St. John the Evangelist Church			
903 Giffard Street, Whitby, Ontario L1N 2S3 Rectory Office: Ph: <u>905-668-3676</u> Fax: 905-668-9109 email: sje.whitby@sympatico.ca website: www.stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/			
Pastoral TeamSupport StaffRev. Francisco Fernandez SilesPastorMr. Troy SabaotRev. Michael HolmesAssociate PastorMr. Kevin DashnRev. Mr. Raymond Del CastilhoPermanent DeaconMrs. Sue McGeeMiss Susan DouglasLay Pastoral Asst.Mrs. Gail StewarMrs. Vicki MorganSecretaryMrs. Cathy DykemanParish Home CatechismMr. Brendon OrianYouth Ministry		Monday - F	12:00 noon 5:00 p.m. eception
Sunday 9:0		On first Frid	STIC HOLY HOUR day of each month orning mass.
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION — Saturday 4:00 p.m 4:45 p.m. By appointment any time. PARISH REGISTRATION — All parishioners especially those who live outside our parish boundaries are expected to complete a Parish Registration form and use Sunday Offertory Envelopes. This will greatly assist the Parish Team when parishioners request sacraments, funerals or letters of reference.			
N.B. — When parishioners move you are asked to notify the parish office. INFANT BAPTISMS — It is highly recommended that parents contact the parish office at least two months in advance of			
the birth of their child. Parents are obliged to participate in our baptismal preparation program. SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE — The Archdiocese of Toronto requires that you contact your parish priest at least one year			
in advance of the planned date of your wedding and that you participate in a marriage preparation course. PARISH HOME CATECHISM PROGRAM — Children attending public, private or alternative school are required to			
participate in this program from grade 1 - 7 in order to prepare to receive the sacraments.			
VISITATION OF THE SICK — Please notify the Rectory when a member of your family is in the hospital. BULLETIN DEADLINE — Monday 9:00 a.m. in writing or by e-mail.			
Pastoral Council Finance Council	Fr. Francisco Fernandez Brian McMonagle		905-668-3676 905-668-8993
Christian Initiation of Adults - RCIA Baptism First Reconciliation & First Eucharist Preparation Confirmation Preparation Parish Home Catechism Program	Christine Hannon Fr. Francisco or Fr. Michael Susan Douglas Susan Douglas Cathy Dykeman		905-444-9913 905-668-3676 905-668-3676 905-668-3676 905-668-0724
Altar Servers Auxiliary Ministers of Communion Choir Feed the Hungry Home Communion Lay Pastoral Visitation Lectors Liturgy of the Word with Children (JK-Gr.2) Sun. 9:00 a.m. Mass Ministers of Consolation Parish Prayer Group Ushers	Brendon Orian Fred Shady Kevin Dashney Paula Campbell Clark Weddell Iris McNulty Deidre Newman Phyllis Pereira Anne Marie Yaraskavitch Klara Bari Sharon Weslake		905-668-3676 905-668-1081 905-432-1173 905-668-2293 905-434-8121 905-668-3218 905-665-6360 905-665-5917 905-666-3860 905-668-9579 905-668-4817
Catholic Women's League Development & Peace (CCODP) Knights of Columbus #4895 St. Vincent de Paul Society - Help Line	Lynne Childerhouse Estela Rios Bryan Childerhouse		905-431-6582 905-430-7753 416-508-9877 905-430-6734
Catholic Cemeteries Catholic Family Services Rose of Durham (Young Parent Support Services)	Oshawa 905-725-3513 1-800-241-3534	Ajax or	905-668-8912 905-428-1984 905-432-3622
St. John the Evangelist School905-668-40111103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3St. Luke the Evangelist School905-665-582855 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9Durham Catholic District School Board	St. Marguerite d'Youville Sch 250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N All Saints Catholic Secondar 3001 Country Lane, Whitby L 905-576-6150 ww	N 6B1 ' y School	905-666-9301 905-666-7753

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we are celebrating Life Chain Sunday. It is a very important one once a year event which helps us to be conscious of the gift of life. Our very life is a gift from God who has created us to experience His mercy and to inherit eternal life. We should promote and defend life from the moment of conception through to natural death. We are called to defend the beauty of life in all its stages. We should protect the unborn and make sure that they receive a home and a place of love to come into this world. Even people with special needs are precious and are a gift to us. We need to take care of them and see in them God's presence. We need to take care of our elderly, especially the most vulnerable. Remember how much they have done for us and even if we are busy with our own lives, we should be grateful to them, visit them and care for them. We should make sure that they live in an appropriate place in which they are accompanied and well taken care of. We should avoid the thought of finishing their lives when we see them suffering and we think that they have a poor quality of life. Suffering lived with Christ is precious and it helps everybody around value the most important things in life. Let us visit our sick, elderly and lonely people so that they may feel that they are comforted. Care for the poor and marginalized by donating money and gift cards to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. If you know of someone that you would like Fr. Mike or myself to visit, let us know by calling the parish office. I invite you to come this Sunday at 2 pm to the corner of Dundas St. West and Cochrane Street, to defend life and to be witnesses of the amazing gift of life. Let us promote and protect life every day of our lives.

Pope Francis Homily, 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

This Sunday's liturgy offers us the parable of the tenants to whom a landowner lends the vineyard which he has planted, and then goes away (cf. Mt 21:33-43). This is how the loyalty of these tenants is tested: the vineyard is entrusted to them, they are to tend it, make it bear fruit and deliver its harvest to the owner. When the time comes to harvest the grapes, the landlord sends his servants to pick the fruit. However, the vineyard tenants assume a possessive attitude. They do not consider themselves to be simple supervisors, but rather landowners, and they refuse to hand over the harvest. They mistreat the servants, to the point of killing them. The landowner is patient with them. He sends more servants, larger in number than the previous ones, but the result is the same. In the end, he patiently decides to send his own son. But those tenants, prisoners to their own possessive behaviour, also kill the son, reasoning that, in this way, they would have the inheritance.

This narrative allegorically illustrates the reproaches of the prophets in the story of Israel. It is a history that belongs to us. It is about the Covenant which God wished to establish with mankind and in which he also called us to participate. Like any other love story, this story of the Covenant has its positive moments too, but it is also marked by betrayal and rejection. In order to make us understand how God the Father responds to the rejection of his love and his proposal of an alliance, the Gospel passage puts a question on the lips of the owner of the vineyard: "When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" (v. 40). This question emphasizes that God's disappointment at the wicked behaviour of mankind is not the last word! This is the great novelty of Christianity: a God who, even though disappointed by our mistakes and our sins, does not fail to keep his Word, does not

give up and, most of all, does not seek vengeance!

My brothers and sisters, God does not avenge himself. God loves, he does not avenge himself. He waits for us to forgive us, to embrace us. Through the "rejected stones" — and Christ is the first stone that the builders rejected — through situations of weakness and sin, God continues to circulate "the new wine" of his vineyard, namely <u>mercy</u>. This is the new wine of the Lord's vineyard: mercy. There is only one obstacle to the tenacious and tender will of God: our arrogance and our conceit which, at times also becomes violence! Faced with these attitudes where no fruit is produced, the Word of God retains all its power to reprimand and reproach: "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing the fruits of it" (v. 43).

The urgency of replying with good fruits to the call of the Lord, who asks us to become his vineyard, helps us understand what is new and original about the Christian faith. It is not so much the sum of precepts and moral norms but rather, it is first and foremost a proposal of love which God makes through Jesus and continues to make with mankind. It is an invitation to enter into this love story, by becoming a lively and open vine, rich in fruits and hope for everyone. A closed vineyard can become wild and produce wild grapes. We are called to leave this vineyard to put ourselves at the service of our brothers and sisters who are not with us, in order to shake each other and encourage each other, to remind ourselves that we must be the Lord's vineyard in every environment, even the more distant and challenging ones.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us invoke the intercession of the Most Holy Mary, so that she may help us to be everywhere, in particular in the peripheries of society, the vineyard that the Lord planted for the good of all and to bring the new wine of the Lord's mercy.

(October 8, 2017).

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor Fr. Mike Holmes, Associate Pastor

LIFE CHAIN SUNDAY TODAY! OCTOBER 4, 2020 2pm to 3pm

Please join us to silently and prayerfully intercede to the Lord to end abortion and heal our nation, to partner our love and protection with God for local Preborn and to witness for the millions lost in Canada through abortion. Below are confirmed locations in Durham Region and their times to date: St John the Evangelist – Dundas & Cochrane Streets

PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT THERE ARE <u>NO MILK BAGS</u> BEING COLLECTED, <u>OR NON-PERISHABLE</u> <u>FOOD</u> AT THIS TIME DURING THE COVID RESTRICTIONS. THANK YOU!

LECTIO DIVINA IS EACH TUESDAY EVENING IN THE PARISH CENTRE (LIMITED) OR ON ZOOM. CALL THE PARISH OFFICE FOR THE CODE. WE READY AND MEDITATE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS AND GOSPEL. Masses For The Week

Sat. Oct 3 - 5:00pm

+Werner Kuenzle req. by Jenny & Heidi Kuenzle

Mon Oct 5 -8:20am

Intentions of Loretta & Sam Traynor reg. by The LaBarre, Demoe & Webb Famlies

Tues Oct 6 – 8:20am

+Michael Holmes Sr. req. by Lay Pastoral Visitation Group

Wed. Oct 7 - 7:00pm

+Rosario Cannella req. by Giuseppina Cannella & Family +Alphons Kersten req. by The Rail Family

Thur. Oct 8 - 8:20am

Int. for John Deehan req. by His Family

Fri. Oct 9 – 8:20am

+Arturo Ciceri req. by The Siciliano Family

Sat. Oct 10 – 5:00pm

+Joseph McTeague req. by Jim & Mary McTeague

Attention High School Students!!! Volunteer Community Service hours can be earned if you assist the parish with leaf raking on the parish centre grounds over the autumn months. Please contact troybay5@gmail.com

Rescheduled Celebrations of the Sacraments

We have been given permission to reschedule First Eucharist and Confirmation celebrations (that were postponed in the spring) for children who were registered in our programs during the 2019-20 school year. For more information please email Susan Douglas at <u>sdouglas.lpa@gmail.com</u>.

First Eucharist

Confirmation

These Masses will be taking place on selected Sundays over the next few months and we have notified all parents of this. These Masses will be taking place on selected Thursday evenings (and one Sunday) over the next few months and we have notified all parents of this.

CWL INITIATIVE TO FIGHT FOR OUR LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENTS

COVID-19 exposed the deficiencies that exist in our Long-Term Care homes. Your CWL asks you to bring your pen on October 17/18 to have your voices heard.

We'll have further announcements each weekend leading up to the weekend of October 17/18.

SL ShareLife

CAMPAIGN COLLECTION TO DATE \$117,261 GOAL \$145,000

ShareLife: Living the Gospel locally and around the world

One of the key messages Jesus left us is to "love one another as I have loved you." Similarly, one of the core components of our archdiocesan Pastoral Plan is "Catholic Outreach in Justice and Love." One way we carry out this outreach and express love for neighbour is through our annual ShareLife appeal. Our generosity toward ShareLife agencies is one of the ways we can help transform the lives of the marginalized in our society. Thank you for your support of ShareLife!

"Last year, your generosity to ShareLife made a difference in the lives of over 140,000 people locally and countless more around the world. Thank you for helping so many people experience God's love and compassion." – *Cardinal Thomas Collins*

Next weekend is ShareLife Sunday. From now through November 8, you can double the impact of your donation. A generous donor is matching gifts up to \$500,000. Please give during the special collection or anytime using the ShareLife envelopes in the pews. You can also give securely online at sharelife.org.

Thank you to those who have contributed. If you have not yet done so, I invite you to reflect on your ability to make a sacrificial gift to help those in need.

Parishioners can contribute to ShareLife through preauthorized giving. Please consider a monthly contribution to ShareLife using PAG. Refer to the package received from Cardinal Collins for further information.

Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus, St John the Evangelist Council, meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month from Sept to June and newsletters are available for those members <u>without</u> email at the back of the church in the Knights folder the weekend prior to our meeting. Next Meeting is Wednesday Oct 7th, 2020 at 8PM on Zoom(details to follow by member email) and at the Columbus Club Hall 133 Brock St North(Based on current Ontario Pandemic safety procedures in place). For further information assisting the St John's community and becoming a Knight through our online virtual application and exemplification process taking less than an hour, contact Grand Knight Bryan Childerhouse bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com 416-508-9877

