

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



A LIGHT FOR ALL NATIONS, A STAR FOR OUR JOURNEY

Dear Parish Family of St. John Vianney,

On this beautiful Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, the Church invites us to lift our eyes and hearts to a mystery filled with light, movement, and promise. Epiphany means manifestation, the revealing of God's saving love, not to a chosen few alone, but to all peoples, all cultures, all hearts searching for meaning. What began quietly in Bethlehem is now proclaimed boldly to the world.

The prophet Isaiah announces with joy, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you" (Isaiah 60:1). This is not merely poetic language; it is a divine summons. God's light does not remain distant or decorative. It rises upon a people who have known darkness, confusion, and waiting. The vision Isaiah paints is deeply human and deeply hopeful. Nations walking toward light, families bringing their treasures, sons and daughters returning home. In every age, including ours, God is at work gathering what is scattered, healing what is broken, and illuminating what seems lost.

We see this promise fulfilled in the Gospel as the Magi journey from afar, guided by a star, drawn not by certainty but by longing. They were scholars, seekers, foreigners, outsiders to the covenant, yet God spoke their language and met them on their road. Their journey mirrors so many lives today, parents searching for hope for their children, young people discerning their future, elders reflecting on life's meaning, individuals carrying questions about faith, suffering, and belonging. The Epiphany assures us that God meets us where we are, not where we think we should be.

Saint Matthew tells us that when the Magi saw the child with Mary his mother, "they knelt down and paid him homage" (Matthew 2:11). Their wisdom led them not to pride but to humility. Their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh reveal profound truth. Gold acknowledges Christ as King, frankincense proclaims him as God, and myrrh foreshadows his saving sacrifice. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that in the Epiphany, "the Church celebrates the manifestation of Jesus to the Gentiles" (CCC 528). This feast proclaims that no one is excluded from God's saving plan.

Saint Paul, writing to the Ephesians, makes this truth unmistakably clear. He speaks of the mystery now revealed, that the Gentiles are "members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel" (Ephesians 3:6). What was once hidden is now made known. God's family is wider than imagined, more inclusive than expected, and richer because of its diversity. In a world often marked by division, fear of difference, and exclusion, Epiphany stands as a quiet yet powerful proclamation of unity in Christ.

Pastorally, this feast speaks tenderly to our present moment. Many today feel like travelers, navigating uncertainty, change, and loss. Some carry the quiet weight of grief, others the anxiety of economic pressures, family tensions, or questions of faith. Like the Magi, we may not always know the destination, but we are invited to keep moving, to keep watching for the star. Pope Benedict XVI once reflected that the Magi teach us that faith is a journey guided by God's light, requiring courage, humility, and perseverance.

Epiphany also challenges us. Having encountered Christ, the Magi return home "by another road" (Matthew 2:12). An encounter with Jesus always changes our direction. We cannot remain the same once we have seen his light. For families, this may mean choosing patience over impatience, forgiveness over resentment, prayer over distraction. For young people, it may mean trusting God's call even when the path is unclear. For our parish community, it means becoming a light for others, welcoming the stranger, caring for the vulnerable, and witnessing to hope in everyday acts of love.

Dear friends, the light of Epiphany still shines. It shines in our Eucharistic celebration, in the Word proclaimed, in the quiet fidelity of daily faith. It shines when we choose kindness, seek justice, and walk together as one body in Christ. As Saint John Chrysostom beautifully preached, "The Magi adored Christ, not because they saw a king on a throne, but because they recognized God in humility." May we too recognize him, in simplicity, in one another, and in the ordinary moments of our lives.

May this feast renew our courage to arise and shine, to follow the star God places before us, and to become, for our world, a reflection of Christ's light.

With prayerful blessings,

Fr. Joshy George CMI

Pastor, St. John Vianney Parish, Barrie

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday January 3 rd	5:00 pm † Larry White Requested by: The White Family
Sunday January 4 th	8:00 am † Peter & Dorothy Prior Requested by: Suzanne Prior
	9:30 am † Joaquim Da Costa e Silva Requested by: Family
	11:30 am For the special intentions of Andrew Son Requested by: The Son Family
Monday January 5 th	7:00 pm † Barbara Yorke Requested by: Anne Marie Hawke
Tuesday January 6 th	7:00 pm For the intentions of Barbara Hargrave & Family Requested by: Helen & John Russell
Wednesday January 7 th	9:30 am † Davis Kim Requested by: Anna Kim
Thursday January 8 th	9:30 am † Fred Aloise & Family Requested by: Maria Aloise
Friday January 9 th	9:30 am † Frank Manieri Requested by: Kevin & Laurie Brown



It's time to start using your **2026 Envelopes**. Boxes are available for pickup in the vestibule. Please ensure you put your name and address on the first 3 envelopes beginning January 1st, 2026.
PLEASE DISCARD ANY UNUSED 2025 ENVELOPES
Thank you for your continued support!



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.



Fr. Joshy would like to extend a huge thank you to the parishioners who donated towards the purchase of four new Christmas Trees. The new trees add to the beauty of the Sanctuary!



FELLOWSHIP

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



Youth & Children's Ministry – Upcoming Dates

✦ Holy Seeds (JK–Grade 4)
– January 7 • 6:30–7:30 PM

✦ Growing in Grace (Grade 5–8)
– January 9 • 7:00–8:30 PM

✦ Rooted Youth (Grade 9–12)
– January 10 • 6:00–8:00 PM



As the Jubilee Year of Hope draws to a close, the Church pauses not in conclusion, but in renewal. The closing of the Holy Doors marks the end of a sacred season in the Church's life, yet it does not signal the end of grace. What is closing is a special moment in time; what remains open forever is the heart of our merciful God. As was proclaimed during the Jubilee's final days, God's arms are always open—welcoming, forgiving, and inviting us to deeper conversion.

The Jubilee emphasized a central truth of our faith: Jesus himself is the Jubilee. He is the fulfillment of God's promise of freedom, restoration, and new life. While the Holy Doors may now be closed, Christ continues to pass through the closed doors of our hearts, gently knocking, offering mercy, and inviting us to begin again. The grace encountered during this Holy Year is meant to shape how we live every ordinary day. *"After the holy doors close, may other doors now open: doors of homes and oases of peace where dignity may flower again, where nonviolence is taught, where the art of reconciliation is learned". (Pope Leo XIV)*

Now we are sent forth as pilgrims of hope. The Jubilee does not end—it continues wherever forgiveness is offered, the poor are served, the lonely are accompanied, and wounds are tended. Each work of mercy becomes a new crossing into God's compassionate love. As a parish community, we are called to carry forward what we have received: to travel lightly, live intentionally, and witness boldly to hope in our world.

May the fruits of this Jubilee remain alive among us, and may we continue our journey with open hearts, trusting always in the God whose arms are forever open.

REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **Eric Hanson & † Lucy Beauchamp**

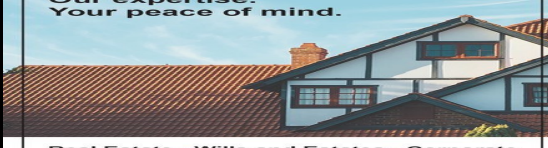


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705-726-8007 x208

Maria Hardie
Board Trustee
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Susan van Amelsvoort
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