# St. John the Evangelist Church

903 Giffard Street, Whitby, Ontario L1N 2S3 Rectory Office: Ph: <u>905-668-3676</u> Fax: 905-668-9109 email: stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org website: www.stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/

	•			A RECENCIÓN A DE LA CARACTERIA DE LA CAR
Pastoral Team Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles Miss Susan Douglas Mrs. Vicki Morgan Mrs. Cathy Dykeman Mr. Breandán Orian McCallister	Lay Pastoral Asst. Secretary Parish Home Catechism	Support Staff Mr. Francisco Perez Mr. Kevin Dashney Mrs. Sue McGee Mrs. Gail Stewart	Caretaker Director of Music Bookkeeper 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 Tues & Wed. 5:00 p.m 8:00 p.m.
SPANISH MASS — S WEEKDAY MASSES — M	Saturday Sunday Sunday Monday,Tuesday, Thursday & Vednesday (Rosary at 6:30			<b>EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR</b> 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** — Two Sudays per month at 4:00 p.m. 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.

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Pastoral Council Finance Council	Fr. Francisco Fernandez Brian McMonagle	905-668-3676 905-668-8993
Christian Initiation of Adults - RCIA Baptism First Reconciliation & First Eucharist Preparation Confirmation Preparation Parish Home Catechism Program	Christine Hannon Fr. Francisco Susan Douglas Susan Douglas Cathy Dykeman	905-444-9913 905-668-3676 905-668-3676 905-668-3676 905-706-1126
Altar Servers Auxiliary Ministers of Communion Choir Feed the Hungry Home Communion Lay Pastoral Visitation Lectors Liturgy of the Word with Children (JK-Gr.2) Sun. 9:00 a.m. Mass Ministers of Consolation Parish Prayer Group Ushers	Breandán Orian McCallister Fred Shady Kevin Dashney Paula Campbell Clark Weddell Iris McNulty Deidre Newman Phyllis Pereira Anne Marie Yaraskavitch Klara Bari Sharon Weslake	905-668-3676 905-668-1081 905-432-1173 905-668-2293 905-434-8121 905-668-3218 905-665-6360 905-665-5917 905-666-3860 905-668-9579 905-668-4817
Catholic Women's League Development & Peace (CCODP) Knights of Columbus #4895 St. Vincent de Paul Society - Help Line	Lynne Childerhouse Estela Rios Bryan Childerhouse	905-431-6582 905-430-7753 416-508-9877 905-430-6734
Catholic Cemeteries Catholic Family Services Rose of Durham (Young Parent Support Services)	Oshawa 905-725-3513 Ajax 1-800-241-3534 or	905-668-8912 905-428-1984 905-432-3622
St. John the Evangelist School905-668-40111103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3St. Luke the Evangelist School905-665-582855 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9Durham Catholic District School Board	St. Marguerite d'Youville School 250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N 6B1 All Saints Catholic Secondary School 3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1 905-576-6150 www.dcdsb.ca	905-666-9301 905-666-7753



#### Message from the Pastor

#### Peace to all of you!

I am glad to be back in full strength to serve you in the parish. Thanks for all your pravers and best wishes. This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The First Reading, from the book of the prophet Isaiah, presents to us a hopeful of message consolation. Even though the people of Israel are in exile because they have abandoned the Lord, He will

come to their rescue, and they will be able to experience the merciful power of God in their lives. There are times in which we feel very weak and hopeless, but the Lord is faithful and always comes to give us strength and consolation. The Second Reading, from the letter of St. Paul to Titus, gives us the assurance that God has saved us through the Death and Resurrection of Christ. In the immersion into the water and coming out of water, the Death and Resurrection of Christ is represented at Baptism. The fruit of our baptism is that He has given us His Holy Spirit so that we can carry out works of holiness. God wants to share his own divine life with us even though we do not merit it and we have not gained it with our own efforts. It is out of his sheer gratuity that He wants us to become more like Him. The Gospel, from St. Luke, gives us the account of the Baptism of Jesus. Jesus Christ has come to baptize us with fire. It means that when He is immersed in the waters, it signifies his Death on the Cross, by which he takes upon himself all our sins and destroys them. When He comes out of the water, it symbolizes His Resurrection by which He gives us new life through the Spirit. Let us reflect, ponder and be grateful for the many gifts that God has given us in our baptism. God wants to stir them up in our everyday lives so that it can have an impact in our own realities.

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

# Pope Francis' Homily on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (Jan 6, 2018)

On this Sunday after the Epiphany, we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus, and we gratefully recall our Baptism. In this context, this morning I baptized 26 infants: let us pray for them!

The Gospel presents Jesus, in the waters of the River Jordan, at the centre of a wondrous divine revelation. St Luke writes: "when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, 'Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased'" (Lk 3:21-22). In this way Jesus is consecrated and manifested by the Father as the Saviour Messiah and liberator. In this event — attested by all four Gospels — is the passing from the baptism of John the Baptist, symbolized by water, to the Baptism of Jesus "with the Holy Spirit and with fire" (Lk 3:16). Indeed, the Holy Spirit is the principal artisan in Christian Baptism: it is he who burns and destroys original sin, restoring to the baptized the beauty of divine grace; it is he who frees us from the dominion of darkness, namely sin, and transfers us to the kingdom of light, namely love, truth and peace: this is the kingdom of light. Let us think about the dignity to which Baptism elevates us! "See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and so we are" (1 Jn 3:1), the Apostle John exclaims. This splendid reality of being Children of God entails the responsibility of following Jesus, the obedient Servant, and reproduces his lineaments in our very selves: namely docility, humility, tenderness. This is not easy, especially when there is so much intolerance, arrogance, harshness around us. But with the strength we receive from the Holy Spirit it is possible!

The Holy Spirit, received for the first time on the day of our Baptism, opens our heart to the Truth, to all Truth. The Spirit impels our life on the challenging but joyful path of charity and solidarity toward our brothers and sisters. The Spirit gives us the tenderness of divine forgiveness and permeates us with the invincible power of the Father's mercy. Let us not forget that the Holy Spirit is a living and vivifying presence in those who welcome him, he prays in us and fills us with spiritual joy.

Today, the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, let us ponder the day of our Baptism. All of us were baptized, let us give thanks for this gift. I ask you a question: which of you knows the date of your Baptism? Surely not everyone. Therefore, I encourage you to find out the date, by asking, for example, your parents, your grandparents, your godparents, or going to the parish. It is very important to know it, because it is a date to be celebrated: it is the date of our rebirth as Children of God. For this reason, homework for this week: go and find out the date of your Baptism. Celebrating that day means and reaffirms our adherence to Jesus, with the commitment to live as Christians, members of the Church and of a new humanity, in which all are brothers and sisters.

May the Virgin Mary, first Disciple of her Son Jesus, help us to live our Baptism with joy and apostolic zeal, welcoming each day the gift of the Holy Spirit, which makes us Children of God.

## For those who are watching Mass online:

#### 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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# SACRAMENT PREPARATION PROGRAMS

2021 - 2022

#### FIRST EUCHARIST

# CONFIRMATION

#### \*\*UPDATE\*\*

PARENTS' MEETING will now be held ONLINE (<u>NOT</u> <u>in the Church as was originally scheduled</u>) – Susan will email parents with a link to join this meeting on **Tuesday, January 25, 2022, 7:00 pm** (Further instructions will be provided as to when you will pick up your child's workbook)

#### \*\* UPDATE\*\*

CONFIRMATION CLASSES (Feb. 5, 12 & 26, Mar. 5 & 26) will now be held ONLINE (<u>NOT in the Parish Centre</u> as was originally scheduled)

Susan will provide more information regarding the online classes in an email to parents of children registered in our program.

Masses For The Week

#### Sat Jan 8 – 5pm

+Werner Kuenzle reg. by Jenny & Heidi Kuenzle

Mon Jan 10 – 8:20am

+Brian McMonagle req. by Len & Sharon Ladouceur

Tues Jan 11 – 8:20am

+Brian McMonagle req. by Jerry & Chris Coughlin

#### Wed Jan 12 - 7:00pm

+Eloy Olmedo <u>req. by America Vasconez</u> +Mattie Lennon <u>req. by John Lennon</u> +Aundrietta Strang <u>req. by Hilda Dwyer</u> +Norma Orian <u>req. by The Orian Family</u> +Shirley Barrett <u>req. by Her Family</u>

#### Thurs Jan 13 – 8:20am

+Brian McMonagle req. by Patrick & Maire Fitzpatrick

#### Fri Jan 14 – 8:20am

+All Souls, especially those who have no one to pray for them req. by Godfrey & Jenny Cunningham

# ATTENTION ENGAGED COUPLES!

MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASSES Our next Marriage Preparation Course will be held on 6 Thursday evenings from January 20 to

February 24, 2022 at 7:00pm to 9:00pm VIA ZOOM. Call 668-3676 TODAY TO REGISTER! Fee is \$200 per couple. CWL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL \$25.00 email <u>Ichilderhouse@hotmail.com</u>

### Youth Ministry

With the new provincial guidelines, Life Teen (Gr. 9-12) and Edge (Gr 5-8) programs will be moving to online until further notice. Visit our website for the dedicated pages for Youth Ministry for more information.

# The Wednesday Prayer Group will not meet in January and will be advised by email when meetings can resume.

Parish Home Catechism Program Here is our plan for the month of January:

- PHCP Classes for January 5th, 2022 are cancelled. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 19th via ZOOM. It is uncertain how long we will be restricted from in-person learning.
- In the next week, the parish office will receive the third shipment of the Gospel Weeklies program.
  Lorraine Thomas and I will organize family packages of the student booklets as we did last year. Catechist packages will be prepared at that time as well.
- Parents/Catechists will be notified via email to pick up their Gospel Weeklies packages from the parish office beginning Monday, January 17th.
- On January 18th, a detailed email will be sent to all families and catechists regarding the procedures for accessing the lessons via ZOOM.

