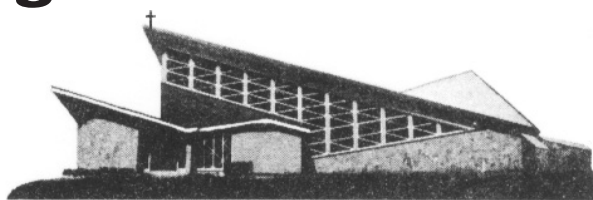


# St. John the Evangelist Church

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.

<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	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>



## From the Pastor's Desk

The Peace of the Risen Christ be with you all!



We celebrate this Sunday the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday. This solemnity was established by St. John Paul II in 2000 at the canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska. This feast invites us to be conscious and aware of the immense love of God for us. The mercy and

compassion of Christ is beyond limits and it is stronger than death itself. In the midst of our worries, anxiety and isolation because of the uncertainty of this difficult time, Christ gives us an answer through His Divine Mercy. All of us have struggles and difficulties, but right now it seems that the problems are more difficult to bear because of the current pandemic. However, Christ acts in an even stronger way, He manifests Himself to us by giving us proof of His Resurrection in our daily lives. When we may feel in despair, discouraged or in anguish, Christ allows us to touch his wounds so that we can experience in the events of our lives that He has conquered death. Now, nothing robs us of our peace, and we can be full of hope and gladness no matter what comes our way. Let us approach the Divine Mercy of Christ knowing that in Him we may find refuge and a strong anchor of hope and stability. In order to have a concrete and tangible experience of the Risen Christ in our lives, I really encourage you to come to the preaching **Word of Good News** that will take place in our Church beginning Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm and will be every Monday and Thursday at the same time in the Church through to May 27<sup>th</sup>. You do not need to register to come, just attend and experience the joy of the Resurrection in your lives!

May God continue to fill you with hope and peace during the Easter Season! Please keep praying for me!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

### Pope Francis Homily, Easter Sunday

In today's Gospel, we hear, over and over, the word "see". The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord (Jn 20:20). They tell Thomas: "We have seen the Lord" (v. 25). But the Gospel does not describe how they saw him; it does not describe the risen Jesus. It simply mentions one detail: "He showed them his hands and his side" (v. 20). It is as if the Gospel wants to tell us that that is how the disciples recognized Jesus: through his wounds. The same thing happened to Thomas. He too wanted to see "the mark of the nails in his hands" (v. 25), and after seeing, he believed (v. 27).

Despite his lack of faith, we should be grateful to Thomas, because he was not content to hear from others that Jesus was alive, or merely to see him in the flesh. He wanted to see inside,

to touch with his hand the Lord's wounds, the signs of his love. The Gospel calls Thomas Didymus (v. 24), meaning the Twin, and in this he is truly our twin brother. Because for us too, it isn't enough to know that God exists. A God who is risen but remains distant does not fill our lives; an aloof God does not attract us, however just and holy he may be. No, we too need to "see God", to touch him with our hands and to know that he is risen, and risen for us.

How can we see him? Like the disciples: through his wounds. Gazing upon those wounds, the disciples understood the depth of his love. They understood that he had forgiven them, even though some had denied him and abandoned him. To enter into Jesus' wounds is to contemplate the boundless love flowing from his heart. This is the way. It is to realize that his heart beats for me, for you, for each one of us. Dear brothers and sisters, we can consider ourselves Christians, call ourselves Christians and speak about the many beautiful values of faith, but, like the disciples, we need to see Jesus by touching his love. Only thus can we go to the heart of the faith and, like the disciples, find peace and joy (cf. vv. 19-20) beyond all doubt.

Thomas, after seeing the Lord's wounds, cried out: "My Lord and my God!" (v. 28). I would like to reflect on the adjective that Thomas repeats: my. It is a possessive adjective. When we think about it, it might seem inappropriate to use it of God. How can God be mine? How can I make the Almighty mine? The truth is, by saying my, we do not profane God, but honour his mercy. Because God wished to "become ours". As in a love story, we tell him: "You became man for me, you died and rose for me and thus you are not only God; you are my God, you are my life. In you I have found the love that I was looking for, and much more than I could ever have imagined".

How can we savour this love? How can we touch today with our hand the mercy of Jesus? Again, the Gospel offers a clue, when it stresses that the very evening of Easter (cf. v. 19), soon after rising from the dead, Jesus begins by granting the Spirit for the forgiveness of sins. To experience love, we need to begin there: to let ourselves be forgiven. To let ourselves be forgiven. I ask myself, and each one of you: do I allow myself to be forgiven? To experience that love, we need to begin there. Do I allow myself to be forgiven? "But, Father, going to confession may seem difficult...". Before God we are tempted to do what the disciples did in the Gospel: to barricade ourselves behind closed doors. They did it out of fear, yet we too can be afraid, ashamed to open our hearts and confess our sins. May the Lord grant us the grace to understand shame, to see it not as a closed door, but as the first step towards an encounter. When we feel ashamed, we should be grateful: this means that we do not accept evil, and that is good. Shame is a secret invitation of the soul that needs the Lord to overcome evil. The tragedy is when we are no longer ashamed of anything. Let us not be afraid to experience shame! Let us pass from shame to forgiveness! Do not be afraid to be ashamed! Do not be afraid.

But there is still one door that remains closed before the Lord's forgiveness, the door of resignation. Resignation is always a closed door. The disciples experienced it at Easter, when they recognized with disappointment how everything appeared to go back to what it had been before. They were still in Jerusalem, disheartened; the "Jesus chapter" of their lives seemed finished,

and after having spent so much time with him, nothing had changed, they were resigned. We too might think: "I've been a Christian for all this time, but nothing has changed in me; I keep committing the same sins". Then, in discouragement, we give up on mercy. But the Lord challenges us: "Don't you believe that my mercy is greater than your misery? Are you a backslider? Then be a backslider in asking for mercy, and we will see who comes out on top". In any event, – and anyone who is familiar with the sacrament of Reconciliation knows this – it isn't true that everything remains the way it was. Every time we are forgiven, we are reassured and encouraged, because each time we experience more love, and more embraced by the Father. And when we fall again, precisely because we are loved, we experience even greater sorrow – a beneficial sorrow that slowly detaches us from sin. Then we discover that the power of life is to receive God's forgiveness and to go forward from forgiveness to forgiveness. This is how life goes: from shame to shame, from forgiveness to forgiveness. This is the Christian life. (April 8, 2018).

**Come to me**

all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest **Mt 11, 28**



Where is your life going?

Do you suffer and don't understand why?

Do you feel lonely? Would you like to be happy?

**Courage, Jesus Christ has all answers for you!**

**Starting April 12, 2021**

**Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30 PM**

**In the Church**



**GARDENING**  
**ANGELS**

**We are seeking more 'angels' to help tend the gardens surrounding**

**the parish. The gardeners tend specific gardens during the morning hours.**

**Please call the office (905) 668-3676**

**Celebrations of Sacraments**

**First Eucharist**

These Masses will be taking place on selected Sundays over the next few months and we have notified all parents of this.

**Confirmation**

These Masses are scheduled to take place this spring (on selected Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings) and we have notified all parents of this.



**Masses For The Week**

**Sat Apr 10 –**

**+Werner Kuenzle**

*req. by Jenny & Heidi Kuenzle*

**Mon. Apr 12 – 9:00am**

**+Veronica Bernadette**

*req. by Mary Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Family*

**Tues Apr 13 – 8:20am**

**+Tereso Abaloyan**

*req. by Emerita Vallesterro & Family*

**Wed. Apr 14 – 7:00pm**

**+ Helen Silveira**

*req. by The Family*

**Thur. Apr 15 –**

**+**  
*req. by*

**Fri. Apr 16 –**

**+**  
*req. by*

**Sat Apr 17 – 5 :00pm**

**+Michael Brugel & Fr. Osmond D'Souza**

*req. by Millicent Bower & Family*



The goal for the 2021 ShareLife Campaign is \$13.8 million. Our parish goal is **\$145,500**

“Our goal can be met, but only with your help. I invite you to join today's generation of heroes by making a sacrificial gift to ShareLife. As you contemplate the blessings God has entrusted to you, please join me in giving to ShareLife to the best of your ability.”

– Cardinal Thomas Collins

**Next weekend, April 18, is ShareLife Sunday. Please give generously.**



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