



*Solemnity of Easter  
March 31, 2013*

# Bonnie News

*Franciscan Church of St. Bonaventure*

SEEING THE RESURRECTION

*Growing  
in Spirit,  
Community,  
and Service*

## *Mass Times*

*Weekday Eucharist*

*Monday to Friday: 7:30 am*

*Weekend Eucharist*

*Saturday: 9 am*

*Sunday Vigil: 5 pm*

*Sunday: 8 am 10 am*

*12 pm 7:30 pm*

*Civic Holidays: 9 am*

## *Ministry Centre Hours*

*Monday – Thursday*

*9 am to 4:30 pm*

*Friday*

*9 am – 3 pm*

*Saturday*

*2 pm – 6:30 pm*

*Sunday*

*9 am – 1:30 pm*

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## *Christ is Risen! Alleluia!*

God never overpowers, never twists arms, never pushes your face into something so as to take away your freedom. God respects our freedom and is never a coercive force.

And nowhere is this more true than in what is revealed in the resurrection of Jesus. The Gospels assure us that, like his birth, the resurrection was physical, real, not just some alteration inside the consciousness of believers. After the resurrection, we are assured, Jesus' tomb was empty, people could touch him, he ate food with them, he was not a ghost.

But his rising from the dead was not a brute slap in the face to his critics, a non-negotiable fact that left sceptics with nothing to say. The resurrection didn't make a big splash. It was not some spectacular event that exploded into the world as the highlight on the evening news. It had the same dynamics as the incarnation itself: After he rose from the dead, Jesus was seen by some, but not by others; understood by some, but not by others. Some got his meaning and it changed their lives, others were indifferent to him, and still others understood what had happened, hardened their hearts against it, and tried to destroy its truth.

Notice how this parallels, almost perfectly, what happened at the birth of Jesus: The baby was real, not a ghost, but he was seen by some, but not by others and the event was understood by some but not by others. Some got its meaning and it changed their lives, others were indifferent and their lives went on as before, while still others (like Herod) sensed its meaning but hardened their hearts against it and tried to destroy the child.

Why the difference? What makes some see the resurrection while others do not? What lets some understand the mystery and embrace it, while others are left in indifference or hatred?



Hugo of St. Victor used to say: Love is the eye! When we look at anything through the eyes of love, we see correctly, understand, and properly appropriate its mystery. The reverse is also true. When we look at anything through eyes that are jaded, cynical, jealous, or bitter, we will not see correctly, will not understand, and will not properly appropriate its mystery.

We see this in how the Gospel of John describes the events of Easter Sunday. Jesus has risen, but, first of all, only the person who is driven by love, Mary Magdala, goes out in search of him. The others remain as they are, locked inside their own worlds. But love seeks out its beloved and Mary Magdala goes out, spices in hand, wanting at least to

embalm his dead body. She finds his grave empty and runs back to Peter and the beloved disciple and tells them the tomb is empty. The two race off together, towards the tomb, but the disciple whom Jesus loved out-runs Peter and gets to the tomb first, but he doesn't enter, he waits for Peter (authority) to go in first.

Peter enters the empty tomb, sees the linens that had covered the body of Jesus, but does not understand. Then the beloved disciple, love, enters. He sees and he does understand. Love grasps the mystery. Love is the eye. It is what lets us see and understand the resurrection.

That is why, after the resurrection, some saw Jesus but others did not. Some understood the resurrection while others did not. Those with the eyes of love saw and understood. Those without the eyes of love either didn't see anything or were perplexed or upset by what they did see.

There are lots of ways to be blind. I remember an Easter Sunday some years ago when I was a young graduate student in San Francisco. Easter Sunday was late that year and it was a spectacularly beautiful spring day. But on that particular day I was mostly blind to what was around me. I was young, homesick, alone on Easter Sunday, and nursing a huge heartache. That colored everything I was seeing and feeling. It was Easter Sunday, in spring, in high sunshine, but, for what I was seeing, it might as well have been midnight, on Good Friday, in the dead of winter.

Lonely and nursing a heartache, I took a walk to calm my restlessness. At the entrance of a park, I saw a blind beggar holding a sign that read: It's spring and I'm blind! The irony wasn't lost on me. I was blind that day, more blind than that beggar, seeing neither spring nor the resurrection. What I was seeing were only those things that reflected what was going on inside my own heart.

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

Christ is risen, though we might not see him! We don't always notice spring. The miraculous doesn't force itself on us. It's there, there to be seen, but whether we see or not, and what precisely we do see, depends mainly upon what's going on inside our own hearts.

*Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI - President of the Oblate School of Theology*

### REFLECTION

#### A Splendid Torch

This is the true joy of life, the being used up for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.



I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the community, and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

*George Bernard Shaw*

### A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who provided ministry and music at our liturgies and services throughout Lent and to all who decorated the church for these special celebrations. You gave most generously of your time and energy in the evenings and on weekends. Thank you for making our Lenten celebrations meaningful and helping to prepare our minds, hearts and souls for a joyful Easter – *Alleluia!*

### STEWARDSHIP

#### March 24 Sunday Offertory Collection



Thank you for your generous donations and continued support of our parish. Our parish expenses continue year round and our community relies on your generosity, even when you are not here.

Regular Collection: \$10,458 Pre-Authorized Giving: \$2,980

Expenses: \$17,730

### SOCIAL MINISTRY

#### Casseroles for the Good Shepherd Centre Provide a Meal Program

Thanks to all those dedicated to this ministry: 48 casseroles were made to feed the hungry this month. If you can spare a few hours to make a casserole each month, contact Eva Trace, 416.447.3040. We provide the pan and recipe; you make the casserole according to your schedule. The recipe is on our website.

#### News from the Saint Vincent de Paul Society

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a lay Catholic organization whose mission is: To live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy. The Mission of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul implies that as Vincentians, we:

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

- see Christ in anyone who suffers
- come together as a family
- have personal contact with the poor
- help in all possible ways.

Our Conference of St. Bonaventure assists the needy within our parish boundaries and donates surplus funds to less fortunate Conferences and the Society's Special Works in the Greater Toronto Area.

### **Help Eliminate Hunger in our Neighbourhood**

Our parish supports our Local Community Share Food Bank by collecting donations of non-perishable food every week. The food bank is in particular need of canned fish, canned meat, cooking oil and baby food – fruit and cereal.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

### **Easter Monday Schedule Changes**

We will celebrate mass at 9 am and the Ministry Centre will be closed.

### **Garden and Landscape Volunteers**



During the summer, our church gardens add a unique dimension to our spiritual home. They are a place of peace and prayer and give us an opportunity to experience a deeper level of serenity by enjoying the beauty of God's creation.

This year we are creating a gardening committee to plan and care for the church gardens. This will involve designing the gardens, selecting plants and coordinating planting in late May.

If you would like to share your talents and gifts in service to our community we invite you to contact the Ministry Centre. While there is a need for experienced gardeners to lead this project we also welcome anyone who has a passion for gardening.

### **CWL News & Events**

*Spring Brunch:* Join the CWL at the Donalda Club Sunday, April 28. Tickets will be on sale after all masses April 6/7 and April 13/14.

*University Scholarship:* The Toronto Diocesan Council of the Catholic Women's League is offering a scholarship to St. Michael's College, University of Toronto. This scholarship is open to any Catholic woman who is:

- completing her secondary school education
- has selected St. Michael's College as the first choice on her university application
- is entering the Faculty of Arts & Science in: Commerce, Computer Science, Humanities & Social Sciences or Sciences.

Scholarship applications must be submitted by April 15, 2013. For further information, contact Waveney Duarte, 416.444.6719 or see the bulletin board.

*Social Media Support:* The league is looking for a female parishioner with social media and web design skills to help give the CWL Council more exposure. If you are interested, Tracy MacInnis, [tmacinnis@rogers.com](mailto:tmacinnis@rogers.com), 647.973.7645, would like to hear from you.

### **Prayers for Divine Mercy Sunday**

Anyone interested in praying the Chaplet is welcome to join us on Sunday, April 7 at 1 pm.

SUPPORTING EACH OTHER IN  
PRAYER

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

*Private Prayer:* contact Friar Boniface, 416.447.5571 x 500.

*Prayer Network:* contact Ruth Caverley, 416.449.7738.

Your request will be shared with over 20 parishioners who make up the Prayer Network. Members pray daily for requests and intentions are held in confidence. Please let the Prayer Network know when a situation has been resolved so that members can offer prayers of thanksgiving. New members are welcome; call Julie Flood, 416.391.0238.

**REMEMBERING LOVED ONES**

Lord Jesus, we place our beloved ones in your hands as we praise you for your mercy and love. Let us pray for all the deceased members of our parish and loved ones, especially † Jeanne Horgan and † Mary Susan Hanifen.

MINISTRY CENTRE CONTACTS

Pastor  
Friar Paul Lininger, OFM Conv.  
[friarpaul@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:friarpaul@st-bonaventure.ca)  
Associate Pastor  
Friar Dan Quackenbush OFM Conv  
[friar\\_dan@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:friar_dan@st-bonaventure.ca)  
Pastoral Associate  
Friar David Suckling OFM Conv  
[friar.david@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:friar.david@st-bonaventure.ca)  
Sacramental Minister  
Friar Canice Connors OFM Conv  
[caniceofmc@aol.com](mailto:caniceofmc@aol.com)  
Parish Manager  
Connie Durante  
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Pastoral Assistant  
Jeanette Williams  
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Youth Minister  
Jonathan Nix  
[jonathan@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:jonathan@st-bonaventure.ca)  
Franciscans' Business  
Administrator  
Norman Bell  
[norman.bell@st-bonaventure.ca](mailto:norman.bell@st-bonaventure.ca)

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

It is important to register in our parish community.

- Registration identifies you as a member of our parish.
- Only registered and active parish members can celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and Marriage at St. Bonaventure.
- Recommendations to be a baptism or confirmation sponsor or for a position in the Toronto Catholic School board can only be provided to parishioners who are registered and participating in our parish community.

Registration forms are at the back of the church.  
Please take one and complete it today.

**UPDATE YOUR PARISH INFORMATION**

Please call the Ministry Centre, 416.447.5571, if you have any changes to your mailing address, email or phone number.

GROWING IN *Spirit, Community, and Service*

ON EVERY WEEK

**HELP ELIMINATE HUNGER** — Bring a donation of non-perishable food to church for our local Food Bank. There is an ongoing need for: canned vegetables, meat, fruit, fish, soups & stews; powdered milk; fruit juice; chicken & beef soup bases; rice & pasta; pasta sauce; cold cereal; peanut butter; sugar; cooking oil; tea; instant & ground coffee.

**SCRIPTURE SHARING** — An opportunity to share faith & life experience.

**THEOLOGY & TEA** — Join the faith discussion.

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP** — Follow the ancient tradition of the prayer of silence to attain harmony of body, mind & spirit.

**RCIA INQUIRY PROGRAM** — An opportunity to discern & discuss the call to become Catholic.

**SUNDAY COFFEE** — Join us after the 10 am mass for coffee. It's a great opportunity to meet other parishioners.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** — The only requirement for members is a desire to stop drinking. The purpose is to stay sober & help others achieve sobriety.

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP** — A fellowship of men, women & children whose lives are affected by the compulsive drinking of a family member or friend. Members share experiences, strengths & hopes.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

9:00 am	† Cadrin & Tardif family	Monday April 1	6:00 pm	Brownies/BR
7:30 am	† Ignacia Santiago	Tuesday April 2	9:30 am 7:30 pm 7:00 pm	Theology & Tea/FR Scripture Sharing/OR RCIA Inquiry/MC
7:30 am	† Barbara Seitz	Wednesday April 3	8:00 pm	Alcoholics Anonymous/ FR
7:30 am	Personal Intention	Thursday April 4		
7:30 am	Personal Intention	Friday April 5		
9:00 am	† Leslie Day Personal Intention Personal Intention † Heather Wilcox † Flaviana Moniz	Saturday April 6	10:00 am	Al-Anon/BR
4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Reconciliation † Stephen Gamble			
8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm 7:30 pm	† Hugh Canning Parishioners † Jack Reagan † Maria Francesca	Sunday April 7	11:00 am	Sunday Coffee /MH

ROOM KEY: •BR — Bonaventure Room • FR — Francis Room • MH — Main Hall • OR — Oak Room • MC — Ministry Centre

Vigil Lamp: Helena Hauer

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**OUR MISSION**

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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.*

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**OUR VISION**

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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.*



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