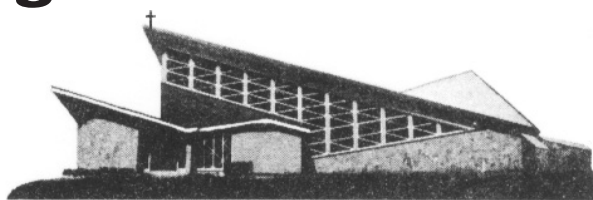


St. John the Evangelist Church

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



Pastoral Team

Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles 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 Sabaot Caretaker
 Mr. Kevin Dashney Director of Music
 Mrs. Sue McGee Bookkeeper
 Mrs. Gail Stewart Cook/Housekeeper

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon & Fri - Closed Thursday
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Evening Reception
 Wed.
 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY LITURGY — Saturday 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
SPANISH MASS — Sunday 2:00 p.m.
WEEKDAY MASSES — 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	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	905-706-1126

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

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

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Peace to all of you!



This Sunday we are finishing the Christmas season with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Despite the lockdown, I hope you have had a blessed and restful Christmas. It is true that perhaps we have been meeting only with our immediate family and it has been tough not to meet with our extended family and friends. However, I am sure that we all have experienced

the immense gift of God's love for us. This Christmas has been quiet, solemn and much deeper. We all have been in dire need to experience how God is so close to us and wants to share our struggles in order that in Him we can find life. This feast of the Baptism of the Lord proclaims that Jesus Christ has come with the mission to die for us to take away our sins and to rise from the dead to give us new life. This is expressed in the meaning of the sign of baptism. Jesus Christ is immersed into the waters of the River Jordan to symbolize that He enters death to destroy our sins. He comes out of the waters to mean that He raises from the dead to restore us to new life. If in this time, we are having days that we find difficult to be isolated, we feel lonely and we find it difficult to cope with the everyday life; we can give to the Lord, all of these issues and struggles. He is going to help us and provide us with His peace and consolation. Let us stay attached to Him and fix our eyes in the One who can sustain our lives with his mercy! I keep praying for all you. Let us keep connected with each other. I encourage you to watch our masses online with [facebook.com/stjohnwhitby](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnwhitby) on Saturdays at 5 pm, Sundays at 10 am and weekdays at 9 am followed by the Rosary. Come and pour your hearts to Jesus at the Church on Sundays from 11 am to 1 pm and 3 pm to 5 pm and weekdays from 10 am to 4 pm. If you need anything, please call the office at 905-668-3676. We are here to help you. God bless you all!

Pope Francis Homily, Baptism of the Lord

Today's celebration of the Baptism of the Lord concludes the Christmas Season and invites us to think about our baptism. Jesus wished to receive the baptism that John the Baptist preached and administered in the Jordan. It was a baptism of repentance: those who approached expressed the wish to be purified of sins and, with the help of God, they committed to begin a new life.

Thus, we understand the great *humility of Jesus*, the One who had no sin, in joining the queue of the penitents, mingling among them to be baptized in the waters of the river. How humble Jesus is! And in so doing, he manifested what we celebrated at Christmas: Jesus' willingness to immerse himself in the river of humanity, to take upon himself the failings and weaknesses of men and women, to share their wish for liberation and the triumph over all that distances one from God and renders one a stranger to brothers and sisters. As in Bethlehem, even along the banks of the Jordan, God keeps his promise to take upon himself the destiny of the human being, and Jesus is the tangible and definitive sign of it. He took all of us upon his shoulders; he carries all of us, in life, in our days.

Today's Gospel passage emphasizes that when Jesus "came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove" (Mk 1:10). The *Holy Spirit*, who had worked from the beginning of creation and had led Moses and the people in the desert, now descends in fullness upon Jesus to give him the power to accomplish his mission in the world. The Spirit is the creator of Jesus' baptism and also of our baptism. He opens the eyes of our hearts to the truth, to the whole truth. He propels our life along the path of charity. He is the gift that the Father has given to each one of us on the day of our baptism. He, the Spirit, transmits the tenderness of divine forgiveness to us. And it is again he, the Holy Spirit, who makes the revelatory Word of the Father resonate: "You are my Son" (cf. v. 11).

The celebration of Jesus' baptism invites every Christian to *remember his or her own baptism*. I cannot ask you whether you remember the day of your baptism, because most of you were infants, like me; we were baptized as infants. But I ask you another question: do you know the date of your baptism? Do you know what day you were baptized? Each one think about it. And if you do not know the date or have forgotten it, upon returning home, ask your mom, grandma, uncle, aunt, grandpa, godfather, godmother: what is the date? We must always keep that date in our memory, because it is a date of celebration; it is the date of our initial sanctification; it is the date on which the Father gave us the Holy Spirit who encourages us to walk; it is the date of the great forgiveness. Do not forget: what is the date of my baptism? Let us invoke the maternal protection of Mary Most Holy, that all Christians can understand ever better the gift of baptism and commit to living it with

(January 7, 2018).

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Modified Instructions for Confirmation Registration

Due to the current lockdown, we will be modifying the registration process for Confirmation. We can no longer use the church for an in-person meeting, so we are asking parents to drop off items for registration at our parish office. Our office is currently closed, but we ask that you drop off in the mail slot (outside the front door of our office) a sealed envelope clearly marked 'Confirmation Registration', which is to include the following three items:

- **completed Confirmation registration form (this was included in the package that was sent home with your child in December from his/her school)**
- **photocopy of your child's Baptismal certificate**
- **payment of \$40 (cash or cheque made out to St. John the Evangelist Church)**

We ask that you please submit these items before **Tuesday, January 19** if you would like to register your child for the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. We will still be having an **Information Meeting on Tuesday, January 19 at 7:00 pm**, but this will be done virtually (more information will be provided).

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

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.

CWL

January is membership month - time to renew or join the Catholic Women's League. Due to the pandemic, please provide your complete address, telephone number and email address, along with your permission to email you. Your membership information and \$25.00 membership fee should be placed in an envelope clearly marked CWL and:

Drop it in the mail slot at the rectory office.

- Place it into the collection basket (behind the last pew), if you visit the church for personal prayer, Father Francisco has given us permission to do this.
- Mail it to the church, CWL, 903 Giffard St., Whitby, ON L1N 2S3
- Drop off or mail your envelope to my home: 122 Robinson Cres., Whitby, ON L1N 6W5
- Email transfer your membership fee to my email address: Ichilderhouse@hotmail.com. Please send your contact information in a separate email. Don't forget to include permission to email you.
- If you are unable to get out, please let me know (905.431.6582); I'll arrange for a pick up.



- Sat. Jan 9 – 5:00pm**
+Sam Saturno
req. by Tony & Rosa Cannella & Family
- Mon Jan 11 – 9:00am**
+Suzanne Gosling
req. by Jane & Bill Rail & Family
- Tues Jan 12 – 9:00am**
+Michael & Helen
req. by The Catterall Family
- Wed. Jan 13 – 9:00am**
 +
req. by
- Thur. Jan 14 – 9:00am**
+Tello Siciliano
req. by His Family
- Fri. Jan 15 – 9:00am**
Int. for Bridget Carolan & Sick Family Members
req. by Pat Milburn
- Sat. Jan 16 – 5:00pm**
+Werner Kuenzle
req. by Jenny & Heidi Kuenzle

Prayer for this Sunday

**God of grace and glory,
 you call us with your voice of flame
 to be your people, faithful and courageous.
 As your beloved Son
 embraced his mission in the waters of baptism,
 inspire us with the fire of your Spirit
 to join in his transforming work.
 We ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ,
 who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.**

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