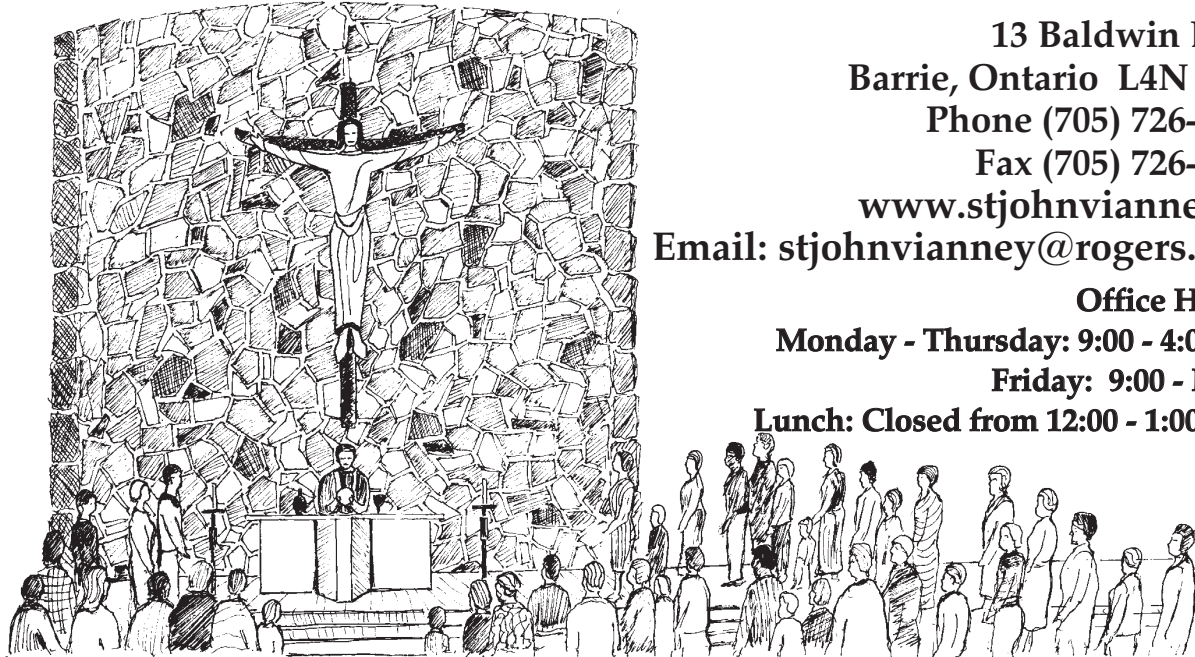


St. John Vianney Church



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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. Jose Koluthara, 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

Mass Times - Press 9

Baptismal Information - Press 7

St. Vincent de Paul - Press 8

Emergency due to death or serious illness - Press 6

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

Fr. Jose Koluthara, C.M.I., Associate Pastor - 106

Karen Price, Parish Secretary - 101

Bernadette Francavilla, Youth Minister - 104

Marilyn Reesor, Music Director - 121

Mass for the Intentions Week

Saturday
September 19th 5:00 pm † Thomas Ransome
Requested by: Joanne & Family

Sunday
September 20th 9:30 am † Paul Kubica
Requested by: Staff of St. Peter's
Catholic Secondary School

11:30 am † Callinan Family
† Agnes Doran
Requested by: Carmel Alexander

Who Is The Greatest?

If you saw the movie “Titanic,” you’ll recall how panicked the sinking ship’s passengers were while they boarded the lifeboats. Yet in spite of the chaos, one rule, as much as possible, was strictly observed: women and children came first. That’s why Bruce Ismay, president of the Titanic’s White Star Line, was portrayed as a coward for having finagled a spot in one of the last boats while there were still children on board. Conversely, John Jacob Astor, sporting his tuxedo and sipping his brandy, was depicted as a hero for having remained behind while his pregnant wife disembarked alone.

However, if the Titanic had sailed two thousand years earlier, in the Mediterranean and not the Atlantic, the whole scenario would have been reversed: Astor would have been seen as a fool, while Ismay’s actions would have been understood as normal, even honorable. That’s shocking to us, but true. In our modern, Western society, we place children first. On a sinking ship, their safety is a top priority. In contrast, ancient Middle Eastern cultures, like that of Jesus, placed children last. Boys and girls had no legal status in families or communities, and small children were considered equal to slaves. When famine struck, for instance, they were fed *after* the adults.

Recognizing this helps us to appreciate our Lord’s words in today’s gospel. For the second time, he forewarned his disciples about his betrayal and death. But this was too much for them to understand, and they were afraid to ask what he meant. Worst of all, instead of expressing concern or sympathy, they chose to argue about which of them was the greatest.

Jesus apparently overheard them. “If anyone wishes to be first,” he insisted, “he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” Next, Jesus placed a child in their midst, embraced it with a hug, and offered words which were direct, counter-cultural, and downright shocking: “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.”

What Jesus was saying is that to extend hospitality to a child- the lowest person on society’s totem pole- was to offer a service to God himself. What does this mean? To love children, yes, but much more than that. In Jesus day, hospitality to strangers was normal. However, such hospitality was offered with the expectation that guests would later speak far and wide about their host’s generosity, thus building up his or her reputation. With this aim in view, to extend hospitality to children was laughable. They couldn’t enhance one’s reputation or add to one’s honor. So why bother?

But that’s exactly our Lord’s point. Jesus was teaching that *true* greatness, in *his* eyes, is to be found in serving others without any hope of return. That’s why the example of a child was so important. If Jesus has simply said that greatness is based upon service, we can imagine the disciples, with perverse logic, trying to outdo one another in heaping up good works, racing each another to be the best “do-gooders” in order to win first prize. But to speak of welcoming a young child is nothing less than a call to generous, selfless love which seeks not reward or advantage or profit, but simply the good and well-being of another.

This is the love of which Jesus spoke in today’s gospel. This is the love he calls us to aspire to. A love which serves others with generosity, without counting the cost; a love which serves others for their benefit, and not our own; a love which seeks not its own greatness, which is nevertheless, the greatest love of all.

Welcome to Rev. Saji, our new Associate Pastor

St. John Vianney warmly welcomes our new Associate Pastor, Fr. Saji, CMI a young priest, born in Kerala, India. I hope that you will make him feel most welcome.



Welcoming New People to the Sacraments

With great joy and with great gratitude to God, we can announce that last year over 200 children made First Communion in our Parish. As well, over 170 young people received the sacrament of Confirmation. This fall St. John Vianney Parish continues to welcome young and old to an intimate life with Jesus in the sacraments of the Holy Church.

Cardinal Collins has announced he is changing the norm for reception of Confirmation from Grade 7 to Grade 8. This year we will offer Confirmation to students in both Grade 7 and 8, and then in future years to Grade 7 children. To accommodate the larger numbers this year students are being organized by parish school group and will celebrate Confirmation with their school group at a number of Sunday afternoon confirmation masses spread over the school year. Parents of Grade 7 and 8 students should see the "Sacraments" bulletin board in the church foyer for more information. Information will also be coming home from parish schools. Registration forms are available in the parish hall.

First communion programs begin again this fall and preparation is offered normally to students in Grade 2 classes. Parents of Grade 2 students should see the bulletin board in the church foyer for more information. Registration forms are available in the parish hall and it will also be distributed through parish schools. The parish website is another source of information for both these programs.

What if your child, or a child you know, has missed a step and isn't ready for one of these sacraments? Perhaps an older child hasn't yet been welcomed by baptism, or was baptized in another Christian group but not yet received into the Catholic Church, or perhaps someone missed an introduction to Confession or Holy Communion. Jesus calls with arms open. A special children's initiation program is being organized; please plan to attend a meeting Sunday, November 15 after the 9:30 morning Mass.

Catholic adults also are welcome to update any missed sacraments, and new adults are also welcome to join our Church in a program called RCIA. The next meeting is Thursday this week at 7:30 pm in the Blackwell room. Please call the Parish Office (705 726 8007) to indicate your interest.

Our Parish Picnic is This Sunday!



Our annual parish picnic will take place on Sunday September 20th from 12:30 – 5 pm on the church grounds and adjacent park. Lunch will include barbequed hamburgers, hotdogs, and a beverage and will be served from 12:45 – 2:00 pm. Tickets are on sale after all Masses in the parish hall for \$5.00 each. Please bring your favorite salad or dessert to share with others.

Don't miss out; there will be our first ever DUNK TANK with the opportunity to dunk your Pastor. There will be children's games, face painting, music, and a family baseball game plus loads of fun and fellowship and hopefully plenty of sunshine! *All proceeds will be donated to the David Busby Outreach Centre.*



Multicultural Festival

FAMILY HERITAGE FESTIVAL

St. John Vianney Parish is a dynamic and thriving community which is enriched by the vast cultural diversity amongst our many families. United as one body, we are comprised of peoples from countries throughout the world who have converged and come together in our Christian home. We would like to celebrate and learn more about the cultural traditions of our families and are planning to host a **Family Heritage Festival** on the afternoon of **Sunday, October 18th**, beginning with a culturally diverse Mass at 11:30 a.m. followed by celebrations which will conclude at 5:00 p.m. This festival will feature multi-cultural displays, food samples, music and dance which will appeal to every age group, and we would like to have as many countries represented as possible. Please consider sharing your ancestral heritage with others with a display of art, clothing and food, or set the day aside to attend and discover the unique heritage of your friends and neighbors of St. John Vianney Church. For more information and registration as a participant please, contact the church office.



Please pray for the sick:
Geraldine Ocsai, Patrick Peters, Catherine Dion, Robert Porteous, Tina Rashid, Michael Foster, Dylan Wilson, Wilson Gasewicz, Baby Nathan Brent, Baby Avery Maset, & Carson Batters.

And for those who have died recently:

Patrick Peters and Elizabeth Schmidt

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