

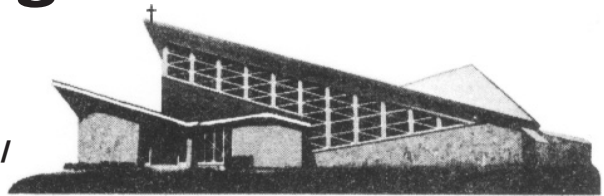
St. John the Evangelist Church

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. Sarah Rodrigues 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	Fr. Francisco	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	Oshawa 905-725-3513	Ajax	905-668-8912
Catholic Family Services	1-800-241-3534	or	905-428-1984
Rose of Durham (Young Parent Support Services)			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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Easter. The First Reading, from the Book of the Acts of Apostles, presents how Paul and Barnabas went about preaching the Good News to the people. Since they were Jews, they went first to the synagogues. However, the Jewish officials rejected their teachings and it is since then that they started preaching to the Gentiles. They welcomed with an open heart the word of salvation that was proclaimed to them. We are also privileged to come every Sunday to mass and to listen to the Good News of our salvation. This word of life certainly can bring peace and hope to our everyday lives. The Second Reading, from the Book of Revelation, shows the image of a great multitude of people who are called to share in the new life that the Lamb of God has gained for them. Through the Blood of Christ, their lives have been transformed, and they receive fullness of life. At every Eucharist, we are called to share in the Death and Resurrection of Christ. At every mass, we have the wonderful gift of being renewed and transformed in the Lord. Let us be grateful for this wonderful sacrament through which we are constantly strengthened. The Gospel, from St. John, gives us the last part of the Discourse on the Good Shepherd. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who guides us and bring us to fullness of life. We need to listen to His voice and in Him we will find consolation, peace, and courage. Sometimes, it is not easy to listen to his voice, especially when we face struggles, discouragement and hopelessness. However, Christ comes always with mercy to lift us up and to give us hope. Let us have an attentive listening to the merciful Word of God who gives us abundant life!



I would like to thank and congratulate all the mothers of the parish for all that you continually do for your children. Our parish and society are much better thanks to your constant and faithful love. May God bless you and fill you with His peace!

This Sunday is also Vocations Sunday. Let us ask the Lord that He may inspire young people to follow Him as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated people. Let us also ask the Lord that young people would like to get married in the Church and invite Christ into their relationship!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Angelus on Fourth Sunday of Easter (May 8, 2022)

The Gospel for today's Liturgy speaks to us about the bond that exists between the Lord and each one of us (cf. Jn 10:27-30). In doing so, Jesus uses a tender image, a beautiful image of the shepherd who stays with the sheep. And he explains it with three verbs: "My sheep", Jesus says, "hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (v. 27). Three verbs: hear, know, follow. Let us take a look at these three verbs.

First of all, the sheep hear the voice of the shepherd. The initiative always comes from the Lord. Everything comes from his grace: it is he who calls us to communion with him. But this communion comes about if we open ourselves to listen. If we are deaf, he cannot grant us this communion. Open ourselves to listening, because listening implies availability, it implies docility, it implies time dedicated to dialogue. Today, we are inundated with words and by the urgency to always have something to say or do. How often two people are talking and the one does not wait

for the other to finish his or her thought, but cuts the other off mid-sentence, and responds.... But if we do not allow another to speak, there is no listening. This is an ailment of our time. Today, we are inundated with words, by the urgency to always have something to say or do. We are afraid of silence. How hard it is to listen to each other! To listen till the end, to let the other express him or herself, to listen in our families, to listen at school, to listen at work, and even in the Church! But for the Lord, it is first of all necessary to listen. He is the Word of the Father, and the Christian is a listening child, called to live with the Word of God at hand. Let us ask ourselves today if we are listening children, if we find time for the Word of God, if we give space and attention to our brothers and sisters, if we know how to listen until the other has finished speaking, without cutting off what the other is saying. Those who listen to others know how listen to the Lord, too, and vice versa. And they experience something very beautiful, that is, that the Lord himself listens – he listens to us when we pray to him, when we confide in him, when we call on him.

Listening to Jesus thus becomes the way for us to discover that he knows us. This is the second verb that concerns the good shepherd. He knows his sheep. But this does not only mean that he knows many things about us. To know in the biblical sense also means to love. It means that the Lord, "while he reads our inner beings," loves us, he does not condemn us. If we listen to him, we discover this – that the Lord loves us. The way to discover the Lord's love is to listen to him. Thus, our relationship with him will no longer be impersonal, cold or a front. Jesus is looking for a warm friendship, trust, intimacy. He wants to give us a new and marvelous awareness – that of knowing we are always loved by him and, therefore, that we are never left alone by ourselves. Being with the good shepherd allows us to live the experience what the Psalm speaks about: "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me" (Ps 23:4). He sustains us above all in our sufferings, in our difficulties, in our crises – which are dark – by going through them us. And so, it is specifically in difficult situations, that we can discover that we are known and loved by the Lord. So, let us ask ourselves: Do I let the Lord know me? Do I make room for him in my life? Do I bring what I am living to him? And what idea do I have of him after the many times I have experienced his closeness, his compassion, his tenderness? That the Lord is near, that the Lord is the good shepherd?

Lastly, the third verb: the sheep who hear, and who discover they are known, follow: they listen, they experience they are known by the Lord and they follow the Lord who is their shepherd. What do those who follow Christ do? They go where he goes, along the same path, in the same direction. They go to seek those who are lost (cf. Lk 15:4), are interested in those who are far-off, take to heart the situation of those who suffer, know how to weep with those who weep, they reach out their hands to their neighbour, placing him or her on their shoulders. And me? Do I let Jesus love me, and by allowing him to love me, do I pass from loving him to imitating him? May the Holy Virgin help us listen to Christ, know him always more and follow him on the way of service. Hearing him, knowing him, following him



St. John the Evangelist's Social Committee invites you to the Annual Taste of the Parish on Saturday, June 7th 2025 from 11am to 3pm. Join us on the Church grounds for fun, food and games for the whole family! Come and share in culinary delights from around the world. Food contributions from your country of origin are welcome. Sign up sheets are available in the foyer after all Masses.

BYOLC – Bring your own lawn chair!

MAY 11, 2025



Your signature will "Turn Debt into Hope"

Dear Parishioners,
Starting last weekend we had available the petition for this year's campaign in which we aim to collect more signatures than ever before. We would join the petitions of millions all over the world as part of the Jubilee 2025 that asks for the pardon of financial debts in developing countries. Organized globally by Caritas Internationalis <https://www.caritas.org> The "Turn Debt into Hope" campaign petition calls for an end to unjust debt. With inequalities widening as rich countries continue enriching themselves by exploiting the resources of the poorest countries, we respond to the late Pope Francis's call: "In the spirit of this Jubilee Year, I urge the international community to work towards forgiving foreign debt in recognition of the ecological debt existing between the North and the South of this world. This is an appeal for solidarity, but above all for justice." (Message for the World Day of Peace, January 1, 2025) Help us reach the Canadian goal of 100,000 signatures, which will feed into the global goal of 10 million signatures. You can read the petition https://devp.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Petition_Debt_Jubilee_2025.pdf. The text of the petition is laid out as part of the brochure that was distributed before Easter. Ask us about completing your own petition page with relatives and friends, any person that can read the petition can sign it, you can then return it to us or follow the mailing instructions at the bottom of the page. https://devp.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Petition_Debt_Jubilee_2025.pdf
Thank you for your continued support.
www.devp.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BARS OF SOAP

Your CWL would like to thank our fellow parishioners for their support of the collection of bars of soap. 144.2 lbs of soap was collected which works out to approximately 678 bars of soap. As well, 2 storage boxes and eight 5-gallon buckets were donated. Your generosity is very much appreciated. These will be delivered to Canadian Food for Children for shipping to developing countries. Thank you again!

Thank You Volunteer Appreciation Night
Thursday, June 12, 2025
at 7:00pm, Parish Centre

Fr. Francisco would like to thank all in Ministry by invitation to join us for **wine & charcuterie and friendly fellowship!**
Please RSVP to the parish office by email vmorgan@archtoronto.org.

PILGRIMAGE TO MARTYRS' SHRINE

Date: Saturday, July 26th
Departure: St. John the Evangelist: 8:30am
Personal reflection time: 10:30-11:30
11:30am – Mass, 12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:00-2:00: Short presentation and shrine visit
2:00-2:30: Rosary
2:30-3:30: Personal reflection time
3:30-4:00: Stations of the Cross
4:30: Departure
Cost: \$45.00
For further details call: 905-668-3218

SENIORS' RETREAT 55+ Thursday
May 22, 2025
9:00 – 3:00pm
Father Jim Kelly, SJ. Facilitator
The price includes lunch
\$55/person
Registration: May 10/11
After all Masses or Call Catherine
647-987-5902

Sacrament Celebrations

First Holy Communion
Sunday May 25th 4:00pm St. John
Sunday June 1st 4:00pm St. Marguerite/PHCP
Confirmation With Bishop Nguyen
Saturday May 31st 11:00am St. Luke & All Saints
Saturday May 31st 2:00pm St. John, St Marguerite/PHCP

Totus Tuus Summer Camp!

DAY CAMP

(students going into grade 1-6 in the fall)

- Monday July 7th to Friday July 11th 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

EVENING PROGRAM

(students going into grade 7-12 in the fall)

- Sunday July 6th to Thursday July 10th 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The deadline to apply to volunteer is May 31st. The deadline to register for the camp is June 16th. For more information, contact sjewhitbyyouth@gmail.com or the parish office.



Masses For The Week

Sat May 10 - 5:00pm –

+Tony Haynes

req. by Jacquie & Fred Shady

Mon. May 12 – 8:20 am

Personal Intention

req. by Mary Yearwood

Tues May 13 – 8:20am

+Nicolette Edge

req. by Mary Kay Boase

Wed May 14 – 7:00pm

+Stan, Shirley & Mark Harris

req. by Their Family

+Sam Saturno

req. by Rosa & Tony Cannella

+Maria Zak

req. by Ann Mueller & Family

+Musngi & Flores

req. by The Mohamed Family

+Mario Veltri

req. by Nina Veltri & Family

Thur May 15 – 8:20am

+Teresa Barros

req. by Dora Schenflede

Fri May 16 – 8:20am

+Deceased Members of the Timms & Morgan Families

req. by Pat & Vicki Morgan

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