ST. JOHN VIANNEY CONNECTIONS

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 Savior 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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CONTACT US

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OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm Closed from 12:00pm - 1:00pm for lunch

www.stjohnvianneyba.archtoronto.org

A SEASON OF HOPE AND WATCHFUL ANTICIPATION

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths." (Mark 1:3)

Welcome to the season of Advent, a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, both in His Nativity and His glorious return. Advent invites us to slow down, reflect, and rekindle our hope in God's promises.

On this **First Sunday of Advent**, our readings call us to embrace hope, live with integrity, and stay vigilant amid life's challenges.

Jeremiah 33:14-16 - The Promise of Justice and Peace

"The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah." (Jeremiah 33:14)

Jeremiah reminds us that God's promises are steadfast, even in times of despair. Just as Israel awaited deliverance during times of exile, we too await Christ, who brings true justice and righteousness to our troubled world. Reflect: Are there areas in your life where you need God's justice and peace?

1 Thessalonians 3:12–4:2 – Abounding in Love and Holiness

"May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all." (1 Thessalonians 3:12)

St. Paul exhorts us to grow in love and holiness, preparing ourselves not just for Christ's birth, but for His glorious return. Advent challenges us to cultivate virtues that reflect God's love. In today's fast-paced world, consider acts of kindness and forgiveness as steps toward holiness. Who in your life needs to experience the love of Christ through you?

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36 - Be Watchful and Pray

"Stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (Luke 21:28)

Jesus urges us to be vigilant and prepared for His coming. While the Gospel speaks of cosmic signs, its message is clear: do not let distractions or anxieties dull your hope. Amid a world consumed by materialism and fear, Advent reminds us to focus on what truly matters: our relationship with God and our readiness to welcome Him.

Living Advent in Our Times

In a world filled with uncertainty, the message of Advent is a balm for the weary soul. It is a season that reminds us: • Hope remains. "Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark." (Rabindranath Tagore)

• Love transforms. "To love another person is to see the face of God." (Victor Hugo)

• **Prayer anchors us.** St. Teresa of Avila reminds us, "Prayer is an act of love; words are not needed. Even if sickness distracts from thoughts, all that is needed is the will to love."

How can we respond? By opening our hearts to Christ through prayer, acts of charity, and reconciliation. As we light the first candle on our Advent wreaths, let it symbolize our readiness to let Christ's light dispel the darkness in our lives and in our world.

St. John Vianney once said, *"The soul hungers for God, and nothing but God can satiate it."* Advent is a time to feed our spiritual hunger. As we light the first candle of the Advent wreath, may its flame remind us of Christ's enduring light, which no darkness can overcome.

Stay hopeful, stay vigilant, and stay rooted in love. Together, let's prepare to welcome the Prince of Peace into our hearts and homes this Christmas.



Our youth will package all the donated items during our Youth Nights in January.

Thank you for sharing Christ's light with youth in need!

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, December 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 when Benediction will be given.



5:00 pm For the People of the Parish Saturday November 30th Sunday 8:00 am 🕆 Giovanni Cuni December 1st Requested by: Antonia Devitt 9:30 am 🕆 Maria Thuy Mai and the special Intentions of Maria Khuyen Hoang Requested by: The Tran & Nguyen Families 11:30 am 🕆 Gary Daigle **Requested by: Family** 7:00 pm 🕆 Reg Driscoll Monday December 2nd Requested by: Mary Kominek 7:00 pm 🕆 Sebastiano Craparotta Tuesday December 3rd Requested by: Carmelina Craparotta 7:00 pm 🕆 Lucia Raimondi Requested by: Her Family 7:00 pm 🕆 Lisa Michel Requested by: Family 7:00 pm 🕆 Henry Hahn Tran and the special Intentions of Maria Khuyen Hoang Requested by: The Tran & Nguyen Families Wednesday 9:30 am 🕆 Fred Aloise December 4th Requested by: Maria Aloise Thursday 9:30 am 🕆 Lawrence Kim December 5th Requested by: Family Friday 9:30 am 🕆 Lynne Schaub December 6th Requested by: Scott & Anita Curran 9:30 am 🕆 Juan Navaretto **Requested by: His Parents** 9:30 am 🕆 Thomas Moffitt Requested by: Family 9:30 am 🕆 Joao Amaral Requested by: Filomena Sousa 9:30 am 🕆 Frank, Marina & Bertha Prior Requested by: Suzanne Prior 9:30 am 🕆 Emanuel Lopes Requested by: Eugenia Amaral 9:30 am 🕆 Dominico Nguyen Dinh Ngoc & Anna Nguyen Thi Le Requested by: The Tran & Nguyen Families

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Annual Dues are \$37.00 payable by cash or cheque. Please make cheques payable to St. John Vianney CWL. For your convenience payment can be made: In person at General Meetings, after all the weekend Masses or at the parish office.



ADVENT CONFESSIONS

On **Dec. 18th** starting at 6:30 pm, there will be an Examination of Conscience followed by Confessions (6 priests will be available). This is in addition to our usual Confession times. Please note:

Tues. Dec. 24th: No Confessions Wed. Dec. 25th: No Confessions

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday Dec. 24th Christmas Eve

4:00 pm 6:00 pm, & 8:00 pm

Wednesday Dec. 25th Christmas Day

9:30 am & 11:30 am

Tuesday Dec. 31st New Year's Eve

5:00 pm Vigil Mass

Wednesday January 1st, 2024 New Year's Day 9:30am & 11:30 am

2025 Donation Envelopes will be available for pick up starting on the Third Sunday of Advent.

The 2024-2025 SUNDAY MISSALS FOR ADULTS are available at the Welcome Desk in the vestibule at a cost of \$5.00.

SUNDAY MISSAL FOR YOUNG CATHOLICS 2024-2025 will be available at the Welcome Desk in the vestibule at a cost of \$10.00 each. (Recommended for ages 7-adult)



WELCOME WEDNESDAY

Please join us at our Welcome Wednesday

Drop-In for videos, activities and plenty of conversation. We meet every Wednesday from 10:00 am -1:00 pm.

We have planned an information event for caregivers on Wednesday, December 11. Many parishioners have people who depend on us, or we know someone who gives care. Whether you are helping family members, friends, the young or the old, come hear how to be more resilient in the loving service you give.

Mark your calendars. Invite your friends. Jenna Wickens from Catholic Family Services will be here at 10:15 am on Wednesday, December 11. Do this for you, so you can better help others!

REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

† Steven Nyitray



Please pray for those who are sick:

Kyle Ramdial & Avery Maset

