

Sunday Bulletin

St. John Vianney Church

OUR MISSION

As followers of Jesus Christ, and as full members of the Roman Catholic Church, we, the Parish Community of St. John Vianney, joyfully proclaim our Saviour risen. Through prayer and sacramental celebration of life in Jesus, we join as co-creators in his mission of justice and peace, through the power of the Holy Spirit for the glory of God.

OUR PARISH TEAM

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Marilyn Reesor

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Closed from 12:00pm - 1:00pm for lunch

13 Baldwin Lane, Barrie, ON, L4N 2W1



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Tuesday - Friday @ 9:30am

Saturday @ 5:00pm

Sunday @ 9:30am & 11:30am



CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday @ 4:00pm - 4:45pm

Sunday @ 10:45am - 11:15am



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***Emergency due to death or serious illness, press 9.

www.stjohnvianneyba.archtoronto.org

A GOOD MAN LOST, A BAD MAN SAVED

Along one street in Washington DC a few years ago could be found a red and white striped box. Beneath it is a small sign that identifies it as "The Compliment Machine." As a pedestrian approaches, a chime sounds and a gentle voice offers a compliment like "People are drawn to your positive energy" or "You're always there when you're needed."

"The Compliment Machine" is a reflection of our culture, which encourages the giving of praise and affirmation, especially in the workplace, at school, with spouses, and to children at home. And there's a lot to be said for this. Most everyone appreciates being valued, thanked, and appreciated. It improves workplace morale, strengthens relationships, and can build confidence and self-respect.

However, there's a downside to affirmation if we go overboard with it. People can get so conditioned to hearing praise for every little thing that they become overly sensitive to criticism. When they aren't praised, they become insecure, and when they're criticized, they become defensive or fall apart. Accordingly, the giving of positive criticism is now widely discouraged, for fear of damaging a person's self-esteem. Worst of all, constant praise and affirmation can make people proud and arrogant and self-absorbed. They hear how special and fabulous they are all the time, and it goes to their heads. They expect everyone to acknowledge their greatness—even God himself.

Kind of like the Pharisee in today's gospel story. He essentially prayed: "Hey God, look how wonderful and great I am. I do this, that and the other. I am truly righteous- not like that other guy over there." That other guy, of course, was a tax collector who stood in the shadows, hung his head, beat his breast and pleaded: "God, have mercy on me, a sinner." Interestingly, God wasn't impressed by the Pharisee's prayer. It was the tax collector, Jesus tells us, who went away justified.

Some people may find this story somewhat puzzling. To begin with, the tax collector called himself a sinner. Won't he hurt himself by his negativity? Shouldn't he have tried to identify his positive qualities instead? Isn't he damaging his self-esteem? And what about the Pharisee? Shouldn't God have recognized him for his virtue? Shouldn't he have been praised for all the good things he did? Why, in Jesus' eyes, was it the tax collector who did what was right?

Questions like these have made Christianity a turn-off for some. Some of our faith's harshest critics

have said that, by focusing on things like sin, Christianity teaches happy people to be unhappy so it can minister to their unhappiness. And of course, we Catholics make jokes about our Catholic guilt and so on. Yes, there may have been times in our history that sin and sinfulness have been overemphasized.

The truth is, however, that God wants us to know that there are things about each one of us that don't merit praise and affirmation. Things we need to change. Things for which we need to repent. Things for which we need mercy and forgiveness. Things we need to acknowledge and confess. This doesn't mean that God doesn't affirm us, because he does. But, God affirms us and he judges us; he loves us and he challenges us; he loves the sinner, and hates the sin. It's not either/or. It's both/and.

The tax collector in the parable acknowledged his sinfulness. But that doesn't mean that he was being negative or self-defeating. He was simply being humble. And humility is a virtue. Humility doesn't mean that we put ourselves down or have low self-esteem. It means instead that we have a realistic assessment of ourselves. It means that we know the real us- who we are in the eyes of God. In other words, humility is healthy self-knowledge. Pride, on the other hand, is self-deception.

Humility brings us face to face with our shortcomings and weaknesses, and thus our need for God. It enables us to see others with understanding and compassion. Pride makes us look down upon others in contempt- just like the Pharisee. It can even lead us away from God altogether. We can think that we're so great and so special, that we have no real need of God. Jesus came to call sinners. But if we aren't really sinners, then what's the point of Jesus? It's this sort of thinking that our Lord wants us to avoid. As Pope John Paul II once wrote, "If we forget our sinfulness, we forget our need for God. And when we forget our need for God, we have lost everything."

Should Jesus' call to humility and reminder of our sinfulness discourage us? No! Jesus would never discourage us, because discouragement makes us lose hope. And Jesus wants us to be filled with hope. Jesus wants us to acknowledge that we have a need to change, and that in itself is a message of hope. Because it means that Jesus wants us to grow, which is a sign that he loves us.

For its present and future, St. John Vianney Church welcomes donations and bequests, large or small, so please consider us in your giving and when making your will.

Mass Intentions for the Week


Saturday October 22nd 5:00 pm † **Ziggy Antonczyk**
Requested by: Katie Gautreau

5:00 pm † **Maria Pasko**
Requested by: Suzanne Emdin

5:00 pm † **Erlinda De la Fuente**
Requested by: De la Fuente Family

Wednesday October 26th 9:30 am † **Tom Hogenbirk**
Requested by: Suzanne Emdin

Friday October 28th 9:30 am † **Frank Voisin**
Requested by: Larry & Mary Jane White


 **All Souls Day**

Wednesday November 2nd is a special day of prayer in commemoration of all the faithful departed. As Catholics, it's our duty to offer prayers for friends and loved ones who have passed away. We invite parishioners to enter the names of their departed loved ones in the **Book of Remembrance** located in the vestibule when you enter the church. On that day we will celebrate a **Solemn Requiem Mass at 7:00 pm with a reception in the parish hall to follow.**

 **REGISTRATION MEETING NEXT WEEKEND FOR CONFIRMATION**

Parents, if your child is in Gr. 7 this year, please note; registration packages were sent home with all Grade 7 students in all 6 of our feeder schools. If your son/ daughter attends a different school, registration forms may also be picked up in the vestibule of our Church, or you may print it from the parish website. (Registration will require a copy of your child's baptismal certificate even if your child was baptized at St. John Vianney.) Registration and the first class will take place at the church on the following dates:

FRIDAY OCTOBER 28 AT 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
OR
SATURDAY OCTOBER 29 AT 1:00 pm– 2:30 PM

 **The Society of St. Vincent de Paul** is trying something new! Our summer food drive was a huge success, and we would like to build on that success by opening our doors to accepting donations **EVERY Thursday between 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm.** School snacks, peanut butter, cereal, coffee, tea, sugar, and toiletries are always in high demand. *Thank you for your ongoing generosity!*



The CWL Bazaar will be held Saturday November 19, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We are requesting any preserves, jams, knitting, crafts, new to you and religious items you wish to donate. Please feel free to drop off any items on Wednesdays between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. All donations of baking can be dropped off the week of November 17, 18th, and early November 19th. We are also in need of 10-inch plant pots for the planters. Thank you.



Family Faith Formation

Parents with their children. Faith education, Food, Fun, Friends. St. John Vianney Parish launches a new group which will gather 10:30 to 11:30 am on selected Sunday mornings. Please join us on Sunday October 23rd & 30th, November 20th & 27th. We hope you will join us!



You are invited to join our Welcome Wednesday Drop-in for some midweek conversation and fellowship. We welcome adults and caregivers at home with small children. We meet every Wednesday from 10-1.



Fellowship after the 9:30 am & 11:30 am Sunday Masses provides a welcoming place to meet new people, relax with friends and get to know your priest. Hosts are volunteers from the various ministries and provide refreshments and treats. This Sunday's hosts are the Ushers. We hope to see you there.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

This weekend is Evangelization of the Nations, otherwise known as World Mission Sunday. This is a worldwide collection for the missionary church, and it is our opportunity to assist at-need Catholic communities globally. Offerings are combined with offerings from other Catholics around the world and distributed to missions and dioceses. We are called to share from our abundance with those less fortunate who lack the basic essentials to know, love and praise God. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Thank you for your support of this important work.



Please pray for those who are sick:
Isabel Crickard
And for those who have died recently:
† Suzanne Swain

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