliation! In Lourdes, surrounded by so many sick individuals, Pope Leo spoke out against legalized assisted suicide and euthanasia. He said "It is impossible to regard causing death as something normal. What is legal is not necessarily moral."

October is traditionally known as the month of the rosary. Here at St. Bonaventure, we have a group of dedicated parishioners who pray the rosary daily after the 9 am Mass. If you seldom or never pray the rosary, I encourage you to try and pray it during the month of October.

Don't forget the Knights of Columbus BBQ on Sunday beginning at 1 pm. Tickets may be purchased at the BBQ. Hope to see you there!

Peace,
Friar Albert

ST. FRANCIS'S PRAYER TO THE HOLY TRINITY

Almighty, eternal, just and merciful God,
grant us in our misery the grace to do for you alone what we know you want us to do,
and always to desire what pleases you.
Thus, inwardly cleansed, inwardly enlightened, and inflamed by the fire of the Holy Spirit,
may we be able to follow in the footprints of your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.
And by your grace alone, may we make our way to you, Most High,
who live and rule in perfect Trinity and simple Unity and are glorified, God all-powerful, forever and ever.
Amen.

BULLETIN SUBMISSION REMINDER

Please note: To allow us to complete the bulletin in a timely manner, new announcements or items for the same week's bulletin must be submitted to Kathryn at kathryn@st-bonaventure.ca no later than 12 noon on Tuesday each week. Items for a later-dated bulletin may be submitted on any day. Thank you for your contributions and understanding.

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 and + Paul Farrell.

LIFE CHAIN - OCTOBER 4

Annual Day of Public Witness for Children Killed by Abortion.

"Could you not watch one hour with me?" (Matthew 26:40)

Join thousands across Canada standing against abortion in a peaceful, prayerful demonstration!

Corner of Lawrence and Leslie at 2:00 pm.

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.

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**

ST. CLARE INN - LINDA'S WALK: THANK YOU!!



Because of the incredible support of our sponsors, walkers, pledgers, raffle participants, volunteers, and donors, this year's Linda's Walk raised over an amazing \$43,000 for St. Clare Inn! Your generosity helps us continue providing transitional housing and support for women experiencing homelessness with mental health challenges. Thank you for believing in our mission, most importantly, for supporting the women of St. Clare Inn! We couldn't have done it without you!

BONNIE BEVERLEY - 2026 SAINT MICHAEL AWARD RECIPIENT



From the right: Marion Reed, Fr. Peter, Dan Fellin, Frank Cardinal Leo, Ann Fellin, Bonnie Beverley, Fr. Albert, Gregory Beath, and Joan Innes. Congratulations Bonnie!

ST. FRANCIS MEETS A LEPER

He heard the bell toll, erratic
in a palsied hand, and smelled
the goatish scent before he saw
the figure moving in mist on the road
to Assisi, a traveler gloved and shod,
as was the law, to hide the sores,
a man's inhumanity, missing fingers
and toes, and tried to unmask the face,
slack muscles showing nothing
but astonishment, lower lids keeping
eyes open always to our providential decay,
flesh soft and thick as rotten wood.
Francis saw in bleary eyes, near to him
as his mother's as she loved him,
a brother, then someone dearer, wrapped

as he'd seen others in his father's cloth
that first had profited English shepherds
and the weavers of Ghent, a skin
bleached white as bone, a flower blazing
in snow, so close to perfection it could
only decay. Francis did the only thing
he could, sun rising high enough now
to burn away the mist. He unwrapped
the face, studying lineaments fashioned
by a master's hand, image and likeness
of the death that beautifies all living.
He closed his eyes and kissed.

~ by David Citino

Source:
<https://thevalueofsparrows.wordpress.com/2018/07/05/poetry-francis-meets-a-leper-by-david-citino>

HELPING OTHERS

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL)



October Social Justice Theme: Care for the Poor

Throughout October, the CWL encourages members to reflect on our call to care for those experiencing poverty, violence, and marginalization. Be aware of initiatives such as Sisters in Spirit Vigils, Purple Thursday, and educational efforts aimed at the eradication of poverty. Through prayer, awareness, and compassionate action, we can help build a more just and caring society.

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me."
(Matthew 25:40)

Other Announcements: Flea Markert Storage

The Great Storage Quest continues, and the plot thickens. Storage is needed for Flea Market items from now until October 22. There is no room at the inn (a.k.a. the church). If you have a garage corner or a basement nook to spare until October...we've got gratitude.

Email Elfreida Soans at jesoans74@gmail.com or call her at 416-424-4984 if you have room to spare.

ST. BONNIE'S JOYFUL KNITTERS



We belong to **The Needlework Guild of Canada**. Each year we contribute our knitted items to support **22 agencies** throughout Toronto. With the work of our members and friends, we delivered **370 articles** for distribution closer to Christmas. There are currently 24 groups coming together to make life a wee bit more comfortable as all goods go to men, women and children in need. Last year a total of **7,702** articles were shared to those we serve. Now, we are knitting for 2027 We have an open door to anyone who would like to join our efforts. Please come and see us on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month in the Francis Room following the 9:00 am Mass. Smiles, coffee/tea and snacks are provided. Call **Ann Fellin** at **647-526-5066** if you have any questions.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



The Bible reminds us that it's not enough to have prayerful empathy for the suffering. Our prayers are important, but they must also lead to action. God calls us to come together to feed the hungry, tend to the sick, and lend a helping hand to those who have fallen on hard times.

Please assist Vincentians to lift the burdens of others, especially those who struggle to afford the necessities of life, and to refresh them with humble care and service. Your donations to our SSVP boxes (available after weekend masses) and through Canada Helps do make a difference.

Thank you! *Online donations can be made securely through the following link:*

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

CASSEROLES FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE



If you have picked up a casserole pan lately you will see a letter of gratitude from the Good Shepherd acknowledging the casseroles that Bonaventure Cooks send each month. Also, they have sent a reminder of their food safety protocol. Many of you have supported this MISSION of MERCY for years but we always welcome new volunteers to add to this much needed charity. As the letter explains the number of people looking for a hot meal has increased. Imagine serving 1100 meals per day! St. Bonaventure's parish along with many others across Toronto contribute to the meal program. Any questions, call **Ann Fellin 647-526-5066**

LETTER FROM THE CARDINAL



18 September 2026

My dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord Jesus,

Thank you for all that you continue to do to strengthen the Kingdom of God in our archdiocese. Be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to be instruments of healing, reconciliation and hope. This requires us to listen with humility, acknowledge the wounds of the past and work together to restore relationships that have been fractured. During his Penitential Pilgrimage to Canada in 2022, the late Pope Francis invited us to walk together with Indigenous Peoples of This Land and to reflect upon the pain and suffering experienced by so many.

I invite you to join me in praying for all those who continue to carry emotional, physical and spiritual wounds, especially residential school survivors, their families and their communities. In a particular way, we lift our prayers to the Lord on Wednesday, 30 September, as Canada observes the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

I also ask that you prayerfully consider supporting the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund (IRF) through the collection that will take place on the weekend of 3/4 October 2026. The Fund was established by the Bishops of Canada as part of our ongoing journey of healing and reconciliation. It is overseen by a national Board of Directors composed of Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders and supports locally determined initiatives undertaken in collaboration with First Nations, Métis and Inuit partners.

As we work to fulfil the February 2022 archdiocesan pledge, the Archdiocese of Toronto, to date, has already committed \$4.5 million to Indigenous Reconciliation Fund projects supporting healing and reconciliation, culture and language revitalization, education and community building, and Indigenous spirituality and culture. Proposals are reviewed by our archdiocesan committee before being forwarded to the national body for approval and disbursement. To learn more, please visit www.archtoronto.org/healingandreconciliation.

We remain mindful of the profound words offered by the late Pope Francis during his Penitential Pilgrimage to Canada: *"Our own efforts are not enough to achieve healing and reconciliation: we need God's grace."*

Through prayer, generous support and a sincere willingness to listen and learn, may we continue walking together in faith and hope, guided by the Holy Spirit toward truth, healing and renewed relationships. May the Blessed Mother accompany us on this journey.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Protectress of Canada, pray for us.

Sincerely yours in Jesus with Mary,

Frank Cardinal Leo
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

UPCOMING EVENTS

IMPORTANT MEETING FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

On **Thursday, October 15 at 7:00 pm** and **Saturday, October 17 at 10:30 am**, there will be a meeting with Friar Albert for **ALL** current extraordinary ministers of communion. Ministers have a choice of attending **one** of the scheduled meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to review procedures for this ministry and to discuss concerns any ministers may have. If any ministers of communion cannot attend one of these meetings, they are asked to contact Friar Albert.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE



The Knights of Columbus are organizing a food drive in support of the **Good Shepherd Ministries**. A place that promotes human dignity, where the vulnerable and the invisible come first.

With your participation in the Thanksgiving Food Drive, we will help provide essential food items for individuals who rely on the Good Shepherd for nourishment, care and support. Every donation is a meaningful expression of kindness and a reminder that no one is forgotten. Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on our blessings and to share with others.

Members of the KofC will be collecting **non-perishable** items **before and after the 5pm Mass on Saturday October 10, and after all Masses on Sunday October 11.**

Thank you for standing alongside **Good Shepherd Ministries** and for being a source of hope in our community.



PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY - OCTOBER 10

Public Square Rosary Rally - All Are Welcome!

Join us for the **Public Square Rosary Rally** on **Saturday, October 10, 2026, at 12:00 noon**, in front of **St. Bonaventure Church, 1300 Leslie Street.**

Together, we will pray the Holy Rosary **for Canada, for peace, and for the conversion of our nation.**

Bring your family and friends and join our parish community in this beautiful public witness of faith and devotion to Our Lady. **Everyone is welcome!**

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!

Save the Date - Upcoming Sessions: October 13 & 27, November 10 & 24, and December 8 & 22, 2026
More details to follow.

DIRECTION OF TAX TO SUPPORT CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND VOTING FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES

The approaching municipal election is a good reminder to review your School Tax Support Designation. Direction of school support (or school support designation) refers to choosing a school board to support that best reflects your educational preferences. In Ontario, all property owners are required to support a school board, even if they do not have children or their children are not currently attending school. Tenants can also choose a school board to support. This choice will also determine which candidates for school trustees you may vote for.

Please make sure your Tax Support Designation is either the English separate school board (Toronto Catholic District School Board); or the French separate school board (Conseil Scolaire Catholique MonAvenir). It's a powerful message in support of Catholic Education. Unless you are identified as an English Separate (Catholic) or French Separate (Catholic) school board supporter, you cannot vote for Catholic School Board Trustees, and you are not counted as a supporter of Catholic Education in Ontario with allocation of taxes.

Why is this important? The Tax Support Designation is used in several ways:

- The number of people choosing to support a school board determines the number of trustees assigned to the school board.
- The school board you have chosen to support determines which trustees you will be voting for in municipal elections.
- Data on school support designation is used by school boards and municipalities for planning purposes (e.g., population projections, ward boundary planning), which influences allocation of resources/funding.

If you do not have children registered at one of the two separate (Catholic) school boards in Toronto, you can still choose to support Catholic education. Just make sure that "ES" (English Separate/Catholic) or "FS" (French Separate/Catholic) appears in the assessment section of your property tax bill, and "English Catholic" or "French Catholic" appears on your voter registration card for the upcoming municipal election.

There are just a couple things to consider. First, you cannot divide your school support between the public and Catholic sectors. Also, only Catholic homeowners and tenants are eligible to designate their support for Catholic Schools. If one partner in the house is non-Catholic, then simply complete the Attestation of Unit Support located on the Application for Direction of School Support on the MPAC website (see below).

School support can sometimes change when you move or update your information. The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), through which school support designation is made, compares new owners' names and dates of birth on incoming land registry instruments with those already existing in MPAC's database. Where a match is found within the same school board jurisdiction, the school support information is captured from MPAC's existing records and moved to the recently purchased property.

However, if you are a tenant, your Catholic school support designation *does not follow you when you move*. As soon as any change is made to your address, your school support designation is *defaulted* to English-Public. You will need to correct this by formally designating your support to one of the Catholic school boards.

How do I find out which school board I am currently supporting and make changes?

You can find out which school board you are currently supporting if you own property by looking at your Property Assessment Notice from MPAC. If you don't have a copy of your Notice or are a tenant, you can go to the MPAC website to view and make changes:

<https://www.mpac.ca/en/MakingChangesUpdates/SchoolSupportDesignation>

Your voter registration card for the upcoming municipal election will also show which school board you support. Considering the nearness of the municipal election, you can update your voting status to reflect Catholic school board support before the election by going to:

<https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/elections/voter-information/myvote/>

and then make any changes through MPAC later.

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
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Lay Pastoral Associate

Gregory Beath
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Parish Manager

Connie Durante
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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

Administrative Assistant

Kathryn MacInnis
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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

“I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants...” Mt. 11:25

Like many of the most celebrated mystics, Francis lived at a time when great social and spiritual upheaval forced people to cast themselves on the mercies of God. ... (M)erchants like Francis's father... created unimagined wealth and unprecedented disparities between rich and poor.... (T)he church of Francis's day was a big, wealthy, bureaucratically entrenched and politically powerful institution whose leaders often seemed more like grasping, self-centered potentates than selfless servants of God and humanity.

Before his dramatic change of life, Francis had enjoyed a life of ease and luxury.... When he volunteered to fight in one of the frequent wars between Italian towns, he was captured before he fired his first shot and was put in prison, where he was held for a year until his father paid a hefty ransom. After his release, Francis made one more effort to fight in battle, but his plans were interrupted by the first in a series of supernatural visions. He returned home confused and disoriented. He thought God might be trying to tell him something, and he visited a small, run-down chapel located outside Assisi. While praying there, Francis heard the voice of Jesus speaking to him from a crucifix: “Francis, go, repair my house, which, as you see, is falling completely into ruin.”.... He didn't stop to question the words, and he didn't calculate what it might cost him to obey them. Instead, he turned away from his comfortable life and threw himself into renovating the chapel. When conflicts with his father escalated, the man disowned Francis. “Until now I called you my father,” said Francis. “But from now on I can say without reserve, ‘Our Father who art in Heaven.’”

Francis was particularly sensitive to Jesus's words about the temptations of wealth and the need for compassionate service to the weak and the needy. He gave away everything he owned and adopted a lifestyle of poverty, simplicity, and service. His parents and the other residents of Assisi were aghast at his radical faith. Why had this merchant's son traded his fashionable clothes for the rags of a beggar man? What was this former playboy doing hanging out with those lepers? Had he lost his mind? Had he suffered brain damage in the war?.... Perhaps we would have thought Francis mad, too, but looking back on it all now, it seems God may have reached out to Francis at a time when the church was becoming cold and dead. Francis embraced the divine summons, and he responded by lighting a bonfire of burning love for God that still warms us today across these many centuries.

Excerpt from J.M. Talbot, “Ancient Wisdom for Experiencing God Today,” quoted at:
<https://thevalueofsparrows.wordpress.com/2017/08/02/mysticism-the-way-of-joy-francis-of-assisi-by-john-michael-talbot/>

May the Lord bless you and keep you!