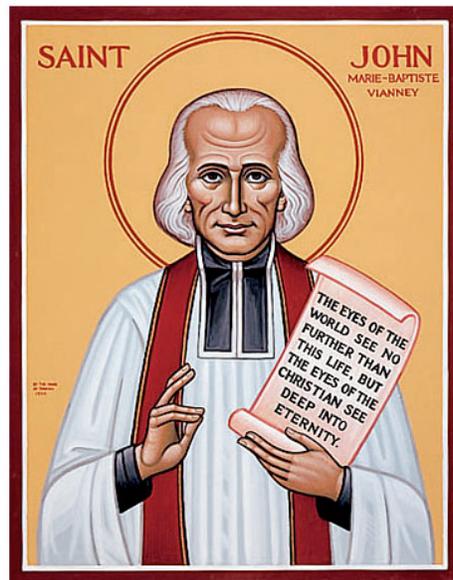


VIANNEY HOUSE

Residence of
St. Pius X Seminary
Loras College

Dubuque, Iowa



RULE OF LIFE

August 2014

I. INTRODUCTION

St. John Mary Vianney
(1786-1859)
Curé of Ars

“We must abandon ourselves to God’s Providence and take care not to run on ahead of it. The works of God achieve themselves and those that are not His soon perish. Rest assured of the truth of a saying that seems paradoxical, that he who hurries delays the things of God.”

Jean-Baptiste Marie Vianney was born in 1786 at Dardilly, near Lyons, France, and intended for the priesthood from an early age. His education and training were interrupted by his conscription in the army, from which he deserted, and again considerably lengthened by his inability to learn Latin. After ordination, at last, in 1818, he was for three year assistant priest at Écully, and then appointed in February 1818 parish priest at Ars. In this remote village he achieved almost worldwide fame. First from the neighboring parishes, then from all France, finally from other countries, came men and women of all sorts and conditions to seek his counsel. By 1855 the number of his visitors was computed at 20,000 per year, and during his last few years he was forced to spend 16 to 18 hours a day in the confessional. He was beatified in 1905, canonized in 1925, and in 1929 was named the patron of parish priests. His feast day is August 4th.

Vianney House, the pre-theologian residence of the Archdiocesan St. Pius X Minor Seminary at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, was established under the patronage of the Curé of Ars in 1997 and is intended as a prayerful place of residence for seminarians while pursuing their studies at Loras College. It is located at 1235 Mt. Loretta Ave. in Dubuque, just over one mile from the college campus.

II. SPIRITUAL LIFE AT VIANNEY HOUSE

Seminarians of Vianney House are expected to attend Mass daily and especially on Sunday. The regular Mass schedule is as follows (all Masses are celebrated in the Vianney House chapel unless otherwise noted):

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
Monday: 7:10 a.m.
Tuesday: 7:10 a.m.
Wednesday: **9:00 p.m. Christ the King Chapel, Loras College**
Thursday: 7:10 a.m.
Friday: 7:10 a.m.
Saturday: 8:15 a.m.

Seminarians of Vianney House are also expected to dedicate time daily for personal prayer. Because the Liturgy of the Hours has a central role in the prayer life of a priest, it is important for seminarians to learn and enter into this prayer. **Morning Prayer** and **Evening Prayer** are the key elements of the Liturgy of the Hours and are celebrated at the following times (all in the Vianney House chapel unless otherwise noted):

Morning Prayer:

- **Monday – Friday:** 7:00 a.m.
- **Saturday:** 8:00 a.m.
- **Sunday:** 9:00 a.m.

Evening Prayer: 5:00 p.m. every day (including Saturday and Sunday) **except on Wednesday** when Evening Prayer will be celebrated at 4:45 p.m. after the weekly formation conference at Smyth Hall on the Loras College campus.

When present for community liturgies in the Vianney House chapel, seminarians are to observe the following dress code: long pants (slacks) and collared shirt. In addition, to maintain the proper decorum in the Vianney House chapel, shoes should be worn in the chapel at all hours.

Seminarians are also expected to establish and remain faithful to an ongoing (bi-weekly) spiritual direction relationship. Each seminarian and the Director of Spiritual Formation of the St. Pius X Seminary are to come to an agreement about which director from the approved list of spiritual directors is to be used. Other directors may be used only with the prior approval of the Director of Spiritual Formation.

III. COMMUNITY LIFE AT VIANNEY HOUSE

The community life at Vianney House provides mutual support, promotes tolerance and fraternal correction, and provides an opportunity for the development of leadership and other talents. The residence is also intended to be a place of prayer conducive to the seminarian's discernment of his vocation to the priesthood.

As an integral part of the seminarian's spiritual formation during his time at Vianney House, the community life of the residence includes various obligations. Following are some of the aspects of this community life:

Alcohol

Misuse of alcohol presents potential harm both to the seminarian and to the reputation of the Church that he represents. As students at Loras College, seminarians are obliged to observe the college alcohol use policy, at all seminary and college-sponsored activities, whether on campus or off. Residents are to use alcohol in a responsible manner (whether at Loras College or elsewhere) and are prohibited from offering alcohol to anyone under the legal age for alcohol consumption. Further, residents are not to invite college students into a private room when alcohol is being consumed.

Archdiocesan Pastoral Center

With its proximity to the Vianney House, some interaction will occur with staff and residents of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center (APC). However, unless in the case of emergency, no personnel or residents of the APC are permitted on the second, third, or fourth floors of Vianney House. Fire doors at the East end of all the main corridors on each floor delineate a clear boundary between the APC and Vianney House. If the need arises for a seminarian to attend to some business in the APC, he should enter the main entrance of the APC and request entrance through the receptionist.

Chapel

A chapel is available for private prayer, as well as for the celebration of Mass and communal praying of the liturgy of the Hours. Since the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in this space, please keep the door to the chapel closed and maintain a prayerful atmosphere while in the chapel. Dress code, mentioned above (see Spiritual Formation section), is to be observed in the chapel.

Common Room

Adjacent to the dining room is a common room for the use of seminarians. The room includes a TV and a DVD player, as well as an assortment of DVDs. Those using this room are to keep it clean.

Exercise Room

An exercise room, with basic cardiovascular equipment and some weight machines, is located on the ground floor. Residents are encouraged to use this room, though always at your own risk.

Guest Rooms

Guest rooms are available for guests of seminarian residents. The rooms are available on a “first come, first served” basis. The guest rooms must be reserved through the Rector. It is the responsibility of the host to see that the room is cleaned and bed linens are changed within 24 hours after the room’s use. Failure to do so may result in the loss of guest rights. Seminarian residents are not to house guests in their personal rooms.

Internet

Vianney House is equipped with a wireless Internet system. Residents are prohibited from using this Internet connection to view pornography or other material that would be deemed immoral by our Catholic tradition. Access codes are available from the Rector.

Kitchen Facilities/Food

An individual seminarian residing at Vianney House should consider obtaining a basic meal plan at Loras College so that he can take meals on campus when his schedule requires him to do so. In addition, the seminarian may choose to take his meals at Vianney House. This is generally up to the discretion of the individual seminarian. A grocery list is located in the kitchen of Vianney House; items placed on this list are normally purchased once a week by the persons responsible for the preparation of the evening meals that week. A charge account has been established at a local grocery store where seminarians can purchase food items for meals at Vianney House; the charge card may be checked out from the Rector’s office. Seminarians shall not charge personal items or alcohol to the account. Shoes are required in the kitchen and dining room areas at all times.

Residents of Vianney House share a common evening meal three times a week on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 5:15 p.m. (after Evening Prayer). Wednesday dinner is shared at Loras College at 5:00 p.m. (after the weekly formation conference and Evening Prayer). Guests are generally welcome at meals; their host are to indicate the presence and number of guests on the meal sign-in board in the kitchen.

Breakfast, lunch, and weekend meals for seminarians taken at Vianney House are “on your own.” Residents are to ensure that the kitchen and dining area are cleaned after use.

Laundry

Laundry facilities are located on the ground floor of the building, near the elevator. Laundry detergent, bleach, etc., are provided. Laundry must not be stored or left in the laundry room.

Mail

Mail is delivered to the mailbox outside the front door of the building. Individual mailboxes are located in the first floor corridor, just outside the chapel. Mail delivered to the residence is placed in each seminarian’s mailboxes.

Maintenance

Each seminarian residing in Vianney House, in addition to his own suite of rooms, will be asked to provide for the weekly cleaning of some common area of the residence. These tasks will be determined at the beginning of each semester and are subject to change after each semester. Seminarians also are requested to keep clean the common areas that they happen to use. If any maintenance needs should arise, the seminarian should place a written notice detailing the problem in the mailbox of the Rector, or communicate the same information via e-mail. The seminarian should refrain from making direct requests to maintenance personnel, except in cases of emergency.

Outside doors/keys

The key provided each resident fits the locks of both the outside doors. Seminarians in residence are reminded to remain especially vigilant that doors always remained locked, for the security of the other residents of Vianney House, as well as to safeguard personal belongings. If desired, a key is available to

lock the door into one's private suite of rooms. Please do not block doors open for extended periods of time.

Parking

Residents should park their cars to the West of Vianney House, in the lot near Bryant Elementary School. There are some spaces available in the garage adjacent to this lot for seminarian residents of Vianney House. Use of these garages will be designated via lottery at the beginning of each semester. If given the rights to a garage, a seminarian normally is to use the garage each night (for security reasons and to permit the clearing of snow from the parking lot).

Personal Rooms

Each seminarian is provided a suite of rooms (bedroom, sitting room, private bathroom) for his use. It is the seminarian's obligation to keep these rooms clean. Since these rooms are located adjacent to the personal areas of other seminarians, privacy of these personal rooms is to be respected. Pets are not allowed in the Vianney House, neither in personal rooms nor in common spaces. **The burning of candles and incense, as well as any other open flames, is absolutely prohibited in personal rooms and common spaces of Vianney House.**

Priests in Residence

Both the Rector and Director of Spiritual Formation of St. Pius X Seminary maintain residences in Vianney House and enjoy the same right to privacy as do other residents. Those private residences may not be entered without permission of the priests.

Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in all rooms, common spaces, and balconies of Vianney House. Smoking must occur outside, but not on balconies.

Storage

The fourth floor of Vianney house has several rooms that are available for storage. Since these are common areas, please keep them clean while using them as storage spaces. Each item stored there should be labeled with the owner's name to permit a clear identification of its owner.

Telephones

Each seminarian is required to have his own personal telephone. It is the responsibility of the seminarian, in agreement with his home diocese/religious institute, to pay for this telephone service.

IV. ADMINISTRATION

Vianney House is under the administration of the Rector of St. Pius X Seminary. Since Vianney House is part of the St. Pius X Seminary, the formation program of seminarians residing in Vianney House is also under the direction of the Director of Spiritual Formation of St. Pius X Seminary.

ST. PIUS X SEMINARY PERSONNEL

RECTOR

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