

# 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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#### YOUTH MINISTER

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KLuvissotto@archtoronto.org

## Fifth Sunday of Lent



#### 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)

### CONTACT US

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Email: [stjohnvianneyba@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjohnvianneyba@archtoronto.org)

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

### OFFICE HOURS

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

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



## LENT: A SEASON TO LET GO, RECEIVE MERCY, AND BEGIN ANEW

At St. John Vianney today, we celebrate the Third Scrutiny with our RCIA candidates, praying for their continued conversion and strength. While the liturgy uses the Year A readings, this bulletin offers a personal reflection on the Year C readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent—a reminder that Lent is not a time to remain trapped in the past, but a time to embrace mercy and move forward in hope.

### 1. Let Go of the Past—So God Can Work Anew

Isaiah 43:16–21 speaks to a people in exile, weary and stuck in spiritual stagnation. Through the prophet, God calls His people to stop clinging to what was and to open their hearts to what can be: “I am about to do a new thing.”

Lent is not a season of regret, but of liberation. God longs to make streams flow in the desert places of our lives—to renew relationships, heal past wounds, and awaken dry souls.

Ask yourself: What part of your life feels like a desert? Will you let God bring it to life again?

### 2. Strain Forward to What Lies Ahead

In Philippians 3:8–14, St. Paul speaks with the voice of a man transformed. He lets go of past attachments—good and bad—and presses on in pursuit of Christ: “Forgetting what lies behind, I strain forward to what lies ahead.”

What are you still clinging to? Past failures, old wounds, a need for control, or even comfort zones that keep you from growing?

Lent is the time to release those weights and run toward Easter with hope.

### 3. Mercy That Stoops, Lifts, and Transforms

John 8:1–11 tells the story of the woman caught in adultery—dragged into the temple, shamed, and surrounded by condemnation. But Jesus, the face of divine mercy, stoops down. He silences her accusers and lifts her up: “Neither do I condemn you. Go, and sin no more.”

This is Lent in one moment: not punishment, but mercy; not shame, but restoration.

Jesus does not condone sin—but He never stops loving the sinner. He lifts us so we can walk again.

## Practical Takeaways for Daily Life

### 1. Experience Mercy Personally

Have you gone to Confession this Lent? It’s not about guilt—it’s about grace. Don’t let fear steal the joy of forgiveness.

### 2. Drop the Stone

Is there someone you’re still judging or resenting? Lent is the time to let go of that weight. Forgiveness frees you too.

### 3. Walk with Others in Mercy

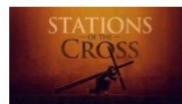
Many in our parish carry hidden wounds or feel judged. Let’s become a parish that accompanies rather than accuses—offering mercy, not condemnation.

No matter where you’ve been, it’s not too late. Christ is near. He stoops to meet you. He is ready to write a new chapter in your life. Will you let Him?

<div>Holy Week and Easter Services</div> <div> </div> <div>Come Worship With Us!</div>				
Palm Sunday	Holy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Vigil	Easter Sunday
Sat. April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Friday April 18 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday April 20 <sup>th</sup>
5:00 pm	7:00 pm The Mass of the Lord’s Supper	3:00 pm The Passion of the Lord	8:00 pm	8:00am 9:30 am 11:30 am
Sun. April 13 <sup>th</sup>		Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm		
8:00am 9:30 am 11:30 am				



The CWL will be selling a limited number of Garden Crosses on Palm Sunday after all Masses for \$15.00 each (cash only). The plain wood crosses are colourfully decorated and ready to add to your garden or give as a gift. Many people add Palm Sunday palms to their cross as a testament to their faith.



## The Stations of the Cross

\*\*\* special time \*\*\*

Join us for **The Stations of the Cross** devotion every Friday during Lent. The *Stations of the Cross* will take place **Friday April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am** and will be led by the CWL.

This time change will be for one week only.

**Due to the time change, we will not be offering a light meal.**



## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday April 5 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm † <b>Denise Wild</b> Requested by: The O'Brien Family
Sunday April 6 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am <b>People of the Parish</b>  9:30 am For the <b>deceased members of the Knights of Columbus</b>  11:30 am † <b>Fred Aloise</b> Requested by: Maria Aloise
Monday April 7 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm For the <b>living and deceased members of the CWL</b>
Tuesday April 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm † <b>Janey Papala</b> Requested by: The Conte Family
Wednesday April 9 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am † <b>John Prior</b> Requested by: Suzanne Prior
Thursday April 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am † <b>Ed Henderson</b> Requested by: Colette Henderson
Friday April 11 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am † <b>Antonio Neves</b> Requested by: Maria Hardie  9:30 am † <b>Shirley Kenny</b> Requested by: Mary Newton  9:30 am † <b>Larry White</b> Requested by: Family  9:30 am For the <b>deceased members of the Menalo Family</b> Requested by: The Conte Family



### 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.

Media outlets are reporting 1 in 20 Canadians are choosing death at the hand of doctors. What is happening to end-of-life care in Canada?

Please come to hear about this issue from Father Tom Lynch, President of Priests for Life Canada, Lecturer in Moral Theology, and rector of St. Peter in Chains Cathedral, Peterborough. Join us at Welcome Wednesday, April 30 at 10:30 a.m. for refreshments and Catholic insights into this alarming trend.



### SAVE THE DATE!

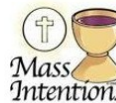
The CWL will be hosting their Annual Spring Tea on Saturday, May 31, 2025. Tickets will go on sale the weekend of April 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> at a cost of \$25.00.



This Lenten Season, the St. John Vianney Council of the Knights of Columbus are joining Knights worldwide in an effort to encourage families to participate in Good Friday services. The Knights are also inviting parishioners to join us in a worldwide "Call To Action" by praying for the plight of Christians in the Holy Land. Next weekend, the Knights will be distributing Christian Refugee Relief Prayer Cards. The Prayer Cards are free and will be handed out by Knights after each mass on April 11 and 12<sup>th</sup> while supplies last. Please take one and join us by offering your prayers in support of this cause.



Thank you to the St. John Vianney CWL for their most recent donation of \$1500 to our Sacramental Program.



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. The recommended donation for each Mass is \$10 and we will happily provide a card for you if needed. Please call or visit the parish office for more information.



**Holy Martyr's of Japan Parish** in Bradford will be hosting a Lenten Retreat on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:30am. The Retreat Director will be Rev. Charles Nahm, Opus Dei. For more information, please see the poster on the bulletin board in the vestibule.



Please join us after the 9:30 am & 11:30 am Masses for Fellowship. This week's hosts are members of the parish.

### REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

† Shirley Kenny, † Angelo Mongillo  
& † Lorraine Peters



*Please pray for those who are sick:*  
Susan Jibin, Ron Collingbourne, Marg White-Jacobs, Bob Westhaver, Patrick Quinn & Nicole Quinn



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