

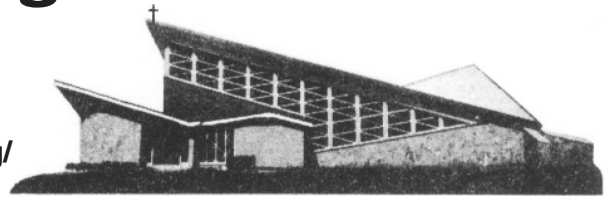
St. John the Evangelist Church

903 Giffard Street, Whitby, Ontario L1N 2S3

Rectory Office: Ph:905-668-3676

email: stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org

website: www.stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/



Pastoral Team

Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles Pastor
 Mrs. Kristine Blyth 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	Mrs. Kristine Blyth	905-668-3676
Confirmation Preparation	Mrs. Kristine Blyth	905-668-3676
Parish Home Catechism Program	Lorraine Thomas	905-409-1743
Altar Servers	Cassandra Sullivan	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
St. John the Evangelist School	905-668-4011	St. Marguerite d'Youville School 905-666-9301
1103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3		250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N 6B1
St. Luke the Evangelist School	905-665-5828	All Saints Catholic Secondary School 905-666-7753
55 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9		3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1
Durham Catholic District School Board	905-576-6150	www.dcdsb.ca

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of Sirach, presents a passage that gives advice regarding anger and harbouring grudges. All of us have to deal with conflicts and disagreements in our lives. Being resentful and getting even is not certainly a path to bring peace. On the contrary, it destroys our soul and brings about distress and anguish. The path to take is forgiveness and reconciliation. If we realize how much God has forgiven us, then it will bring us to forgive as we have been forgiven. The fruit of forgiveness and reconciliation is endless peace and serenity. The Second Reading, from the Letter of St. Paul to Romans, offers us a beautiful exhortation on the purpose and meaning of our lives. It is easy that we live for our own ideas and plans, for our family and work. All these things are important but transitory. The Lord has created us to be eternal and to find fulfillment. The Lord invites to have this horizon in our lives and to enter into God's plan which brings us to be completely satisfied. The Gospel, from St. Matthew, brings us a parable on reconciliation and forgiveness. Peter asks Jesus how many times one should forgive. Humanly speaking there is a limit; however, God forgives us always. He continually forgives us and loves us even though we sin as long as we repent. To forgive means to take upon oneself the consequences of our actions and to give us in return restoration and peace. This is what God has done for us many times. If we are aware of this fact and we are grateful, this forgiveness transforms our hearts and enables us to forgive others as we have been forgiven. It is not easy to do it and many times we fail but let's ask the Lord to be more aware of His forgiveness so that we can be instruments of reconciliation and peace!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant, and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Homily for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (September 13, 2020)

In the parable in today's Gospel reading, that of the merciful King (see Mt 18:21-35), twice we find this plea: "Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full" (vv. 26, 29). The first time it is pronounced by the servant who owes his master ten thousand talents, an enormous sum. Today it would be millions and millions of dollars. The second time it is repeated by another servant of the same master. He too is in debt, not towards the master, but towards the same servant who has that enormous

debt. And his debt is very small, maybe a week's wages.

The heart of the parable is the indulgence the master shows towards his servant with the bigger debt. The evangelist underlines that, "moved with compassion the master"- we should never forget this word of Jesus: "Have compassion", Jesus always had compassion - "moved with compassion the master let him go and forgave him the loan" (v. 27). An enormous debt, therefore a huge remission! But that servant, immediately afterwards, showed himself to be pitiless towards his companion, who owed him a modest sum. He does not listen to him, he is extremely hostile against him and has him thrown in prison until he has paid his debt (see v. 30). The master hears about this and, outraged, calls the wicked servant back and has him condemned (see vv. 32-34). "I forgave you a great deal and you are not capable of forgiving so little?"

In the parable we find two different attitudes: God's - represented by the king who forgives a lot, because God always forgives - and the human person's. The divine attitude is justice pervaded with mercy, whereas the human attitude is limited to justice. Jesus exhorts us to open ourselves with courage to the strength of forgiveness, because in life not everything can be resolved with justice. We know this. There is a need for that merciful love, which is also at the basis of the Lord's answer to Peter's question, which precedes the parable. Peter's question goes like this: "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him?" (v. 21). And Jesus replies, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times" (v. 22). In the symbolic language of the Bible this means that we are called to forgive always.

How much suffering, how many wounds, how many wars could be avoided if forgiveness and mercy were the style of our life! Even in families, even in families. How many families are disunited, who do not know how to forgive each other. How many brothers and sisters bear resentment within. It is necessary to apply merciful love to all human relationships: between spouses, between parents and children, within our communities, in the Church and also in society and politics.

Today as we were celebrating the Mass, I paused, touched by a phrase in the first reading from the book of Sirach. The phrase says, remember the end and stop hating. A beautiful phrase. But think of the end. Just think, you will be in a coffin... and you take your hatred there. Think about the end, stop hating, stop resenting. Let's think of this phrase that is very touching. Remember the end and stop hating.

It is not easy to forgive because although in moments of calm we think "Yes, this person has done so many things to me but I have done many too. Better to forgive so as to be forgiven", but then resentment returns like a bothersome fly in the summer that keeps coming. Today's parable helps us to grasp fully the meaning of that phrase we recite in the Lord's Prayer: "And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us" (see Mt 6:12). These words contain a decisive truth. We cannot demand God's forgiveness for ourselves if we in turn do not grant forgiveness to our neighbour. It is a condition. Think of your end, of God's forgiveness, and stop hating. Reject resentment, that bothersome fly that keeps coming back. If we do not strive to forgive and to love, we will not be forgiven and loved either.

Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation Fund Collection – September 30/October 1, 2023

Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to participate in the collection being held the weekend of September 30/October 1 to support the Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation Fund. The collection is a national grassroots effort to assist healing and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples of This Land. Funds will support culture and language revitalization, education and community building, healing and reconciliation for communities and families and dialogue involving Indigenous elders, spiritual leaders and youth with a focus on Indigenous spirituality and culture. This is an opportunity to follow the invitation of the Holy Father for each one of us to become engaged in the healing and reconciliation journey. For more information or to donate online, visit: www.archtoronto.org/healingandreconciliation. Thank you for your generosity.

Farewell Fr. John Boos

As an appreciation for his service to the community, a simple farewell reception will be hosted with cake and coffee/tea.

Sunday, September 24, 2023

2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Harmony Creek Golf Centre

Harmony Hall, 1000 Bloor Street East

Oshawa, Ontario, 905-433-0211

Life Chain

Sunday, October 1, 2023

from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Corner of Cochrane & Dundas Streets

SACRAMENT PREPARATION PROGRAMS

2023 – 2024

FIRST EUCHARIST (Grade 2)	CONFIRMATION (Grade 7)
REGISTRATION and INFORMATION NIGHT in the Church (one parent only to attend) Tuesday, September 26 at 7:00 pm (please bring completed registration form, a \$40 fee for program expenses and a photocopy of your child's Baptism Certificate)	REGISTRATION and INFORMATION NIGHT in the Church (one parent & candidate to attend) Tuesday, November 7 at 7:00 pm (please bring completed registration form, a \$40 fee for program expenses and a photocopy of your child's Baptism Certificate)

It is mandatory that all children who do not attend Catholic school participate in the Parish Home Catechism Program.

Youth Ministry Begins Soon!

Youth Ministry helps the youth in our parish grow closer to Christ and grow in friendship with each other. **EDGE** for grade 5-8 will take place every 2nd and 4th Thursday from 7 to 8:30 **beginning on Thursday, September 28th. Life Teen** for grade 9-12 will take place every 1st and 3rd Thursday from 7 to 8:30 **beginning on Thursday, October 5th.**

Please consider volunteering for this important and fun ministry. Adults may volunteer for Life Teen or EDGE and students grade 10 and older may volunteer for EDGE. For more information, contact Cassandra at cass.sullivan@archtoronto.org

Nourish Caring for the Caregiver

Virtually every one of us will care for a loved one at some time in our life. Though rewarding, it's not always easy. Nourish for Caregivers is for anyone juggling the challenges of everyday life, health, career and caring for an aging parent, spouse, child or grandparent, in town or at a distance. Nourish provides caregivers a faith perspective, as well as practical and emotional support, useful tools, and share experience. Discover the blessings that come from caring for another. Please join us for a meeting Monday, October 2, 2023 in the St. Joseph's Room at 7:30pm. For more information please visit www.NourishForCaregivers.com, or contact Robert MacLennan, 905-668-3676 or email stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org

San Juan Diego Latin Dinner and Dance

Eat, Dance and be Merry!!!
 - dust off those dancing shoes!!
 San Juan Diego Parish Mission invites you to the annual Gala Dinner Dance with a Latin Flair!
 Date: Saturday Nov. 4, 2023
 Location: La Tosca Banquet Hall - 800 Champlain Ave. Oshawa
 Time: 6pm - 1am (dinner 7pm)
 DJ (new), Raffle prizes, 50/50
Psalm 126.2: We were filled with laughter and we sang for joy.



Masses For The Week

Sat Sep 16 – 5:00pm
 +Walter Belej
req. by Jim Corrigan & Ann Belej-Corrigan

Mon Sep 18 – 8:20am
 +Yesu Dass
req. by Yesu

Tues Sep 19 – 8:20am
 +Kevin Coughlin
req. by Pat Catterall

Wed Sep 20 – 7:00pm
 +Anne Washburn
req. by Denise & Shirley
 +Maryanne Helen
req. by Belshia
 +James Martin
req. by Maureen Martle
 +Kevin Dashney
req. by Joan Van Berkum
A Private Intention
req. by A Parishioner

Thur Sep 21 – 8:20am
 +Andrew Marioselva
req. by Christine & Children

Friday Sept 22 – 8:20am
 +Mollie & Tec Hughes
req. by Kathie Steffler & Linda Calder

Tabernacle Candle for Miriam, in thanksgiving, req. by Mary

St. John the Evangelist Choir will be returning to sing God's praise at 11 am Sunday masses beginning September 24. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings 7-8:30 pm. New singers are welcome! Please contact Eileen. 905-668-0959 eileen.mcgowan59@gmail.com



Thanksgiving Vegetable Food-Raiser and Fundraiser
 We will be selling fresh from the farm, local vegetables for your

Thanksgiving dinner. Each bag will contain; 1 seasonal squash, 1 cauliflower or cabbage, 2 onions, garlic, and an array of carrots, beets, and potatoes for \$25. Pick up your order envelope after mass today. Fill out the order form and return it in the envelope with your payment by Sunday September 24th. You can place your orders in the Parish Office or in the Collection Baskets at any Mass. Consider the option to donate to our Food Bank. On the order form is a place to indicate if the vegetables are to be donated; donated bags will not need to be picked up. Vegetables will arrive to the Parish Centre on Friday September 29th. Pickup deadline is Oct 1st.

Interested in altar serving?

We are in need of more altar servers, especially at the 5:00 pm Mass. Altar Servers must be in grade 3 and older and have already received their First Communion. This is a great opportunity for our younger parishioners to learn about the Mass and grow closer to Jesus. For more information, email cass.sullivan@archtoronto.org or contact the parish office. There will be a training for all altar servers on **Saturday, September 30th from 11:00am to 1:00pm.** Lunch will be provided!

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