# 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**

Pastoral Council

Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles Pastor

Rev. Mr. Dan Humphries
Mrs. Kristine Blyth
Mrs. Vicki Morgan

Permanent Deacon
Lay Pastoral Asst.
Secretary

Mrs. Cassandra Hamilton
Mr. Robert Caley

Youth Ministry
Choir Director

Support Staff

Mr. Francisco Perez Caretaker
Mrs. Sue McGee Bookkeeper

Mrs. Gail Stewart Cook/Housekeeper

Fr. Francisco Fernandez

**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)

**EUCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR** 

On first Friday of each month following morning mass.

905-668-3676

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.

Finance Council	Paul D'Aurelio	905-665-3056
Christian Initiation of Adults - RCIA Baptism First Reconciliation & First Eucharist Preparation Confirmation Preparation Parish Home Catechism Program	Christine Hannon Fr. Francisco Mrs. Kristine Blyth Mrs. Kristine Blyth Lorraine Thomas	905-444-9913 905-668-3676 905-668-3676 905-668-3676 905-409-1743
Altar Servers Auxiliary Ministers of Communion Choir Feed the Hungry Home Communion Lectors Liturgy of the Word with Children (JK-Gr.2) Sun. 9:00 a.m. Mass Ministers of Consolation Neocatechumenal Way Parish Prayer Group Ushers	Cassandra Hamilton Fred Shady Robert Caley Paula Campbell Clark Weddell Deidre Newman Phyllis Pereira Anne Marie Yaraskavitch Gail Stewart Klara Bari Sharon Weslake	905-668-3676 905-668-1081 905-252-3962 905-668-2293 905-434-8121 905-665-6360 905-665-5917 905-666-3860 905-668-3676 905-668-9579 905-668-4817
Catholic Women's League Development & Peace (CCODP) Knights of Columbus #4895 St. Vincent de Paul Society - Help Line	Lynne Childerhouse Estela Rios John Stafford	905-431-6582 905-430-7753 905-809-1731 905-430-6734
Catholic Cemeteries Catholic Family Services Rose of Durham (Young Parent Support Services)	Oshawa 905-725-3513 Ajax 1-800-241-3534 or	905-668-8912 905-428-1984 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

#### TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of Deuteronomy, presents a passage about the importance of keeping God's commandments so that we may find life and peace. God reminds the people of Israel that it's essential to listen and observe His commandments so that they can prosper in their lives. We are encouraged to keep in mind that we need to listen and to put into practice what God teaches us everyday. We need to let ourselves be guided by God's grace. When we do this, even though we go through difficulties, we find in Him consolation and strength. The Second Reading, from the Letter of St. James, offers us a beautiful exhortation on putting into practice God's word in our daily lives. All of us know what we should do, but it is very difficult to carry it out. We often fail and we keep doing what is not good. God gives us His Holy Spirit so that we can carry out good deeds in our lives. The Gospel from St. Mark, brings us a passage in which Christ underlines that what takes away our peace is what comes from within us and not from outside ourselves against a rigorous observance of the law in which we need to behave well to be saved and we find fault in others or in events, Christ speaks about the importance of our interior disposition. It is from within our hearts that either we do good or we choose to do evil. Sometimes, we find it difficult to accept events or people around us and we complain or get angry. Christ has come to give us a new heart so that in every situation we can always act with love, patience and peace. Let us be open so that the Lord may transform our hearts with His mercy and love! After a restful and eventful summer, we are called to face our daily life of work, school and other responsibilities. It is not easy to go back and restart, but let us do it with God's grace and He will help

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant, and your Pastor

# Pope Francis' Homily for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 28, 2021)

The Gospel for today's liturgy shows a few scribes and Pharisees amazed by Jesus' attitude. They are scandalized because his disciples pick up food without first performing the traditional ritual ablutions. They think among themselves "This way of doing things is contrary to the religious practice" (cf. Mk 7:2-5).

We too can ask ourselves: why do Jesus and his disciples disregard these traditions? After all, they are not bad things, but good ritual habits, simple washings before eating. Why doesn't Jesus attend to it? Because for Him it is important to bring faith back to its centre. In the Gospel we see it repeatedly: this bringing faith back to the centre. And to avoid a risk, which applies to those scribes as well as to us: to observe outward formalities, putting the heart and the faith in the background. Many times we too "put makeup" on our soul. Outward formality and not the heart of faith: this is a risk. It is the risk of a religiosity of appearances: looking good on the outside, while failing to purify the heart. There is always the temptation to "organize God" with some outward devotion, but Jesus does not settle for this worship. Jesus does not want outward appearances, he wants a faith that touches the heart.

In fact, immediately afterwards, he calls the people back to speak a great truth: "there is nothing outside a man which by going into him can defile him; but the things which come out of a man are what defile him" (v. 15). Rather, it is "from within, out of the heart" (v. 21) that evil things are born. These words are revolutionary, because in the mindset of the time it was thought that certain foods or external contacts would render one impure. Jesus reverses the perspective: what comes from the outside does not do harm, but rather, what is born from within.

Dear brothers and sisters, this also pertains to us. We often think that evil comes mainly from the outside: from other people's conduct, from those who think badly of us, from society. How often we blame others, society, the world, for everything that happens to us! It is always the fault of "others": it is the fault of people, of those who govern, of misfortune, and so on. It seems that problems always come from the outside. And we spend time assigning blame; but spending time blaming others is wasting time. We become angry, bitter and keep God away from our heart. Like those people in the Gospel, who complain, who are scandalized, who cause controversy and do not accept Jesus. One cannot be truly religious in complaining: complaining poisons, it leads you to anger, to resentment and to sadness, that of the heart, which closes the door to God.

Today let us ask the Lord to free us from blaming others - like children: "No, it wasn't me! It's the other one, the other one...". Let us ask in prayer for the grace not to waste time polluting the world with complaints, because this is not Christian. Jesus instead invites us to look at life and the world starting from our heart. If we look inside, we will find almost all that we despise outside. And if, sincerely, we ask God to purify our heart, that is when we will start making the world cleaner. Because there is an infallible way to defeat evil: by starting to conquer it within yourself. The first Fathers of the Church, the monks, when they were asked: "What is the path of holiness?", the first step, they used to say, was to blame yourself: blame yourself. Blaming ourselves. How many of us, during the day, in a moment during the day or a moment during the week, area able to blame ourselves within? "Yes, this one did this to me, the other one ... that is barbarity...". But me? I do the same thing, or I do it this way.... It is wisdom: learning to blame yourself. Try to do it, it will do you good. It does me good, when I manage to do so, it is good for us, it will do us all good.

May the Virgin Mary, who changed history through the purity of her heart, help us to purify our own, by overcoming first and foremost the vice of blaming others and complaining about everything.

Sat Aug 31- 5:00pm

#### **Mass Schedule**

+Mirko Cot reg. by Irena Stebih

Mon Sep 2 - 9:00am LABOUR DAY

In Thanksgiving req. by The Virani Family

Tues Sep 3-8:20am

+Danny Currie reg. by Pat & Mary Mullen

Wed Sep 4 - 7:00pm

+John Berry

reg. by Donald, Dorothy & Shawn Berry

+Eve & Les Hillcoff

reg. by Donald, Dorothy & Shawn Berry

+Virginia Reid

reg. by Donald, Dorothy & Shawn Berry

+Virginia Reid

reg. by Donald, Dorothy & Shawn Berry

+Dorothy Vinzenz req. by Jim Carruthers

Thur Sep 5 - 8:20am

+Bonch Loomans req. by Gail McMonagle

Fri Sep 6 - 8:20am

+Don Legault req. by Denise Dugas

### **SACRAMENT PREPARATION PROGRAMS**

2024 – 2025

### FIRST EUCHARIST

(Grade 2)

# CONFIRMATION (Grade 7)

# REGISTRATION and INFORMATION NIGHT in the Church (one parent only to attend)

Tuesday, September 17th at 7:00 pm

(please bring completed registration form, a <u>\$50</u> fee for program expenses and a <u>photocopy</u> of your child's Baptism Certificate)

# REGISTRATION and INFORMATION NIGHT in the Church (one parent & candidate to attend) Tuesday, October 22nd at 7:00 pm

(please bring completed registration form, a <u>\$60</u> 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 our young parishioners have fun, make friends and grow in their faith. **Life Teen** for grade 9-12 will take place every 1st and 3rd Thursday from 7-8:30 pm **beginning on October 3rd. EDGE** for grade 5-8 will take place every 2nd and 4th Thursday from 7-8:30 pm **beginning on October 10th.**For more information about registering or volunteering for this important ministry, contact

Cassandra cass.sullivan@archtoronto.org.

#### Interested in Altar Serving?

Altar servers must be in grade 3 or older and have already received their First Communion. Contact Cassandra for more information. There will be a training for altar servers on **Saturday, September 21st from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.** Lunch will be provided!



All Youth of the parish are invited to <u>participate</u> in St. John the Evangelist's

Youth Mass @ 11:00am on Sundays Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> &, June 1<sup>st</sup> Lectors: Gr.8 -12

Procession of Gifts: Gr.1 -7

Ushers: Gr 1 -12

(to greet parishioners and hand out bulletins)

Youth Choir: Gr 6 -12

Please contact the Parish office for more information.

PARISH HOME CATECHISM PROGRAM (PHCP) 2024-25 REGISTRATION

Registration for PHCP begins Wednesday, August 21 and will be open until Wednesday, September 11, 2024.

For your convenience, registration forms are now available on the parish website, at the back of the Church or in the Parish Office. Please register in person in the parish office during regular business hours or you may place your registration package, labelled PHCP in the Sunday collection basket.

The registration fee for PHCP is \$60 per child.If you are interested in registering your child for PHCP and would like more information about the program, please contact Lorraine Thomas, PHCP Coordinator, 905-409-1743 or Ithomas@archtoronto.org.

Please Note: Parents/guardians are required to provide at registration baptismal records for their children who are NEW to the PHCP and who were not baptized at St. John the Evangelist Church.

San Juan Diego Spanish Mass Bake Sale September 28/29, 2024 In the foyer after all masses

Social Sunday & Ministry Fair Sunday September 22, 2024 after 9am & 11am Saturday Sept 21<sup>st</sup> Ministry Fair in the foyer after 5pm

Knights of Columbus, St John the Evangelist Council, meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month from Sept to June. Next Meeting is Wednesday September 4, 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 Bryan

Childerhouse <u>bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com</u> or call 416-508-9877

#### R.C.I.A

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) provides instruction and spiritual formation to anyone 16 years of age and older who are not baptized, or baptized in another Christian community, who would like to become a member of the Catholic Church. Catholic adults who have not yet celebrated their First Eucharist or the Sacrament of Confirmation may also take part. RCIA Sessions take place on Thursday evenings from 7pm to 9pm in the Parish Centre beginning soon. Interested participants should contact Fr. Francisco at the Parish Office as soon as possible to register: (905) 668-3676



This Labour Day Monday September 2nd, mass is at 9am. The parish office is closed. Welcome back to all students!



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