

# 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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*Prayer, Fasting  
& Almsgiving*



### 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

### CONTACT US

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

**RISE, DO NOT BE AFRAID**

Dear Parishioners of St. John Vianney, Barrie,

On this Second Sunday of Lent, the Word of God gently but firmly calls us to move, to trust, and to rise.

In the First Reading from Genesis 12:1 to 4, the Lord speaks to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you." Abram is seventy-five years old when he hears this call. No map, no guarantees, no visible future, only a promise. And yet, "Abram went, as the Lord had told him."

Lent always begins with a going. A going away from what is comfortable, predictable, familiar. For some of us, that may mean letting go of resentment that has lived in the heart too long. For others, it may mean stepping away from unhealthy habits, distractions, or patterns of sin. For families, it may mean reclaiming prayer in the home. For our youth, it may mean courageously living faith in a culture that often misunderstands or mocks it.

Abram's journey reminds us that faith is not primarily about having answers, it is about trusting the One who calls. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that faith is "a personal adherence of man to God" and at the same time "a free assent to the whole truth that God has revealed." Faith is relationship before it is clarity.

In the Gospel from Matthew 17:1- 9, we are taken up a high mountain with Peter, James, and John. Jesus is transfigured before them, "his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white." For a brief moment, the disciples see who He truly is. The veil is lifted.

Why does this happen in the middle of the journey to Jerusalem, just after Jesus foretells His Passion. Because the Lord knows that before the Cross, the disciples need a glimpse of glory.

So do we...We live in times marked by uncertainty and tension. Families worry about rising costs, young people navigate anxiety and identity questions, our world faces conflicts, polarization, and moral confusion. Even within the Church, many wrestle with discouragement, scandal, or fatigue. In such a climate, it is easy to lose heart.

The Transfiguration is God's answer to despair. It is a revelation that suffering and glory are not opposites, they are mysteriously united in Christ. As Saint Augustine wrote, the Lord allowed His disciples to see His splendor so that "they might not be scandalized by the humiliation of the Cross."

The voice from the cloud declares, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with him I am well pleased; listen to him." The Father does not say, admire Him. He says, listen to Him.

Listening is at the heart of Lent. Listening in prayer, listening in Scripture, listening in silence. Pope Benedict XVI once reflected that the Transfiguration teaches us that Christ is the true light of the world, the light that no darkness can overcome. When we listen to Him, we begin to see reality differently.

Saint Paul, in 2 Timothy 1:8- 10, encourages us, "Do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord... but join with me in suffering for the gospel." These are strong words. Faith is not meant to be hidden or diluted. It is meant to be lived with conviction and humility.

To our parish community here at St. John Vianney, this message is timely. As we continue to grow as a parish, as ministries flourish and new families join us, we are invited not only to expand externally but to deepen internally. Lent is not about doing more activities, it is about allowing Christ to transfigure our hearts.

Perhaps this week we can ask ourselves, what is the mountain the Lord is inviting me to climb. Is it the mountain of forgiveness, reconciliation, Confession, daily prayer, patient love within marriage, renewed commitment to Sunday Eucharist. The mountain is never climbed alone. Jesus takes His disciples with Him.

The Gospel concludes with a tender moment. The disciples fall to the ground in fear. Jesus comes and touches them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." Then they see no one except Jesus Himself alone.

That is the heart of Lent. To see Jesus alone. Not our fears, not our politics, not our anxieties, not our plans, but Jesus.

If we walk with Him through this season, if we dare to go like Abram, if we listen like the disciples, then we too will share in the promise Saint Paul proclaims, that Christ "abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel."

May this Lenten journey lead each of us, young and old, families and individuals, to a deeper trust in the Lord who calls, reveals, and strengthens.

Let us rise and not be afraid.

In Christ,

*Fr. Joshy George*

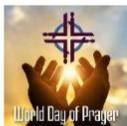
Pastor, St. John Vianney Parish, Barrie



St. John Vianney Church will be hosting a Lenten Retreat on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. We are blessed to have Fr. Roy Palatty leading Mass, Adoration, a Penitential Service and three different talks. Come and enjoy a retreat that allows the light of Christ to touch your heart, leading you to forgiveness, freedom and healing. For details and timing, please visit the parish website, or see the bulletin board in the vestibule.

*Mass Intentions*  
FOR THE WEEK

Saturday February 28 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm † <b>Francis Loyola</b> Requested by: Family
Sunday March 1 <sup>st</sup>	8:00 am † <b>Marcelle &amp; Denis McCarthy</b> Requested by: Suzanne Prior
	9:30 am † <b>Enrico &amp; Ada Pellegrino</b> Requested by: Gina & Emma Catallo
	11:30 am † <b>Marilza Judith Lazaro Alcantara</b> Requested by: Jennifer Ortega
Monday March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	7:00pm † <b>Keven Krelove</b> Requested by: Fred & Hazel Hawrish
Tuesday March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7:00 pm For the deceased members of <b>The Russell Family</b> Requested by: John & Helen Russell
Wednesday March 4 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am For the special intentions of <b>Vivienne Anseline</b> Requested by: Christopher Paolozzi
Thursday March 5 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am † <b>Fred Aloise &amp; Family</b> Requested by: Maria Aloise
Friday March 6 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am † <b>Louise Daigle</b> Requested by: Family
	9:30 am † <b>John Dempsey</b> Requested by: Ursula Dempsey
	9:30 am † <b>Frank, Marina &amp; Paul Prior</b> Requested by: Suzanne Prior
	9:30 am † <b>Lawrence &amp; Davis Kim and Family</b> Requested by: Anna Kim
	9:30 am For the special intentions of <b>Joe Thebeau</b> Requested by: Bill & Susan Mays
	9:30 am For the special intentions of <b>Roxanna Meredith</b> Requested by: Marg White-Jacobs



**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 Untied Church. The service starts at 2:00pm and will be followed by refreshments.

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



**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.

**ATTENTION!!** If you took envelope number **2056**, please contact the parish office. We do not know who it belongs to. Thank you.

☀️ ✨ **YOUTH NEWS - MARCH SCHEDULE** ✨ ☀️

- 🌱 **Holy Seeds**  
📅 Friday, March 20th  
🕒 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- 🌱 **Growing in Grace**  
📅 Saturday, March 21st  
🕒 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- ✚ **Stations of the Cross - Youth Led**  
📅 Friday, March 27th  
🕒 6:00-8:00 PM
- 🔥 **Rooted Youth**  
📅 Saturday, March 28th  
🕒 3:30 PM - 6PM  
📍 Social in the church hall before Mass

We can't wait to see all of our youth there! Bring a friend!



**The Stations of the Cross**  
**(SPECIAL TIME - 9:00AM)**

Join us for **The Stations of the Cross** devotion this **Friday March 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am**. The Stations will be led by the **CWL**, who will provide light refreshments after Morning Mass.



**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:*

Chiara Basile, Jen McMorro, Augusto Feltracco & David Gatt



## ST. JOHN VIANNEY CHURCH

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Fr. Joshy George, CMI Pastor

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Web Site: <https://stjohnvianneyba.archtoronto.org>

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Dear Parishioners,

With a grateful heart, I thank you for your faith, your generosity, and your love for St. John Vianney Parish. This parish is your spiritual home; a place where we gather, pray, and grow together as one family of faith.

We are a parish that is **welcoming and connecting**, and we truly feel it. Our pews and parking lot are filling, and more importantly, our hearts are full—nourished by the Word of God, the Eucharist, and the life of our community. “See, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth” (Isaiah 43:19).

Over the past year, God has blessed our parish abundantly. A new initiative of Daily Confession has deepened many hearts in God’s mercy, and Friday Eucharistic Adoration has brought renewed prayer and peace. We are seeing a beautiful increase in youth involvement and growth in sacramental life at every stage. Faith is alive here.

Together, we have cared for the sacred spaces entrusted to us. In 2025, we completed the new roof above the Sanctuary, protected our beautiful stained-glass windows with high-quality protective glass, installed a new sound system in the church and parish hall, introduced a high-quality livestream system, and completed the sanctuary lighting, enhancing both beauty and reverence.

This year, we are focusing on soundproofing and improving the safety of our confessionals, ensuring that this sacred encounter with God’s mercy takes place in a space that is dignified, secure, and prayerful.

If you are able, I invite you to continue supporting our **Special Fundraising Project** for the sound system, livestreaming, and sanctuary lighting. Your generosity helps ensure that the Word is heard clearly, our worship remains prayerful, and those at home stay connected.

This is your parish. Your prayers, time, talents, and financial support make our mission possible, today and for future generations. “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21).

Enclosed is your official tax receipt. May the Lord bless you and your loved ones abundantly, and may St. John Vianney Parish continue to be a place where faith grows and hope is renewed.

With gratitude and prayers,

*Fr. Joshy George*

Pastor

St. John Vianney Parish, Barrie

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705-726-8007 x208

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Board Trustee  
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