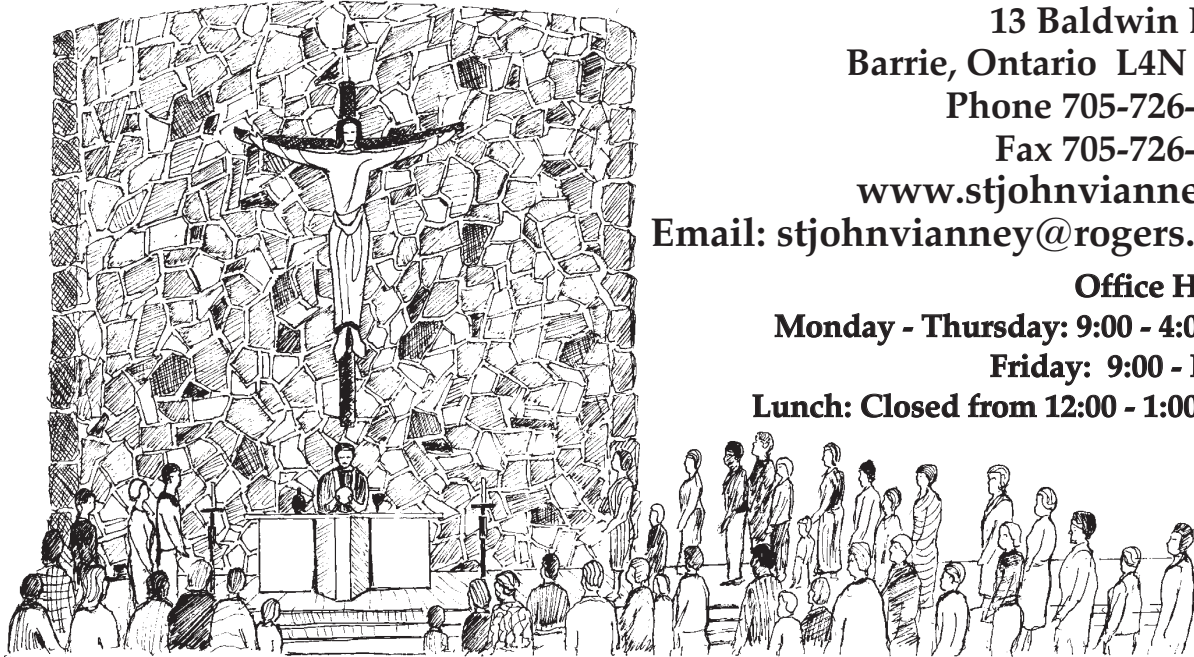


St. John Vianney Church



13 Baldwin Lane
Barrie, Ontario L4N 2W1
Phone 705-726-8007
Fax 705-726-4543
www.stjohnvianney.ca

Email: stjohnvianney@rogers.com

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 - 103

Marilyn Reesor, Music Director - 121

REJECTED LOVE?

And just as it was starting to go so well! He had returned among them in triumph – a local hero. They marveled at the wonderful things he said among them. He was one of their own, he grew up among them and they knew his background. He shared their ups and downs, laughed with them; he was involved in the different aspects of their lives. Now he spoke with eloquence and graciousness. They could be rightly proud, a people who had raised such a man.

He told them that the words of hope they treasured in the Scripture were being fulfilled in their hearing. What beautiful, golden words. God was indeed very close to this people, in fact, they could touch him. That wonderful feeling – faith and hope being fulfilled in love. They were truly blessed to experience the blessing of God upon them. This is a treasure to be cherished.

But what happens when the blessing of God doesn't quite fit in with our own plans? At least, not in the way we'd like. We want to have a close relationship with God. We want to feel his blessing – of course we do! But all very much on our own terms.

This Gospel is like a microcosm of the whole story. As the Prologue to the Gospel of John says: "He came unto his own, and they that were his own received him not." (John 1:11). In a very small way, the townsfolk in the Gospel represent the whole of human history – rejecting God at the moment when his plan for us leads us in a direction we'd rather not travel.

He was one of their own, and they were more than happy to go along with him for a time. How often this happens in the life of Jesus – that people follow him and then go off in a different direction when things don't suit. We come to him in the hope that he will fulfil our needs and realize our dreams. We're not sure if we have much time for him if he doesn't. But then, it's hard for us to recognize what our real needs are. It seems almost impossible for us to rejoice completely in God's love. Perhaps this is because we always want to keep something back for ourselves, to retain some control over our lives

rather than suffering the indignity of 'surrender' to something else. Yet nothing we might cling to will serve us better than the complete freedom that God's love offers us.

There is always a temptation for us to think we are superior to others. This danger is very present when we feel blessed by God. When Jesus spoke of blessings for foreigners and pagans in the presence of his own townsfolk, they turned on him and rejected him. Perhaps we might be tempted to feel superior to the townsfolk in the Gospel, or to others in our own time, because we are so close to God ourselves. When we feel that we possess God, things are beginning to go wrong. We can never possess God, rather he possesses us and that gives us our true dignity. The freedom he gives us to embrace his love so entirely also allows us to reject his love entirely. We can only truly dwell in his blessing if we embrace it with every fiber of our being.

Sometimes we so violently rupture our relationship with God that he seems so very distant that his love is entirely beyond our reach. Yet he recalls us constantly to return to the mystery of his saving love for us. Sometimes when our faith is weak, when our hope seems futile – sometimes it is then that we really experience his love as he gently calls us. God's blessing appears in the most unlikely of places. His ways are not our ways.



MARRIAGE MATTERS

MARRIAGE SUNDAY Cardinal Collins has designated the weekend of February 9/10, as Marriage Sunday in the Archdiocese of Toronto. The event provides an opportunity to honor husband and wife while saluting the faithfulness, sacrifice and joy that comes with the marriage covenant. To those preparing for marriage, newlyweds and those that have been companions on the journey for decades, we offer our prayers and best wishes. Let us celebrate the tremendous contributions of married couples who continue to strengthen our faith community. Let us also pray and extend loving support to those who have lost a spouse or are struggling from a broken relationship.

 **Mass Intentions for the Week**

Saturday
Feb. 2nd 5:00 pm For the special intentions of **Doug Lehmann**
Requested by: Larry & Mary Jane White

5:00 pm † **Jean Scicluna**
Requested by: Dan & Berna Brock

5:00 pm † **Candida Pereira**
Requested by: Pereira Family

Sunday
Feb. 3rd 9:30 am † **Tina Rashid**
Requested by: Paul Rashid & Family

9:30 am For the special intentions of **Marjorie Oliveira**
Requested by: Family



Changes in our Music Ministry

After many years of full time music leadership at our church, our music director and organist, Marilyn Reesor, is reducing the number of Masses she attends each week. Beginning March 3rd, we anticipate changes to the music liturgy at the 9:30 and 11:30 am Masses. Marilyn will continue to play for the 5:00pm Saturday Mass and 8:00 am Sunday Mass and will work with our choir in preparation for special Lenten and Easter Masses which she will also attend. She will also remain available for funerals, weddings and other special events. We appreciate Marilyn's many years of full time service and wish her well in her continuing endeavors.

We are currently seeking a pianist and/or organist to attend our Wednesday evening rehearsals and play for the 9:30 am and 11:30 am Masses. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested in this unique opportunity, speak with Marilyn or please call the parish office at (705) 726-8007 or email stjohnvianney@rogers.com.

The Catholic Prayer Bible, a large print prayer bible with passage explanations and reflection questions is available at the Welcome Table at a cost of \$35 each.



ADULTS: Be inspired, encouraged and healed at the largest single day Catholic event in Canada, the 27th annual Lift Jesus Higher Rally! The theme of this year's rally is "Hope in the Midst of Suffering" (Romans 5:3-4). Saturday, March 3rd, 2019, 9:00 am - 5:30 pm Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St. W. Inspiring talks and a high Mass will be celebrated by His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins.

YOUTH: There will be a separate youth event (12-19 years) with great music, dynamic talks and inspirational skits. The youth mass (with Sunday readings) will be celebrated by Fr. Mark Goring. For Tickets: \$25 for adults and \$15 for the youth. Add \$15. For HEATED BUS that meets in Parish parking lot at 7:00 am and returns approximately 7:30 pm. Call Berna at Parish Office 705-726-8007 X103 for your tickets.



We welcome all families of St. John Vianney to join us for a fun night out. Friday, February 22, from 6:30-9pm we have a special price of \$25.00/person at X-PLAY for 1 hr. of lazer tag and 1 hr. of trampolining which includes water bottles and trampoline socks. Just show up and say: "I am a St. John Vianney Youth"! Please arrive at 6:30 to give time to fill out waivers.



GALA DINNER, Sunday, February 24th at St. John Vianney Parish Hall, 13 Baldwin Lane, Barrie, at 5:00 p.m. Three Course Dinner will be provided by Arabesque- Foods of the Middle East Restaurant. Tickets are \$30.00 per person. For tickets please contact Steph Maher at smaher@sympatico.ca or 705-726-4468.

TAX RECEIPTS

2018 Tax Receipts will be available for pick up in the parish hall after the Mass.



Please pray for those who are sick: Hans Juffermans, Louis Mullins, Phyllis Taylor, Len Smyth, Martin Matchett, Shirley Richard, and Marjorie Oliveira.

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