

23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME September 8, 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 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

My dear Friends in Christ,

When Jesus performed the miracle healing in today's Gospel, He freed him from his impediments and gave him the ability to hear and to speak. "Ephphatha!" continues to be an important word for us as Christians, a command made by the priest or deacon as he baptizes. Just as the first thing Jesus wanted for this man was the ability to hear the Word of God, so does He encourage us to offer with each other a joyful understanding and lived experience of His Sacred Word, His love letter to us, and we must spend each day responding to that love! This is the manner in which we are called to proclaim the Word of the Lord to everyone we meet, not to force our faith upon them, but to offer others to saving words and Eternal Life we are blessed to have received. My friends, let us draw closer to the Lord by reflecting every day on His Word, and offering Christian words of love to everyone we meet.

Yours 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 Schools

**Archbishop Denis O'Connor Secondary** Jim MacNeil, Principal | Tim Lee Loy, Chaplain 905-427-6667

**Notre Dame Secondary** Sonya Melim, Principal | Jeannine Henry, Chaplain 905-686-4300

**St. Bernadette Elementary** John Linhares, Principal | Agnes Sararus, Parish Rep 905-683-0571

**St. James Elementary** Geraldine Borg, Principal | Elise Arbic, Parish Rep 905-242-7256

**St. Teresa of Calcutta Elementary** Sheena Paul, Principal | Linda Sarang, Parish Rep 905-426-7065

## 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, Frederick Chafe, Jaime Villafuerte, Margaret Ayers and Roland Gregory.**

*We pray also for those who have died and their family and friends who mourn their passing.*

## September Anniversaries

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

This month we celebrate with:

Sep 3	Ada & Ron Larock	(41 years)
Sep 4	Harry & Sylvia Prabhu	(47 years)
Sep 4	Sarah & Kale Trinier	(3 years)
Sep 8	Gillian & Malcolm Victor	(34 years)
Sep 10	Frances & Erhiyoma Akpomughe	(13 years)
Sep 25	Susana & Danny O'Shea	(25 years)

## Our Weekly Offerings



Thank **you** all for your continued generosity, with your time, your talents, and your treasures! We will update you next week on the Offertory including a new goal section that we will set to work together as a parish community on this. Your tithing and sharing with our parish community is very much appreciated.

<b>Last Sunday's Offertory:</b>	\$	8,269.00
<b>Building Fund to Date:</b>	\$	385,392.20

## Welcome Back Breakfasts & After Mass Socials

On Sunday September 15th we look forward to welcoming everyone back with our Welcome Back breakfasts at **9:30am and 11:15am in the Parish Hall**, inviting all parishioners to attend. We will be charging a nominal fee of \$5.00 per person (kids under 3 years eat for free). Tickets can be purchased from Julia Beattie @905-683-1373 or contact the parish office. All proceeds will go towards the Parish Building Fund.

At the breakfasts as well as the Coffee/Cider socials (after all other Masses this weekend) we will have many of our parish ministries on display on the peripheries of the Parish Hall.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday September 7th

900am + Dregori Alcabao Jr.  
500pm + Janet Thon

### Sunday September 8 -

#### The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

830am + Lea F. Simpao  
500pm + Marcelina Bonilla  
700pm + Rosalio Rontal

### Monday September 9 - St Peter Claver

800am + Curtis De La Cruz-Yecla

### Tuesday September 10

800am + Quirino Olandria

### Wednesday September 11

730pm ~ Rita Sakah Family

## Becoming Catholic

### **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)**

The RCIA process is for adults 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](mailto:lpa@stbernajax.com)

### **Rite of Christian Initiation for Young People (RCIC)**

The RCIC process 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 mid-October to mid-December. For more information, please contact Robert, our Lay Pastoral Associate: [lpa@stbernajax.com](mailto:lpa@stbernajax.com)

## Children's Liturgy, Bible & Faith Studies

We hope you all had an enjoyable time over the summer! We will resume the Children's Liturgy on Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup> during the 10:15am Mass. Children's Liturgy is open to young children before First Communion and up until Grade 3. This year we are starting Children's Bible and Faith Studies for students in Grade 4 and older. We look forward to seeing our youngest parishioners again beginning this fall.

## Parish Faith Study: Priest, Prophet & King

Experience a transformative journey through the Scriptures with Bishop Barron's DVD presentation, Priest, Prophet, King. In this engaging series, we will discover Jesus as the Anointed One, the ultimate Priest, Prophet, and King, as foreshadowed throughout the Hebrew Scriptures.

Through small group discussions, we will deepen our understanding and learn how we too are called to serve as Priests, Prophets, and Kings in our own lives. Starts on Monday September 16, @9:30am in the parish hall.

## Huronia Holy Land Pilgrimage



We will once again be making a Parish Pilgrimage to the Huronia Holy Lands, visiting the little known and yet significant sites where our Catholic Christian faith traditions began here in Canada! This pilgrimage will be led by Father Chris and Amanda Wetmore. The pilgrimage leaves St. Bernadette's the morning of **Saturday September 21st** and will return in the evening. The cost will be **\$52 per person**.

Please contact the Parish Office OR call Amanda at 647-283-1593 or email at [amandajohanwetmore@gmail.com](mailto:amandajohanwetmore@gmail.com)

## New Catholic Women's Guild

We're thrilled to invite you to join St. Bernadette's new Catholic Women's Guild, a community where women of all ages can come together for prayer, fellowship, and service. This group is dedicated to helping each of us grow in faith, build lasting connections, and live out our Catholic values. Join us for our first gathering on Tuesday September 17, @7pm in the parish hall. All women are welcome!

Come and enjoy an evening of community, with door prizes and plenty of fun. For more information, please contact Catherine at 905-428-8860 or email her at: [cath.s45@sympatico.ca](mailto:cath.s45@sympatico.ca)

## First Communion & Reconciliation

If your child is in grade 2 or higher and wishing to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, parents MUST attend one of the two information sessions which will be held in the parish hall:

Thursday September 26 @ 6pm-7pm  
Saturday September 28 @ 10am-11am

Parents can begin the registration process at: [www.stbernajax.com/first-communion-preparation](http://www.stbernajax.com/first-communion-preparation)

For more information, please contact Robert, our Lay Pastoral Associate: [lpa@stbernajax.com](mailto:lpa@stbernajax.com)

## Confirmation

If your child is in grade 7 or higher and wishing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, parents MUST attend one of the two information sessions which will be held in the parish hall:

Thursday September 26 @ 7:30pm-8:30pm  
Saturday September 28 @ 11:30am-12:30pm

Parents can begin the registration process at: [www.stbernajax.com/confirmation-preparation](http://www.stbernajax.com/confirmation-preparation)

**Note** If your child is in grade 2 or higher and is not baptized or not baptized in the Catholic Church, and would like to receive any of the sacraments, please contact Robert, our Lay Pastoral Associate for more information at [lpa@stbernajax.com](mailto:lpa@stbernajax.com)

## Book Sale

On Sunday September 29, our parish will be hosting a book & media sale in the parish hall during Coffee Sunday after each morning Mass. A variety of books & DVDs will be available based on pay-what-you-can donations.

If you would like to donate any books or DVDs towards this event, please contact Monika Matelski: [youth@stbernajax.com](mailto:youth@stbernajax.com) or 905-683-1533 Ext. 204. All proceeds will go towards the parish building fund.

## Catholic Mothers Group

Catholic Mom's Group is a ministry geared towards uplifting the vocation of motherhood. It really does take a village to raise children and as moms, we are not meant to figure it out all on our own. Connect and pray with catholic moms in the parish! Put your feet up with a cup of tea and feel encouraged and refreshed! We meet monthly, starting **Thursday September 26th**. For more information, please contact Cathy Haynes at [haynes.cathy@gmail.com](mailto:haynes.cathy@gmail.com)

## 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. You can also email us: [stbernajax.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:stbernajax.volunteer@gmail.com). For more information on our ministries, please contact the Parish Office.

The Alpha Course	Robert LeBlanc	Handmaids of the Lord	Rhea Nazareno
Altar Servers	Lianson Wilson	Legion of Mary	Exal Montes
Bereavement Ministry	Shanti Ferdinand	Meditation	Trevor Pereira
Bible Study	Susan Kennedy	Ministry of Hospitality	Faizul & Vnette Rahim
Bingo	Anne Marie Dennis	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	Sharron Monk
Catholic Mom’s Group	Cathy Haynes	Rosary Apostolate	Susan Dulny
Coffee Thursdays	Julia Beattie	Wedding Coordinators	Marisa Hall
Coffee Sundays	Denise Carson & Julia Beattie	Young Adult Ministry	Father Daniel Lee
Children’s Liturgy	Elise Arbic	<b><u>Sacramental Preparation</u></b>	
Choir Saturday 5:00pm	Ronnie Pasajol	Baptism	Father Chris
Choir Sunday 8:30am	Tatjana Smrekar	Baptism Coordinators	Father Chris
Choir Sun 10:15am (children)	Michelle Kirkwood	First Communion	Robert LeBlanc
Choir Sunday 12:00pm	Ronnie Pasajol	Confirmation	Robert LeBlanc
Choir Sunday 5:00pm	Ronnie Pasajol	Marriage Preparation	Mark & Linda Sarang
Choir Sunday 7:00pm	Stan Rodrigo	Adult Initiation (RCIA)	Robert LeBlanc
Collection Counters	Catherine Sheridan	Initiation for Young People	Robert LeBlanc
EDGE Youth Group	Monika Matelski	<b><u>Communion Outreach</u></b>	
Junior EDGE Youth Group	Elisa Barbeito	Communion to Homebound	Denise Carson
Eucharistic Ministers	Karen Takacs	Harwood Place	Mark-Andre Simard
Euchre	Pat Fowler	Harwood Manor	Susan Falcone
Lectors (readers)	Jennifer Del Monte	Ballycliffe	Deacon Ron Vaz
Craft Group	Beatrice Zuzarte	Ajax-Pickering Hospital	Deacon Ron Vaz
Rosary Makers	Phyl Birch	Lakeridge Gardens	Deacon Ron Vaz
Knights of Columbus	Ron Larock	<b><u>School Council Parish Liaisons</u></b>	
Daughters of Isabella	Monique Beaudoin	St. Bernadette Elementary	Agnes Sararus
Faith Studies	Susan Kennedy	St. James Elementary	Elise Arbic
Flowers & Decorating	Catherine Sheridan	St. Teresa of Calcutta	Linda Sarang
Funeral Receptions	Julia Beattie	Denis O’Connor Secondary	Cathy Haynes

### Parish Staff

Father Chris Lemieux, Pastor	pastor@stbernajax.com
Father Daniel Lee, Associate Pastor	associate@stbernajax.com
Deacon Ron Vaz, Parish Deacon	deacon@stbernajax.com
Aquila D’Costa, Parish Secretary	office@stbernajax.com
Robert LeBlanc, Lay Pastoral Associate	lpa@stbernajax.com
Monika Matelski, Youth Coordinator	youth@stbernajax.com
Marva Thomas, Administrative Assistant	office3@stbernajax.com
Sue McGee, Parish Bookkeeper	admin@stbernajax.com

# UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL  
2024

September 1 - 7		
<b>2nd</b> Labour Day	<b>3rd</b> 2pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room)	
September 8 - 14		
<b>9th</b> 7pm - Knights of Columbus Meeting (Council Room)	<b>10th</b> 2pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 6:30pm - RCIA Catechist Team Meeting (Hall) <b>12th</b> 7pm - Finance Council (Boardroom)	<b>14th</b> 11:00am - Baptisim
September 15 - 21		
<b>15th</b> 9:30am & 11:15am - Welcome Back Breakfast (Hall)	<b>17th</b> 2pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) <b>18th</b> 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall)	<b>20th</b> 7pm - Bereavement Group (Council Room) <b>21st</b> 7am - Huronia Holy Land Bus Pilgrimage
September 22 - 28		
<b>22nd</b> All Day - OCY Teen Training <b>23rd</b> 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall)	<b>24th</b> 2pm - Legion of Mary (Council Room) 5:30pm - Confirmation Team Training (Hall) <b>25th</b> 9:30am - Bible Study (Hall) 5:30 pm - FHC Team Training (Hall)	<b>26th</b> 6pm - FHC Parent Info Meeting (Hall) 7pm - Pastoral Council (Boardroom) 7:30pm - Confirmation Parent Info Meeting (Hall) <b>28th</b> 10am - FHC Parent Info Meeting (Hall) 11:00am - Baptisim 11:30am - Confirmation Parent Info Meeting (Hall)
September 29 - October 5		
<b>29th</b> After all morning and noon Masses - Coffee Sunday & Book Donation (Hall) 1:30pm - Starting Point (Hall)	<b>30th</b> 9:30am - Faith Studies (Hall) 6pm - Baptism Preparation Class (Hall)	

# Supporting our Parish Community

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CELESTIAL QUARTET  
**MY SOUL LONGS**

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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