

*Growing
in Spirit,
Community,
and Service*

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,
appointments only.**

Saturday:

3 pm to 7 pm

**1300 Leslie Street,
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9**

Tel: 416.447.5571

Fax: 416.447.4082

www.st-bonaventure.ca

*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 11, 2024*

Bonnie News

Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure



"Jesus Heals a Leper", From the manuscript Sermons of Maurice de Sully, Italian (Milan or Genoa), 1320-1330. Paris, Bibliotheque nationale de France, MS Francais 187, fol. 6v.

O my Creator!

Consume the thorns of all my offences.
Make clean my soul, make holy my mind,
nail down my being in respect of your name,
ever keep watch, guard and protect me
from every act and word that destroys the soul.
Make me holy, make me clean, set me in order.
Make me comely, give me understanding, give me light.
Make me a worthy temple of your Holy Spirit,
no more a temple of sin,
but a child of light.

You alone are the shining brightness of souls,
and to you, as God and Master,
we give all glory every day of our lives.

-Simeon the New Theologian, 10th Century, from *The Hodder Book of Christian Prayers*, compiled by Tony Castle. Published by Hodder and Stoughton Limited, 1986.

NEW MINISTRY CENTRE HOURS

Please note, we have posted new hours for the Ministry Centre (parish office). They are: Sundays from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm; Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:30 am to 4 pm; and Saturdays from 3 pm to 7 pm. The Ministry Centre will be closed on Thursdays (meetings by appointment only).

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, February 12	9 AM	† Emmanuel Ifurung
Tuesday, February 13	9 AM	† Josephine Smullem
Wednesday, February 14	9 AM	† Lily F.W. Chiu
	7 PM	† Myrna Haverty
Thursday, February 15	9 AM	† Patrick & June Burns
Friday, February 16	9 AM	The Parishioners Jacob Vot Ruba † Grazia Maida † George Leung † Murial Noronha Intentions of Bernie McGrath
Saturday, February 17	5 PM	† Bernard Holmes
Sunday, February 18	8:30 AM	† Paul Tang
	10 AM	In thanksgiving, birthdays of Aileen and Eric Geromo
	12 PM	† Maria Esperanza Godoy Crespo
Sanctuary Lamps	Bl. Sac.	Intentions of Catherine Chang
	Bl. Sac.	Intentions of Kevin Daly
	O.L. Chapel	Intentions of the Lawless Family

32ND WORLD DAY OF THE SICK ~ MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS (EXCERPT)

Brothers and sisters, the first form of care needed in any illness is compassionate and loving closeness. To care for the sick thus means above all to care for their relationships, all of them: with God, with others - family members, friends, healthcare workers - , with creation and with themselves. Can this be done? Yes, it can be done and all of us are called to ensure that it happens. Let us look to the icon of the Good Samaritan (cf. *Lk* 10:25-37), to his ability to slow down and draw near to another person, to the tender love with which he cares for the wounds of a suffering brother.

Let us remember this central truth in life: we came into the world because someone welcomed us; we were made for love; and we are called to communion and fraternity. This aspect of our lives is what sustains us, above all at times of illness and vulnerability. It is also the first therapy that we must all adopt in order to heal the diseases of the society in which we live.

To those of you who experience illness, whether temporary or chronic, I would say this: Do not be ashamed of your longing for closeness and tenderness! Do not conceal it, and never think that you are a burden on others. The condition of the sick urges all of us to step back from the hectic pace of our lives in order to rediscover ourselves.

At this time of epochal change, we Christians in particular are called to adopt the compassion-filled gaze of Jesus. Let us care for those who suffer and are alone, perhaps marginalized and cast aside. With the love for one another that Christ the Lord bestows on us in prayer, especially in the Eucharist, let us tend the wounds of

solitude and isolation. In this way, we will cooperate in combating the culture of individualism, indifference and waste, and enable the growth of a culture of tenderness and compassion.

To read the whole message from the Holy Father, please go to:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/20240110-giornata-malato.html>

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK ~ FEBRUARY 11 ~ SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The ministry of Jesus to the sick is central to the life of the Church. February 11 (Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes) highlights the healing ministry of the Church. It reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It recognizes the great effort of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated after the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday, February 10 and the 8:30 am Mass on Sunday, February 11 for: those who are experiencing serious illness, were involved in a serious accident, or who are suffering from chronic infirmity or mental illness; those anticipating surgery or major medical tests; and any elderly person, especially when frailty is pronounced.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE MASS WITH ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS LEO - FEBRUARY 11, 2024

As part of Marriage Sunday 2024 celebrations, Archbishop Francis Leo will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2024. The Mass will take place at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond Street, Toronto). All married couples will have an opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass. All are welcome to attend.

Couples celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversaries in 2024 may register for reserved seating. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend at the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass. Registration and other important information can be found at www.archtoronto.org/marriage.

ASH WEDNESDAY ~ FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 14. Masses with imposition of ashes at 9 am (includes the school community) and 7 pm. A Liturgy of the Word with imposition of Ashes at 12 noon.

Ash Wednesday is a universal day of fasting and abstinence from meat. The law of "abstinence from meat" binds those who are 14 and older; the law of "fasting" binds those from 18 to 59 years of age. Parents and educators are reminded of their duty to introduce children gradually to the understanding and practice of penance. The actions modeled by adults will be the greatest influence in this matter. Christian fasting obtains its full meaning when we deprive ourselves of food in order to be more open to prayer, to share more in the suffering of those who are starving and to save money to give to the poor. Fasting is a penitential discipline intended to open our hearts to God and others, a means of purification and spiritual liberation, and a witness of the depth of our faith.

Lent has a dual purpose. It helps catechumens prepare for celebrating Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil and it invites those who are baptized through penance and prayer to prepare to renew their promise of baptismal faith at Easter.

Confessions are heard on a weekly basis on Saturdays from 9 to 10 am in Our Lady's Chapel. In addition, confessions are heard on the first Monday of the month from 1 to 2 pm. Finally, you can always make an appointment with Fr. Peter or Fr. Tom to celebrate this Sacrament in which we encounter our merciful God.

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:

+ *Jim Meyer*, + *Marjorie McGinty*, + *Gerry Devlin*, + *Alice Eaglen*, + *Deanna Andrew*, + *Norman Bell*,
+ *Jean-Gabriel Castel*, + *Romi Walsh*, + *Brigid O'Rourke*, + *Joyce Dias Lamoureux*,
+ *Joan Watson* and + *Matt Gleeson*.

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.

ONLINE RESOURCES FOR LENTEN PRAYER, REFLECTION AND RETREATS

From Pray as you Go: "The Cry from the Cross." The retreat will begin on Wednesday 14th February, with subsequent sessions released weekly on Mondays throughout Lent.

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/series/68-thecryfromthecross>

From Redemptorist Publications (UK): "A Word for Lent Retreat 2024" Online Streaming. Join Fr Denis McBride & Sr Janet Fearn this Lent as they invite you on a journey, a journey with Jesus. Pause for reflection and deeper personal prayer travelling through the Lenten Sunday Gospel with A Word for Lent. This new video series has been created to accompany their best-selling book. Purchase both the book and video to join them on the journey.

<https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/a-word-for-lent-retreat-2024-online-streaming>

Gregorian University Foundation 2024 Lenten Retreat FINDING AND CULTIVATING HOPE IN DIFFICULT TIMES Reflections drawn from the Gospel as well as from personal experiences that can offer participants inspiration, motives and practices for finding and cultivating hope this Lenten season.

<https://gregorianfoundation.org/lenten-retreat-2024/>

Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns: Lenten Reflection Guide 2024: Caring for Creation. Join us for prayer this Lent with reflections on the readings from Ash Wednesday February 14 through Palm Sunday, March 24th. The 2024 Lenten Reflection Guide: Caring for Creation contains reflections, questions, prayers, fasts, and actions based on each week's Gospel reading and the experience of Maryknoll missionaries who have lived and worked with marginalized communities around the world. We invite you to use this guide individually or in small groups to reflect upon your life patterns, to pray more deeply, and renew your spirit to face the realities of our world.

<https://maryknollogc.org/resources/seasonal-scripture-guide/lenten-reflection-guide-2024-caring-creation>

HELPING OTHERS

SHARELIFE 2023 CAMPAIGN RESULTS



Congratulations!

Our parish exceeded our goal of \$94,000 and raised: \$109,555.70.

Thank you for your extreme generosity!

Your support for ShareLife brought the hands of Christ to those in need.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



SERVING IN HOPE. Vincentians 'Serve in Hope' because we are called to bring the love of God and the compassion of Jesus to people in need. St. Vincent said, "God demands first the heart, then the work". It is only with our heart that we can bring compassion, respect and devotion to members of our community who are vulnerable and marginalized.



By visiting people in need in their homes and walking alongside to guide them to resources to break the cycle of poverty, we give them hope for the future.

Your generous donations to our poor boxes and through Canada Helps do help us make a difference. Thank you!

Our confidential helpline is: **416-447-5571 Ext. 570.**

In addition to donating through our poor boxes located at our three main exits, online donations can be made securely through our QR code or the following link:

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

Tax Receipts for SSVV donations have been mailed out this past week.

Thank you to all who have donated to help our neighbours in need. Please note that by using a SSVV envelope you receive a tax receipt for \$20 or more in a calendar year. May God Bless your kind hearts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH FROM 3 - 7 PM, MAIN HALL

Upcoming donation event

Location: St. Bonaventure's Parish

Date: Thurs, Feb 15, 2024

Time: 3:00pm - 7:00pm

**New donors are needed every day.
Book now at [blood.ca](https://www.blood.ca)**



Donating Blood

About an hour of your time could change someone's life.

Blood and blood products are a critical part of everyday medical care including major surgeries, medical procedures, cancer treatments and managing diseases and disorders. As a blood donor you form a vital link in Canada's lifeline, helping many Canadians wake up healthy each day.

There is still time for you to help! If you haven't yet registered to donate blood, please do so by following the steps below. The best time for walk-in appointments is between 4pm and 6 pm.

Individuals that are interested in donating blood can book an appointment these ways:

- Download the GiveBlood App - Click BOOK under Whole Blood and search St. Bonaventure's Church. (You can also add in Feb 15, 2024, as the date to aid in the search)
- Go to Blood.ca - Click BOOK NOW at top right and search St. Bonaventure's Church (Click Advanced search tab in middle left adding in Feb 15, 2024, as the date with the location typed in will help bring it up faster as it is a few months away!)
- Call 1-888-2-DONATE (1-888-236-6283) to book a blood donation appointment on Feb 15, 2024, at St. Bonaventure's Church! CBS will do all the work over the phone to book the appointment for donors.

MINISTRY WITH MATURING ADULTS

**Nurturing Our Spirituality in the Second Half of Life
With a Focus on Care of the Body, Mind and Spirit**



In Person Meeting

Coffee and Conversation: 9:45 - 10:00 am, Meeting: 10:00 - 11:30 am

February 13, 2024: Eucharistic Worship and Synodality: The Mass as central to our Journey Together

Presented by Gregory Beath

As the Bishops and lay representatives discern how to develop a Church that is more synodal, we can ask: in what ways does our celebration of Eucharist help us to live the communion, participation and mission envisioned in a Church that journeys together?

Greg is your “resident” pastoral associate responsible for developing faith formation at St. Bonaventure’s Church. Presently, he is focused on helping people enter the life of the Church through the evangelization and catechesis envisioned by the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. He also supports parents in their vital role in the sacramental preparation of their children and their fostering faith in the home. He doesn’t do this alone but works with dedicated groups of fabulous volunteers. He has been supporting parish ministry here and throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto for over 22 years. He and his family became parishioners of St. Bonaventure’s in the early 1980’s.

February 27, 2024: The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Lenten Reflection on the book of Henri J. M. Nouwen and the painting of Rembrandt

The morning will include presentation, music, prayer, small group sharing and a time for reflection as we explore a man captivated by a painting and the road travelled

Facilitated by Trena Finnegan, Coordinator, Ministry with Maturing Adults at St. Bonaventure Parish

Save the dates: March 12 and March 26!

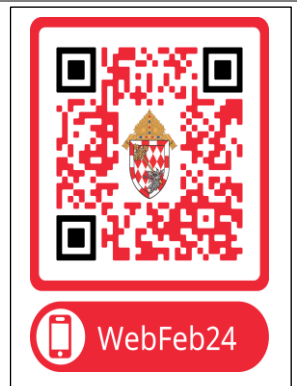
CATHOLIC ESTATE PLANNING WEBINAR - SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2024 AT 9 AM

FREE CATHOLIC ESTATE PLANNING WEBINAR

- **How to avoid problems:** in your Will, in the Powers of Attorney, and through proper Estate Trustee selection
- **How to create your own legacy**
- **About our Catholic traditions around cremation, burials and funerals**

3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

1. scan this QR code:
2. follow this QR link: <https://QRCO.de/WebFeb24>
3. send an email to: Development@ArchToronto.org and write “webinar February 24” in the title line + your name(s) in the body of the message.



CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES OF TORONTO - BREATHING SPACE ONLINE CAREGIVER PROGRAM



Breathing Space is an open 6-week support group to learn skills, develop coping strategies, and provide you support and resources in a safe, welcoming, and non-judgmental environment.

Wednesdays from 2-3 p.m. Online groups on Zoom **For further information and to register, please contact Corina Sumaway, Email: csumaway@cfstoronto.com / Phone: 416-921-1163 ext. 2230**

SAVE THE DATE - LENTEN RETREAT - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 AT 1 PM, MAIN HALL

Save the Date

The Lenten Retreat takes place on

**Sunday, February 25th at 1 pm, after the noon Mass.
Guest Speaker: Fr. Thomas Reist, OFM Conv.**

**All are welcome to attend! Sponsored by the CWL.
More information to follow!**

CWL -THE JEAN MCCANN SERVICE AWARD FOR YOUTH

This award recognizes and affirms the role played in our Parishes by our confirmed Catholic youth (**ages 15-18**). This award emphasizes the necessity of service to others and shows appreciation to those young people who are taking the gospel message seriously. The applicant's written submission must **1)** describe involvement with family, school, community, parish and other activities, **2)** explain how he/she uses his/her talents in witnessing Christ and **3)** tell us about his/her future plans and anything else that he/she wishes us to know.

Students interested in receiving detailed information re this contest can contact Céline Massaroni at cmassaroni10@sympatico.ca. submissions are due by **February 25, 2024**.

2024 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE - ALL PARISHIONERS INVITED!

March 16, 2024, at 10:30 AM
Reception to Follow
Donway Baptist Church, 235 The Donway East

World Day of Prayer events, held at numerous GTA churches, are coordinated by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada ("WICC"), an ecumenical organization whose mission is to empower Christians to pursue worldwide justice, peace and reconciliation through prayer and prayerful action. Donations collected on the WDP days are distributed by WICC as grants to worthy initiatives working throughout the world to improve the lives of women. This year's service, in which St. Bonaventure's and 5 other Don Mills churches will participate, focuses on Palestine. The prayer service was written by Christian Palestinian women, centred around Ephesians 4: 1-3 "I Beg You...Bear with One Another with Love."

We hope that you can attend this very special prayer service and enjoy the reception afterwards celebrating Palestine's very rich history, culture, music, and cuisine. Please contact Jill Tonus at jilltonus@gmail.com with any questions or if you would like to attend.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

The Knights of Columbus invite all parishioner students in grades 8-12 to participate in the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. The theme, "*How can the Church evangelize in the digital age?*" prompts reflections on leveraging technology for spreading the Word. Submit a 500 to 750-word essay with parental consent by **May 15th, 2024**, at the Parish Office. Entry forms and guideline are available at the back of the church or parish office. All participants will be recognized, and winners announced in June.

This is a valuable opportunity to showcase writing skills and reflect on the Church's role in the digital age. We encourage your participation to foster understanding of the Church's evolving mission. Good luck!

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

St. Anthony of Padua Mission Aid
1320 Leslie Street, Suite 100
Toronto, ON M3C 2K9
416-690-9904
www.saintanthonyofpadua.net

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/>

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
416-447-5571 ext. 570

Casseroles for the Good Shepherd Centre, contact
casseroles@st-bonaventure.ca

REFLECTION

“A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, ‘If you choose, you can make me clean.’ Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, ‘I do choose. Be made clean!’ Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean.”
~ Mark 1:40-42

The pity of God is immense and profound. It is like a fresh wind that comes up suddenly on a torrid day. It is like a cool evening, when the sky is pink and blue and red, and beautiful to behold. It is as gentle as a loving mother rocking a cradle. It is like oil that softens the heart.

If we let God’s pity penetrate the deepest levels of our being, so many painful things will disappear. If we allow the gentleness of Christ to take hold of us, so many of our inner hurts, fears and negative emotions can be assuaged. We will find our depression lifting, for it is Christ himself who visits the very depths of our heart. Having lifted up the crushed and bruised soul, he embraces the whole person, and speaks words of tender affection. Even sin can be burned up in this pity, for God loves sinners.

If we enter into the divine pity, we will ourselves be able to extend it towards others, embracing them, holding them, and calling them “Brother, sister, friend.”

~ A Meditation by Catherine De Hueck Doherty, founder of the Madonna House Apostolate

May the Lord bless you and keep you!