



3rd Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

St. Bernadette Catholic Church

21 Bayly Street East, Ajax, Ontario L1S 1P2
Phone: 905-683-1533 | Email: 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

My dear Friends in Christ,

"Rejoice in the Lord always, I shall say it again: rejoice!" On Gaudete Sunday which we celebrate this Third Sunday of Advent, the Scriptures take on a joyful tone as we continue our preparations for the feast of our Savior's birth and ultimately for His Second Coming. As the great feast of Christmas draws near, let us rejoice in Christ's unconditional and all-embracing love. Let's avail ourselves of the peace He longs to give us. Let's look carefully at our lives to make sure we are indeed making of them a gift fitting for Him. When we get this "gift" right, all the other gifts and to-do's on our Christmas list will fall into their proper place. We as people, despite our limitations and sinfulness, have a great capacity for reverence, respect and love. Advent affords us the opportunity to reflect and prepare for the coming of the Lord both in time and at the end of time.

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

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
Aquilina 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

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 Chayan Domeuik Gomes.

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! We continue to raise funds for the sound system upgrades which will begin very soon. Your tithing and sharing with our parish community, for these special projects as well as our operating costs are very much appreciated.

THANK YOU!

Last Week's Offertory

\$ 8,073.00

Coffee Sunday



Our first Coffee Sunday of 2025 will be held on **Sunday January 12th**, after the 8:30am, 10:15am, and 12:00noon Masses, in the parish hall.

You are encouraged to join in fellowship with your community at St Bernadette's. Get to know your fellow parishioners, share your experiences of faith, joy and hope over coffee and light refreshments. Fellowship strengthens us in our Christian journey, brings us together as we grow deeper in our faith. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Mass Intentions

Saturday December 14th - St. John of the Cross

900am + Julpha and Chris Montes
+ Ben Serrano
+ Valeriana Serrano
+ Deceased Legionaries
~ Youngmi Choi

500pm + Sheila Noronha

Sunday December 15th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

830am + Virginia Plaza
500pm + Dylan Gilmour
700pm ~ Exal Montes

Monday December 16th

800am + Veronica Ego-Aguirre

Tuesday December 17th

800am ~ Maurielle Jaya

Wednesday December 18th

7:30pm + Yanely Leal
+ Lucius Bhagan
+ Carlos Oliveira
+ Faraj Noria Yosif
~ The Antonela Sakah Family

Thursday December 19th

800am ~ The Vigilante Family

Friday December 20th

800am + Donato & Maria Ciarlitto

Saturday December 21st - St. Peter Canisius

900am + The Hovorka Family
+ The Senior Family
+ The Pinto Family
+ Herman Navarra
+ Gladys Sarjant
500pm + Remedios Mendonca

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!



We continue to look for the generosity and gifts of our people (YOU) and ask that you consider volunteering.

Ministers of Hospitality

We need ministers to greet everyone joyfully in the Name and Person of Jesus Christ, at all the Sunday Masses.

Live Streaming Team

We are building a team of volunteers to operate our live streaming equipment to cover Sunday and Special Masses. Training will be provided. Live streaming of Masses will resume soon.

Signing up is easy! Take a few moments to fill in our form: <https://bit.ly/46kDIFm>



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

Jr. EDGE (6:30pm-8pm in Parish Hall)
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

Donation Envelopes

The Parishioner Donor Envelopes for 2025 are now located in the parish hall. Please stop by and pick up your envelopes at your earliest convenience! Continue to use your 2024 envelopes until the end of the year.

Catholic Women's Guild

Ladies, join us on **Tuesday December 17, at 7:15pm** in the parish hall, for an evening of fun, fellowship, and festive cheer! Enjoy cultural sharing, meaningful discussion, delicious goodies, and exciting prizes. We look forward to celebrating the joy of the season with you! For more information: stbernadettecwg@gmail.com

Parish Office Christmas Hours

December 24th through January 2nd

Dec 24 th	Office Open 9:00am - 1:00pm
Dec 25th	Office Closed
Dec 26th	Office Closed
Dec 27 th	Office Open 9:00am - 12:00pm
Dec 28 th	Office Open 9:00am - 12:00pm
Dec 29 th	Office Open 9:00am - 12:00pm
Dec 30 th	Office Open 9:00am - 12:00pm
Dec 31 st	Office Open 9:00am - 12:00pm
Jan 1st	Office Closed
Jan 2 nd	Resumes Regular Office Hours

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	<u>Sacramental Preparation</u>	
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	<u>Communion Outreach</u>	
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	<u>School Council Parish Liaisons</u>	
Hope & Life	Susan Dulny	St. James Elementary	Elise Arbic & Lisa Veecook
Horizons of Hope	Eleanor Lee	Denis O’Connor Secondary	Agnes Saraus
Knights of Columbus	Ron Larock		
<u>Parish Schools</u>			
Archbishop Denis O’Connor Secondary	905-427-6667	Jim MacNeil, Principal	Tim Lee Loy, Chaplain
Notre Dame Secondary	905-686-4300	Sonya Melim, 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	

UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL
2024

December 1-7		
<p>Monday December 2nd 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>Tuesday December 3rd 2:00pm - Legion of Mary (<i>Council Room</i>) 7:30pm - RCIA Class (<i>St. Bernadette CES - Library</i>)</p>	<p>Wednesday December 4th 10:00am - Advent Day of Confessions (<i>Church</i>) 6:00pm - First Communion Class (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p>Thursday December 5th 10:00am - DOC grade 10 retreat (<i>Hall</i>) 10:00am - Hope & Life (<i>Council Room</i>) 7:00pm - Lector Training/Refresher (<i>Church</i>)</p>	<p>Friday December 6th 10:00am - SSVP Christmas Giving Days (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p>Saturday December 7th 9:00am - Marian Celebration (<i>Hall</i>) 9:30am - RCIC (<i>Council Room</i>) 11:00am - First Communion Class (<i>Council Room</i>) 1:00pm - Lector Training/Refresher (<i>Church</i>) 2:00pm - Eucharistic Minister Training/Refresher (<i>Church</i>)</p>
December 8-14		
<p>Sunday December 8th After all morning Masses - Coffee Sunday (<i>Hall</i>) 8:00am - Handmaids of the Lord & Legion of Mary - 2000 Hail Mary's (<i>Council Room</i>)</p> <p>Monday December 9th 6:30pm - Jr. Edge (<i>Hall</i>) 7:00pm - Knights of Columbus (<i>Council Room</i>)</p>	<p>Tuesday December 10th 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>Wednesday December 11th 7:30pm - Daughters of Isabella (<i>Kitchen Side</i>)</p> <p>Thursday December 12th 10:00am - SSVP Christmas Giving Days (<i>Hall</i>) 7:00pm - Eucharistic Minister Training/Refresher (<i>Church</i>)</p>	<p>Friday December 13th 4:30pm - Altar Server Training (<i>Church</i>) 7:00pm - EDGE (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p>Saturday December 14th 10:00am - Christmas Bazaar (<i>Hall</i>) 11:00am - Baptism (<i>Church</i>) 1:00pm - First Communion - St. TOC & Public Schools (<i>Church</i>)</p>
December 15-21		
<p>Sunday December 15th 3:00pm - Advent Family Mass & Social</p> <p>Monday December 16th 6:30pm - Jr. Edge (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p>Tuesday December 17th 2:00pm - Legion of Mary (<i>Council Room</i>) 7:15pm - Catholic Women's Guild (<i>Hall</i>)</p>	<p>Thursday December 19th 6:00pm - Advent Reconciliation (<i>Church & Hall</i>) 7:00pm - Finance Council Meeting (<i>Boardroom</i>)</p>	<p>Friday December 20th 7:00pm - EDGE (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p>Saturday December 21st 10:00am - Jesus Youth (<i>Hall</i>)</p>
December 22-28		
<p>Sunday December 22nd After all morning Masses - Coffee Sunday (<i>Hall</i>)</p> <p>Monday December 23rd 6:00pm - Baptism Prep Class (<i>Hall</i>)</p>		<p>Saturday December 28th 11:00am - Baptism (<i>Church</i>)</p>
December 29-January 4		

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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