

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 18, 2011

# Bonnie News

*Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure*

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*Growing  
in Spirit,  
Community,  
and Service*

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franciscans.org

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## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



### Christmas Eve

*Saturday, December 24*  
5:00 pm Children's Mass  
8:00 pm Mass  
12:00 am Midnight Mass

### Christmas Day

*Sunday, December 25*  
Mass at 8:30 am & 10:00 am  
12:00 noon

### Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

*Saturday December 31*  
*New Year's Eve*  
Mass at 5:00 pm

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

*Sunday, January 1*  
*New Year's Day*  
Mass at 8:30 am, 10:00 am  
& 12:00 pm

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## LITURGY

### Advent Reconciliation Service

*Monday, December 19, 7:30 pm*  
Join us for a communal celebration of God's Mercy in preparation for Christmas. During our celebration there will be an opportunity for individual confessions and absolution.

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## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Concert & Live Nativity Success!

Thanks to everyone who so generously donated their time and energy to bring the story of Jesus' birth to life as St. Francis did. We applaud all who made this event possible; those who put up the fence and looked after costumes, the actors, musicians and those who organized the reception and did the clean-up. Thank you for ensuring that this special St. Bonaventure tradition continues.

Contact [jonathan@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:jonathan@st-bonaventure.ca)  
or [facebook.com/bonaventure.youth](https://www.facebook.com/bonaventure.youth)  
to find out more about our  
Youth Ministry.



## GROWING IN *Spirit, Community, and Service*

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### ADULT FAITH FORMATION

#### **Marriage Preparation Program**

*Thursdays, January 19 to March 1*

Couples who plan to marry in the Catholic Church must take a marriage preparation program. Couples will learn about communication, foundations for a successful marriage and the meaning of the Sacrament of Matrimony. Register on our website.

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### STEWARDSHIP

#### **Offertory Collection - Week of December 11**

Offertory Collection: \$9106

Pre-authorized Giving Donations: \$3311

Weekly Expenses: \$15,888

Thank you for your generous donations.

#### **Christmas Collection**

Our Christmas collection represents a significant portion of the parish income and unfortunately, when it coincides with a regular Sunday collection, our parish experiences a shortfall. We ask you to keep this in mind when planning your Christmas giving. This year as Christmas falls on a Sunday, therefore there will be two collections, the regular Sunday collection and the collection for Christmas offerings. Special envelopes for Christmas offerings are included in your box of offertory envelopes. They are also available at the back of the church.

#### **2011 Tax Receipts**

Thanks for your continuing support of our many parish ministries in 2011. Donations must be received no later than **December 29, 2011**, to be included in your 2011 charitable donations receipt for income tax purposes.

#### **2012 Sunday Offering Envelopes Ready for Pick-up in the Church**

Thanks to those who picked up their envelopes last weekend. St. Bonaventure's Parish counts on your continued kindness and generosity in support of our efforts, so please pick-up your envelopes as soon as possible. If there is a problem finding your box of envelopes or there is an error in your address, etc. contact the Ministry Centre.

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### PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

#### **Good Shepherd Centre Casseroles: Provide a Meal Program**

If you haven't dropped off your casserole yet, please bring it to the Ministry Centre by Sunday, December 18. If you would like to find out how you can help feed the hungry, contact Eva Trace, 416.447.3040.

#### **Knights of Columbus Advent Sock Drive Ends December 18**

The sock drive is going well thanks to your generosity. There is still time to support the sock drive. Donations of new, unwrapped socks can be left in the box marked "Advent Sock Drive" at the back of the church.

## GROWING IN *Spirit, Community, and Service*

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### COMMUNITY LIFE

#### Ministry Centre Christmas Hours

Friday December 23	closed
Saturday December 24	closed at noon
Sunday, December 25 & Monday, December 26	closed

You can always contact the friars in a life-threatening emergency that requires a priest. Emergency contact information is on the Ministry Centre voice mail system, 416.447.5571, and website [www.st-bonaventure.ca](http://www.st-bonaventure.ca) along with the normal contact information.

#### Prayer Requests

Call Lois Theriault 416.447.7466 or Friar Boniface, 416.447.5571, for private prayer.

#### Christmas – A Time to Remember Loved Ones, Both Here and in Heaven

*After the loss of a loved one, the holiday season brings special memories and tender moments of sadness.  
Yet we trust that, through God's healing touch,  
Christmases yet to come will once again be filled with hope and joy.  
May God hold you in love and peace during this holiday season  
and throughout the coming year.*

Let us remember to pray for all our deceased loved ones and members of our parish community, especially those who the Father has called home during the month of December: † Sandra Acero.

LITURGY		THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH		COMMUNITY LIFE	
9:00 am	Personal Intention	Monday	6:00 pm	Sparks/Francis Room	
7:30 pm	Reconciliation Service	December 19	6:15 pm	Brownies/ Bonaventure Room	
9:00 am	Vocations	Tuesday	7:30 pm	Small Faith Sharing/ Bonaventure Room	
		December 20			
9:00 am	† Alf Cockburn	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Inquiry Meeting/Oak Room	
		December 21	8:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous/Francis Room	
9:00 am	† Clarita Dayot	Thursday	7:00 pm	Brownies/Bonaventure Room	
		December 22			
9:00 am	Personal Intention	Friday			
		December 23			
9:00 am	† Carmel O'Byrne	Saturday	9:30 am	Christian Meditation/Oak Room	
5:00 pm	Parishioners	December 24	10:00 am	Al-Anon/ Bonaventure Room	
8:00 pm	Parishioners				
12:00 am	Parishioners				
8:30 am	Parishioners	Sunday			
10:00 am	Parishioners	December 25			
12:00 pm	Parishioners				

Sanctuary Lamp: Friar Tom Purcell  
Vigil Candle: Anna Marziliano



***O Come, O Come Emmanuel***  
**The Ancient Prayer of the Church**

In anticipation of Christmas, the Church begins to review its vision of Jesus by chanting ancient prayers known now as “The O Antiphons.” Each of these chants recalls a different aspect of the Christ-life to which we are called.

**December 17**

“***O Wisdom***”, the Church prays today in its anticipation of new grace in life. It’s important to realize that wisdom and education are not the same thing. Education provides the experiences we need in order to manage our lives. Wisdom, on the other hand, is what we learn as a result of the experiences we have.

**December 18**

“***O Adonai***,” the Church sings today. “O God of All,” we chant. When we build a vision of life it is necessary to realize that Jesus must be the center of it, not our institutions, good as they may be, not our plans or personal talents, necessary as they are.

**December 19**

“***O Root of Jesse***,” the Church remembers today. It takes generations to build the Christ-vision in the world, just as it took generations after Jesse to prepare for the coming of the Christ. It is our task to root ideas now that will bring the next generation to wholeness.

**December 20**

“***O Key of David***,” we say at Vespers today. We’re all looking for the keys to life- the key to success, the key to happiness, the key to serenity. And we’re always looking for it somewhere else. The problem is that we already have it and don’t recognize it. What key in your present life are you avoiding, resisting, overlooking, rejecting?

**December 21**

“***O Radiant Dawn***,” we chant today. We look for light everywhere. But it was night when the magi saw the vision of his life. That’s what usually happens to us, too. Just when we think that light will never come into our lives again; we begin to see a whole new world around us.

**December 22**

“***O God of All the Earth***,” we pray today. We get a chance today to realize that we are not the beginning and the end of the universe. We are part of a vision of humankind, seen in Jesus, but yet to be achieved in us—a vision of global sharing, universal peace and individual security. If we all want it so much, what is delaying its coming? I’m serious. What is it?

**December 23**

“***O Emmanuel***,” we sing tonight, not so much in hope as in recognition. After all, Jesus—Emmanuel—has already come. It is not a matter now of Christ’s being where we are; it is a matter of our being in the consciousness of where Christ is in life. And where He is not as well? Where is Christ for you this Christmas? And is there a place in your life that you know down deep is not in the spirit of Christ at all?

## OUR MISSION

WE ARE A COMMUNITY of believing people, who have chosen St. Bonaventure's as our spiritual home within the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto.

TOGETHER, inspired by the Franciscan Spirit, we seek to live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our daily lives by becoming a holy people and serving our sisters and brothers for the Glory of God.

## OUR VISION

ST. BONAVENTURE PARISH, the Franciscan Friars and Secular Franciscans working together to respond to the spiritual hungers of the community by becoming an oasis of peace, prayer and service; a little bit of Assisi in Toronto.

**Parish Ministry Centre** 416.447.5571  
MON-THURS 9:00 am - 12:30 pm; 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
FRIDAY CLOSED  
SATURDAY 9:00 am - 6:30 pm - Limited Services  
SUNDAY 9:00 am - 1:30 pm - Limited Services  
WEB SITE: [www.st-bonaventure.ca](http://www.st-bonaventure.ca)

**Eucharist**  
SUNDAY 8:30 am, 10:00 am, 12 noon  
SATURDAY 9:00 am, 5:00 pm (for Sunday)  
MON-FRI 9:00 am (10:00 am Civic Holidays)

**Baptism**  
Celebrated Sunday afternoons, except during Lent, by appointment. Parents need to be registered in the parish and practice their faith on a regular basis. Download baptism request from web site.

**Reconciliation (Confession)**  
SATURDAY 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm or by appointment

**Marriage**  
Contact the Ministry Centre at least one year before the date you would like to be married. The bride or groom must be a registered member of the parish and both need to practice their faith on a regular basis.

**Anointing The Sick**  
Call for the anointing of those who are seriously sick; preferably before entering the hospital.

**Funerals**  
Download our funeral guide to plan a funeral.

**Vocations**  
Visit [Franciscans.org](http://Franciscans.org) for information on vocations to religious life and priesthood

**Justice, Peace & Creation**

- The Franciscan presence at the UN [www.FranciscansInternational.org](http://www.FranciscansInternational.org)
- The Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace: [www.devpo.org](http://www.devpo.org)
- Non-judgemental pregnancy advice: Birthright 416.469.1111
- Adoption: [www.canadaadopts.com](http://www.canadaadopts.com)



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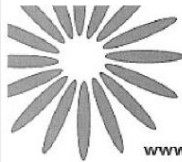
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