



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

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

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, 3pm-6pm
Sunday
9:00am-1:30pm, 4pm-8pm

4th Sunday of Easter May 11, 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

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus assures us: "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27) As the Good Shepherd, He promises that nothing can snatch us from His hand. It's a powerful reminder of the security and intimacy we find when we truly listen for His voice and follow in faith.

This Fourth Sunday of Easter is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday—a day when we are especially invited to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Our Church needs shepherds who, like Christ, are willing to lead with love, courage, and compassion. May we encourage and support those discerning this sacred call.

We also take this weekend to honour all mothers—those living and deceased—whose voices have guided us with patience and tenderness, and who have often been the first to teach us how to recognize the voice of the Good Shepherd.

May Christ, the Shepherd of our souls, bless our mothers, and may He raise up new shepherds for His flock.

With prayers and gratitude for you,

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 – 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 Staff

Father Chris Lemieux

Father Daniel Lee

Deacon Ron Vaz

Aquila D'Costa

Robert LeBlanc

Monika Matelski

Marva Thomas

Sue McGee

Pastor

Associate Pastor

Parish Deacon

Parish Secretary

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

Become a part of St. Bernadette's! Register to fully participate, access sacraments, connect with our community, and help us serve you better. If you live outside 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, whether it's your first year, a milestone, or any year in between, 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:

May 5	Michael & Prasadi Wijethunge	(13 years)
May 7	David & Dianne Valentim	(31 years)
May 8	Anne & Frank Bakermans	(43 years)
May 11	Fr. Daniel Lee	(1 Year Ordained)
May 12	Fr. Chris Lemieux	(13 Years Ordained)
May 18	Bill & Denise Fox	(51 years)
May 22	Grant & Suzanne Andrews	(60 years)
May 28	Victor & Rowena Pedraja	(31 years)
May 30	Dezwig and Bapsy Fernandes	(60 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.

Happy Mother's Day!

This Sunday, we celebrate the incredible gift of motherhood. To all mothers – those present in our lives, those in our hearts, and those who have gone before us – we offer our deepest gratitude. Your love, sacrifice, and unwavering support shape families and a blessing to our parish community. May God bless you abundantly on this special day and always. **Happy Mother's Day!**

Coffee Sunday



Please join us at our next Coffee Sunday on **May 25**, after the 8:30am, 10:15am, and 12:00noon Masses, in the parish hall. Connect with friends and meet others in our church community. **Next Coffee Sunday June 22.**

New Gardening Committee!

We're excited to announce the formation of a **Gardening Committee** to help beautify and maintain our church grounds throughout the summer months!

Do you enjoy spending time outdoors, getting your hands in the soil, and helping things grow? We're looking for **enthusiastic volunteers** to assist with lawn care, shrub trimming, planting, and general upkeep of our church surroundings.

Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, no experience is necessary—just a willing heart and a love for nature and community! This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the beauty of our church, and fellowship. If you're interested, please fill out this form to let us know: <https://bit.ly/44wfxQ8>

Meet the Parish Team



Meet Aquilia D'costa **Parish Secretary**

Aquilia D'costa has been serving as Parish Secretary at St. Bernadette's for just over a year, bringing with her a deep love for the Church and a background in customer service and finance. A long-time parishioner herself, Aquilia finds great joy in interacting with fellow parishioners, supporting ministries, and ensuring the smooth day-to-day running of the parish office.

What drew her to this role? "The chance to work in a faith-filled environment and use my skills to serve others," she says. Her experience in parishes across India, the Middle East, and now Canada has made her faith a steady anchor throughout life's transitions. Psalm 91, a Scripture close to her heart, reminds her daily of God's protective presence.

Aquilia is known for her warm presence at the front desk and her commitment to keeping things organized and welcoming behind the scenes. She hopes her ministry brings efficiency, support, and a sense of belonging to all who come through our doors.

Outside of work, Aquilia enjoys painting, playing pickleball, and watching sunsets—camera always at the ready. Her favorite way to spend a day off? Quality time with family.

Feel free to drop by the office, call, or email her—Aquilia is always glad to help and hear from you. Your ideas, feedback, and engagement are the best ways to support her work and our parish community.

Mass Intentions

Saturday May 10th - St. John of Avila

700am + Consolacion Lim
+ Ricardo Lim
+ Souls in Purgatory
~ The Veigas Family
500pm ~ Emerson Katzman

Sunday May 11th - 4th Sunday of Easter

830am ~ Dezwig Fernandes
500pm + Souls in Purgatory
700pm + John Idachaba Aruwa Sr.

Monday May 12th - St. Nereus & St. Achilles

800am ~ Father Chris Lemieux

Tuesday May 13th - Our Lady of Fatima

800am + Egbert Lashley

Wednesday May 14th - St. Matthias

730pm + Antonio Ruber
+ Gloria Coates
+ Salvador Rodrigues
+ Joseph Thomas Fernandes
~ Members of the Catholic Women's Guild

Thursday May 15th

800am + Veronica Ego-Aguirre

Friday May 16th

800am ~ The Umah Family

Candlelight Vigil & Memorial Mass



Join us on **Friday, June 20**, for a special evening of remembrance. We welcome all who have registered for this Mass, along with their guests, to take part in our Candlelight Vigil at

6:30 PM, followed by the Memorial Mass at 7:00 PM. Each registered participant may submit up to eight (8) names of loved ones to be remembered. The Vigil will begin with meditative instrumental music and end with special prayers. The Celebrant will offer Mass for all the intentions listed, at the start of the Mass.

A commemorative candle, yours to keep, is available with a suggested donation of \$25.

For more information or to register, please contact the Parish Office.



New participants are welcome
Registration: <https://bit.ly/4emdssa>

JUNIOR EDGE (grades 1-4)

Monday May 26 | 6:30pm-8pm

EDGE (grades 5-8)

Friday May 23 | 7pm-8:30pm

Habemus Papam – Pope Leo XIV Elected!

The Church rejoices in the election of **Pope Leo XIV**, the 267th successor of St. Peter. Cardinal **Robert Francis Prevost, O.S.A.**, originally from Chicago, becomes the first US-born pope in history. A former Augustinian provincial and missionary in Peru, his ministry has long reflected both pastoral zeal and global service.

Stepping onto the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica, the new Holy Father humbly invoked the legacy of Pope Francis and offered words of hope and unity: *"God loves everyone. Evil will not prevail. We are all in the hands of God... united, hand in hand with God and with each other, we go forward."*

Pope Leo XIV expressed his desire to continue building bridges of peace through dialogue and called all people to be disciples of Christ and bearers of His light. Quoting St. Augustine, he reminded the faithful: *"For you I am a bishop; but with you I am a Christian."*

He concluded his first appearance by leading the Church in prayer with the *Ave Maria*, entrusting his pontificate to Our Lady and inviting all to journey with him in faith and love.

Parish Building & Maintenance Fund



We continue to include among our second collections, the Building & Maintenance Fund collection, the first Sunday of each month. We will continue to prioritize improvements to our parish.

- Parish Office improvements
- Rectory reconstruction and development
- New blinds for the Parish Hall
- Landscaping work (Phase II)
- Sidewalk improvements

Offertory for (May 4)

\$ 10,002.00

Building Fund Total

\$ 440,650.62

(our goal is \$600,000)

Parish Ministries

St. Bernadette's is a vibrant and active parish, blessed with a variety of ministries that help grow and strengthen our faith community. Whether you're looking to serve, connect, or grow spiritually, there's a place for you here. Below is our full list of ministries along with their coordinators. If you're interested in joining one of our ministries and require more information, we'd love to hear from you! Contact the parish office or fill out our volunteer form at <https://bit.ly/46kDIFm>. Our volunteer coordinator will be in touch with you within 2 weeks.

The Alpha Course	Robert Leblanc	Meditation	Trevor Pereira
Altar Servers	Brayden Sarang Mark Sarang	Ministry of Hospitality	Anissa Voisin, Victoria Ferreira & Antoinette Sullivan
Catholic Mom's Group	Cathy Haynes	Rosary Apostolate	Susan Dulny
Catholic Women's Guild	Susan Kennedy	Rosary Makers	Phyl Birch
Children's Liturgy	Elise Arbic	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	Sharron Monk
Choir - Saturday 5:00pm	Ronnie Pasajol	Wedding Coordinators	Marisa Hall
Choir - Sunday 8:30am	Tatjana Smrekar	Faith Formation	
Choir - Sunday 10:15am (Children)	Michelle Kirkwood	Baptism	Father Chris
Choir - Sunday 12:00pm	Ronnie Pasajol	Baptism Coordinators	Father Chris
Choir - Sunday 5:00pm	Ronnie Pasajol	First Communion	Robert LeBlanc
Choir - Sunday 7:00pm	Stan Rodrigo	Confirmation	Robert LeBlanc
Coffee Thursdays	Julia Beattie	Marriage Preparation	Mark & Linda Sarang
Coffee Sundays	Denise Carson & Julia Beattie	Adult Initiation (RCIA)	Robert LeBlanc
Collection Counters	Catherine Sheridan	Initiation for Young People	Robert LeBlanc
Craft Group	Beatrice Zuzarte	Bible Study	Susan Kennedy
EDGE Youth Group	Monika Matelski	Faith Studies	Susan Kennedy
Junior EDGE Youth Group	Elisa Barbeito		
Eucharistic Ministers	Karen Takacs	Communion Outreach	
Flowers & Decorating	Catherine Sheridan	Ballycliffe	Deacon Ron
Funeral Receptions	Julia Beattie	Communion to Homebound	Deacon Ron
Handmaids of the Lord	Rhea Nazareno	Harwood Manor	Deacon Ron
Hope & Life	Susan Dulny	Chartwell Harwood	Deacon Ron
Horizons of Hope	Eleanor Lee	Lakeridge Gardens	Deacon Ron
Knights of Columbus	Ron Larock		
Lectors (readers)	Jennifer DelMonte & Karl Leitmann	School Council Parish Liaisons	
Legion of Mary	Exal Montes	St. James Elementary	Elise Arbic & Lisa Veecook
Live Streaming	John McGrath & Desiree Plaus	Denis O'Connor Secondary	Agnes Sarasus
Parish Schools			
Archbishop Denis O'Connor Secondary	905-427-6667	Jim MacNeil, Principal	Tim Lee Loy, Chaplain
Notre Dame Secondary	905-686-4300	Shawn O'Connor, Principal	Jeannine Henry, Chaplain
St. Bernadette Elementary	905-683-0571	John Linhares, Principal	
St. James Elementary	905-427-3327	Geraldine Borg, Principal	
St. Teresa of Calcutta Elementary	905-426-7065	Sheena Paul, Principal	

What's Happening at the Parish!

UPCOMING EVENTS SPRING 2025	May 11-17		
	<u>Sunday May 11</u> <i>Happy Mother's Day</i> <u>Monday May 12</u> 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) 6:00pm - Baptism Prep Class (Church) 6:30pm - Jr. EDGE (Hall) 7:00pm - K of C Meeting (Council Room)	<u>Tuesday May 13</u> 2:00pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 7:00pm - CWG Planning Meeting (Council Room) 7:30pm - RCIA Class (Hall)	<u>Friday May 16</u> 9:15am - Our Lady of Victory Rosary Makers (Stage side) 7:00pm - Jesus Youth (Hall)
	May 18-24		
	<u>Monday May 19 - Victoria Day</u> <i>Mass starts at 9:00am</i>	<u>Tuesday May 20</u> 2:00pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 6:00pm - K of C Membership Meeting (Ajax Public Library) 7:15pm - Catholic Women's Guild (Stage Side)	<u>Friday May 23</u> 9:15am - Our Lady of Victory Rosary Makers (Stage side) 7:00pm - EDGE (Hall) <u>Saturday May 24</u> 9:30am - St. Joseph's Men's Prayer Breakfast (Church and Hall) 11:00am - Baptism (Church)
	May 25-31		
	<u>Sunday May 25</u> After all morning Masses - Coffee Sunday (Hall)	<u>Monday May 26</u> 6:30pm - Jr. EDGE (Hall) <u>Tuesday May 27</u> 2:00pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room)	
	June 1-7		
	<u>Monday June 2</u> 7:00pm - SSVF Meeting (Council Room)	<u>Tuesday June 3</u> 2:00pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) <u>Thursday June 5</u> 10:00am - Hope and Life for Widows (Kitchen Side)	<u>Friday June 6</u> 9:00am - PA Day at St. Bernadette: Day for Love (Hall)

Supporting our Parish Community

These Businesses are Owned & Operated by Parishioners



Interested in purchasing advertising space?

Email: office3@stbernajax.com



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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://bit.ly/3U3Rpxi>



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