# St. John the Evangelist Church

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

Pastoral TeamRev. Francisco Fernandez SilesPastorMiss Susan DouglasLay Pastoral Asst.Mrs. Vicki MorganSecretaryMr. Breandán Orian McCallisterYouth Ministry	Support StaffMr. Francisco PerezCaretakerMr. Kevin DashneyDirector of MusicMrs. Sue McGeeBookkeeperMrs. Gail StewartCook/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.
	5:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. sday & Friday 8:20 a.m. at 6:30 p.m.) 7:00 p.m. (OLPH Devotions)	<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.

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 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!

This Sunday we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. Today we celebrate this Solemnity in which we are called to be immersed in the amazing compassion of Jesus Christ. The First Reading, from the Book of the Acts of Apostles, presents the life of the first Christian communities after the Resurrection of the Lord. The personal experience of the Risen Lord in their lives made them attract many people to believe in the Good News of Salvation. We also are called to witness to our faith by the way we live and those around us will be given hope and consolation during their own struggles. The Second Reading, from the Book of Revelation, shows us the vision of the Risen Christ that St. John saw during his exile. Jesus Christ is presented as the One who has conquered Death and shares this victory with all the churches. It is a great hope to be certain that Christ is close to us and ever ready to help us in time of need. It is in Him that we can place our life with confidence to find strength and consolation. The Gospel, from St. John, gives us the account of the Appearance of the Risen Lord to his disciples when they were in fear and in great distress. After the tragic event of the Death of Christ, the disciples ran away, and they felt disheartened. They were hiding and their hope was vanished. In this situation, the Risen Christ manifested Himself to them by showing them His wounds and they were given hope and joy. They were transformed by the Peace of Christ, and they were powerful witnesses of His Resurrection. Even Thomas, who was slow to believe, touched the wounds of the Risen Christ and was also transformed by the Mercy of Christ. In this Divine Mercy Sunday, we are invited to touch and experience the Mercy of Christ in our own daily lives. It is in Him that we can find the source of strength, consolation and hope. Let us open our hearts to His infinite mercy!

I want to welcome our new adult fully initiated Catholics to our parish community: Victoria, David, Damaris, Quinn, Olivia, Brooke, Godwin, Paul, Justin, and Robin. May the Lord sustain you and accompany you in this wonderful path of new life! I want to gratefully thank Christine Hannon and the RCIA team (Mac Beynon, Kathie Steffler, Minnie Chillingworth and Stacey Leadbetter) for their wonderful sharing and witness during the process. I want to thank all the parishioners for attending the Easter Triduum and I want to encourage everyone to continue attending Sunday Mass as it will help you in your lives. Finally, I want to welcome all the new parishioners to our parish community. You are most welcome to worship with us and we love to have you as members of our community.

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

#### Pope Francis' Homily on the Divine Mercy Sunday (April 28, 2019)

Today's Gospel (cf. Jn -31 20.19) tells that the Easter Day Jesus appeared to his disciples in the upper room in the evening, carrying three gifts: the peace, the joy, the Apostolic mission.

The first words He said were: "peace be with you" (v. 21). The risen one brings true peace, because through his sacrifice on the cross he has made reconciliation between God and humanity and has overcame sin and death. This is peace. His disciples had first need of this peace, because, after the capture and execution of their master, they were plunged into bewilderment and fear. Jesus came alive in their midst and, showed his wounds on his hands - Jesus wanted to keep his wounds - and in showing them his wounds on his hands, in his glorious body, he gives peace as the fruit of his victory. But that evening the apostle Thomas was not present when Jesus came. When he was informed by the other apostles of this extraordinary event, he expressed disbelief and wanted to verify for himself what they had claimed. Eight days later, the day we mark today, the apparition is repeated: Jesus comes forward to dispel the disbelief of Thomas, inviting him to touch his wounds. They are the source of peace, because they are a sign of the immense love of Jesus who defeated the forces hostile to man: sin, evil and death, He invites him to touch the wounds. It is a lesson for us, as if Jesus said to all of us: "If you're not in peace, touch my wounds".

To touch the wounds of Jesus. The wounds of Jesus are the many problems,

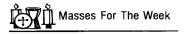
hardships, persecutions, sicknesses that many people are suffering. You're not in peace? Go, go to visit someone who is the symbol of the wound of Jesus. Touch the wound of Jesus. From those wounds comes divine mercy. Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. A Saint said that the body of Jesus crucified is like a lot of mercy, which passes through the wounds, comes to us all. We all need mercy, we know. Let us draw near to Jesus and touch his wounds in our brothers and sisters who suffer. Jesus ' wounds are a treasure: from there comes mercy. Let us be courageous and touch Jesus ' wounds. With these wounds He stands before the Father, as if to say, "Father, this is the price, these wounds are what I paid for my brothers and sisters". With his wounds Jesus intercedes before the Father. Gives mercy to us and we come near to Him, and He intercedes for us. Don't forget the wounds of Jesus.

The second gift that the risen Jesus brings to his disciples is joy. The Evangelist says that "the disciples rejoice when they saw the Lord" (v. 20). And there is also a verse in Luke's version, saying that they could not believe for joy. And for us, when something good happens, something amazing, beautiful. What happens to us. We almost don't believe what is happening and this is the same for the disciples. The disciples couldn't believe for their joy. This is the joy that the Lord brings. If you're sad, if you're don't have peace, see the crucified Jesus, see Jesus risen, see his wounds and take that joy.

And then, in addition to peace and joy, Jesus brings to the disciples the mission. He tells them: "as the Father has sent me, I also send you" (v. 21). The resurrection of Jesus is the beginning of a new dynamism of love, capable of transforming the world with the power of the Holy Spirit.

On this second Sunday of Easter, we are invited to approach Christ with faith, by opening our hearts to peace, joy and mission. But let us not forget the wounds of Jesus, because from there comes peace, joy and the strength for the mission. We entrust this prayer to the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary, Queen of heaven and Earth.

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Sat Apr 23 – 5:00pm +Brian McMonagle req. by The Hannon Family

Mon Apr 25 – 9:00am +Mary & Murray Campbell req. by Catherine Ingram

Tues Apr 26 – 8:20am +Crispina & Teresa Abaloyan req. by Emerita Vallestero & Family

Wed Apr 27 – 7:00pm +Fred Vanroon reg. by Peter & Alida Vanroon +Rosa Pflucker req. by Paul & Geni D'Aurelio + Stefan & Anna Kricaj req. by Peter & Anne Struna Int for Pam Nesbitt req. by Leigh Clark Nesbitt & Family +Shirley Barrett req. by Her Family

Thurs Apr 28 – 8:20am Special Intention for the Cline Family req.by Mary Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Family

Fri Apr 29 – 8:20am +Sharon Ladouceur req.by Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. John Conference

Sat Apr 30 – 5:00pm +Paula Otani req.by Her Mom & Sisters

Tabernacle Candle In thanksgiving for Geri Donaldson, good health



GARDENING ANGELS' CALL FOR HELP!!! We are looking for more gardeners to take care of our gardens on

the parish grounds. The gardens can be maintained on whatever day and amount of time you choose. We also need a few people to help water throughout the week - it takes about an hour. If you can help in any way please call the office 905-668-3676.



On March 28, 1882, a group of catholic men under the leadership of Father Michael McGivney created the Knights of Columbus which has grown into the world's largest catholic family fraternal service organization.

St John the Evangelist Council 4895 was chartered on February 1, 1960 and has been active in our parish and community since that date.

The Knights have always had a special devotion to Mary, the mother of Jesus and continually support the daily praying of the rosary as one of the means of fulfilling our Christian duties.

In the month of May we celebrate Mary, the mother of Jesus and praying the rosary becomes even more significant.

Your Knights have provided both English and Spanish booklets on how to pray the rosary on the cabinets at the back of the church. You are invited to help yourselves to these booklets.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR <u>SENIOR'S RETREAT</u> Thursday May 26, 2022 10 am-3 pm

Manresa Retreat House, Pickering, On

With Father Henk van Meijel S.J. Registration After Masses April 30-May 1, May 7-8 Cost \$50.00 per person, includes lunch & coffee Payable on Registration If you consider yourself a Senior, please consider joining us for a day of Spiritual Renewal. For more information Contact Catherine Ingram 905 665-0933 or the Parish office 905-668-3676

## **SL ShareLife**

When you support ShareLife, you support agencies like Mary Centre. Here's how your support makes a difference for the work of this agency: "Thank you to all who donate to ShareLife. With each donation we receive, we are able to attain our goals of assisting people in their efforts in building a good life, and also providing a safe place for people with a developmental disability to stay so that their families/caregivers and themselves can get some needed respite."

Thus far we have raised \$31,197 toward our goal of \$137,000. Please give generously.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! TOTUS TUUS July 3 - 8, 2022 Totus Tuus will be returning to the parish this summer and will run Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> to Friday July 8th. The Evening Program runs Sunday through to Thursday and is for students entering Grades 7-12. The Day Program runs Monday to Friday and is for students entering Grades 1-6. Please save the date as more information will be coming in the following weeks. Anybody interested in learning more can contact Breandán McCallister at bmccallister@archtoronto.org."



St. Vincent de Paul BUNDLE WEEKEND May 14/15 2022 Our Bundle Weekend Collection to serve

neighbours in need living in the Durham community will be over the weekend of May 14/15 in our parish parking lot. We are collecting gently used/new clothing, linens, towels, bedding, textiles, drapery, shoes. We CANNOT accept furniture, appliances, mattresses, used baby equipment, books, dishes, construction material or video tapes. Please bring your items to the truck after mass Saturday at 5pm, Sunday 9am or 11am, 2pm. A member of the conference will assist you with your donation. Thank you!

