

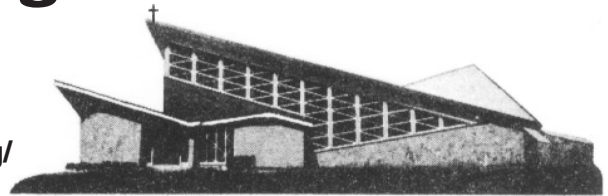
St. John the Evangelist Church

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the first book of Samuel, presents an episode of the life of David. David won over the Philistines and King Saul is envious of how people loved David. He felt that his throne was at risk, and he started persecuting David. Instead of defending himself, David respects that King Saul is the king that has been chosen by God and does not retaliate. It is an example for us to teach us that forgiveness and compassion are the answer when somebody is against us. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, shows us a passage that underlines the importance of the Resurrection of Christ. As Christ was raised from the dead, we are called to share in His Resurrection. There are times in which we experience struggles, temptation and sin, but Christ has freed us so that we may lead a life of holiness and virtue. Throughout our lives, Christ is transforming us from a life in which we experience our impatience, anger, judgement, resentment to a life in which we are patient, compassionate, and merciful. This change in us is made possible by Christ's Resurrection. We receive a life-giving Spirit that makes us have life to the fullest, even to the point of forgiving and loving our adversaries. The Gospel, from St. Luke, continues with the Sermon on the Plain. Christ presents to us the quality of His unconditional love. It portrays an example of Christ's love for us when we do not deserve it and at times, we are angry at somebody. Christ wants to share this type of love with us so that we can love anyone unconditionally, especially those who wrong us. It is something that only we can carry out by God's grace in our lives. This is such a blessing and we experience an immense peace. On the contrary, when we retaliate or only love those who love us to a certain point, we experience a sense of emptiness. Let us open our hearts to the Lord and desire that He may fulfill this immense love in our daily lives!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Angelus for the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time (February 20, 2022)

In the Gospel of today's Liturgy, Jesus gives some basic life guidance to the disciples. The Lord refers to the most difficult situations, those that constitute the litmus test for us, those that confront us with those who are enemies and hostile to us, those who are always trying to do us harm. In such cases, the disciple of Jesus is called not to give in to instinct and hatred, but to go further, much further. Go beyond instinct, go beyond hatred. Jesus says: "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you" (Lk 6:27). And even more concretely: "To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also" (v. 29). When we hear this, it seems that the Lord is asking the impossible. And then, why love your enemies? If you do not react to the bullies, every abuse of power is given free rein, and this is not right. But is it really so? Does the Lord really ask impossible and indeed even unjust things of us? Is it so? Let us consider first and foremost that sense of injustice that we feel in "turning the other cheek". And let us think of Jesus. During the passion, in his unjust trial before the high priest, at one point he receives a slap from one of the guards. And how does He react? He does not insult him, no: he says to the guard, "If I have spoken wrongly, bear witness to the wrong; but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" (Jn 18:23). He asks for an account of the wrong done to him. Turning the other cheek does not mean suffering in silence, giving in to injustice. Jesus, with his question, denounces what is unjust. But he does so without anger, without violence, indeed with kindness. He does not wish to spark off an argument, but rather to defuse resentment, this is important: to

extinguish hatred and injustice together, seeking to restore the guilty brother. This is not easy, but Jesus did it and he tells us to do likewise. This is turning the other cheek: Jesus' mildness is a stronger response to the slap he received. Turning the other cheek is not the withdrawal of the loser, but the action of one who has a greater inner strength. Turning the other cheek means defeating evil with the goodness that opens up a breach in the heart of the enemy, unmasking the absurdity of his hatred. And this attitude, this turning the other cheek, is dictated not by calculation or by hatred, but by love. Dear brothers and sisters, it is the freely given, undeserved love we receive from Jesus that generates in the heart a way of doing things that is similar to his, that rejects all vengeance. We are accustomed to revenge: "You did this to me, I will do that to you", or to bearing a grudge in our heart, resentment that harms, destroys the person.

Let us come to another objection: is it possible for a person to come to love his or her enemies? If it depended only on us, it would be impossible. But let us recall that, when the Lord asks for something, he wishes to give it. The Lord never asks for something he has not already given us first. When he tells me to love my enemies, he wants to give me the capacity to do so. Without that ability, we would not be capable, but he tells you to "love your enemy" and gives you the capacity to love. Saint Augustine prayed in this way – listen to this beautiful prayer: Lord, "give what you command, and command what you will" (Confessions, X, 29.40), because you have already given it to me. What should we ask of him? What is God happy to give us? The strength to love, which is not a thing, but rather the Holy Spirit. The strength to love is the Holy Spirit, and with the Spirit of Jesus, we can respond to evil with good, we can love those who do us harm. This is what Christians do. How sad it is, when people and populations proud to be Christians see others as enemies and think to wage war against each other! It is very sad.

And us, shall we try to live following Jesus' invitations? Think of someone who has wronged us. Each one of you, think of a person. It is common for us to be hurt by someone; think of that person. Perhaps we hold a grudge within. So, let us set alongside this resentment the image of Jesus, meek, during the trial, after the slap. And then let us ask the Holy Spirit to act in our heart. Finally, let us pray for that person: let us pray for those who have done us harm (see Lk 6:28). When people harm us, we immediately go and tell others and we feel we are victims. Let us stop, and pray to the Lord for that person, that he might help him or her, and so this feeling of resentment will be dispelled. Praying for those who have wronged us is the first step to transforming evil into good. Prayer. May the Virgin Mary help us be workers of peace towards everyone, especially those who are hostile to us and whom we do not like.

Our 2024 Parish Financials will be presented by Paul D'Aurelio next weekend March 1,2, 2025 at all masses. Copies of the report will be available on the back counters after the presentation.

**BIBLE STUDY STARTS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH
Luke - The story of Salvation Fulfilled
There is still room for YOU to join us! Please call the
office 905-668-3676 to register!**

We are currently looking for a Youth Minister to cover for a maternity leave beginning in April. Please contact the parish office for a position description. Applications are being accepted until March 15, 2025. Go to www.archtoronto.org/en/contact-us/employment-opportunities/

**Participate in the National Launch Webinar
Turn Debt into Hope Lent Campaign**

To learn all about Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's new Share Lent /ShareLife Campaign, join the launch webinar on **March 1st at 1:30 p.m. ET**. The panel will comprise:

- Dean Dettloff, Advocacy Officer at Development and Peace — Caritas Canada, who will present the links between Jubilee, debt and the global **Turn Debt into Hope** Lent Campaign
- Javier Jahncke, a human rights lawyer with our Peruvian partner the Episcopal Commission for Social Action (CEAS), who will talk about ecological debt and his organization's work

Interpretation will be provided in French, English and Spanish

To Register visit: www.devp.org/events

RESERVE THE DATE for the Durham Region
Turn Debt into Hope Lent Campaign Launch
Saturday, March 8th 9:00 am to 12:30 pm
St. John the Evangelist Church
More information to follow

World Day of Prayer - Online Livestream

Watch the World Day of Prayer 2025 Full Service video

1. Go to wdpcanada.ca
2. click on "hot button/box" World Day of Prayer 2025 Videos
3. Scroll down the page to **World Day of Prayer 2025 Full Service Video**

- Register for the National 2025 World Day of Prayer service on March 15, 1 pm EST (Zoom meeting)
 1. Go to wdpcanada.ca/get-involved/events/
 2. Click on "REGISTER HERE" to register for the **NATIONAL Online World Day of Prayer 2025**

Determine if there is a 2025 World Day of Prayer service near you. Our WDP service location map is new for 2025. We are encouraging all 2025 WDP coordinators to post their service location, time and date on our map.

Check out the map to see if there is a service nearby.

1. Go to wdpcanada.ca
2. click on "hot button/box" World Day of Prayer Service Locations
3. Locate the nearby service on our location map

- Be aware of the dates and times that the 2025 World Day of Prayer service will be shown on Cable TV.
wdpcanada.ca/community-tv-broadcast-of-the-world-day-of-prayer-



Masses For The Week

Sat Feb 22- 5:00pm

+Andrew Marioselva
req. by His Family

Mon Feb 24 –8:20 am

+Pete Rose
req. by The Deehan Family

Tues Feb 25 – 8:20am

+Int. for Maire Fitzpatrick
req. by Kirsteen & Anthony Fitzpatrick & Family

Wed Feb 26 – 7:00pm

+Carrol Fernandes
req. by Sophie Pereira
+Khalil Noujaim
req. by His Son
Intention for the Parish Staff
req. by Mary Yearwood
A Personal Intention
req. by Mary Yearwood

Thur Feb 27 – 8:20am

Intention for Gabby & Family
req. by Mary Yearwood

Fri Feb 28 – 8:20am

Intention for Helen & Lawrence Noronha,
75th Wedding Anniversary
req. by Godfrey & Jenny Cunningham

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.



2024 FINAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

2024 Parish Goal \$141,500

Total Collected \$172,010 – 121.6% above goal

We overreached our goal!

Thank you so much for your contributions and commitment.

A note from the ShareLife Office

Your participation in the 2024 ShareLife Parish Campaign has been truly extraordinary, achieving a record-breaking \$14.4 million raised overall. Your compassion is making a meaningful difference in the lives of the most vulnerable members of our community. THANK YOU!

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)

Shopping Locally Saves Gas

ROUSSEAU'S
Fine Furniture & Interior Design Since 1929
216 Mary St. E.
905.668.3483
www.rousseau's.ca

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