

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

PASTOR

Fr. Joshy George C.M.I.
705-726-8007 Ext. 202
JoshyGeorge@archtoronto.org

ASSOCIATE PASTORS

Fr. Arun Davis C.M.I.
705-726-8007 Ext. 212
ADavis@archtoronto.org

Fr. Eduardo Lopez
705-726-8007
ELopez@archtoronto.org

LAY PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Paul LaPlume
705 726-8007 Ext 204
PLaplume@archtoronto.org

OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS

Wendy Gordanier
705-726-8007 Ext 201
WGordanier@archtoronto.org

Anita Curran
705-726-8007 Ext. 203
ACurran@archtoronto.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Marilyn Reesor
705-726-8007 Ext 206
MReesor@archtoronto.org

YOUTH MINISTER

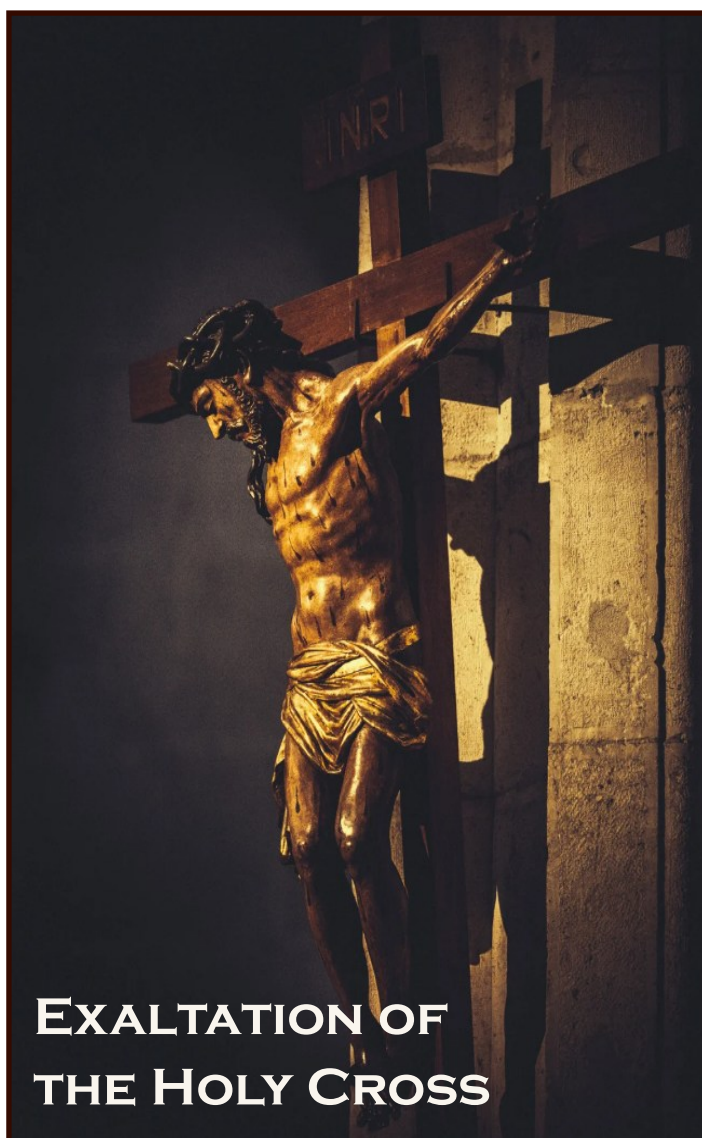
Kelly Luvisotto
705-726-8007 Ext 205
KLuvissotto@archtoronto.org

CONTACT US

Phone: 705-726-8007

Email: stjohnvianneyba@archtoronto.org

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



EXALTATION OF
THE HOLY CROSS



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

THE CROSS: FROM SIGN OF DEFEAT TO TREE OF LIFE

Dear Parish Family,

On this September 14, Holy Mother Church invites us to celebrate the Feast of the *Exaltation of the Holy Cross*. At first glance, the very idea seems paradoxical: how can we “exalt” an instrument of shame, torture, and death? And yet, for us Christians, the Cross is not a mark of defeat but the throne of glory, the tree of victory, and the sign of our salvation. As St. John Chrysostom so powerfully reminds us: *“The Cross is the trophy of Christ’s victory, the annihilation of death, and the hope of Christians.”*

Scripture and the Mystery of the Cross

The Liturgy of the Word leads us to the heart of this mystery. In the Book of Numbers (21:4–9), the Israelites, bitten by serpents, are healed when they gaze upon the bronze serpent Moses raised on a pole. This foreshadowing reveals a profound truth: healing does not come from human strength but from turning our eyes in faith toward the One who is lifted up for our salvation.

In the Gospel of John (3:13–17), Jesus Himself makes the connection clear: *“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life.”* His crucifixion, far from being a tragic end, is the very moment when God’s redeeming love is revealed in its fullness. The Cross, then, is not the conclusion of a sorrowful story, but the gateway to eternal life.

The Cross in the Teaching of the Church

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches: *“The cross is the unique sacrifice of Christ, the ‘one mediator between God and men’”* (CCC 618). In it we see both the depth of human sin and, more importantly, the immeasurable love of God. St. John Paul II once described the Cross as *“a living book from which we continually learn who God is and how much He loves us.”*

The Church Fathers often spoke of the Cross as the *Tree of Life*. Where Adam and Eve stretched out their hands in disobedience, Christ stretched out His arms in perfect obedience. Where the first tree brought death, the Cross brings eternal life. St. Augustine captures it beautifully: *“The death of the Lord our God should not be a cause of shame for us; rather, it should be our greatest hope, our greatest glory.”*

The Cross and Our Daily Life

But what does this mystery mean for us today, in our families, our work, our struggles?

Every one of us carries crosses: illness, family difficulties, financial burdens, loneliness, or the weight of personal weakness. Often, like the Israelites in the desert, we are tempted to complain, to lose heart. Yet the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross invites us to see differently. When united with Christ, our crosses are not meaningless, they become redemptive.

Think of the parent who gives tirelessly for the good of their children, the caregiver who carries the suffering of another with compassion, or the elderly person who unites their aches and loneliness with the Passion of Christ. These hidden sacrifices, embraced with love, are transformed into instruments of grace.

Jesus does not ask us to glorify suffering in itself; rather, He invites us to discover in it the path of love. *“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me”* (Luke 9:23).

A Message of Hope

In a world that avoids pain and seeks comfort at all costs, the Cross stands as both contradiction and promise. It declares that God can transform even the darkest moments into light, and the deepest wounds into fountains of grace. The Cross proclaims forever that love is stronger than death.

As we gather at the altar this Sunday, let us lift our eyes to the Cross, not as a relic of the past but as the living sign of God’s saving power. May it strengthen us in trials, console us in sorrow, and guide us in hope. For beyond every Good Friday, the light of Easter morning always awaits.

**May the Cross of Christ be our strength, our hope,
and our everlasting glory.**

In Christ,

Fr. Joshy George

Pastor, St. John Vianney Parish



WELCOME WEDNESDAY

**RESUMES ON SEPTEMBER
24TH**

Please join us at our Welcome Wednesday Drop-In for fun activities and plenty of conversation. We meet every Wednesday from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Between September 21st & October 3rd, the parish office
will be open, but with limited staff and services.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday September 13 th	5:00 pm † Lawrence Kim & Family Requested by: Anna Kim
Sunday September 14 th	8:00 am For the People of the Parish 9:30 am For the special intentions of Brian Sin Requested by: Lydia Harmazy 11:30 am † Joe Spineto Requested by: Teresa Spineto
Monday September 15 th	7:00 pm For the deceased members of the Knights of Columbus
Tuesday September 16 th	7:00 pm † Raymond Bolech Requested by: Rita Alkemade 7:00 pm † Ron, David & Chris Collingbourne Requested by: Evelyn Herbert 7:00 pm For the special intentions of Frances Brunt & Family Requested by: The LaPlante Family
Wednesday September 17 th	9:30 am † Jebreil Syed Requested by: Arlene Chee Foon
Thursday September 18 th	9:30 am † Fred Aloise Requested by: Maria Aloise
Friday September 19 th	9:30 am † Lawrence Kim & Family Requested by: Anna Kim 9:30 am † Davis Kim Requested by: Anna Kim 9:30 am † Larry White Requested by: The White Family 9:30 am For the special intentions of the Hall Family Requested by: Andrew & Casey Hall 9:30 am For the special intentions of Maria Riviere Requested by: Lydia Harmazy 9:30 am For the special intentions of Stan & Ryan Gombac Requested by: Mary Kominek



KIDS CONNECTION

Our Fall Children's Liturgy Program has started! We welcome children from grades Jk-4 to join us at the 9:30am & 11:30am Masses.

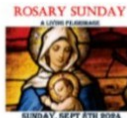
AN AFFRONT TO LIFE - MAiD in Canada A Conversation

Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director of Euthanasia Prevention Coalition will be speaking at St. Mary's Church in Collingwood on Tuesday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. His talk is titled, 'An Affront to Life- MAiD in Canada, A Conversation.'

A Q & A period and refreshments will follow.

There will be a free will offering.

Please join us for an informative evening.



Pilgrims to Rosary Sunday, traveling to Martyrs Shrine by the reserved Parish Bus, please meet at the front entrance ready for departure at 12:30pm - immediately following the 11.30am Mass.



FALL FOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul have teamed up for a much needed food drive. The Knights will be handing out bags after all the Masses this weekend and will then collect them the following weekend, September 20th & 21st

Some much needed food items include; *school snacks, cereal, peanut butter, jam, Kraft Dinner, cookies, crackers, spaghetti sauce, coffee, tea, juice boxes, cakes mixes, sugar, pancake mix and syrup, canned meat, canned pasta, canned fruit, toilet paper and toiletries.*

Please be careful not to bring in expired food or pasta (we have an excess of dried pasta!)

Thank you for your support!



RCIA Starts this Weekend!

For those who have registered for the 2025-2026 RCIA process, the first gathering takes place this Sunday after the 11:30am Mass.

If you have not signed up but are interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Paul LaPlume at 705-726-8007 ext. 204.



The application process for **FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION & RCIC** is well under way. Information on these sacramental programs and their corresponding application links can be found

on our website.

*The first in person event for **CONFIRMATION** will take place on Friday, September 19th and Saturday, September 20th. Please see the website for details.*



Coffee Fellowship

Fellowship is back! Join us after the 9:30am & 11:30am Masses for refreshments and to get to know your priests and fellow parishoners. This weeks host are member of the parish.

REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **Viorica Boldizar, † Elisabeth De Nieuwe and † Seda Dolapchian**



Please pray for those who are sick:

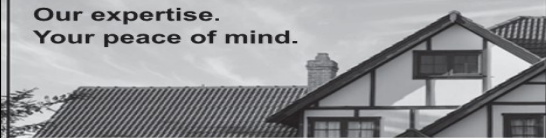
Filomena Alves, Mary Pirie & Elizabeth Pickett

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