



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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 21, 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's Gospel (Luke 16:10-13) reminds us that "whoever is faithful in very little is faithful also in much." Jesus calls us to be trustworthy stewards of all that God has entrusted to us—our time, our talents, and our treasure. Stewardship is not simply about giving money or volunteering out of duty; it is a way of life rooted

in gratitude.

Everything we have—our gifts, our opportunities, our relationships—are blessings from God. When we use them generously, we not only glorify Him but also help build up His Kingdom here at St. Bernadette's. Stewardship is about asking, "How can I use what God has given me to make a difference?"

This Stewardship Sunday, I invite each of us to prayerfully reflect: How am I using my time to grow in prayer and serve others? How am I sharing my talents for the good of the parish community? How am I offering my treasure to support the mission of the Church?

When we are faithful in small things—showing up to Mass, serving where we are needed, giving sacrificially—God entrusts us with even greater things. May we respond with generous hearts, so that together we can continue to grow as a vibrant, welcoming parish community.

Faithfully yours, 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 16	Michael & Rosemarie Davies	(25 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 21st - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

830am ~ Austin Holman
500pm ~ Elma Dumrique
700pm + The Solicar family

Monday September 22nd

800am + Consuelo (Lily) Sañosa

Tuesday September 23rd - St. Pius of Pietrelcina

800am ~ Josephine Sugirtham

Wednesday September 24th - Blessed Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin

730pm + Herman Naverra
+ Sam Seevaratnam
+ Stella Seevaratnam

Thursday September 25th - St. Cosmas & St. Damian

800am + Rev. James Adams

Friday September 26th - St. John de Brébeuf, St. Isaac Jogues & Companions

800am ~ Champa

Saturday September 27th - St. Vincent de Paul

900am + Ernest King
+ Mary Fredrick
+ Kevin Callahan
~ Dana Dumo
~ Evelyn Umali
500pm + Marc Larock

Coffee Sunday



We warmly invite everyone to our first **Fall Coffee Sunday** on **September 28**, following the 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, and 12:00 Noon Masses in the Parish

Hall. Come enjoy refreshments, reconnect with friends, and help us welcome new faces into the St. Bernadette's church community.

Join us again on October 5! All are welcome!

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

Help out with Alpha



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

Alpha at St. Bernadette's is looking for parishioners to help by cooking a casserole for one of our Thursday evening meals. Recipes will be provided, and meals can be dropped off during the week to be re-heated when needed.

If you can prepare 1 casserole over the next 10 weeks, please contact Robert lpa@stbernajax.com

Martyrs' Shrine Pilgrimage

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to have journeyed together on pilgrimage to the Martyrs' Shrine. It was a truly joyful and spiritually enriching experience, one filled with prayer, reflection, and a profound sense of peace. Walking in the footsteps of the Canadian Martyrs reminded us of the strength of faith and the beauty of community.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this pilgrimage so meaningful. May the graces we received continue to inspire and guide us in our daily lives.

A photo gallery of the pilgrimage will be uploaded to our website soon!

New!!! Summit Teen Ministry

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

On **Sunday October 19**, our parish inaugurates a **New Teen Ministry called Summit** 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

Youth Ministry Launch Dates

Jr. Edge & EDGE Registration is open:

<http://bit.ly/45RGtdU>

\$40/youth or \$35/youth for 2 or more from same household for the whole year. All youth ministries run October to June.

Junior Edge (Grades 1-4)

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

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

LAUNCH DATE: Friday October 24, 2025

SUMMIT Teen Ministry Registration is open:

<http://bit.ly/3VjfDEY>

Suggested fee for the year is \$40/youth.

SUMMIT TEEN MINISTRY (Grades 9-12)

Bi-weekly Sundays (see bulletin board)
6:00pm-8:00pm in the Parish Hall

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

Candlelight Vigil & Memorial Mass



Our next Candlelight Vigil and Memorial Mass will be held on **Friday October 17 at 6:30pm**. We welcome all those who have registered for this Mass along with their guests. The Candlelight Vigil begins at 6:30pm followed by the Memorial Mass at 7:00pm. Each registered member may offer a maximum of eight (8) names.

The Vigil will begin with meditative instrumental music and conclude with special prayers. The Celebrant will offer Mass for all the intentions listed, at the beginning of the Mass. Celebrating the life of family members and friends is an important way to stay connected to those for whom we pray and who pray for us. We ask for a suggested donation of \$25 for the commemorative candle that is yours to keep!

For more information, please visit us at the Welcome Desk or contact the Parish Office.

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 21-27		
	Monday Sept 22 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) Tuesday Sept 23 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room)	Wednesday Sept 24 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) Thursday Sept 25 6:00pm - First Holy Communion Parent Info Meeting (Hall) 7:30pm - Confirmation Parent Info Meeting (Hall)	Saturday Sept 27 10:00am - First Holy Communion Parent Info Meeting (Hall) 11:00am - Baptism (Church) 11:30am - Confirmation Parent Info Meeting (Hall)
	September 28-October 4		
	Sunday Sep 28 Coffee Sunday in the Hall after the 8:30am, 10:15am and noon Masses Monday Sept 29 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) 6:00pm - Baptism Prep Class (Stage Side) Tuesday Sept 30 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room)	Wednesday October 1 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) 7:00pm - Marriage Prep Course (Stage side)	Thursday October 2 10:00am - Hope and Life (Kitchen Side) 10:00am - Ladies Craft Group (Stage Side) 6:30pm - Alpha (Hall) Saturday October 4 7:30am - St. Joseph's Men's Prayer Breakfast (Hall)
	October 5-11		
	Sunday October 5 Coffee Sunday in the Hall after the 8:30am, 10:15am and noon Masses 2:00pm - Life Chain (Front of the Church) 3:00pm - Life Chain Refreshments (Hall) 6:00pm - Teen Ministry Core Team Meeting (Hall) Monday October 6 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) 6:00pm - Baptism Prep Class (Stage Side) 7:00pm - SSVP meeting (Council Room)	Tuesday October 7 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 7:30pm - Christian Initiation of Adults (Hall) Wednesday October 8 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) 7:00pm - Marriage Prep Course (Stage side) 7:00pm - Catholic Women's Guild - Executive Meeting (Council Room)	Thursday October 9 6:30pm - Alpha (Hall) Friday October 10 7:00pm - Jesus Youth (Hall) Saturday October 11 7:30am - St. Joseph's Men's Prayer Breakfast (Hall) 11:00am - Baptism (Church) 1:30pm - Rosary Rally
FALL 2025	October 12-18		
	Monday October 13 - Thanksgiving Day Tuesday October 14 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 7:00pm - K of C Meeting (Council Room) 7:30pm - Christian Initiation of Adults (Hall)	Wednesday October 15 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) 11:45am - CWG Potluck (Hall) 6:00pm - FHC Class (Kitchen Side) 7:00pm - Marriage Prep Course (Stage Side) 7:30pm - Daughters of Isabella (Council Room) Thursday October 16 6:30pm - Alpha (Hall) 7:00pm - Finance Council Meeting (Boardroom)	Friday October 17 6:30pm - Candlelight Vigil & Memorial Mass (Church) 6:30pm - Edge Core Team Training (Hall) Saturday October 18 7:30am - St. Joseph's Men's Prayer Breakfast (Hall) 9:30am - RCIC Class (Council Room) 11:00am - FHC Class (Hall)

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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