

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

PASTOR

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MUSIC DIRECTOR

Marilyn Reesor

☎ 705-726-8007 Ext 206

✉ MReesor@archtoronto.org

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



CONTACT US

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Email: stjohnvianneyba.archtoronto.org

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

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MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Today we celebrate how Mary, the Jewish maid of Nazareth became the mother of Jesus and the very Queen of heaven. The devotion to Mary is one of the greatest treasures of the Church. Unfortunately, it presents a difficulty to Protestants and even to some Catholics.

The difficulty is rooted in the revealed truth that Jesus is the one mediator between God and man. "For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all." (1 Tim. 2:5) Mary is seen as usurping this role of mediator. Mary seems to be in competition with Jesus.

The apparent conflict arises in part from the failure to distinguish between adoration and veneration. Adoration is that honour that we give to God alone for an excellence that He has of Himself that He has not received from anyone. Veneration is the honour that we give to creatures for an excellence that they have received from God. It is evident from the definition of veneration that God is honoured in the act of veneration. Just as the moon has no light of its own but simply reflects the light of the sun, all creatures, including Mary, simply reflect in a finite way the infinite perfection of the Creator, and in so doing they honor the Creator.

Another misunderstanding arises from the title we give to Mary, "Mother of God." Many think that thereby we are attributing divinity to Mary. This difficulty has a long history dating back to the Council of Ephesus in the year 431 and is rooted in the Christological heresies of early Christianity. Nestorius claimed that Jesus was two persons, a divine person and a human person and Mary was the mother of the human person and not the "Mother of God." The Council condemned Nestorius and taught that Jesus is only one person, a divine person, having a divine nature from all eternity and in time taking a human nature from Mary. What was born of Mary was not a nature but a person, a divine Person Jesus Christ, true God and

true man. So, Mary can rightly be called the "Mother of God." Very simply, Mary is the mother of Jesus. Jesus is God. Therefore, "Mary is the Mother of God." Mary protects both the humanity and the divinity of Jesus.

Mary is not divine, but she is as close to divinity as any creature can get. She is the daughter of the Father, the mother of the Son and the spouse of the Holy Spirit. The insistence on Mary's creature hood far from detracting from our love of her only makes our relationship more intimate. She really is one of us.

Mary is not in competition with Jesus. It is not a question of Jesus or Mary but rather Jesus and Mary. The most popular representations of Mary are the Madonna and the Pieta, Mary holding the new-born Jesus and Mary holding the newly expired Jesus. The Hail Mary the most popular prayer to Mary is really about Jesus, about the Annunciation of his coming into the world as Savior. The mission of Mary was to conceive Jesus in her heart by faith and then conceive him in her womb by the Holy Spirit and bring him to others as she did at the Annunciation and Visitation. Any devotion to Mary that dead-ends at Mary and does not lead us to Jesus is by that very fact suspect.

The biggest difference between Protestants and Catholics in regard to Mary is that Protestants regard Mary historically, that is as she lived 2,000 years ago. Yes, they say, she was the mother of Jesus, she did conceive Jesus at the Annunciation and brought him to Elizabeth at the Visitation, Jesus worked his first miracle at her intercession at Cana, and she stood at the foot of the cross during the crucifixion and prayed with the apostles in the Cenacle before Pentecost. She did all of this perfectly and now her work is ended. She is no longer active in the work of salvation.

Catholics, on the other hand, regard Mary not only historically but also existentially, that is as she is now assumed body and soul into heaven and through the Communion of Saints is still active in salvation, interceding for us and bringing us to Jesus. Jesus is still coming to us through Mary as he did 2,000 years ago.

The story of Mary is the greatest Cinderella story of all time. And God is the author of that story. It was His idea; He took the initiative and He saw it to its completion.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday Dec. 31 st	5:00 pm † Tom Hogenbirk Requested by: Suzanne Emdin
Sunday Jan. 1 st	9:30 am † Tina Rashid Requested by: Paul Rashid
	9:30 am † Shirley Richard Requested by: Bob Richard
	9:30 am † William Ivits Requested by: Ian Zinn & Peggy Hughes
	9:30 am † Antoine Bonello Requested by: Yvette Theriault
	9:30 am † Scott Forrester Requested by: Theriault Family
	9:30 am † Joseph, Irene, & Frank Balogh Requested by: Fatiga Family
	11:30 am † Grzegorz Pierzchala Requested by: Terri McCallum
	11:30 am † Len Shirose Requested by: Christine Liggett
Friday Jan. 6 th	9:30 am † Frank & Marina Prior Requested by: Suzanne Prior
	9:30 am For the special intentions of Marcy Kuntz Requested by: Larry & Mary Jane White



With the new calendar year upon us, let us give thanks for all the ways that God has blessed us in the past and look forward with hope for all the many blessings to come.

In this spirit of gratitude, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you who helped in any way with the many preparations required for our special celebration of Christmas: decorators, floral arrangers, readers, ushers, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, and music.

I am humbled at the many gifts, well wishes, tasty treats, cards and prayers so kindly given to me by the wonderful parishioners of St. John Vianney. Thank you.

On behalf of the staff, I wish you and your loved ones God's peace and abundant blessings in the New Year.

Fr. Biju Kannampuzha, Pastor

Offering Envelopes



2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

2023 Envelopes are now available in the vestibule. Please ensure you put your name and address on the first 3 envelopes beginning with January 1st, 2023. All those with pre-authorized monthly giving are reminded to pick up a box of special envelopes as not all envelopes are covered by your pre-authorized giving. There are registrations pamphlets for parishioners wishing to begin pre-authorized monthly giving.

*****PLEASE DISCARD ANY REMAINING 2022 ENVELOPES*****

Welcome Wednesday Gathering

Please join us this coming Wednesday for our Welcome Wednesday gathering! There will be a movie, games, and fellowship. All are welcome!



Family Faith Formation

Parents with their children. Faith education, Food, Fun, Friends. St. John Vianney Parish invites you to join our new group next Sunday, January 8th. **NEW TIME:** Now after the 11:30am Mass.

Knights of Columbus Council

10370

Presents: The 2023 Council Basketball Free-Throw Competition on Saturday, January 14th, 2023



St. John Paul II School GYM for Girls and Boys 9 to 14 years old (age as of January 1st, 2023)
Register at St. John Paul II School between 9:30am and 10:00am (registration tables are in front of the gym). All Contestants must complete the registration/entry form (signed by their parents or guardian) and provide proof of age (birth certificate, health card or passport). Winners will go onto the District finals in February.
Ages 9-11 shoot from the 12 foot line
Ages 12-14 shoot from the 15 foot line
Contact Brother Kyle Tilley with any questions at 705-730-6512.

Friday Jan. 6th is the first Friday of the month. First Fridays have traditionally been associated with devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Blessed Sacrament. To appropriately observe First Fridays there will be Eucharistic adoration following the 9:30 am Mass until 11:00 am with Benediction.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday January 2nd (in observance of New Year's Day)



Please pray for those who are sick:
Arthur Coulson, Brian Ballinger, Isabel Crickard & Maria Pasko

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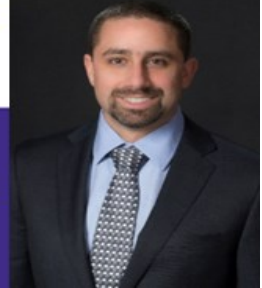
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C.W.L.
Welcomes New Members
Meets 3rd Mon. of the Month
Contact Helena Hendrich
705-726-8007 x208

Knights of Columbus
Council 10370
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for Catholic Men
Contact Bob Stones - Grand Knight
705-727-4540

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