

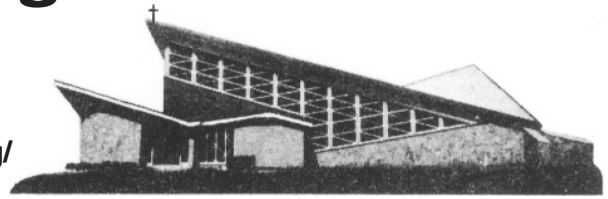
St. John the Evangelist Church

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
Neocatechumenal Way	Gail Stewart	905-668-3676
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-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of the prophet Isaiah, presents a passage which shows God's intervention for the people of Israel who are in exile in Babylon. They are discouraged and they have felt abandoned, but God promises them that He will free them through King Cyrus. God takes care of them, and He is going to act wonders in their lives. At times, in front of difficult situations we feel hopeless and without any strength. However, God is there to support us and to strengthen us. He is a sure rock and support for our lives. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians, offers us the introductory part of the letter. The community of Thessaloniki have welcomed the message of the Good News and their lives have been transformed. St. Paul acknowledges that they are full of faith, hope and charity. He encourages them to keep firm in what they have received by being active in good works. We also need to always receive the proclamation of the Good News since it is life-giving and renews our lives. The Lord is inviting us to be always open and willing to be transformed by the freshness of the Gospel. The Gospel, from St. Matthew, brings us the episode in which Christ was put the test by asking Him whether was allowed or not to give tax to the Emperor. He avoids a yes or no answer, which would have been controversial. If he had said yes, it would have meant that He is in favour of the Romans and He will have been discredited as Messiah. If He would have said no, He would have been taken by the Romans as a revolutionist. Christ asks them who is the image that is on the coin. It is Caesar's, so in much wisdom He tells them to give to Caesar what belong to him and to God what belongs to God. It means that we human beings belong to God since He has created us in His image and likeness. We need to give God the opportunity to make us live in the way that He has always intended for us. He has created us out of love, to love others. This is the fulfillment of our lives. Let us allow the Lord to bring us to love others as He has loved us!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant,
and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Homily for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 22, 2017)

This Sunday's Gospel (Mt 22:15-21) presents to us a new face-to-face encounter between Jesus and his adversaries. The theme addressed is that of the tribute to Caesar: a "thorny" issue about whether or not it was lawful to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor, to whom Palestine was subject in Jesus' time. There were various positions. Thus, the question that the Pharisees posed to him — "Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" (v. 17) — was meant to ensnare the Teacher. In fact, depending on how he responded, he could have been accused of being either for or against Rome.

But in this case too, Jesus responds calmly and takes advantage of the malicious question in order to teach an important lesson, rising above the polemics and the alliance of his adversaries. He tells the Pharisees: "Show me the money for the tax". They present him a coin, and, observing the coin, Jesus asks: "Whose likeness and inscription is this?". The Pharisees can only answer: "Caesar's". Then Jesus concludes: "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the

things that are God's" (cf. vv. 19-21). On the one hand, suggesting they return to the emperor what belongs to him, Jesus declares that paying tax is not an act of idolatry, but a legal obligation to the earthly authority; on the other — and it is here that Jesus presents the "thrust" of his response: recalling the primacy of God, he asks them to render to Him that which is His due as the Lord of the life and history of mankind.

The reference to Caesar's image engraved on the coin says that it is right that they feel fully — with rights and duties — citizens of the State; but symbolically it makes them think about the other image that is imprinted on every man and woman: the image of God. He is the Lord of all, and we, who were created "in his image" belong to Him first and foremost. From the question posed to him by the Pharisees, Jesus draws a more radical and vital question for each of us, a question we can ask ourselves: to whom do I belong? To family, to the city, to friends, to work, to politics, to the State? Yes, of course. But first and foremost — Jesus reminds us — you belong to God. This is the fundamental belonging. It is He who has given you all that you are and have. And therefore, day by day, we can and must live our life in recognition of this

fundamental belonging and in heartfelt gratitude toward our Father, who creates each one of us individually, unrepeatable, but always according to the image of his beloved Son, Jesus. It is a wondrous mystery. Christians are called to commit themselves concretely in the human and social spheres without comparing "God" and "Caesar"; comparing God and Caesar would be a fundamentalist approach. Christians are called to commit themselves concretely in earthly realities, but illuminating them with the light that comes from God. The primary entrustment to God and hope in him do not imply an escape from reality, but rather the diligent rendering to God that which belongs to him. This is why a believer looks to the future reality, that of God, so as to live earthly life to the fullest, and to meet its challenges with courage.

May the Virgin Mary help us to always live in conformity with the image of God that we bear within us, inside, also offering our contribution to the building of the earthly city.

Vegetable Fundraiser IT'S ALL IN THE BAG!

We received about 100 orders for vegetables. The Parish support was wonderful, and the ripples into our community remained strong because on average, 1.5 bags were donated for every bag ordered to pick up. To all parishioners, THANK YOU so much for helping at this time of growing food insecurity.

Together we were able to donate to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, approximately \$2,500 and \$1,000 for the needs of the Parish. In addition, we were able to provide vegetables to two other frontline organizations serving the community. One being Durham Community Health Centre in support of Indigenous families and the other was St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Food Bank.

This annual fundraiser could not run without the participation of Willowtree Farms and the volunteers who came from throughout the Parish. In the filling of bags, it was mostly The Knights of Columbus who led the way. While support at Bag pick-up times was largely provided by the Catholic Women's League. Thank you so very much to every volunteer who participated!!

"Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed"

Our parish will hold a **"Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed" mass on Thursday November 2nd, at 7:00 p.m., in the church.**

This mass is an opportunity for members of our parish family to come together, in remembrance of loved ones we have lost through death. The mass will include a special acknowledgement of individuals who have been buried from our parish over the last year and a lighting of candles in memory of loved ones.

We hope that you will accept this invitation to join fellow parishioners for this special mass.

If you would like additional information, please contact the parish office at (905) 668-3676.

Handicraft Holy Land Christians

On the weekend of Oct 21-22, we will welcome our special guest from Sebastien Cardinal's team, representing "Handicraft Holy Land Christians", who after all the masses will briefly address the issues and concerns regarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land.

Christians in the Holy Land graciously ask your support through conscience prayers and will have many unique hand carved olive wood religious art pieces made by these families in Bethlehem available for purchase after every mass.

Proceeds of the sales generate much needed employment for our Christian brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.

May God Bless you for your generosity, for you help and for your prayers."

Cash, debit, credit cards and cheque will be accepted.

You can visit and support us at www.HolylandChristians.ca

Knights of Columbus Bottle Drive For Special Olympics Oct 21/22, 2023

Bottle and cash donations are accepted this weekend after all mass outside the parish centre entrance. Donations go to Special Olympics

Nourish Caring for the Caregiver

Meetings continue two Mondays per month - Oct 30, Nov 13, 27, Dec 11

For more information please visit

www.NourishForCaregivers.com, or

contact Robert MacLennan, 905-668-3676 or email

stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org

CONFIRMATION (GRADE 7)

Registration and Information night (one parent and candidate to attend)

Tuesday, November 7 at 7:00pm in the Church

(please bring completed registration form, a \$40 fee for program expenses and a photocopy of your child's Baptism Certificate)

Any students not in Catholic School must attend Parish Home Catechism in order to make their sacraments.

Please call the office for more information



Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. John the Evangelist

Conference

BUNDLE WEEKEND Nov 11-12, 2023

A truck will be parked in St. John Parish parking lot over the weekend Nov 11th, 12th accepting gently used/new clothing, coats, linens, towels, bedding, textiles, drapery, shoes/boots.

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 or 2:00 pm in Spanish. Assistance provided to load your donation onto the truck. Thank you!

World Mission Collection October 21/22, 2023

This worldwide collection for the missionary church assists at-need Catholic communities globally. For more information, please visit the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.



Masses For The Week

Sat Oct 21 – 5:00pm
Int for the Vurro & Morra Families
req. by Joe Vurro

Mon Oct 23 – 8:20am
+Andrew Marioselva
req. by Christine & Children

Tues Oct 24 – 8:20am
Int. for Fr. John Boos
req. by The Veltri Family

Wed Oct 25 – 7:00pm
+Tina Saturno
req. by Tony & Rosa Cannella
+Carrie Schranz
req. by & Ed Schranz
+Kevin Dashney
req. by Jim Corrigan & Ann Belej-Corrigan
+All Souls in Purgatory
req. by Joe & Joy Broderick
+Loretta Morrison & Joan Peck
req. by Nina & Family

Thur Oct 26 – 8:20am
+Kevin Dashney
req. by The Veltri Family

Fri Oct 27 – 8:20am
+Gerard, Rosemary & Paul Morgan
req. by Patrick & Vicki Morgan

Bible Study "When You Pray" Monday nights Oct 30 – Dec 11 7pm to 8:30pm in the Parish Ctr

Prayer is important but we still find it challenging. Perhaps it's hard to find time, or you're unsure what to do when you pray. Or maybe you feel discouraged by your weaknesses and your inability to overcome them. If you have any of these feelings, you are not alone.

Join us for a bible study focussed on prayer. Authored and presented by Dr. Edward Sri. Registration is required - \$35 per person

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

Tickets \$120 each

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