

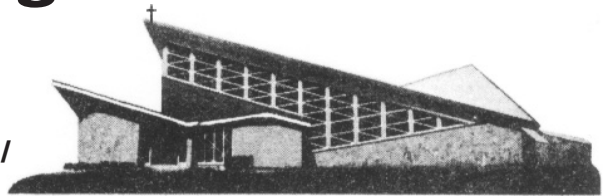
# St. John the Evangelist Church

903 Giffard Street, Whitby, Ontario L1N 2S3

Rectory Office: Ph:905-668-3676

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  
Ms. Cassandra Sullivan 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 9 a.m. - 12 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	Fr. Francisco Fernandez	905-668-3676
Finance Council	Paul D'Aurelio	905-665-3056
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	Lorraine Thomas	905-409-1743
Altar Servers	Breandán Orian McCallister	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	John Stafford	905-809-1731
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	www.dcdsb.ca

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of Sirach, offers us a wisdom passage in which God encourages people to keep the commandments. We have been created with freedom of choice. We can either choose goodness and find life or choose evil and find death. God's commandments are not burdensome or demanding, they rather a path to life. With God's grace, we can act according to God's commandments and find peace, fulfillment and happiness. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, gives us an account on Christian wisdom. To be wise in society is to know a lot of things and to be skilled in so many trades. It has the risk that it is for oneself, for self perfection and not for the up building of others. The wisdom of a disciple of Christ is based on the experience that God acts in our personal lives. It always seeks the good of others and it is always diffusive, not self-centered. It is a wisdom that comes from the experience of life events and not knowledge of books. The wiser are those who have lived long enough and know where the truth of life lies. Let us ask the Lord that we may grow in true wisdom. The Gospel, from Matthew, continues with the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus Christ has come to fulfill for us God's commandments. On our own, we realize that we fail to keep his commandments and they may seem a burden. However, Christ has been sent to teach us the real meaning of the commandments as a path to life. Moreover, He also gives us the grace to keep them without effort. He gives us the possibility to love each other unconditionally and to reconcile with those around us. He allows us to see the person next to us with respect and with dignity and not with lust. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can act in a way that whatever we do is always for the good of others. It is important to realize that God does not expect too much of us but rather He wants to give us so much. Let us be open to God' grace and we will be able to love others completely!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

### Homily of Pope Francis on the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's liturgy presents us with another passage of the Sermon on the Mount, which we find in the Gospel of Matthew (cf. 5:17-37). In this passage, Jesus wants to help his listeners to reread the Mosaic law. What had been said in the ancient covenant was true, but that was not all: Jesus came to bring to fulfillment and to promulgate in a definitive way the Law of God, up to the last iota (cf. v. 18). He manifests its original aims and fulfils its authentic aspects, and he does all this through his preaching and, even more, with the offering of himself on the Cross. In this way, Jesus teaches how to fully carry out God's will, and he uses these words: with a 'righteousness' that 'exceeds' that of the scribes and the Pharisees (cf. v. 20). A righteousness enlivened by love, charity, mercy, and hence capable of fulfilling the substance of the commandments, avoiding the risk of formalism. Formalism: this I can, this I cannot; up to this point I can, up to this point I cannot.... No: more, more.

In particular, in today's Gospel, Jesus examines three aspects, three commandments [that regard] murder, adultery and swearing.

With regard to the commandment 'you shall not kill', he states that it is violated not only by murder in effect, but also by those behaviours that offend the dignity of the human person, including insulting words (cf. v. 22). Of course, these insulting words do not have the same gravity and culpability as killing, but they are set along the same line, because they are the pretext to it and they reveal the same malevolence. Jesus invites us not to establish a ranking of offences, but to consider all of them damaging, inasmuch as they are driven by the intent to do harm to one's neighbour. Jesus gives an example. Insulting: we are accustomed to insulting; it is like saying "good morning". And that is on the same line as killing. One who insults his brother, in his heart kills his brother. Please do not insult! We do not gain anything....

Another fulfilment is generated by the matrimonial law. Adultery was considered a violation of man's property right over the woman. Instead, Jesus goes to the root of the evil. As one comes to killing through injuries, offences and insults, in this way one reaches adultery through covetous intentions in regard to a woman other than one's own wife. Adultery, like theft, corruption and all the other sins, are first conceived in the depth of our being and, once the wrong choice is made in the heart, it is carried out in concrete behaviour. Jesus says: one who looks with a covetous spirit at a woman who is not his own is an adulterer in his heart, has set off on the path towards adultery. Let us think a little bit about this: about the wicked thoughts that go along this line.

Jesus then tells his disciples not to swear, as swearing is a sign of the insecurity and duplicity with which human relationships unfold. God's authority is exploited so as to guarantee our human narrative. Instead, we are called to establish among ourselves, in our families and in our communities, a climate of clarity and mutual trust, so that we can be considered sincere without resorting to greater tactics in order to be believed. Mistrust and mutual suspicion always threaten peace!

May the Virgin Mary, a woman of listening and joyful obedience, help us to draw ever closer to the Gospel, to be Christians not 'of façade', but of substance! This is possible with the grace of the Holy Spirit, who allows us to do everything with love, and thus to wholly fulfil the will of God.



Family Day Holiday is Monday  
February 20, 2023. Mass is at  
9:00am

**Bible Study begins on Zoom at  
7:00pm**

FEBRUARY 12, 2023

**SACRAMENT PREPARATION PROGRAM**  
**2022-2023**  
**CONFIRMATION**  
**(Grade 7)**

**Session 1 - 5**  
February 4, 11, 25, March 4 and April 22  
in the Parish Centre  
9:00 am – 10:30 am OR 11:00 am – 12:30 pm (as scheduled)

**CWL General Meeting**

CWL sisters and ladies of the parish, you are invited to attend our February general meeting on Thursday, February 16, 2023. Our meeting will take place in the Parish Centre at 7:30 p.m. Please contact Lynne Childerhouse by telephone 905.431.6582 or by email lchilderhouse@hotmail.com to arrange transportation, if required. See you there!

2023 ENVELOPE USERS  
*The following envelopes have not been identified:  
36, 188  
If this number belongs to you, please call the parish office 905-668-3676.*

**March for Life**  
**Thursday May 11, 2023**

Holy Family Parish is organizing a bus to depart from Whitby to Ottawa. Please contact Gwen at 905-259-8504 gwenle1990@gmail.com to reserve a seat and for more information.



**Sat Feb 11 – 5:00pm**  
**+Deceased Mmbrs Harrington, Broderick & MacLellan Families**  
*req. by Joe & Joy*

**Mon Feb 13 – 8:20am**  
**+Samantha Goodwin**  
*req. by Gail & Leanne*

**Tues Feb 14 – 8:20am**  
**+Susan & Harry Friel**  
*req. by The Deehan Family*

**Wed Feb 15 – 7:00pm**  
**+Ted Kapuscinski**  
*req. by Doreen Kapuscinski*  
**+Mario Veltri**  
*req. by Nina Veltri & Family*  
**+Reginald & Lawrence Nagalingam**  
*req. by Pavalam Ratnasingham*

**Thurs Feb 16 – 8:20am**  
**+Humberto Schenflege**  
*req. by His Family*

**Fri Feb 17 – 8:20am**  
**+Bridget & Charles Carolan**  
*req. by Their Family*

**Sat Feb 18 – 5:00pm**  
**+Mary Fox**  
*req. by Catherine Duncan*

**ATTENTION ENGAGED COUPLES!**  
**MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASSES**  
Our next Marriage Preparation Course at St. John the Evangelist will be held on 6 Monday evenings from April 10 to May 15, 2023 at 7pm in the Parish Centre. Call 668-3676. Fee is \$250 per couple.

**Youth Ministry**  
**Totus Tuus will be returning this summer!** Totus Tuus is a fun and faith-filled summer camp for the youth of the parish run by young adult missionaries. There is a day program for grades 1-6 and an evening program for grades 7-12. Mark your calendars for the following days: July 9-14, 2023. More information will be available soon.

**BIBLE STUDY**  
**Monday February 20 to Monday March 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**“CONVERSION” by Bishop Robert Barron**

Due to the positive response, 5 more guides have been ordered. Call NOW if you have not already confirmed your attendance. (905) 668-3676



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

Kindly request the following non-perishable food items:

**Canned Fruit, Cereal, Peanut Butter, Rice side dishes and Instant Potatoes.**  
**Please drop off your donations in the gray bin in the foyer. Please check expiry dates. Expired food cannot be used.**



**Ash Wednesday**  
— Lent Begins

**Ash Wednesday is February 22, 2023. Mass with ash services are at 8:20am and 7:00pm.**

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