

St. John the Evangelist Church

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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	Secretar
Mrs. Cathy Dykeman	Parish Home Catechism
Mr. Brendon Orian	Youth Ministry

Support Staff

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



**Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.**

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



Peace to all of you!

I would like to wish all a Happy and blessed New Year! This year has certainly been full of struggles and challenges, but also has been full of blessings and graces from God. We need to look at this new year with hope because God is our Father and He has in store for us wonderful plans of life and peace in the midst of the storms that we are going through. We need to keep our eyes focused on Christ, the One who is near to us to console us and give us fullness of peace. This Sunday, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. We celebrate the manifestation of the glory and love of God to all peoples. The Magi, who represent all peoples of every nation and race, came from the East to recognize in the child Jesus the Savior and king of the world. They saw a star that guided them to Jesus. We need to be guided by God's love in our lives to recognize that in Him we can find comfort and refuge in our lives. They saw the Child Jesus and they were full of joy and they worshipped him offering him gold, incense and myrrh. We are all invited to recognize in Jesus our God, our King and the One who gives His life for us. If we taste and experience His goodness and mercy, our lives are full of joy and gratitude. May the Lord help us to wonder and marvel at the amazing manifestation God's love for us in the midst of our struggles and difficulties. If we are focused on his gratuitous love, we can go through any problem at peace and unharmed. Let us be attached to the Lord at this time and connected with each other!

Pope Francis Homily, Epiphany of the Lord

On Christmas Eve we meditated on the hastening of several shepherds of the people of Israel to the grotto of Bethlehem; today, the Solemnity of the Epiphany, we remember the arrival of the Magi, who came from the Orient to adore the new-born King of the Jews and Universal Saviour and to offer Him symbolic gifts. With their act of adoration, the Magi bear witness that Jesus has come to earth to save not one people alone but all

peoples. Therefore, on today's feast our gaze broadens to the horizons of the whole world in order to celebrate the "manifestation" of the Lord to all peoples, which is the manifestation of the love and universal salvation of God. He does not reserve his love to the privileged few, but offers it to all.

As the Creator and Father is of all people, so the Saviour wants to be for all people. That is why we are called to always nourish great faith and hope for every person and his or her salvation: even those who seem far from the Lord are followed — or better yet "chased" — by his passionate love, by his faithful and also humble love. For God's love is humble, very humble!

The Gospel account of the Magi describes their journey from the East as a journey of the spirit, as a journey toward the encounter with Christ. They are attentive to signs that indicate his presence; they are tireless in facing the trials of the search; they are courageous in deducing the implications for life that derive from encounter with the Lord. This is life: Christian life is a journey, but being attentive, tireless and courageous. A Christian journeys like this. Journey attentively, tirelessly, courageously. The experience of the Magi evokes the journey of every man and woman towards Christ. As for the Magi, so for us, to seek God means to journey — and as I said: attentive, tireless and courageous — focused on the sky and discerning in the visible sign of the star the invisible God who speaks to our hearts. The star that is able to lead every man to Jesus is the Word of God, the Word that is in the Bible, in the Gospels. The Word of God is the light that guides our journey, nourishes our faith and regenerates it. It is the Word of God that continually renews our hearts and our communities. Therefore, let us not forget to read it and meditate upon it every day, so that it may become for each like a flame that we bear inside us to illuminate our steps, as well as those of others who journey beside us, who are perhaps struggling to find the path to Christ. Always with the Word of God! The Word of God carried in your hand: a little Gospel in your pocket, purse, always to be read. Do not forget this: always with me, the Word of God!

(January 6, 2015).

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Church Hours – Private Prayer during lockdown
Sundays 11am – 1pm, 3pm – 5pm

Weekdays 10am – 12noon, 2pm – 4pm

At this time, only 10 people are permitted in the church at a time. You must wear a mask and leave a post-it note on the pew where you sat, in order for proper sanitizing to take place.

Join Us for live stream mass on
[facebook.com/stjohnwhitby](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnwhitby) every Sunday at 10am in
English, 2pm in Spanish.
Weekdays Monday through Friday at 9am,
followed by the Rosary

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 without email at the back of the church, the weekend prior to our meeting. Next Meeting is Wednesday Jan 6, 2021 at 8PM on Zoom(details to follow by member email) 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 or call 416-508-9877

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if
You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Candle Prayer Intentions

Father Francisco will gladly light a candle with your requested prayer intention. The 5-day candles are \$5.00 per candle and the 15-hour votives are \$2.00 per candle. The Sanctuary candle is \$10. Please drop off your candle donation(s), with an enclosed note for your prayer intention, and the specific candle stand you wish to light a candle from, and Father Francisco will gladly light the candle and pray with your intention.



Masses For The Week

Sat. Jan 2 – 5:00pm

+Shirley Barrett
req. by Her Family

Mon Jan 4 –9:00am

Intention for Natasha Donaldson
req. by Her grandmother

Tues Jan 5 – 9:00am

+
req.

Wed. Jan 6 – 9:00am

+Paola Princiotta

req. by Tony & Rosa Cannella & Family

+Denise Akey

req. by The Baptism Preparation Team

Thur. Jan 7 – 9:00am

+Josephine Lele

req. by John & Lucy McManus

Fri. Jan 8 – 9:00am

+Joan Baird Demoe & Deceased Members of the
Demoe Family

req. Mary Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly

Sat. Jan 9 – 5:00pm

+Sam Saturno

req. by Tony & Rosa Cannella & Family

Tabernacle Candle Jan 3 – 9, 2021 Intention for Gerard & Gaby Families

Mass Intentions

There are many openings for mass intentions in 2021. Masses are \$20. Please call the office ahead to make arrangements for mass intention requests.

**Lectio Divina will change to Tuesdays on
January 12th at 7pm on Zoom!**

We reflect on the Sunday Gospel and readings.

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;
The Lord life up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.

Prayer for the Immaculate Queen of Peace

Most holy and immaculate Virgin, Mother of Jesus and our loving Mother, being his Mother, you shared in his universal kingship. The prophets and angels proclaimed him King of peace. With loving fervor in our hearts we salute and honor you as Queen of peace.

We pray that your intercession may protect us and all people from hatred and discord, and direct our hearts into the ways of peace and justice which your Son taught and exemplified. We ask your maternal care for our Holy Father who works to reconcile the nations in peace. We seek your guidance for our Leaders in government and other leaders as they strive for world peace.

Glorious Queen of peace, grant us peace in our hearts, harmony in our families and concord throughout the world. Immaculate Mother, as patroness of our beloved country, watch over us and protect us with your motherly love. Amen.

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