



1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

# St. Bernadette Catholic Church

21 Bayly Street East, Ajax, Ontario L1S 1P2  
Phone: 905-683-1533 | Email: [office@stbernajax.com](mailto:office@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

First Fridays of month  
8:30am-12:00pm (Angelus  
at Noon)  
All other Fridays  
8:30am-9:30am

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

### Monday to Friday

9am-4:30pm  
Closed for lunch 12:30-1:30pm  
Office is CLOSED TO  
WALK-INS on FRIDAYS

### Saturday & Sunday

9:30am-2:30pm

### Website:

<http://stbernajax.com>

## From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Friends,

Stay awake; be alert, be ready. As we begin another liturgical year and enter the season of Advent, we are asked to take some time to call to mind the 'advent' of our own personal faith and relationship with Jesus Christ as Christians. When were we first aware of God's loving presence in our lives, in our heart and soul? When did we first become aware of just how much the Creator God of the Universe loved us (and everyone else) as individuals. As we start over, a new year of faith - may we seek a deeper and more meaningful personal relationship with Jesus as disciples. This relationship is everything; it's what calls us, compels us and gives life to our discipleship - to our vocation to be the very best Christians we can be.

Your servant in the Lord,

*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](mailto:office@stbernajax.com)

**First Confession/Communion** - with Parish Schools or Parish Program offered. Please speak to Robert or email [lpa@stbernajax.com](mailto:lpa@stbernajax.com)

**Confirmation** - with Parish Schools or Parish Program offered. Please speak to Robert or email [lpa@stbernajax.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:pastor@stbernajax.com)  
[associate@stbernajax.com](mailto:associate@stbernajax.com)  
[deacon@stbernajax.com](mailto:deacon@stbernajax.com)  
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[office3@stbernajax.com](mailto:office3@stbernajax.com)  
[admin@stbernajax.com](mailto: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:

**Carmen Flores, Desmond Vieira, Luisa Matthias, Helen Holmes, Anne Sinclair, Fred Chafe, Jaime Villafuerte, Margaret Ayers, Roland Gregory, Clarette Escobar and Dora Jerry.**

*We pray also for those who have died and their family and friends who mourn their passing - we pray especially for Ben MacNeill.*

## December Anniversaries

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

This month we celebrate with:

Dec 6	June & Malou Reyes	(49 years)
Dec 16	Rodney & Christine Gonzago	(51 years)
Dec 22	Lourdes & Eric Remedios	(62 years)

## Our Weekly Offerings



Thank **you** all for your continued generosity! This week, we will begin raising funds for the sound system upgrades that we will need to start very soon. Your tithing and sharing with our parish community, for these special projects as well as our operating costs is very much appreciated.

## Coffee Sunday

Come join us for our next Coffee Sunday held on **December 8th**, after the 8:30am, 10:15am, and 12:00noon Masses, in the parish hall.

Engage in fellowship with your St Bernadette's community while enjoying coffee, tea and light refreshments. Fellowship plays an important role in our Christian journey, strengthening us as we connect with others who share our faith. We encourage you to bring a friend to join our community. We look forward to seeing you all there!

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup> - St. Andrew

900am + Anne Marie McPhie  
+ Sybil & Pricillia  
500pm ~ In thanksgiving for Tessa-Ann Williams-Rigues

### Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

830am ~ The Beattie Family  
500pm + Santo Nania  
700pm + Rosalina Solicar

### Monday December 2<sup>nd</sup>

800am + Margery Clarke

### Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> - St. Francis Xavier

800am + Elizabeth Herrera David

### Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> - St. John Damascene

7:30pm + Eva Natalizio  
~ Mary Margaret Roberts

### Thursday December 5<sup>th</sup>

800am + John Vani

### Friday December 6<sup>th</sup> - St. Nicholas

800am + Maria Dang Thi Chat

### Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> - St. Ambrose

900am + Mary MacNeil  
+ Edoarda Olivera  
+ Tom Ashworth  
+ Lucy Ashworth  
~ In celebration of Wilfred Pierre's birthday  
500pm + Terrance Dalgado

## Pre-Dawn Novena Masses



Beginning on **Monday December 16th at 5:30am**, we will celebrate this special Mass each day followed by a light social for some morning fellowship. Pre-Dawn Novena Masses are a special devotion, giving us all the opportunity to do something slightly sacrificial and intentional as we get ready to welcome the Messiah!

## 2025 Missal

If you have not had a chance to pick up your copy of the 2025 Living with Christ Missalettes, please stop by the parish office to purchase one for \$7.

## Altar Servers



As we approach First Holy Communion, we hope our young people will consider a very important Ministry of Service in our Parish Community - as an Altar Server! This Ministry is open to all young people who have received (or are about to receive) their First Holy Communion. For more information, please speak to Lianson Wilson at [lianson2005pr@gmail.com](mailto:lianson2005pr@gmail.com)



**EDGE** (7pm-8:30pm - Parish Hall)  
Fri. Dec. 13 | Night #4: PERFECT SQUARE  
Fri. Dec. 20 | Night #5: CHRISTMAS SHOWCASE

**Jr. EDGE** (6:30pm-8pm in parish hall)  
Mon. Dec. 9 | Night #4: We are Creation  
Mon. Dec. 16 | Night #5: Christmas Party!

Please mark your calendars for the CHRISTMAS FAMILY EDGE & JR. EDGE NIGHT on Friday January 10 at 7pm!

## St. Joseph Prayer Breakfasts

Starting in January 2025 - the second week of each month, on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, Father Chris and Father Daniel invite the men of our parish (and their friends) to join us for our St. Joseph's Prayer Breakfasts - an opportunity for men to come together, for fraternity, fellowship, conversation and faith-sharing.

We will start with Mass (Wednesday 6:30am & Saturday 9:00am) followed by breakfast in the Parish Hall. During breakfast we will watch a video and engage in small-group table discussion. We will be using the series "Into the Breach" a 12-part series that includes short videos.

[Wednesday January 15 & Saturday January 18, 2025](#)  
[Wednesday February 12 & Saturday February 15, 2025](#)  
[Wednesday March 12 & Saturday March 15, 2025](#)  
[Wednesday April 9 & Saturday April 12, 2025](#)

## Alpha



On **Thursday January 9, 2025**, we will begin the Alpha Course at St. Bernadette's.

Alpha is more than just a course; it is about growing in relationship with Jesus. This relational dimension of Alpha is what speaks loudest to a culture that suffers from increasing feelings of loneliness and social isolation, where the primary question is no longer "What do I believe?" but "Where do I belong?"

You are invited to come to Alpha to grow your relationship with Jesus through relationship with others.

Click to register: <https://bit.ly/3th4Dxh> Please contact Robert for more info: [lpa@stbernajax.com](mailto:lpa@stbernajax.com)

## Celebration of Mary

Join us in the Parish Hall on **December 7<sup>th</sup>**, after the 9am Mass for a joyful celebration of Mary! We'll have door prizes, a Marian Quiz, and a warm lunch with homemade soup and sandwiches. Enjoy a special video presentation: "Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary" by Dr. Brent Pitre to deepen our appreciation of Our Lady. Please RSVP to [susangkennedy@gmail.com](mailto:susangkennedy@gmail.com) or [janicenoonan@gmail.com](mailto:janicenoonan@gmail.com)

## Christmas Bazaar

The Daughters of Isabella will be hosting their Annual Christmas Bazaar on **Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup>** from 10am to 2pm in the parish hall. Come enjoy and explore the variety of vendors and young entrepreneurs showcasing their handmade crafts and lots more. Raffle tickets will be available at 3 for \$5.00 Or 1 for \$2.00. We look forward to seeing you all.

## Youth Prayer Meeting

St Bernadette's Jesus Youth Prayer Meeting for Kids and Adults will have their Christmas gathering - **Friday December 21, 10am-1pm**. For more information please email: [Krupa.ann@gmail.com](mailto:Krupa.ann@gmail.com)

## St Bernadette Parish Website

The Advent, Christmas and New Years special Masses and Confessions schedule can also be found on our parish website: [www.stbernajax.com](http://www.stbernajax.com). Click the following link to go directly to the schedule [www.stbernajax.com/holiday-mass-schedule](http://www.stbernajax.com/holiday-mass-schedule)

## Parish Ministries

There are many ways big and small to “get involved” around St. Bernadette’s. Below are our parish ministries along with the ministry coordinators. If you would like to get involved, it’s easy!! Take a few moments to fill in our form at <https://bit.ly/46kDIFm>. You will be contacted for a short virtual meet and greet with the Ministry Coordinator and Volunteer Screening Team. They will begin the screening process, which is usually completed within a week. For more information on our ministries, please contact the Parish Office.

The Alpha Course	Robert LeBlanc	Lectors (readers)	Jennifer Del Monte
Altar Servers	Lianson Wilson	Legion of Mary	Exal Montes
Bible Study	Susan Kennedy	Meditation	Trevor Pereira
Catholic Mom’s Group	Cathy Haynes	Ministry of Hospitality	TBD
Catholic Women’s Guild	Susan Kennedy	Rosary Apostolate	Susan Dulny
Children’s Liturgy	Elise Arbic	Rosary Makers	Phyl Birch
Choir Saturday 5:00pm	Ronnie Pasajol	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	Sharron Monk
Choir Sunday 8:30am	Tatjana Smrekar	Wedding Coordinators	Marisa Hall
Choir Sun 10:15am (children)	Michelle Kirkwood	Young Adult Ministry	Father Chris
Choir Sunday 12:00pm	Ronnie Pasajol	<b><u>Sacramental Preparation</u></b>	
Choir Sunday 5:00pm	Ronnie Pasajol	Baptism	Father Chris
Choir Sunday 7:00pm	Stan Rodrigo	Baptism Coordinators	Father Chris
Coffee Thursdays	Julia Beattie	First Communion	Robert LeBlanc
Coffee Sundays	Denise Carson & Julia Beattie	Confirmation	Robert LeBlanc
Collection Counters	Catherine Sheridan	Marriage Preparation	Mark & Linda Sarang
Craft Group	Beatrice Zuzarte	Adult Initiation (RCIA)	Robert LeBlanc
Daughters of Isabella	Monique Beaudoin	Initiation for Young People	Robert LeBlanc
EDGE Youth Group	Monika Matelski	<b><u>Communion Outreach</u></b>	
Junior EDGE Youth Group	Elisa Barbeito	Ajax-Pickering Hospital	Father Daniel
Eucharistic Ministers	Karen Takacs	Ballycliffe	Father Daniel
Euchre	Pat Fowler	Communion to Homebound	Denise Carson
Faith Studies	Susan Kennedy	Harwood Manor	Susan Falcone
Flowers & Decorating	Catherine Sheridan	Harwood Place	Mark-Andre Simard
Funeral Receptions	Julia Beattie	Lakeridge Gardens	Father Daniel
Handmaids of the Lord	Rhea Nazareno	<b><u>School Council Parish Liaisons</u></b>	
Hope & Life	Susan Dulny	St. James Elementary	Elise Arbic & Lisa Veecook
Knights of Columbus	Ron Larock	Denis O’Connor Secondary	Agnes Sararus
<b><u>Parish Schools</u></b>			
<b>Archbishop Denis O’Connor Secondary</b>	905-427-6667	Jim MacNeil, Principal	Tim Lee Loy, Chaplain
<b>Notre Dame Secondary</b>	905-686-4300	Sonya Melim, Principal	Jeannine Henry, Chaplain
<b>St. Bernadette Elementary</b>	905-683-0571	John Linhares, Principal	
<b>St. James Elementary</b>	905-427-3327	Geraldine Borg, Principal	
<b>St. Teresa of Calcutta Elementary</b>	905-426-7065	Sheena Paul, Principal	

# UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL  
2024

December 1-7		
<p><b>Monday December 2nd</b> 9:30am - Faith Studies (<i>Stage Side</i>) 11:00am - Creche Assembly (<i>Hall</i>) 7:00pm - SSVP Meeting (<i>Council Room</i>)</p> <p><b>Tuesday December 3rd</b> 2:00pm - Legion of Mary (<i>Council Room</i>) 7:30pm - RCIA Class (<i>St. Bernadette CES - Library</i>)</p>	<p><b>Wednesday December 4th</b> 10:00am - Advent Day of Confessions (<i>Church</i>) 6:00pm - First Communion Class (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p><b>Thursday December 5th</b> 10:00am - DOC grade 10 retreat (<i>Hall</i>) 10:00am - Hope &amp; Life (<i>Council Room</i>) 7:00pm - Lector Training/Refresher (<i>Church</i>)</p>	<p><b>Friday December 6th</b> 10:00am - SSVP Christmas Giving Days (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p><b>Saturday December 7th</b> 9:00am - Marian Celebration (<i>Hall</i>) 9:30am - RCIC (<i>Council Room</i>) 11:00am - First Communion Class (<i>Council Room</i>) 1pm - Lector Training/Refresher (<i>Church</i>) 2pm - Eucharistic Minister Training/Refresher (<i>Church</i>)</p>
December 8-14		
<p><b>Sunday December 8th</b> After all morning Masses - Coffee Sunday (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p><b>Monday December 9th</b> 6:30pm - Jr. Edge (<i>Hall</i>) 7:00pm - Knights of Columbus (<i>Council Room</i>)</p>	<p><b>Tuesday December 10th</b> 2:00pm - Legion of Mary (<i>Council Room</i>) 6:00pm - First Communion - St James School (<i>Church</i>) 7:00pm - CWG Planning Meeting (<i>Council Room</i>) 7:30pm - RCIA Class (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p><b>Wednesday December 11th</b> 7:30pm - Daughters of Isabella (<i>Kitchen Side</i>)</p> <p><b>Thursday December 12th</b> 10:00am - SSVP Christmas Giving Days (<i>Hall</i>) 7:00pm - Eucharistic Minister Training/Refresher (<i>Church</i>)</p>	<p><b>Friday December 13th</b> 7:00pm - EDGE (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p><b>Saturday December 14th</b> 10:00am - Christmas Bazaar (<i>Hall</i>) 11:00am - Baptism (<i>Church</i>) 1:00pm - First Communion - St. TOC &amp; Public Schools (<i>Church</i>)</p>
December 15-21		
<p><b>Sunday December 15th</b> 3:00pm - Advent Family Mass &amp; Social</p> <p><b>Monday December 16th</b> 6:30pm - Jr. Edge (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p><b>Tuesday December 17th</b> 2:00pm - Legion of Mary (<i>Council Room</i>) 7:15pm - Catholic Women's Guild (<i>Hall</i>)</p>	<p><b>Thursday December 19th</b> 6:00pm - Advent Reconciliation (<i>Church &amp; Hall</i>) 7:00pm - Finance Council Meeting (<i>Boardroom</i>)</p>	<p><b>Friday December 20th</b> 7:00pm - EDGE (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p><b>Saturday December 21st</b> 10:00am - Jesus Youth (<i>Hall</i>)</p>
December 22-28		
<p><b>Monday December 23rd</b> 6:00pm - Baptism Prep Class (<i>Hall</i>)</p>		<p><b>Saturday December 28th</b> 11:00am - Baptism (<i>Church</i>)</p>
December 29-January 4		



**St. Bernadette Parish**  
in collaboration with  
our parish schools

Join us for a

# Family Advent Mass & Social



December

**15**

Mass 3PM



Please join us after Mass

in the PARISH HALL

Caroling

Family Potluck

Christmas Crafts for Kids



Music by the Rodrigo Family | Caroling led by the Parish Children's Choir



# *Advent, Christmas & New Year's*

## *Special Schedule of Masses and Confessions*

### Advent Day of Confession

Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> @ 10am to 7pm

### Advent Family Mass

Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm

**\*\*Social to follow\*\***

### Pre-Dawn Novena Masses

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

December 16 through December 24

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

### Advent Reconciliation (Confession)

Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm to 9:30pm

### Advent Healing Mass

Saturday December 21<sup>st</sup> @ 9am

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

### Tuesday December 24<sup>th</sup> - Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

5:00pm    7:00pm    9:00pm    12:00am (*Midnight Mass*)

### Wednesday December 25<sup>th</sup> - The Nativity of the Lord

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

### Tuesday December 31<sup>st</sup> - Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

5:00pm    7:00pm

### Wednesday January 1<sup>st</sup> - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00am    11:00am    12:30pm



# Supporting our Parish Community

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Here is a YouTube Channel for the viewing of their music:

<https://bit.ly/3U3Rpxi>

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.



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