



First Sunday of Lent [B] February 18, 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*
 Sue McGee, *Parish Bookkeeper*

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

pastor@stbernajax.com
associate@stbernajax.com
office@stbernajax.com
lpa@stbernajax.com
youth@stbernajax.com
office3@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> Twitter: [@stbernajax](https://twitter.com/stbernajax)
 YouTube: [@st.bernadetteparishajax3761](https://www.youtube.com/@st.bernadetteparishajax3761) Facebook: [St. Bernadette Church, Ajax](https://www.facebook.com/St.BernadetteChurchAjax)

From the Pastor's Desk



My dear Friends in Christ,

Today, we celebrate the first Sunday of Lent. As we begin Lent each year, we start with Jesus in the desert – a time for our Lord to focus Himself and center Himself in the Father's love – to deny Himself, prepare Himself to pick up His Cross and to do what He came into the world to do. In Lent, we are reminded that we have been called to the same – a share and part of the Mission of Jesus Christ and everything our Catholic Church and Catholic Christian faith is about comes from a long line of saints and devoted disciples, starting out with Our Lady, the Apostles and early Christian Disciples living out that mission for us – faithfully.

Friends, as I reflect on the many wonderful people, I have come to know in the St. Bernadette's Parish community, we have many people who give witness to us and are an example to me – but let us pray as a family of faith that we may come to grow more deeply in our own discipleship call through this Lenten season.

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.

For urgent matters, please call the office and leave us a message or email us at office@stbernajax.com

PARISH OFFICE UPDATE

Thanks to the generosity of volunteers, our office is open again during the week from **900am to 1230pm and again from 130pm until 300pm**. We are moving into the second round of our interviews this coming week.

While our volunteers will take messages and register Mass intention bookings, I ask for your patience as our part-time evening staff are managing the weekends and as much of the work as they can with the staff, Fr. Kevin and myself chipping in where we can.

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 and Caitlin Smith & Maureen Melong.

We pray also for those who have died, and their family and friends who mourn their passing. We remember Joanne Stokman, Paul LeBlanc, Donald Burns & Kathlene Genore.

February Anniversaries

It is always **important that our community celebrates and experiences the witness of anniversaries of marriage!**

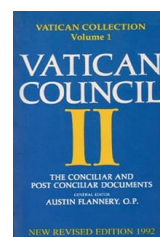
Feb 13th Beatrice & Robert Zuzarte (39 years)

Feb 20th Rosemarie & Charmeon Mangaser (30 years)

Feb 28th Cheryl & Gord Nash (49 years)

Parish Happenings & Events

Understanding Our Catholic Faith



A Personal Study:, The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (Sacrosanctum Concilium). "It was the first document produced by the Second Vatican Council, and arguably the most influential. The everyday lives of millions of Catholics around the world have been influenced by

what it had to say. Join the discussion on Mondays: Feb 26 to March 11 (3 sessions) 930am to 1130am in the Parish Hall. Materials provided. The final session will include a Q & A with Father Chris.

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:	\$	8,157.00
LAST WEEK'S BUILDING FUND:	\$	2,674.00
BUILDING FUND TOTAL:	\$	316,676.41

Tax receipts will be available to be picked up in the Narthex of the Church before and after all Masses next weekend. Tax receipts not picked up at this time will be mailed.

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:

**** February 25 [STARTING POINT @130pm]**

**** March 10**

**** March 24 [STARTING POINT @130pm]**

Lent at St. Bernadette's Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross – 7:30PM Fridays of Lent

Friday February 16 – led by Knights of Columbus

Friday February 23 – led by EDGE Youth Group

Friday March 1 – led by our Altar Servers

Friday March 8 – led by Ron & Rita Vaz & family

Friday March 15 – TBD

Friday March 22 – TBD

Friday March 29 (Good Friday) **at 9:00AM** – Outdoor Stations of the Cross led by Father Chris & Knights of Columbus.

Extra Lenten Confessions

Lenten Reconciliation Service

Thursday March 21st – 700pm to 900pm

Good Friday Confessions

730am to 830am 400pm to 500pm

Confessional will close promptly at 830am and 500pm and will not reopen until after Easter.

Holy Week & Easter Mass Times

Holy Thursday (Mass of the Lord's Supper)

8:00pm

(Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose in Parish Hall). Adoration until Midnight.

Good Friday Services

9:00am Stations 11:00am 1:00pm 3:00pm

Easter Vigil

8:00pm

Easter Sunday Masses

8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 12:30pm

**** No 5pm or 7pm Masses on Easter Sunday**

IMPORTANCE of LENT

Lent is the 40 days (not including Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter. It's a time of preparation and an opportunity to go deeper in our relationship with God preparing our hearts and minds for Good Friday and then for Easter!

Starting on Ash Wednesday, ashes symbolize our personal & collective grief for the things we've done wrong resulting in a separation of humanity (and each of us) from the perfection God desires for us.

Lent brings us to Good Friday; the day we remember what Jesus gave for us (everything God could offer). The "Good" reflects how Jesus' death was a sacrifice on our behalf so we can receive God's forgiveness for our wrongs, or sins. Easter will celebrate the joy of Jesus rising from the dead to give us the opportunity of eternal life. While people still die, Jesus gave us the Way to have a relationship with God in this life and to spend eternity with Him in heaven.

Lent focus' on prayer, fasting (abstaining to reduce distractions and focus on God) and almsgiving in charity. Our prayer intentionally includes an awareness of our personal and collective need for God's mercy & forgiveness. We repent (turn away from our sins) and receive the Good News of Jesus Christ, which is mercy and love.

Almsgiving will be in our bulletin in a few weeks' time.

For Our Young People



We continue to welcome **new EDGers** in grades 5-8 to join our second semester called "MAPP MY LIFE" with a focus on the Eucharist: if your child is interested and not registered yet, please register, and join the fun: <http://bit.ly/3tlXWd6>

Next EDGE Night: Friday Feb. 23 "REROUTING" | 7pm-8:30pm

Email Monika for more info: youth@stbernajax.com

EDGE CAMP Registration

Registration opened on Feb. 15 with early bird pricing of \$500/child for EDGE camp at Camp White Pine in Haliburton. EDGers in grades 5-8 are invited to join this epic adventure August 25-29, 2024. See the promo: <https://youtu.be/P3NYgDsyCRM>

For Edge Camp information & registration, please email: youth@stbernajax.com

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
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 February 18 – 1st Sunday of Lent

830am, 1015am, 1200pm, 500pm, 700pm – Masses
1115am Sacramental Parent Retreat (Hall)
1230pm RCIA-Breaking Open the Word (Council Rm)
100pm Sacramental Parent Retreat (Hall)
200pm RCIA Rite of Election (St. Isaac Jogues Parish)

Monday February 19 – 1st Week of Lent - Family Day

900am Mass

Tuesday February 20

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

Wednesday February 21 – St. Peter Damian

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

Thursday February 22 – The Chair of St. Peter Apostle

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

Friday February 23 – St. Polycarp

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

Saturday February 24

900am Mass
900am Alpha Retreat (Hall)
930am RCIC (Council Rm)
1100am Baptism (Church)
1100am FHC Reconciliation Class (Council Rm)
100pm Confirmation Class (Council Rm)
400pm Parish Confessions
500pm Mass

Sunday February 25 – 2nd Sunday of Lent

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

830am, 1015am, 1200pm, 500pm, 700pm – Masses
1230pm RCIA-Breaking Open the Word (Council Rm)
130pm STARTING POINT – Learn About Your Parish

Mass Intentions This Week

Saturday February 17

900am + Anita Brattsti
+ Fernando Sotelo
~ Betty Bujold
500pm + Joseph Paul Delgado

Sunday February 18

830am + Gil Gomez
500pm + Vidal Plaza

Monday February 19

900am ~ Conversion of sinners

Tuesday February 20

800am + Martin & Boward Family

Wednesday February 21

730pm + Sebastina Nunes
+ Priscilla Azavedo
~ Lisa Paredes

Thursday February 22

800am + Joseph Thomas Fernandes

Friday February 23

800am + Dylan Gilmour

Saturday February 24

900am + Herman Navarra
+ Gil Sto Domingo
500pm + Magdalen Sylvia Brady

Sunday February 25

830am + Andrew Watson
500pm ~ Yvonne & Shalom D'Costa
500pm + Vidal Plaza

Special Prayers for Our Newest People

This Sunday, Father Chris will present our catechumens to Bishop Vincent Nguyen, who will receive them into the Order of the Elect. They enter the final stages of preparation as soon-to-be Catholic Christians. Please remember in prayer in a special way:

Laura Espley	Rinalben Prajapati
Laura McGovern	Guillermo Quintanilla
Jodi Leonard	Ralph Reyes
Kajan Nanda	Azita Campbell
Sulackshan Vametheaven	Joseph Sardath

Supporting our Parish Community

These Businesses are Owned & Operated by Parishioners



Adrian Joseph CPA, CGA, TEP

Adrian Joseph CPA Professional Corporation

T: 905-995-3650 | F: 1-866-353-2295 | adrian@adrianjosephcpa.com

1315 Pickering Parkway, 3rd Floor, Unit #335,

Pickering, ON, L1V 7G5 www.adrianjoseph.com



Ban-Ban Korean Fried Chicken

71 Station Street Unit #6

Ajax, ON

T: 905-239-5700

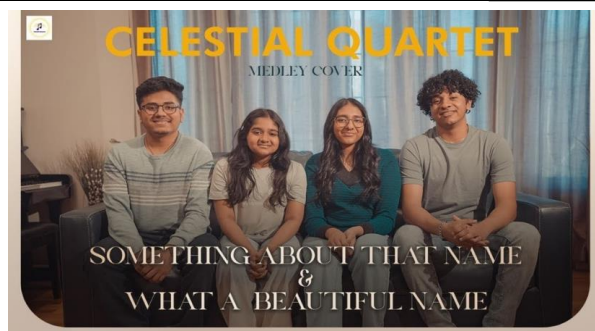


Realtor Services

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



Al Basilio, Sales Representative
Right at Home Realty Brokerage
Cell: 289-892-3981
email: albasilio@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>