



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 5, 2025

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

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

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,



In this Sunday's Gospel (Luke 17:5-10), the disciples beg the Lord: "Increase our faith!" Jesus reminds them that even faith the size of a mustard seed can do the impossible. This is a powerful reminder that faith is not something we manufacture on our own—it is a gift from God.

When we pause to reflect, two of the greatest gifts we have received are the **gift of life** and the **gift of faith**. Life itself is pure gift: none of us chose to be born, and every breath we take is sustained by God's loving hand. To cherish life means to recognize its sacredness—our own lives, and the lives of those around us, especially the vulnerable, the sick, and the forgotten.

The second gift, faith, opens our eyes to see life not as random or meaningless, but as purposeful and filled with hope. Faith helps us face trials with courage, endure suffering with trust, and rejoice in blessings with gratitude. Even the smallest seed of faith can grow and transform our lives, if we allow God to water it.

This week, I invite you to take time to celebrate both these gifts—life and faith. Cherish them, nurture them, and share them. For when we live with gratitude for these two greatest treasures, we truly become witnesses of God's love in the world.

Your servant, 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

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 Madonna Dwyer.

Please let us know if you would like to be prayed for. 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.

This month we celebrate with:

Oct 1	Brendan & Kate McKnight	(14 years)
Oct 6	Neville & Raakel Barbeito	(24 years)
Oct 7	Manuel Magtibay & Chua Ruby	(35 years)
Oct 10	Andrew & Priscilla Limgenco	(15 years)
Oct 10	Odetta and Albin Mendonca	(43 years)
Oct 11	John and Maria Cardinale	(50 years)
Oct 12	Helene & Alfred Blakeley	(62 years)

Life Chain

This **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. We will assemble in front of St. Bernadette's, at the corner of Bayly & Harwood. Fellowship and light refreshments to follow in the parish hall.

Baptism Coordinators

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for parishioners to serve as **Baptism Coordinators**. Volunteers assist by preparing for the celebration (*setting up of candles, pew signs, towels, etc.*), welcoming families, and supporting the liturgy. Training and guidance will be provided.

If you would like to help families celebrate this beautiful sacrament, [click here to fill in our Volunteer Form](#), or contact the Parish Office or stop by the Welcome Desk.

Mass Intentions

Sunday October 5th - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

830am + BABY Maya Generoux
500pm ~ In thanksgiving for Bernadette Bonto
700pm + Issac Maricar

Monday October 6th - St. Bruno

800am ~ Julia Beattie

Tuesday October 7th - Our Lady of the Rosary

800am + Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday October 8th

730pm + Felice Falcone
+ Colleen Bakermans
+ Imelda Ohalloran
+ Zenaita Antiporda

Thursday October 9th - St. Denis and Companions

800am + Souls in Purgatory

Friday October 10th

800am ~ Champa Shetty

Saturday October 10th - St. John XXIII

900am + Preston Mark
+ Bessie Emerson
+ Lurthama Karunathirajah
~ Julia Beattie
~ In celebration of John & Maria
Cardinale wedding anniversary
500pm ~ Lucy Mendes

Coffee Sunday



We invite everyone this weekend **October 5** for **Coffee Sunday**, following the 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, and 12:00 Noon Masses in the Parish Hall.

Enjoy light refreshments, catch up with friends, and help us greet new faces as we continue to grow together at St. Bernadette's.

Join us again on October 19! All are welcome!

Harvest Dinner



The parish fund raising committee will be hosting a Harvest Dinner on **Saturday October 25 @ 6pm**. Tickets are now available at the Parish Office and Welcome Desk.

Cost: Adults \$25, and Kids \$15 (*ages of 5-10 years old*).

For more information, please contact:

Linda Sarang @ 416-523-2062, linda4791@gmail.com
or Julia Beattie @ 905-683-1373

Thanksgiving Food Drive



Our St Vincent de Paul Society will be hosting a Thanksgiving food drive **this weekend: October 4th & 5th** and need your assistance to replenish depleted supplies. Food bins will be placed outside the main church doors for your

donations before and after **All weekend Masses**. Volunteers will be available to collect donations at that time. Please **do not** drop items off outside or around the church at other times.

The following items are most frequently requested by our neighbours in need:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| ** Canned Soups | ** Coffee & Tea |
| ** Canned Vegetables | ** Jam |
| ** Canned Fruit | ** Canned Tuna |
| ** Kraft Dinner | ** Peanut Butter |
| ** Pasta | ** Kids snacks & cookies |
| ** Pasta Sauce | ** Rice |

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

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

Rosary Rally



All are invited to join in a 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!**

Candlelight Vigil & Memorial Mass



A Candlelight Vigil and Memorial Mass will be held on **Friday October 17 at 6:30pm, for the deceased**. 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.

Blessing of Pets



This **Sunday October 5**, between **2:00pm and 3:00pm**, Father will be offering blessings of pets. This will be done in the parking lot, near the rectory garage door. Please ensure pets are leashed and supervised.

Rosary Apostolate



We invite all parishioners interested in being part of the St. Bernadette's Rosary Apostolate to join us for a meeting on **Thursday October 9th, @7:00pm**, in the church. We will bring together our current **Rosary Apostolate** and **Rosary Makers** groups, and are looking for new members, as we unite our efforts to deepen devotion to Our Lady.

There are many ways to get involved and help strengthen our parish's commitment to guiding others to Jesus through Mary. **If you feel called, we look forward to seeing you at the meeting.**

St. Joseph's Men's Prayer

~That Man Is You~

THAT MAN IS YOU! is an interactive men's program focused on the development of male leadership in the modern world. It combines the best research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of authentic men capable of transforming themselves, their families and greater society.

This program will run weekly on **Saturdays 7:30am to 9:00am, starting October 25**. All men of our parish are invited to attend.

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.

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.

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	October 5-11		
	<u>Sunday October 5 - Thanksgiving Food Drive</u> Sunday Masses: 8:30am, 10:15am, 12:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm Coffee Sunday in the Hall after the 8:30am, 10:15am and noon Masses 10:15am - Children's Liturgy (Council Rm) 2:00pm - Blessing of Pets (Parking Lot, near rectory) 2:00pm - Life Chain (Front of the Church) 3:00pm - Life Chain Refreshments (Hall)	<u>Tuesday October 7</u> 8:00am - Mass 8:30am - Notre Dame CSS Opening School Mass (School) 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 6:30pm - Summit Core Team Training (Hall) 7:30pm - Christian Initiation of Adults (Hall)	<u>Thursday October 9</u> 8:00am - Mass 10:00am - Archbishop Denis O'Connor CSS Opening School Mass (School) 6:30pm - Alpha (Hall) 6:30pm - Wedding Coordinator Meeting (Church) 7:00pm - Rosary Apostolate Meeting (Church)
	<u>Monday October 6</u> 8:00am - Mass 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) 6:00pm - Baptism Prep Class (Stage Side) 7:00pm - SSVP meeting (Council Room)	<u>Wednesday October 8</u> 6:30am - Mass 8:40am - Archbishop Denis O'Connor CSS Chapel Mass (School) 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) 10:00am - Outreach Mass (Ballycliffe Lodge) 6:15pm - Adoration (Church) 6:30pm - Confessions (Church) 7:00pm - Marriage Prep Course (Stage side) 7:00pm - Catholic Women's Guild - Executive Meeting (Council Room) 7:30pm - Mass	<u>Friday October 10</u> 8:00am - Mass 8:30am - Adoration (Church) 8:30am - Confessions (Church) 6:30pm - Vitality Ministry (Kitchen Side) 7:00pm - Jesus Youth (Stage Side)
	<u>Saturday October 11</u> 9:00am - Mass 11:00am - Baptism (Church) 1:30pm - Rosary Rally (Front of the Church) 4:00pm - Confessions (Church) 5:00pm - Mass		
	October 12-18		
	<u>Sunday October 12:</u> Sunday Masses: 8:30am, 10:15am, 12:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm 10:15am - Children's Liturgy (Council Rm)	<u>Wednesday October 15</u> 6:30am - Mass 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) 10:00am - St. James CES School Mass (Church) 6:00pm - First Holy Communion Class (Kitchen Side) 6:15pm - Adoration (Church) 6:30pm - Confessions (Church) 7:00pm - Marriage Prep Course (Stage Side) 7:30pm - Mass 7:30pm - Daughters of Isabella (Council Room)	<u>Friday October 17</u> 8:00am - Mass 8:30am - Adoration (Church) 8:30am - Confessions (Church) 1:00pm - Wedding Ceremony of Justin & Fallon (Church) 6:30pm - Candlelight Vigil & Memorial Mass (Church) 6:30pm - Edge Core Team Training (Hall)
	<u>Monday October 13 - Thanksgiving Day</u> 9:00am - Mass Parish Office Closed	<u>Thursday October 16</u> 8:00am - Mass 9:45am - St. Teresa of Calcutta CES - Bible Blessing (School) 6:30pm - Alpha (Hall) 7:00pm - Finance Council Meeting (Boardroom)	<u>Saturday October 18</u> 9:00am - Mass 9:30am - Christian Initiation of Young People Class (Council Room) 11:00am - First Holy Communion Class (Hall) 4:00pm - Confessions (Church) 5:00pm - Mass
	<u>Tuesday October 14</u> 8:00am - Mass 1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 7:00pm - K of C Officers Meeting (Council Room) 7:30pm - Christian Initiation of Adults (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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