

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 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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PREPARE THE WAY WITHIN: WELCOMING CHRIST THROUGH HOPE, HARMONY, AND HEALING

Dear beloved parish family,

As we enter the Second Sunday of Advent, the Church invites us not only to listen to the prophetic voices of Scripture but also to become attentive to the quiet movements of grace within our own hearts. Advent is a season of waiting, yes, but not passive waiting. It is a season of active readiness, hopeful longing, and courageous opening of the heart. Today's readings illuminate this sacred posture beautifully.

1. The Peaceful Kingdom Begins Within — Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah paints before us the breathtaking vision of the Messiah: "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse... and the spirit of the Lord shall rest on him" (Isa 11:1-2). This prophetic image reminds us that God brings life from what seems barren, hope from what appears hopeless. The stump—apparently lifeless—bursts again with new life.

So too in our lives: places we may consider spiritually dried, emotionally exhausted, or relationally cut down are not beyond God's renewing touch. Advent encourages us to trust that God can grow holiness where we least expect it. The Catechism reminds us that *"the desire for God is written in the human heart"* (CCC 27). Even when life has worn us down, that desire remains, a holy seed waiting for the Breath of God.

2. Hope That Builds Harmony — Romans 15:4-9

St. Paul beautifully tells us: "Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope" (Rom 15:4). This is not optimism based on circumstances; it is hope rooted in God's fidelity.

Paul's call "to live in harmony with one another" (v.5) is not wishful thinking but a Christian mandate. Pope Francis frequently reminds us that the Church is called to be a "field hospital," a place where broken hearts are tended with mercy and patience. During this Advent season, we are invited to become instruments of that healing harmony. This is where our faith becomes beautifully practical.

3. A Unique Advent Practice: Be Available to One Heart

This week, I encourage each of you to make a conscious effort to be uniquely available for one family member. This could mean:

- A sincere conversation with someone you've been too busy to listen to.
- A warm gesture toward someone who feels unseen in the household.
- A moment of patience with a family member who struggles.
- Or perhaps the hardest invitation: taking a step toward reconciliation with someone from whom you've drifted.

Advent readiness is not only preparing the crib in the sanctuary; it is preparing space in our relationships. As St. Teresa of Calcutta taught, *"Love begins at home."* Let this week be a quiet offering of presence.

4. The Courage to Turn — Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist appears today as the Advent prophet par excellence, crying out: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." His message, at times unsettling, is meant to

awaken us, not frighten us. Conversion (metanoia) is not a punishment; it is an invitation to freedom.

John reminds us that bearing fruit is part of the Christian journey. The Catechism teaches that interior repentance is a *"radical reorientation of our whole life"* (CCC 1431). It is placing God back at the center.

In today's world, saturated with noise, distraction, polarization, and instant opinions—this form of interior straightening is more urgent than ever. Many of us carry burdens, stresses, and anxieties. John's call is an invitation to breathe again, to surrender again, to let Christ reorder our chaos.

5. Advent in Our Modern Lives

My dear parishioners, I know many of you are navigating demanding workplaces, family stresses, health concerns, or emotional fatigue. The pace of modern life can leave us feeling spiritually thin. The invitation of Advent is gentle yet transformative:

Slow down enough to let Christ meet you.

- In moments of silence before the manger.
- In the shared Advent candlelight at home.
- In acts of kindness that counter the world's harshness.
- In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where Divine Mercy restores our peace.
- In choosing hope each day, even when the news tempts us toward despair.

Let Advent be your soul's deep breath.

6. A Path Forward — Together

As your pastor, I carry each of you in my prayer. I see your faith, your longing for God, your desire for peace in your families, and your goodness. I invite all of us this week to take one concrete step toward making "the desert of our hearts" bloom with the new life Christ promises.

May Isaiah's vision inspire you... May Paul's encouragement strengthen you...

May John's boldness awaken you... And may the Holy Spirit guide you toward healing, harmony, and hope.

Let us prepare the way not only in our parish, but in our families, our relationships, and our hearts.

	CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S HOLY MASS SCHEDULE
Wednesday Dec. 24th <i>Christmas Eve</i> 4:00 pm 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm & Midnight	
Thursday Dec. 25th <i>Christmas Day</i> 9:30 am & 11:30 am	
Wednesday Dec. 31st <i>New Year's Eve</i> 4:00 pm Adoration & Confessions 5:00 pm Vigil Mass	
Thursday January 1st, 2026 <i>New Year's Day</i> 9:30am & 11:30 am (Holy Day of Obligation)	

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday December 6 th	5:00 pm ✠ Joao Alves Requested by: Family
Sunday December 7 th	8:00 am For the special intentions of Lydia Harmazy Requested by: Self
	9:30 am For the special intentions of Richa Lama Requested by: Self
	11:30 am ✠ Juan Navarreto Requested by: His Parents
Monday December 8 th	7:00 pm ✠ Joseph Hien Tran & Anton Anh Nguyen Requested by: the Tran & Nguyen Families
	7:00 pm ✠ Fred Aloise Requested by: Maria Aloise
Tuesday December 9 th	7:00 pm ✠ Jorge Francisco Requested by: Family
	7:00 pm For the special intentions of Stephen Austin Requested by: Maureen Austin
Wednesday December 10 th	9:30 am ✠ Marina Prior Requested by: Suzanne Prior
Thursday December 11 th	9:30 am ✠ Lawrence Kim & Family Requested by: Anna Kim
Friday December 12 th	9:30 am ✠ Ed Henderson Requested by: Colette Henderson
	9:30 am ✠ Bob Hargrave Requested by: Jeff & Brede Long
	9:30 am ✠ Davis Kim Requested by: Anna Kim
	9:30 am For the special intentions of Fr. Eduardo & Family Requested by: Lydia Harmazy
	9:30 am For the special intentions of Fr. Arun & Family Requested by: Lydia Harmazy



WELCOME WEDNESDAY

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



We are endeavouring to spruce up the Sanctuary with some new Christmas Trees. If you would like to donate a new pre-lit tree, please call the parish office. Thank you!



The **2025-2026 SUNDAY MISSALS FOR ADULTS** are available at the Welcome Desk in the vestibule following Mass at a cost of \$5.00.



ADVENT CONFESSIONS

On Dec. 19th Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 pm, followed by an Examination of Conscience and Confessions (4 priests will be available). This is in addition to our usual Confession times. Please note:

Tues. Dec. 24th: No Confessions
Wed. Dec. 25th: No Confessions



"Blessed is She" Women's Group:

Join us on Tuesday, December 9th for a relaxed evening of fellowship and conversation. Refreshments will be provided, and participants are welcome to bring something to share. Come as you are – all ages welcome! We meet on the second Tuesday of each month after the 7:00 pm Mass.

☀️ Children's Nativity Prelude – 3:45 PM ☀️

Come early on Christmas Eve! From 3:45–4:00 PM, the children will sing two songs as Mary and Joseph make their way down the aisle, leading us into the celebration of Jesus' birth.

📅 Youth & Children's Ministry – December Schedule

- 🌟 Holy Seeds (JK–Grade 4) – December 12 • 6:30–7:30 PM
- 🌱 Growing in Grace (Grade 5–8) – December 19 • 7:00–8:30 PM
- 🌳 Rooted Youth (Grade 9–12) – December 20 • 6:00–8:00 PM

🌲 Warming Christmas Tree

This Advent, we invite you to help decorate our Warming Christmas Tree in the foyer with donations of new hats, mitts/gloves, and warm socks. All items will be shared with local individuals and families who could use a little extra warmth this winter. Thank you for your generosity!



NEW LIGHTING & SOUND!

We are investing in our parish! We are upgrading our sound and lighting systems in order to enhance worship for all Liturgical seasons and Sacraments. If you wish to donate to this new and exciting project, please use the blue envelopes located at the back of the church. THANK YOU!

2026 Offertory Envelopes will be available next weekend



FELLOWSHIP

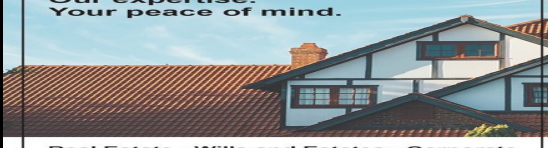
Join us after the 9:30am & 11:30am Masses for refreshments and the get to know your priests and fellow parishoners. This weeks hosts are member of the parish. We hope to see you there!



Please pray for those who are sick:
Christine Haslam, Caroline Harmazy, Maurice Keogh, Tony Periera and Patricia Glachan

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Board Trustee
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Susan van Amelsvoort
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