

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

SALT, LIGHT, AND THE QUIET REVOLUTION OF REAL FAITH

Dear Parishioners,

There is something wonderfully practical about today's Gospel. Jesus does not begin with complicated theories or lofty slogans. He points to two ordinary things everyone understands, salt and light. "You are the salt of the earth ... You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14). In other words, discipleship is meant to be felt, seen, and shared. Faith is not only what we believe in our hearts, it is what we become for others.

Many people today are not asking whether God exists. They are asking, often silently, "Where is goodness now, where is hope, where is something real I can trust?" That is exactly where today's readings meet us, in the middle of ordinary life, in families, workplaces, classrooms, and in moments of fatigue or discouragement. God's Word calls us back to a faith that is deeply rooted and visibly alive.

The Fast God Desires: Mercy That Becomes Light

Through Isaiah, the Lord gives a clear invitation, not a religion of appearances, but a life that becomes a blessing. "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice ... to share your bread with the hungry" (Isaiah 58:6-7). Then comes a promise that feels like sunrise after a long night, "Then your light shall break forth like the dawn" (Isaiah 58:8).

Isaiah teaches us that light is not created by noise, it is released through love. Whenever a home becomes more patient, whenever forgiveness replaces resentment, whenever a lonely person is noticed, whenever a struggling family is supported, the light of Christ quietly breaks into the world.

This is not "social work" added onto faith. This is biblical holiness. The Catechism reminds us that *the works of mercy are concrete expressions of love for Christ present in the poor and the vulnerable* (CCC 2447). Worship is meant to overflow into charity, and charity joined to Christ becomes radiant.

St. Paul's Humility: Faith That Rests on God

St. Paul speaks with refreshing honesty. "I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom" (1 Corinthians 2:1). He admits, "I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling" (1 Corinthians 2:3), so that their faith would rest "not on human wisdom but on the power of God" (1 Corinthians 2:5).

This is consoling for anyone who feels inadequate in faith. Real faith is not a performance; it is a surrender. Your weakness does not disqualify you, it can become the very place where God's grace shines. The Lord does not ask us to be the source of the light; He asks us to be the window.

St. Augustine often spoke of the heart being rightly ordered toward God, when God is first, love becomes our strength and everything else finds its place. That is what Paul lived, Christ at the center, self set aside.

Jesus' Gospel: Goodness That Leads to the Father

Jesus gives us a purpose and a mission, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). We do not shine to be admired, we shine so that people find God. Christian goodness is a signpost, not a spotlight. Salt, too, is quiet. It preserves what is good, it strengthens what is true, it brings out the hidden flavor. In a time when conversations can be harsh and cynicism can feel normal, Jesus is asking His disciples to be different, not louder, but truer, not harsher, but holier, not driven by image, but led by the Spirit.

St. John Chrysostom preached that our life itself becomes the teaching. When Christians live with integrity and mercy, the Gospel becomes believable. People may debate our words, but they recognize authentic love.

Bringing It Home: One Week, Two Simple Choices

For families, salt and light may look like patience instead of sharpness, prayer instead of constant hurry, forgiveness instead of keeping score, making your home a small place of peace.

For youth, it may look like refusing gossip and exclusion, standing up for someone who is mocked, being brave enough to live faith with quiet confidence.

For those struggling in faith, it may be one step back toward God, coming to Mass even when you feel dry, praying honestly, "Lord, help me," and trusting that God's power is at work even in weakness.

For our elders and those who feel alone, your light matters more than you know. Your prayers and faithful perseverance are a steady flame in the heart of the Church. This week, choose one concrete act of "salt" and one concrete act of "light."

Salt, a healing word, a decision to be honest, a small sacrifice offered with love.

Light, a work of mercy, a visit, an encouragement, a reconciliation begun.

Isaiah gives the promise, when we "satisfy the needs of the afflicted," then "your light shall rise in the darkness" (Isaiah 58:10). The world does not need louder Christians; it needs luminous Christians. If we stay close to Jesus, our worship will become mercy, our faith will rest on God's power, and our parish will shine, quietly, steadily, and beautifully.

Fr. Joshy George

Pastor, St. John Vianney Parish, Barrie

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

Saturday
February 7th 5:00 pm ✠ **Jebriel Syed & the**
special intentions of the **Vilma Chee Foon**
Requested by: Vilma Chee Foon

Sunday
February 8th 8:00 am **People of the Parish**

9:30 am For the special intentions of
Annette Bellamy
Requested by: Seraphine Dowd

11:30 am ✠ **Maria Thuy Mai &**
✠ **Joseph Hien Tran**
Requested by: Tran & Nguyen Families

Monday
February 9th 7:00 pm ✠ **Larry White**
Requested by: The White Family

7:00 pm For the special intentions of
Angela Brownridge
Requested by: Self

Tuesday
February 10th 7:00 pm For the special intentions of
Wendy & Rob Gordanier

Wednesday
February 11th 9:30 am ✠ **Lawrence & David Kim**
and **Family**
Requested by: Anna Kim

Thursday
February 12th 9:30 am ✠ **Fred Aloise & Family**
Requested by: Maria Aloise

Friday
February 13th 9:30 am ✠ **Aurele Daigle**
Requested by: Florence Daigle

9:30 am ✠ **Ann & Evangelist Paolozzi**
Requested by: Christopher Paolozzi

9:30 am The special intentions of
Anna & Michael Kim
Requested by: John & Helen Russel

9:30 am For the special intentions of
The SJV Priests
Requested by: Jenny Mas



Youth & Children's Ministry February Schedule

Rooted Youth (Grades 9–12)

- Feb 14 • 6:00–8:00 PM

Growing in Grace (Grades 5–8)

- Feb 13 • 7:00–8:30 PM

✨ Faith Over Frost ✨

- Coldest Night of the Year Walk - Youth Haven
- When:** Saturday February 28th 4pm - Check in - 5pm Walk Starts!
- Where:** 70 Collier St. Barrie
- Registration:** <https://cnoy.with.me/faithoverfrost> - There is **no registration fee**, but donations are greatly appreciated. Every bit helps!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Join us on Tuesday, February 17, from 5:00–7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall for our annual Knights of Columbus Pancake Supper—a warm, delicious way to begin the Lenten season. Menu: Pancakes, sausages, baked beans, cake, fruit cup, and tea, coffee, and juice. Cost: Adults: \$10, Children 12 and under are free. Tickets will be available after all Masses this weekend and next. Cash, credit, and debit accepted. All proceeds, after expenses, will support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. A great meal, great company, and a great cause—hope to see you there! **PLEASE NOTE, ON THIS DAY, MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED AT 9:30AM NOT 7:00PM.**



THE LENTEN SEASON

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten Season in which we prepare ourselves to celebrate the passion, death and resurrection of Christ by drawing closer to him through good works, repentance, prayer, and fasting. This year, Ash Wednesday will be celebrated on **Wednesday, February 18th**. There will be two Masses – one at **9:30 a.m.** and the other at **7:00 p.m.**



“Blessed is She” Women's Group:

Join us on Tuesday, February 10th, 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!



The Stations of the Cross

Join us for **The Stations of the Cross** devotion on Friday evenings at **7:00 pm.** during Lent. The *Stations of the Cross* will take place **Friday, February 20th** and will be led by the Lectors. Please join us at **6:00 pm** for a simple dinner of soup and bread.

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.



LENTEN RETREAT

Join us as we welcome back Fr. Roy Palatty as he hosts this year's Lenten Retreat. The Retreat will take place from March 9th -11th, in the evenings. On March 9th & 10th there will be Mass, a talk and Eucharistic Adoration. On March 11th there will be a Penitential Service, Mass and Healing Adoration. For more details, please see the website, or the bulletin board in the vestibule.

FELLOWSHIP

Join us after the 9:30am & 11:30am Masses for refreshments and the get to know your priests and fellow parishoners. St. Michael the Archangel school community will be our host this week.



Please pray for those who are sick:

Mary Jo Cunha, Mary Jones, Theresa Schaub and Tony Pereira

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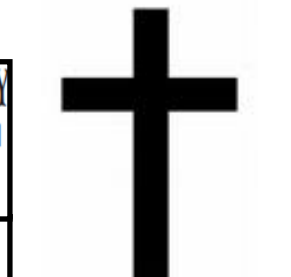
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