



Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2026

St. Bernadette Catholic Church

21 Bayly Street East, Ajax, Ontario L1S 1P2

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

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Friends,

As we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the Christmas season draws to a close—but the mission of Christ, and our mission as His disciples, comes sharply into focus.

In today's Gospel, Jesus steps into the waters of the Jordan, not because He needs repentance, but to stand in solidarity with us. As He rises from the water, the heavens open, the Spirit descends, and the Father's voice is heard: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." This moment reveals not only who Jesus is, but who we are called to be.

Our own baptism unites us to this same mystery. Through baptism, we are claimed by God, filled with the Holy Spirit, and welcomed into the life of Christ and His Church. It is not simply a past event or a family celebration—it is the foundation of our Christian identity. In baptism, we become beloved sons and daughters of God, called to live differently because we belong to Him.

This feast invites us to remember who we are and whose we are. Each day, we are called to live out our baptismal promises: to reject sin, to trust in God, and to witness to Christ through lives of faith, love, and service. Baptism commissions us—it sends us into the world to bring Christ's light into our homes, workplaces, schools, and community.

As we begin Ordinary Time, may we renew our gratitude for the gift of baptism and recommit ourselves to living as God's beloved children, confident that He is still well pleased when we walk in His ways.

With love and prayers,

Fr. 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
Aquila 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

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, Albertina Caruso, and Fred Chafe.**

We pray for the repose of the souls of **Sheila Canning, and Robert Nagtalon.**

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

Funeral Announcements

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of parishioner **Robert Nagtalon.**

The Funeral Mass for Robert will be celebrated at St. Bernadette's on **Monday, January 12 at 11:00am**, followed by burial at St. Francis de Sales Cemetery, Norton Rd., Pickering.

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of parishioner **Sheila Canning.**

The Funeral Mass for Sheila will be celebrated at St. Bernadette's on **Thursday, January 15 at 11:00am.**

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 January, we celebrate with:

Jan 2	John & Ogochukwu Aruwa	(7 years)
Jan 5	Martha & Rudy Thomas	(46 years)
Jan 7	Joseph & Juliet Rupin	(31 years)
Jan 17	Jose & Linia Shaji	(27 years)
Jan 17	Arlene & Joel Valdez	(25 years)
Jan 27	Santos & Mary Bartolata	(35 years)

Coffee Sunday



We invite all parishioners to join us this weekend for our first Coffee Sunday of 2026 - **January 11**, following the 8:30am, 10:15am, and Noon Masses in the Parish Hall. Coffee Sundays are an important part of parish life at St. Bernadette's. Let's make 2026 a year of joyful community. Next Coffee Sunday: **January 25.**

Mass Intentions

Saturday January 10

500pm + Phelomina David

Sunday January 11 - The Baptism of the Lord

830am + Yvonne Jezioranski

500pm + Mary Spillane

700pm + Marciano Villena

Monday January 12 - St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

800am ~ The Beattie family

Tuesday January 13 - St. Hilary

800am + Margaret Meister

Wednesday January 14

7:30pm + Jamie Villafuerte

+ Patricia Allen

+ Peter Azavedo

+ Elaine Elden

+ Eileen Wood

Thursday January 15 - St. Raymond of Penyafort

800am + Claudia Gervasi-Missen

Friday January 16

800am + Jamie Villafuerte

Saturday January 17

900am + Lucio & Aurea Tan

+ Dylan Gilmour

+ Maria Kapular

~ Olive Mark

From the Pews

Beginning **Sunday February 1**, and showcasing every other week, we will feature in the bulletin a short profile highlighting some of the many families and individuals in our Parish who do so much in serving the Lord and all of us.

Finance Council

Periodically, Father Chris looks for active parishioners with special gifts and talents to serve as part of the three Stewardship (Advisory) Councils of the Parish - the Finance Council, the Pastoral Council and the Building Council. If you work in finance and might be able to help us, please contact the Vice-Chair of our Finance Council, Mrs. Denise Carson - dtfcarson@gmail.com

Take Home a Part of Christmas



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the Christmas season, and as we begin taking down the Christmas décor in the Nave, we are looking for good homes for the poinsettias. If you would like one, we ask for a donation of \$5 or more, with all proceeds supporting our parish.

PA Day Camp - January 23



Children in grades JK - grade 6 are invited to our parish PA DAY Camp on **Friday January 23, 9:00am - 3:00pm**, in the Parish Hall! Our program will feature the miracles of Jesus and will include activities, movie, snacks, and crafts.

The camp costs \$20/child. Registration is now open! Please click the link to register: <https://bit.ly/4jCqtRO>

For Our Young People

Our Youth Ministry programs are underway for the new year. Below are the upcoming dates for all our youth programs.

JUNIOR EDGE (Grades 1-4) | 6:30pm-8:00pm

Next Jr. EDGE Night: Monday January 12

EDGE (Grades 5-8) | 7:00pm-8:30pm

Next EDGE Night: Friday January 23

SUMMIT (Grades 9-12) | 6:00pm-8:30pm

Next Summit Night: Sunday Jan. 25

Faith Studies

Gaudium et Spes - The Church in the Modern World

Join us on **Monday, January 12 at 9:30am** in the Parish Hall as we explore the Vatican II document *Gaudium et Spes*, which speaks to the Church's mission in today's world. This study runs for 4 sessions and includes a video presentation and small group discussion. All are welcome!

[Click this link to view the *Gaudium et Spes* document.](#)

Fr. Augustus Tolton - From Slavery to Sainthood

Join us on **Monday, February 9 at 9:30am** in the Parish Hall for an inspiring video and discussion on the life of Fr. Augustus Tolton, the first recognized Black Catholic priest in the United States. Born into slavery and facing great obstacles, Fr. Tolton persevered in faith and became a powerful witness to the Gospel. His story is one of courage, perseverance, and deep love for the Church. All are welcome!

The Crucifixion: A Priestly Act and a Nuptial Act"

Join us on **Monday, February 23 at 9:30am** in the Parish Hall as we explore Dr. John Bergsma's powerful teaching on how St. John's Gospel reveals the Crucifixion as both Christ's priestly sacrifice and His self-giving love as Bridegroom. Through Scripture and Church teaching, we are invited to see the Cross, and the Eucharist in a deeper and more meaningful way. A video presentation followed by discussion. All are welcome!

Alpha



Our Alpha Course runs on **Thursdays from 6:30pm - 8:30pm**. Alpha provides a space to ask all your questions about life, faith, and meaning in a friendly setting with people who, like you, want to explore life's big questions in a low-pressure environment.

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. For more information, please visit our website: <https://www.stbernajax.com/alpha>

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 prepare 1 meal over the next 10 weeks.

Your Parish Needs You!

As we begin a new year, there are many ways to share your time and talents at St. Bernadette's. Your involvement helps strengthen our parish community and bring Christ's love to others. Above all, becoming a volunteer allows you to answer God's call by using the gifts he has entrusted you with.

Explore the opportunities below and consider how you can make a difference this year. For a complete list, see our Ministry Page, or come by the Welcome Desk for more information!

Ministry of Hospitality

The Ministry of Hospitality serve 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.

Welcome Desk

Our Welcome Desk plays an important role in parish life. It is where we welcome new parishioners, help people connect with ministries, and assist visitors and parishioners with finding what they need.

Ready to Make a Difference?

If you feel called to serve as a parish volunteer and have a friendly spirit and enjoy helping others, we'd love for you to get involved as a parish volunteer! If you are interested but do not know which ministry you are called towards, you can still reach out to us! Sign up online, stop by the Welcome Desk, or contact the Parish Office for more information!

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 - Small group sessions designed to build discipleship

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

January 11 - January 17

Sunday January 11

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

8:30am, 10:15am, 12:00pm: Coffee Sunday

10:15am: Children's Liturgy (Hall)

12:30pm: Christian Initiation of Adults - Breaking Open the Word (Council Room)

6:00pm: SUMMIT Night (Hall)

Monday January 12

8:00am: Mass

9:30am: Faith Studies (Hall)

11:00am: Funeral of Robert Nagtalon

6:30pm: Junior EDGE Night (Hall)

7:00pm: Knights of Columbus - Officer's Meeting (Council Room)

Tuesday January 13

8:00am: Mass

1:45pm: Legion of Mary (Council Room)

6:00pm: **Semester 1** First Holy Communion Mass (Church)

6:00pm: Confirmation Class (Hall)

7:30pm: Christian Initiation of Adults (Hall)

Wednesday January 14

9:30am: Bible Study (Hall)

10:00am: Communion

Outreach Mass (Ballycliffe Lodge)

10:00am: St. James CES Mass (School)

6:00pm: **Semester 2** First Holy Communion Preparation Class (Hall)

6:15pm: Confession

7:00pm: Catholic Women's Group (Council Room)

7:30pm: Mass

Thursday January 15

8:00am: Mass

11:00am: Funeral of Sheila Canning

6:30pm: Alpha (Hall)

7:00pm: Finance Council Meeting (Boardroom)

Friday January 16

8:00am: Mass

8:30am: Adoration

8:30am: Confession

7:00pm: Jesus Youth (Hall)

Saturday January 17

7:30am: St Joseph Men's Prayer (Hall)

9:00am: Mass

9:30am: Christian Initiation of Young People Class (Hall)

11:00am: **Semester 1** First Holy Communion Mass (Church)

11:00am: **Semester 2** First Holy Communion Preparation Class (Hall)

1:00pm: Confirmation Class (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

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