

St. Bernard de Clairvaux Church



MEMORARE OF ST. BERNARD

Remember, O Most Gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of Virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee do I stand sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but, in thy mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

Schools:

St. Bernard Elementary School: 416-393-5261
Chaminade College School: 416-393-5509

1789 Lawrence Avenue West
Toronto, Ontario M6L 1E3

Tel: 416-241-6738 • Fax: 416-241-8776
E-Mail: stbernarddeclairvauxto@archtoronto.org
Website: www.stbernarddeclairvauxto

Sunday Masses:

Saturday	5:00 pm	English
Sunday	9:00 am	Italian
	10:30 am	English
	12:00 pm	English
	3:00 pm	Malayalam Community

Confessions: ½ hour before each Sunday Mass or by appointment

Daily Masses in English:

Monday & Friday at 7:00 pm
Wednesday at 7:00 pm with Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help with Rosary at 6:30 pm
Saturday at 9:00 am

Daily Masses in Italian:

Tuesday & Thursday at 8:00 am

Pastoral Team:

Fr. Boniface Perri, Pastor
Fr. Jose Johnny, Associate Pastor/Chaplain to Sacred Heart Kerala Community
Fr. Francesco Pica, In Residence
Gina Orofino, Parish Secretary
Brenda Carvalho, Bookkeeper

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday:	8:30 am - 12:30 pm
	1:30 pm - 4:00 pm
Saturday:	9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Baptisms: Parents seeking to have their child baptized must call the Parish Office to request a "Baptism Request Form". Baptism certificate for Catholic parents and Confirmation certificates for the Godparents is necessary. When documentation is complete call the Parish Office to set up an appointment with the Pastor. Upon approval from the Pastor, a Baptism date will be given.

Marriages: Couples must contact the parish office at least one year in advance. No date may be set before meeting with the priest. A marriage course is a pre-requisite.

Parish Groups:

Over 50 Club
Knights of Columbus
St. Bernard Catholic Women's League
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Parish Activities:

First Friday Adoration
Visitation of the Homebound

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE FOR MORE DETAILS

LIVING LENT

**LETTER FROM
MOST REV. FRANCIS LEO,
ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO**

Dear brothers and sisters,

It is with immense joy that I extend my heartfelt appreciation to each one of you for your kind and compassionate support of ShareLife.

In my brief time as archbishop, I have been deeply moved by the sensitive and giving spirit that pervades our archdiocese. Your commitment to demonstrating love through tangible actions truly inspires me.

In the biblical account of the multiplication of the loaves, we witness the profound impact that love can have. Just as Jesus multiplied the loaves to feed the hungry crowd, your compassion multiplies blessings for those on the fringes of society. May you continue to be moved by His love for us and inspired to share your blessings with our brothers and sisters.

In 2023, your support of the Parish Campaign led to an exceptional fundraising achievement of \$14.2 million. This marks an extraordinary record. Your continued faithful support makes it possible to carry out the essential work of ShareLife-funded agencies, reaching out to those most in need with love and understanding. The impact of your warm generosity echoes the teachings of the Gospel, and for that I express my deepest gratitude.

Thank you for living the Gospel by being a beacon of kindness in our community. Your caring support enables us to make a lasting impact in the lives of many.

May the Lord's blessings be abundantly multiplied in your lives.

Sincerely Yours in Jesus with Mary,
Most Rev. Francis Leo
Archbishop of Toronto

100th Year of Foundation

The Sister Disciples of the Divine Master celebrates their Centennial Anniversary of Foundation on February 10, 2024. We render infinite thanks for the wonders, God has drawn in the pages of the book of the life and of the history of the Congregation. In this time of grace, we received a great gift from the Holy See: The Apostolic Penitentiary has issued a decree granting a *Plenary Indulgence* until March 25, 2024. This gift is now shared by the Sisters with the rest of the faithful and friends who will prayerfully visit our Chapel under the usual conditions attainable. In this time of Jubilee, we render pleasing homage to Jesus the Divine Master, the vital centre of our life and mission in the Church.

Purpose of Lent Today: Lent is a time of prayer and penance, when Christ wants to lead us back to our baptismal promises of dying to sin and of living for God. We prepare ourselves to enter once again into Jesus' Paschal mystery and to renew it in our lives. Jesus invited us to follow him by carrying our cross with him each day. ^(Luke 9:23) He indicated that his followers would fast and do penance after he returned to heaven. ^(Luke 5:33-35) We are to go hungry and thirsty for the sake of justice ^(Matthew 5:6) and to do our praying, fasting and almsgiving without showing off. ^(Matthew 6:1-6, 16-17)

From the earliest centuries, Jesus' followers have tried to follow these commands. Since it was on a Friday that Jesus freely died to save us from our sins, the faithful made a special effort to do some form of penance on this day: going without food for most of the day, spending extra time in prayer, doing good works, refraining from eating meat. Like St. Paul, they wanted to offer their penances for Christ's body, the Church. ^(Colossians 1:24)

Over the centuries, these forms of penance have varied, and sometimes have been neglected. Today, we are being invited once more to obey our Saviour: we are to do penance for our sins and those of others, for the people of God, for peace in the world, and for the building up of God's kingdom on earth. So, to make Lent an effective time of renewal for the great celebration of Easter, let us commit ourselves to the practices of Lent.

Praying: Jesus and his apostles tell us to pray always, to be constant in prayer. Traditional times for Christians to pray are morning, evening and mealtimes. Personal prayer is a necessary preparation for our sharing in the Church's public worship, the liturgy. In our love, we join Jesus and all God's people in praying for ourselves, for our family and friends, for our leaders, for those who suffer, and for the Church and the world.

Fasting: Fasting means cutting down on the amount and richness of our food and drink. Done as a penance for sin, it helps us to pray better: an empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer. The money we save on food should be given to others in alms. The law of fasting obliges adults until they are 60 years old.

Abstinence: This form of penance needs to be seen as a near cousin of fasting. We may give up meat especially on Fridays, the day of Christ's saving death on the cross. Our abstinence is another way of sharing in Christ's work of saving the world. We may also substitute other good actions for abstinence from meat. These could include special acts of charity (visiting the sick or aged, helping those in any need, contributing time or money to a work of charity) or other acts of piety.

Giving Alms: We give alms to help God's poor and to support the good works of the Church and other positive agencies. Again, our help is being given to Christ in his brothers and sisters. Blessed Teresa of Calcutta when asked how much to give "*give until you can feel it*". We do not give in order to show off or keep up with others; instead, we give cheerfully to God, who has given us everything we have.

Excerpts from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishop



**PANCAKE
TUESDAY**

The St. Bernard Knights of Columbus invite the St. Bernard community to a Pancake Dinner in the Hall (pancakes, eggs and sausages) on Tuesday, February 13th, at 6:30 pm
Tickets are sold after each Mass. \$10.00/adult & \$5.00/child



ASH WEDNESDAY -- FEBRUARY 14th
8 am Mass Italian – 7:00 pm Mass in English

MERCOLEDI DELLE CENERI

Messa in Italiano alle ore 8 am e in Inglese alle ore 19.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Every Friday from February 16th to March 22nd
at 6:30 pm in English. Followed immediately by Mass

VIA CRUCIS

Durante la quaresima ci sara' il pio esercizio della Via Crucis ogni venerdi alle ore 6:30 pm

PARISH LENTEN RETREAT

In a practical sense, we can say that our Church is a Church of Sacraments. It defines the majority of what we do. In fact, if you are reading this there is a large probability you are just coming back from a sacrament, The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. But why are there seven Sacraments? Where in the Bible is Confirmation or Anointing of the Sick? Why ought I go to confess my sins to a priest? Have you ever wondered? For our Lenten retreat we will journey through the Spiritual life of the Sacraments and how they bring us closer to God and His saving grace.

The retreat will begin at 7:00 pm, on Wed., March 6th with Mass and our devotion to our Lady of Perpetual Help. On Thurs., March 7th at 7:00 pm there will be time to bring any questions you may have about the sacraments during our presentation then the Retreat will conclude on March 8th this time at 6:30 P.M. with the Stations of the Cross, Mass and Benediction.

For some a retreat and devotions are a regular part of our spiritual life, for some they are an opportunity to walk more intentionally with Our Lord Jesus Christ, regardless Lent provides all of us with a wonderful opportunity to draw closer to our Lord. I hope to see you there!



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 10th to Sunday, February 18th, 2024

- Sat 10th 11:00 am **In Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes Healing Mass**
5:00 pm Thanksgiving to the Nguyen Family
Martino Tuyen Nguyen
Deceased Parents and Grandparents
Catherine Mc Intyre
- Sun 11th 9:00 am Mauro Ardizzi
Pia Ardizzi
Iolanda Florio
10:30 am For the Health of Samuel & Melba Cayetuna
Antony & Maria Phero
Carlos Lopez (1 year death anniversary)
Joseph & Phan Tuu
12:00 pm PRO POPOLO
- Mon 12th 6:30 pm Holy Rosary
7:00 pm Angelo Moscone (2 year death anniversary)
- Tues 13th 8:00 am
- Wed 14th 8:00 am **Ash Wednesday (Italian Mass)**
7:00 pm **Ash Wednesday (English Mass)**
- Thurs 15th 8:00 am Antonio Rui Pereira
7:00 pm Loreta Colantoni (1 month Memorial Mass)
- Fri 16th 6:00 pm Holy Rosary
7:00 pm
- Sat 17th 5:00 pm Catherine Mc Intyre
- Sun 18th 9:00 am Mauro Ardizzi
Pia Ardizzi
Iolanda Florio
Melina Chimienti
10:30 am PRO POPOLO
12:00 pm

Weekly Collection

Last week, our collection was \$3,933.95
It takes 5,000.00 to cover weekly expenses.
Thank you to those who continue to support us.
Your charity means a lot!

**Tony Soscia, DD.
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