

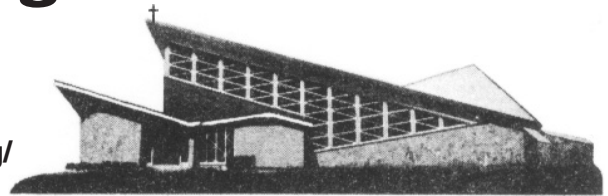
St. John the Evangelist Church

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent. The First Reading, from the book of Genesis, presents the covenant that God made with Abram. He was doubting that God will give him a descendant. He thought that it was not possible, and he wanted a proof to reassure him of this promise. God made a covenant with Abram reassuring him that God will indeed give him a descendant and a land. As Abram did, we are called to trust and put our faith in what God can do for us even during difficult situations. We need to rely in God's faithfulness and mercy. The Second Reading, from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians, offers us the teaching on being faithful even during struggles. All of us pass through hardships, and it is easy to get discouraged. However, it is essential that in those moments, we rely in the Lord. In Him, we will find the strength to enter with peace in the difficult events of our daily lives. The Gospel, from St. Luke, presents the event of the Transfiguration of Christ on Mount Tabor. After Christ has predicted that He is going up to Jerusalem to suffer and to die, His disciples were afraid and got discouraged. To reassure their faith, Christ transfigured Himself in front of the disciples so that they will believe that, after the suffering and death, there is resurrection and new life. All of us experience that at times during struggles. It is easy not to see a way out and to realize that everything in front of us seems dark. However, Christ gives us hope saying to us that He has overcome death. He has entered our suffering, and He has opened a path of life for us. In Him, we can find hope and He gives us peace and strength to face without fear, all our sufferings. We should always remember that, when we pass through struggles, Christ will help us to go through them at peace. Let us give to the Lord our difficulties so that He may help us to carry them and find in Him fullness of peace!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Angelus for the Second Sunday of Lent (March 13, 2022) The Gospel of the Liturgy of this second Sunday of Lent narrates the Transfiguration of Jesus (cf. Lk 9: 28-36). While praying on a high mountain, he changes in appearance, his robe becomes bright and radiant, and in the light of his glory Moses and Elijah appear, who speak with him about the Passover that awaits him in Jerusalem, namely, his passion, death and resurrection.

The witnesses to this extraordinary event are the apostles Peter, John and James, who went up the mountain with Jesus. We imagine them with their eyes wide open before that unique spectacle. And, certainly, it must have been so. But the evangelist Luke notes that "Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep", and that they "kept awake" and say the glory of Jesus (cf. v. 32). The drowsiness of the three disciples appears to be a discordant note. The same apostles then fall asleep in Gethsemane too, during the anguished prayer of Jesus, who had asked them to keep watch (cf. Mk 14:37-41). This somnolence in such important moments is surprising.

However, if we read carefully, we see that Peter, John and James fall asleep before the Transfiguration begins, that is, while Jesus is

in prayer. The same will happen in Gethsemane. This is evidently a prayer that continued for some time, in silence and concentration. We may think that at the beginning they too were praying, until tiredness prevailed.

Brothers, sisters, does this this ill-timed slumber perhaps resemble many of our own that come in moments we know to be important? Perhaps in the evening, when we would like to pray, to spend some time with Jesus after a day of rushing around and being busy. Or when it is time to exchange a few words with the family and we no longer have the strength. We would like to be more awake, attentive, participatory, not to miss precious opportunities, but we can't, or we manage it somehow but poorly.

The strong time of Lent is an opportunity in this regard. It is a period in which God wants to awaken us from our inner lethargy, from this sleepiness that does not let the Spirit express itself. Because – let us bear this in mind – keeping the heart awake does not depend on us alone: it is a grace and must be requested. The three disciples of the Gospel show this: they were good, they had followed Jesus onto the mountain, but by their own strength they could not stay awake. This happens to us too. However, they woke up precisely during the Transfiguration. We might think that it was the light of Jesus that reawakened them. Like them, we too are in need of God's light, that makes us see things in a different way: it attracts us, it reawakens us, it reignites our desire and strength to pray, to look within ourselves, and to dedicate time to others. We can overcome the tiredness of the body with the strength of the Spirit of God. And when we are unable to overcome this, we must say to the Holy Spirit: "Help us, come, come, Holy Spirit. Help me: I want to encounter Jesus, I want to be attentive, awake". Ask the Holy Spirit to bring us out of this slumber that prevents us from praying.

In this Lenten time, after the labours of each day, it will do us good not to switch off the light in the room without placing ourselves in the light of God. To pray a little before sleeping. Let's give the Lord the chance to surprise us and to reawaken our hearts. We can do this, for instance, by opening the Gospel and letting ourselves marvel at the Word of God, because the Scripture enlightens our steps and enflames the heart. Or we can look at the crucified Jesus and wonder at the boundless love of God, who never tires of us and has the power to transfigure our days, to give them a new meaning, a new, unexpected light.

May the Virgin Mary help us to keep our heart awaken to welcome this time of grace that God offers to us.

Totus Tuus Returns this Summer!
Mark your calendars for **July 6-11, 2025!** Totus Tuus is a fun & faith-filled Summer camp for the youth of the parish run by missionaries. There is a day camp for children entering grade 1-6 in the fall and an evening program for youth entering grade 7-12 in the fall. More information will be available soon!

MARCH 16, 2025



You extend the hands of Christ to those in need

ShareLife Sunday is March 30. Our parish goal for this year's campaign is [insert goal amount].

Through your support of ShareLife, you extend the hands of Christ to those in need: the poor, the vulnerable, and the marginalized in our community. Because you care, more than 40 agencies provide strength to people of all ages in their weakest moments. You've been there for young parents as they worried about their next meal, isolated seniors yearning for companionship, teenagers seeking guidance in a confusing world, refugees longing to rebuild their lives, and people with special needs striving for dignity and acceptance.

Thank you for living the Gospel through your compassion. Our parish goal this year is \$174,000. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.



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.

Tickets \$150 each.

Go to Redemptoris Mater Seminary Website:

<https://rmmstoronto.org>

Click on Fundraiser Dinner 2025



Masses For The Week

Sat Mar 15 - 5:00pm

A Special Intention

req. by Kathy Webb

Mon. Mar 17 – 8:20 am

+Patricia Baird

req. by Mary Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Family

Tues Mar 18 – 8:20am

+Edward Debosky

req. by David & Agnes Slack

Wed Mar 19 – 7:00pm

+Maria Zak

req. by Ann Mueller & Family

+Ed Debosky

req. by Loretta Sheppard & Family

In Thanksgiving

req. by Louise Guerrier

+Maureen Dunn

req. by Pat Catterall

+Rose Turner

req. by Jennifer Carew

+Danny Washburn

req. by Fr. Keith Wallace

Thur Mar 20 – 8:20am

+Patrick Sullivan

req. by Geraldine Sullivan

Stations of the Cross begin at 6:30pm

Fri Mar 21 – 7:00pm

+Ryan Patrick McDonald

req. by Pat McDonald



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 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



SPRING INTO EASTER

**St. John the Evangelist Floral
Fundraiser**

* 10 Different Spring Plants (incl. Easter Lilies) from Vandermeer Nursery

* Undecided? You can purchase a giftcard and it still benefits our parish and there's no expiry ☐

* Deadline to order April 3, 2025

* Pick-ups at the Parish Centre on April 12/13, 2025

Day & Evening of Confession

This year, we are holding Confessions all on one day. No Sunday evening Reconciliation Service!

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

9:30am – 11:30am, 2:00pm – 4pm – Fr. Francisco

7pm – 8:30pm – Fr. Henk van Meijel, Fr. Jim Kelly,

Fr. David Twaddle, Fr. Keith Wallace,

Fr. Francisco Fernandez Siles

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