

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/

Pastoral Team

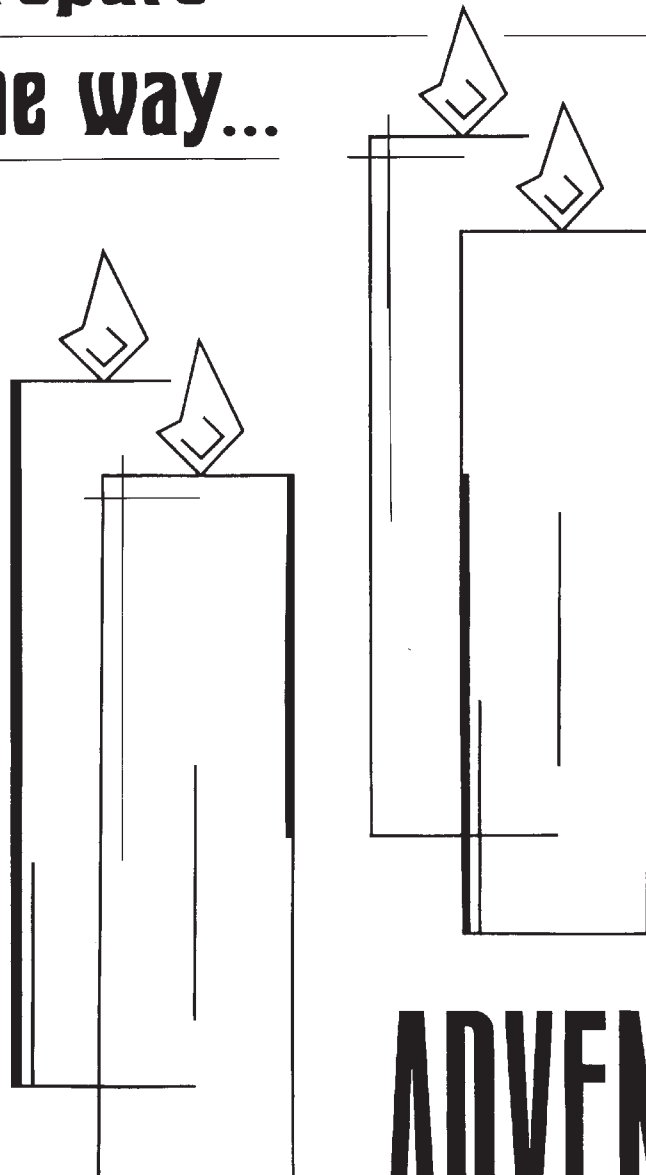
Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles	Pastor
Deacon Dan Humphries	Permanent Deacon
Mrs. Kristine Blyth	Lay Pastoral Asst.
Mrs. Vicki Morgan	Secretary
Mrs. Cassandra Hamilton	Youth Ministry
Mr. Robert Caley	Choir Director

Support Staff

Mr. Francisco Perez	Caretaker
Mrs. Sue McGee	Bookkeeper
Mrs. Gail Stewart	Cook/Housekeeper

prepare

the way...



ADVENT

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

I would like to wish you and your families a blessed and peaceful Christmas. The First Reading, from the Book of the

prophet Isaiah, presents to us the prophecy of the coming of the Messiah among us. His birth gives light to the whole world and brings joy and peace to every person. This child is the Son of God, born for us to save us from our sins and to give us life to the fullest. He is called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. God has made Himself little and fragile so that He can enter into our hearts and share our human weakness so that He can save us. The Second Reading, from the Letter of St. Paul to Titus, offers us the comforting exhortation that, with the coming of Christ, God's unfathomable love has become accessible to us. Christ has been born so that He may die and rise for us so that we can be saved. Through Him, we finally receive the gift of a new life. With a grateful heart, let us welcome God's gift of His immense love so that we may be completely transformed. The Gospel, from St. Luke, gives us the account of the birth of Christ in Bethlehem. He is born in a stable and is placed in a manger. He is born in a manger to show us that He is our food and nourishment at every Eucharist. He is wrapped in swaddling clothes to symbolize that He has been born with the intention of giving His life for us so that we may be saved. His Incarnation and Birth announce already the mystery of His Death and Resurrection. He has become a Son of man, like us, to make of us sons of God. With the birth of Jesus, Heaven has come down to us so that, with Him, we can enter into Heaven. Let us welcome with humble and grateful hearts this wonderful event, Emmanuel, God with us!

I would like to thank all the parishioners for your support, friendship, and prayers. It is truly amazing and a privilege to serve you and to walk with you in faith. Thanks for your cooperation and generous support. I am extremely grateful to all the parish staff for their faithful support and collaboration. To Vicki Morgan, Gail Stewart, Kristine Blyth, Cassandra Hamilton, Francisco Perez, and Sue McGee, I am deeply grateful for their continuous dedication and love to the parish. Thanks to Deacon Dan Humphries and his family for sharing his faith and gift of the diaconate with us. I want to thank all the Offertory Counters and the Finance Council for their help and support. Thanks to Paul D'Aurelio, Lisa Maltby and Bob Koziol. Thanks to our screening committee, Minnie Chillingworth, Christine Marioselva and Nalini Shekhar. A special note of gratitude to Gail McMonagle and Kathie Steffler who assist in the office. Thanks also to all the ladies who have decorated the Church so beautifully, Pat Garrard, Theresa Howard, Diane Webber, and Margrith Peterman and many others, and Gail Stewart for the liturgical banners, fresh flowers, and altar changes. Thanks to Jim and Kristine Blyth and all the RCIA team for their faith sharing. Thanks to Lorraine Thomas and all the PHCP team for teaching our children the faith with energy and dedication. Thanks to all the lectors, ushers, and ministers of communion, coordinated by Deidre Newman, Sharon Weslake, and Fred Shady, who have been serving constantly during this year. Thanks to Florence Venner, Lynne Childerhouse and all the ladies who have accommodated and served parishioners at funeral receptions. Thanks to Ron Locas for opening the Church every day in the morning and to Alice Deehan and Marie Fitzpatrick for taking care of the candles. Thanks to Theresa Robinson and the baptismal preparation team for providing monthly classes to help parents pass on faith to their children. Thanks to Joan Willems and her baptismal hospitality team for their dedication is assisting with the baptisms during the whole year. Thanks

to Al Taylor and all the Knights of Columbus for their support to our parish by being always ready to help at any time. Thanks to Lynne Childerhouse and all the ladies of the CWL for their dedication and love to the parish. Thanks to our prayer group for praising the Lord and sharing the faith on a regular basis. Thanks to our Parish Council, Social - Premila Lobo and Fundraising - Ken Michalko for their ideas, contributions and organization of social events throughout the year. Thanks to our marriage preparation coordinators Lynne & Bryan Childerhouse and all the couples who have been sharing their journey with other couples. Thanks to our home communion teams lead by Clark Weddell, for the homebound, for Claire Brown and Kathie Steffler for organizing communion and mass at Fairview and for everybody who goes to Taunton Mills as well. Thanks to our Funeral altar servers, lead by Mac Beynon, I am very grateful because they are always available. Thanks to Phyllis Pereira, Catherine Phillips, Meryl Aguiar, and Roberta Betancourt for teaching the faith our younger children through the Children's Liturgy. Thanks to our St. Vincent de Paul Society, who have been very generous with their time helping so many people in need. Thanks to Chris and Paul Campbell for organizing and providing food for the hungry. Thanks to the community of the Neocatechumenal Way for their dedication in sharing the faith. Thanks to Anne-Marie Yaraskavitch and the team of ladies who lead the Consolation Ministry and bring support to those who grieve. Thanks to Roberta Deschenes and the team of Rosary Apostolate who go to pray the Rosary at schools. Thanks to Robert and Maritza Cartwright for always helping the migrant workers. Thanks to Robert Caley, Eileen McGowan, Marisa Dashney, Ken Merola, Arianna Veltri, Afton Brown, Henry Remiz, Cassandra Hamilton, and the whole choir for making our liturgies and masses so engaging. Also thanks to Eileen for leading the Children's choir at Christmas Eve. Thanks to the altar servers who have been assisting so faithfully at mass. Thank you to the gardeners for making the gardens so beautiful. Thanks to Cassandra for leading Edge, Lifeteen and the Youth Mass.

*I want to wish to all of you a blessed and hopeful new year! May the peace of Christ overflow in all your homes!
Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor*

Pope Francis' Homily on Christmas (December 24, 2023)

"A census of the whole earth" (cf. Lk 2:1). This was the context in which Jesus was born, and the Gospel makes a point of it. The census might have been mentioned in passing, but instead is carefully noted. And in this way a great contrast emerges. While the emperor numbers the world's inhabitants, God enters it almost surreptitiously. While those who exercise power seek to take their place with the great ones of history, the King of history chooses the way of littleness. None of the powerful take notice of him: only a few shepherds, relegated to the margins of social life.

The census of the whole earth, in a word, manifests the all-too-human thread that runs through history: the quest for worldly power and might, fame and glory, which measures everything in terms of success, results, numbers and figures, a world obsessed with achievement. Yet the census also manifests the way of Jesus, who comes to seek us through enfleshment. He is not the god of accomplishment, but the God of Incarnation. He does not eliminate injustice from above by a show of power, but from below, by a show of love. He does not burst on the scene with limitless power, but descends to the narrow confines of our lives. He does not shun our frailties, but makes them his own. Brothers and sisters, tonight we might ask ourselves: Which God do we believe in? In the God of incarnation or the god of achievement? Because there is always

a risk that we can celebrate Christmas while thinking of God in pagan terms, as a powerful potentate in the sky; a god linked to power, worldly success and the idolatry of consumerism. With the false image of a distant and petulant deity who treats the good well and the bad poorly; a deity made in our own image and likeness, handy for resolving our problems and removing our ills. God, on the other hand, waves no magic wand; he is no god of commerce who promises "everything all at once". He does not save us by pushing a button, but draws near us, in order to change our world from within. Yet how deeply ingrained is the worldly notion of a distant, domineering, unbending and powerful deity who helps his own to prevail against others! This image is so frequently ingrained in us. But that is not the case: our God was born for all, during a census of the whole earth.



Fourth Week of Advent (December 22nd to 24th) – three purple and one pink candles are lit

- **Sunday Isaiah 11:1-10**
- **Monday Zephaniah 3:14-17**
- **Tuesday Matthew 1:18-25**

For Christmas Day - Light a white candle (or replace all purple and pink candles with white ones).

Christmas Day – December 25th - Wednesday Luke 2:8-20



Masses For The Week

Sat Dec 21- 5:00pm

+Everest D'Souza & +Victor, Sylvia & Victor
req. by D'Souza Family

Mon Dec 23 –8:20am

+Mary & John Fox
req. by Catherine

Tues Dec 24 – 5pm, 8pm, 11pm

NO INTENTIONS

Wed Dec 25– 9am, 11am, 2pm Spanish
NO INTENTIONS

Thur Dec 26– 9:00am

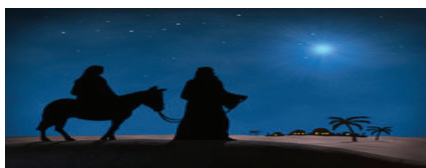
+Armenio Medeiros
req. by Nelly & Todd Johnson

Fri Dec 27– 8:20am

+Vita Griskonis
req. by Don & Anne-Marie Yaraskavitch



Christmas Flower fund – envelopes are available at the back counter for your donation this Christmas



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024
VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
5PM, 8PM, 11PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2024
NATIVITY OF THE LORD
9AM, 11AM, 2PM SPANISH

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2024
ST STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR
9AM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2024
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST
8:20AM

SATURDAY/SUNDAY DECEMBER 28, 29, 2024
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
5PM, 9AM, 11AM
2PM SPANISH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2024
8:20AM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2024
5PM VIGIL MASS
ADORATION 6PM TO 7PM

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 1, 2025
SOLMENITY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
9AM, 11AM, 2PM SPANISH

FIRST COMMUNION



PARENTS MEETING

Tuesday January 21st, 2025 7:00pm
in the Church

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Preparation Classes

Saturday January 25th
Saturday March 1st
Saturday March 29th

Please refer to the Sacrament schedule for session times

The office will close at noon Dec 24th and reopen Dec 27th 9am to 3pm. Also closed noon on Dec 31st and reopen Jan 2nd. Merry Christmas!

C 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

THE PERFECT SPOT TO ADVERTISE

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

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

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

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

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 Thickson Rd. N., Whitby
(1 minute North of Taunton on Thickson)

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.rousseau's.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

BE THE GOOD

Inquire about financial assistance at stmichaelscollegeschool.com

SMCS
ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE SCHOOL

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
SU AMIGA EN REAL ESTATE
C: 289-939-3600
B: 905-665-2500
EdithLosada10@gmail.com

Liz's 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

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

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