

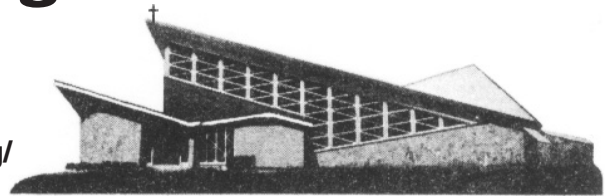
# St. John the Evangelist Church

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  
 Deacon Dan Humphries Permanent Deacon  
 Mrs. Kristine Blyth Lay Pastoral Asst.  
 Mrs. Vicki Morgan Secretary  
 Mrs. Cassandra Hamilton 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 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	Kristine Blyth	905-668-3676
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 Hamilton	905-668-3676
Auxiliary Ministers of Communion	Fred Shady	905-668-1081
Choir	Robert Caley	905-252-3962
Feed the Hungry	Paula Campbell	905-668-2293
Home Communion	Clark Weddell	905-434-8121
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	Al Taylor	905-925-5382
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 prophet Jeremiah, we see how the Lord brings back all the exiles to Jerusalem. Those who are in most distress, they will be guided and consoled by the Lord. Even though we go through any difficult situation, the Lord will help us and give us hope. The Second Reading, from the Letter to the Hebrews, shows how Jesus Christ is our High Priest since He lives for ever to intercede for us. He has been appointed by God as the One who helps us in our time of need. We lean on Him and find refuge when we go through struggles and difficulties. In the Gospel, from St. Mark, we see how Christ heals a blind person as he enters the city of Jericho. Bartimaeus, is aware of his blindness and he wants to be healed. He has heard that Christ has power to heal him. Then, as soon as Jesus enters the city, he starts shouting but the disciples and Christ continue walking. It seems that Christ does not pay attention to him, but He wants to see how far he can ask the Lord to heal him. It shows how much this person wanted to be healed. Christ finally stops and He heals him, and the blind man follows Him with great joy. When we are aware that we need the Lord, it is important to ask the Lord persistently so that He may stop and heal our blindness so that we can experience God's mercy in our lives. Let us beg the Lord insistently so that He may open our eyes to recognize God's love so that we can love others around us!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant, and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Homily for the Thirty Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 24, 2021)

The Gospel of today's Liturgy tells of Jesus who, when leaving Jericho, restores the sight of Bartimaeus, a blind man begging by the roadside (cf. *Mk* 10:46-52). It is an important encounter, the last one before the Lord's entry into Jerusalem for the Passover. Bartimaeus had lost his sight, but not his voice! Indeed, when he heard that Jesus was about to pass by, he begins to cry out: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" (v. 47). And he shouts and shouts. Annoyed by his shouting, the disciples and the crowd rebuke him to make him be quiet. But he shouts even louder: "Son of David, have mercy on me!" (v. 48). Jesus hears, and immediately stops. God always listens to the cry of the poor and is not at all disturbed by Bartimaeus' voice; rather, he realises it is full of faith, a faith that is not afraid to insist, to knock on the door of God's heart, despite not being understood and being reproached. And here lies the root of the miracle. Indeed, Jesus says to him: "Your faith has made you well" (v. 52).

Bartimaeus' faith is evident from his prayer. It is not a timid and standard prayer. First and foremost, he calls the Lord "Son of David": that is, he acknowledges Jesus as the Messiah, the King who would come into the world. Then he calls Him by name, confidently; "Jesus". He is not afraid of Him, he does not stay at a distance. And thus, from the heart, he shouts out his entire drama to God, his friend: "Have mercy on me"! Just that prayer: "Have mercy on me"! He does not ask for some loose change as he does with passers-by. No. *He asks for everything from the One who can do everything.* He asks people for loose change; he asks everything from Jesus who can do everything. "Have mercy on me, have mercy on all that I am". He does not ask for a grace, but presents himself: he asks for mercy on his person, on his life. It is not a small request, but it is very beautiful because it is a cry for mercy, that is, compassion, God's mercy, his tenderness.

Bartimaeus does not use many words. He says what is essential and entrusts himself to God's love which can make his life flourish again by doing what is humanly impossible. This is why he does not ask the Lord for alms, but makes everything be seen — his

blindness and his suffering which was far more than not being able to see. His blindness was the tip of the *iceberg*; but there must have been wounds, humiliations, broken dreams, mistakes, remorse in his heart. He prayed with his heart. And what about us? When we ask for God's grace, do we also include in our prayer our own history, our wounds, our humiliations, our broken dreams, our mistakes and our regrets?

"*Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me.*" Let us, too, recite this prayer today. Let us repeat it and ask ourselves: "What is my prayer like"? Let each of us ask ourselves: "What is my prayer like"? Is it courageous, does it contain the good insistence of Bartimaeus, does it know how to "*take hold*" of the Lord as he passes, or is it rather content with making a formal greeting every now and then, when I remember? Those lukewarm prayers that do not help at all. Furthermore, is my prayer "substantial", does it bare my heart before the Lord? Do I take my story and life experience to him? Or is it anaemic, superficial, made up of rituals, without feeling and without heart? When faith is alive, prayer is heartfelt: it does not beg for spare change, it is not reduced to the needs of the moment. We must ask everything of Jesus, who can do everything. Do not forget this. We must ask everything of Jesus, with my insistence before Him. He cannot wait to pour out his grace and joy into our hearts; but unfortunately, it is we who keep our distance, through timidity, laziness or unbelief.

Many of us, when we pray, do not believe that the Lord can work miracles. I am reminded of the story — which I have seen — of the father who was told by the doctors that his nine-year-old daughter would not survive the night; she was in hospital. And he took a bus and travelled 70 kilometres to the Shrine of Our Lady. It was closed and, clinging to the gate, he spent the whole night praying: "Lord, save her! Lord, give her life"! He prayed to Our Lady all night long, crying out to God, crying out from his heart. Then in the morning, when he returned to the hospital, he found his wife weeping. And he thought: "She is dead". And his wife said: "No one understands, no one understands, the doctors say it's a strange thing, she seems to have healed". The cry of that man who asked for everything was heard by the Lord who had given him everything. This is not a story: I saw this myself in the other diocese. Do we have this courage in prayer? Let us ask everything to the One who can give us everything, like Bartimaeus, who was a great teacher, a great teacher of prayer. May Bartimaeus, with his genuine, insistent and courageous faith, be an example for us. And may Our Lady, the prayerful Virgin, teach us to turn to God with all our heart, confident that he listens attentively to every prayer.

**Mass in Memory of Loved Ones  
We Have Lost Through Death  
Wednesday November 6th, 2024, 7:00 pm**

The Wednesday evening mass on Nov 6th will provide 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.

**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 out the names of those you wish to be prayed for on our Special Commemoration Mass on Wednesday November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, and every Wednesday in November at 7:00pm.**

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

**Archdiocese of Toronto - Urgent appeal for support in Lebanon—Joint call for help and prayers**

**Lebanon Humanitarian Emergency**

THE CCCB INVITES CATHOLICS TO GIVE AND PRAY FOR LEBANON

With the support of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), Aid to the Church in Need Canada (ACN), Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) Canada, and Development and Peace — Caritas Canada (DPCC) are launching an appeal for prayers and generosity to support the most urgent needs of people in Lebanon, following the bombardments in the country that have already claimed hundreds of innocent lives.

As a member of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, we are participating in the Humanitarian Coalition's Lebanon Emergency Appeal. This means that donations for Lebanon made until November 3, 2024, will be matched dollar for dollar by the Government of Canada, up to a maximum of \$ 3 million.

[https://devp.org/en/make-a-donation/?tfa\\_1948](https://devp.org/en/make-a-donation/?tfa_1948)

<https://devp.org/en/?s=lebanon>

**All Faithful Souls**

All Souls Day Mass will be celebrated in the church on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00am.

Resurrection Cemetery – 355 Taunton Rd E, Whitby  
All Souls' Day Mass

Saturday November 2, 2024 at 2:00 PM  
Join us for our All Souls' Day Mass to commemorate our dear faithful departed, in the mausoleum. All are welcome.

St. Mary of the People, CWL will be hosting their annual "Tree Lights Bazaar" on **Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am to 2pm in the Parish Hall at 532 Stevenson Rd N, Oshawa**. Booths will feature baking, penny sale, flea market, tea room, raffle and more!

Holy Cross Catholic Women's League is holding their Annual Bazaar. **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH, 2024 9:00AM TO 2:00PM** Bake Table, Tea Room, Wool, Novelties, Plants and Crafts Table, Kids Toys and Books Table, Face Painting and Coloring Table, White Elephant Table, Penny Table, 50/50 Draw. Holy Cross Church Basement 373 Simcoe St. South, Oshawa – back entrance.

 **Masses For The Week**

**Sat Oct 26– 5:00pm**  
**+Deceased Members of the Timms & Morgan Families**  
*req. by Patrick & Vicki Morgan*

**Mon Oct 28 –8:20am**  
**+Elpidio Peralta**  
*req. by Maria & Pablo Enrique*

**Tues Oct 29– 8:20am**  
**+Frank McNulty**  
*req. by Valerie James*

**Wed Oct 30 – 7:00pm**  
**+James Dashney Sr. & Jimmy Dashney Jr**  
*req. by Clare Dashney*  
**+Carrie Schranz**  
*req. by Ed Schranz*  
**+Tom LeBlanc**  
*req. by Tom Troy*  
**+Marilyn Fitzgerald**  
*req. by Aaron Wood*  
**+Marilyn Fitzgerald**  
*req. by The Fitzpatrick Family*

**Thur Oct 31 – 8:20am**  
**+All Souls in Purgatory**  
*req. by Joe & Joy Broderick*

**Fri Nov 1– 8:20am ALL SAINTS DAY**  
**+Don Legault**  
*req. by Denise Dugas*

**The 2024-2025 Sunday Missals will be available beginning next weekend. Cost is \$5 per book.**



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