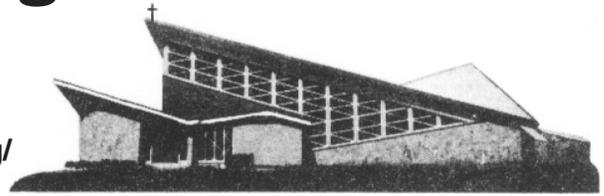


# St. John the Evangelist Church

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  
 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

<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	<a href="http://www.dcdsb.ca">www.dcdsb.ca</a>

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of the Exodus, presents part of the stipulations of the covenant that God made with His people Israel. God has freed His people from the slavery in Egypt. He has made a covenant with them in Mount Sinai. A very important aspect of this covenant is that they treat with fairness, respect, and honour the members of the same community. God has treated His people with mercy and compassion while they were in slavery. In turn, now they are supposed to care for each other in the same measure that they were treated. We are all called to love our neighbour in the measure that God has loved us. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians, continues with the opening statement and greeting that St. Paul addresses to the community of Thessaloniki. He is so grateful that they received the preaching of the Good News with an open heart and consequently, their lives have been transformed. We are all encouraged to act in the same way. Let us ask the Lord that our hearts may be completely open to receive God's mercy through the message of the Good News. This message is life giving and able to transform our hearts. The Gospel, from St. Matthew brings us a passage in which the pharisees ask Jesus which is the main commandment of the Law to be observed to find salvation. Christ reminds them that the heart of the Law is to love God above all else and to love one's neighbour as oneself. This commandment is very difficult for us to keep and we all fall short. Christ has fulfilled this commandment since He has loved God with all His soul, heart, mind and strength and His neighbour as Himself. Now, we can fulfill this commandment with the help of the Holy Spirit and find fullness of life. Let us ask the Lord that He may bring to fulfillment this command of life in our daily lives!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant, and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Homily for the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 29, 2017)

This Sunday, the Liturgy presents us with a brief, but very important Gospel passage (Mt 22:34-40). Matthew the Evangelist recounts that the Pharisees assemble in order to put Jesus to the test. One of them, a doctor of the Law, asks him this question: "Teacher, which one is the great commandment in the law?" (v. 36). It is an insidious question, because more than 600 precepts are mentioned in the

Law of Moses. How should the great commandment be distinguished among these? But Jesus responds without hesitation: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind". And he adds: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself" (vv. 37, 39).

This response of Jesus is not to be taken for granted, because, among the numerous precepts of the Hebrew Law, the most important were the 10 Commandments, communicated directly by God to Moses, as the conditions of the Covenant with the people. But Jesus wants to make it understood that without love for God and for our neighbour there is no true fidelity to this Covenant with the Lord. You may do many good things, fulfil many precepts, many good things, but if you do not have love, this serves no purpose.

It is confirmed by another text in the Book of Exodus, the so-called "Covenant Code", where it is said that one cannot adhere to the Covenant with the Lord and mistreat those who enjoy his protection. And who are those who enjoy his protection? The Bible says: the widow, the orphan and the stranger, the migrant, that is, the most lonely and defenceless people (cf. Ex 22:20-21). In responding to those Pharisees who question him, Jesus also tries to help them put their religiosity in order, to distinguish what truly matters from what is less important. Jesus says: "On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets" (Mt. 22:40). They are the most important, and the others depend on these two. And Jesus lived his life precisely in this way: preaching and practising what truly matters and is essential, namely, love. Love gives impulse and fruitfulness to life and to the journey of life: without love, both life and faith remain sterile.

What Jesus proposes in this Gospel passage is a wonderful ideal, which corresponds to our heart's most authentic desire. Indeed, we were created to love and to be loved. God, who is Love, created us to make us participants in his life, to be loved by him and to love him, and with him, to love all other people. This is God's "dream" for mankind. And to accomplish it we need his grace; we need to receive within us the capacity to love which comes from God himself. Jesus offers himself to us in the Eucharist for this very reason. In it we receive Jesus in the utmost expression of his love, when he offered himself to the Father for our salvation.

May the Blessed Virgin help us to welcome into our life the "great commandment" of love of God and neighbour. Indeed, if we have experienced it ever since we were children, we will never cease converting ourselves to it and putting it into practice in the various situations in which we find ourselves.

Music Director

St John the Evangelist Parish is seeking a faith-filled, qualified, experienced Catholic musician to become Parish Music Director. Potential candidates will have:

- a minimum of Grade 9 piano/organ Conservatory training or the equivalent
- proven vocal and keyboard performance experience
- teaching and conducting ability
- familiarity with Church documents pertaining to music and liturgy
- a spirit of service
- excellent communication skills
- full availability to co-ordinate and lead our music ministry team

For a full position description, details, or to apply, please contact the Parish Office. We appreciate all who take the time to submit a resumé, but only selected applicants will be contacted for an interview and audition.

Email: [stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org)

Advertisers Wanted!

We are looking for advertisers to promote their business in our upcoming picture directory. Please call the parish office.

***Gently used men's winter coats are needed***

**We are requesting any gently used men's winter coats in all sizes, bagged and dropped off to the parish office. The coats will be given to men living in Motel 6 who are new to the country.**

*Nourish Caring for the Caregiver*

**Meetings continue two Mondays per month - Oct 30, Nov 13, 27, Dec 11 at 7:30pm**

For more information please visit [www.NourishForCaregivers.com](http://www.NourishForCaregivers.com), or contact Robert MacLennan, 905-668-3676 or email [stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org)

**"Commemoration of  
All the Faithful Departed"**

Our parish will hold a **"Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed" mass on Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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.



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 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> 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!**



**Masses For The Week**

**Sat Oct 28 – 5:00pm**

**+Elpidio Peralta**

*req. by Maria & Pablo Enrique*

**Mon Oct 30 – 8:20am**

**+James Dashney Sr & +Jim Dashney Jr.**

*req. by Clare Dashney*

**Tues Oct 31 – 8:20am**

**+Catherine**

*req. by Yesu*

**Wed Nov 1 – 7:00pm**

**+Kevin Dashney**

*req. by St. John's Choir*

**+Hugh Matern**

*req. by John & Cathy Fernandes*

**+Ronald McAteer**

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

**Thur Nov 2 – 8:20am**

**+Intentions for All Souls**

**Thu Nov 2 – 7:00pm Evening All Souls Mass**

**+Intentions for All Souls**

**Fri Nov 3 – 8:20am**

**+Antonio, Rosina & Giovanni Bozzarello**

*req. by Anna & Natale Ciardullo*

**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*

**Bible Study "When You Pray"**

**Monday nights Oct 30 – Dec 11  
7pm to 8:30pm in the Parish Ctre**

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

Knights of Columbus, St John the Evangelist Council, meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month from Sept to June. Next Meeting is Wednesday Nov 1, 2023 at 8PM at the Knights Hall at 133 Brock St North. For further information assisting the St John's community and becoming a Knight through our online virtual application and exemplification process **taking less than an hour**, contact Membership Director **Bryan Childerhouse [bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com](mailto:bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com)** or call 416-508-9877



**The Book of Life**

The month of November is traditionally known as the month of the Holy Souls, having at its' beginning, the two great feasts - All Saints and All Souls. To commemorate your faithful departed family and friends, you are invited to submit a page for the "Book of Life." This page should be 8 1/2" by 11" and fit into a standard 3-ring binder. On it you may type or print the names of whomever you would like to have remembered in a special way at all our parish Masses during November. You may decorate your "Family Page" in whatever way you wish, as long as it fits the above requirements. This "Book of Life" will be left in the sanctuary during November to remind us to pray, at church and at home for our loved ones. Please note previous years of pages are included already.

***Donation envelopes for All Souls are available to write the names of those you wish to be prayed for on All Souls Day Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:20am or 7:00pm and every Wednesday in November at 7:00pm.***

***Please include your name and address for tax receipt purposes.***

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