

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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ALY D'ANTIMO EXT. 220

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday (Vigil)

5:00pm

Sunday

8:00am - 9:30am & 11:30am

Monday & Tuesday

7:00pm

Wednesday - Friday

9:30am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION EVERY FRIDAY AFTER MASS

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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Phone: 705-726-8007

Website: stjohnvianneyba.archtoronto.org

Emergency due to death or serious illness, press 9

A FAITH THAT SAYS “YES” WITH OUR LIVES

This Sunday’s Gospel presents us with a simple story that carries a profound challenge. A father asks his two sons to work in his vineyard. The first refuses, but later changes his mind and goes. The second respectfully says, “I go, sir,” but never goes. Jesus asks, “Which of the two did the will of his father?” (Matthew 21:31). The answer reveals something essential about Christian discipleship: faith is ultimately measured not simply by what we say, but by the life we choose to live. There can sometimes be a distance between the faith we profess and the faith we practice. We may sincerely say “Amen” at Mass, profess the Creed, listen attentively to the Word of God, and yet hesitate when the Gospel asks something concrete of us. Jesus reminds us that discipleship is more than admiration for Him; it is the willingness to follow Him. The Gospel must eventually move from our ears to our hearts, and from our hearts into our choices. The first son gives us a beautiful image of conversion. His first response was not generous, but it was not his final response. He changed his mind and went to the vineyard. This echoes the message of the prophet Ezekiel, who reminds us that when a person turns away from sin and chooses what is right, that person shall live (cf. Ezekiel 18:27).

There is tremendous hope in these readings. With God, our past need not determine our future. Perhaps we have resisted God, neglected prayer, postponed forgiveness, grown distant from the Sacraments, or ignored an invitation to serve. The Lord does not simply remind us of yesterday’s “no.” He gives us the grace to offer Him a new “yes” today. The Catechism teaches that Christ’s call to conversion continues throughout the life of the Church and that this interior conversion is a lifelong movement of the heart toward God (cf. CCC 1427–1428). Conversion, therefore, is not simply a dramatic event that happens once. It is the daily work of grace. Every morning God gives us another opportunity to become more faithful, more forgiving, more generous, and more like Christ.

St. Paul shows us what this transformed life looks like when he writes, “Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 2:5). Christ did not cling to privilege or status. Rather, He “emptied himself” and became obedient even to the point of the Cross (Philippians 2:7–8). This self-emptying love of Christ, traditionally called *kenosis*, lies at the heart of Christian discipleship. Following Jesus means gradually learning to ask less, “What can I receive?” and more, “What can I give?” It means allowing our faith to become visible through humility, generosity, compassion, forgiveness, and service. This is also one of the beautiful paradoxes of Christianity: the more we give ourselves in love, the more we discover who we truly are. Christian service is not simply filling a position or completing a task. When we serve another person, we allow Christ to work through us. A welcoming smile, an hour offered to a ministry, helping a child grow in faith, visiting someone who is lonely, preparing a parish event, or quietly doing something that may never be noticed can become an act of worship when it is offered to God with love.

This message speaks beautifully to the life of our own parish. St. John Vianney continues to grow as a vibrant Welcoming and Connecting Parish. Our parish life is becoming increasingly active through our schools, sacramental preparation, liturgical ministries, faith formation, outreach, fellowship, and the many small groups and ministries that bring people together. This vitality is a tremendous blessing, and it is possible because so many parishioners generously offer their time and talents. As our parish grows, however, our need for volunteers and ministers also grows. Jesus’ image of the vineyard therefore becomes very real for us. The vineyard is not somewhere far away. It is here. It is our parish, our families, our schools, our neighbourhoods, and the people God places before us.

Perhaps the Lord is inviting you to become more involved. You may have a gift for welcoming people, teaching children, accompanying young people, serving at Mass, helping with fellowship, visiting others, assisting with parish events, joining a small group or ministry, or simply being available when help is needed.

The Second Vatican Council reminds us that the lay faithful share in the saving mission of the Church and are called, according to their gifts, to contribute to the growth and sanctification of the Church (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, 33). No gift offered to God is insignificant. Our time can become ministry, our talents can become service, and our simple availability can become someone else’s encounter with Christ. I therefore invite each of you to prayerfully ask: What has God placed in my hands that I can offer for the building up of His Kingdom?

We do not need everyone to do everything, but a vibrant parish needs each of us to consider doing something. Parish life is strongest when we move from simply asking, “What does my parish offer me?” to also asking, “What can I offer through my parish?” This is how a parish becomes more than a place we attend on Sunday; it becomes a spiritual family in which everyone belongs, everyone receives, and everyone has something to give. If you feel called to do more in the Lord’s vineyard, please stop by the **Welcome Desk and complete one of our yellow Volunteer Sign-Up Cards**. Let us know where you would like to serve, or simply indicate your willingness to help. Together, we can find a place where your gifts, time, experience, and generosity can enrich the life of our parish.

At every Eucharist, we encounter the One who perfectly lived His “yes” to the Father. Jesus gives Himself completely to us and then sends us forth to become His presence in the world. The Eucharist is never meant to end with us. Having received Christ, we are sent to carry His love into our homes, workplaces, schools, neighbourhoods, and parish community.

May our faith, therefore, be more than good intentions. May our words become action, our gratitude become generosity, our gifts become service, and our love for Christ become love for His people. The Father still calls His children into the vineyard. The vineyard is before us, the gifts are already in our hands, and the invitation is personal. May our answer be expressed not only with our lips, but with our lives: **“Yes, Lord, here I am.”**

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday September 26 th	5:00 pm ✠ Denise Wild Requested by: Sherri & Mike Biehl
	5:00 pm ✠ Kenneth Frei Requested by: Shelley Nakonechny
Sunday September 27 th	8:00 am For the special intentions of Richa Lama Requested by: Self
	9:30 am ✠ Fred Aloise & Family Requested by: Maria Aloise
	11:30 am ✠ Evie & Leonard Robinson Requested by: Lenore & Marinus Logtenberg
Monday September 28 th	7:00 pm For the special intentions of Ross Armstrong
Tuesday September 29 th	7:00 pm ✠ Lawrence & Davis Kim and Family Requested by: Anna Kim
	7:00 pm ✠ Ida Lenarduzzi Requested by: Suzanne Emdin
Wednesday September 30 th	9:30 am ✠ Bernie Prior Requested by: Suzanne Prior
Thursday October 1 st	9:30 am ✠ Bunty Brooks Requested by: Helen & John Russell
Friday October 2 nd	9:30 am ✠ Adam Nagy Requested by: Tran & Nguyen Families
	9:30 am ✠ Frank, Marina & Paul Prior Requested by: Suzanne Prior
	9:30 am ✠ Lil Balazs Requested by: Linda & Michelle Hodgins
	9:30 am ✠ Ursula Dempsey Requested by: Kerry Famiglietti
	9:30 am For the special intentions of Victoria Cremin & Family Requested by: Mary Cremin
	9:30 am For the special intentions of Fr. Bartek Requested by: Jenny Mas



Sacraments
deadline.

Online Registration for the 2026-27 First Communion and Confirmation Programs is CLOSED Please call Anita at 705-726-8007 ext. 203 if you have missed the



Crafters, Knitters, Crocheters meet Tuesday mornings in the hall from 930 to Noon. Bring a snack for yourself or to share. Knitters and Crocheters are currently working on squares for blankets and Crafters on items for the Annual Bazaar.



For those doing up preserves this season, please set aside a jar or two for the upcoming CWL Annual Christmas Bazaar. More information to come. If you are no longer canning and would like to donate your pint and half pint jars, please contact the CWL at 705-726-8007 ext 208.



On Saturday, October 17th, couples are warmly invited to a workshop presented by WWME.

Take a break from the busyness of daily life to celebrate your relationship and discover practical ways to live your faith together. The day begins with Holy Mass at 10 am, celebrated by Fr. Henry Alva, OFM, Cap., followed by a talk and workshop, concluding at 3 pm. A light lunch will be provided. There is no charge to attend; donations are welcome.

FORMED and PROPRESENTER

St. John Vianney church is happy to enrich the lives of our community with these two programs. **FORMED** is a website full of insightful and entertaining videos for us to enjoy. It is also used as a catechism tool for our Sacramental programs. **PROPRESENTER** is used in conjunction with our new projectors to provide slides pertaining to all parts of the Mass including music. These two programs are quite expensive. Any assistance you could offer to help offset these costs would be most appreciated.



FELLOWSHIP

Join us after the 9:30 & 11:30 Masses for Fellowship. This is a wonderful way to meet your priests, make new friends and grow our parish family. Volunteers from the parish will be hosting this weekend!

BLESSING OF PETS



Bring your pets to the back parking lot on Saturday, October 3rd at 10:00 am to have them blessed by one of our priests. Please join us as we celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi!++

There is a special collection today for the **NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IN CANADA**. Your gifts are used by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops to represent Canadian Catholics in national and international pastoral activity. Thank you for supporting this important work.

Parish Ministry Updates

Bible Study (now on Tuesdays)

Resumes **October 6** After **7:00 PM** Mass

REMEMBRANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

✠ Michelle Fernandes



Please pray for those who are sick:

Anton, Tiung Nguyen, Doug Woolway, Isabella De Oliveira, Christopher Wijesinghe and Shawn Hunter

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