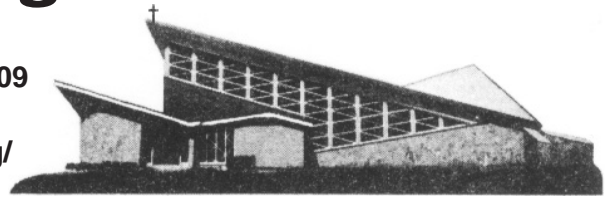


# St. John the Evangelist Church

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 905-665-3056
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 <a href="http://www.dcdsb.ca">www.dcdsb.ca</a>

# FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

## Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent. In the First Reading from the book of Deuteronomy, it presents the first historical creed of the people of Israel. When the people go to offer sacrifices to the Lord, they need to be aware that the Lord rescued them from the slavery of Egypt and brought them to the promised land. They will always be aware and grateful for the great deeds that the Lord has done for them. We also are encouraged to be grateful for the wonders that the Lord has done in our lives in spite of our sins. This time of Lent is a favorable time to be conscious of God's mercy and to be open for the great deeds that He can accomplish in our lives. The Second Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans, offers us the certainty of how important is to believe in Christ. During this time of Lent, we are called to experience the power of the Death and Resurrection of Christ. This grace is going to transform us and offers us the possibility of living a new life. The Gospel from St. Luke, presents the Temptations of Christ in the Desert. Christ went to the wilderness to be tested in order to overcome all our temptations. It is in Him that we can come out victorious in our daily struggles. The first temptation is the one of having securities. We all want to be in control, and it is hard to see that life is precarious. Christ invites us to trust in Him and find peace. The second temptation refers to being attached to possessions and money. We think that to have it is what assures our lives. Christ is the One who constantly offers and gives us life. The third temptation has to do with the sufferings and events of our lives that we find hard to accept. In front of them, it is easy to complain and to get discouraged, but Christ helps us to accept our painful events and be at peace no matter what. Let us open our hearts to the Lord so that He may transform us during this Lenten season!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

## Pope Francis' Homily on the First Sunday of Lent (March 10, 2019)

The Gospel passage for this first Sunday of Lent (cf. Lk 4:1-13) recounts the experience of the temptation of Jesus in the desert. After fasting for 40 days, Jesus is tempted three times by the devil. First, he invites Him to change stone into bread (v. 3); then, from above, he shows Him all the kingdoms of the world and the prospect of becoming a powerful and glorious messiah (vv. 5-6); lastly, he takes Him to the pinnacle of the temple of Jerusalem and invites Him to throw himself down, so as to manifest His divine power in a spectacular way (vv. 9-11). The three temptations point to three paths that the world always offers, promising great success, three paths to mislead us: greed for possession — to have, have, have —, human vainglory and the exploitation of God. These are three paths that will lead us to ruin.

The first, the path of greed for possession. This is always the devil's insidious logic He begins from the natural and legitimate need for nourishment, life, fulfillment, happiness, in order to encourage us to believe that all this is possible without God, or rather, even despite Him. But Jesus countervails, stating: "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone'" (v. 4). Recalling the long journey of the chosen people through the desert, Jesus affirms his desire to fully entrust himself to the providence of the Father, who always takes care of his children.

The second temptation: the path of human vainglory. The devil says: "If you, then, will worship me, it shall all be yours" (v. 7). One can lose all personal dignity if one allows oneself to be corrupted by the idols of money, success and power, in order to achieve one's own self-affirmation. And one tastes the euphoria of a fleeting joy. And this also leads us to be 'peacocks', to vanity, but this vanishes. For this reason Jesus responds: "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve" (v. 8).

And then the third temptation: exploiting God to one's own advantage. In response to the devil — who, citing Scripture, invites Him to seek a conspicuous miracle from God — Jesus again opposes with the firm decision to remain humble, to remain confident before the Father: "It is said, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God'" (v. 12). Thus, he rejects perhaps the most subtle temptation: that of wanting to 'pull God to our side', asking him for graces which in reality serve and will serve to satisfy our pride.

These are the paths that are set before us, with the illusion that in this way one can obtain success and happiness. But in reality, they are completely extraneous to God's mode of action; rather, in fact they distance us from God, because they are the works of Satan. Jesus, personally facing these trials, overcomes temptation three times in order to fully adhere to the Father's plan. And he reveals the remedies to us: interior life, faith in God, the certainty of his love — the certainty that God loves us, that he is Father, and with this certainty we will overcome every temptation.

But there is one thing to which I would like to draw your attention, something interesting. In responding to the tempter, Jesus does not enter a discussion, but responds to the three challenges with only the Word of God. This teaches us that one does not dialogue with the devil; one must not discuss, one only responds to him with the Word of God.

Therefore, let us benefit from Lent as a privileged time to purify ourselves, to feel God's comforting presence in our life.

May the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary, icon of faithfulness to God, sustain us in our journey, helping us to always reject evil and welcome good.

## **PRAYER FOR PEACE**

***As violence spreads across Ukraine, we pray that world leaders may focus on the good of all people by advancing peace, rather than descending further into war. May God comfort the Ukrainian people who are suffering, distressed and grieving, and may he welcome the faithful departed into his kingdom. We pray to the Lord.***

**Capacity limits and restrictions have been lifted in the church. You are welcome to join us at any mass. No tickets or sign in are required. Please continue to wear a mask and hand sanitize. We look forward to seeing you!**

MARCH 6, 2022



Masses For The Week

Sat Mar 5 – 5pm

+Teresa Smid

*req. by John & Helen Ecker*

Mon Mar 7 – 8:20am

Int for Graham & Elish Friel

*req. by Alice Deehan*

Tues Mar 8 – 8:20am

+Jaye Dagenais

*req. by Donna Modeste*

WEDNESDAY Mar 9 – 7:00pm

Int. for Chris & Patrick's Birthdays

*req. by Christiane Prior*

+Sharon Ladouceur

*req. by Mike & Judy Drake*

+Sharon Ladouceur

*req. by Jack & Betty McCabe*

+Andy Loebus

*req. by Marjorie Shields*

+Carmen Stuart de Munoz

*req. by Roxana Dell'Osso*

Thurs Mar 10 – 8:20am

+Sharon Ladouceur

*req. by Greta Demmings & Marie Alexander*

Fri Mar 11 – 7:00pm

+Deceased Members of the Harrington, Broderick & McClennan Families

*req. by Joe & Joy*

Sat Mar 12 – 5pm

+Brian McMonagle

*req. by Kathie Steffler & Linda Calder*

Tabernacle candle Intention for Gerard's birthday  
March 13-19, 2022, *req. by Mary*

### St. John Prayer Group

Mar 9 Do we listen for God's Voice?

Mar 16 Part 1 A Catholic Mission, hosted by Fr. Fitzpatrick with a teaching on Faith & Trust by Fr. Ron Rolheizer

Mar 23 Part 2 A Catholic Mission – Remembering by Fr. Anthony Grittims

Mar 30 Women of the Bible

Apr 6 A Journey to Remember, The Way of the Cross



**Schedule of Stations of the Cross begin at 6:30pm in English and 7:30pm in Spanish**

Mar 11 Fulton Sheen's Way of the Cross

Mar 18 St. Alphonsus

Mar 25 Development & Peace

Apr 1 Mary's Way of the Cross

Apr 8 Family Centered



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We also invite you to download our popular Solidarity Calendar:

<https://www.devp.org/en/campaign/people-planet-first/share-lent/solidarity-calendar/>

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For more information:

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

### **Lenten Mission at Immaculate Conception Port Perry**

***His Wounds, Our Woundedness***  
**Sat March 12, 2022**

9am Mass, 10am -12pm Meditations on Christ's wounds

Guest speaker – Robert LeBlanc

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### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter March 25-27, 2022**

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### **Looking Ahead**

**Sat Mar 26**

10am – 11am Altar Server Practice in church

**Tues Mar 29** – Day of Confession

**Sun Apr 3** – Evening of Reconciliation, several priests available


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