

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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Third Sunday of Lent

CONTACT US

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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



COME TO THE WELL: CHRIST THE LIVING WATER FOR A THIRSTY WORLD

The Scriptures of this Third Sunday of Lent lead us to a powerful and timeless image, the image of 'thirst'. Beneath the ordinary experiences of our daily lives lies a deeper longing within the human heart, a longing that no worldly comfort can fully satisfy. The Word of God today reminds us that this thirst ultimately finds its fulfillment only in Christ, the One who offers us the living water of grace.

In the First Reading from the Book of Exodus (17:3-7), we encounter the people of Israel wandering through the desert. Their thirst becomes so intense that they begin to question both Moses and God Himself. They cry out, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" Their struggle is more than physical; it reveals the deeper spiritual struggle of trusting God during moments of dryness and uncertainty.

In response to their cry, the Lord instructs Moses to strike the rock at Horeb, and water flows abundantly. What appeared to be a barren stone becomes a source of life. Christian tradition has long recognized in this event a profound foreshadowing of Christ. St. Paul later writes, "They drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ" (1 Corinthians 10:4). God does not abandon His people in their thirst. Even in the desert, He provides.

This theme reaches its fullest expression in today's Gospel from St. John (4:5-15, 19-26), where Jesus encounters the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. This moment is one of the most remarkable and deeply human conversations recorded in the Gospels. Jesus begins with a simple request, "Give me a drink." Yet through this conversation He gently leads the woman to recognize the deeper thirst within her own life.

Jesus declares, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life" (John 4:13-14).

The woman had come seeking ordinary water, yet she encounters the One who alone can satisfy the deepest thirst of the human soul.

We live in a time of remarkable technological progress and material abundance, yet many people continue to experience profound loneliness, anxiety, and spiritual fatigue. The human heart continues to thirst for something deeper, something lasting and true.

The Samaritan woman represents each one of us. She carries her personal struggles and a complicated past, yet Jesus does not approach her with condemnation or rejection. Instead, He meets her with patience, truth, and mercy. He awakens within her the desire for something greater.

Our search for God begins because God has already begun searching for us. This is the heart of the message we hear in the Second Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans (5:1-2, 5-8). St. Paul reminds us that our hope does not rest on our own strength or perfection, but on the overwhelming love of God revealed in Christ. God meets us not when we have everything perfectly together, but precisely when we allow Him to enter the reality of our lives.

This is why the season of Lent is such a grace-filled time in the life of the Church. Lent invites us to pause amid the busyness of life and return once again to the well of God's mercy. Through prayer we deepen our relationship with the Lord; through fasting we detach ourselves from what distracts us; through charity we allow the love of Christ to flow through us toward others.

Here at St. John Vianney Parish, we are blessed with a special opportunity this week to renew our hearts and deepen our spiritual journey.

On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, March 9, 10, and 11, we will have our Parish Lenten Retreat, a sacred time to step away from our daily routines and listen more attentively to the voice of the Lord as we prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.

I warmly invite every member of our parish community, families, young adults, seniors, and all who may be seeking renewed strength in faith, to join us for these evenings of prayer and reflection. On the final day of the retreat, we will also offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation and a Healing Service, providing a beautiful opportunity to experience God's forgiveness, grace, and restoration in a profound way.

Perhaps some of us feel today like the Israelites in the desert, weary and questioning. Perhaps others recognize themselves in the Samaritan woman, carrying burdens that are difficult to share. The Gospel assures us that Christ is already waiting for us at the well.

He patiently invites us to draw near and receive the living water that alone can renew the human heart.

May this Lenten season lead each of us to that well of grace. May our faith be strengthened, our hearts be healed, and our lives be refreshed by the living water of Christ.

With my prayers and blessings for you and your families,

Fr. Joshy George, CMI

Pastor



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.

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

Saturday
March 7th 5:00 pm † **Marlene Pereira**
Requested by: The Sousa Family

Sunday
March 8th 8:00 am † **Anthony Abraham**
Requested by: Family

9:30 am † **Maurice Marenlette**
Requested by: Seraphine Dowd

11:30 am † **Jorge Francisco**
Requested by: Family

11:30 am For the special intentions of
Marg White-Jacobs
Requested by: Self

Monday
March 9th 6:30 pm † **Anthony Abraham**
Requested by: Family

6:30 pm † **Jorge Francisco**
Requested by: Family

Tuesday
March 10th 6:30 pm † **Giao Mai & † Giovanni**
Requested by: Tran & Nyugen Families

6:30 pm † **Margarita Martinez**
Requested by: Family

Wednesday
March 11th 5:30 pm Penitential Service, Mass
Healing Adoration

(THERE WILL BE NO MORNING MASS ON WED.- MASS WILL BE
CELEBRATED IN THE EVENING AT THE RETREAT)

Thursday
March 12th 9:30 am † **Lawrence & Davis Kim**
and **Family**
Requested by: Anna Kim

Friday
March 13th 9:30 am † **Fred Aloise & Family**
Requested by: Maria Aloise

9:30 am † **Susan Elizabeth Brown**
Requested by: Susan & Bill Mays

9:30 am † **Paul Prior**
Requested by: Suzanne Prior

9:30 am For the special intentions of
Doug Cole
Requested by: Gina Paquete



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, March 13th** and will be led by the **Knights of Columbus.** Please join us at **6:00 pm** for a simple dinner of soup and bread.

There will be **NO** gathering for the *Blessed is She* womens group this month.



WELCOME WEDNESDAY is cancelled for this week but will resume on March 18th.



LENTEEN CONFESSIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered on: **Thursday, March 26th** starting at 6:00 pm. All three of our priests will be available to hear Confessions on that day.



Our next Parish trip will take place **September 12th – 24th.**

Join us as we tour England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Dublin. If you would like more information, please call the office. Once we have a list of people who are seriously interested, we will schedule a information evening with Intersight Tours.

The St. Mary's Knights of Columbus invite you to "Voices & Vision", a community celebration of women. This event will be held on Sunday, March 8th from 1:00pm – 7:00pm at Columbus Hall, 93 Berczy St. Barrie. This is a free event, all are welcome.

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!



FELLOWSHIP

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

Please pray for the souls of:

- † Ana Dias
- † Ricardo Kamiya
- † Laura Zanchetta



Please pray for those who are sick:

Tony Pereira, Chiara Basile, Jen McMorrow, Augusto Feltracco & David Gatt



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