



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time [B]

January 21, 2024

St. Bernadette Catholic Church

21 Bayly Street East, Ajax, Ontario L1S 1P2

Phone: 905-683-1533

PARISH MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASSES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Early Morning Masses – Wednesday 6:30am
Morning Masses – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday | 8:00am :: Saturday 9:00am
Evening Masses – Wednesday 7:30pm

PARISH CONFESSIONS

Wednesdays 6:30pm-7:15pm Fridays 8:30am-9:30am Saturdays 4:00-4:45pm

**Also, by appointment with the clergy*

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

First Fridays of month 8:30am-12:00pm (Angelus at Noon) All other Fridays 8:30am-9:30am

PARISH OFFICE

PARISH STAFF

Father Chris Lemieux, *Pastor*

Father Kevin Adriano, *Associate Pastor*

Robert LeBlanc, *Lay Pastoral Associate*

Monika Matelski, *Youth Coordinator*

Marva Thomas, *Administrative Assistant*

Celeste Gomes, *Weekend Secretary*

Sue McGee, *Parish Bookkeeper*

** Trish Sherwin & Michelle Duarte-Monteiro, *Office Assistants*

pastor@stbernajax.com
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lpa@stbernajax.com
youth@stbernajax.com
office3@stbernajax.com
office2@stbernajax.com
admin@stbernajax.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday

9:00am to 12:30pm

1:30pm to 4:00pm

Closed for Lunch from 12:30-1:30

Saturday and Sunday

9:30am to 2:30pm

SACRAMENTS

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

First Confession/Communion – with Parish Schools or Parish Program offered. Please speak to Robert or email lpa@stbernajax.com

Confirmation – with Parish Schools or Parish Program offered. Please speak to Robert or email lpa@stbernajax.com

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

Christian Initiation for 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 SCHOOLS

Archbishop Denis O'Connor Secondary	Jim MacNeil, <i>Principal</i>	Tim Lee Loy, <i>Chaplain</i>	905-427-6667
Notre Dame Secondary	Sonya Melim, <i>Principal</i>	Jeannine Henry, <i>Chaplain</i>	905-686-4300
St. Bernadette Elementary	Diana Assenza, <i>Principal</i>	Agnes Sararus, <i>Parish Rep</i>	905-683-0571
St. James Elementary	Geraldine Borg, <i>Principal</i>	Marisa Hall, <i>Parish Rep</i>	905-427-3327
St. Teresa of Calcutta Elementary	Sheena Paul, <i>Principal</i>	Linda Sarang, <i>Parish Rep</i>	905-426-7065

SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: <https://stbernajax.com>

YouTube: [@st.bernadetteparishajax3761](https://www.youtube.com/@st.bernadetteparishajax3761)

Twitter: [@stbernajax](https://twitter.com/stbernajax)

Facebook: [St. Bernadette Church, Ajax](https://www.facebook.com/St.BernadetteChurchAjax)

From the Pastor's Desk



My dear Friends in Christ,

Today's Gospel is a call for discipleship for all of us! None of us are meant to merely admire Jesus, but we are called to follow Him and be Disciples of Christ, actively calling others to follow Jesus. If we stop and think of why the Catholic Church is such a large and robust Christian community – it is because we have a history of MANY people through the centuries for the last 2,000+ years. Many are living out this Gospel, doing EXACTLY what Jesus called them to do in this way – giving witness and being the best Catholic Christians, they (we) can be.

Let us be encouraged by today's Gospel to give the best witness we can, doing as much as we can and calling others to do the same.

Your servant in the Lord,

Father Chris

** NEW to our PARISH?? **



We strongly encourage everyone who attends St. Bernadette's on a regular basis to consider registering. It's easy – either click on this link: [I'm New](#) or contact the Parish Office and we will help you out. We will be inviting you to join us on the 4th Sunday of each month at 1:30pm for our Starting Point Presentation where you will meet our clergy and some of our Parish Team. This is also the best way to learn more about our parish, register for baptisms, sacraments and get involved.

Thank You, Myrna Hentrich

We offer our heartfelt thanks to Myrna Hentrich for her many contributions to St. Bernadette Parish as our Parish Secretary over the past 7+ years. Myrna's employment with the parish will be ending next month after a short leave of absence. We wish Myrna well in the next stage of her journey!

Job Opportunity

We are hiring for the position of Parish Secretary. If this is something that you or someone you might know is interested in, please follow this link <https://bit.ly/3HteDaq>

Copies are also available at the Parish Office.

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:

Carmen Flores, Chandrika Puvilingham, Desmond Vieira, Luisa Matthias, Helen Holmes, Kevin Sims, Dylan Guro & Frederick Chafe.

We pray also for those who have died, and their family and friends who mourn their passing. We remember Adriana (Joanne) Stokman!

Funeral Announcement

We will continue to remember in prayer, praying for the repose of the soul of our sister Adriana Stokman. She was a much-cherished member of the St. Bernadette Choir Ministry over the years! Her funeral will be held at St. Bernadette's on Tuesday January 23rd at 11:00am.

Our Weekly Offerings



Thank you all for your continued generosity, with your time, your talents, and your treasures! This is what was shared of your treasures this week:

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY:	\$	7,116.00
LAST WEEK'S BUILDING FUND:	\$	1,681.35
BUILDING FUND TOTAL:	\$	302,187.86

January Anniversaries

Let us know of your anniversary by contacting the Parish Office. For those who wish to allow our priests to honour you with a special anniversary blessing at the end of one of the Sunday Masses, we welcome you to speak to the priest before the Mass you attend on the closest weekend for a special public blessing. **It is important that our community experiences the witness of anniversaries of marriage!**

- Jan 13th Christina & Matthew John (17 years)
- Jan 18th Bryan & Krystle González-Marshall (10 years)
- Jan 27th Mary and Santos Bartolata (32 years)
- Jan 31st Mike & Lois Sims (48 years)

Donation Envelopes

Please discontinue the use of 2023 donor envelopes and discard them appropriately. Only 2024 envelopes are to be used going forward. A reminder to stop by the parish hall to collect your 2024 envelopes if you haven't already done so.

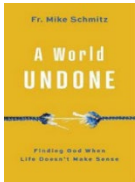
Parish Happenings & Events...

Candlelight Vigil & Memorial Mass



Thursday January 25th, we welcome all those who have registered for this Mass with their guests to join us for a Candlelight Vigil (music and candle placement starting at 6:30pm) followed by a Memorial Mass (at 7:00pm). Each registered member may offer to a maximum of ten (10) names. **For more information, please contact the Parish Office.**

Catholic Book Club



A World Undone: Finding God When Life Doesn't Make Sense by Fr. Mike Schmitz who unfolds the mystery of brokenness. Starting Monday Jan 29 to Monday Feb 13 (3 sessions) from 9:30am to 11:30am. Cost: \$15. Please register ASAP to ensure we receive the books on time. Contact Susan or Tom 905-427-6137 or susangkennedy@gmail.com

Alpha



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.

Click to register: <https://bit.ly/3R9FSet>

Breaking bread together is one of the ways Jesus met people – every Alpha session begins with a meal over casual conversation. We're looking for parishioners to help by cooking a casserole for one of our Thursday evening meals. Recipes provided, meals can be dropped off during the week. Please contact lpa@stbernajax.com if you can prepare 1 meal over the next 10 weeks.

Coffee Sunday

Meet old friends, and new ones too! Fellowship is an important part of being a Christian – knowing others who share and live the same faith you do. We begin again our Coffee Sundays, hoping you can join us! We gather after the **8:30am, 10:15am and 12:00pm** Masses in the Parish Hall. These will be very informal gatherings with coffee, tea, and hot chocolate. Upcoming dates are:

January 28

February 11

For Our Young People



Our next EDGE NIGHTS in the parish hall:

Junior EDGE Night "Life Rafts" | **Monday Jan 22 6:30pm** (grades 2-4)

EDGE Night "Road Trip" | **Friday Jan 26 at 7:00pm** (grades 5-8)

Register for EDGE & Junior EDGE: <http://bit.ly/3tlXWd6>
Email Monika for more info: youth@stbernajax.com

Bundle Up Sunday



Before and after all the Masses on the weekend of February 3 & 4, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting gently used clothing, shoes, and linens to support our neighbours in need in the community. Our truck will be parked at the southwest corner of the parking lot. The SVP and the Knights of Columbus will be present to help load your items. Please don't leave items by the truck. Thank you in advance for your support!

Knowing Our Catholic Faith...

Each week, I will write about an aspect of our Catholic Christian faith here. If there's anything YOU would like to appear here, please email me.

Purgatory

We as Catholics Christians firmly believe that when we die, our lives are judged by God: we either enter heaven or hell (hopefully heaven). If we enter heaven, we either enter immediately (as Mary did), quickly (as some saints and holy people have) or go through the purification of our souls in Purgatory. When we die in God's grace and friendship, we are assured of our eternal salvation—but we might not be perfectly purified, and we might still need to achieve that perfect holiness necessary to enter Heaven. Purgatory is a place of love and mercy, where God's cleansing "fire" purifies us from all our attachments to this world and burns away the temporal punishment of our sins. We call the souls in purgatory the "Church Suffering" because they are so close to heaven but can't enter yet. We can help the souls in purgatory by praying for them and offering up our sacrifices and good works for them. Let us always remember to pray for the souls in purgatory that they may finally enter the Kingdom of Heaven and that they may remember us here on this side of eternity – and let us remember that how we live this life is important the gift of the eternal life given us by God.

Next week...The Creed.

Parish Ministries Serving All

There are many ways big and small to “get involved” around St. Bernadette’s. These are some of the ways and our ministries continue to evolve and give life to new ministries too. The Ministry Coordinator (leaders) are listed but please call/email the Parish Office for more details on our various ministries.

ADVISORY COUNCILS

Property/Building Mark-André Simard, Vice-Chair

Finance Denise Carson, Vice-Chair

Pastoral Jennifer Del Monte, Vice-Chair

Volunteers Tim & Desiree Plaus

Councils are appointed advisory committees to the Pastor who assist him in the important decisions he makes administering the parish. We are always looking for parishioners with special skills for these councils.

The Alpha Course	Robert LeBlanc
Altar Servers	Lianson Wilson
Bereavement Ministry	Shanti Ferdinand
Bible Study	Susan Kennedy
Bingo	Anne Marie Dennis
Catholic Mom’s Group	Cathy Haynes
Coffee Thursdays	Julia Beattie
Coffee Sundays	Denise Carson
	Julia Beattie
Children’s Liturgy	Robert Zuzarte
Saturday 500pm Choir	Ronnie Pasajol
Sunday 830am Choir	Tatjana Smrekar
Sun 1015am Choir (children)	Michelle Kirkwood
Sunday 1200pm Choir	Ronnie Pasajol
Sunday 500pm Choir	Ronnie Pasajol
Sunday 700pm Choir	Stan Rodrigo
Funeral Choir	Phyl Birch
Collection Counters	Catherine Sheridan
EDGE Youth Group	Monika Matelski
Junior EDGE Youth Group	Monika Matelski
Eucharistic Ministers	Karen Takacs
Lectors (readers)	Jennifer Del Monte
Craft Group	Beatrice Zuzarte
Rosary Makers	Phyl Birch
Knights of Columbus	John Kelley
Daughters of Isabella	Sandra Kolsteren
Flowers & Decorating	Catherine Sheridan
Funeral Receptions	Julia Beattie
Handmaids of the Lord	Rhea Nazareno
Hope & Life for Widows	Jeanette Pinto
Horizons of Hope	Eleanor Lee
Legion of Mary	Valeria Chovancova

Livestreaming Team	Desiree Plaus
Understanding Our Faith	Susan Kennedy
Meditation	Trevor Pereira
Ministry of Hospitality	Faizul & Vinette Rahim
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	Sharron Monk
Street Patrol	Desiree Plaus
Rosary Apostolate	Susan Dulny
Truth & Reconciliation	Rose Gomme
Wedding Coordinators	Marisa Hall
Young Adult Ministry	Father Kevin

Sacramental Preparation

Baptism	Father Chris
Baptism Coordinators	Father Chris
First Communion	Robert LeBlanc
Confirmation	Robert LeBlanc
Marriage Preparation	Dax Magsisi
Adult Initiation (RCIA)	Robert LeBlanc
Initiation for Young People	Robert LeBlanc

Communion Outreach

Please contact the Parish Office, as staff coordinate most of our outreach ministries. Special training is required.

Communion to Homebound	Denise Carson
Harwood Place	Mark-Andre Simard
Harwood Manor	Susan Falcone
Ballycliffe	Ian & Sharon Pinto
Ajax-Pickering Hospital	Ian & Sharon Pinto
Lakeridge Gardens	Ian & Sharon Pinto

School Council Parish Liaisons

St. Bernadette Elementary	Agnes Sararus
St. James Elementary	Marisa Hall
St. Teresa of Calcutta	Linda Sarang
Denis O’Connor Secondary	Cathy Haynes

**** Your Parish Needs You ****

We continue to look for the generosity and gifts of our people (YOU) and ask that you consider volunteering in one of our parish ministries.

Signing up is easy!! Take a few moments to fill in our form at <https://bit.ly/45ds0og>

OR EMAIL US at stbernajax.volunteer@gmail.com

Around the Parish This Week

Sunday January 21 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

830am, 1015am, 1200pm, 500pm, 700pm – Masses
1115am Sacramental Parent Retreat (Hall)
1230pm RCIA-Breaking Open the Word (Council Rm)
100pm Sacramental Parent Retreat

Monday January 22 – Saint Vincent

800am Mass
930am Understanding Our Faith (Hall)
630pm Junior Edge (Hall)

Tuesday January 23

800am Mass
200pm Legion of Mary (Council Room)
600pm Confirmation Class (Stage side)
730pm RCIA (Hall)

Wednesday January 24 – Saint Francis de Sales

630am Mass
930am Bible Study (Stage Side)
600pm FHC-Reconciliation Class (Hall)
630pm Parish Confessions
730pm Mass
730pm Bible Study (Stage Side)

Thursday January 25 – The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle

800am Mass
900am Social Café (Kitchen Side)
930am Ladies Craft Group (Stage Side)
630pm Alpha (Hall)
630pm Candlelight Vigil & Memorial Mass

Friday January 26 – Saint Timothy and Saint Titus

800am Mass
830am Adoration
830am Parish Confessions
930am Rosary Makers (Stage Side)
630pm EDGE (Hall)

Saturday January 27 – Saint Angela Merici

900am Mass
930am Meditation (Council Room)
1100am Baptism
1100am FHC-Reconciliation Class (Hall)
100pm Ministry of Hospitality Leadership Meeting (Church)
100pm Confirmation Class (Stage Side)
400pm Parish Confessions
500pm Mass

Sunday January 28 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coffee Sunday After 830am, 1015am & 1200pm Mass

830am, 1015am, 1200pm, 500pm, 700pm – Masses
1230pm RCIA-Breaking Open the Word (Council Rm)

Mass Intentions This Week

Saturday January 20

900am ~Bobby Maskey
+For the souls in purgatory
+Herman Navarra
+Edward Atanacio
+Susan Campbell Evans
500pm + Eduardo Martin Sr.

Sunday January 21

830am ~ Intention of the Power Family
1200pm Missa Pro Populo
500pm + Jeremiah O'Connor
700pm + Edward Atanacio

Monday January 22

800am + Robert Joseph Saptel

Tuesday January 23

800am + Dylan Gilmour

Wednesday January 24

730pm ~ Intention of Seran Sinanon
~ Intention of Asher Teo Jeon
~ Intention of Cynthia Etcuban
~ Intention of Siobhan McMahon

Thursday January 25

800am + Elmatie Machado

Friday January 26

800am + The deceased members of the Byrne-Buck Family

Saturday January 27

900am + Laurence McMahon
~ Intention of the O'Brien Family
~ Intention of Oscar Valbuena Sr.
~ Intention of Anna Jaesuh Ahn
500pm + The deceased members of the Kennedy Family

Sunday January 28

830am + Mercedes Deza Cruz
1200pm Missa Pro Populo
700pm + Issac Maricar

Supporting our Parish Community

These Businesses are Owned & Operated by Parishioners



Adrian Joseph CPA, CGA, TEP

Adrian Joseph CPA Professional Corporation

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adrian@adrianjosephcpa.com

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Realtor Services

Are you planning to
Buy, Sell, Rent
real estate/property?



Al Basilio, Sales Representative
Right at Home Realty Brokerage
Cell: 289-892-3981
email: aledwardbasilio@gmail.com
web: albasilio.ca



The Celestial Quartet are the Rodrigo Family who offer us music at the Sunday 7:00pm Mass (as well as at other times). Pictured are Adrian, Gia, Amy & Jeremy Rodrigo. Here is a YouTube Channel for the viewing of their music:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1PgqJK6Gis>