

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

TRUSTING IN THE LORD: THE PATH TO TRUE BLESSING

This Sunday's readings challenge us to examine where we place our trust and what we define as true happiness. They invite us to move beyond superficial measures of success and instead anchor our lives in God's faithfulness.

The Contrast Between Trust in Man and Trust in God

The prophet Jeremiah presents a striking image: "Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals... They shall be like a shrub in the desert" (Jer 17:5-6). In contrast, "Blessed are those who trust in the Lord... They shall be like a tree planted by water" (Jer 17:7-8).

Jeremiah reminds us that self-reliance, detached from God, ultimately leads to spiritual barrenness. We might find temporary security in wealth, status, or human approval, but these are unstable foundations. When life's trials come, we can feel like a withered bush, struggling to survive. But if we root our lives in God's grace, we are nourished even in hardship.

The Resurrection: The Foundation of Our Hope

In the Second Reading, St. Paul addresses a crucial issue: some in Corinth doubted the resurrection. Paul's response is clear: "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile" (1 Cor 15:17). The resurrection is not just an abstract doctrine; it is the cornerstone of our hope.

As Christians, we do not merely follow Christ's teachings—we follow a living Lord who has conquered death. This truth should transform how we live. If we truly believe in the resurrection, we can face difficulties with courage, knowing that suffering and loss are not the final word.

The Beatitudes: A Radical Call to Discipleship

The Gospel presents Luke's version of the Beatitudes, which includes both blessings and woes. Jesus proclaims: "Blessed are you who are poor... who are hungry... who weep... who are hated" (Lk 6:20-22). These words challenge conventional wisdom. We tend to associate blessings with abundance and ease, but Jesus redefines what it means to be blessed.

This is not a glorification of poverty or suffering, but an invitation to trust in God rather than worldly security. Those who are poor, hungry, or weeping often recognize their need for God in a way that the self-sufficient do not. Conversely, the woes warn

those who are comfortable: "Woe to you who are rich... who are full... who are laughing now" (Lk 6:24-25). These are not condemnations of wealth or happiness but cautionary words against complacency and self-satisfaction.

Living the Message: Trusting God in Everyday Life

So how do we apply these readings to our daily lives?

1. **Examine Your Trust** – Do we trust in our own strength, in money, or in social approval more than we trust in God? A simple way to check is to ask: where do we turn first in times of difficulty—prayer or personal strategies?

2. **Live with Resurrection Hope** – We all experience losses: loss of health, relationships, or dreams. When trials come, do we see them through the lens of Christ's resurrection? Do we believe that God can bring life even from our struggles?

3. **Embrace the Beatitudes** – Who are the "poor" or "hungry" in our community? Do we see Christ in them? Are we generous with our time, resources, and love? If we find ourselves in a position of comfort, are we using our blessings to serve others?

A Closing Thought

St. Augustine once said, "God is always trying to give us good things, but our hands are too full to receive them." This week, let us open our hands, letting go of misplaced trust in worldly things, and allowing God to fill us with His blessings.

May we be like trees planted by the water, deeply rooted in God's love and nourished by His grace.



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

As has become a parish tradition, the Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual Parish Pancake Supper on **Tuesday, March 4th** in the parish hall from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. This will be a great time to get together as a church community and enjoy a delicious dinner as we enter the season of Lent. The dinner will include pancakes, sausages, baked beans, dessert, and tea, coffee and juice. The cost is \$10 for adults with children under 16 free. There are only 125 Tickets, which will be sold after all Masses starting this weekend, Feb. 22nd & 23rd and March 1st & 2nd. Not at the door. Payment can be made by cash, credit or debit card. Any monies surplus after the cost of supplies has been covered will be donated to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Please join us for this fun evening.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday February 15 th	5:00 pm For the special intentions of Fred Smith Requested by: Shelley Smith
Sunday February 16 th	8:00 am For the People of the Parish 9:30 am For the special intentions of Brandon & Casey Paolozzi Requested by: Chris Paolozzi 11:30 am † Ray Stone Requested by: Mike & Maria Hardie
Tuesday February 18 th	7:00 pm † Joseph, Josephine & Michael Pace Requested by: Lorraine Pace 7:00 pm † Andrew Frustaci Requested by: Family
Friday February 21 st	9:30 am † Maria Sousa & Olinda Branco Requested by: The Sousa Family 9:30 am † Fred Aloise Requested by: Maria Aloise

The office will be closed on Monday February 17th in observance of Family Day.
We WILL be celebrating Mass at 7:00pm

X On February 27th, the church Hall will be used as a polling station for the 2025 Ontario Election.
Elections Ontario

2025 Donation Envelopes and Adult & Young Catholic Missals are available for pickup in the vestibule and at the Welcome Table

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, February 26th. 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, February 26th. Do this for you, so you can better help others!

BIBLE Study
We are looking for a faith filled individual to lead a new Bible Study Group. If you feel you have a knowledgeable background in Catechesis, please speak to Fr. Joshy.

EXCITING NEWS!
Life Teen for Students in **Grades 9-12** will be launching on **Saturday, March 1st** after the 5pm Mass. Please register on the **St. John Vianney website** under **Youth Ministry** or contact Youth Minister Kelly for more information at:
Email: kluvisotto@archtoronto.org
Phone: 705-726-8007 Ext. 205

Have you ever wondered what an **UNANNOUNCED MASS** is? An Unannounced Mass offers the same graces as an Announced Mass, the only difference is the priest will choose the date the intention will be prayed for. If you would like to have a Mass for someone and do not have a date preference, please know this is an option for you. These Masses are \$10 each and we will happily provide a card for you if needed. Please call or visit the parish office for more information.

LIFT JESUS HIGHER
The annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally is coming up and we are pleased to announce that we will be celebrating the 33rd year of coming together in praise and worship on Saturday, 29th March, 2025 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto. For more information, please see the flyers on the bulletin board in the vestibule.

SPIRITUS NORTH
THE HUMANITY OF HOLINESS
Thursday, Feb. 20th, 2025
St. John Vianney Parish
13 Baldwin Lane, Barrie

Fellowship
There will be no fellowship this weekend.

REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENT
† Steven Seguin

Please pray for those who are sick:
Patrick O'Reilly & Patrick Quinn

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