

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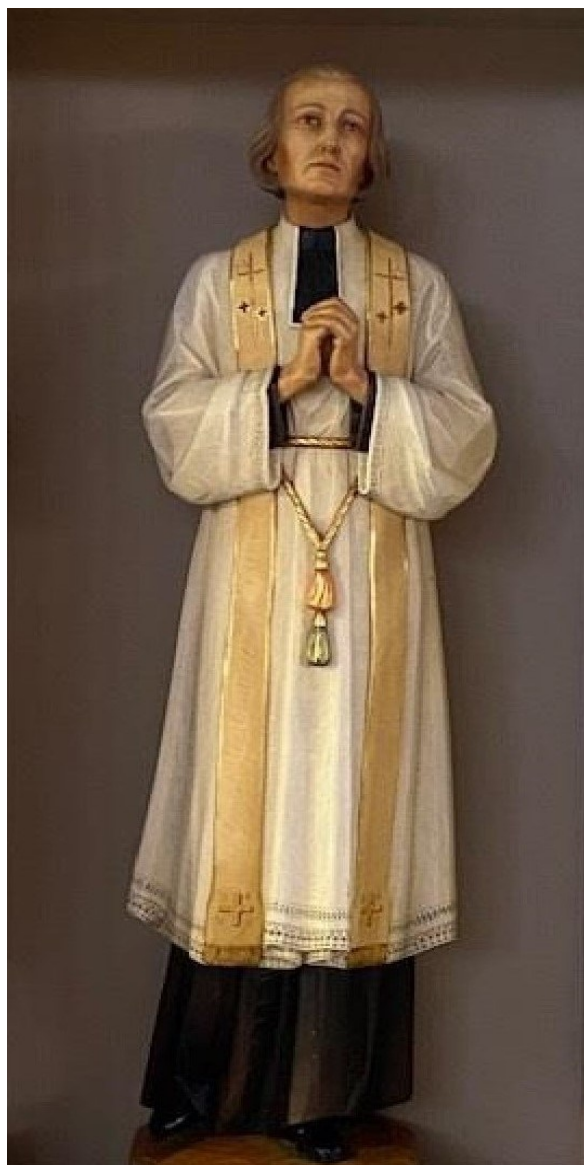
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***Emergency due to death or serious illness, press 9.



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCCHARIST

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



“WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?” THE COMPASSION THAT REDEFINES BOUNDARIES

Every so often, a Gospel passage meets us with such clarity and conviction that it leaves no room for abstraction or excuse. Today’s Gospel (Luke 10:25–37), the Parable of the Good Samaritan, is one of those moments. It pierces through our comfortable religiosity and invites us into the uncomfortable yet liberating call of radical compassion.

A lawyer, seeking to test Jesus, asks: “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus, as He often does, turns the question back: “What is written in the Law?” The man responds well quoting the Shema: “You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself.” But then comes the real question: “And who is my neighbour?”

This question echoes in every age, every culture, and every human heart. It is not merely a legal inquiry. It is a moral challenge. It is the point where spirituality meets reality. And Jesus responds, not with a definition, but with a story, the story of a Samaritan who becomes the unexpected icon of divine mercy.

Compassion in Action: A Theology of the Wounded Road

In this parable, Jesus paints a vivid road scene, a man beaten, robbed, and left half-dead. A priest and a Levite, religious men bound by liturgical duties, pass by, perhaps concerned with ritual purity (cf. Leviticus 21:1–3). But the Samaritan, seen by Jews as a heretic and outsider becomes the hero. His response is not theoretical; it is deeply incarnational:

“He was moved with compassion... bandaged his wounds... poured oil and wine... brought him to an inn... took care of him.” (Luke 10:33–34)

The Church Fathers saw in the Samaritan an image of Christ Himself. St. Ambrose writes, “The Samaritan is Christ, who came to the wounded man ‘humanity’ and healed us with the sacraments symbolized by oil and wine.” The wounded man is each one of us, broken by sin, left in the ditches of life. And Christ does not pass by. He descends to heal.

In the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, this call to compassion is echoed: “The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbour in his spiritual and bodily necessities” (CCC 2447). “In the face of so much suffering... Christ’s disciples are called to live in hope and charity” (CCC 2448).

Neighbours Are Not Chosen — They Are Given

The parable teaches us that “neighbour” is not about proximity or similarity, it is about *response*. The neighbour is the one *who needs me now*. It is the undocumented migrant, the single mother next door, the elderly parishioner who sits alone, the youth struggling with identity, the addict, the prisoner, the ignored.

Pope Francis often spoke of the Church as a “field hospital,” especially in *Evangelii Gaudium* (§49):

“The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel.”

Our sacraments, our devotions, our liturgies, all of these must lead us to the kind of love that *gets off the donkey* and *gets our hands dirty*.

The Real Test of Religion

St. James says it plainly: “Religion that is pure and undefiled before God... is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress” (James 1:27). The priest and Levite were religious. But the Samaritan was *merciful*. Jesus challenges us to move from sterile piety to merciful love. From ritual to relationship. From law to life.

A woman once asked St. Teresa of Calcutta how to find God. She answered, “Go home and love your family. Then go to the streets and love the forgotten.” Love is not merely spoken; it is enacted.

Conclusion: Go and Do Likewise

The Gospel ends not with a moral pat on the back, but with a commission: “Go and do likewise.” Christianity is not a spectator religion. We are not called merely to admire the Good Samaritan but to *become him*, and ultimately to become like Christ Himself.

In a world fractured by division, our parish is called to be a community of mercy. Let us allow today’s Gospel to interrogate our hearts: Who have I passed by? Whose wounds have I ignored? Where can I stop, stoop, and serve?

Let us teach our children not only to pray but to bandage. Let our parish be known not just for its programs but for its compassion. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote in *Deus Caritas Est*:

“A Eucharist which does not pass over into the concrete practice of love is intrinsically fragmented” (§14).

This week, may we each become an answer to someone’s question: “Who is my neighbour?”

And may Christ, the Divine Samaritan, meet us where we are, bind up our wounds, and make us healers in His name.

In Christ,

Fr. Joshy George, CMI

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Saturday July 12 th | 5:00 pm For the special intentions of Valerie Sutter Requested by: Lydia Harmazy |
| Sunday July 13 th | 8:00 am † Mary & Fred Spratt Requested by: Christine Liggett |
| | 9:30 am † Ron Collingbourne Requested by: Maria Asadoorian |
| | 11:30 am † Ana Miriam De Montes Requested by: Family |
| Monday July 14 th | 7:00 pm † Larry White Requested by: Family |
| Tuesday July 15 th | 7:00 pm † Maria Pushavetz Requested by: Family |
| Wednesday July 16 th | 9:30 am For the special intentions of Melanie Price Requested by: Lydia Harmazy |
| Thursday July 17 th | 9:30 am † Lawrence Kim & Family Requested by: Anna Kim |
| Friday July 18 th | 9:30 am † Paul Aloise Requested by: Maria Aloise |
| | 9:30 am † Georgina Paquete Requested by: Family |



Welcome Wednesday Summer Plans!

The Welcome Wednesday Drop-In at the church will take a summer break. Everyone interested in a mid-week social gathering please come to **Tyndale Park on Wednesdays at 10:30 am**. Bring a bag lunch and possibly a favourite chair. See you there!

Welcome Wednesday - July and August
Tyndale Park - 45 Tyndale Road, Barrie

For more information contact:
Mary Johnston
705-719-0351



The registration process for **FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION & RCIC** has begun. Information on these sacramental programs and their corresponding application links can be found on our website. Alternately, you may scan the appropriate **QR code** located on the bulletin board in the vestibule.



Welcome Fr. Eduardo Lopez – Our New Associate Pastor

We are delighted to welcome Fr. Eduardo Lopez as the new Associate Pastor of St. John Vianney Parish in Barrie. Filled with enthusiasm and a heart ready to serve, Fr. Eduardo looks forward to journeying with this vibrant community in faith, hope, and love.

Born in Zacatecas, Mexico, Fr. Eduardo is the eldest of five children of Mr. Homero and Mrs. Maria Elena Lopez. Raised on his family's farm, he brings with him the richness of rural values, deep faith, and a strong work ethic. A gifted musician, he plays the guitar and sings in both Spanish and English—bringing music and worship together in a spirit of joy and devotion.

Fr. Eduardo completed his theological studies at St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto and was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Toronto three years ago. He has served as Associate Pastor at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Mississauga and as Chaplain at Pearson International Airport, ministering to people from all walks of life.

Now at St. John Vianney, Fr. Eduardo expresses his heartfelt commitment: "I am here to serve you and your families. With God's grace, I will do so with all my heart. May we together reflect the joy, humility, and love that filled the life of our patron, St. John Vianney."

Let us warmly welcome Fr. Eduardo and accompany him with our prayers and friendship as he begins this new chapter among us



Is this the year to join the Catholic Church? If so, the

RCIA process is for you. This process begins each fall and runs with weekly meetings up to and including the Easter season. For those who are not baptized and for those of other Christian denominations who are already baptized, the RCIA process is a wonderful response to the Lord's call to His disciples to "Come and See". If you are interested, you may pick up a registration form from the Welcome Desk. You may also chat with Paul LaPlume after Mass or call him at 705-726-8007 ext.204.



SUMMER HOURS - The parish office will be closed at noon on Fridays throughout the summer.

No Fellowship this weekend



Please pray for those who are sick:

Agnes Cooper Berard, Joby George,
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