

St. John the Evangelist Church

903 Giffard Street, Whitby, ON L1N 2S3

Rectory Office: Ph: 905-668-3676

email: stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org website: www.stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/

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Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles	Pastor
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Mrs. Cassandra Hamilton	Youth Ministry
Mr. Robert Caley	Choir Director

Support Staff

Mr. Francisco Perez	Caretaker
Mrs. Sue McGee	Bookkeeper
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A Thanksgiving Prayer

Heavenly Creator,

*In this season of gratitude and abundance, we give You
thanks for our many blessings as we pray for all
who struggle with hunger and want.*

Be with them in the dark of night, when all hope seems lost.

Keep their faith strong as they await relief.

*And let Your goodness flow through our
hearts and hands as we reach out to one
another in the full, true joy of Thanksgiving in Christ.*

Amen



Thank You, LORD!

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of Wisdom, we see how important God's wisdom is to make right decisions in our daily lives that bring us peace and joy. It is a gift that God wants to pour out upon us if we ask Him for it. It is the capacity to discern and to carry out God's will in all circumstances of our lives. If we do so, with it we find happiness and fulfillment. The Second Reading, from the Letter to the Hebrews, shows how powerful and life-giving is God's word. It has two main functions: one is to pinpoint and to uncover what hurts us and two, to heal and to soothe what is making us suffer so that we can receive peace. By welcoming God's word, we receive fulness of life. In the Gospel, from St. Mark, we find a young rich man who wants to follow Christ in his own way. Soon, he will discover that for him his possessions are more important than to find life in Christ. Christ is the One who takes the initiative and calls us to follow Him and to find happiness and fulfillment in Him. If we are attached to our goods and possessions, we are unable to follow Him. If we enter into his plan and follow Him, then we find such an immense joy and happiness. Let us open our hearts to Christ who offers us a joy beyond our expectations!

This weekend we celebrate Thanksgiving. Let us be grateful to God for all the gifts that we have received from Him. Especially, we should be thankful for the gift of our lives, our families; but most of all, for the gift of faith and for the immense gift of Christ giving Himself to us so that we may find abundant life in Him. Let us be grateful for all the blessings that we have received in our lives!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant, and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Homily for the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 14, 2018)

The second reading tells us that "the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword (Heb 4:12). It really is: God's word is not merely a set of truths or an edifying spiritual account; no – it is a living word that touches our lives, that transforms our lives. There, Jesus in person, the living Word of God, speaks to our hearts.

The Gospel, in particular, invites us to an encounter with the Lord, after the example of the "man" who "ran up to him" (cf. Mk 10:17). We can recognize ourselves in that man, whose name the text does not give, as if to suggest that he could represent each one of us. He asks Jesus how "to inherit eternal life" (v. 17). He is seeking life without end, life in its fullness: who of us would not want this? Yet we notice that he asks for it as an inheritance, as a good to be obtained, to be won by his own efforts. In fact, in order to possess this good, he has observed the commandments from his youth and to achieve this he is prepared to follow others; and so he asks: "What must I do to have eternal life?"

Jesus's answer catches him off guard. The Lord looks upon him and loves him (cf. v. 21). Jesus changes the perspective: from commandments observed in order to obtain a reward, to a free and total love. That man was speaking in terms of supply and demand,

Jesus proposes to him a story of love. He asks him to pass from the observance of laws to the gift of self, from doing for oneself to being with God. And the Lord suggests to the man a life that cuts to the quick: "Sell what you have and give to the poor...and come, follow me" (v. 21). To you, too, Jesus says: "Come, follow me!" Come: do not stand still, because it is not enough not to do evil in order to be with Jesus. Follow me: do not walk behind Jesus only when you want to, but seek him out every day; do not be content to keep the commandments, to give a little alms and say a few prayers: find in Him the God who always loves you; seek in Jesus the God who is the meaning of your life, the God who gives you the strength to give of yourself.

Again Jesus says: "Sell what you have and give to the poor." The Lord does not discuss theories of poverty and wealth, but goes directly to life. He asks you to leave behind what weighs down your heart, to empty yourself of goods in order to make room for him, the only good. We cannot truly follow Jesus when we are laden down with things. Because if our hearts are crowded with goods, there will not be room for the Lord, who will become just one thing among the others. For this reason, wealth is dangerous and – says Jesus – even makes one's salvation difficult. Not because God is stern, no! The problem is on our part: our having too much, our wanting too much suffocates us, suffocates our hearts and makes us incapable of loving. Therefore, Saint Paul writes that "the love of money is the root of all evils" (1 Tim 6:10). We see this where money is at the centre, there is no room for God nor for man.

Jesus is radical. He gives all and he asks all: he gives a love that is total and asks for an undivided heart. Even today he gives himself to us as the living bread; can we give him crumbs in exchange? We cannot respond to him, who made himself our servant even going to the cross for us, only by observing some of the commandments. We cannot give him, who offers us eternal life, some odd moment of time. Jesus is not content with a "percentage of love": we cannot love him twenty or fifty or sixty percent. It is either all or nothing. This is how it was for the man, who – the Gospel tells us – "went away sorrowful" (v. 22). He was tied down to regulations of the law and to his many possessions; he had not given over his heart. Even though he had encountered Jesus and received his loving gaze, the man went away sad. Sadness is the proof of unfulfilled love, the sign of a lukewarm heart. On the other hand, a heart unburdened by possessions, that freely loves the Lord, always spreads joy, that joy for which there is so much need today.

Knights of Columbus Bottle Drive

A collection of empty bottles & cash donations will be accepted for Special Olympics at the parish centre parking after each mass Saturday October 26th & Sunday October 27th. Thank you!



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Food Drive**

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE DURING OCTOBER

Canned Fruit, Salmon, Tuna
Peanut butter, Cereal

Canned Soups & Vegetables
Pork & Beans, Rice, Dry Beans

Please check expiry dates
THANK YOU!

OCTOBER 13, 2024



Thanksgiving Monday October 14th,
mass is at 9am, the office will be
closed. God bless!



Society of St. Vincent de Paul,
BUNDLE WEEKEND
Oct 26/27, 2024

A truck will be parked in St. John Parish parking lot over the weekend Oct 26th, 27th after all masses. We accept gently used/new clothing, coats, linens, towels, bedding, textiles, drapery, shoes/boots.

We CANNOT accept furniture, appliances, mattresses, used baby equipment, furniture, 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

Life Chain THANK YOU!

Thank God, our creator, for keeping those rain clouds at bay until long after we completed our Life Chain in support of life and we thank God for those who joined us this year and ask Him to inspire all those who He calls to join us next year on Life Chain Sunday October 5th 2025.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Second Collection Oct 19/20, 2024

There will be a second collection for the Evangelization of the Nations known as World Mission Sunday. This is a worldwide collection for the missionary church and it is our opportunity to assist at-need Catholic Communities globally. Offerings are combined with offerings from other Catholics around the world and distributed to missions and dioceses. We are called to share from our abundance with those less fortunate who lack the basic essentials to know, love and praise God. *Thank you for your support of this important work!*

For more information, www.missionsocieties.ca

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

(please bring completed registration form, a \$60 fee for program expenses and a **photocopy** of your child's Baptism Certificate)

Bible Study: **Mondays Oct 21 – Dec 16**

7pm – 9pm, PC main

Walking Toward Eternity, presented by Jeff Cavin

Please contact the parish office to register. Books \$25



Masses For The Week

Sat Oct 12– 5:00pm

+Eli Hallet

req. by Don & Cathy Huppe

****Mon Oct 14 – 9:00am Thanksgiving Monday**
In Thanksgiving for prayers answered
req. by Jamine Leitao

Tues Oct 15– 8:20am

+Humberto Schenflede

req. by His Family

Wed Oct 16 – 7:00pm

+All Souls in Purgatory

req. by Joe & Joy Broderick

+Giacomo Bellotto

req. by Elisa Bellotto & Family

+Matteo Radoslovich

req. by Paul, Allison, Hilda & Family

+Ted Kapuscinski

req. by Doreen & Family

+Idalina Leitao

req. by The Virani & Leitao Families

Thur Oct 17 – 8:20am

+All Souls in Purgatory

req. by Joe & Joy Broderick

Fri Oct 18– 8:20am

+John Robinson

req. by Theresa Robinson & Family



All Youth of the parish are invited to participate in

St. John the Evangelist's

Youth Mass @ 11:00am on

Sundays Nov. 3rd, Feb. 9th, Apr. 6th & Jun 1st

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

Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Parishes on Palliative Care

The Horizons of Hope program will help parishioners, caregivers, and family members facing a terminal illness learn more about palliative care and come together in community to understand palliative care from theological, ethical, and medical perspectives. In addition to gaining new knowledge, parishes are encouraged to work together to develop a plan for building a caring parish community.

3 Saturdays Oct 26, Nov 2, 9, 16,

10am – 12 noon in the Parish Center, main room

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