

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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YOUTH MINISTER

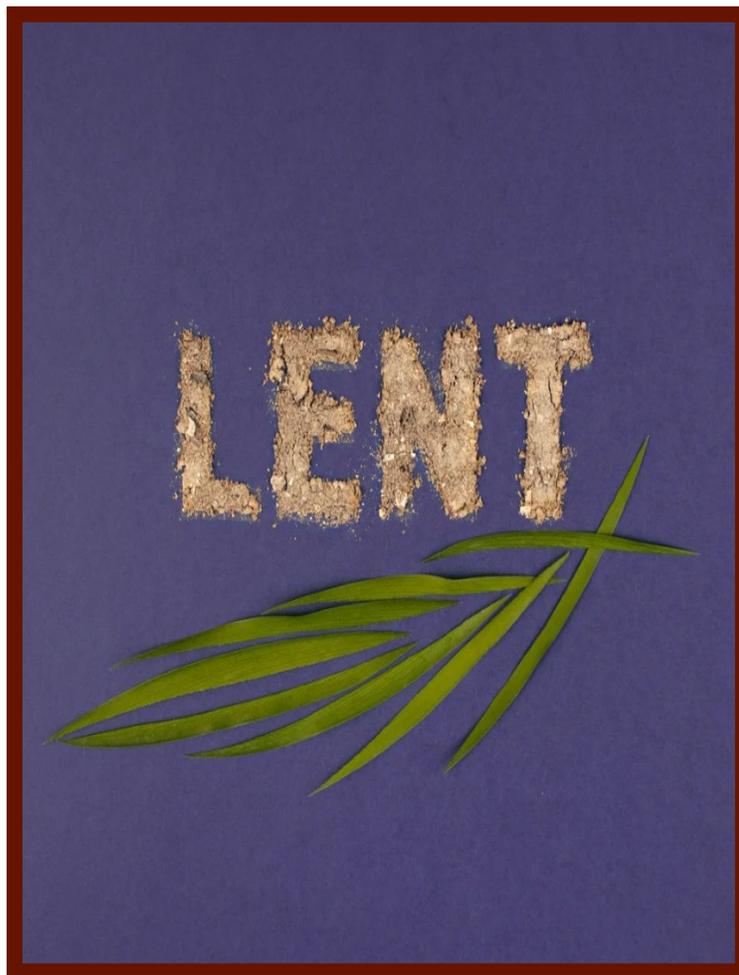
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***Emergency due to death or serious illness, press 9.



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

RETURN TO THE FATHER: A LENTEN JOURNEY FROM FALL TO REDEMPTION

Dear Parishioners of St. John Vianney, Barrie,

The First Sunday of Lent places before us a profound spiritual contrast; a garden and a desert, disobedience and obedience, loss and restoration. Through these sacred texts, the Church invites us to examine the human condition and, more importantly, to contemplate the triumph of Christ.

In the Book of Genesis, we hear that “the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.” Humanity is created not merely to exist, but to live in communion with God. The tragedy of the fall is not simply the eating of forbidden fruit; it is the breakdown of trust. The serpent’s subtle question, “Did God say...?” plants suspicion in the human heart. Sin begins when we doubt the goodness of God.

This ancient narrative speaks directly to our present reality. Temptation today rarely appears dramatic; it is often quiet, persuasive, and reasonable. It invites us to prioritize comfort over conviction, pride over humility, independence over obedience. Whether in family life, professional responsibilities, parish ministry, or personal struggles, we encounter moments when we are tempted to trust our own judgment above the Word of God.

The Catechism teaches that humanity was created in original holiness and justice, destined for divine friendship. Lent confronts us with this truth; our restlessness is not solved by self-sufficiency but by returning to God.

The Gospel presents the New Adam, Jesus Christ, in the desert. Where Adam failed amid abundance, Christ remains faithful in deprivation. Each temptation in Matthew’s Gospel challenges Jesus to misuse His identity and power. Yet His response is unwavering, “It is written.” The Son of God anchors Himself in the Father’s will.

Saint Paul, in Romans, proclaims the heart of the Christian mystery, “Just as by one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.” Christ does not merely undo Adam’s sin; He inaugurates a new humanity. Lent is not a season of self-improvement; it is a season of participation in the victory of Christ.

How then shall we live this holy season fruitfully.

First, deepen your life of prayer. The desert was a place of communion between the Son and the Father. Prayer is not optional for the Christian; it is essential. Whether

through daily Scripture reading, Eucharistic Adoration, the Rosary, or silent meditation, prayer reorders our hearts. It restores trust where suspicion once lingered.

Second, return wholeheartedly to the Sacraments. The Sacrament of Reconciliation renews the grace of Baptism; it heals what sin wounds. The Eucharist strengthens us with the very life of Christ. Saint Thomas Aquinas called the Eucharist the sacrament of love and unity. In a fragmented world, we are healed at the altar.

Third, embrace fasting and almsgiving with intention. These are not empty disciplines; they are expressions of freedom. By fasting, we master our appetites. By giving, we reflect the generosity of God. Lent trains the heart to choose what is eternal over what is passing.

As a parish community, we are blessed with a particular opportunity for renewal. From March 9 to 11 at 6:30 pm, we will host our **Lenten Retreat** here at St. John Vianney Parish. The retreat will be preached by Rev. Dr. Roy, a gifted and experienced missionary preacher who proclaims the Gospel with depth and clarity across the world. I strongly encourage every member of our parish, families, youth, seniors, ministry leaders, to participate fully in these evenings of grace. Let these days become a moment of spiritual awakening, interior healing, and renewed commitment.

Lent is not about returning to religious routine; it is about returning to relationship. It is about rediscovering who we are in Christ. The desert prepares us for Easter; discipline prepares us for joy; surrender prepares us for resurrection.

May this holy season lead us closer to the Lord through prayer, the Sacraments, and sincere conversion of heart. As we walk together toward Easter, may we do so with confidence in the mercy of God and with renewed zeal for holiness.

With prayerful blessings,

Fr. Joshy George

Pastor, St. John Vianney Parish, Barrie



The St John Vianney Catholic Women’s League monthly general meeting will take place this Tuesday evening February 24th at 7 pm starting with Mass and the installation of the new executive followed by the meeting. All women of the parish are invited to join.

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

- Saturday
February 21st 5:00 pm † **Stephen Roach**
Requested by: Sheeley Smith
- Sunday
February 22nd 8:00 am † **Lawrence & David Kim and Family**
Requested by: Anna Kim
- 9:30 am For the special intentions of **Annette Bellamy**
Requested by: Seraphine Dowd
- 11:30 am † **Fred Aloise & Family**
Requested by: Maria Aloise
- Monday
February 23rd 7:00pm † **Maria Thuy Mai & Joseph Hien Tran**
Requested by: Tran & Nyugen Families
- Tuesday
February 24th 7:00 pm † **Ana Miriam De Montes**
Requested by: Family
- 7:00 pm † **Marilza Judith Lazaro Alcantara**
Requested by: Jennifer Ortega
- 7:00 pm † **Gord Nixon**
Requested by: The Abspoel Family
- Wednesday
February 25th 9:30 am † **Larry White**
Requested by: The White Family
- Thursday
February 26th 9:30 am † **Philip & Cecile Roy**
Requested by: Colette Henderson
- Friday
February 27th 9:30 am † **Cherian Thomas**
Requested by: Amala Paul



Parish Games Night – Friday,
March 13, 2026, 7:30pm-
9:30pm

Join us after the Stations of the Cross for a fun-filled games night in the Parish Hall! Bring your favourite board games, a deck of cards or some dice and teach someone a new game! Bring your own beverages, drink cups and a snack to enjoy; everyone will be responsible for their own dishes. We look forward to an enjoyable evening getting to know fellow parishioners.

Youth News

✦ **FAITH OVER FROST** ✦

Coldest Night of the Year Walk – Youth Haven

-Join us in support of Youth Haven and local youth.

-When: Saturday, February 28

-Where: 70 Collier St., Barrie

-4:00 PM Check-In | 5:00 PM Walk

-No registration fee — donations appreciated!

-Kelly will be in the Church Hall after the 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses to answer questions.

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



World Day of Prayer Nigeria will take place on Friday, March 6, 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



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 27th** and will be led by the **Blessed is She** group. 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.



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 volunteers from the parish. We hope to see you there!



Please pray for those who are sick:

Augusto Feltracco and David Gatt

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