



PARISH MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday (Vigil) 5:00pm
Sunday 8:30am, 10:15am
12:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

EARLY MORNING MASS:

Wednesday 6:30am

MORNING MASSES:

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday 8:00am
Saturday 9:00am

EVENING MASS:

Wednesday 7:30pm

PARISH CONFESSIONS

Wednesdays

6:30pm-7:15pm

Fridays

8:30am-9:30am

Saturdays

4:00pm-4:45pm

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesdays

6:15pm-7:15pm

First Fridays

8:30am-12:00pm

All other Fridays

8:30am-9:30am

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

WEEKDAYS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

9am-4:30pm

Wednesday

9am-4:30pm, 6pm-9pm

Friday 9am-4:30pm for

Phone calls only

(Weekdays closed for lunch
12:30-1:30pm)

WEEKENDS:

Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm

Sunday 9:00am-1:30pm

Exaltation of the Holy Cross September 14, 2025

St. Bernadette Catholic Church

21 Bayly Street East, Ajax, Ontario L1S 1P2

Phone: 905-683-1533 | Email: office@stbernajax.com | www.stbernajax.com

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear friends,

This Sunday, the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**. The Cross, once a symbol of suffering and death, has become for us the sign of victory, hope, and salvation for us. In gazing upon the Cross, we are reminded of the depth of God's love and the call for us to embrace our own crosses with faith, trusting that God brings life out of every trial.

Last weekend, we experienced a different kind of joy as we gathered for our **Welcome Back Weekend**. It was a true blessing to see so many parishioners return after the summer months, reconnecting with one another and renewing our sense of community.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who came and supported the weekend, and the staff and parishioners who worked so hard to make it such a grace-filled celebration. A very special word of thanks goes to our ministry coordinators and leaders, who gave so much of their time, energy, and creativity. Your dedication helped make our Welcome Back Weekend not only possible, but beautiful—a reflection of the vibrant parish life we share at St. Bernadette's.

May the Cross of Christ continue to be our strength and our hope, guiding us in all we do as a parish family.

In your service, I remain,

Father Chris

Sacraments

Baptisms – every 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 11:00am. A mandatory Baptism class must be attended and required registration forms completed. Please call the Parish Office or email office@stbernajax.com

First Confession/Communion – Please speak to Robert or email lpa@stbernajax.com

Confirmation – Please speak to Robert or email lpa@stbernajax.com

Christian Initiation of Adults – Adults requiring Baptism, Confirmation, or reception into the Catholic Church. Please speak to Robert or email lpa@stbernajax.com

Christian Initiation of Young People – For young people ages 7 through 16, age-appropriate classes will be offered to help our young people receive all Sacraments of Initiation. Please speak to Robert or email lpa@stbernajax.com

Marriage – Contact the Parish Office **one year in advance** and one of the priests will arrange an appointment with you

Sacrament of the Sick – Contact the Parish Office immediately

Parish Staff

Father Chris Lemieux

Father Sean Jacob

Deacon Ron Vaz

Aquilia D'Costa

Robert LeBlanc

Monika Matelski

Marva Thomas

Sue McGee

Pastor

Associate Pastor

Parish Deacon

Office Administrator

Lay Pastoral Associate

Youth Coordinator

Administrative Assistant

Parish Bookkeeper

pastor@stbernajax.com

associate@stbernajax.com

deacon@stbernajax.com

office@stbernajax.com

lpa@stbernajax.com

youth@stbernajax.com

office3@stbernajax.com

admin@stbernajax.com

Register at our Parish

Welcome to St. Bernadette's! Register to fully participate, access sacraments, connect with our community, and help us serve you better. If you live outside of our parish boundaries but worship here, registration is key for official requests.

[Click here to register](#) today!

Wedding Anniversaries

If you are a registered member of St Bernadette's and will be celebrating a wedding anniversary we would love to celebrate and witness your marriage as a parish community. Please contact the Parish Office with your names and upcoming anniversary dates.

This month we celebrate with:

Sep 3	Ada & Ron Larock	(42 years)
Sep 4	Harry and Sylvia Prabhu	(48 years)
Sep 4	Sarah Victor & Kale Trinier	(4 years)
Sep 8	Malcolm & Gillian Victor	(35 years)
Sep 16	Luisa and Joe Guzzo-Foliaro	(30 years)
Sep 22	Carlos and Maria Da Silva	(41 years)
Sep 23	Kresstine Fernando & Nirmal Patel	(8 years)

Praying for Our People



Praying for one another is an important part of our Christian Discipleship, the mission entrusted to us by Jesus.

We pray for all those who are sick in our parish, for:

Violet Azavedo, Anne Sinclair, Jaime Villafuerte, and Faye Marechal.

We pray also for those who have died and their family and friends who mourn their passing.

We pray especially for Rose Marie Van Staveren.

Life Chain

On **Sunday October 5, from 2pm-3pm** - we will gather as a community to pray in silence for a greater awareness of all to Dignity of Life issues we hold dear as Catholic Christians, from conception through life into death. Now more than ever, we need to unite and stand in solidarity with one another. We will assemble in front of St. Bernadette's, at the corner of Bayly & Harwood.

Join us in the parish hall immediately after for a fellowship gathering with light refreshments.

Mass Intentions

Sunday September 14th - Exaltation of the Holy Cross

830am + Consuelo Sanosa
500pm + William Richard Guilmette
700pm + Brenda Joyce Catalao

Monday September 15th- Our Lady of Sorrows

800am + Maria D'souza

Tuesday September 16th - St. Cornelius & St. Cyprian

Wednesday September 17th - St. Robert Bellarmine

730pm + Dudley Dulling
+ Carlos Oliveira
+ Salvacion Sicut Ballesteros
+ Souls in Purgatory

Thursday September 18th

800am + Veronica Ego-Aguirre

Friday September 19th - St. Januarius

800am ~ Champa

Saturday September 20th -St. Andrew Kim Tae-gõn, St. Paul Chõng Ha-sang and Companions

900am + Mary Mathews
+ Gregorio M. Alcabao Jr.
+ Consuelo Sanosa
+ Aurora Arcega-Cuyugan
~ The Arellano family
500pm + Robin Farrell

Confessions Cancellation

Saturday September 20th Confessions will be cancelled.



Help out with Alpha

Alpha is a place to explore the big questions of life, faith, and meaning through a Christian lens in a Catholic context, but this can't happen without many hands helping out. Our Alpha team at St. Bernadette's is always welcoming new members who would like to help others encounter Christ. Whether it's helping prepare a meal, praying for Alpha participants, or helping lead conversations - it all helps make for a great Alpha experience of faith, food, and fellowship.

Reach out to Robert at lpa@stbernajax.com to see how your talents can help others discover our faith with Alpha.

Bible Studies



Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come

*An 11 Week Study - Begins
Wednesday, Sept 17 at 9:30am*

Join Jeff Cavins for an in-depth look at the Book of Revelation. Discover how its powerful images and prophecies connect Christ's kingdom on earth with the kingdom of heaven, especially through the Mass. Learn what Revelation teaches about the Second Coming, what has already been fulfilled, and how God's plan continues unfolding today.

New!!! Summit Teen Ministry

****In need of Volunteers****

On **Sunday October 19**, our parish inaugurates a **New Summit Teen Ministry** which will care for our teens in high school. As part of this ministry, we will be offering dinner & fellowship nights, and are looking for parishioners to join us, as part of our kitchen crew. We're also looking for food donations (*frozen lasagnas, meatballs, etc*) for our nights. Contact Monika if you could assist with this ministry: youth@stbernajax.com



Now Available!!! Tip Tap Pay

We have launched a "tiptap" device for offertory donations, along with our existing giving options. Now supporting our parish is **as simple as a tap! That's it!**

Simply tap your debit card, credit card, smartphone, smartwatch, or digital wallets such as Apple Pay, Google Pay or Samsung Pay on the "tiptap" device to instantly donate a preset amount. Preset donation options are \$10, \$20 or \$50 but tap again if you wish to donate more.

If you would like to receive a tax receipt at the end of the year, **you must use a physical debit or credit card.** After making your first transaction, scan the **QR code** or use the **link** provided at the welcome desk to register your card to your St. Bernadette Parish account. Each card you use will only need to be registered once.

Donations made through a smart device (*such as a mobile phone, smartwatch or digital wallets like Apple Pay or Google Pay*) do not qualify for a tax receipt, though the parish still receives the contribution. Our staff will be available to assist you at the welcome desk in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Youth Ministry Launch Dates

Junior Edge (Grades 1-4)

Every 2nd & 4th Monday of the month
6:30pm-8pm in the Parish Hall
Semester 1: Kindle the Fire

LAUNCH DATE: Monday October 27, 2025

EDGE (Grades 5-8)

Every 2nd & 4th Friday of the month
7:00pm-8:30pm in the Parish Hall
Semester 1: Sacred Flame

LAUNCH DATE: Friday October 24, 2025

SUMMIT TEEN MINISTRY (Grades 9-12)

Bi-weekly Sundays (see schedule)
6:00pm-8:00pm in the Parish Hall
Semester 1: I AM

LAUNCH DATE: Sunday October 19, 2025

Becoming Catholic

Christian Initiation for Adults

The Christian Initiation of Adults is for individuals who wish to become Catholic; and have not received some or any of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist). **This group meets on Tuesday evenings 7:30-9pm from October through May.**

For more information, please contact Robert, our Lay Pastoral Associate: lpa@stbernajax.com

Christian Initiation of Young People

The Christian Initiation of Young People is for children aged 7 through 17 who have not received some or any of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist). **This program will run from mid-October to mid-December.**

For more information, please contact Robert, our Lay Pastoral Associate: lpa@stbernajax.com

NEW Point of Sale Machines



Our new Point of Sale (POS) machines are now available to **make payments more convenient than ever.**

You'll now be able to use *Credit or Debit Cards, Apple Pay, Google Pay, and Samsung Pay*. Simply **tap, insert or swipe**. It's quick and easy!

We're pleased to serve you better with this secure option.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Thank You – Welcome Back

Weekend!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone for participating in our **Welcome Back Weekend!** We are grateful for our parish family and the many volunteers who made it very special. Your presence, joy, and support filled our parish with warmth as we begin this new season together.

Rosary Rally



All are invited to join in a Public Square Rosary Rally on

Saturday October 11th at 1:30pm

We will assemble at the St. Bernadette's monument at the front of the church. This Rally is sponsored by the Canada Needs

Our Lady Society. **Everyone is welcome to attend!**

Faith Formation

First Communion & Reconciliation

Parent Info & Registration Meeting

If your child is in grade 2 or higher and wishes to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, parents **MUST** attend one of the two information sessions which will be held in the Parish Hall:

Thursday September 25 @ 6-7pm

Saturday September 27 @ 10-11am

Parents can begin the registration process at: www.stbernajax.com/first-communion-preparation

For more information, please contact Robert, our Lay Pastoral Associate: lpa@stbernajax.com

Note: *If your child is in grade 2 or higher and is not baptized or not baptized in the Catholic church, and would like to receive any of the sacraments, please contact Robert.*

Confirmation

Parent Info & Registration Meeting

If your child is in grade 7 or higher and wishes to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, parents **MUST** attend one of the two information sessions which will be held in the Parish Hall:

Thursday September 25 @ 7:30-8:30pm

Saturday September 27 @ 11:30am - 12:30pm

Parents can begin the registration process at: www.stbernajax.com/confirmation-preparation

For more information, please contact Robert, our Lay Pastoral Associate: lpa@stbernajax.com

New Parish Vitality Ministry

Building Fellowship, Strengthening Community, Deepening Faith

One of the greatest gifts of parish life is the sense of belonging to a faith-filled community. At St. Bernadette's, we are called not only to worship together, but to grow together – as brothers and sisters in Christ. To help strengthen this spirit of unity and belonging, we are launching a new initiative: the **Parish Vitality Ministry**.

What Is the Parish Vitality Ministry?

This new ministry will take the lead in organizing parish breakfasts, dinners, socials, and special seasonal gatherings. But more than simply planning events, the ministry will focus on creating spaces where relationships can grow, where newcomers feel welcomed, and where longtime parishioners deepen their sense of community.

Why Does It Matter?

Christian fellowship is essential in the life of a disciple. In the early Church, believers gathered not only for prayer and the breaking of bread, but also for mutual support and joyful community (Acts 2:42-47). Fellowship builds trust, opens hearts, and strengthens our commitment to Christ and His Church. A vibrant parish is one where people feel seen, known, and loved.

How Will This Ministry Help Our Parish Grow?

- ✚ **Welcoming Atmosphere:** By creating regular opportunities to gather, especially after Mass, we give people a chance to connect and feel at home.
- ✚ **Engagement Pathways:** These gatherings serve as gentle entry points for parishioners who are not yet involved in ministries or faith formation.
- ✚ **Support for Other Ministries:** Fellowship events strengthen relationships that ripple out into deeper ministry participation and cooperation across parish life.
- ✚ **Celebrating Milestones Together:** From feast days to parish anniversaries, this ministry helps us celebrate as a family of faith.
- ✚ **Evangelization Through Hospitality:** Inviting friends and neighbors to parish meals and socials is a low-barrier way to share the joy of our faith.

How Can I Help?

We are looking for joyful, welcoming, and creative parishioners to help form this new ministry. Training, support, and guidance will be provided. **If this sounds like you, stop by the Parish Office or Welcome Desk to sign-up.**

What's Happening at the Parish!

UPCOMING EVENTS	September 14-20		
	<u>Monday Sept 15</u> 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) 7:00pm - Knights of Columbus Meeting (Stage Side)	<u>Tuesday Sept 16</u> 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 6:00pm - Confirmation Team Meeting (Hall) <u>Wednesday Sept 17</u> 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall)	<u>Thursday Sept 18</u> 7:00pm - Alpha Team Meeting (Hall) <u>Friday Sept 19</u> 7:00pm - Jesus Youth (Hall)
	September 21-27		
	<u>Monday Sept 22</u> 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) <u>Tuesday Sept 23</u> 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room)	<u>Wednesday Sept 24</u> 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) <u>Thursday Sept 25</u> 6:00pm - First Holy Communion Parent Info Meeting (Hall) 7:30pm - Confirmation Parent Info Meeting (Hall)	<u>Saturday Sept 27</u> 10:00am - First Holy Communion Parent Info Meeting (Hall) 11:00am - Baptism (Church) 11:30am - Confirmation Parent Info Meeting (Hall)
	September 28-October 4		
	<u>Monday Sept 29</u> 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) 6:00pm - Baptism Prep Class (Stage Side) <u>Tuesday Sept 30</u> 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room)	<u>Wednesday October 1</u> 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) 7:00pm - Marriage Prep Course (Stage side)	<u>Thursday October 2</u> 10:00am - Hope and Life (Kitchen Side) 10:00am - Ladies Craft Group (Stage Side) 6:30pm - Alpha (Hall) <u>Saturday October 4</u> 7:30am - St. Joseph's Men's Prayer Breakfast (Hall)
	October 5-11		
	<u>Sunday October 5</u> Coffee Sunday in the Hall after the 8:30am, 10:15am and noon Masses 2:00pm - Life Chain (Front of the Church) 6:00pm - Teen Ministry Core Team Meeting (Hall) <u>Monday October 6</u> 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) 6:00pm - Baptism Prep Class (Stage Side) 7:00pm - SSVP meeting (Council Room)	<u>Tuesday October 7</u> 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 7:30pm - Christian Initiation of Adults (Hall) <u>Wednesday October 8</u> 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) 7:00pm - Marriage Prep Course (Stage side) 7:00pm - Catholic Women's Guild - Executive Meeting (Council Room)	<u>Thursday October 9</u> 6:30pm - Alpha (Hall) <u>Friday October 10</u> 7:00pm - Jesus Youth (Hall) <u>Saturday October 11</u> 7:30am - St. Joseph's Men's Prayer Breakfast (Hall) 11:00am - Baptism 1:30am - Rosary Rally

Supporting our Parish Community

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Ministry Volunteers Needed - inquire at the parish office or welcome desk

Visiting & Communion Outreach

The Visiting & Communion Outreach Ministries bring the love and presence of Christ to the sick, elderly, and homebound by offering prayer, companionship, and the gift of Holy Communion. Volunteers extend the care and engagement of the parish community to those unable to attend Mass, reminding them they are not forgotten.

Parish Vitality Ministry

The Parish Vitality Ministry supports community life by organizing parish breakfasts, dinners, and social events that bring people together. Rooted in Christian fellowship, this ministry helps strengthen the bonds of faith and friendship among parishioners, fostering a more vibrant, welcoming, and connected parish community.

Sunday School Catechists Help Launch - Sunday School

We're seeking faith-filled adults and responsible teens from our parish to help launch our Sunday School program during Mass. Share Bible stories, faith, and fun with young children—no experience needed! Training and materials will be provided. Help plant seeds of faith in the hearts of our youngest parishioners. Join this joyful ministry today!

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