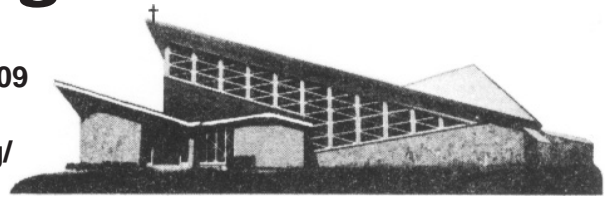


# St. John the Evangelist Church

903 Giffard Street, Whitby, Ontario L1N 2S3  
 Rectory Office: **Ph:905-668-3676 Fax: 905-668-9109**  
 email: [stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org)  
 website: [www.stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/](http://www.stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/)



## Pastoral Team

Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles Pastor  
 Miss Susan Douglas Lay Pastoral Asst.  
 Mrs. Vicki Morgan Secretary  
 Mr. Breandán Orian McCallister Youth Ministry

## Support Staff

Mr. Francisco Perez 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  
 Tues & 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** — Two Sundays 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.

Pastoral Council Finance Council	Fr. Francisco Fernandez Paul D'Aurelio	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 Lorraine Thomas	905-444-9913 905-668-3676 905-668-3676 905-668-3676 905-409-1743
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 1-800-241-3534	Ajax or 905-668-8912 905-428-1984 905-432-3622
<b>St. John the Evangelist School</b> 905-668-4011 1103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3 <b>St. Luke the Evangelist School</b> 905-665-5828 55 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9 <b>Durham Catholic District School Board</b>	<b>St. Marguerite d'Youville School</b> 250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N 6B1 <b>All Saints Catholic Secondary School</b> 3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1 905-576-6150	905-666-9301 905-666-7753 www.dcdsb.ca



### From the Pastor's Desk

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the book of the prophet Jeremiah, brings us the account of call of the prophet. At a young age, Jeremiah is called by God to be His messenger. Even though he is inexperienced, and the people are obstinate to God's voice, God chooses a prophet so that His will and His voice can be welcomed by God's people. God has chosen us in our lives for a specific mission. Although we think that we are not prepared to carry it out, it is important that we focus in the One who sends us. He will give us the graces that we need to carry out our mission. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, gives us the beautiful hymn to charity. St. Paul says that the greatest charism to which all should aspire is charity. Charity is the unconditional and faithful love of God. St. Paul gives us a presentation of the qualities of such love. It is patient, kind, not boastful, not rude, not resentful, not selfish, endures and bears all things. We must recognize that our love is not so strong, that we sometimes falter. However, we are rooted in God's love, this stature of love will happen in our daily lives. God wants to share his own divine nature with us so that we become like Him. We imitate Him when we love as He loves. What a great gift that God has called us so that our love can be like His. The Gospel, from St. Luke, gives us the account of the visit of Christ to the synagogue of Nazareth. After people were amazed at Jesus' teaching, they start to reject him. Why this change of attitude? They wanted to have Jesus at their service. Instead of being opened to be transformed by Jesus, they wanted Jesus to fulfill their own projects and ideas. Their project was to get rid of the Roman domination and to get rid of all kinds of problems. Jesus is much more than this kind of human messiah; He has come to bring Eternal Life and to deliver us from sin. Jesus reminds them of their obstinacy to receive Him and be transformed by Him. He puts the example of foreigners that welcome God's grace, but instead of creating a change of heart, they became enraged and rejected Him. It is important that we welcome Jesus as the Savior that He is and not as we wish that He will be. Even though there are things that we do not understand about Jesus, such as why God allows suffering and hardships, yet if we are open to His mercy, we can be transformed by Him. Let us open our hearts to God's grace so that our lives may be transformed!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

### **Pope Francis' Homily on the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Jan 31, 2016)**

Today's Gospel account once again, like last Sunday, brings us to the synagogue of Nazareth, the village in Galilee where Jesus was brought up in a family and was known by everyone. He, who left not long before to begin his public life, now returns and for the first time presents himself to the community, gathered in the synagogue on the Sabbath. He reads the passage of the Prophet Isaiah, who speaks of the future Messiah, and he declares at the end: "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Lk 4:21). Jesus' compatriots, who were at first astonished and admired him, now begin to look sideways, to murmur among themselves and ask: why does he, who claims to be the Lord's Consecrated, not repeat here in his homeland the wonders they say he worked in

Capernaum and in nearby villages? Thus Jesus affirms: "no prophet is acceptable in his own country", and he refers to the great prophets of the past, Elijah and Elisha, who had worked [miracles](#) in favour of the pagans in order to denounce the incredulity of their people. At this point those present are offended, rise up, indignant, and cast Jesus out and want to throw him down from the precipice. But he, with the strength of his peace, "passed through the midst of them and went away" (cf. v. 30). His time has not yet come.

This passage of Luke the Evangelist is not simply the account of an argument between compatriots, as sometimes happens even in our neighbourhoods, arising from envy and jealousy, but it highlights a temptation to which a religious man is always exposed — all of us are exposed — and from which it is important to keep his distance. What is this temptation? It is the temptation to consider religion as a human investment and, consequently, "negotiate" with God, seeking one's own interest. Instead, true religion entails accepting the revelation of a God who is Father and who cares for each of his creatures, even the smallest and most insignificant in the eyes of man. Jesus' prophetic ministry consists precisely in this: in declaring that no human condition can constitute a reason for exclusion — no human condition can constitute a reason for exclusion! — from the Father's heart, and that the only privilege in the eyes of God is that of not having privileges, of not having godparents, of being abandoned in his hands.

"Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" (Lk 4:21). The 'today', proclaimed by Christ that day, applies to every age; it echoes for us too in this Square, reminding us of the relevance and necessity of the salvation Jesus brought to humanity. God comes to meet the men and women of all times and places, in their real life situations. He also comes to meet us. It is always he who takes the first step: he comes to visit us with his mercy, to lift us up from the dust of our sins; he comes to extend a hand to us in order to enable us to return from the abyss into which our pride made us fall, and he invites us to receive the comforting truth of the Gospel and to walk on the paths of good. He always comes to find us, to look for us.

Let us return to the synagogue. Surely that day, in the synagogue of Nazareth, Mary, his Mother was also there. We can imagine her heart beating, a small foreboding of what she will suffer under the Cross, seeing Jesus, there in the synagogue, first admired, then challenged, then insulted, threatened with death. In her heart, filled with faith, she kept every thing. May she help us to convert from a god of miracles to the miracle of God, who is Jesus Christ.

### **Finance Committee Update**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, I wish to extend my thanks and best wishes to Pierre Pilon for his dedication to the Parish Finance Committee for the past 20+ years! Pierre is retiring from this ministry.

I wish to announce that Bob Koziol will join the Finance Committee. Please join me in welcoming Bob.

***Pope Francis has designated a prayer to the Holy Family in 2022***

***Prayer to the Holy Family from *Amoris Laetitia****

JANUARY 30, 2022

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love; To you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too, may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.

Amen

### Lectio Divina

Monday evenings at 7pm via zoom. Please call the office for the meeting details on how to log in.

A new bible study will be on the Seven Deadly Sins by Bishop Robert Barron on Monday February 28<sup>th</sup> to Monday April 4<sup>th</sup> from 7pm to 8:30pm through Zoom (TBA). Please register with the parish office. Fee is \$20. Book provided.



Masses For The Week

Sat Jan 29 – 5pm

+John Robinson

*req. by The Robinson Family*

Mon Jan 31 – 8:20am

+Brian McMonagle

*req. by Dave & Mary Chown*

Tues Feb 1 – 8:20am

+Brian McMonagle

*req. by John & Chris Stafford*

Wed Feb 2 – 7:00pm

+Brian McMonagle

*req. by Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. John Conference*

+Bill Gray

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

+Cliff Hoy

*req. by Christiane Prior*

Int. for Alma Naidas

*req. by Emerita Vallesterio & Family*

+Reena Rampersadsingh

*req. by Alisa & Renrick Khan & Granddaughters*

Thurs Feb 3 – 8:20am

+Eileen Moffitt

*req. by Jerry & Chris Coughlin*

Fri Feb 4 – 8:20am

+Tanya De Vega

*req. by Didi Berger*

Youth Ministry Updates:

Edge (Gr 5-8) and Life Teen (Grade 9-12) remain online. For those who are interested in joining please contact Breandán McCallister at [bmccallister@archtoronto.org](mailto:bmccallister@archtoronto.org).

Life Teen will be this Thursday (February 3rd) at 6:15pm to 7:15pm. We will be learning about Franciscan Spirituality. Edge will be on Wednesday, February 12th at 6:15pm to 7:15pm. We will be continuing our learning about the Mass.

During this time of change it is good to find a solid base. Both within the faith and a community. Edge and Life Teen are opportunity for youth and teens to get this chance to build their faith within a community of other young people. Please consider signing up for either program.

### The Synod on Synodality: Share your thoughts

Pope Francis has launched the Synod on Synodality, an ambitious two-year global process of listening to the faithful.

“Synod” comes from an ancient Greek word meaning “walking together on the road.” There have been many synods in the history of the Church, but these have traditionally been opportunities for bishops to come together to determine the path forward for the Church.

With the Synod on Synodality, Pope Francis is asking every Catholic to help discern what the Holy Spirit is telling us at this moment as the Church enters its third millennium.

The first phase of the Synod on Synodality will last through the first half of 2022 and will see the world’s faithful sharing their thoughts at a diocesan level. All those diocesan-level responses will be collected and summarized. Then the bishops of Canada will meet to discuss what they heard in their respective dioceses, followed by larger multinational meetings and, ultimately, culminating in a synod of bishops in the Vatican in 2023.

This graphic provides answers to some frequently asked questions about the Synod on Synodality.

Your participation is incredibly important for the success of the Synod on Synodality, so we kindly ask you to complete the survey below. Thank you and God bless. ([archtoronto.org/synodality](http://archtoronto.org/synodality))



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO D&P  
Lent Campaign Virtual Workshop

**This Lent, let's put people and planet first!**

**Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 11:00 AM to 2:30 PM (on Zoom)**  
All are welcome!

*“For us Christians, in order that our faith in Jesus might be expressed in action, I encourage you to respond enthusiastically to the invitation of Share Lent 2022, which is being organized by Development and Peace – Caritas Canada under the theme “People and Planet First”. This campaign is an expression of the Gospel message and of the Church’s social teaching, both of which take into consideration the integral development of the human person.”*

+ Raymond Poisson, Bishop of Saint-Jérôme and of Mont-Laurier  
President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

**Registration:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAvde6rqzqkGdIKOx8RvA9LG6wYoxEsBGC>

For more information:

Estela Rios: (905) 430-7753 [torontodevp@gmail.com](mailto:torontodevp@gmail.com)

Dean Dettloff, Animator: (416) 922-1592 ext. 226

| [dean.dettloff@devp.org](mailto:dean.dettloff@devp.org)

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