

St. John Vianney Church



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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 - 104

Marilyn Reesor, Music Director - 121

Hope and Forgiveness in the Holy Spirit

When the Holy Spirit descends in our first reading, he does so with great drama. He is accompanied, as usual, by signs that tell us something about him; here a mighty wind and miraculous tongues of flames. But in the Gospel the sign is much less impressive, but no less dramatic. All Jesus does is breathe on his disciples, having said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit.' There's nothing particularly *miraculous* about breathing. The tongues of flame fifty days later certainly are miraculous, but breathing is just natural. And yet that has something of the greatest importance to tell us about the gift of the Spirit and his effect on our relationships with one another.

Not that the gift of the Spirit is natural to us, like breathing. Having the Spirit within us is entirely beyond our natural powers. Breathing, eating, drinking, and so on - all these things are natural to human life. But having the Spirit within us is of a higher order altogether. However, when Jesus sends this supernatural gift into the disciples, he accompanies it with a very ordinary sign - human breath. And the clue to the importance of this lies in the very next thing he says: 'If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven. If you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

The giving of the Spirit under the sign of breath is immediately linked with the reality of forgiveness in the Church, the power of giving absolution, transmitted by Jesus along with the Spirit to the apostles. Now this passage does have to do with the fact that the apostles, and their successors in the ordained priesthood, have the duty of absolving the sins of Christians. But it also points to the fact that forgiveness has to be at the heart of any community shaped by the Spirit.

A community can be shaped in all sorts of ways. It can be shaped by enmity, strife, jealousy, anger, and so on. But it can also be shaped by love, joy, peace, patience, and the rest. Probably the communities we live in are shaped by a bit of both. And we too probably contribute a bit of both to what shapes the lives of our

communities. But what is crucial to the life of any community is whether or not forgiveness is a fundamental value. Because where it is not, a community will only fall apart, with relationships wounded, wounds attracting disease and festering until death. But where there is forgiveness, there is always hope, good will, openness to the possibility of renewal, genuine healing, and a stronger and greater community.

Jesus tells us that if we do not forgive the sins of others, our heavenly Father will not forgive us. And which of us can say that he or she has not sinned? That then is the deal. And there is no better deal. Unless we forgive, we shall not be forgiven. And however difficult it may be for us to forgive the wrongs that may be done to us, the deal Jesus announces is good news for us, because every one of us will benefit, and without it not one of us can really hope.

Forgiveness is often not easy, but for the Spirit. When we look at how our world has rebelled against God, we have to wonder if such a great mass of sin can be forgiven. And yet nothing is impossible for the Spirit who offers forgiveness to all. If the Spirit can forgive all this, then surely he can give us the power to forgive when we find it difficult or even impossible. Because if it sometimes feels that we don't have the natural power to forgive, the power to forgive is entirely natural to the Spirit. And when the Spirit comes to dwell in our hearts, what is natural to him becomes second nature to us.

That is one reason why so natural a sign as breathing accompanied the Spirit when he gave the apostles the power to forgive sins. Forgiveness may sometimes seem even unnatural to us, but it is natural to a community formed by the Spirit, the only kind of community that can ultimately work in a sinful world. Forgiveness is as fundamental to the life of the Church as breathing is to the life of the body. Without breath, the body dies. Without forgiveness the Church would die too, and so would die our hope. If we don't forgive, we die. But if we do forgive, God opens up a new life of possibilities before us, and hope for a life with him that will never die.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday
May 20th 9:30 am For the special intentions of
Laverne & Mary Jones
Requested by: Family

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

11:30 am † **Domingos Da Silva**
† **Rosa Pinto**
Requested by: Granddaughter

Tuesday
May 22nd 8:30 am † **Jack Biggers**
Requested by: Biggers Family

† **Paul Guillotte**
Requested by: Line Crickard

Wednesday
May 23rd 7:00 pm † **Shawna Hill**
Requested by: Dorothy Hill

† **Michael & Aubyn Meleskie**
Requested by: Ramsbottom Family

Saturday
May 26th 8:30 am † **Louis Barrie**
Requested by: Rosella & Family



CONGRATULATIONS!



Our sincere congratulations to those young people of the parish who will be receiving the Holy Spirit through the sacrament of Confirmation this weekend. Let us continue to pray for their perseverance and continued spiritual growth.

WELCOME VISITORS AND NEW PARISHIONERS TO OUR CHURCH!



Warmest of greetings are extended to our 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.



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED AT 5:00 PM MASS

The Eucharistic Ministry is in need of new Eucharistic Ministers for the 5:00 pm Mass. This is a great, spiritually rewarding opportunity to serve the Lord and others. Training is provided. Please contact the church office or speak to Fr. Biju.

MINISTRY RENEWAL PROJECT

In the next few weeks we will be strengthening and renewing several of our parish ministry groups. Present members and new volunteers will be invited to get to know each other at a combined social event and information evening. Our next renewal evening will be for

USHERS, WELCOME TABLE VOLUNTEERS, & FELLOWSHIP ORGANIZERS
on Friday May 25th at 7:00 p.m.

We will meet to review procedures and understand changes. Then we'll welcome new volunteers and socialize over wine, cheese, coffee and deserts. Do you feel called to this form of service? Please speak to our pastor, call the Parish Office, or join us at our get together.

SJV CWL GLITZ & GLAMOUR TEA



Date: June 23

Time 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Cost \$15.00. Get your tickets early as we only have 150 available.

Tickets will be on sale after all the Masses this weekend.

GOLF TOURNAMENT



The Knights of Columbus are hosting their 2nd Annual Golf Tournament on **Saturday, June 9th** at Innisbrook Golf Course, with all proceeds going to "Simcoe Candlelighters" which supports families of children fighting cancer. The cost is \$110 per golfer including green fees, cart, roast beef dinner and prizes. All ladies, men and junior golfers are welcome, including single registrations. Prize donations and hole sponsors are required for anyone wishing to donate. Registration forms are available on the Welcome Table in the hall.



Altar Server Appreciation and Recruiting:

Current Altar Servers and those wishing to become Altar Servers are invited to a Pizza and Bowling Night sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on **Tues. May 29 from 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm** at the Bowlerama – Bayfield Mall.

Please RSVP to the parish office by calling 705-726-8007 Ext. 101 or sjvsecretary@rogers.com




Please pray for those who are sick: Barbara Nadon, Penny Guitard, Maeve Burke, Nadia Allesio, Sherry Wyman, Pat Carter, Graeme Sutherland, Valentina Marrone, Connie Chisholm, Jack Brady, Margaret Breckinridge, Ted Huston, Rigo Ongaro, Jean Boileau, Jo-Anne Ransome, & Marjorie Oliveira.
And for those who have died recently: † Jack Biggers



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