

# 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

#### PASTOR

**Fr. Joshy George C.M.I.**  
705-726-8007 Ext. 202  
JoshyGeorge@archtoronto.org

#### ASSOCIATE PASTORS

**Fr. Arun Davis C.M.I.**  
705-726-8007 Ext. 212  
ADavis@archtoronto.org

**Fr. Eduardo Lopez**  
705-726-8007  
ELopez@archtoronto.org

#### LAY PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

**Paul LaPlume**  
705 726-8007 Ext 204  
PLaplume@archtoronto.org

**Mekha Jafri David**  
MJafriDavid@archtoronto.org

#### OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS

**Wendy Gordanier**  
705-726-8007 Ext 201  
WGordanier@archtoronto.org

**Anita Curran**  
705-726-8007 Ext. 203  
ACurran@archtoronto.org

#### MUSIC DIRECTOR

**Marilyn Reesor**  
705-726-8007 Ext 206  
MReesor@archtoronto.org

#### YOUTH MINISTER

**Kelly Luvisotto**  
705-726-8007 Ext 205  
KLuvisotto@archtoronto.org



### CONTACT US

Phone: 705-726-8007

Email: [stjohnvianneyba@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjohnvianneyba@archtoronto.org)

\*\*\*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

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## THE VOICE THAT KNOWS YOU, THE GATE THAT LEADS YOU HOME

There are many voices in our world today. Voices that promise happiness, voices that demand attention, voices that pull us in different directions. Some are loud, some are subtle, some even sound convincing. Yet deep within the human heart there remains a quiet question, *Whom do I truly trust? Whose voice leads me to life?*

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, the Church gently leads us to the heart of that question through the image of the Good Shepherd. Today is not only Good Shepherd Sunday, it is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, a day when we pause to listen more carefully to the voice of Christ who calls, who leads, and who gives life. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks with striking clarity, "The sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out... I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:3,10). This is not a distant, impersonal God. This is a Shepherd who knows each one of us personally. He does not call us as a crowd, He calls us by name. And that changes everything.

### 1. A Call That Pierces the Heart

In the First Reading from Acts, we witness the powerful preaching of Peter. After proclaiming the truth about Jesus, the people are "cut to the heart." They ask, "What should we do?" This is the beginning of conversion, not guilt, not fear, but a moment when the truth touches the heart deeply. Peter responds, "Repent and be baptized... and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." This moment is not just about the early Church, it is about us, here and now. Each of us has moments when God's voice reaches us, sometimes through Scripture, sometimes through a homily, sometimes through silence, sometimes through suffering. The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us, "Man's heart is restless until it rests in God" (cf. CCC 27, echoing St. Augustine). That restlessness is often the Shepherd calling us back. Perhaps today, the question is simple, *Where is God calling me to return? What in my life needs conversion?*

### 2. The Shepherd Who Suffers With Us

In the Second Reading, St. Peter gives us a different image of the Shepherd, not only one who leads, but one who suffers. "By his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls" (1 Peter 2:24-25). Here we see the depth of Christ's love. He is not a shepherd who stands at a distance and directs. He walks into our brokenness, into our sin, into our suffering, and carries us. Pope Benedict XVI once wrote that Christ "does not save us from a distance, but enters into our suffering and transforms it from within." This is the heart of the Good Shepherd. Many of us carry silent struggles, family burdens, personal wounds, uncertainties about the future. In those moments, it may feel as though we are alone. Yet today's message is clear, the Shepherd is closest precisely there. He knows the path because He has walked it.

### 3. The Gate That Leads to Life

In the Gospel, Jesus makes another bold statement, "I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in

and go out and find pasture." Jesus is not only the Shepherd, He is also the gate. In other words, He is both the guide and the way. In a world that offers many "gates", success, comfort, power, self-reliance, Jesus gently but firmly reminds us that true life comes only through Him. The Church teaches that Christ is the "one mediator between God and humanity" (cf. CCC 846). This is not a limitation, it is a gift. It means we are not left to wander endlessly. There is a clear path, a secure entrance, a place where we are safe. To enter through Christ is to trust Him, to follow His voice, to allow His teachings to shape our lives.

### 4. A Parish Called to Listen and Respond

As a parish family here at St. John Vianney, we are living this call in a very real and beautiful way. Our desire to be a *Welcoming and Connecting Parish* is rooted in this very Gospel. We welcome because the Good Shepherd welcomes. We connect because He calls us into relationship, with Him and with one another. The practice of daily Confession in our parish is not just a schedule, it is a response to the Shepherd's voice calling us back again and again. Every time we approach the Sacrament, we are not judged, we are found. Our Sunday fellowship is also not simply social time, it is an extension of the pasture where the Shepherd gathers His flock, where strangers become friends, and where the Church becomes a living family.

### 5. A Call to Pray for Vocations

Today, on this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, the Church invites us to pray in a special way. The voice of the Good Shepherd continues to call, calling young men to the priesthood, calling men and women to religious life, calling families to holiness, calling each of us to our unique vocation. But the challenge today is not that God has stopped calling. The challenge is that many hearts are too distracted to listen. Jesus says, "The sheep hear his voice." Do we create space to hear that voice? As a parish, we must not only pray for vocations, but we must also become a place where vocations can be heard and nurtured. A place of silence, of prayer, of encouragement, of courage. Perhaps in our parish today, there is a young person quietly discerning, unsure, hesitant. Our prayer, our witness, our support can make a difference.

### 6. Listening in the Midst of Noise

My dear friends, the world will continue to speak loudly. But the voice of Christ remains gentle, persistent, and faithful. St. John Vianney, our patron saint, once said, "The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus." He himself spent long hours in the confessional, simply listening, guiding, bringing people back to the Shepherd. Today, that same Shepherd stands at the door of our hearts. He does not force, He invites. He does not shout, He calls. He does not abandon, He remains.

Let us ask ourselves today, very simply and honestly, *Whose voice am I following? Where is the Good Shepherd leading me today?* May we have the courage to listen, the humility to return, and the trust to follow. And may we pray with sincerity, "Lord, help me to recognize Your voice in my life. Lead me where You desire. Make me open to Your call." Because when we follow Him, we do not lose anything. We find life, and we find it in abundance.

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*Mass Intentions*  
FOR THE WEEK

Saturday  
April 25<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm † **Joan Belanger**  
Requested by: Paul & Susan Bench

Sunday  
April 26<sup>th</sup> 8:00 am † **Maria Elena Riveire**  
Requested by: Lydia Harmazy

9:30 am † **Louis Barrie**  
Requested by: Family

9:30 am † **Ron Collingbourne**  
Requested by: Linda Lacasse

11:30 am † **Jose Furtado**  
Requested by: Emily Furtado

Monday  
April 27<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm **For the People of the Parish**

Tuesday  
April 28<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm For the special intentions of  
**Pascal Aloise**  
Requested by: Maria Aloise

7:00 pm For the special intentions of  
**Jenny Mas**  
Requested by: Self

7:00 pm For the special intentions of  
**The Hogenbirk Boys**  
Requested by: Suzanne Emdin

Wednesday  
April 29<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am † **Aldina Correia & Maria G. Paiva**  
Requested by: The Sousa Family

Thursday  
April 30<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am † **Lawrence & Davis Kim**  
and **Family**  
Requested by: Anna Kim

Friday  
May 1<sup>st</sup> 9:30 am † **Fred Aloise & Family**  
Requested by: Maria Aloise

9:30 am † **Frank, Marina & Paul Prior**  
Requested by: Suzanne Prior

9:30 am For the special intentions of  
**Hubert Mieschke**  
Requested by: Conrad Mieschke

9:30 am For the special intentions of  
**Melanie Smith**  
Requested by: Mom

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



**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!



**Bible Study Mondays @ 7:30pm!**

**April 27<sup>th</sup> – Genesis: Chapter 3**

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**

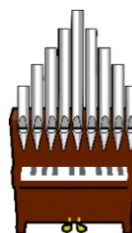
Jul 10 – Overnight Retreat (Grades 5–8)  
St. John Vianney Church  
Jul 13–17 – 9:00 AM–1:00 PM – Growing in Faith Camp (JK–Grade 4)

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



**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.



**FAREWELL MARILYN!**

Join us after the ALL the Masses this weekend to say goodbye to Marilyn, and thank her for her 25 years of Ministry at St. John Vianney Church! There will be cake and refreshments. We wish her well as she enters the next chapter in her life.

**REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENT**

† Angela Manieri - Funeral April 27<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 at SJV  
† Reanice Allen - Funeral May 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 10:00 at SJV  
† Helene Benoit



*Please pray for those who are sick:*  
Mareen McMorow, Heather Godin and Shawn Hunter



**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.

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Barrie Wards 6-10  
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