

Week Day Liturgy: Monday to Friday, 9:00 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday, 4:00 pm
Sunday Liturgy: Saturday Vigil, 5:00 pm
Sunday, 8:30 am, 10:00 am
and 12 noon

Ministry Centre Hours
Monday to Thursday: 9 am to 4:30 pm
Friday: 9 am to 3 pm
Closed for lunch: 12:30 to 1:30 pm
Saturday: 2 pm to 6:30 pm
Sunday: 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

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

Deacon: Sal Badali
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Parish Manager: Connie Durante
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Lay Pastoral Associate: Greg Beath
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Minister, Maturing Adults: Maureen McDonnell
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Pastoral Assistant: Nimfa Chua
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416-690-0330
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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

St. Bonaventure Catholic School
1340 Leslie Street, Toronto ON. M3C 2K9
Phone: 416-393-5263 Fax: 416-393-5117

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

Advent Mealtime Prayer When We Light the Advent Wreath



Week 1 ~ Father, St. Paul spoke Your Word and said: "The day is near." As You bless our food, bless our hearts. May Your Holy Spirit stir up eagerness in our hearts as we prepare to celebrate God-with-us on Christmas Day. Amen.

Week 2 ~ Father, St. Paul spoke Your Word and said: "Welcome one another." As You bless our food, bless our hearts. As we prepare to welcome Jesus, who was born in Bethlehem, may Your Holy Spirit help us to welcome others with kindness. Amen.

Week 3 ~ Father, St. James spoke Your Word and said: "Be patient." As You bless our food, bless our hearts. As we draw close to Christmas, may Your Holy Spirit help us to be patient with one another and patient with ourselves. Amen.

Week 4 ~ Father, Isaiah the Prophet spoke Your Word and said: "The Lord will give you a sign." As You bless our food, bless our hearts. May Your Holy Spirit open our eyes and our hearts to see signs of Jesus in the lights, the songs and the prayers that surround us. Amen.

Offertory Envelopes for the first quarter of 2020 will be mailed out next week by bulk mail directly to your home. For a sample of the envelopes, please check the bulletin boards.

Please let us know if you have moved or there are changes to your phone number. If you are currently not receiving Offertory envelopes and would like to receive envelopes by mail, please contact the office at 416-447-5571. Thank you for your cooperation!

THE FRANCISCAN CHURCH OF ST. BONAVENTURE

1300 Leslie Street, Toronto, ON., M3C 2K9
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 1st, 2019
First Sunday of Advent



Preparing for Christ

Advent is a special time. Given to us by the Church, to prepare ourselves spiritually for Christmas. As Paul reminds us in the second reading, this is "the moment for you to wake from sleep." Yet there is much in our culture and daily lives that distracts us and keeps us busy.

Today's Gospel may frighten us when it challenges us to be ready. Dare we believe in God's promise that "the Son of Man is coming" into our world? Can we risk trusting our desire for him and the transformation his coming will bring us, even as we wait for the fulfillment of his coming?

Yes, we can and must be awake and ready this Advent season to receive the unexpected gift of God's loving presence at any moment! Our God loves us unconditionally – just as we are, this very day. We don't have to earn this love or prove ourselves worthy of it. Once we accept this truth, everything changes. We begin to "walk in the light" as we are called to make God's love alive through our actions. Then, they too can wake up and be ready to receive God's promise through faith.

Joe Egan, Toronto, ON.

And Now, A Word from Our Patron Saint

*Any person who has seen many days of life
can love God better than a scholar of theology.*
St. Bonaventure

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

Baptism of Infants: One Sunday every other 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: Discerning a call to the consecrated religious life please see one of the friars.

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

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

Prayer Network: Members pray daily for intentions held in confidence. Contact Ellen Brock at 647-622-5689

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

Psalm 122~ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Mass Intentions

Dec. 02 Monday 9:00 am Thanksgiving Intention of Jessiely and Ephraim
 Dec. 03 Tuesday 9:00 am †Jennifer Khayat (Mass with School Children)
 Dec. 04 Wednesday 9:00 am †Judelina Dosado
 Dec. 05 Thursday 9:00 am †Maria Prieto
 Dec. 06 Friday 9:00 am Vocations
 †Erasmus Lobo
 †Joyce Muffty
 †B. Dodds
 †Fidel Sanchez, Sr.
 †Antonio Carlos Fiore
 †Cyril Mack
 Dec. 07 Saturday 5:00 pm Friar Dennis J. Mason
 Dec. 08 Sunday 8:30 am †Hugh Canning (father & son)
 10:00 am †Iris Olivia Somasundaran
 12:00 pm †Don Fernandes

Prayer Intentions:

Sanctuary Lamp1: †Julie Clune-Sadler
 Vigil Lamp: †Alicja Karwowska
For the Sick: Fr. Boniface Reinhart, Anita Baker, Sam Agu, Nirmalee De Silva, Yuk Ling, Michael Morra, Ebberhardt Leithner, Sean Morra, Michelena Oakes, Margaret Fernando, Margaret Wood, Alfonz Pavli, Raymund Fung, Kay Corner, Dorothy Lord, Mabel Lim, Carol Marchant, Neil McDonald, Jurie Cuapero Marcos, Denise Baranecki, Estelle Gabriel and Mary Jane Coronado
For the Deceased: Marjorie Lewis and Gertrude McMaster

Stewardship: A Way of Living

November 24th, 2019 Offertory Collections

Thank you for your generous donations.

Regular Collection \$ **6,828.05**
 Shepherds' Trust \$ **400.00**
 Pre-Authorized Giving \$ **2,926.00**
 Donate Now \$ **328.00**

Second Collections:

December 8 ~ Flowers for Christmas

December 25 ~ Christmas Offering

City Street Outreach

The early winter weather has placed great need on the homeless in the city. They need blankets, sleeping bags and coats. If you can help, please drop off any items you can spare at the Ministry Centre. For more information visit citystreetoutreach.com.

Casseroles for the Good Shepherd Centre

This month's deadline is **December 22, 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. (to get your pan and recipe).

Christmas, Christmas time is near! Come join the **Seraphim and Cherubim Chorus** singing the Christmas songs you love as part of their **'All You Need Is Love'** concert series. Never a typical Christmas concert and always full of surprise tunes and reimagined classics. Join us at **St. Bonaventure's on December 13th at 7:30 pm**. Advanced tickets available online at www.seraphimandcherubim.ca

This Week in Our Parish Hall

Monday, December 2nd
 6:30 pm Sparks & Brownies/Francis Room
Tuesday, December 3rd
 7:00 pm CWL Executive Meeting/Francis Room
Wednesday, December 4th
 7:00 pm Alcoholic Anonymous/Francis Room
Thursday, December 5th
 9:30 am Theology and Tea/Francis Room
 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting/Bonaventure Room
Saturday, December 7th
 9:30 am Al Anon/Bonaventure Room
 9:30 am Christian Meditation/Oak Room
 10:00 am IPC Photo Directory-Photo Day/Francis Room
 10:00 am IPC- Photo Day-Second Crew/Bonaventure Room
 6:00 pm Fr. Dennis Jubilee Celebration/Main Hall

News from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

There is an Advent spirit in the heart of every human person. It is one of longing, of yearning for a fulfillment that somehow lies beyond ourselves; for we long for the coming of the Lord.

As you put your gift in a St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, you promote the true meaning of Christmas by helping those in need. Receipts for income tax purposes are available for donors who give us their name and address. If you or someone you know is in need, please call **416-447-5571 ext. 570**, and leave a confidential message with your name and contact information. Thank You!

CWL ~ Allocation of Flea Market Funds

The CWL is donating the total sum of \$12,540, made at the Flea Market, to the following groups/organizations: St. Clare Inn, St. Bonaventure Parish Maintenance Fund, Community Share Food bank (North York), St. Bonaventure Parish (Sunday Coffee & Parish Needy), Covenant House, Birthright (Toronto), Women's Resource Centre Mattawa, Ontario, Rising Angels, Development and peace, St. Francis' Table, Catholic Mission in Canada, St. Michael's Scholarship Fund (CWL Diocesan), St. Vincent de Paul Society, Women's Inter-Church Council of CDA (World Day of Prayer), St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Franciscorp, Enowah – Sister Hazel (South African Schools). A small amount of the funds are placed on reserve for the CWL Operating Costs for 2020. Many thanks to our members and parishioners for your support in helping the CWL achieve our mission.

Community Life

And Now, A Word from Our Pastor

Our Advent preparation for the annual celebration of the Birth of Jesus has begun. God's Word in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah tells us a "a little child shall lead them." (Chapter 11, verse 6). Last week at the 10:00 am Liturgy we experienced that promise come true. Each week the children sing the Creed in their Liturgy of the Word in the Parish Centre. Last week they sang the Creed for us in the church. We felt their enthusiasm and shared their freshness as we heard them belt out "Yes, we believe." Our little children have set the tone to lead us through this Advent season. Their spirit ignites a freshness in our hearts and an enthusiasm in our spirits for our faith: In Jesus, God is with us.

Thank you, girls and boys. We are proud of you and we love you very much.

A Warm Bed for Jesus

Girls and boys, please help us to Prepare for Christmas. When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Mary laid Him down in a wooden manger. It must have been uncomfortable. During Advent, please help us to prepare a comfortable, warm bed for Jesus. **Each week take a piece of straw and bring it to the manger near the altar.** Put it in the manger and tell Jesus something good you did during the week-like "I said a prayer for my Grandma," or "I cleaned my room." Your piece of straw will help Jesus to rest comfortably in a warm bed. Thanks.



Nurturing our Spirituality in the Second Half of Life

Seeking a More Contemplative Way of Life 2020 Winter Programme

Tuesday Mornings; Coffee & Treats 9:30 to 11:45 am Dates and Programme Topics:

- January 14 ~ The Art of Christian Meditation-Why is contemplative living in the second half of life so important? by Maureen McDonnell**
- January 28 ~ What are some Meditation/Contemplative practices for deepening our relationship with the Divine? By Maureen McDonnell**
- February 11 ~ An Artistic and Spiritual Pilgrimage with Henri Nouwen**
- March 03 ~ Contemplating the wisdom of Sr. Nuala Kenny – by Maureen McDonnell**

Other dates for the 2020 Winter Programme: **March 10, March 31, April 21 and May 12**

For more information: Maureen@st-bonaventure.ca or call Maureen McDonnell at 416-447-5571 Ext 550

Adult? Young? Want a night out?

During the Christmas break we'd like to gather some of our **young adults from ages 18-24** to an evening at the parish, on **December 21st, 7:00 pm** in the **Francis Room**. The evening will be simplicity itself – some food, some fellowship, an opportunity to meet one another, a prayer. Most of all, it will be an opportunity to let you, our young adults, know how important you are to St. Bonaventure Parish. Don't worry – we won't be recruiting for anything. We promise. Would you please share your email address with us so we can send you an invitation? E-mail address is YoungAdults@st-bonaventure.ca.

Parents, if your young adults won't see this note, please share their emails with us.

The **Knights of Columbus** are selling **Raffle Tickets** for a **Christmas Crèche after all Masses until December 15**. Tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00. Final draw will be held after the 10:00 am Mass during coffee time in the Parish Hall on the 15th of December. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Passageways ~ original art by Mary Edwards (our parishioner) displayed at Don Mills Public Library, 888 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto. December 2 – 31, 2019. Contact edwards_mt@hotmail.com for purchasing information.

"Care for the Common Home" Please place **used cartridges and ink toners** in a labeled box at the back of the church for recycling.

Hope you can join us Saturday, December 7, at the 5:00 pm Liturgy to thank God for the gift of Franciscan vocation as Friar Dennis marks 50 years as a Friar. How good God is. A reception in the Parish Centre, Main Hall, will follow after the Mass.

