



1st Sunday of Advent

November 30, 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

Wednesday
6:15pm-7:15pm
Friday
8:30am-9:30am

*(Note: There will be no
Adoration on Wednesdays
and Fridays during Advent)*

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

The Gift of a Pastoral Visit



Dear Friends,

This weekend our parish has the joy of welcoming Bishop Nguyen for his pastoral visit—an important moment in the life of our parish community. A pastoral visit is far more than a formality; it is a reminder that we are part of something larger than ourselves. The bishop comes among us as a successor of the Apostles, to strengthen our communion with the wider Church, to encourage us in our mission, and to see firsthand the life and vitality of our parish.

Throughout his visit, Bishop Nguyen will be meeting not only with our clergy and staff, but also with many of our ministry leaders and members of our Parish Advisory Councils.

These conversations allow him to hear your hopes, your challenges, and the beautiful ways the Holy Spirit is at work through your service. His presence is a sign of support for the countless volunteers who give so generously of their time.

The bishop also visited our Catholic schools on Friday, speaking with students, educators, chaplains, and administrators. His encouragement helps our young people see the Church as a living, caring family walking with them in faith.

A pastoral visit reminds us that we do not journey alone. It invites us to renewed unity, deeper commitment, and a fresh sense of mission. We welcome Bishop Nguyen with gratitude and openness, praying that his time with us may strengthen our parish and draw us closer to Christ and to one another.

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

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!

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, and Anne Sinclair.**

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Jaime Villafuerte.**

Please let us know if you would like to be prayed for. Email us at office@stbernajax.com, or call the office.

Father Chris' Advent Message

As we approach the beginning of Advent, we 'change gears' liturgical as well. Here are a few changes you will notice in the liturgical and sacramental celebrations as of the First Sunday of Advent (we begin Year A in the readings again):

- No Gloria will be sung at Mass
- An Advent Penitential Rite will be used at Mass
- Our Memorial Acclamation will be **"Save us Saviour of the World, for by Your Cross and Resurrection, You have set us free"**
- There will be no Adoration on Wednesdays and Fridays during Advent. Instead, Fr. Chris will provide a short Advent Reflection Series on Wednesdays: December 3rd, 10th, and 17th, from 7:00pm to 7:20pm.
- We welcome families from the parish for the Advent Family Mass, with pre-Mass carolling and concert starting at 6pm, Mass at 7pm and a social gathering at 8pm
- We will gather for our Advent Day of Recollection - Saturday December 13th starting with the 9am Mass and concluding at 2pm
- Our Altar and Sanctuary will be adorned simply
- We will gather as a community for the Pre-Dawn Novena Masses at 5:30am each morning, starting Tuesday December 16th with the last Mass on Christmas Eve

We hope to see as many of you through the Advent season. May the Lord continue to bless you all.

Fr. Chris

Mass Intentions

Sunday November 30 - 1st Sunday of Advent

830am + The Ashmore Family
500pm + Eduardo Aguilar Suing
700pm + David Joseph Jennings

Monday December 1

800am + Maria Oliveira

Tuesday December 2

800am + Benedict John

Wednesday December 3 - St. Francis Xavier

730pm + Vincent William
+ Mate Granic
+ Felipe La Madrid
+ Ignacia La Madrid
~ Fatima La Madrid

Thursday December 4 - St. John Damascene

800am ~ In Thanksgiving for the wedding anniversary of Salome & Donald Thomas

Friday December 5

800am + Maximilian John

Saturday December 6 - St. Nicholas

900am + Juan Cruz Jr.
+ Juan Cruz Sr.
+ Danilo Cruz
+ Emelita Valerio
~ In Thanksgiving for the wedding anniversary of Malou & Jun Reyes
500pm + Ligvori Joseph

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.

Month of November we celebrate with:

Nov 1	Druce & Margaret Ayres	(56 years)
Nov 8	Wilfred & Noreen Pierre	(56 years)
Nov 14	Don & Dianne Paulin	(55 years)
Nov 16	Kamal & Gabriella Dan	(26 years)
Nov 22	Saji & Raina Varghese	(27 years)
Nov 27	Carlisle & Cheryl Gomes	(32 years)
Nov 29	Joseph & Ida D'Souza	(56 years)

Month of December we celebrate with:

Dec 4	Salome & Donald Thomas	(40 years)
Dec 6	Malou & Jun Reyes	(50 years)
Dec 17	Cynthia & Rogelio Sih	(31 years)
Dec 30	John & Tania McGrath	(25 years)

Coffee Sunday



We warmly invite everyone to join us this weekend for **Coffee Sunday - November 29 & 30**, following the Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:15am, Noon and 5:00pm Masses in the Parish Hall. Come and enjoy refreshments and fellowship. **This will also be an opportunity to meet Most Reverend Vincent Nguyen, during his visit.**

Next Coffee Sunday - December 14.

Advent Family Mass



We warmly invite all parishioners to join us for our Advent Family Mass on **Thursday, December 4**. Come early and enjoy carolling at 6:00pm, a beautiful way to enter

into the spirit of the season. Mass will begin at 7:00pm, followed by a social gathering in the Parish Hall. Enjoy light refreshments, a family photo booth, an Advent calendar take-home craft, and cookie decorating. Fun for all ages. We look forward to celebrating with you!



Hosted by our Parish Vitality Ministry

BUS TOUR - FESTIVAL OF LIGHT - NIAGARA FALLS

Date: Saturday, December 6, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Cost: \$120 per person

Come join us for a day of fun and excitement! Pickup and drop-off at St. Bernadette Church

Trip includes:

- Festival of Light - Niagara Falls
- Dinner in Niagara
- Visit to the Casino
- Endless shopping at the Outlet Mall

To purchase tickets, please contact:

Linda Sarang: 416-523-2062 | linda4791@gmail.com

or Julia Beattie: 905-883-1373

or visit us at the Parish Office or Welcome Desk

Alpha: Who Will You Invite?



"Come and See!" is how Jesus invited the first disciples. "Come and See!" is how we can invite others to experience Jesus through the faith and fellowship of Alpha.

Who will you invite to "Come and See!"? For more information please visit: www.stbernajax.com/alpha

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

Hosted by our Parish Vitality
Ministry

Sunday, November 30th

After the 8:30am, 10:15am, and Noon Masses

Our Vitality Ministry invites all parishioners to stop by our annual Christmas Bake Sale for delicious homemade treats, perfect for gifting or enjoying with family. Parishioners are also welcome to bake and donate items for the sale.

For more information or to donate baked goods, please contact:

Julia Beattie - 905-683-1373 or

Linda Sarang - 416-523-2062



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

Next JUNIOR EDGE Night: Monday December 8

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

Next EDGE Night: Friday December 12

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

Next SUMMIT Night: Sunday November 30

Faith Studies

GUADALUPE: The Miracle and The Message

Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the Americas. She has a special role for all Catholics in North and South America, making her particularly relevant even in a Canadian parish. She is also a symbol of unity between different cultures, which resonates with today's diverse Church.

Join us in the Parish Hall on **December 1 at 9:30am** to watch the video. There will be Door Prizes and Christmas Treats.

Bible Study

Galatians: Set Free to Live on **Wednesday January 7, at 9:30am**. Runs for 8 weeks - Video and Small Group Discussion.

Let's explore Paul's powerful letter to the Galatians! Learn how Christ's gift of salvation transforms our lives and how we're called to live in the freedom of God's love as His children. Study Guide \$40 (optional). For more information contact Susan at 905-427-6137 or susangkennedy@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 30 - December 6

Sunday November 30

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

Coffee Sunday in the Hall after the 8:30am, 10:15am, Noon & 5pm Masses

Fundraising Bake Sale in the Hall after the 8:30am, 10:15am, and Noon Masses

10:15am - Children's Liturgy (Council Room)
12:30pm - Christian Initiation of Adults - Breaking Open the Word (Council Room)
6:00pm - SUMMIT Night (Hall)

Monday December 1

8:00am - Mass
9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall)
6:00pm - Baptism Preparation Class (Hall)
7:00pm - Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting (Council Room)

Tuesday December 2

8:00am - Mass
1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room)
7:30pm - Christian Initiation of Adults (Hall)

Wednesday December 3

6:30am - Mass
8:15am - Notre Dame CSS Confessions (School)
10:30am - Communion Outreach Mass (Lakeridge Gardens)
6:00pm - First Holy Communion Class (Hall)
6:00pm - Confirmation Discussion Group (Council Room)
6:30pm - Confession (Church)
7:00pm - Advent Reflection Series (Church)
7:30pm - Mass

Thursday December 4

8:00am - Mass
10:00am - Hope & Life: Ministry for Widows (Hall)
6:00pm - Pre-Mass Carolling & Concert (Church)
7:00pm - Advent Family Mass
8:00pm - Family Advent Mass Social (Hall)

Friday December 5

8:00am - Mass
8:30am - Confession (Church)

Saturday December 6

7:30am - St. Joseph's Men Prayer Group (Hall)
9:00am - Mass
9:00am - Festival of Light- Bus Tour (Niagara Falls)
9:30am - Christian Initiation of Young People Class (Council Room)
11:00am - First Reconciliation (Church)
4:00pm - Confession (Church)
5:00pm - Mass

December 7 - December 13

Sunday December 7

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

10:15am - Children's Liturgy (Hall)
12:00pm - Christian Initiation of Adults - Rite of Acceptance (Church)
12:30pm - Christian Initiation of Adults - Breaking Open the Word (Council Room)

Monday December 8

8:00am - Mass
6:30pm - Junior EDGE Night (Hall)
7:00pm - Knights of Columbus- Officers Meeting (Council Room)

Tuesday December 9

8:00am - Mass
9:30am - Society of St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Giving (Hall)
10:00am - St. James CES Advent Mass (School)
1:45pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room)
7:30pm - Christian Initiation of Adults (Hall)

Wednesday December 10

6:30am - Mass
8:40am - Archbishop Denis O'Connor CSS Chapel Mass (School)
10:00am - Communion Outreach Mass (Ballycliffe Lodge)
10:20am - St. Bernadette CES Advent Mass (Church)
6:00pm - First Holy Communion Class (Hall)
6:30pm - Confession (Church)
7:00pm - Advent Reflection Series (Church)
7:00pm - Catholic Women's Group - Executive Meeting (Council Room)
7:30pm - Mass

Thursday December 11

8:00am - Mass
10:00am - Archbishop Denis O'Connor CSS Advent Mass (School)
6:30pm - Alpha (Hall)
7:00pm - Finance Council Meeting (Boardroom)

Friday December 12

8:00am - Mass
8:30am - Confession (Church)
9:45am - Notre Dame CSS Grade 10 Retreat (Hall)
7:00pm - EDGE Night (Hall)

Saturday December 13

7:30am - St. Joseph's Men Prayer Group (Hall)
9:00am - Mass
9:00am - Advent Day of Recollection (Church and Hall)
11:00am - Baptisms (Church)
4:00pm - Confessions (Church)
5:00pm - Mass



Advent, Christmas & New Year's

Special Schedule of Masses and Confessions

Advent Family Mass

Thursday December 4

Pre-Mass Carolling & Concert at 6:00pm

Mass at 7:00pm

****Social to follow****

Advent Day of Recollection

Saturday December 13 at 9:00am - 2:00pm

(Church & Hall)

Pre-Dawn Novena Masses

5:30am (Church opens at 5:00am)

Tuesday December 16 - Wednesday December 24

****Light breakfast social to follow****

Advent Reconciliation Service and Confession

Thursday December 18 at 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Advent Healing Mass

Saturday December 20 at 9:00am

(Attendees may receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick)

Advent Day of Confession

Tuesday December 23 at 10:00am - 1:00pm and 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Wednesday December 24 - Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

4:00pm 7:00pm 9:00pm 12:00am (*Midnight Mass*)

Thursday December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord

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

Wednesday December 31 - Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

5:00pm 7:00pm

Thursday January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

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

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.

Ministry of Hospitality

Greet and welcome all who join together for Mass.

Lectors

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