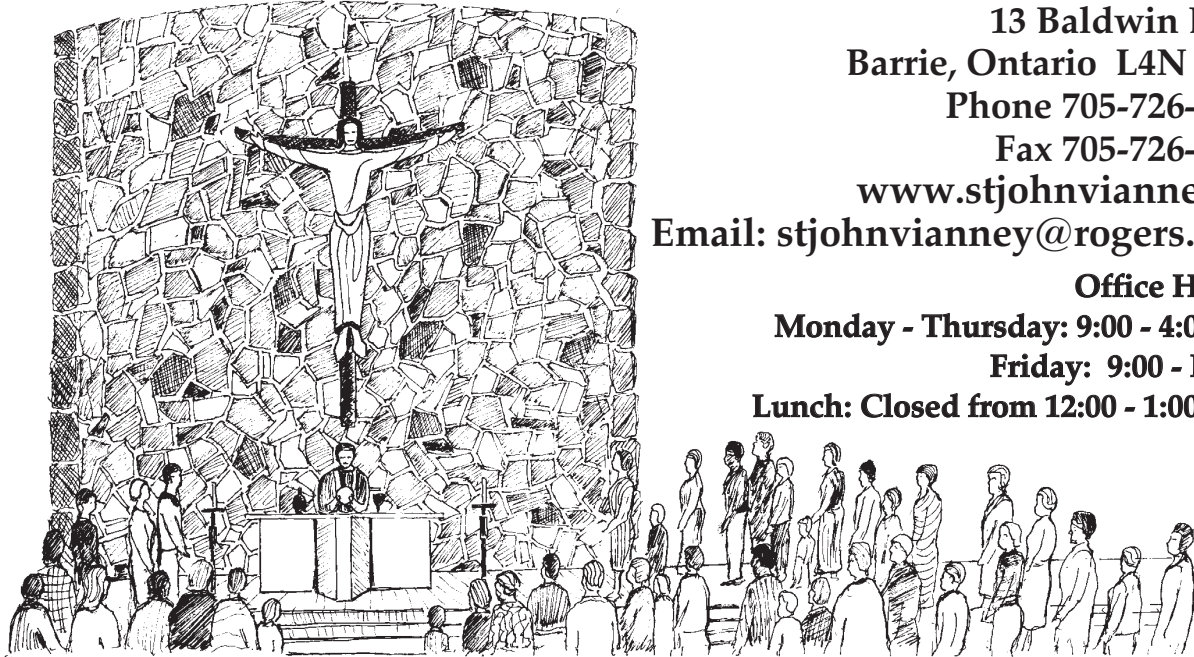


St. John Vianney Church



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, 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 - 106

Karen Price, Parish Secretary - 101

Bernadette Brock, Youth Minister - 104

Marilyn Reesor, Music Director - 121

TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU

'Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.'

Karl Marx famously wrote that religion was the 'sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, just as it was the spirit of a spiritless situation'. At first glance, Jesus' words in the gospel of this Sunday may seem to offer a rather simplistic and strange way to follow. *Come to me, all who labour and are oppressed, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke, and you will find rest.*

In fact, we would not be far from Marx's view if we were to interpret these words as an invitation to accept our labour and predicament without complaint, as oppressed people accepting everything in the hope of finding the pie in the sky!

So, how could we properly understand these words? Christianity does not invite us to accept any kind of yoke like oppressed creatures. Rather, Christianity is a call to simplicity and authenticity.

Jesus' words are first of all a call to *simplicity*: as human beings living in society, we build our lives on principles, rules and laws, and we think that this will help us to grow. Yet, these laws and rules are necessary, but their existence cannot lead us to lose sight of the only reason why we need them: to reinforce our love for God and for our neighbours.

What Jesus invites us to discover is to do by love what we have been taught to do by duty, and this is simplicity, because, in this way, our only rule is the Love of God. Too often, however, we fulfil our duties simply by duty, like religious petty bureaucrats without freedom who forget the spirit of our rules and laws. This is precisely the reproach Jesus made to the Pharisees: to lose sight of the centre implies to make things more difficult.

Therefore, against the Pharisees who made the ancient law more oppressive, difficult and heavy, Jesus invites his disciples to take upon themselves his yoke, which is simple and light:

the spirit of the law, which is Love. Deeper than the letter, which may seem heavy, lies the Spirit, which invites us in a life of freedom, aware of our boundaries and limits.

Jesus invites us, then, to take his yoke and to be simple by having only one rule: his rule of love, hidden to the wise and understanding. Jesus invites us to live in the spirit, and to discern the Spirit behind the letter of the principles of our lives. As Paul reminds us in the second reading, we are not in the flesh, but we are in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in us?

Therefore, we are invited today not to make our rules more oppressive, complicated but more accessible, like true children of God. Of course, it does not mean that everything can be done, but rather that we do not have to be fettered by principles only, but bound first and foremost by love for God and our neighbours.

We are invited not to be 'religious petty bureaucrats', who follow punctiliously rules because they have to be followed, but to discern the spirit of love which underlies them. Too often, we are like wise and bright people, unable to discern what is simple and essential in our lives. We focus on details and on the letter of our principles - which can enslave ourselves - rather than on the spirit of the letter, which may set them free.

Jesus' words are therefore a call to authenticity. He invites us to be spontaneous and authentic, with an undivided heart. As the Son knows and is one with the Father, we have to be one in mind and not to have individualist Christianity. Let us learn from their mutual love how to be fully ourselves, without transforming our rules and principles into a fence cutting us off from what we truly are and what we have to do.

**THE ANNUAL MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL
DEPARTED**

St. Mary's Cemetery Mass will be held on **Wednesday, August 16th at 7:00 p.m.** with the main celebrant Most Reverend Wayne Kirkpatrick presiding. In the event of rain, the Mass will take place at St. Mary's Church.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday July 8th 5:00 pm † **Anita Das**
Requested by: Jackie Karin

Sunday July 9th 9:30 am For the special intentions of **Marjorie Oliveira**
11:30 am † **Elena Ongaro**
Requested by: The Ongaro Family
11:30 am † **Patrick Roussel**
Requested by: Family

Monday July 10th 8:30 am † **Jeff Plunkett**
Requested by: The Rosary Apostolate

Friday July 14th 8:30 am † **Emilia Fazari**
Requested by: Fazari Family



WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS TO OUR CHURCH!

Warmest of greetings are extended to our summer visitors as well as any new parishioners of the parish. We hope you feel welcome and at home at St. John Vianney. New parishioners are invited to register by filling out a parish registration form available in the church vestibule or visit us in the Parish Office. Offertory Envelopes and Pre-Authorized Giving forms are also available.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Have you or someone you know ever considered becoming a Catholic? 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. For those who are not baptized and for those of other Christian denominations who are already baptized, the RCIA/RCIC (children ages 7 and up) process is a wonderful response to the Lord's call to His disciples to "come and see". If you are interested in joining the RCIA/RCIC process for the fall of 2017 please call the office to make an appointment to meet with Fr. Biju. (705) 726-8007

Vocation Seeds



"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

Accept the invitation that is being extended, an invitation by the one who sent him. If you feel you are being called to the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life, contact Fr. Chris Lemieux, Vocation Director, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-968-0997.

MOVING THIS SUMMER?



To any parishioners who are moving away from the area, please take a moment to leave a forwarding address at the parish office so that we can mail out your tax receipt. For those who are leaving the parish, we wish you a fond farewell and all the best in your new home. Thank you for being part of our parish community.



ENJOY YOUR SUMMER HOLIDAYS!

As summer sets in, many parishioners will be travelling and visiting with friends and loved ones. We wish you all a safe and memorable journey. May your time away be a time of refreshment, relaxation and renewal. We look forward to your return. Have a happy summer!



If you have not had the opportunity to visit our website, please do so at: www.stjohnvianney.ca Take some time to bookmark and browse. You will find the latest parish news, helpful links, registration forms and you can download our most recent parish bulletin.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Gizela Witt, Art Coulson, Jerry Gulka, Trudy Schoutsen, Joy Gunt, Marg Nixon, Baby Clare Dary, Rosaleen Thyne, Sherry Wyman, Raymond Valney, Jamie Ringler, Rosa Maria Santos, Jebreil Syed, Maria DeMelo, Joanne Ransome, Richard Benoit, Lillian Pottage, Stephanie Chalmers, & Marjorie Oliveira.

I can do ALL THINGS through Christ who STRENGTHENS me.
-Phillippians 4:13

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