

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

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YOUTH MINISTER

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CONTACT US

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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



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE: ENHANCING WORSHIP, ACCESSIBILITY, AND COMMUNITY AT ST. JOHN VIANNEY

Beloved parishioners,

I am happy to share an important and exciting update with you. St. John Vianney Catholic Church Barrie continues to grow in faith, fellowship, and vibrant liturgical life. We are a warm, welcoming, and joy-filled parish, alive with the Holy Spirit and blessed with extraordinary people who love God and one another.

With the consultation and full approval of the Archdiocese of Toronto and our Finance Committee, we have begun a major and long-needed undertaking; one that reflects the growth of our community and our shared responsibility to create an inclusive, accessible, and beautiful sacred space worthy of our worship.

As many of you know, our parish family is expanding in remarkable ways. This year alone:

- 216 children are preparing for their First Holy Communion
- 202 teens are preparing for Confirmation
- 33 children are journeying through RCIC
- Nearly 40 adults are in RCIA
- At least 16 Baptisms take place each month
- Over 20 weddings are already scheduled for next year.
- Over 20 Funeral Masses so far this year
- An overwhelming participation in Sunday Fellowship

This growth is matched by the flourishing of our ministries: Our Children's Ministry is thriving; our Youth Ministry continues to grow in outreach and engagement; our Seniors' Ministry brings comfort, community, and joy; and our parish is blessed with countless small groups, our Women's Group, and beginning in the new year, a Men's Group, Young Adult Ministry, and parish-wide Bible Study.

We are profoundly grateful for the dedicated work of our Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Women's League, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the many volunteers who support our retirement home, nursing home, hospital, and school ministries. Each week, our parish reaches into the lives of people who need hope, compassion, and the loving presence of Christ. God is truly doing something extraordinary among us.

To support this growth and to prepare for the future, we are undertaking four integrated projects:

1. A new state-of-the-art church sound system
2. A parish hall overflow sound and streaming system
3. A permanent, high-quality livestream setup
4. Professional, reverent, and adaptable theatrical lighting for the Sanctuary which enhances its beauty and liturgy

Each of these is important on its own – but together, they form one unified vision for accessibility, hospitality, and excellence in worship.

You may wonder why these upgrades are necessary. The reality is that our current systems are aging, limited, and in some cases failing. There are audio dead zones in the church; livestream equipment must be assembled and dismantled each time; and

our lighting – though functional – does not support the beauty and dignity of the sacred mysteries we celebrate.

The new sound system is truly futuristic and inclusive – it will allow parishioners with hearing aids to connect directly to the system in the years ahead. With this project, every word of Scripture, every prayer, and every note of sacred music will be heard clearly throughout the church.

The hall integration will transform our overflow Masses at Christmas, Easter, funerals, school liturgies, and large gatherings, allowing those in the hall to participate fully, not simply observe.

A permanent livestream system will bring the Mass to our homebound parishioners, those in hospitals or long-term care, and families across the world who join us in prayer.

Professional liturgical lighting: beautiful, reverent, and energy-efficient, will enhance visibility, draw our attention to the altar, ambo, and crucifix, and create the proper prayerful ambience worthy of our worship.

The total investment for this unified project is just over \$300,000. One of the most reputable companies in Canada is completing this work for us. It is a significant financial commitment, but also an act of responsible stewardship; **done once, done well, and built to serve us for decades.**

Already, in a beautiful sign of God's providence, one parish family has generously offered \$100,000 toward this project. Let us keep them in our prayers with gratitude for their tremendous generosity.

Brothers and sisters, we undertake this not for luxury, but for inclusion, evangelization, and the dignity of worship. As the psalmist proclaims, "In Your light, we see light."

May these improvements help every person: young and old, near and far – see, hear, and experience the beauty of God more deeply in this Holy place.

I humbly ask for your prayers, your generosity, and your partnership as we continue to build a parish that reflects the love, faith, and unity we share. If you feel called to support this project, you may contact the parish office or use the special blue envelope labeled "**Special Fundraising Project.**" With the Archdiocese's approval, all contributions will be used exclusively for this parish initiative.

May God bless you for your kindness, your faith, and your commitment to our parish family.

St. John Vianney, pray for us.

Fr. Joshy George

Pastor

St. John Vianney Barrie

	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 <i>(Holy Day of Obligation)</i>	

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday December 13 th	5:00 pm ✠ Francis Loyola Requested by: Family
Sunday December 14 th	8:00 am ✠ Joseph & Irene Balogh Requested by: Family
	9:30 am For the deceased members of The Spizzirri Family Requested by: Linda Lacasse
	11:30 am For the deceased members of The Da Silva Family Requested by: Lourdes Da Silva
Monday December 15 th	7:00 pm ✠ Baby Chung Requested by: Family
Tuesday December 16 th	7:00 pm ✠ Patrick O'Reilly Requested by: Family
	7:00 pm ✠ Gardner & Catherine Zinn Requested by: Margaret (Peggy) Hughes
	7:00 pm For the special intentions of Beatrice Carfantan & Chelsea Eldridge Requested by: The Biehl Family
Wednesday December 17 th	9:30 am ✠ Butch & Marina Prior Requested by: Suzanne Prior
Thursday December 18 th	9:30 am For the deceased members of The Knights of Columbus
Friday December 19 th	9:30 am ✠ Bob Hargrave Requested by: Judy Sloan
	9:30 am ✠ Larry White Requested by: The White Family
	9:30 am ✠ Davis Kim Requested by: Anna Kim
	9:30 am ✠ Fred Aloise Requested by: Maria Aloise
	9:30 am ✠ Lawrence Kim & Family Requested by: Anna Kim
	9:30 am ✠ Ron Collingbourne Requested by: The LeClair & Aitken Families
	9:30 am For the special intentions of Fr. Innocent Okozi Requested by: Lydia Harmazy
	9:30 am For the special intentions of Hannah & Siby Abraham Requested by: Family



Handicraft Holy Land Christians



This weekend, we welcome Paul from Sebastien Cardinal's team, representing "Handicraft Holy Land Christians", who will briefly address the issues and concerns regarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land. There will be items for sale after all the Masses.

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



Please pray for those who are sick:
Linda Kartes, Christine Haslam, Caroline Harmazy, Maurice Keogh



WELCOME WEDNESDAY CHRISTMAS

Please join us this Wednesday after Mass as we celebrate the season with a Christmas Party. All are welcome!



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:

Wed. Dec. 24th & Thurs. Dec. 25th -No Confessions



2026 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

2026 Envelopes are now available in the parish hall. To avoid any confusion, please DO NOT USE 2026 envelopes until the New Year. Please

ensure you put your name and address on the first 3 envelopes beginning with January 1st, 2026. All those with pre-authorized monthly giving are reminded to pick up envelopes as not all envelopes are covered by your pre-authorized giving. There are registration pamphlets for parishioners wishing to begin pre-authorized monthly giving.

Thank you for your continued support!



ADVENT AS A SEASON OF PILGRIMAGE

Rejoice in the Lord always! This weekend we celebrate **Gaudete Sunday**, the Third Sunday of Advent, when the Church invites us to rejoice because "*the Lord is near.*" Marked by the rose candle and rose vestments, Gaudete Sunday signals a joyful shift in our Advent journey. Even as we continue to wait and prepare, we pause to recognize that God is already at work in our midst. Christian joy is not simply emotion; it is the deep confidence that Christ's coming brings light to every darkness.

This year's Jubilee theme, **Pilgrims of Hope**, beautifully reflects the meaning of Advent. A pilgrim is one who keeps moving forward even when the road is long, trusting that each step—prayer, sacrifice, forgiveness, kindness—draws them closer to God. **Advent itself is a pilgrimage of hope.**

The Advent Scriptures offer us profound models of pilgrim holiness to guide our path – Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and the Magi. Together, these figures reveal that holiness is not a moment but a journey—one marked by openness, trust, humility, and joyful expectation.

As we observe Gaudete Sunday and continue through Advent, may we allow their witness to shape our hearts so that we, too, may become **pilgrims of hope** who carry Christ's light into our homes, communities, and world.

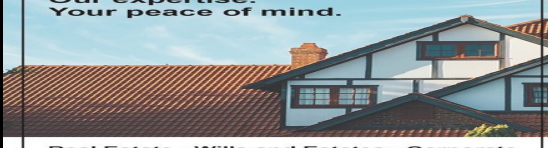
FELLOWSHIP



Join us after the 9:30am & 11:30am Masses for refreshments and to get to know your priests and fellow parishioners. This week's hosts are members of the St. Francis of Assisi School Community.

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705-726-8007 x208

Maria Hardie
Board Trustee
Barrie Wards 6-10
705-722-3555, ext 468



Susan van Amelsvoort
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