

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

“Stay With Us, Lord... Our Hearts Are Still Burning”

There are moments in life when we walk away quietly, carrying questions we cannot answer. Like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, we move forward, but our hearts feel heavy. We speak, we explain, we analyze, yet something within us remains unsettled. We had hoped for something more; we expected clarity, but instead we encounter silence.

The Gospel today invites us into that very human moment. *“We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel”* (Luke 24:21). These are not just the words of two disciples; they are the words of every heart that has experienced disappointment, confusion, or loss. Perhaps some of us carry similar hopes today, hopes for healing in our families, peace in a troubled world, stability in uncertain times, or strength in personal struggles. We walk, we talk, we wonder... and sometimes we feel that the Lord is absent.

Yet, the beauty of this Gospel is not in the disciples’ disappointment, but in what happens next. Jesus draws near. Quietly, gently, without force or interruption, *“Jesus himself came near and went with them”* (Luke 24:15). They did not recognize Him; still, He walked with them. This is the first great truth for us today: even when we do not recognize Him, the Risen Lord walks with us.

In the First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter stands before the crowd and proclaims boldly the mystery of Jesus. He speaks of a God who is not distant, but deeply involved in human history: *“God raised him up, having freed him from death”* (Acts 2:24). The Resurrection is not simply an event of the past; it is the living presence of Christ among His people. What Peter proclaims publicly is what the disciples on the road experience personally. And this is where Scripture meets our life. Sometimes we are like Peter, strong in faith, proclaiming confidently; at other times, we are like the disciples, confused and searching. The Church holds both realities together, because faith is not always a straight line; it is often a journey.

The Second Reading from the First Letter of Peter deepens this understanding. We are reminded that our faith is not based on temporary or superficial things, but on something infinitely precious: *“You were ransomed... not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ”* (1 Peter 1:18-19). Our worth, our identity, and our hope are rooted in the love of Christ, a love that has already passed through suffering and death and emerged victorious.

The Emmaus story gently reminds us that faith is often rekindled not in dramatic moments, but in quiet encounters. Jesus does not immediately reveal Himself; instead, He listens, He explains, He walks with them. He opens the Scriptures to them, helping them see that their suffering is not meaningless, but part of a greater plan of salvation.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, *“The Paschal mystery of Christ... is at the center of the Good News that the Apostles... are to proclaim to the world”* (CCC 571). This mystery is not only to be proclaimed; it is to be lived and experienced. The disciples come to understand this not through argument, but through encounter. And then comes the turning point. At table, in the simple act of breaking

bread, their eyes are opened. *“He was made known to them in the breaking of the bread”* (Luke 24:35). What they could not grasp on the road, they recognize in the Eucharist.

Here is the heart of our Christian life. Every time we gather for Mass, we are on the road to Emmaus. We come with our stories, our questions, our burdens. We listen to the Word of God, which opens our minds and hearts. And then, in the Eucharist, Christ reveals Himself to us, not in a distant or abstract way, but in a real and personal presence.

Dear friends, this changes everything. It means that our journey is never meaningless. It means that our struggles are not wasted. It means that even when we feel lost, we are not alone. Christ is walking with us, speaking to us, and waiting to reveal Himself.

But there is one more movement in the Gospel that we must not miss. After recognizing Jesus, the disciples do not remain where they are. *“That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem”* (Luke 24:33). Their encounter leads to mission. Their hearts, once heavy, are now burning with new life.

This is the invitation for us today. We are not called only to receive; we are called to respond. Our faith is not meant to remain private or passive. When we truly encounter the Risen Lord, something within us changes. We begin to see differently, to love more deeply, to live with renewed purpose.

Here at St. John Vianney Parish, I see this Emmaus journey unfolding every day. I see it in families who continue to come to Mass faithfully; in young people preparing for the sacraments; in those who return to confession after long time; in the quiet acts of service carried out by so many in our community. These are not small things; they are signs that the Risen Lord is alive and active among us.

Perhaps today, the Lord is inviting each of us to take one step closer. Maybe it is a deeper attention to the Word of God; maybe it is a renewed commitment to the Eucharist; maybe it is the courage to trust again, to forgive, or to begin anew. Wherever you find yourself on the journey, remember this: the Lord is already walking with you.

And so, let us make the prayer of the disciples our own, not just as words, but as a way of life: *“Stay with us, Lord.”* Stay with us in our homes, in our struggles, in our hopes, and in our hearts. If we allow Him to remain, we will discover what the disciples discovered, that even in the darkest moments, our hearts can burn again with faith, hope, and love.



WELCOME WEDNESDAY

Please join us at our Welcome Wednesday Drop-In for fun activities, plenty of conversation and refreshments. We meet every Wednesday from 10:00am–1:00 pm.



Do you wish to share your culinary skills?

Fr. Joshy is looking for a part-time cook for the Rectory. If you are interested in finding out more, please call the parish office!

FELLOWSHIP

Join us after the 9:30am & 11:30am Masses for refreshments This week, the **Holy Cross School** Community will host. We hope to see you there!

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

Saturday
April 18th 5:00 pm † **Larry White**
Requested by: The White Family

Sunday
April 19th 8:00 am † **Francis Loyola**
Requested by: Family

9:30 am † **Sharon Neally**
Requested by: Linda Lacasse

11:30 am † **Idalina Veliz-Almeida & Rafael Almeida-Landaburu**
Requested by: The Almeida-Pasko Family

Monday
April 20th 7:00 pm † **Lady Joan Belanger**
Requested by: The Knights of Columbus

Tuesday
April 21st 7:00 pm For the **living and deceased members of the CWL**

Wednesday
April 22nd 9:30 am † **Lawrence & Davis Kim and Family**
Requested by: Anna Kim

Thursday
April 23rd 9:30 am † **Van Basubas**
Requested by: Family

Friday
April 24th 9:30 am † **Fred Aloise & Family**
Requested by: Maria Aloise

9:30 am † **Joan Belanger**
Requested by: Les & Mary Watts

9:30 am † **Ron Collingbourne**
Requested by: Family

9:30 am For the special intentions of **Mary Karen**
Requested by: Jennifer

9:30 am For the special intentions of the **Winfred Brownridge**
Requested by: Angela Brownridge



**Parish Games Night - Friday,
May 1, 2026, 6:30pm-8:30pm**

Come one and all to 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.



Bible Study Mondays @ 7:30pm!

April 20th – Genesis: Chapter 2
All are welcome, registration is no longer needed.



2026 Offertory Envelopes are available at the Welocme Desk. If you are using envelopes from a previous year, please discard and pick up a new box. This will help avoid having your donation credited to someone else. Thanks so much for your support!

UPCOMING YOUTH MINISTRY GATHERINGS

St John Vianney Church HOLY SEEDS JK – GRADE 4
May 8 – 6:30 PM – Growing with Jesus
Sat, Jun 20 – Summer Break BBQ (TBD)

GROWING IN GRACE GRADE 5 – 8
Fri, Apr 17 – 7:00 PM – St. Therese
Sat, May 2 – 3:30 PM – Sister April Visit
Sat, Jun 20 – Summer Break BBQ (TBD)

ROOTED YOUTH GRADE 8 – 12
Apr 18 – 3:30–5:00 PM – Faith & Mental Health (Mass to follow)
May 2 – 3:30 PM – Sister April Visit
Sat, June 20 – Summer Break BBQ (TBD)

SUMMER PROGRAMS
Jul 10 – Overnight Retreat (Grades 5–8)
St. John Vianney Church
Jul 13–17 – 9:00 AM–1:00 PM – Growing in Faith Camp (JK–Grade 4)

Questions? Reach out to Youth Minister – Kelly
kluisotto@archtoronto.org or 705-726-8007 Ext. 205



Women of St John Vianney Parish, our Catholic Women's League needs you. We need your faith, talents, experience, youth, age, and your hands to serve. Our pillars of Faith, Service and Social Justice guide us to our purpose in our deeds. The CWL is present in our parish, our community and our Diocese. Each member contributes in their unique way: big or small; locally or nationally; seen or unseen. Please consider becoming a member and making a difference representing Catholic women across the country.

Please join us for our next meeting Tuesday April 21, 2026, following 7 pm Mass. Our guest speaker will be Father Eduardo Lopez.

"As Christians, each of us is called to respect the dignity of all persons and the sacredness of human life. In a spirit of love, we are also called to be present to those who suffer, to care with them and for them and to comfort them, especially at the end of life's journey" (Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops)

National Hospice Palliative Care week is May 3-9, 2026. The St John Vianney Catholic Women's League invites all parishioners to recognize this week through prayer for those receiving palliative care, their families and, caregivers and, if able, to contribute items for comfort packs that provide gentle care and support supplies for our local hospice and palliative care facilities and programs. Suggested donations include lip balm, unscented lotions, small bottles of shampoo, tissues (Kleenex), baby wipes, blankets, socks, rosaries, manicure sets, deodorant, washcloths, and gift cards such as grocery or pharmacy. **A full list is available on the parish bulletin board.** Items may be left in the hall on Sundays, April 26 and May 3.



Please pray for those who are sick:
Heather Godin, Shawn Hunter and Irene Zsigmond

REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

† Baby Chloe

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