



3rd Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2026

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



My fellow missionaries,

Lent is a season of honest reflection. The Gospel reminds us that conversion is urgent – but it is never harsh. God is patient and desires our growth.

Conversion begins at home. Families might choose one evening for a simple examination of conscience together: What went well this week? Where do we need to ask forgiveness?

Even teaching children to say “I’m sorry” and “I forgive you” builds a culture of grace. Our Baptism planted the seed of divine life within us. Lent is the time to cultivate it. The Sacrament of Reconciliation restores what weakens that grace.

As we prepare for our March 14 Day of Recollection, let us ask: How are the Sacraments shaping my daily life?

The Lord does not call us to perfection overnight. He calls us to steady growth – together, as families and as a parish.

In Service,

Fr. Chris

Sacraments

Baptisms - 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
Aquilina D’Costa
Robert LeBlanc
Monika Matelski
Marva Thomas
Sue McGee

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Deacon Assistant
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

PARISH MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASSES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

MORNING MASSES:

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

EVENING MASS:

Wednesday 7:30pm

PARISH CONFESSIONS

Wednesdays
6:15pm-7:15pm
Fridays
8:30am-9:30am
Saturdays
3:45pm-4:45pm

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

First Fridays
8:30am-12:00pm
All Other Fridays
8:30am-9:30am

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

WEEKDAYS:

Monday - Thursday
9:00am-4:30pm

Friday
9:00am-4:30pm
(Phone calls only)

*Weekdays closed for lunch
12:30-1:30pm*

WEEKENDS:

Saturday 9:30am-12:00pm

WELCOME DESK:

Before and after all weekend
Masses

Register at Our Parish

Welcome to **St. Bernadette's**! Register to fully participate, access sacraments, and connect with our community. [Click here to register](#) today!

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, and Albertina Caruso.**

If you would like to be prayed for, please email us at office@stbernajax.com, or call the office.

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.

For the month of March, we celebrate with:

Mar 27 Bert and Patricia Connolly (61 years)

Lenten Day of Recollection

Join us on **Saturday, March 14, beginning with Mass at 9:00am and concluding at 3:00pm.** We will spend the day in prayer and reflection - journeying in Lent through the Sacraments of Initiation. The retreat will be led by Father Chris, and Father Sean will be available for confessions starting at 3:00pm. Registration is \$20.00, which includes the cost of lunch. Everyone is invited! Please register at the Welcome Desk or contact the Parish Office to reserve your spot.

Parish Breakfast



The Vitality Ministry warmly invites everyone to our Parish Fundraising Breakfast this **Sunday, March 8**, in the Parish Hall following the 8:30am, 10:15am, and 12:00pm Masses.

Enjoy a full breakfast including bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, toast, pancakes, tea, coffee, and juice. Tickets cost \$10 per person and \$5 for children under five. Tickets can be purchased at the Welcome Desk in the Parish Hall.

Coffee Sunday



You are invited to join us for **Coffee Sunday - March 22** after the 8:30am, 10:15am, and 12:00pm Masses in the Parish Hall. During this season of Lent, we are encouraged to pause, connect

with others, and grow together in faith.

Mass Intentions

Saturday March 7 - St. Perpetua & St. Felicity

500pm + William Rodrigues

Sunday March 8 - 3rd Sunday of Lent

830am ~ John Pearson

1200pm Missa Pro Populo

500pm + Sheila Canning

700pm + Colomba Nunno

Monday March 9 - St. Frances of Rome

800am + Margaret Alexander

Tuesday March 10

800am + Frank Tanfara

Wednesday March 11

730pm + Michael Leo D'souza

+ Leo D'souza

+ Alice D'souza

+ Frankie D'souza

+ Demaree Jazz Ines Ramos

Thursday March 12

800am + Gregory Matilda

Friday March 13

800am + Veronica Ego-Aguirre

Saturday March 14

900am + Colomba Nunno

+ Marcelo Ines

~ Health intentions of Romas Stas

~ Teresa Devenport

~ Shirley & Bill Sutton

The Scrutinies

As we prepare to welcome the Elect into our Church, we will be celebrating the Scrutinies over the next three weekends, starting this **Sunday March 8**. This is a special time for the Elect, let us keep them in our prayers.

Omolola Adeyeye

Ruth Apata

Jennifer Barriage

Vanessa Doiron

Elie Ifitamaboko

Isioro Jaboro

Julie Jacob

Min Kim

Yuseon Kong

Melanie Lewis

Michael Luke

Jaheim Marshall

Natasha Marshall

Michaela Mathurin

Andrew Mattson

Allan North

Hyeji Park

Camille Sardath

Natasha Taylor

Tara Trotman

Keziah J.

Emmanuel J.

Samuel J.

Kylie L.

Amelia M.

Kinsley M.

Kale M.

Elizaburon M-I.

Eliyanah M-I.

Jacob N.

Joseph N.

For Our Young People

JUNIOR EDGE (Grades 1-4) | 6:30pm-8:00pm
Monday March 9 - Our Heavenly Mama

EDGE (Grades 5-8) | 7:00pm-8:30pm
Friday March 27 - Fire Inside

SUMMIT (Grades 9-12) | 6:00pm-8:30pm
Sunday March 8 - I am the Way the Truth & the Life

Upcoming Summer Camps 2026

EDGE CAMP (Grades 5-8)

Dates: Wednesday August 19 - Sunday August 23

Where: Camp White Pine, Haliburton, ON

Registration is now open! Early-bird pricing is \$500 until April 30. After this date, the fee increases to \$575, and registration closes May 31. A non-refundable \$100 deposit is required after at the time of registration to secure your spot.

To register, please use the link below and be sure to select "Edge Camp East" and then "St. Bernadette's, Ajax" <https://edgecamp.campbrainregistration.com/>

To catch a glimpse of the camp activities, click the link: [Summer Camp Activities List - Camp White Pine](#)

HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CAMP (Grades 9-12)

Dates: Wednesday August 19 - Sunday August 23

Where: Camp White Pine, Haliburton, ON

Cost: \$530

To register, please use the link below and be sure to select "High School Leadership 2026 - East"

<https://edgecamp.campbrainregistration.com/>

Alpha



Breaking bread together is one of the ways Jesus shared life with people, so every Alpha session will begin with a meal to build community over casual conversation.

We're also looking for parishioners to help by preparing a casserole for one of our Thursday evening meals - recipes will be provided. Meals can be dropped off during the week to be re-heated when needed. Please contact Robert at LPA@stbernajax.com if you are able to assist.

Stations of the Cross

Join us for the Stations of the Cross every **Friday at 7:00pm** throughout the season of Lent.

Stay Connected



Faith Studies

Who Am I To Judge? Understanding Moral Relativism
Join us on **Monday, March 9 at 9:30am** in the Parish Hall for a timely talk with Dr. Edward Sri, exploring one of the biggest challenges to faith in today's culture: moral relativism. Together we'll look at how to understand the Church's teaching, with clarity, and how to speak about truth and love in everyday life.

The Jewish Roots of Jesus' Death and Resurrection
Join us on **Monday, March 16 at 9:30am** in the Parish Hall for a fascinating study with Dr. Brant Pitre, exploring how Jesus fulfills the ancient Jewish Law in His passion, death, and resurrection. All are invited.

Bible Study

Gospel of Matthew Study

Join us on **Wednesdays, March 18 - April 15 at 9:30am** in the Parish Hall for a video teaching by Dr. Brant Pitre on how Matthew reveals Jesus as the New Moses, David, and Solomon. Small-group discussion to follow. Cost: \$5. To register, contact Susan Kennedy at (905) 427-6137 or susangkennedy@gmail.com

Volunteers Needed

We are seeking volunteers to serve in the following ministries for the **Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 5:00pm and 7:00pm Masses**. If you feel called to share your gifts in one of these important ministries, please contact the Parish Office or Welcome Desk. Training will be provided.

Ministers of Hospitality

The Ministry of Hospitality serves the Liturgy by establishing a climate of welcome, by helping people find a seat, and by receiving the collection! They assist the assembly with practical details so that the Liturgy can be celebrated with ease and grace. The Hospitality Ministers are essential as even one smile can make a huge difference to everyone who enters our parish for Mass.

Eucharistic Ministers

Our Eucharistic Ministers help bring the Body and Blood of Christ to our community during Mass. This ministry is a profound way to serve and share in the heart of our worship.

Lectors

Our Lectors proclaim the Word of God and help make Scripture come alive for our parish, allowing the assembly to hear and reflect on the Scriptures that nourish our faith and guide our lives.

Discover Your Ministry, Share Your Gifts

At St. Bernadette's, there are many ministries where you can serve as a volunteer or participate as a member. Below is a list of our ministries, from liturgical roles that are part of the Mass, to opportunities for deepening and sharing your faith, to groups centered around fellowship and social connection.

To serve as a volunteer, join a group or simply learn more, please contact the Parish Office, stop by the Welcome Desk, or [click here to fill in our Volunteer Form](#). Our Volunteer Coordinator will follow-up with you to answer questions, connect you with ministry leaders, or help you find a ministry that best matches your interests and skills.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES:

Altar Servers - Children and youth assisting at Mass

Baptism Coordinator - Assist to organize and set up for Baptisms

Choir/Music Ministry - Choirs at Masses, funerals, weddings & *the children's choir

***Collection Counters** - Assist in the secure counting of weekly offerings

***Communion Outreach** - Bring Communion to the sick or homebound

Eucharistic Ministers - Assist in distributing the Body of Christ at Mass

Lectors - Proclaim the Word of God at Mass

Ministry of Hospitality - Greet and welcome all who join together for Mass

Wedding Coordinator - Assist couples on their special day

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRIES:

The Alpha Course - Explore the basics of Christian faith

Bible Study - Journey deeper into Scripture and grow in understanding.

Faith Studies - Focused on faith and our parish family

Marriage Prep Course - Help couples prepare for a lifelong commitment

Christian Initiation for Adults - Help adults preparing for Baptism

***Christian Initiation for Young People** - Help children (7-17yrs) preparing for Baptism

***Sacramental Preparation Assistant** - Help with FHC and/or Confirmation classes

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

***Altar Servers** - Children and youth assisting at Mass

***Children's Liturgy/Sunday School Catechists** - Sharing the Word of God in a child-friendly way.

***Choir Sunday 10:15am (Children)** - Children's voices lifting praise to God

***EDGE Youth Group (Grades 5-8)** - Faith, fun, and fellowship for middle schoolers

***Jr. EDGE (Grades 1-4)** - Building a foundation of faith for younger students

***Jesus Youth** - Youth growing together in spirit and service

***Summit Teen Ministry** - Chosen for More. Climbing with Purpose. Elevating a faith life for teens

FAITH, FAMILY, FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE:

Catholic Women's Group - Social and service opportunities for women

Coffee Sundays - Fellowship after Mass with coffee and conversation

Craft Group - Creative fellowship - knitting for the homeless

Flowers & Decorating - Help beautify the church for seasons and liturgies

Funeral Receptions - Hospitality for grieving families

Gardening Committee - Keep our church grounds beautiful

Helping Hands - Supports those experiencing homelessness in our community

Hope & Life for Widows - Support and community for women who have lost a spouse

Knights of Columbus - Catholic men in service and fraternity

Legion of Mary - Evangelization through prayer and service

Livestreaming Team - Help broadcast Masses and events online

Meditation - Come find peace in Christ through contemplative prayer

Parish Vitality Ministry - Supports community life organizing social events that bring people together

***Rosary Apostolate** - Foster devotion to Our Lady through prayer

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Serving those in need with compassion. Food bank and other resources

Notes:

Parental/Guardian consent is required for youth under the age of 18

*** May require a vulnerable sector/police check**

Around the Parish

Sunday, March 8

**Sunday Masses 8:30am, 10:15am, 12:00pm,
5:00pm, 7:00pm**

**Parish Breakfast after 8:30am, 10:15am,
12:00pm Masses**

10:15am Children's Liturgy (Hall)
12:30pm Christian Initiation of Adults - Breaking
Open the Word (Council Room)
6:00pm Summit Night (Hall)

Monday, March 9

8:00am Mass
9:30am Faith Studies (Hall)
6:30pm Junior EDGE (Hall)
7:00pm KOC Officers Meeting (Council Room)

Tuesday, March 10

8:00am Mass
1:45pm Legion of Mary (Council Room)
7:30pm Christian Initiation of Adults (Hall)

Wednesday, March 11

8:40am Archbishop Denis O' Connor CSS Chapel
Mass (School)
9:30am Bible Study (Hall)
6:00pm Enrolment Meetings with Confirmandi
(Hall)
6:15pm Confession
7:00pm Marriage prep course (Hall Stage side)
7:00pm CWG Executive Meeting (Council Room)
7:30pm Mass

Thursday, March 12

8:00am Mass
6:15pm Choir Practice - 12:00pm Mass (Church)
6:30pm ALPHA (Hall)

Friday, March 13

8:00am Mass
8:30am Adoration
8:30am Confession
2:30pm Outreach Mass (Ballycliffe Lodge)
7:00pm Stations of the Cross (Church)

Saturday, March 14

7:30am St Joseph Men's Prayer (Hall)
9:00am Mass
9:00am Lenten Day of Recollection (Church, Hall)
3:45pm Confession
5:00pm Mass

Supporting our Parish Community

These Businesses are Owned & Operated by Parishioners



Qdine Japanese & Thai Fusion

676 Monarch Ave Unit 12, Ajax, ON L1S4S2
Hours: Wed-Mon: 12-9pm, Tues: CLOSED
Phone: 905-428-8282



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