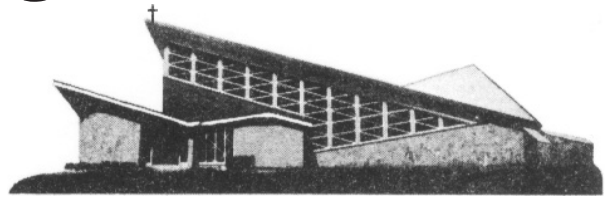


# St. John the Evangelist Church

903 Giffard Street, Whitby, Ontario L1N 2S3  
 Rectory Office: Ph: **905-668-3676** Fax: 905-668-9109  
 email: [sje.whitby@sympatico.ca](mailto:sje.whitby@sympatico.ca)  
 website: [www.stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/](http://www.stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/)



## Pastoral Team

Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles	Pastor
Rev. Michael Holmes	Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Raymond Del Castilho	Permanent Deacon
Miss Susan Douglas	Lay Pastoral Asst.
Mrs. Vicki Morgan	Secretary
Mrs. Cathy Dykeman	Parish Home Catechism
Mr. Brendon Orian	Youth Ministry

## Support Staff

Mr. Troy Sabao	Caretaker
Mr. Kevin Dashney	Director of Music
Mrs. Sue McGee	Bookkeeper
Mrs. Gail Stewart	Cook/Housekeeper

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday  
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon  
 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Evening Reception  
 Tues., Wed.  
 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

<b>SUNDAY LITURGY</b> —	Saturday	5:00 p.m.
	Sunday	9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
<b>SPANISH MASS</b> —	Sunday	2:00 p.m.
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b> —	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday	8:20 a.m.
	Wednesday (Rosary at 6:30 p.m.)	7:00 p.m. (OLPH Devotions)

## **EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR**

On first Friday of each month following morning 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	Fr. Francisco Fernandez	905-668-3676
Finance Council	Brian McMonagle	905-668-8993

Christian Initiation of Adults - RCIA	Christine Hannon	905-444-9913
Baptism	Fr. Francisco or Fr. Michael	905-668-3676
First Reconciliation & First Eucharist Preparation	Susan Douglas	905-668-3676
Confirmation Preparation	Susan Douglas	905-668-3676
Parish Home Catechism Program	Cathy Dykeman	905-668-0724

Altar Servers	Brendon Orian	905-668-3676
Auxiliary Ministers of Communion	Fred Shady	905-668-1081
Choir	Kevin Dashney	905-432-1173
Feed the Hungry	Paula Campbell	905-668-2293
Home Communion	Clark Weddell	905-434-8121
Lay Pastoral Visitation	Iris McNulty	905-668-3218
Lectors	Deidre Newman	905-665-6360
Liturgy of the Word with Children (JK-Gr.2) Sun. 9:00 a.m. Mass	Phyllis Pereira	905-665-5917
Ministers of Consolation	Anne Marie Yaraskavitch	905-666-3860
Parish Prayer Group	Klara Bari	905-668-9579
Ushers	Sharon Weslake	905-668-4817

Catholic Women's League	Lynne Childerhouse	905-431-6582
Development & Peace (CCODP)	Estela Rios	905-430-7753
Knights of Columbus #4895	Bryan Childerhouse	416-508-9877
St. Vincent de Paul Society - Help Line		905-430-6734

Catholic Cemeteries			905-668-8912
Catholic Family Services	Oshawa 905-725-3513	Ajax	905-428-1984
Rose of Durham (Young Parent Support Services)	1-800-241-3534	or	905-432-3622

<b>St. John the Evangelist School</b>	905-668-4011	<b>St. Marguerite d'Youville School</b>	905-666-9301
1103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3		250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N 6B1	
<b>St. Luke the Evangelist School</b>	905-665-5828	<b>All Saints Catholic Secondary School</b>	905-666-7753
55 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9		3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1	
<b>Durham Catholic District School Board</b>		905-576-6150	<a href="http://www.dcdsb.ca">www.dcdsb.ca</a>

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Peace to all of you!

As we begin the second week of Advent, we are introduced to the important figure of John the Baptist. He is the voice, the messenger who calls us to prepare for the coming of the Lord. He encourages us to be open for a renewal, a transformation from the Lord. How do we prepare our hearts for the Lord? The valleys of our hearts are supposed to be lifted up. It means that we need to put our weaknesses and shortcomings in the hands of the Lord so that He may lift us up. We all have the temptation to get discouraged when we realize our failures and sins and it is difficult to experience God's mercy. The Lord is calling us to look for the Lord in those moments and we will find His mercy and compassion. Our hearts find also the Lord when our mountains and hills are made low. It means that with God's help, we need to lower our pride and selfishness. We all have a plan and idea of how our lives and the lives of other people should be. When our expectations are not met, it is easy to get frustrated and annoyed. The Lord invites us to put our expectations and ideals in his hands so that He may help us to accept our daily events. Let us in this hopeful season allow the Lord to meet us so that He can renew our hearts with his amazing mercy!

### Pope Francis Homily, Second Sunday of Advent

Last Sunday we began Advent with the call to be vigilant; today, the Second Sunday of this season of preparation for Christmas, the liturgy indicates to us its proper content: it is a time to recognize the *shortcomings* in our life, to *smooth out the roughness* of pride and to make room for Jesus who comes.

The Prophet Isaiah addresses the people, proclaiming the end of the Exile in Babylon and the return to Jerusalem. He prophesies: "A voice cries: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord... Every valley shall be lifted up'" (40:3-4). The valleys to be lifted up represent all the shortcomings of our behaviour before God, all our sins of omission. One shortcoming in our life could be the fact that we do not pray or that we pray little. Advent is thus a favourable time to pray with greater intensity, to reserve to the spiritual life the important place it deserves. Another shortcoming could be a lack of charity for our neighbour, above all toward people most in need of help, not only material, but also spiritual. We are called to be more attentive, closer, to the needs of others. Like John the Baptist, in this way we can open the ways of hope in the desert of the barren hearts of many people.

"Every mountain and hill shall be made low" (cf. v. 4), Isaiah again exhorts. The mountains and hills that must be made low are pride, arrogance, insolence. Where there is pride, where there is insolence, where there is arrogance, the Lord cannot enter because that heart is full of pride, of insolence, of arrogance. For this reason, we must allay this pride. We must take on attitudes of meekness and humility, without reproach, to listen, to speak with meekness and thus to prepare for the coming of our Saviour, He who is meek and humble of heart (cf. Mt 11:29). Then we are asked to eliminate all obstacles that we set against our union with the Lord: "the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed" — says Isaiah — "and all flesh shall see it together" (40:4-5). These actions, however, must be performed with joy, because they are designed in preparation for the coming of Jesus. At home, when we await the visit of a dear person, we prepare everything with care and gladness. In the same way, we want to prepare ourselves for

the coming of the Lord: to await him each day attentively, so as to be filled by his grace when he comes.

The Saviour whom we await is able to transform our life with his grace, with the power of the Holy Spirit, with the power of love. The Holy Spirit, in fact, infuses our hearts with God's love, the inexhaustible source of purification, of new life and freedom. The Virgin Mary fully lived this reality, allowing herself to be 'baptized' by the Holy Spirit who inundated her with his power. May she, who prepared for the coming of Christ with the totality of her existence, help us to follow her example and may she guide our steps to the coming Lord.

(December 10, 2017).

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

***As much as possible, rather than signing in at the door, please register for weekend masses with a ticket from Eventbrite through our parish website. As we continue to attend mass safely, attendance is increasing. We don't want to turn people away who have not registered with a ticket.***

**Website:** <https://stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/>

***On the HOME page, go to the top left corner" REGISTER FOR MASS". Follow the directions to book your ticket and REGISTER! Print off your ticket(s) from your email or display on your phone when you arrive.***

***If you have any questions, please call Vicki 905-668-3676 or email [stjohnwhitby@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnwhitby@gmail.com)***



**Sat. Dec 5 – 5:00pm**

**+Louise Dorothy Maddock**  
*req. by The RCIA Team*

**Mon Dec 7 – 8:20am**

**+**  
*req. by*

**Tues Dec 8 – 8:20am**

**+**  
*req.*

**Wed. Dec 9 – 7:00pm**

**+Marcel LaBarre**  
*req. by Mary-Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly*

**Thur. Dec 10 – 8:20am**

**+**  
*req. by*

**Fri. Dec 11 – 8:20am**

**+**  
*req.*

**Sat. Dec 12 – 5:00pm**

**+Suzanne Gosling**  
*req. by Her Family*



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND**  
*Special envelopes are available at the back of the Church for donations to offset the cost of decorating at Christmas. Thank you!*

**Reconciliation Evening Service**

**Sunday December 13, 2020 at 7pm in the church**  
*Several priests available*

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**Archdiocese Day of Confessions in St. John's Parish**  
**Tuesday December 15, 2020**  
**9:30am – 11:30am**  
**2:00pm – 4:00pm, 7:00pm – 8:00pm**



*Families are encouraged to observe Advent by gathering around a wreath for brief Advent prayers and readings lighting the appropriate number of candles for each week.*

Traditions assign specific symbolism to each of the candles:

- 1) The Prophet's Candle, symbolizing Hope
- 2) The Bethlehem Candle, symbolizing Love & Faith
- 3) The Shepherd's Candle, symbolizing Joy
- 4) The Angel's Candle, symbolizing Peace.

**Suggested Daily Readings**

Leader: The Lord is our faith and our life.

All: May the Lord's peace be with us all.

Leader: And may his love shine in our hearts.

All: Our hope is in the coming of the Lord.

Light the candle(s). During the week, relight whenever the family gathers together.

*Scripture Reading*

Leader: Let us pray that our faith may be strengthened for the coming of the Lord.

All: Amen

Light the two candles. During the week, relight whenever the family gathers together.

2<sup>nd</sup> Week – Two purple candles are lit.

Suggested Scripture Readings:

Sunday Romans 15: 4-13

Monday Psalms 43: 3-6

Tuesday Psalms 27: 1-4

Wednesday Psalms 119: 105-106

Thursday John 12: 35-36

Friday Ephesians 5: 6-14

Saturday 1 Peter 2: 5-9

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

**IMPORTANT!!**

**EVENTBRITE TICKETS ARE REQUIRED**

**NO WALK IN FOR THESE MASSES**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2020**

**5PM, 8PM, 11PM**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2020**

**9AM, 11AM, 2PM SPANISH**

**CHANGES FOR OFFICE HOURS**

During the month of December, while Durham is in the "red zone", the office hours will be Monday & Friday 9am to 5pm. Wednesday 9am to 8pm. Tuesday is by appointment only. Thursday closed. Closed noon to 1pm for lunch.

***Please make appointments as much as possible or call ahead. Thank you for your consideration.***

**Gift Giving to our Migrant Workers**

Envelopes are available on the back counter, to make cash, cheque or gift card donations to the Migrants Workers in our parish area for their Christmas in lieu of the annual Christmas dinner this year. Your cash or cheques will be used to purchase gift cards for them. Thank you!



Office Hours Christmas to New Year

The parish office will close at noon on Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> through to Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. It will be open December 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>. The office will also close at noon on Thursday December 31<sup>st</sup> and reopen at 9am on Monday, January 4, 2021.

**Mass Schedule for Octave of Christmas**

Sat Dec 26	9am Feast of St. Stephen
Sat Dec 26	5pm Vigil of The Holy Family
Sun Dec 27	9am, 11am 2pm Solemnity of the Holy Family
Mon Dec 28	9am Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Tues Dec 29	8:20am Fifth Octave Day
Wed Dec 30	7:00pm Sixth Octave Day
Thur Dec 31	5pm Vigil of Mary, Mother of God
Fri Jan 1	9am, 11am, 2pm Solemnity Mary, Mother of God

**2021 Offertory Envelopes will be available this weekend from the parish centre main room. Alternatively, call the office to have your box set aside for pickup. PLEASE CALL AHEAD!**

**2021 St. John Parish Catholic Calendars are now available for pickup in the foyer, provided in courtesy from WC Town Funeral Home.**

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