

Week 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

Moments in Lent


Every Friday in Lent immediately following the 9:00 am Liturgy, in Church. Stations of the Cross.

Tuesday, April 2nd, 7:00 pm, Francis Room. Praying as a Traveler. We will explore some contemplative prayer practices and notice together how we are drawn by love into service. **Maureen MacDonnell** of the Ministry with Maturing Adults will focus on prayer as following in the footprints of Jesus.

Wednesday, April 3rd – A Day of Reconciliation. The Sacrament of Reconciliation with Individual Confessions will be celebrated throughout the day 9:30 – 10:30 am; 12:00 – 1:00 pm and 7:00 – 8:00 pm.


Tuesday, April 9, 7:00 pm, Parish Hall. A Simple Way of Prayer: Honesty, Silence, Conversation. Fr. Dennis will lead the evening with a focus on union with the Lord through prayer.

Sunday, April 14 – Palm Sunday, 7:00, in Church. The Living Stations of the Great Three Days. The Youth of St. Bonaventure Parish will present scenes from the story of Jesus' Last Supper, Prayer in the Garden, Journey to Calvary, Death and Rising, complete with narration prayer and song. A great Way to make final preparations for the Liturgy of Holy Thursday through Easter Sunday. You don't want to miss this one.



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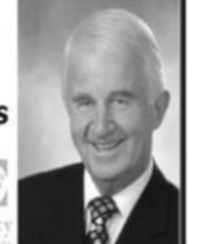
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YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT ST. BONAVENTURE

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.

March 31st, 2019
The Fourth Sunday of Lent



(Rembrandt's 'Return of the Prodigal Son')

The Prodigal Son

The younger brother in the parable of the prodigal son thought he was living the dream when he took 'his share' of his father's estate. Sadly, for him, it didn't work out well, and he had to come grovelling home. It was his good fortune that his father was a godly man and received his son with open arms and even a celebration.

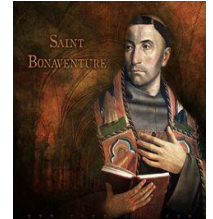
The parable's focus then shifts to the older son. Many would commiserate with him; he had slaved for his father and was never disobedient. But now he sees the party for his younger brother, and he indulges in what is poison for the soul – resentment. What he has forgotten is that he already has a deep, abiding relationship with his father; he has riches beyond compare.

Often, we too forget. We who have received the gift of faith take for granted the sacrifice of Jesus and the wonder of the sacraments. We must strive to remain mindful of God's enduring love for us and to live virtuous lives. We must also accept hardships and seek to transform our suffering into concern and generosity towards those in need.

Father help us always to return to your open arms and your merciful heart. Amen. Harry McAvoy, Newmarket, ON.

Pope Francis' interpretation of the Prodigal Son help someone who thought he/she had too many sins to be forgiven. The God of mercy; he does not tire of forgiving. We are the ones who tire in asking for forgiveness, but He does not tire. This is the heart of our Father, the God that waits for us. Always.

Pope Francis: God Never Tires of Forgiving Us, March 28, 2014. Copyright©2019, - Anne M. Osdieck. All rights reserved. Permission to reproduce for parish use.



And Now, A Word from Our Patron Saint

You cannot become blessed unless you ascend above yourself, not by an ascent of the body but with the heart

St. Bonaventure

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

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

Spiritual Direction: Contact **Friar Mark** at **friarmsted2015@gmail.com**

Prayer Network: Members pray daily for intentions held in confidence. Contact **Mary Cushing** at **416-445-1403**

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

Lenten Days of Confession:

March 31 – April 6, 2019

Listed below are the times of confessions at our parish and some neighbouring parishes. For the times at other parishes please go to www.archtoronto.org/confessions

St. Bonaventure Parish

Wednesday, April 3rd: 9:30 am to 10:30 am; noon to 1:00 pm; 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, 78 Clifton Road
 April 1st: 11:00 am to 12:00 pm; 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm; 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

St. Andrew Kim's 849 Don Mills Road
 April 3: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
 April 9: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

St. Timothy's Parish, 21 Leith Hill Road
 April 10: 9:30 am to 12:00 noon, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

St. Gabriel's, 670 Sheppard Ave. East
 April 17: 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Psalm 34~ Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Mass Intentions

Apr. 01 Monday 9:00 pm †Peter Glowczewski
 Apr. 02 Tuesday 9:00 am †Louis & Marie Fung
 Apr. 03 Wednesday 9:00 am Personal Intentions
 Apr. 04 Thursday 9:00 am †Shirley Ainsworth Felthman
 Apr. 05 Friday 9:00 am Vocations
 Thanksgiving Intentions
 Elizabeth Aramburu
 Sandy Pastore
 Krista Zupan & Family
 Joan Pape
 Yvonne Leenaers
 Apr. 06 Saturday 5:00 pm †Patrick Bernard Matthews
 Apr. 07 Sunday 8:30 am †Kevin Haverty
 10:00 am Joyce de Gannes
 12:00 pm Intentions of the Parishioners

Prayer Intentions:

Sanctuary Lamp: Thelma Vandersteen
 Vigil Lamp: †Gloria Esperanza
For the Sick: Fr. David Suckling, Christine Wojnicki, Emmanuel Thiruchelvam, Deanna Andrew, Bonnie Beverley, Mabel Lim, Tony Guiney, Alfonz Pavli, Raymund Fung, Teresita Peiris, Kay Corner, Dorothy Lord, Avelino Vista, Mary DiGregorio, Liliana De Las Mercedes Vazquez, Elisabetta Schiavone, Michael Morra and Larry Chretien
For the Deceased: Harry Kimpton, Ludovico Mamaat, Kevin Haverty and Paul Francis Nix

Stewardship: A Way of Living

March 24, 2019 Offertory Collections

Thank you for your generous donations.

Regular Collection \$ 7,651.25
 Flowers for Easter \$ 2,095.55
 ShareLife Collection \$ 5,115.00
 Pre-Authorized Giving \$ 2,926.00
 Donate Now \$ 328.00

Second Collection:

Maintenance Fund – April 7, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Lent – First ShareLife Sunday

March 31, 2019

Living the Gospel locally and around the world

“It is important that we continue to support the ShareLife appeal, to provide for the needs of the marginalized both here in our communities and around the world. Sometimes the results are obvious and sometimes they’re invisible, but always they make a tangible difference in the lives of the people we are helping. **Please Prayerfully consider how you can be supportive today on ShareLife Sunday.**”

~ Cardinal Thomas Collins

Today, is ShareLife Sunday. Thank you for your generosity!

Secular Franciscan Meeting

The Secular Franciscan meeting will be **Monday, April 15th, 2019 at 7:00 pm, Francis Room.**

This Week in Our Parish Hall

Monday, April 1st

6:30 pm Sparks/Bonaventure Room
 6:30 pm Brownies/Francis Room

Tuesday, April 2nd

9:30 am Ministry with Maturing Adults-2nd Half of Life/
 Francis Room

7:00 pm First Communion-Session A/ Main Hall

7:00 pm Praying as a Traveler by Maureen McDonnell/
 Francis Room

7:00 pm Bible Study/ Oak Room

Wednesday, April 3rd

7:00 pm First Communion-Session B/Main Hall

7:00 pm GRASP/Oak Room

7:00 pm Alcoholic Anonymous/Francis Room

Thursday, April 4th

7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Executive Meeting/
 Bonaventure Room

Friday, April 5th

9:30 am Stations of the Cross/Church

Saturday, April 6th

9:30 am Christian Meditation/Oak Room

9:30 am Al Anon Group/Bonaventure Room

2:00 pm First Communion-Session C/Main Hall

Casseroles for the Good Shepherd Centre

Next month’s deadline is **April 21st, 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**. (empty pans for April are ready for pick-up)

Canadian Food for Children

On **April 6th and 7th** weekend we will be accepting donations of **pasta** (macaroni, spaghetti...) to support the work of Dr. Simone.

News from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

In today’s Gospel the prodigal son repents and finds mercy in the heart of his father. Know that your penance during Lent can give the less fortunate the grace of finding the merciful heart of God the Father.

Since January, through your gifts, Vincentians were able to make 29 visits to neighbours in need and distribute \$2,200 in grocery gift cards. Thank you!



Come enjoy an evening with us and celebrate everything España & get your Fiesta On! It's our 7th annual Gala in support of St. Clare Inn. Our celebration is on April 13th, at the Donalda Club. Doors will open at 7:00 pm. Tickets are available @ stclareinn.org and the parish Ministry Centre. Thanks to all.

Community Life

**St. Bonaventure’s Ministry with Maturing Adults
 Upcoming Events**



Tuesday, April 2nd – “The Spiritual Journey” presenter, **Maureen McDonnell**, 9:30 – 11:30 am, Francis Room.

Thursday, May 16th – “Why Are We Here; A Meditation on Canada” special guest **Mary Jo Leddy**, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, Parish Hall.

Saturday, June 1st – “Stewarding the Fruits of Your Ageing: Cultivating, Harvesting, and Feeding the Church with Your Gifts” guest speaker **Robert Weber**, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. This is a day long workshop. To register for this event please follow this link formation@archtoronto.org

Wednesdays, April 25 to June 5, New Workshop Series with Ginny Doty “Creating Harmony and Hope Through Forgiveness” 1:00 – 2:30 pm, Bonaventure Room. Contact **Ginny** at 416-447-5571 ext. 560 to register and for more information, space is limited.

The Summer Book and Film Series will return for the third year in the months of June, July and August. Tuesday morning dates and topics will be announced later.

Theology and Tea

The next T & T will be on Thursday, April 11 and 25 after the 9:00 am Mass. Come and join Friar Mark for some time to ponder and enjoy our relationship with God. The sessions are open to all parishioners and their friends.

Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 31, 2019

The Return of the prodigal Son

“Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.” (Luke 15:21)

Adults: When have you been generous enough to forgive someone who hurt you deeply?

Children: Is there someone you need to forgive or ask forgiveness of?

‘Vocation Seeds’

Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 31, 2019

Like the forgiving father of Luke’s Gospel, God welcomes us home in spite of our sinfulness and calls us to a life of holiness. Where are you at home? 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.

And Now, A Word from Our Pastor

Last Sunday our St. Bonaventure community was enriched by the celebration of the Rite of Acceptance into the Catechumenate for **Rana**. **Rana** now joins **Christina, David, Garry** and **Ken**, our other Catechumens, on their journey toward Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

“Catechumenate” comes from a word which means “to echo.” During their journey, Catechumens hear the Word and practice of our Catholic Faith echoed to them through their participation in the Liturgy of the Word on Sundays, the witness which we offer them as baptized believers, times of reflection with our catechists, the support of their sponsors, and the experience of their lives. As they journey progresses, more and more they hear the voice of Jesus echoing in their hearts igniting a fire of desire to be united with Him and with us.

The Catechumenate isn’t tied to a time line. It begins with the Rite of Acceptance and concludes with the celebration of the Sacraments. Each Catechumen’s journey is unique, respecting the way the Spirit of God moves in her or him. The right time for the sacraments isn’t determined by the calendar, but by the heart: God’s Heart and the heart of the Catechumen.

Our five Catechumens have discerned that God is not calling them to celebrate the Sacraments now, but to continue as Catechumens, experiencing the full cycle of liturgical seasons and feasts and deepening their lives with the Lord and our community. We accompany them with our affection and our prayer. And we thank them for their example.

Q How can the assembly help the catechumens?



A In many ways! Through their friendly, welcoming demeanor toward catechumens, by learning their names, greeting them, and engaging them in conversation, assembly members reassure them that they have a place in the community. Most of the rites of initiation take place at Sunday Mass. By its attention and participation in these rites, the assembly expresses the community’s care and encouragement for the catechumens. What’s more, at every liturgy, catechumens look to assembly members as models, following their example and reflecting on the meaning of the rituals as they watch the assembly’s responses. Welcoming the catechumens into parish activities not only makes them feel included, it also provides them glimpses of the life of disciples. Becoming a sponsor for a catechumen is yet another way assembly members could be helpful. Finally, the faithful can pray for the catechumens throughout the week.

Gael Gensler, OSF. © 2017 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Art by Steve Musgrave.

