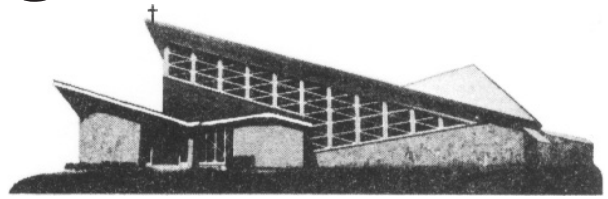


# St. John the Evangelist Church

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>

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



### From the Pastor's Desk

Peace to all of you!

We celebrate this Sunday the Fourth Sunday of Lent. It is called "Laetare Sunday" or Sunday of Joy. As we are approaching Easter, we are called to rejoice and to have hope since a new life is being offered to us. The readings for this Sunday are full of hope and they focus on God's mercy. In front of our sins and failings, God shows us His immense faithful mercy. Nobody likes to recognize that one is weak and in need of forgiveness. We rather prefer to show our good actions and we like to cut out a good image. However, the truth is that we are all weak and in need of God's mercy and compassion. We are called to be aware that God's mercy is a gift of God and not the fruit of our good works. It is amazing to realize that God has sent us Jesus Christ as our Savior so that we may have life to the fullest. It is not because of anything that we have accomplished, but out of his great love for us, He forgives us our sins and offers us everlasting life. What do we need to receive it? We need to acknowledge our failings and sins with a repentant heart, and we will receive from Him a bountiful life. I encourage you to avail of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the season of Lent so that we may experience God's mercy and we are well prepared to be transformed at Easter. On Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm, we will have our Evening of Reconciliation with 5 priests available. On Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am, 2pm to 4 pm, 7-8pm, we will have the Day of Confessions and I will be available to hear your confessions. Let us come to the Lord with our wounds and we will experience a renewal of our lives!

*Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor*

### Pope Francis Homily, Fourth Sunday of Lent

In this Fourth Sunday of Lent, called "laetare", that is, "rejoice", because this is the opening antiphon of the Eucharistic liturgy that invites us to joy: "Rejoice, Jerusalem" — thus, it is a call to joy — "Be joyful, all who were in mourning". This is how the Mass begins. What is the reason for this joy? The reason is God's great love for mankind, as today's Gospel passage tells us: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (Jn 3:16). These words, spoken by Jesus during the encounter with Nicodemus, summarize a theme that lies at the centre of the Christian message: even when the situation seems desperate, God intervenes, offering man salvation and joy. Indeed, God does not remain apart from us, but enters the history of mankind; he "meddles" in our life; he enters, in order to animate it with his grace and save it.

We are called to listen to this message, rejecting the temptation to value our own self-confidence, to think we can do without God, to claim absolute freedom from him and from his Words. When we find the courage to recognize ourselves for what we are — this takes courage! — we realize we are people called to take our weaknesses and our limitations into account. So, it may happen that we are gripped by anguish, by anxiety about the future, by fear of illness and death. This explains why many people, searching for a way out, sometimes take dangerous shortcuts such as, for example, the path of drugs or that of superstition or of disastrous magic rituals. It is good to know our limitations and our

weaknesses; we must be aware of them, however, not in order to despair, but to offer them to the Lord. And he helps us on the path of healing; he takes us by the hand, and never abandons us, never! God is with us and for this reason I "rejoice"; we "rejoice" today: "Rejoice, Jerusalem", [the antiphon] says, because God is with us. And we have the true and great hope in God the Father rich in mercy, who gave us his Son to save us, and this is our joy. We also have many sorrows, but, when we are true Christians, there is the hope that is a small joy which grows and gives us certainty. We must not become disheartened when we see our limitations, our sins, our weakness: God is near; Jesus is on the Cross to heal us. This is God's love. To look at the Cross and tell ourselves within: "God loves me". It is true, there are these limitations, these weaknesses, these sins, but he is greater than the limitations and the weaknesses and the sins. Do not forget this: God is greater than our weaknesses, than our infidelities, than our sins. And let us take the Lord by the hand; let us look to the Crucifix and go forward.

May Mary, Mother of Mercy, place in our hearts the certainty that we are loved by God. May she be close to us in the moments in which we feel alone, when we are tempted to surrender to life's difficulties. May she convey to us the sentiments of her Son Jesus, so that our Lenten journey may become an experience of forgiveness, of welcome and of charity.

(March 11, 2018).

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

***Ziad, one of our Syrian-sponsored newcomers, is looking for employment. Light-physical work, which is not customer-facing, would be ideal for Ziad. Please contact Lynne Childerhouse at 905.431.6582 or [lchilderhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:lchilderhouse@hotmail.com) if you know of any job opportunities that would suit Ziad. Thank you to the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist for their continued support of our newcomer family.***

### **A Fair and Equitable Approach to Places of Worship & Covid-19 Write your Member of Provincial Parliament Today! Visit [aplacetoworship.ca](http://aplacetoworship.ca)**

You are invited to visit [aplacetoworship.ca](http://aplacetoworship.ca) to respectfully share your concerns with your local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) and Premier Ford regarding places of worship and Covid-19 capacity restrictions.

The province has relaxed restrictions in Grey (Lockdown) regions for retailers, allowing 25% capacity while places of worship can have no more than 10 people inside, whether they seat 100 or 1,000 people. Is this a fair and equitable approach? Visit [aplacetoworship.ca](http://aplacetoworship.ca) today!

MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD...

*Euthanasia*(MAID) is approved as a 'medical service' in the *Canada Health Act*. Bill C-7 contains several amendments in attempt to expand the grounds for *Euthanasia*. One of the amendments would make it possible for those suffering from a mental illness to request the procedure. Another amendment would enable individuals to request *Euthanasia* in the form of an *Advanced Directive*. Senate has approved these two amendments and has returned them to *Parliament* for debate and approval. Both amendments, if passed, would leave the most vulnerable such as the Elderly, the Disabled and the Mentally ill at greater risk of receiving *Euthanasia*. **Please contact your local Member of Parliament by phone or by email to voice your opposition to Bill C-7, as soon as possible. Amendments will be voted on by Parliament very shortly. The MP for Whitby is Ryan Turnbull.**

Email: [ryan.turnbull@parl.gc.ca](mailto:ryan.turnbull@parl.gc.ca)

Phone: Constituency office: 905-665-8182 Ottawa: 613-992-6344

To access other Members of Parliament: [www.ourcommons.ca/members/on/search](http://www.ourcommons.ca/members/on/search)

**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 in Spanish.

6:30pm Stations – English

7:00pm Mass

7:30pm Stations - Spanish

Schedule of Stations of the Cross every Friday at 6:30pm

Mar 19 Development & Peace

Mar 26 Mary's Way of the Cross

Apr 2 Family Centered



Masses For The Week

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

Sat. Mar 13 – 5:00pm

+Shirley Barrett

req. by Her Family

Mon Mar 15 - 8:20am

+Bridget Carolan

req. by Dave & Mary Chown

Tues Mar 16 – 8:20am

+Stuart Michieli

req. by His Family

Wed. Mar 17 – 7:00pm

+Deceased Members of the Torres & Pingal Family

req. by Ligaya Torres

+Joe Balogh

req. by Pat Catterall

Int. for the Birthdays of Christian & Patrick

req. by Christiane Prior

+Bridget Carolan

req. by Mac & Chris Beynon

The 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of Betty & Don McPhail

req. by Patrick & Maire Fitzpatrick

Thur. Mar 18 – 8:20am

+Margaret & John McAteer

req. by Patrick & Maire Fitzpatrick

Fri. Mar 19 – 7:00pm

+Deceased Members of the Graham Family

req. by Gail Stewart

Sat. Mar 20 – 5:00pm

+Deceased Members of the Moniz & Rocha Families

req. by Herminia Moniz

Tabernacle Candle Intention March 14 – 20, 2021

Gerard & Family, requested by His Mother

**Lenten Evening of Reconciliation**

**Sunday March 21, 2021 @ 7pm**

In the Church, several priests available, English & Spanish

**Day of Confessions at St. John the Evangelist**

**Tuesday March 23, 2021**

9:30 am to 11:30am

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

**For other parish confession times, go to [archtoronto.org/confession](http://archtoronto.org/confession)**

**Knights of Columbus, St John the Evangelist Council,**

meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month from Sept to June on Zoom (details to follow by member email). The next meeting is Wednesday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm. 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](mailto:bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com) or call 416-508-9877

**BULLETIN ADVERTISING**

Liturgical Publications will be setting up the advertisements for our church bulletin. The advertising will begin in May 2021 and supports the bulletin service. Please support the bulletin and advertise your product or service. Call Liturgical Publications at 1-800-268-2637

**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 guide us in this path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
And defend us from every evil.

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