

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



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Sunday
8:00am 9:30am &
11:30am

Monday & Tuesday
7:00pm
Wednesday - Friday
9:30am

Saturday
5:00pm



CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday
4:00pm - 4:45pm
(and after our
Weekday Masses)

OFFICE HOURS

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



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: A REVELATION OF GOD'S UNIVERSAL LOVE

"Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn." (Isaiah 60:3)

Dear Parishioners,

As we gather to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, we are reminded that God's light shines not for a chosen few but for the whole world. The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation" or "revelation," and today's solemnity calls us to reflect on the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles through the Magi. This feast encapsulates the universal mission of salvation and reminds us of God's inclusivity and unending love.

The First Reading: A Light to the Nations

Isaiah's prophetic words, "Arise, shine; for your light has come" (Isaiah 60:1), were originally spoken to a weary Jerusalem, yet they echo a timeless truth for all of humanity. The light of God pierces through the darkness of despair, offering hope, renewal, and direction. The mention of nations and kings bearing gifts foretells the journey of the Magi, who come from afar, drawn by the brilliance of the Christ-child.

This light symbolizes Christ Himself, who invites us to rise above our challenges and reflect His light in our lives. The reading challenges us to consider: How can we, as individuals and as a parish, radiate this divine light in a world still plagued by darkness?

The Second Reading: God's Universal Plan

In his letter to the Ephesians, St. Paul proclaims a profound mystery: "The Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 3:6). Paul reminds us that the salvation brought by Christ is not limited to a particular people or nation but extends to all humanity.

This revelation urges us to move beyond barriers of race, culture, or status and embrace our shared identity as children of God. In practical terms, it calls us to foster inclusivity within our parish and community, ensuring that everyone—regardless of

background—feels welcomed and valued in the body of Christ.

The Gospel: Seeking and Worshiping the King

Matthew's account of the Magi's journey (Matthew 2:1-12) is rich in meaning and symbolism. The Magi, often viewed as representatives of the Gentile world, follow a star that leads them to Christ. Their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh reflect Christ's kingship, divinity, and His ultimate sacrifice.

The Magi's journey teaches us three important lessons:

- 1. Seek Christ with Determination:** The Magi traveled great distances, overcoming obstacles to find the newborn King. In our spiritual journey, we too must persist in seeking Christ, especially amid life's challenges.
- 2. Recognize Christ's Presence:** The Magi recognized the divine in a humble setting—a simple home, a child with His mother. Do we see Christ in the ordinary and unexpected places in our lives?
- 3. Offer Him Our Best:** The gifts of the Magi symbolize their acknowledgment of Christ's supreme worth. What gifts—our time, talents, or resources—are we offering to glorify Him?

Living the Epiphany: Practical Takeaways

- 1. Be a Light-Bearer:** Reflect Christ's light through acts of kindness, forgiveness, and service. Share His love in your family, workplace, and community.
- 2. Foster Unity:** Celebrate diversity and inclusivity, building bridges where there is division, and recognizing the dignity of all people.
- 3. Offer Your Gifts:** Dedicate your talents and resources to further God's mission, whether by supporting parish ministries or helping those in need.

A Call to Shine Brightly

As St. John Chrysostom once said, "The star of Bethlehem shone brightly, not to glorify itself but to guide others to Christ." Let us, like the star, be instruments of God's light, leading others to the joy and peace found in Christ.

May the Feast of the Epiphany inspire us to arise and shine, for the light of Christ has come into the world. Let us embrace this light, share it generously, and live as true witnesses of His love.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

Saturday
January 4th 5:00 pm **For the People of the Parish**

Sunday
January 5th 8:00 am For the special intentions of
Andrew Son
Requested by: The Son Family

9:30 am † **Jose Gomez**
Requested by: Lydia Harmazy

11:30 am For the special intentions of
Willa Wilson & Hensley Alexander
Requested by: Bill & Lorraine French

Monday
January 6th 7:00 pm For the special intentions of
Loma & Ed Vaudry
Requested by: Janine Bissonette

Tuesday
January 7th 7:00 pm For the special intentions of
Fiona Joseph
Requested by: Family

7:00 pm † **Denise Wild**
Requested by: The Castro Family

7:00 pm **For the living and deceased members of the CWL**

Wednesday
January 8th 9:30 am † **Larry White**
Requested by: The White Family

Thursday
January 9th 9:30 am † **Fred Aloise**
Requested by: Maria Aloise

Friday
January 10th 9:30 am † **Peter & Dorothy Prior**
Requested by: Suzanne Prior

9:30 am † **Paul Battista**
Requested by: The Fata Family



It's time to start using your **2025 Envelopes**. Boxes are available for pickup in the vestibule. Please ensure you put your name and address on the first 3 envelopes beginning with January 1st, 2025. **PLEASE DISCARD ANY UNUSED 2024 ENVELOPES**
Thank you for your continued support!

JANUARY 5, 2025

will be the last day to register for **FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION & RCIA**.
Our RCIC program is now closed to new applications.

Please note: We are no longer livestreaming the 11:30 am Mass.



The SJV Knights of Columbus are teaming up with other local service organizations to launch a new program called, **CRIBS for KIDS**. If you are interested in learning more, please email Nick at nick.hamiltonpiercy@rogers.com or approach one of the members after Mass.



Thank you to the CWL for their most recent donation of \$2100. We are truly blessed to have their ongoing support as we grow our Parish.

ADULT AND YOUNG CATHOLIC MISSALS AVAILABLE AT THE WELCOME DESK



Craft & Cocoa in the Hall

Join us after the 11:30am Mass on **JANUARY 5TH** for a relaxing couple of hours of crafting in the church hall! Whether you knit, crochet, or bring your own craft, come enjoy some creative time with fellow parishioners. We'll have hot chocolate and popcorn to keep you warm and cozy. All are welcome!



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. On Wednesday, January 15th, **we have planned a TRANSIT TALK, to be led by a representative from the City of Barrie**. Mark your calendars. Invite your friends. We welcome you to take this opportunity to find out more about *Transit on Demand, Mobility Transit* as well as *free rides for seniors!*



There will be NO FELLOWSHIP this weekend but will resume on January 12th after the 9:30 am & 11:30 am Masses.

REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **Karl Amm & † Richard O'Brien**



Please pray for those who are sick:

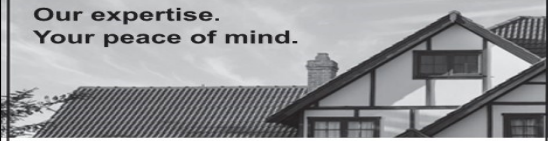
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