

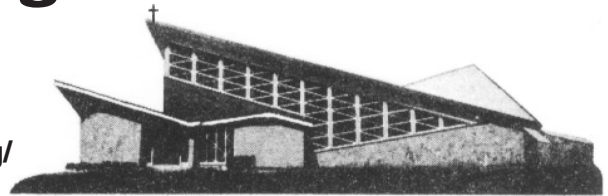
St. John the Evangelist Church

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
 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

St. John the Evangelist School	905-668-4011	St. Marguerite d'Youville School	905-666-9301
1103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3		250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N 6B1	
St. Luke the Evangelist School	905-665-5828	All Saints Catholic Secondary School	905-666-7753
55 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9		3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1	
Durham Catholic District School Board		905-576-6150	www.dcdsb.ca

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!



This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord into the Temple. The First Reading, from the book of the prophet Malachi, brings us a passage in which he foretells the coming of God's messenger to prepare for the coming of the Lord.

Right after, the Lord Himself will come to His Temple. When the Lord comes, He will purify and renew those who attend the Temple. This prophecy has been fulfilled in John the Baptist who prepared the way for Christ. Right after him, Christ came to the Temple of the Lord. The Second Reading, from the Letter to the Hebrews, proclaims that by being incarnate, Christ has shared our flesh to redeem us. Christ has taken upon Himself our weaknesses so that in Him we may find salvation. He is a merciful and compassionate priest since He understands our sufferings and can help us to grow through them. The Gospel, from St. Luke, gives us the account of the Presentation of the Lord into the Temple of Jerusalem. When Jesus is 40 days old, He is offered by His parents in the Temple. Simeon and Anna recognized in Him the Savior and Messiah who has been long awaited to redeem us and to give us salvation. We are all called to worship and acknowledge Christ as our Savior every time that we receive Him in the Eucharist. Let us open our hearts to Lord who comes to enter into our hearts!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Angelus for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (February 2, 2020) Today we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord: when the new-born Jesus was presented to the temple by the Virgin Mary and St Joseph. On this day there is also the Day of Consecrated Life, which recalls the great treasure in the Church of those who follow the Lord closely by professing evangelical counsel.

The Gospel (cf. Luke 2:22-40) recounts that, forty days after birth, Jesus' parents brought the Child to Jerusalem to consecrate him to God, as prescribed by Jewish law. And while describing the ritual foreseen by tradition, this episode brings to our attention some of the examples of the characters. They are caught when they experience the encounter with the Lord in the place where He makes Himself present and close to man. These characters are Mary and Joseph, Simeon and Anna, who represent models of welcoming and of giving their lives to God. They were not

equal these four, they were all different, but they all sought God and let themselves be guided by the Lord.

The evangelist Luke describes them in a two-fold attitude: the attitude of movement and the attitude of amazement.

The first attitude is movement. Mary and Joseph are heading for Jerusalem; for his part, Simeon, moved by the Spirit, goes to the temple, while Anna serves God day and night non-stop. In this way, the four protagonists of the Gospel passage show us that Christian life requires dynamism and requires a willingness to walk, letting ourselves be guided by the Holy Spirit. Immobilism does not suit the Christian witness and the mission of the Church. The world needs Christians who let themselves be moved, who do not tire of walking the streets of life, to bring to everyone the comforting word of Jesus. Every baptized person has received the vocation to proclaim - the vocation to proclaim the evangelizing mission: to announce Jesus, this is the mission! The parishes and the various ecclesial communities are called to encourage the commitment of young people, of families and the elderly, so that everyone can have a Christian experience, living the life and mission of the Church as protagonists.

The second attitude with which St. Luke presents the four characters of the Gospel is amazement. First we have movement then we have amazement. Mary and Joseph "were amazed at the things that were said about him [of Jesus]" (v. 33). Amazement is an explicit reaction also of the old Simeon, who in the Child Jesus sees with his eyes the salvation brought by God on behalf of His people: this is the salvation that he has been waiting for, for years. And the same goes for Anna, who "also began to praise God" (v. 38) and to go and point out Jesus to the people. This is the holy amazement, the amazement that realizes there is something good before her. Something holy which is to be brought to everyone, so that they may all see Jesus. These figures of believers are enveloped in amazement, because they have allowed themselves to be captured and involved by the events that took place before their eyes. The ability to marvel at the things around us promotes religious experience and makes the encounter with the Lord fruitful. On the contrary, the inability to be amazed makes us indifferent and widens the distance between the path of faith and everyday life. Brothers and sisters, be in movement always and available to be amazed!

May the Virgin Mary help us to contemplate the gift of God for us every day in Jesus, and to let ourselves be involved by Him in the movement of the gift, with joyful amazement, so that our whole life will become a praise to God in the service of our brothers and sisters.

REVISED DATE!

Upcoming Bible Study

Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled

By Jeff Cavins

Monday evenings February 24 to March 31, 2025

7pm Parish Centre Main Room

Cost \$35

Please call the office 905-668-3676 or email us stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org to register.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Preparation Classes (Continued)

Saturday March 1st

Saturday March 29th

Please refer to the Sacrament schedule for session times



DPCC Reaping Our Rights Campaign

Thank you for helping us reap our rights together!

In Laudate Deum, Pope Francis reminds us that “everything is connected” and “no one is saved alone” (LD, 19). This is why peasant farmers in the Global South need our solidarity to ensure that their rights are respected.

“The rights enshrined in UNDROP provide a clear pathway for peasants in countries like Nigeria to enjoy access to land, and gifts of nature, and to live in dignity. They expect Canada to make laws to hold her companies accountable and prevent them from polluting the environments and abusing people and the planet in our country.”

— Nnimmo Bassey, Executive Director, HOMEF

Thank you for signing the Action Cards this past weekend at all the Masses, more than 300 cards were signed in total. Your support means a lot to all of us members of D&P/Caritas Canada and to our partners in the Global South. You can learn more about our movement at www.devp.org If you haven’t already done so, please sign our campaign letter at devp.org/act to ask Canada to adopt mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence legislation.

If you wish to receive more information about D&P don’t doubt to contact me, Estela Rios, at emr0001@hotmail.com



TODAY is Social Sunday Sunday ! Join us after the 9am & 11am masses for Coffee and sweets in the Parish Centre



Masses For The Week

Sat Feb 1- 5:00pm

+Dorothy Schroeder

req. by Barry Schroeder

Mon Feb 3 –8:20am

+Irma James

req. by Valerie James

Tues Feb 4 – 8:20am

+Humberto Schenflede

req. by His Wife & Family

Wed Feb 5 – 7:00pm

+Stan, Shirley & Mark Harris

req. by Their Family

+Patrick Noronha

req. by His Family

+Melita Mirenda-Cannella

req. by Rosa & Tony Cannella

+G.D. Fernando

req. by Anne DeSilva

+Jeyarani Johnpillai

req. by Belshia

Thur Feb 6– 8:20am

+Herbert & Susan Doran

req. by Alice Deehan & Family

Fri Feb 7 – 8:20am

In Thanksgiving

req. by The Sharp Family

Healing after Abortion: The Sisters of Life

Do you know someone who is carrying the grief of a past abortion? There is always hope. The pain and sorrow of abortion does not need to endure for a lifetime. We offer accompaniment and retreats to women seeking healing after abortion. A “Day of Prayer and Healing” offers the opportunity to experience the love and mercy of God and to respond to His invitation to begin the journey of healing the wound of abortion. Upcoming dates are: February 8 and April 5, 2025

For more details, locations, and confidential registration, or to talk to a Sister, please call the Sisters of Life at (416) 463-2722 or reach us by email at toronto@sistersoflife.org

MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASSES

Our next Marriage Preparation Course at St. John the Evangelist will begin on Monday nights, April 7, 2025 to May 12, 2025 from 7pm to 9pm. Call 668-3676 to register. Cost is \$300 per couple.

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