

St. John Vianney Church



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Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 - 4:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 - Noon

Lunch: Closed from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

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 Saviour 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.

Parish Priests:

Fr. Biju Kannampuzha, C.M.I., Pastor
Fr. Joshy George, C.M.I., Associate Pastor

Celebration of the Eucharist

Sunday Eucharist

Saturday at 5:00 p.m. (Life Teen Mass)

Sunday at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

Weekday mass times

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday Adoration at 6:00 p.m., Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

Celebration of Reconciliation

Saturday from 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 11:00 - 11:30 a.m. or any time by appointment.

Parish Information

Baptismal Information - Press 7

Parish Outreach for Seniors - Press 103

Emergency due to death or serious illness - Press 6

Fr. Biju Kannampuzha, C.M.I., Pastor - 102

Fr. Joshy George, C.M.I., Associate Pastor - 106

Karen Price, Parish Secretary - 101

Bernadette Brock, Youth Minister - 104

Marilyn Reesor, Music Director - 121



COME IN, LORD

There is a penitential element to the season of Advent. The Advent season besides being a season of joyful expectation is also a season of repentance. This is symbolized by the violet color of the vestments. The figure of the season is St. John the Baptist, portrayed in this Sunday's Gospel as *"one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"*.

As a Nazarite, John the Baptist was dedicated to God from the day of his birth. Nazarites do not shave or cut their hair. He looked strange *"clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey."* His whole life-mission was to prepare the way of the Lord, *"I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him (Jn. 3:28)."* As one who brings to mind the great prophets of the Hebrew tradition, John was not lacking in disciples. Yet he pointed his disciples to Jesus as the Messiah and he faded away, *"He must increase, but I must decrease (Jn. 3:30)."* He met a prophet's death.

Belonging to the spokesman of God, the prophet's voice is both awesome and fascinating. It attracts and it repels. We are attracted by our drive to know the truth, yet we are afraid of the truth. When on a dark night one sees a strange light on a hill, one feels drawn to investigate, yet is afraid of the unknown. Prophets are a strange breed. They arouse our interest but we are not sure whether we would like to hear what they have to say. Well-known prophets of our time were Mother Teresa of Calcutta and Pope John Paul II and now Pope Francis. There are others less known, but just the same they are bearers of God's truth. They speak such truths as: every life is sacred, everyone is equally God's child, life is not measured by possessions or position, we are merely stewards of earth's bounty, people are to be respected and loved, avoid violence.

Curiosity seekers, genuine truth seekers, friends, and enemies came to listen to John. Perhaps they were drawn to his direct style of speaking, *"You brood of vipers bear fruit that befit repentance."* He was not just an idealist preaching a utopia. He gave practical suggestions about what this messianic times was all about, *"He who has two coats, let him share with those who have none, and*

he who has food let him do likewise Collect no more than is appointed to you rob no one (Lk. 3:10-14)." John was preaching about the "new way", the "new people", and the "new life". He was indeed preparing the way for Jesus the Messiah.

There are practical consequences to the coming of Jesus in our midst. Once we accept Jesus as the Emmanuel, God-with-us, then things start to change. The first change is in ourselves. We refer to this change as repentance or conversion. Changes happen in our relationships, our preoccupations, our priorities. Such changes are bound to flow into the bigger environment. Such was the story of a housewife who transferred into a poor neighborhood. Houses and yards looked miserable. Then she planted a garden of flowers. The neighbors came to look and to ask for cuttings and bulbs. The next summer that neighborhood was bursting with colors and no longer looked so neglected.

Advent is like planting flowers today and waiting in hope for them to grow and bloom. Advent is not just about waiting for a future final coming of Jesus. Advent is not just a remembrance and a preparation for a Birthday Party on Christmas Day. Advent is about accepting Jesus in our midst now. And that means allowing for change to happen. When we say that we accept Jesus into our life and no change is happening, then perhaps we have not really allowed Him to come in yet. Perhaps He is just at the door. We do not allow Him free reign into our house. We put limits to where God can enter into our lives. We are afraid to change.

It is time to let God in. *"Make a highway for our God the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain (Is. 40:3-4)."*



Sunday December 24th

5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 10:00 pm (no Midnight Mass)

Monday December 25th

9:30 am & 11:30 am

Sunday December 31st

New Year's Eve 5:00 pm Vigil Mass,

Monday January 1st

New Years Day
9:30 am & 11:30 am

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday Dec. 9 th	8:30 am † Marina Prior Requested by: Suzanne Prior
	5:00 pm † Eusabio D'Souza Requested by: D. & J. D'Souza
	5:00 pm † Nancy Sloat Requested by: Eleanor Guimond
Sunday Dec. 10 th	9:30 am † Joseph Hien Tran † Anton Anh Nguyen Requested by: Nguyen & Tran Families
	9:30 am † Tina Rashid Requested by: Paul Rashid & Family
	9:30 am For the special intentions of Marjorie Oliveira Requested by: Family
	11:30 am † John Navarrete Requested by: His parents
Tuesday Dec. 12 th	8:30 am † George D'Souza Requested by: D. & J. D'Souza
Wed. Dec. 13 th	7:00 pm † Grazia Martone Requested by: Anonymous



CONFESSION SCHEDULE

We invite parishioners to receive God's forgiveness in preparing the way for the Lord in their lives and hearts.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Wed. Dec. 13 th	4:00 pm – 6:00 pm 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	St. Mary's Church
Fri. Dec. 15 th	9:00 am – 11:00 am 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	St. John Vianney
Tues. Dec. 19 th	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Holy Spirit

CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-ALONG



Save the Date: Sun. Dec. 17th from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm with the choir in the church. Refreshments to follow in the hall. All are welcome!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Do you need to get in the Christmas Spirit? Please join us in the church on Friday December 22nd at 5:00 pm to help decorate the church.



2018 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES



2018 envelopes are available in the hall this weekend. Be sure to write your name & address on envelopes for the first three weeks of 2018 as an additional means of confirming your contact information. To avoid any confusion, please do not use 2018 envelopes until the New Year. Please write the donation amount on your envelope, it would be extremely helpful to the counters. If you are not currently using donation envelopes, please consider using them or signing up for a monthly preauthorized giving plan. Both of these methods provide income stability to your parish, as well as guaranteeing that you receive a valuable tax receipt each year. Those of you who use weekly envelopes or sign up for a monthly preauthorized giving plan can also rent the parish hall at a subsidized rate. When picking up your 2018 envelopes, please ensure that you fill out the card that is sticking out of the box with your full name(s), address, and telephone number (keeping in mind that more than one person may have the same surname). For those parishioners who use Pre-Authorized giving - there are boxes of envelopes available to you that contain only the Archdiocesan special collection envelopes. Please ask for the special Pre-Authorized Giving envelopes when picking up your envelopes. **Thank you for your continued support!**

C.W.L. NEWS



The C.W.L. General Meeting and Social / Christmas Pot Luck will be held on Dec. 11 at 7:00 pm – in the Church Hall. We will be presenting Years of Service pins and New Member pins. All are welcome to attend so bring a friend!

The 2017-2018 SUNDAY MISSALS are available at the Welcome Committee table in the hall following Mass at a cost of \$5.00



Please pray for those who are sick: Judy Schoeneich, Kurt Kroeger, Bob Waring, Catherine Dion, Ted Huston, Denise Foster, Jerry Gulka, Sherry Wyman, Jibreil Syed, Maria DeMelo, Joanne

Ransome, Lillian Pottage, & Marjorie Oliveira.

And for those who have died recently:

† Mary Brennan



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