

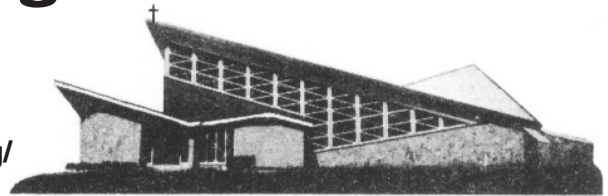
# St. John the Evangelist Church

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   |

## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

### Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Second Sunday of Lent. The First Reading, from the Book of Genesis, offers us the passage of the call of Abraham. He is an old person who feels a failure because he does not have a son and a land in which to settle. God asks him to leave his land because God is going to give him a descendant and a land. He obeys and he trusts that God is going to fulfill these promises. He now lives his life as a blessing and with new life. We are called like Abraham to open our horizon beyond our plans and expectations. God is going to give us something much better that we can even imagine. The Second Reading, from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy, presents us the encouraging words that he addresses to Timothy while in prison. He is young a bishop that has to face a lot of controversies. Paul asks him to rely in God and to trust in Him. It is not according to our works that we reap fruits, but it is through God's grace that we can find life and fulfillment. Let us trust in the Lord especially when we face difficulties and struggles so that we find strength and support. The Gospel, from St. Matthew, gives us the account of the transfiguration of Jesus. He has predicted that He is going to Jerusalem to suffer, die and rise from the dead. After hearing this, His disciples are afraid, worried and scared. To give them hope and take away their fears, He transfigures Himself in front of them. He assures them that He is the Lord of life by allowing them to see His glory. Moreover, the Father gives witness that Jesus is His Son, and we should listen to Him. His disciples are called to come down from the mountain and to go up to Jerusalem. However, now they go to face trials with the experience of the glorious transfiguration and with hope. Whenever we encounter difficulties and struggles, let us always remember that there is resurrection and new life after the struggles. God walks with us and strengthens us, and brings us victorious.

Let us fix our eyes in the One who can help us and bring us to new life of Lent so that Christ may truly transform and renew our hearts!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

### Pope Francis' Homily on the Second Sunday of Lent (March 14, 2016)

Today the Gospel presents the Transfiguration. It is the second stage of the Lenten journey: the first was the temptation in the desert, last Sunday; the second, the Transfiguration. Jesus "took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart" (Mt 17:1). The mountain in the Bible represents a place close to God and an intimate encounter with Him, a place of prayer where one stands in the presence of the Lord. There up on the mount, Jesus is revealed to the three disciples as transfigured, luminescent and most beautiful. And then Moses and Elijah appear and converse with Him. His face is so resplendent and his robes so white that Peter, awe-struck, wishes to stay there, as if to stop time. Suddenly from on high the voice of the Father resounds proclaiming Jesus to be his most beloved Son, saying "listen to him" (v. 5). This word is important! Our Father said this to these Apostles, and says it to us as well: "listen to Jesus, because he is my beloved Son". This week let us keep this word in our minds and in our hearts: "listen to Jesus!". And the Pope is not saying this, God the Father says it to everyone: to me, to you, to everyone, all people! It is like an aid for going forward on the path of Lent. "Listen to Jesus!". Don't forget.

This invitation from the Father is very important. We, the disciples of Jesus, are called to be people who listen to his voice and take his words seriously. To listen to Jesus, we must be close to him, to follow him, like the crowd in the Gospel who chase him through the streets of Palestine. Jesus did not have a teaching post or a fixed

pulpit, he was an itinerant teacher, who proposed his teachings, teachings given to him by the Father, along the streets, covering distances that were not always predictable or easy. Follow Jesus in order to listen to him. But also let us listen to Jesus in his written Word, in the Gospel. I pose a question to you: do you read a passage of the Gospel everyday? Yes, no... yes, no... half of the time ... some yes, some no. It is important! Do you read the Gospel? It is so good; it is a good thing to have a small book of the Gospel, a little one, and to carry in our pocket or in our purse and read a little passage in whatever moment presents itself during the day. In any given moment of the day I take the Gospel from my pocket and I read something, a short passage. Jesus is there and he speaks to us in the Gospel! Ponder this. It's not difficult, nor is it necessary to have all four books: one of the Gospels, a small one, with us. Let the Gospel be with us always, because it is the Word of Jesus in order for us to be able to listen to him.

From the event of the Transfiguration I would like to take two significant elements that can be summed up in two words: ascent and descent. We all need to go apart, to ascend the mountain in a space of silence, to find ourselves and better perceive the voice of the Lord. This we do in prayer. But we cannot stay there! Encounter with God in prayer inspires us anew to "descend the mountain" and return to the plain where we meet many brothers weighed down by fatigue, sickness, injustice, ignorance, poverty both material and spiritual. To these brothers in difficulty, we are called to bear the fruit of that experience with God, by sharing the grace we have received. And this is curious. When we hear the Word of Jesus, when we listen to the Word of Jesus and carry it in our heart, this Word grows. Do you know how it grows? By giving it to the other! The Word of Christ grows in us when we proclaim it, when we give it to others! And this is what Christian life is. It is a mission for the whole Church, for all the baptized, for us all: listen to Jesus and offer him to others. Do not forget: this week listen to Jesus! And think about the matter of the Gospel: will you? Will you do this? Then next Sunday you tell me if you have done this: that you have a little book of the Gospel in your pocket or in your purse to read in little stages throughout the day.

And now let us turn to our Mother Mary, and entrust ourselves to her guidance in pursuing with faith and generosity this path of Lent, learning a little more how to "ascend" with prayer and listen to Jesus and to "descend" with brotherly love, proclaiming Jesus.

### *Join us and celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner*

April 28, 2023, at 6 p.m.,

Paramount EventSpace

222 Rowntree Dairy Road, Vaughan

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rmmstoronto.org This dinner is meant to raise funds  
necessary to continue the mission the Lord has entrusted to  
us. Tickets \$150 per person

### Durham Outlook for the Needy

Containers and recipes are available for pickup this weekend after mass. Please take one, prepare the recipe provided, and return the casserole FROZEN, to the parish parking lot Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup> at 1pm – 1:30pm.

Your casserole will be warmed and served to clients seeking a good meal.

MARCH 5, 2023



**St Patrick's Pub Night- Saturday March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 7:30PM Knights of Columbus Hall**  
The Knights of Columbus will be restarting their annual St Patrick's Pub Night on March 18<sup>th</sup> hosted by the Usual Suspects. Doors will

open by 630pm with music starting by 7:30pm. Tickets are \$25 including light snacks. For those of you who didn't already receive refunds for the cancelled 2020 event and already paid, we have provided a credit and set aside a number of tickets if you're still interested in attending (Ticket donations will be greatly appreciated too to help support our community hall ) Knights will be at the back of the Church after each mass on the weekends of March 4/5 and March 11/12 selling tickets or you can contact [Bryan.Childerhouse@rogers.com](mailto:Bryan.Childerhouse@rogers.com)



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

|        |                                       |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Mar 10 | Fulton Sheen's Way of the Cross       |
| Mar 17 | Way of the Cross & Easter Reflections |
| Mar 24 | Development & Peace Way of the Cross  |
| Mar 31 | Mary's Way of the Cross               |



**Masses For The Week**

**Sat Mar 4 – 5:00pm**

**+Pat Belej**

*req. by Jim Corrigan & Ann Belej-Corrigan*

**Mon Mar 6 – 8:20am**

**+Joanne Carruthers**

*req by Julia Finlay & Jim Horner*

**Tues Mar 7 – 8:20am**

**+Rita Graves**

*req. by Staff of St. John's Parish*

**WEDNESDAY Mar 8 – 7:00pm**

**+Deborah Beegan**

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

**In Thanksgiving for 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

*req. by Ranjith*

**Thurs Mar 9 – 8:20am**

**+Richard Barbieri**

*req. by Annette & Gary Hudson*

**Fri Mar 10 – 7:00pm**

**In Thanksgiving to Parishioners' Prayers**

*req. by Iris & Frank McNulty*

**Sat Mar 11 – 5:00pm**

**+Broderick, Howard & Harrington Families**

*req. by Joe & Joy*

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.*

**Totus Tuus is returning this Summer!**

The children and youth of the parish are invited to join us for Totus Tuus this summer. Totus Tuus is an Archdiocesan program whereby seminarians and young adults travel to different parishes, spreading the Good News of our Lord through catechesis, Mass, confession, songs and games!

**DAY CAMP (for Grades 1-6) - \$80/child for the week**  
Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup> to Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM

**EVENING PROGRAM (for Grades 7-12) - \$40/child for the week**  
Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

For more information about registration or volunteering to help with this program, please contact Cassandra at [cass.sullivan@archtoronto.org](mailto:cass.sullivan@archtoronto.org). More information is also available at [www.totustuustoronto.ca](http://www.totustuustoronto.ca)



This Lent, let's stand for the land

This year, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's Create Hope: Stand for the land campaign calls you to support our sisters and brothers in the Global South, this year specifically Colombia and Honduras, in defending their land and territory.

Development and Peace: a movement of solidarity

Established in 1967, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada is the official international solidarity organization of the Catholic Church in Canada.

We partner with organizations in the Global South that promote alternatives to unjust social, political and economic structures and support women in their quest for equality and justice.

With the help of our 11,000+ volunteer members, we inform Canadians about the root causes of impoverishment and mobilize them to act for change.

To delegates at the 4th World Meeting of Popular Movements, Pope Francis said, "...you have the ability and the courage to create hope where there appears to be only waste and exclusion."

The courage to Create Hope is rooted in actions big and small. For to drive away anguish and despair, it is best to act. Every action we take has a positive effect on us, our neighbours, our great human family, our children and their descendants. What will you do this Lent to Create Hope? Join our campaign at [devp.org/lent](http://devp.org/lent). For more information contact: Estela Rios at [emr0001@hotmail.com](mailto:emr0001@hotmail.com) 905-430-7753

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