

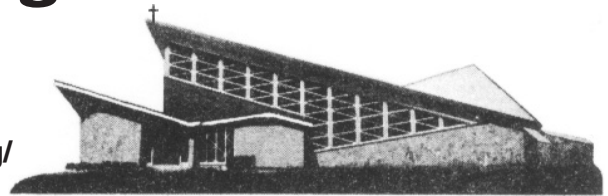
St. John the Evangelist Church

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
 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	Eileen McGowan	905-668-0959
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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of the prophet Isaiah, presents the final portion of the message of consolation addressed to the people of Israel. They are suffering and struggling in the exile, yet God promises that they will be restored and transformed. They are called to seek the Lord because He is going to do wonderful things in their lives. We are encouraged to seek the Lord and to ask Him to help us so that His wonderful plans may happen in our lives. His ways and desires are life-giving. The Second Reading, from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians, offers us a meditation of St. Paul while he is in prison. He has been announcing the Gospel to many communities and now he is in a dilemma whether God is calling him to be with Him, or he will continue his mission. St. Paul wants to glorify God whatever God has in store for him. The Lord is inviting us to have this discernment in our own lives, which will give us the openness to accept whatever happens in our lives. This will give us a lot of peace and consolation on a daily basis. The Gospel, from St. Matthew, brings us the parable of the workers who are hired to work in the vineyard. There are workers who are hired at different times of the day and are promised to receive the same payment. This parable teaches us that God has a desire that all of us participate and share in the kingdom of God. The important thing is to enjoy the peace and the fulness of life that God wants to offer us. It does not matter when in life we participate in the joys of His kingdom, what is relevant is that we fully share in the life that God has in store for us. There are people who enter later in life, in the life of the Church, and we should be happy for them, receiving them and welcoming them. Let us be grateful for being part of the Kingdom of God and realize the riches and joys to which God is calling us!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant, and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Homily for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (September 3, 2017)

Today's page from the Gospel (see Mt 20:1-16) recounts the parable of the workers called to put in a day's work by the owner of the vineyard. Through this narrative, Jesus shows us the surprising

way God acts, represented by two of the owner's attitudes: the call and the reward.

First of all, the call. Five times the owner of the vineyard goes out and calls [people] to work for him: at six, at nine, at twelve, at three and at five in the afternoon. The image of this owner, who goes out numerous times to look for day labourers for his vineyard, is touching. That owner represents God who calls everyone and calls always, at any hour. Even today, God acts this way: He continues to call anyone, at whatever hour, to invite them to work in His Kingdom. This is God's style, which in our turn we are called to receive and to imitate. He does not stay shut in within His world, but "goes out": God always goes out, in search of us; He is not closed up – God goes out. He continually seeks out people, because He does not want anyone to be excluded from His loving plan.

Our communities are also called to go out to the various types of "boundaries" that there might be, to offer everyone the word of salvation that Jesus came to bring. It means being open to horizons

in life that offer hope to those stationed on the existential peripheries, who have not yet experienced, or have lost, the strength and the light that comes with meeting Christ. The Church needs to be like God: always going out; and when the Church does not go out, it becomes sick with the many evils we have in the Church. And why are these illnesses in the Church? Because she does not go out. It is true that when someone goes out there is the danger of getting into an accident. But it is better a Church that gets into accidents because it goes out to proclaim the Gospel, than a Church that is sick because it stays in. God always goes out because He is a Father, because He loves. The Church must do the same: always going out.

The owner's second attitude, representing God's, is his way of compensating the workers. How does God pay? The owner agrees to "one denarius" (v. 2) with the first workers he hired in the morning. Instead, to those he hired later, he says: "Whatever is right I will give you" (v. 4). At the end of the day, the owner of the vineyard orders that everyone be given the same pay, that is, one denarius. Those who had worked since morning are outraged and complain against the owner, but he insists: he wants to give the maximum pay to everyone, even to those who arrived last (vv. 8-15). God always pays the maximum amount: He does not pay halfway. He pays everything. In this way, it is understood that Jesus is not speaking about work and just

wages – that is another problem – but about the Kingdom of God and the goodness of the heavenly Father who goes out continually to invite, and He pays everyone the maximum amount.

In fact, God behaves like this: He does not look at the time and at the results, but at the availability, He looks at the generosity with which we put ourselves at His service. His way of acting is more than just, in the sense that it goes beyond justice and is manifested in Grace. Everything is Grace. Our salvation is Grace. Our holiness is Grace. Giving us Grace, He bestows on us more than what we merit. And so, those who reason using human logic, that is, the logic of the merits acquired through one's own greatness, from being first, find themselves last. "But, I have worked a lot, I have done so much in the Church, I have helped a lot and they pay me the same as this person who arrived last...". Let's remember who was the first canonized saint in the Church: the Good Thief. He "stole" Paradise at the last minute of his life: this is Grace. This is what God is like, even with us. Instead, those who seek thinking of their own merits, fail; those who humbly entrust themselves to the Father's mercy, from being last – like the Good Thief – find themselves first (see v. 16).

May Mary Most Holy help us to feel every day the joy and wonder of being called by God to work for Him, in His field which is the world, in His vineyard which is the Church. And to have as our only recompense His love, friendship with Jesus.

Needs of the Church in Canada Special Collection today

Your gifts are used by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops to represent Canadian Catholics in national and international pastoral activity. Thank you for your support.

**Humanitarian Aid for Morocco
We are accepting donations to aid those affected by the earthquake in Morocco. Donations are sent through our Catholic partners in Morocco.**

**Please write your cheque:
St. John the Evangelist – Morocco
Earthquake – Humanitarian Relief**

At this time, no Catholic partners are present in Libya to coordinate relief efforts. Those wishing to provide support may do so through the Canadian Red Cross.

www.redcross.ca or 1-800-418-1111.

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

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 23 – 5:00pm
 +Rosina, Salvatore & Carmela Molica Lazzaro
req. by Angela D'Angelo

Mon Sep 25 – 8:20am
 +Clorinda Garritano & Mateo Garritano
req. by Nina Veltri & Family

Tues Sep 26 – 8:20am
 +Mario Veltri & Rev. Richard Veltri
req. by Nina Veltri & Family

Wed Sep 27 – 7:00pm
 +James Martin
req. by Maureen Martle
 +Kevin Dashney
req. by The McManus Family
 +Shirley Barrett
req. by Her Family
 +Sheila Matheson
req. by Denise & Shirley

Thur Sep 28 – 8:20am
 +Catherine
req. by Yesu

Friday Sept 29 – 8:20am
 Personal Intentions
req. by Nina Veltri & Family

Tabernacle Candle for Naomi, 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

Altar Servers' Training
 Saturday September 23 at 11am in the church
Lunch in the parish centre to follow

Life Chain

Sunday, October 1, 2023
from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m
 Corner of Cochrane & Dundas Streets

Parish Directory

New appointment sessions are available for Tues Oct 10th, Wed Oct 11, Mon Oct 16 from 2:30pm to 8:30pm. Please schedule your appointment today if you have not already done so.

Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation
Second Collection Sept 30/Oct 1

This 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.

www.archtoronto.org/healingandreconciliation

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