

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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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

THE SOIL THAT GOD NEVER STOPS BELIEVING IN

Every farmer understands a truth that many of us forget. No farmer blames the seed before first looking at the soil. The quality of the harvest depends not upon the generosity of the sower, but upon the readiness of the earth to receive what has been given.

This Sunday, the Church invites us to contemplate one of Jesus' most profound parables, the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-23). At first glance, it appears to be a lesson about four different kinds of people. Yet, beneath the surface, Jesus is revealing something far more astonishing. The true focus of the parable is not the soil at all. It is the extravagant confidence of God. Notice how the sower behaves. He does not carefully calculate where each seed will fall. He scatters generously, even recklessly, onto the path, among rocks, into thorns, and finally onto rich soil. By human standards, this seems wasteful. By divine standards, it is the very logic of grace. God never withholds His Word until we become perfect. Rather, He gives His Word precisely because He desires to transform us.

Isaiah beautifully describes this mystery: *"As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth... so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty"* (Isaiah 55:10-11). Rain does not interrogate the ground before it falls. It descends freely upon every field. Likewise, the Word of God is never merely information to be learned, but a living power that accomplishes what God intends. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us that Sacred Scripture is "the speech of God as it is put down in writing under the breath of the Holy Spirit" (CCC 81). Whenever the Scriptures are proclaimed at Mass, God Himself continues to speak to His people. This changes the way we hear the Gospel. We do not come to Mass simply to remember what Jesus once said. We come because Christ still speaks. Every proclamation of Scripture is a fresh encounter with the living Lord. Yet Jesus also teaches that the same Word produces different fruits in different hearts. Why? Because soil changes. Unlike the fields of Palestine, the human heart is not permanently fixed. The hardened path can be broken open. Rocky ground can be cultivated. Thorns can be removed. Good soil can become even richer. The spiritual life is not determined by personality, education, age, or past failures. It is determined by our willingness to allow God to cultivate us.

The Fathers of the Church frequently observed that each of these four soils can exist within the same person. There are moments when God's Word simply passes over us because we are distracted. There are seasons when enthusiasm quickly fades because discipleship becomes demanding. There are times when worries, ambitions, possessions, or constant busyness quietly suffocate the life of grace. Yet there are also moments when the heart becomes deeply receptive, and the Gospel bears fruit beyond anything we imagined. Perhaps that is why Jesus ends the parable with a simple invitation rather than a command: *"Let anyone with ears listen!"* Listening, in the biblical sense, is far more than

hearing sounds. The Hebrew understanding of listening always includes obedience, openness, and interior surrender. St. Benedict began his Rule with a single word: *"Listen."* Every genuine renewal in the Christian life begins there. St. John Henry Newman once wrote, *"To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often."* Holiness is not the absence of struggle. Holiness is allowing the Holy Spirit to keep preparing the soil of our hearts.

This Sunday's second reading from Romans widens our vision even further. St. Paul tells us that *"the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now"* (Romans 8:22). Creation itself longs for redemption. The harvest Jesus speaks about is therefore not only personal, but cosmic. Every act of faithfulness, every quiet prayer, every hidden sacrifice, every work of charity becomes part of God's great work of renewing the entire world. This offers immense hope. Many believers become discouraged because they cannot immediately see the fruits of prayer, forgiveness, or faithful living.

Isaiah answers with remarkable certainty. God's Word never returns empty. Sometimes it works invisibly beneath the surface, much like seeds hidden beneath the earth during the long months before harvest. Much of God's finest work takes place where human eyes cannot yet see.

As a parish family at St. John Vianney, we are experiencing this truth in a beautiful way. Our parish continues to grow in sacramental life, in the number of young families and children, in faith formation, in ministries, in service, and in the joyful witness of so many volunteers who quietly build up our community. None of these blessings appeared overnight. They are the fruit of countless hidden seeds planted through years of faithful prayer, generous service, patient sacrifice, and confidence in God's providence. This reminds us that every parish is ultimately a field belonging to Christ. Programs alone do not produce holiness. Buildings alone do not build the Kingdom. It is the Word of God, received in humble hearts and lived with perseverance, that bears fruit *"some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."*

Perhaps this Sunday offers each of us a gentle examination of conscience. Instead of asking, *"What kind of seed is God giving me?"* perhaps the better question is, *"What kind of soil am I becoming?"* The answer need not discourage us. The Divine Gardener never abandons His field. He patiently loosens hardened ground, removes hidden stones, cuts away choking thorns, and nourishes the soil with His grace. Every Eucharist, every confession, every sincere prayer, every act of charity becomes another way that Christ prepares our hearts for a richer harvest.

May we never doubt the power of the Word of God that is proclaimed among us. The same Word that called creation into existence, that became flesh in Jesus Christ, and that continues to nourish the Church through every generation is still at work today, quietly, faithfully, and powerfully.

May our hearts become the good soil in which God's Word finds a home and may the harvest of holiness continue to flourish in every family of St. John Vianney Parish.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday July 11 th	5:00 pm For the special intentions of Nancy & Clarence Joncas Requested by: Mary Cremin
Sunday July 12 th	8:00 am ✠ Maria Dolinar Requested by: Kokelj Family
	9:30 am ✠ Fred Aloise & Family Requested by: Maria Aloise
	11:30 am ✠ Joe Egerton Requested by: Mike & Maria Hardie
Monday July 13 th	7:00 pm For the deceased members of Knights of Columbus
Tuesday July 14 th	7:00 pm ✠ Evie & Leonard Robinson Requested by: Lenore & Marinus Logtenberg
Wednesday July 15 th	9:30 am ✠ Cecile & Philp Roy Requested by: Colette Henderson
Thursday July 16 th	9:30 am ✠ Ed Henderson Requested by: Colette Henderson
Friday July 17 th	9:30 am ✠ John Balazs Requested by: Linda & Michelle Hodgins
	9:30 am ✠ Dennis Wright & Doug Alderson Requested by: Sheila Wright
	9:30 am ✠ Fred Aloise & Family Requested by: Maria Aloise



IS THIS THE YEAR TO JOIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

If so, the RCIA process is for you.

This process begins each fall and runs with weekly meetings up to and including the Easter season. **People who are interested should apply now using our RCIA link on the Parish website or the QR code for the application form.**



On **Sunday, July 19**, our parish will celebrate a **Multicultural Festival** at the **11:30 AM Mass**. We invite everyone to wear cultural attire, participate in the multilingual Prayers of the Faithful, bring a traditional dish for our multicultural potluck, and share their heritage through music, dance, or other performances. Sign-up sheets are available in the vestibule after Mass. Come and celebrate as **one parish family, gathered from many cultures, united in Christ**.

NO FELLOWSHIP

Blessed is She, Welcome Wednesday and Bible Study have been **cancelled** for the summer months – see you in the Fall!



Sacraments

Online Registration for the 2026-27 Sacramental Programs is NOW OPEN! Please visit the parish website or scan the QR codes located on the bulletin board and at the Welcome Desk. **Please note - it is imperative you view the information sheet containing the mandatory program dates before registering.** These dates can be found on the website, or you will see them on page one of the registration form. If your child is older and has either missed a step or has not been baptized, please register for RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation for Children).



3RD ANNUAL PARISH FIESTA

Save the date! On Sunday, August 30th we will be holding our 3rd Annual Parish Fiesta. Once again we will be using the park across the street for food, music and lots of fun. There is no cost to this event and no sign up required! We look forward to sharing this day with you!

CALLING ALL BUSINESSES

This year we are inviting vendors to join our picnic. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to advertize your business and support the parish. For more information, please call Mekha in the parish office at 705-726-8007 ext. 206

Break and Breathe

Catholic Family Services of Toronto is pleased to introduce a virtual group called the Break and Breathe Online Caregiver Support Group for those who are currently caring for a loved one. This 6-week group program provides a safe, welcoming, and non-judgmental environment to connect with others who truly understand the challenges and rewards of caregiving. Caregivers of middle-aged and older adults are welcome to join the group to gain knowledge, learn skills, and develop coping strategies for their selfless caregiving. Join us Thursdays, from September 17th to October 22nd, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. via ZOOM. This is no charge to attend.

What to expect:

- Learning coping skills to manage emotional responses to external and internal stressors.
- Gaining access to community resources and information for planning and navigating social and healthcare systems.
- Finding relief in a supportive and non-judgmental space.

To learn more or to register, please contact Yan Yan Woo at ywoo@cfstoronto.com or 416-921-1163 ext. 2249.



Please pray for those who are sick:

Russ Liggett, Kendra Frey, Ursula Dempsey, Brian Watts, George Barrie, Shawn Hunter and Baby Isahak

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