

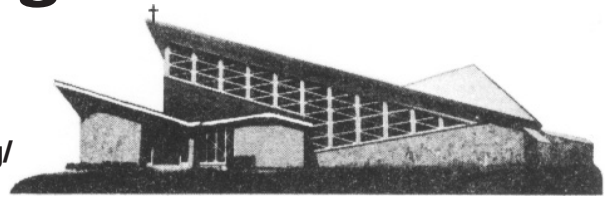
St. John the Evangelist Church

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
Mr. Robert Caley Choir Director

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 Sudays 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	Oshawa 905-725-3513	Ajax	905-668-8912
Catholic Family Services	1-800-241-3534	or	905-428-1984
Rose of Durham (Young Parent Support Services)			905-432-3622

St. John the Evangelist School 905-668-4011

1103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3

St. Luke the Evangelist School 905-665-5828

55 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9

Durham Catholic District School Board

St. Marguerite d'Youville School

250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N 6B1

All Saints Catholic Secondary School

3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1

905-576-6150

www.dcdsb.ca

905-666-9301

905-666-7753

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we are celebrating the Third Sunday of Lent. The First Reading is from the Book of Exodus. It offers the account of covenant of God with the people of Israel on Mount Sinai. After God has freed the people of Israel from the slavery in Egypt and he has brought them through the desert, He establishes a covenant with them. First, God makes them know that He is their God because He has brought them out of the slavery of Egypt. From this event springs out the ten words of life or commandments through which God wants to sanctify His people. The first three commandments have to do with the relationship with God and the other seven with the relationship with our neighbour. All the commandments are ways in which God wants to transform us if we welcome His graces and not laws that we must keep to receive God's reward. The Second Reading is from the First Letter of the apostle St. Paul to the Corinthians. It is a passage in which St. Paul speaks about the Cross of Christ as the source of our lives. For Jews the Cross is a scandal since it signifies the death of a criminal and for the Gentiles it is an absurdity because it points out that everything finishes with death. For us Christians, the Cross is the sign of our salvation by which Christ has destroyed our sins out of love and brings us new life. We are invited to see in this way our own difficulties and trials, not as a stumbling block but as a way of encountering God and receiving life. The Gospel from St. John offers us the account of Jesus' cleansing of the Temple of Jerusalem. It is a passage that makes us feel uneasy because we do not fully understand why Jesus acts in a such a way. Jesus purifies the Temple and makes it again a place to encounter God and to give Him right and fitting praise. He wants to do the same in our hearts during this time of Lent. Perhaps, our hearts are enslaved to different sins and God wants to free us to instill in us His graces and His peace. He wants to take away from us the heart of flesh that impedes us to be happy and to love others and He wants to freely give us a new heart that is full of joy and can love unconditionally. Let us open our hearts to receive God's love so that our hearts may be renewed by His love!

I encourage everybody to assist at our Symphony "the Cross of Christ" on Friday, March 22nd at 7pm. It will be a beautiful experience of how much Christ

loves us and we will be at the same time helping our parish.

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Homily Third Sunday of Lent (March 7, 2021)

Saint Paul has told us that "Christ is the power and wisdom of God" (1 Cor 1:22-25). Jesus revealed that power and wisdom above all by offering forgiveness and showing mercy. He chose to do so not by displays of strength or by speaking to us from on high, in lengthy and learned discourses. He did so by giving his life on the cross. He revealed his wisdom and power by showing us, to the very end, the faithfulness of the Father's love; the faithfulness of the God of the covenant, who brought his people forth from slavery and led them on a journey of freedom (cf. Ex 20:1-2).

How easy it is to fall into the trap of thinking that we have to show others that we are powerful or wise, into the trap of fashioning false images of God that can give us security (cf. Ex 20:4-5). Yet the truth is that all of us need the power and wisdom of God revealed by Jesus on the cross. On Calvary, he offered to the Father the wounds by which alone we are healed (cf. 1 Pet 2:24). Here in Iraq, how many of your brothers and sisters, friends and fellow citizens bear the wounds of war and violence, wounds both visible and invisible! The temptation is to react to these and other painful experiences with human power, human wisdom. Instead, Jesus shows us the way of God, the path that he took, the path on which he calls us to follow him.

In the Gospel reading we have just heard (Jn 2:13-25), we see how Jesus drove out from the Temple in Jerusalem the moneychangers and all the buyers and sellers. Why did Jesus do something this forceful and provocative? He did it because the Father sent him to cleanse the temple: not only the Temple of stone, but above all the temple of our heart. Jesus could not tolerate his Father's house becoming a marketplace (cf. Jn 2:16); neither does he want our hearts to be places of turmoil, disorder and confusion. Our heart must be cleansed, put in order and purified. Of what? Of the falsehoods that stain it, from hypocritical duplicity. All of us have these. They are diseases that harm the heart, soil our lives and make them insincere. We need to be cleansed of the deceptive securities that would barter our faith in God with

passing things, with temporary advantages. We need the baneful temptations of power and money to be swept from our hearts and from the Church. To cleanse our hearts, we need to dirty our hands, to feel accountable and not to simply look on as our brothers and sisters are suffering. How do we purify our hearts? By our own efforts, we cannot; we need Jesus. He has the power to conquer our evils, to heal our diseases, to rebuild the temple of our heart.

To show this, and as a sign of his authority, Jesus goes on to say: "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (v. 19). Jesus Christ, he alone, can cleanse us of the works of evil. Jesus, who died and rose! Jesus, the Lord! Dear brothers and sisters, God does not let us die in our sins. Even when we turn our backs on him, he never leaves us to our own devices. He seeks us out, runs after us, to call us to repentance and to cleanse us of our sins. "As I live, says the Lord, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live" (Ezek 33:11). The Lord wants us to be saved and to become living temples of his love, in fraternity, in service, in mercy.

Jesus not only cleanses us of our sins, but gives us a share in his own power and wisdom. He liberates us from the narrow and divisive notions of family, faith and community that divide, oppose and exclude, so that we can build a Church and a society open to everyone and concerned for our brothers and sisters in greatest need. At the same time, he strengthens us to resist the temptation to seek revenge, which only plunges us into a spiral of endless retaliation. In the power of the Holy Spirit, he sends us forth, not as proselytizers, but as missionary disciples, men and women called to testify to the life-changing power of the Gospel. The risen Lord makes us instruments of God's mercy and peace, patient and courageous artisans of a new social order. In this way, by the power of Christ and the Holy Spirit, the prophetic words of the Apostle Paul to the Corinthians are fulfilled: "God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's wisdom is stronger than human strength" (1 Cor 1:25). Christian communities made up of simple and lowly people become a sign of the coming of his kingdom, a kingdom of love, justice and peace.

MARCH 3, 2024



You bring love and hope to young mothers through ShareLife. Many young women who are unexpectedly pregnant don't know where to turn for help. Through your support for ShareLife, our agencies ensure they have the resources they need to keep their education on track, provide their babies a healthy start, and create a bright future.

"I have no words to describe what it means to be a recipient of your generosity," shares Arielle, a grateful young mother you support through Vita Centre. "I have a better mental state now. I know that my baby is healthy because of it, too." Our parish goal is \$141,500. Please give through the parish, using the ShareLife envelope provided or through the parish website sharelife.org/donate.

Knights of Columbus, St John the Evangelist Council, meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month from Sept to June. Next Meeting is Wednesday March 6, 2024 at 8PM at the Knights Hall at 133 Brock St North. For further information assisting the St John's community and becoming a Knight please contact Membership Director Bryan Childerhouse bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com or call 416-508-9877



Masses For The Week

Sat Mar 2 – 5:00pm
+Peter Berger
req. by The Berger Family

Mon Mar 4 – 8:20am
+Pat Belej
req. by Jim Corrigan & Ann Belej-Corrigan
+Visidor Fernando & George Pires
req. by Maria Fernando

Tues Mar 5 – 8:20am
+Rena Currie
req. by The Conboy girls

Wed Mar 6 – 7:00pm
+Anthony, Gloria & Micheal DeFreitas
req. by Taryn DeFreitas
+William John Cook
req. by Helen Cook & Family

Thur Mar 7 – 8:20am
+All Souls in Purgatory
req. by Joe & Joy Broderick

Fri Mar 8 – 7:00pm
+Lorraine Weddell
req. by Pat & Clark Weddell

Totus Tuus Summer Camp!

The children and youth of the parish are invited to join us for Totus Tuus, an Archdiocesan program in which missionaries travel to different parishes, spreading the Good News of our Lord through catechesis, Mass, confession, songs and games!

DAY CAMP (for students going into grade 1-6 in the fall) - \$80 for the week

Monday, July 8th to Friday, July 14th,
9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

EVENING PROGRAM (for students going into grade 7-12 in the fall) - \$40 for the week

Sunday, July 7th to Thursday, July 11th, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

For more information about registration or volunteering to help with this program, please contact Cassandra at cass.sullivan@archtoronto.org or visit our parish website.



Stations of the Cross Fridays

Stations of the Cross 6:30pm in English,
Mass at 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross in Spanish at
7:30pm

Mar 8 Pope Francis Stations
Mar 15 Mary's Way of the Cross
Mar 22 Concert: Last 7 Words of Christ
Mar 29 (Good Friday) Youth Stations

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
Seniors' Retreat Coming Soon
Thursday, May 23, 2024
Lunch included
Invite a friend!

THE CROSS OF CHRIST
Friday, March 22, 2024, 7pm
St. John the Evangelist Church
An original oratorio based on the last 7 words of Christ on the Cross presented on the threshold of Holy Week. This Lenten concert is a catechetical musical presentation of Christ's suffering and His tremendous love for us.

Join us for a very special Operatic Music Gala "CROSS OF CHRIST" performed by four top vocalists composed and performed by Romulo Delgado, one of Canada's top tenors.

Tickets \$75/pp

Hard tickets available in the Parish Office

Proceeds support Parish Projects

<https://mission.archtoronto.org/Event/TheCrossOfChrist-StJohntheEvangelistParish/#/>



Knights of Columbus
Council 4895
St. Patrick's Pub Night
Knights WCC Hall,
133 Brock St. N., Whitby
Saturday March 16,
Doors open 6:30 pm
Dancing 7:30 PM. Live Band - Prizes-Snacks
Light Buffet- Cash Bar.
Tickets - 30 dollars per person

Lenten Day of Confession

Tuesday March 12, 2024

9:30am – 11:30am

2:00pm – 4:00pm

6:30pm – 7:30pm

Reconciliation Evening Service

Sunday, March 17, 2024 at 7pm
in the church

Several priests available

COLLABORATIVE LAW PRACTICE
Resolving Disputes Respectfully.

J. Thomas Hamer
Barrister and Solicitor
COLLABORATIVE FAMILY LAW
Wills • Powers of Attorney
Estate Administration
www.collaborativepracticetoronto.com
jthamer@ehpnf.com
105 Consumers Dr., Ste. 524
905-665-0221

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
FUNERAL SERVICES

In keeping with your Catholic faith
www.catholic-cemeteries.com
Resurrection Cemetery 905-668-8912

Funeral Director – Michael Lodge
W.C. Town Funeral Chapel
110 Dundas St. E., Whitby 905-668-3410


Shopping Locally Saves Gas

TEAM FENNESSEY
The team you will recommend!
TOBY FENNESSEY
Broker | Residential/Investment Properties

Chris Leahy
DURHAM SECURITY
905-556-1801

THE LIVING BENEFITS GROUP
life • disability • critical illness
long term care • health • dental • RRSPs
JIM CORRIGAN
310 Byron St. S. 905.430.7921

St. John's parishioner since 1988
Direct: 905-622-3667 | toby@teamfennessey.com
www.teamfennessey.com | teamfennessey
Royal Heritage Realty Ltd., Brokerage

Turn your home into a Smart Home!
\$50 donated to St. John's for every new contract.
chris@durhamsecurity.ca

vandermeer nursery
Durham's destination garden centre since 1961. Open year-round!
vandermeer nursery.com

COLIN L. OLDMAN B.Com. LL.B.
555 KINGSTON RD W, 2ND FLOOR AJAX 905-683-2741
LAWSON CLARK & OLDMAN Est. 1955
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION - BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, NOTARIES

Stafford Monuments Limited
Granite & Bronze Family & Civic Memorials
Inscriptions & Cemetery Restoration
318 Dundas St. E. 905-668-3552
~ 6 Generations of Service, Quality & Trust ~

ONTARIO DUCT CLEANING
Do it for your home
do it for the health of your family.
For a FREE No Obligation phone estimate, call:
905-433-5000

ROYAL LEPAGE
FRANK REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE
Mary-Louise LaBarre
Sales Representative / Parishioner
Cel 905.718.6367
Bus 905.666.1333
1.866.273.1333
mlabarre@sympatico.ca

BARNES MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME
Family owned and operated since 1863
905.655.3662
5295 Thicksom Rd. N., Whitby
(1 minute North of Taunton on Thicksom)

Abigail Vales
Product Advisor
1025 Dundas St W
416-432-2632
abigail.vales@whitbytoyota.com

ROUSSEAU'S
Fine Furniture & Interior Design Since 1929
216 Mary St. E.
905.668.3483
www.rousseaus.ca

WHITBY TOYOTA

Optical Group Inc.
Dr. Constance Odiase, O.D.
One Stop Shop
Complete Family Eye Care
Glasses • Sunglasses
Contact Lenses
107 Kent St, Whitby
905-665-0522
www.opticalgroup.ca

THE PERFECT SPOT TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL
1-800-268-2637

Remember...
Let our advertisers know you saw their ad here.

For all your mortgage needs!
Caroline Anderson
Mortgage Agent
905.767.2748
MORTGAGE INTELLIGENCE Brokerage #10428
caroline.anderson@migroup.ca

RIGHT AT HOME
EDITH LOSADA
Realtor®/Parishioner
Service in Spanish & English
C: 289-939-3600
B: 905-665-2500
EdithLosadaRealty@gmail.com

NOFRILLS
920 Dundas Street West, Whitby

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW DENTIST?
Coryma Dental Whitby
HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL | CALL NOW!
905-430-9623
www.corymadental.com
220 Dundas St. West, Whitby

DR. J. D'SOUZA
FAMILY DENTIST
New Patients Welcome
185 Brock St. N. (at Mary)
905-430-0118

Deidre Anne Newman
B.Sc., LL.B.
Barrister & Solicitor
Family, Criminal, Wills
Parishioner
2A-119 Consumers Drive
Whitby, Ontario L1N 1C4
T: 905-665-6360
dnewman@danewmanlaw.com

SALES REPRESENTATIVE WANTED
Liturgical Publications, your weekly bulletin printer has an opening for a **full time Sales Representative**.
Base Salary • Commission • Car Allowance • Travel Expenses
If you have a drive to succeed and are self-motivated, email your resume to salesrep@parishbulletins.com

WCC Hall Rentals
133 Brock St. N.
rentals@whitbycolumbusclub.ca
www.whitbycolumbusclub.ca
905-668-6412