

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 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

CHOOSE LIFE: A HEART FORMED BY CHRIST

Dear Parishioners,

Every day, often without realizing it, we stand before a quiet but profound choice. In our homes, in our workplaces, in our parish, in our private thoughts, we choose either the path that leads us closer to God or the path that slowly distances us from Him. The readings this Sunday invite us to rediscover the dignity and seriousness of that choice.

In the Book of Sirach we hear these striking words, "If you choose, you can keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is a matter of your own choice" (Sirach 15:15). God places before us "fire and water," life and death, good and evil. He does not force our hand. He respects our freedom.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us that freedom is **"the power, rooted in reason and will, to act or not to act"** and that it attains its perfection when directed toward God. True freedom is not the ability to do anything, it is the grace to choose what is good. How often our culture equates freedom with self assertion, while Scripture reveals freedom as faithful obedience to the Lord.

For parents raising children, this choice appears in small daily decisions, patience instead of anger, presence instead of distraction, prayer instead of indifference. For young people, it may mean choosing integrity when no one is watching. For elders who carry hidden suffering, it may mean choosing trust instead of bitterness. Sirach assures us that God does not command the impossible; He gives grace for what He asks.

Saint Paul deepens this vision in the Second Reading. He speaks of "God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory" (1 Corinthians 2:7). The Christian life is not merely about external rule keeping; it is about entering into the very wisdom of God revealed in Christ. "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard," Paul writes, "these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit."

Here we move from law to love, from obligation to communion. The Holy Spirit forms within us the mind of Christ. Saint Augustine once prayed, "Give what You command, and command what You will." God's commandments are not burdens imposed from outside; they are invitations to participate in divine life.

In the Gospel, Jesus proclaims, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill" (Matthew 5:17). Then He leads us deeper. It is not enough to avoid murder; we must confront anger. It is not enough to avoid adultery; we must purify the heart. It is not enough to avoid false oaths; our simple "Yes" or "No" must reflect integrity.

Our Lord is not tightening the rules; He is transforming the heart. The law written on stone is now

written within us. Saint John Vianney, our patron, understood this deeply. He knew that holiness is not about external appearance but about a heart converted by grace, a conscience attentive to the whisper of God.

This Gospel challenges us in practical ways. In families, reconciliation cannot be postponed. Jesus tells us to be reconciled with our brother or sister before approaching the altar. In a world of quick words and social media reactions, He calls us to guard our speech. In a culture that trivializes commitment, He invites us to fidelity of heart.

Perhaps some of us feel overwhelmed. The standard seems high. Yet the message is not discouragement, it is hope. God would not call us to holiness without supplying the grace. The Eucharist we celebrate is the very fulfillment of the law of love. Here, Christ gives Himself to us so that we may become what we receive.

At St. John Vianney Parish, as we continue to grow in faith, in sacramental life, in youth engagement, and in deeper devotion, this Sunday reminds us that renewal begins in the heart. The strength of a parish is not measured only in numbers or programs, but in the integrity of its people, men and women whose inner lives are shaped by Christ.

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to enlighten our choices this week. When confronted with impatience, choose charity. When tempted toward resentment, choose forgiveness. When faced with moral confusion, choose truth. Sirach assures us, "He has not commanded anyone to be wicked." Grace is always offered.

May we choose life, choose wisdom, choose Christ; and may our parish become ever more a community where the law of the Lord is fulfilled in love.

Lenten RETREAT

— 2026 —

**"Forgive them;
for they do not know
what they are doing."**
(Luke 23:34)

Come and experience a retreat that allows the light of Christ to touch your heart, leading you to forgiveness, freedom, and healing.

March 09

HOLY MASS | TALK | EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Monday | 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

March 10

HOLY MASS | TALK | EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
Tuesday | 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

March 11

PENITENTIAL SERVICE | HOLY MASS | HEALING ADORATION
Wednesday | 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM



St. John Vianney Parish
13 Baldwin Ln, Barrie, On L4N 2W1

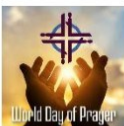


Led by
Rev. Dr. Roy Palatty CMI
Spiritual Director, Shalom Media

CONTACT
Parish Office: 705-726-8007
Email: stjohnvianneyba@archtoronto.org

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday February 14 th	5:00 pm † Maria Kim Do Sung Kang Requested by: The Son Family
Sunday February 15 th	8:00 am † John La France Requested by: Eileen La France
	9:30 am † Ana Miriam De Montes Requested by: Family
	11:30 am † Shane Lacey Requested by: Joan Lacey
Monday February 16 th	9:30am For the deceased members of the Knights of Columbus
Tuesday February 17 th	9:30am † Roger Breau Requested by: Yvette Theirault & Stella Bonello
	9:30am † Marilza Judith Lazaro Alcantara Requested by: Jennifer Ortega
	9:30am For the living and deceased members of the CWL
	9:30am For the special intentions of Jasia Dziuban Requested by: Jenny Mas
Wednesday February 18 th	9:30 am † Maria C. Sousa & Olinda Branco Requested by: The Sousa Family
	7:00 pm ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
Thursday February 19 th	9:30 am For the special intentions of Ron & Marilyn Madigan Requested by: Self
Friday February 20 th	9:30 am † Ed Henderson Requested by: Colette Henderson
	9:30 am † Lawrence & David Kim and Family Requested by: Anna Kim
	9:30 am † Fred Aloise & Family Requested by: Maria Aloise



World Day of Prayer Nigeria will take place on Friday, March 6th 2026. You are invited to join in this year's prayer service at Collier Street United Church. The service starts at 2:00pm and will be followed by refreshments.

"I will give you rest: Come" Matthew 11:28-30



Monday, February 16th

- ❖ The parish office will be closed
- ❖ Mass will be at 9:30 am

Tuesday, February 17th

- ❖ Mass will be at 9:30 am

Youth News

✦ 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. 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!



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.**



St. Mary's Church Barrie invites you to join them on **Friday, February 20th** from 7:00-9:30pm for "**Adoration & Worship Night**". Fr. Larry Leger will give a talk on the Sacraments of Healing: **Reconciliation & Anointing of the Sick**.



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

HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR THIS WEEK, FEBRUARY 18th.

FELLOWSHIP

There will be **NO Fellowship** on Sunday, February 15th.

REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

† **Mary Jones**



Please pray for those who are sick:

Augusto Feltracco, David Gatt, Mary Jo Cunha and Theresa Schaub

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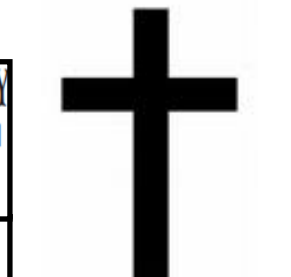
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