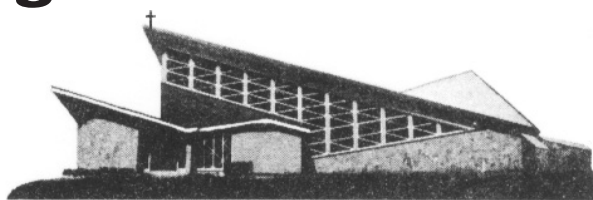


# St. John the Evangelist Church

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. 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

<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>

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Peace to all of you!

We celebrate this Sunday the sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. During this time of pandemic, we are experiencing how difficult to us is to be isolated from each other. More than ever, we all struggle to be alone and to feel lonely. In today's Gospel, there is a leper, somebody who is far away from God and the others, somebody who has sinned who asked Christ to heal him. When we fall into sin (could be impatience, anger, criticism, etc), we distance ourselves from God and from others. We feel isolated from the others. When Christ heals us and forgives us, He restores our relationship with God and with others. From then on, we do not feel lonely, we feel connected with God and with the others. This type of healing is the one that Christ wants to make in our lives: to live at peace and in communion with God and with each other.

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. In Ash Wednesday and during Lent, we are called to repent and to pray, fast and do almsgiving. It is a time of grace and renewal. Sometimes, we have misunderstood lent as a sad period in which I need to change my life and I must get out of sin. This is part of it but not the whole story. This is a time of grace in which Christ shows us His mercy and love in front of our sins and failures. As a consequence of his great compassion for us, we want to break away from sin and we are open to be transformed by his grace. Therefore, during Lent, Christ wants to transform us and renew us, to give us a new heart that can love the others. We fast, pray and do almsgiving as a sign that we want to leave sin behind and we are open to God's grace to transform us through His Holy Spirit. When we pray is to make us aware that we need God's grace in order to be renewed. When we fast, we recognize that our lives are dependant on God's providence. When we do almsgiving, we realize that our lives are connected with the good of the others and not my own good. Let us allow in this time of hope for the Lord to renew our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

### Pope Francis Homily, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel passage (cf. Mk 1:40-45) presents to us the healing of a man afflicted with leprosy, a disease that in the Old Testament was considered a grave impurity and required the leper to be separated from the community: they lived in isolation. His condition was truly pitiful, because the mind-set of the time made him feel unclean even before God, and not only before mankind. Even before God. Therefore the leper of the Gospel beseeches Jesus with these words: "If you will, you can make me clean" (v. 40).

The most shocking fact is that Jesus touches the leper, because that was absolutely prohibited by Mosaic law. Touching a leper meant being infected even inside, in the spirit, that is, becoming unclean. But in this case the

influence flows not from the leper to Jesus so as to transfer the contagion, but actually from Jesus to the leper so as to grant him purification. In this healing, apart from Jesus' compassion and mercy, we admire his audacity. He is concerned neither about the contagion nor about the rules, but is moved only by the will to free that man from the curse that burdens him.

Brothers and sisters, no disease is a cause of impurity: disease certainly involves the whole person, but in no way does it impair or impede his or her relationship with God. On the contrary, a sick person can be even more united with God. Instead, sin: that yes, is what makes us unclean! Selfishness, arrogance, entering the world of corruption: these are diseases of the heart from which we need to be purified by turning to Jesus like the leper: "If you will, you can make me clean!".

### Pope Francis. Homily on Ash Wednesday

We begin the Lenten Season by receiving ashes: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return (cf. Gen 3:19). The dust sprinkled on our heads brings us back to earth; it reminds us that we are dust and to dust we shall return. We are weak, frail and mortal. Centuries and millennia pass and we come and go; before the immensity of galaxies and space, we are nothing. We are dust in the universe. Yet we are dust loved by God. It pleased the Lord to gather that dust in his hands and to breathe into it the breath of life (cf. Gen 2:7). We are thus a dust that is precious, destined for eternal life. We are the dust of the earth, upon which God has poured out his heaven, the dust that contains his dreams. We are God's hope, his treasure and his glory.

Ashes are thus a reminder of the direction of our existence: a passage from dust to life. We are dust, earth, clay, but if we allow ourselves to be shaped by the hands of God, we become something wondrous. More often than not, though, especially at times of difficulty and loneliness, we only see our dust! But the Lord encourages us: in his eyes, our littleness is of infinite value. So let us take heart: we were born to be loved; we were born to be children of God.

Dear brothers and sisters, may we keep this in mind as we begin this Lenten season. For Lent is not a time for useless sermons, but for recognizing that our lowly ashes are loved by God. It is a time of grace, a time for letting God gaze upon us with love and in this way change our lives. We were put in this world to go from ashes to life. So let us not turn our hopes and God's dream for us into powder and ashes. Let us not grow resigned. You may ask: "How can I trust? The world is falling to pieces, fear is growing, there is so much malice all around us, society is becoming less and less Christian..." Don't you believe that God can transform our dust into glory?

## FEBRUARY 14, 2021

(February 26, 2018).

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor



**FAMILY DAY IS MONDAY  
FEBRUARY 15, 2021.** Mass is broadcast at 9am on Facebook and Youtube. The parish office and church will be closed for the holiday.

LENT BEGINS WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>  
ASH WEDNESDAY

Mass with Ashes at 8:20am and 7:00pm

### PENANCE IN LENT

Fridays in the Lenten Season are days of penance, when small sacrifices are encouraged. Abstaining from meat on Fridays has become a customary Lenten penance for Catholics. The Canadian Bishops have recommended that this penitential practice continue among the faithful, but also stated that other acts of penance may be substituted, such as special prayers or acts of service for others.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of obligatory fasting and abstinence from meat.** "The law of fasting prescribes that only one meal be taken in a day; but it does not forbid taking some nourishment in the morning and evening" (Letters & Legislation, Archdiocese of Toronto). The law of fasting binds those from 18 to 59 years of age, while the law of abstinence from meat binds Catholics who are 14 years of age and older, but every person, regardless of age, can participate in fasting and abstaining from meat if they wish, as long as one's health will allow it.

Parents and educators are reminded of their duty to introduce children gradually to the understanding and practice of penance, including fasting and abstinence, in the life of Catholics. Adult example will be the greatest influence in this matter (Guidelines for Pastoral Liturgy, 1999-2000, CCCB).

### IMPORTANT CHANGE TO NOTE!

#### Fridays in Lent

*In order to accommodate both English and Spanish Mass AND Stations of the Cross, the following changes will take place:*

*Friday Mass changes to 7:00pm in English. Stations of the Cross will begin at 6:30pm in English, and at 7:30pm, after Mass, in Spanish.*

*6:30pm Stations – English*

*7:00pm Mass bilingual Eng/Spanish*

*7:30pm Stations - Spanish*



Masses For The Week

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGES FOR MASS\*\***

**Sat. Feb 13 – 5:00pm**

**+Ted Kapuscinski**

*req. by Doreen & Family*

**Mon Feb 15 – 9:00am**

**+Samantha Goodwin**

*req. by Gail & Leanne Stewart*

**Tues Feb 16 – 9:00am**

**+Denise Fournier Akey**

*req. by Melvin, Margaret & Adrian D'Souza*

**Wed. Feb 17 – 8:20am & 7pm**

**ASH WEDNESDAY  
NO INTENTIONS**

**Thur. Feb 18 – 8:20am**

**+Ed Bryant**

*req. by Nicky & Terry Scott & Family*

**Fri. Feb 19 – 7:00pm**

**+Kwei Shu**

*req. by Sou Yen Shu*

**Sat. Feb 20 – 5:00pm**

**+Giovanni Mastragioli**

*req. by Geni & Paul D'Aurelio*

**Tabernacle Candle for the Intentions of John Morris  
Req. by Judy Morris**

Call the office to book an appointment for confession with Fr. Francisco. Confessions are heard in the Altar Servers' Room socially distanced.  
(905) 668-3676

**PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH**  
**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,**  
**Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**  
**To you God entrusted His only Son;**  
**In you Mary placed her trust;**  
**With you Christ became man.**  
**Blessed Joseph, to us too,**  
**Show yourself a father**  
**And guides us in this path of life.**  
**Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,**  
**And defend us from every evil.**

### 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.



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