



*Growing
in Spirit,
Community,
and Service*

*Twenty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time
September 7, 2025*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



Christ appearing to Saint Peter on the Appian Way (Domine, Quo Vadis?), c.1601-02, Annibale Carracci, (1560-1609), oil on panel. National Gallery, London. 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://stbonaventures
do.archtoronto.org/](https://stbonaventures.do.archtoronto.org/)**

XC Domine, refugium by Malcolm Guite

A cosy comforter, a lucky charm?
Not with this psalmist, for he praises God
From everlasting ages, in his psalm.

A God of refuge -yes - and yet a God
Who knows the death that comes before each birth,
Who sees each generation die, a God

Before whom all the ages of the earth
Are like a passing day, like the cut grass
In Larkin's limpid verse: 'brief is the breath

Mown stalks exhale'. So we and all things pass,
And God endures beyond us. Yet he cares
For our brief lives, his loving tenderness

Extends to all his creatures, our swift years
Are precious in his sight. In Christ he shares
Our grief and he will wipe away our tears.

FROM THE PASTOR

THANK YOU, ALBERT

Albert Masters, our accompanist at the Saturday evening Mass for many years, has announced his retirement. We thank him for enhancing our worship his gentle prayerful presence and service to our community. We wish him abundant blessings in his new chapter.

WELCOME BACK, AROUND THE PROPERTY, AND COYOTES

We warmly welcome families returning from their summer travels as we enter the full swing of autumn activities. Please exercise caution when entering and exiting the driveway while the City repaves the boulevard. Remember to lower your vehicular speed in the parking lot, especially now that the children are back in school. Coyotes have been sighted on the property, near the ravine, the baseball diamond and the church. They are very bold. Please do not attempt to attract them or feed them. Hopefully, they will move on.

BOARD OF EDUCATION AND LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

This notice is addressed to those who may be considering a position with the Toronto Catholic District School Board. The application package includes a letter from one's Pastor that attests to the candidate's practise of the faith and parish involvement. If you intend to submit an application, please arrange for a meeting with me well in advance. (One year would be about right.) This affords me the opportunity to know candidates more personally and to write a more informed letter.

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, September 8	9 AM	In Thanksgiving and Intention of the Leong Family
Tuesday, September 9	9 AM	† Betty-Ann Dashnay
Wednesday, September 10	9 AM	† Jude Weerasinghe
Thursday, September 11	9 AM	In Thanksgiving from Carol Salvador
Friday, September 12	9 AM	The Friars In Thanksgiving from June Luk Intention of Marla Zupan † Benjamin Espino † Romi Walsh † Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, September 13 Sunday, September 14	5 PM	† Nimfa Chua
	8:30 AM	The Parishioners
	10 AM	† Frances Fong
	12 PM	† Grazia Maida
Sanctuary Lamps Bl. Sac. Bl. Sac. Our Lady	Intentions of the Coyle Family	
	Intentions of Catherine Chang	
	† Jude Weerasinghe	

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Our parish has an active Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound. Our Eucharistic Ministers provide pastoral visits and bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are unable to attend church because of illness, disability or age. If you or someone you know might benefit from this ministry, please contact us at homebound@st-bonaventure.ca or at 416-447-5571 ext. 590 and let us know.

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

Liturgy of the Word with Children will resume on **Sunday, September 21st** at the 10 am Mass. All children aged 4-9 are invited to participate in this parallel, age-appropriate celebration of the Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Mass. Prayer leaders will help the children engage with and understand the scripture readings in a manner suited to their developmental level. We are also seeking enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers to support this vital program! As a volunteer, you will help usher the children to and from the church, facilitate discussions and create a welcoming environment for the children. **Please contact Maria Martin at 437-993-8458 or pkmmcm@rogers.com if you are interested.** All volunteers will be required to complete a mandatory screening process.

PREPARATION OF OLDER CHILDREN FOR BAPTISM

Are you the Catholic parent of a 7-year-old child or older who has not been baptized and would like to enquire about preparing your child for Baptism and you also live within our parish boundary? If so, please contact Greg at 416-447-5571, extension 258, for more information **no later than September 17.**

PREPARATION FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST COMMUNION 2025-2026

Roman Catholic children may begin to prepare for celebrating their First Reconciliation (Confession) and First Communion (Eucharist) around the age of 7. If you are parishioners of St. Bonaventure Church and parents of a 7-year-old child or older (Grade 2+) who is baptised Roman Catholic, and you think he or she is ready to prepare for these Sacraments, then it will be important for you to attend one of the following **Parent Information Meetings**. You will learn about our parish's sacramental preparation program and how to register your child for this 2025-2026 season:

- **Sunday, September 7 at 1 p.m.** in the Main Hall of the Parish Centre **OR**
- **Tuesday, September 9 at 7 p.m.** in the Main Hall of the Parish Centre

Please note the registration deadline this year: September 19, 2025

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION (YOUTH)

In the Archdiocese of Toronto, Roman Catholic children may begin to prepare to be Confirmed around 12 years of age and up (Grade 7+). If you are parishioners of St. Bonaventure Church, your child has been baptized or formally received into the Roman Catholic Church, and you feel your child is ready to begin to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, then you and your child will need to attend one of the following information meetings about the Confirmation 2025-2026 program and how to register:

- **Wednesday, September 24 at 7 p.m.** in the Main Hall of the Parish Centre **OR**
- **Sunday, September 28 at 1 p.m.** in the Main Hall of the Parish Centre.

The young person requesting Confirmation and one parent are asked to attend one of these meetings. If your child has neither prepared for nor received Holy Communion previously, please contact Greg at the parish office as soon as possible: 416-445-5571 Ext. 258

CONFIRMATION AS AN ADULT

If you are a baptized adult Roman Catholic (18+) who has not been Confirmed, besides not having received the fullness of Sacramental Initiation, you will not be able to serve as a godparent at Baptism or as a sponsor at Confirmation when asked. In some Dioceses, you may have to delay Marriage until you are Confirmed. Let's help you to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. We will provide a short preparation program for adult Catholics in the autumn. Please contact Greg at 416-447-5571 Ext. 258, to make an appointment **no later than September 14, 2025.** Be prepared to provide a copy of your baptismal certificate recently issued by the Roman Catholic parish where you were baptised. Note: this program is separate from our Confirmation preparation program for the parish's youth.

SCRIPTURE SHARING GROUP AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S

The Scripture Sharing group meets every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Oak Room of the Parish Centre to prepare for the readings for the upcoming Sunday. Reflecting on the spirituality of the scriptures before Mass can have a great impact on hearing the Word proclaimed on Sunday. Participation via ZOOM is available. For more information, please contact Tom: tom.burns6727@gmail.com

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 Long, + Bernard Nottage, + Anna Szatmary, + Christopher Harris, + Blanca Graciela, + Martin Frank,
+ Thelma Jonathan, + Jeanette Bertheau, + Edward Baker, + Joyce De Gannes, + Rochelle Labrador,
+ Vinodh Loganadhan, + Barbara Makowicz, + Anne Clune, + Antonino (Tony) Cravero, + Frances Fong,
+ Mary Lou Gray, + Teresa Hui, + Peter D'Brass, and + Angela Buchanan.

PRAYER NETWORK REQUESTS

Network members pray daily for your prayer intentions which are held in confidence. New members are welcome! Please call Teresa Krijgsman at **416-709-8150** with your prayer intentions or if you would like to join the prayer network.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

For our relationship with all of creation ~ Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

HELPING OTHERS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Community Share Food Bank is looking for volunteers. The Food Bank is located in the hall of the Church of the Ascension, 33 Overland Drive, North York M3C 2C3.

Volunteers are needed to serve our sisters and brothers with the distribution of food between 10:45 AM and 3:30 PM on Wednesdays. If it would be possible to do even one Wednesday a month, or more, that would be wonderful. Please contact the Food Bank at contact@communitysharefoodbank.ca or via the website www.communitysharefoodbank.ca for more information and to volunteer.

CASSEROLES FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD REFUGE

Once again, A BIG Thank You to all the Bonnie Casserole Cooks who made our August target a success. August is a busy month for many families but we sent our target of 65 plus 1 to the Good Shepherd. As you may know 65 casseroles are needed to supplement one meal. All parishioners are invited to support this worthy mission of mercy. We have two pick up dates each month. In September, it will be on Tuesday 16 and Tuesday 30. Casseroles and recipes are available in the cupboards at the back of the church. Please sign for the pans you need. Remember those who benefit from your kindness live a challenging life everyday.

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



The option for the poor and vulnerable protects fair treatment of all members of society, especially those in greatest need. It is the responsibility of every one of us to care for those who have less and to provide a healthy lifestyle and a sense of well-being for all members of society. This is the foundation of the Kingdom of God and the fulfillment of Jesus's essential teaching.

Loving God, open our eyes to see You in the faces of the poor, the forgotten, and the suffering. Help us to move beyond mere sympathy into real, self-giving love. Give us the grace to offer not just what is easy to give, but what truly costs us—our time, our attention, our comfort. Strengthen our hearts so that we may respond with compassion. Let us be bold in kindness, faithful in service, and joyful in sacrifice. Teach us to love as You love, so that through us, others may know Your mercy. Amen.



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/>

SHARELIFE



You support our community in countless ways through ShareLife

Learn more about the people you have helped at sharelife.org/impact. Thank you for living the Gospel by providing for those in need! Thus far we have raised **\$75,032 or 68%** toward our goal of **\$109,000**. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

ST. BONNIE'S JOYFUL KNITTERS (PART OF THE NEEDLEWORK GUILD OF CANADA)



We meet on the second Wednesday of each month in the Parish Hall, Francis Room following the 9:00 mass. This knitting year's donations will be sent for sorting by September 21. We support 20 Agencies including Yonge Street Mission, Scott Mission, Children's Aid Society and a new addition next year Rosalie Hall. We begin knitting for 2026 this Fall. Come and see what we are all about. A friendly and supportive gathering of ladies who care to knit for those less fortunate. Upcoming dates: Wednesday September 10, Wednesday October 8, Wednesday November 12 and Wednesday December 10

CWL INITIATIVE FOR 2025: SHARE THE WORDS

Power



Power is the ability to influence the course of events. Catholic Women's League resolutions have changed lives. By joining us you will be part of the power of resolutions.

THE ROSARY APOSTOLATE AT ST. BONAVENTURE SCHOOL ~ SHARE YOUR LOVE OF THE ROSARY



The Rosary Apostolate enjoyed another successful year teaching and praying the Rosary with students at St. Bonaventure school! In preparation for the upcoming school year, we are looking for more volunteers. If you have a devotion to Our Lady and her Rosary, please consider joining our Team!

We visit students in their classrooms one morning per month from October to May. All training is provided! If you would like further information, please contact Monica Testa-Zanin at 416-432-9439.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Tuesday September 9th - 10:00AM to 11:30AM Main Hall

Our Need for Spiritual Integration in the Second Half of Life

Of our many needs in life - purpose, love, growth, gratitude, forgiveness, service... - spirituality is not simply one more on the list; rather, it permeates and gives meaning to all we do. For our pilgrimage of life is, in its essence, a journey of spirituality, a path that enables us, have we but eyes to see, to encounter God within and without, everywhere we turn. By looking for the gift, the blessing, the presence of God in everything, we discover that our lives themselves are a sacred, holy way. We only need to appreciate the precious time we have to notice. Join us in this MMA session to ponder, wonder, snack(!), and converse about signposts that God has put in our lives, and to practise seeing how our current life journey can open up a fresh and deepened understanding of God's love and presence. Because we are called to do something, to be someone - right now; this is the time.

Presented by Sandra Nelson, parishioner, and inspired by Let This Be the Time, Janet Schaeffler, OP

Tuesday September 23rd 10:00AM to 11:30AM Main Hall

(Rescheduled from June) *Ways to get Stronger and Healthier at Home*

Getting stronger, building muscle and having more energy is possible for everybody. You don't need to go to a fitness centre or invest in expensive equipment. You can exercise when you want in the comfort of your own home. A chair, broomstick and some simple fitness equipment can help you kickstart your day or give you the mid-day break you need. In this talk, Deacon Michael Carrera, a professional fitness trainer and wellness coach will walk you through some practical home-based exercises and answer questions you may have.

Michael Carrera has a masters degree in exercise science and has authored and co-authored four books: Periodization Strength Training for Sports (2nd ed.), The Catholic Workout book and DVD, Conditioning Young Athletes and Soul Winner. Soul Loser. A Remarkable Story of Finding Meaning in the Wisdom of the Day. Two of his books have been translated into multiple languages. Michael was recently ordained a Permanent Deacon for the Archdiocese of Toronto. He lives in Toronto, Canada, with his wife and four children.

Save the Dates: October 7th and October 21st

SAVE THE DATE - 16TH ANNUAL LINDA'S WALK ~ SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025



16th Annual Linda's Walk ~Saturday, September 27, 2025
Registration Opens at 9:30 am

Linda's Walk is a family-friendly 5K walk to help homeless women with mental health challenges rebuild their lives. For more information and for Registration, please check the website at: stclareinn.com



THE CATHOLIC REGISTER - PICK UP YOUR FREE COPY AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH

We invite you to pick up your free copy of The Catholic Register.
This Catholic publication is printed weekly and is now available for distribution at our parish.

SAVE THE DATE - CWL ANNUAL FLEA MARKET, SATURDAY OCTOBER 25

Items can be dropped off on Thursday & Friday, October 23 & 24 at the Parish Centre, Kitchen Door.
Please *do not* drop off items at the Parish Office prior to this date.
Come to shop on Saturday, October 25. More information to come!

COMMUNITY BBQ - SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 FROM 1:30 TO 4:30 PM, CHURCH GROUNDS



COME ONE, COME ALL TO THE ANNUAL
Knights of Columbus • St. Bonaventure



COMMUNITY BBQ



FUN • FOOD • COMMUNITY SPIRIT
September 14, 2025 • 1:30–4:30 pm



St. Bonaventure Church Grounds
1300 Leslie Street

TICKETS \$7 per person

**Available at the parish office, after weekend
mass: Sep 6-7 or the day of the event**

Local residents and Parish members are all welcome.

This BBQ is not just about great food and fun; it's about coming together as a community. Whether you're a regular at St. Bonaventure or just curious to see what we're all about, we welcome you with open arms. Meet your neighbors and make new friends in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

DELICIOUS BBQ MENU

Savor a variety of grilled favourites and tasty sides. Choice of hamburgers, sausage, hot dogs; plus corn on the cob.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Enjoy music and performances that will keep the energy high and the smiles wide.

FAMILY FUN

Games and activities for all ages, ensuring a fun-filled day for everyone.

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRIES



goodshepherd.ca Good Shepherd Ministries' mission is to be present to the homeless and most neglected members of our community. They offer a broad range of compassionate programs and services to enhance the quality of life while inspiring hope and promoting human dignity.

SPREAD THE WORD!

Please share this invitation with friends, family, and neighbors.
The more, the merrier! We can't wait to see you there!
for more information, contact us at KoCC5080@outlook.com

CONTACT US

Ministry Centre (Office)

1300 Leslie Street
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9
Office: 416-447-5571

Pastor

Fr. Thomas Reist, OFM Conv.
Ext. 234
ftrtom@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
Ext. 550
trena@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

1340 Leslie Street
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9 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

“Whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.” ~ Luke 14:27

“It is not the act of a good disciple,” says Saint John of the Cross, “to flee from the cross in order to enjoy the sweetness of an easy piety.” So here above all, by the crucifix and what it means to us, we test the quality of our discipleship. What we think about the cross means ultimately what we think about life, for “seek where you will,” says à Kempis, “everywhere you will find the cross.” And when you have found it, what are you going to do about it? That is the question: look at it with horror or with adoration?

It has been said that the whole life of Christ was a cross. I think that saying does grave injustice to its richness of response, to the real expansion and joy and beauty of His contacts with nature, children, friends; the true happiness we find again in the saints nearest to Him; the hours snatched for the deep joy of prayer and communion; the outburst of rejoicing when He discerns the Father’s will. But it was the deep happiness of the entirely self-abandoned, not the easy shallow satisfaction of those who live to express themselves and enjoy themselves; that perfect joy which Saint Francis rediscovered in abjection; and which was ratified on Le Verna when he was caught into the supernatural order and sealed with the wounds of Christ.

There is a marked contrast between the first phase of the ministry with its confident movement within the natural world; mending what is wrong with it, using what is right in it and sharing the social life of men, and that after the Transfiguration, the second phase, with its sense of a deepening conflict with that easy, happy world; the conviction that what is deeply wrong with it can only be mended by sacrifice; that the suffering servant is the one who serves His brethren best. “Take up the cross if you wish to follow me!” The spiritually natural life is charming, but it stops short of all that God asks for the really surrendered soul.

It was in the Passion, says Saint John of the Cross, that Christ “finished that supreme work which His whole life, its miracles and works of power, had not accomplished: the union and reconciliation of human nature with the life of God.” Here we learn all that it means to acknowledge Him as our Way, our Truth, and our Life. I suppose no soul of any sensitiveness can live through Holy Week without an awed and grateful sense of being incorporated in a mystery of self-giving love which yet remains far beyond our span.

From Eveyln Underhill’s “Light of Christ” as quoted at:
<https://thevalueofsparrows.wordpress.com/2015/04/03/lent-the-cross-and-its-demands-by-evelyn-underhill/>

May the Lord bless you and keep you!