

Join our Parish: Pick-up a registration form at the church, Ministry Centre or download online.

Baptism of Infants: One Sunday every month. Request forms are on the website, at the back of the church or at the Ministry centre.

Becoming Catholic (RCIA): For those not baptized, those baptized in another Christian tradition and those baptized Catholic but have not completed their initiation, a process of becoming Catholic involving prayer, inquiry and study is available. Please contact **Greg**, our Lay Pastoral Associate.

School-aged children: Preparation of children for the celebration of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation is provided through our parish program. Further information will be provided in the bulletin during the school year.

Marriage: Contact **Friar Dennis** or **Friar Peter** at least one year before the desired date. Couples need to participate in a Marriage Preparation Course.

Religious Life: For more information and assistance in discerning a call to the consecrated religious life, priesthood or diaconate please see one of the friars.

Pastoral Care: Ministers of the Eucharist bring Communion to the homebound. Contact the Ministry Centre to make arrangements.

Private Prayer: Contact **Friar Boniface** at 416-447-5571 ext. 500

Spiritual Direction: Contact **Friar Mark** at friarmsteed2015@gmail.com

Prayer Network: Members pray daily for intentions held in confidence. Contact **Lois Theriault** at 416-447-7466

Funeral: Please contact the Ministry Centre and we will assist you in planning the liturgical services.

Ministry Centre Contacts - (416-447-5571)

Pastor: Friar Dennis J. Mason, OFM Conv.

Ext. 234

Associate Pastor: Friar Peter Knaapen, OFM Conv.

Ext. 233, frpeter@st-bonaventure.ca

Parish Manager: Connie Durante

Ext. 224, connie.durante@st-bonaventure.ca

Lay Pastoral Associate: Greg Beath

Ext. 258, gregb@st-bonaventure.ca

Minister, Maturing Adults: Maureen McDonnell

Ext. 550, maureen@st-bonaventure.ca

Pastoral Assistant: Nimfa Chua

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Deacon: Sal Badali

deaconsal1994@hotmail.com

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1320 Leslie Street, Suite 200

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Franciscan Ministries:

1320 Leslie Street, Suite 200

416-690-5611

St. Anthony of Padua Mission Aid:

1320 Leslie Street, Suite 100

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416-690-9904

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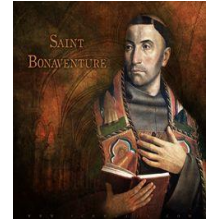
Telephone: 416-447-5571 Fax: 416-447-4082

Website: www.st-bonaventure.ca



YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT ST. BONAVENTURE

GROWING IN SPIRIT, COMMUNITY AND SERVICE
Inspired by St. Francis we seek to live and proclaim the gospel in our daily lives, responding to the spiritual hungers of the community and becoming an oasis of peace, prayer and service.



December 23rd, 2018 ~ The Fourth Sunday of Advent



The infant "leaped for joy" in Elizabeth's womb at the recognition of the soon to be born saviour.

Pope Francis says Mary not only carries the gift of Jesus to Elizabeth, but to all of humanity. Jesus takes human flesh from Mary for His mission of salvation because she is humble.

.... When Mary arrives, joy overflows and gushes from their hearts, because the invisible but real presence of Jesus fills everything with meaning: life, family, the salvation of the people. Everything! This joy is expressed in the *Magnificat*. It is a song of praise to God who works great things through humble people, unknown to the world, as is Mary herself, as is her spouse Joseph, and as is the place where they live, Nazareth.

The great things God has done with humble people, the great things the Lord does in the world with the humble, because humility is like a vacuum that leaves room for God. ... I would like to ask you – and also myself – but do not answer out loud – each of you respond in your heart: "How is my humility"?

Pope Francis Angelus Saint Peter's Square: Tuesday, August 15, 2017
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Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 22nd - Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 23rd - Regular Sunday Mass
8:30 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 noon

The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24th - 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm and
10:00 pm

Christmas Carols before the 7 pm and 10 pm Masses

Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 25th - 10:00 am and 12:00 pm

Boxing Day

Wednesday, December 26th – 9:00 am Mass

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 29th -Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm

Sunday, December 30th - Regular Sunday Mass
8:30 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 noon

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

New Year's Eve

Monday, December 31st -5:00 pm

New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 1st, 2019 -10:00 am only

Ministry Centre Holiday Hours

Saturday, December 22 2:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 23 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Monday, December 24 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Tuesday, December 25 Closed

Wednesday, December 26 Closed

Thursday, December 27 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Friday, December 28 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Saturday, December 29 2:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 30 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Monday, December 31st Closed

Tuesday, January 1st, 2019 Closed

Psalm 80 ~ God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us, and we shall be saved.

This Week in Our Parish Hall

Monday, December 24 – Christmas Eve
Ministry Centre is open-9:00 am to 1:00 pm only
Tuesday, December 25- Christmas Day
Ministry Centre is Closed
Wednesday, December 26
Ministry Centre is closed
7:30 pm Alcoholic Anonymous/Francis Room
Saturday, December 29
9:30 am Christian Meditation/Oak Room
9:30 am Al Anon Group/Bonaventure Room

“Warmth and Comfort”

The CWL is embarking on a CWL Toronto Archdiocesan project called ‘Warmth and Comfort’ asking parishioners to donate jars of peanut butter and boxes of crackers to be given to homeless shelters in our city. And will continue collecting these items through **December 31st**. ‘Peanut Butter and Crackers’ collection boxes are placed at the back of the church for your donations. Thank you for helping feed the homeless with these nutritious snacks.

Casseroles for the Good Shepherd Centre

The deadline for the casseroles is Sunday, **December 23rd**. Next month’s deadline is **January 27, 2019**. Drop off your casseroles at the Ministry Centre. If you can spare some time to make a casserole each month, contact **Eva Trace** at **416-447-3040**

Year End Dates

The last date for processing any donations to be included in your 2018 Charitable Donations Tax Receipt is December 31, 2018. Please ensure that any donations are received in our office, or post marked by December 31st. This includes any Family of Faith Campaign donations. Please call the Ministry Centre for information or any questions.

2019 Offertory Envelopes

Last year, we had a significant number of boxes that were never picked up. Some parishioners were using previous years’ envelopes with outdated numbers. After careful consideration, and in consultation with the Parish Finance Committee, we decided to mail the 2019 offertory envelopes out to our parishioners.

Envelopes will be mailed out each quarter, 4 times per year. They will include the regular Sunday offertory envelopes and the second collection envelopes. Each envelope will be preprinted with your name and mailing address as well as your envelope number. You only need to print the amount of your offering.

Although there seems to be more cost associated with the mailing, the reality is that the envelopes are going directly to those that use them and the preprinting with names improves our administration and recording of donations.

We will have extra blank envelopes at the back of the church and an update form in case you have not received your envelopes.

Thank you for your patience as we implement this new system!

Community Life

And Now, A Word from Our Pastor

Last weekend a group of our little ones celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Nervousness mixed with smiles and even brought some laughter. And why not? What better response can we have to the merciful love of God than grateful joy? The Book of Isaiah, the Old Testament prophet, tell us “A little child shall lead them.” Congratulations and thank you to our children who led us by their example to experience God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Many thanks to Mr. Greg Beath, our Lay Pastoral associate, who directed our children’s preparation and to our parents who taught the children not only with their words but with their example to seek the Lord. Thanks also to our catechists: *Bonnie Beverley, Waveney Duarte, Alex Lee, Maria Liberta, Isabel Mckensie, Cathy Notarius and Maria Small*, and volunteers who brought the care of our Parish Community to our children and their families.

P.S.: We celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday at 4:00 pm in church. If that time doesn’t work for you, please give a call to the parish office and one of the friars will be happy to meet with you for the Sacrament.

DID YOU KNOW?

Does it bother you that on December 26 all the sounds and sights of Christmas has disappeared? Radio stations return to their normal fare of music with all hints of “Joy to the world” silenced for another year. Everywhere Christmas quickly fades into memory Everywhere except in the churches and homes of Catholics. The Missal, the official prayer book of the Church teaches us that:

The Church holds sacred the memorial of Christ’s birth and early manifestations throughout the Christmas season. The season runs from the Vigil of Christmas (Dec. 24) until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Jan.13)

The Christmas feast is extended through an entire season. For eight full days after Dec. 25 the people of God celebrate Christmas every day in our Liturgy. After the 8-day Octave, the celebrations continue drawing our attention to the God who was born as a member of a human family (Dec. 30 – Feast of the Holy Family) from a human Mother (Jan. 1: The Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God). The season continues as we recognize the Child who revealed Himself as Saviour of all nations (Jan. 6: The Solemnity of the Epiphany) and concludes with the Father proclaiming Jesus to be His Own Beloved Son (Jan. 13: The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.)

The world may banish the sounds of Christmas, but the Catholic people continue to sing of God become human. Decorations may disappear from the stores, but our churches and homes continue to be bedecked with some signs of the season: the greens of Life, the Lights of the Star, the flames of God’s love. After the feast the world soon returns to the darkness and cold of winter, but Catholics continue to hold up a new hope for a dark, cold world. Our Christmas Season becomes a Spring in the midst of winter. Through the celebrations of the Christmas Season, in church and at home, we proclaim: The Light and warmth of the love of God have conquered; for to us a Child is born; God is with us.

The long vigil of Advent preparation is now completed. Having prepared so well, can we also maintain the spirit and celebrate well? Christmas is not a day, it’s a season. Let the candles be lit. Let the carols be sung. Let the New Spring spread out with holiday meals and visits and worship. Let the world know the reason for our joy and hope: We are not alone. God is with us.

‘Vocation Seeds’

Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 23, 2018
Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest or religious or deacon to carry the Good News of God’s great LOVE? If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon visit the website: www.vocationtoronto.ca; www.franciscans.org or speak with one of the friars.

Mass Intentions

Dec. 24 Monday	4:00 pm	Intentions of the Parishioners
	7:00 pm	Intentions of the Parishioners
	10:00 pm	Intentions of the Parishioners
Dec. 25 Tuesday	10:00 am	Intentions of the Parishioners
	12:00 pm	Intentions of the Parishioners
Dec. 26 Wednesday	9:00 am	†Cathy Valenti
Dec. 27 Thursday	9:00 am	†Percival & †Charlotte Pinheiro
Dec. 28 Friday	9:00 am	Rochelle Labrador
		Special Int. of Gwen Fitzgerald
		Thanksgiving Intentions
		Rose Marie Zupan
		Paul and Coby
		Selena Perusco
Dec. 29 Saturday	5:00 pm	†Leoncio and †Maria Gique
Dec. 30 Sunday	8:30 am	Intentions of the Parishioners
	10:00 am	†Delkar Maia
	12:00 pm	†Andrea Tomcik

Prayer Intentions

Sanctuary Lamp 1: †Peter Glowczewski
Sanctuary Lamp 2: Personal Intentions

For the Sick:

Jennifer Khayat, Deanna Andrew, Bonnie Beverley, Mabel Lim, Tony Guiney, Alfonz Pavli, Maggie Marquis, Raymund Fung, Teresita Peiris, Kay Corner, Dorothy Lord, Michael Morra, Mary DiGregorio, Liliana De Las Mercedes Vazquez, and Elisabetta Schiavone

For the Deceased: Denise De Montbrun, Myrtle Ou-Tim and Eric Clegg

Stewardship: A Way of Living

December 16th Offertory Collections

Thank you for your generous donations.

Regular Collection	\$ 10,303.90
Flowers for Christmas	\$ 100.00
St. Clare Inn Offering	\$ 540.00
Pre-Authorized Giving	\$ 2,926.00
Donate Now	\$ 328.00

Parking Lot

During this busy season, please obey the traffic signs and practice patience as you are entering and leaving the parking lot. Please be extra careful and watch for children and pedestrians. Please consider parking at the Toronto Botanical Gardens and walking to the church. This will leave parking for our senior members and our young families.

On the **weekend of December 29 – 30** St. Francis Council of the Knights of Columbus will help us to offer prayer for nuclear families, extended families, adoptive families, blended families, families who know division and families who experience mourning. The Knights will provide us with a prayer we will offer during the Liturgy calling upon the intercession of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. *May the Holy Family bring a spirit of gratitude where there is peace and peace where there are troubles. May they be hope for the future and healing for hurt.*

Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 23, 2018 *Obedience to God’s Will*

Elizabeth said, “Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.” (Luke 1:45)

Micah 5;1-4a – Restoration through the messiah

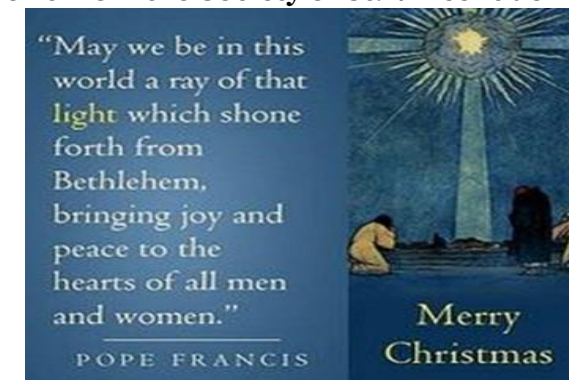
Hebrews 10:5-10 – The second covenant

Luke 1:39-45 – The visit to Elizabeth

Adults: When was it hardest for you to trust in God’s plan for you, as Mary did?

Kids: When is it hardest for you to obey a parent or teacher? What can help you obey with more trust?

News from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul



Thank you for your support at Christmas and throughout the year.

