

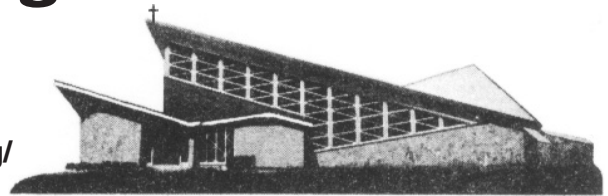
St. John the Evangelist Church

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the book of Ecclesiasticus, presents a moral teaching on how to evaluate the purpose or goal of an action. Whatever we say or do, we act on it moved by the state of our heart. If we are at peace, our actions and words will be constructive and full of gratitude. On the other hand, if our hearts are not at peace, we harm others by our words and actions. It is important to realize how essential it is that I am at peace with God and with others and then my actions will bring good to others. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, shows us the final portion of the teaching on Christ's Resurrection. The Risen Lord is victorious over sin and death and wants us to share with us His victory. In Him, we can be transformed from attitudes and words that are sinful to ways of action that are holy and full of love. We need to be aware of our sinful attitudes, offer them to Christ and He offers us in return a new life, a new of living with love and peace. The Gospel, from St. Luke, continues with the Sermon on the Mount. Christ presents to us some teachings on the importance of having a proper and sound attitude. If we are aware of our faults and we experience God's mercy, then we are compassionate with others and peaceful. However, if we think that we are always right or we cannot accept our own mistakes, then we will be demanding with others and we will become angry with others' faults. Let us open our hearts to the Lord and recognize his mercy in front of our weaknesses so that we can be merciful with others in our daily lives!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

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

Today's Gospel passage presents brief parables with which Jesus seeks to indicate to his disciples the path to follow in order to live wisely. With the question: can a blind man lead a blind man?" (Lk 6:39), he wishes to emphasize that a leader cannot be blind, but must see clearly, that is, he must have wisdom in order to lead wisely, otherwise he risks causing damage to the people who are entrusted to him. Jesus thus calls attention to those who have educational responsibility or who govern: spiritual pastors, public authorities, legislators, teachers, parents, exhorting them to be aware of their delicate role and to always discern the right path on which to lead people.

And Jesus borrows a wise expression in order to designate himself as an example of teacher and leader to be followed: "A disciple is not above his teacher, but every one when he is fully taught will be like his teacher" (v. 40). It is a call to follow his example and his teaching in order to be sound and wise leaders. And this teaching is included above all in the Sermon on the Mount — which, in the past three Sundays the liturgy has offered us in the Gospel — indicating the attitude of meekness and of mercy in order to be honest, humble and just people. In today's passage we find another significant phrase, which exhorts us to be neither presumptuous nor hypocritical. It says: "Why do you see the

speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?" (v. 41).

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/

Dear Friend and Benefactor of the Seminary!
The Redemptoris Mater cordially invite you to join us for the 23rd Annual Fundraising Dinner, on Friday, May 2, 2025.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served from 6:00 p.m.

Dinner will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Do not wait to buy your tickets, as the space is limited, and the sale happens on a first-come, first-served basis.

We look forward to celebrating together with you the faithfulness and the godness of the Lord in our midst.

Fr. Tomasz, Fr. Antonello, and all the Seminarians

Go to Eventbrite: [23rd Annual Fundraising Dinner Tickets, Fri, 2 May 2025 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)



LENT BEGINS WEDNESDAY MARCH 5TH
ASH WEDNESDAY
Mass with Ashes at 8:20am and 7:00pm

PENANCE IN LENT

Fridays in the Lenten Season are days of penance, when small sacrifices are encouraged. Abstaining from meat on Fridays has become a customary Lenten penance for Catholics. The Canadian Bishops have recommended that this penitential practice continue among the faithful, but also stated that other acts of penance may be substituted, such as special prayers or acts of service for others.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of obligatory fasting and abstinence from meat.

"The law of fasting prescribes that only one meal be taken in a day; but it does not forbid taking some nourishment in the morning and evening" (Letters & Legislation, Archdiocese of Toronto). The law of fasting binds those from 18 to 59 years of age, while the law of abstinence from meat binds Catholics who are 14 years of age and older, but every person, regardless of age, can participate in fasting and abstaining from meat if they wish, as long as one's health will allow it.

Parents and educators are reminded of their duty to introduce children gradually to the understanding and practice of penance, including fasting and abstinence, in the life of Catholics. Adult example will be the greatest influence in this matter (Guidelines for Pastoral Liturgy, 1999-2000, CCCB).

MARCH 2, 2025



Development and Peace Durham Region

Turn Debt into Hope Lent Campaign Launch
Saturday, March 8th
9:00 am to 12:30 pm

St. John the Evangelist Church-Parish Centre
903 Giffard St., Whitby

Come and join us! This workshop will introduce you to our annual Lenten

campaign **Turn Debt into Hope.**

You'll leave with a good understanding of Development and Peace — Caritas Canada and our partners; of Jubilee 2025 and the connection to the international debt issue and its impact on the countries of the Global South. Refreshments and Registration: 8:30 am Presentation: 9:00 am Light lunch: 12:00 pm

RSVP: torontodevp@gmail.com **Subject line:** March 8 Whitby

ALL ARE WELCOME, OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS



Masses For The Week

Sat Mar 1- 5:00pm

+Domenic & Maria Borg
req. by Rita & Saviour Bonello

Mon. Mar 3 –8:20 am

+Humberto Schenflede
req. by His Wife & Family

Tues Mar 4 – 8:20am

+Pat Belej
req. by Ann Belej-Corrigan & Jim Corrigan

Ash Wed Mar 5 – 8:20am

+Helen Donofrio
req. by Pauline & Richard Fitzpatrick

Ash Wed Mar 5 – 7:00pm

+Stan, Shirley & Mark Harris
req. by Their Family
+Rosa Linda Quillop
req. by Irene & Jack & Family
+Antonette Agalingam
req. by Pavalam Ratnasingham
+Balendra Agalingam
req. by Pavalam Ratnasingham
+Shirley Barrett
req. by Her Family

Thur Mar 6 – 8:20am

+Agnes Desveaux
req. by Mary Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Family

Stations of the Cross begin at 6:30pm

Fri Mar 7 – 7:00pm

In Thanksgiving
req. by Gail Stewart

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.

St. Patrick's Pub Night

Hosted by Knights of Columbus Council 4895
101 Brock St. N, Whitby

Friday, March 14, 2025 Council 4895 Doors Open 6:30 pm, Dancing at 7:30 pm Prizes-Snacks-Light Buffet-Cash Bar Tickets \$30.00 Per Person



Stations of the Cross Fridays

Stations of the Cross start 6:30pm in English, Followed by Mass at 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross in Spanish at 7:30pm

Mar 7 Pope Francis
Mar 14 For the Sick or Suffering
Mar 21 Development & Peace
Mar 28 For the Elderly
Apr 4 Easter Reflections
Apr 11 Mary's Way of the Cross
Apr 18 (Good Friday) Youth Stations Presentation

Mark your Calendar!

SENIORS' RETREAT

Thursday May 22, 2025 10:00-3:00

Father Jim Kelly, SJ. Facilitator

The price includes lunch.

\$55/person – more details to come

Knights of Columbus, St John the Evangelist Council, meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month from Sept to June. Next Meeting is Wednesday March 5, 2024 at 8PM at the Knights Hall at 133 Brock St North and all are welcome. For further information assisting the St John's community and becoming a Knight please contact Bryan Childerhouse

bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com or call 416-508-9877

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Your Catholic Women's League would like to thank you for supporting our various fundraising activities in 2024. This January, our league disbursed \$4,500.00 to various charities – locally, provincially, federally and internationally. Your support means so much to us; we look forward to your continued support in 2025. Thank you again.

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