

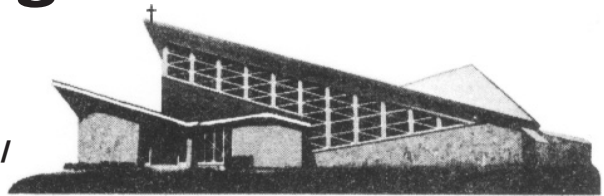
St. John the Evangelist Church

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

1103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3

St. Luke the Evangelist School 905-665-5828

55 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9

Durham Catholic District School Board

St. Marguerite d'Youville School

250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N 6B1

All Saints Catholic Secondary School

3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1

905-576-6150

www.dcdsb.ca

905-666-9301

905-666-7753

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Fifth Sunday of Easter. The First Reading, from the Book of the Acts of Apostles, presents how Paul and Barnabas proclaimed the Good News of salvation through different cities. They went around encouraging the communities to be faithful and to remain steadfast in their faith. Through God's grace, more and more people believed in the preaching of the apostles and opened their hearts to the Lord. It is essential for us that we listen to the Good News of the Death and Resurrection of Christ on a regular basis so that we can receive abundant life. God will fill us with hope, courage, and strength during our struggles. The Second Reading, from the Book of Revelation, shows the image of the New Jerusalem to which all have been called to share. Through the Death and Resurrection of Christ, we have now access to Heaven, we are all sharers of the heavenly life. God will dwell among us, and He will make us participants of the victory over sin and death. We can already experience the first fruits of Heaven in our lives when we live in unity and when we experience how God frees us from our sins. How abundant and rich is the life to which God calls us to share! The Gospel, from St. John, gives us a discourse of Jesus during the Last Supper. Jesus Christ offers His life for us out of love for us. Christ loves us unconditionally and when we receive His love, we can love others in the same way that He has loved us. What a gift that, with God's grace, we are given the possibility to love others without measure. All of us realize that our love is limited, that we can love until a certain point. However, Christ gives us the chance to love unconditionally, with no limit. This is something that will fill us with abundant life and will also fill others with peace and joy. Let us open our hearts to the love of Christ so that He may bring us to love others unconditionally!

Let us thank the Lord for the gift of a new Pope for the Church, Pope Leo XVI. Let us pray that the Lord may guide him and strengthen him for this huge ministry ahead of him.

Let us pray for the new priests from Archdiocese of Toronto who were ordained last weekend: James Cyfko, Jesus Fidel Afion, and Alvin Joys. May the Lord accompany them in their ministry.

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Angelus on Fifth Sunday of Easter (May 15, 2022)

We have heard what Jesus told his disciples before leaving this world and returning to the Father. He told us what it means to be a Christian: "Even as I have loved you, so you must love one another" (Jn 13:34). This is the legacy that Christ bequeathed to us, the ultimate criterion for discerning whether or not we are truly his disciples. It is the commandment of love. Let us stop to consider two essential elements of this commandment: Jesus' love for us – "as I have loved you" – and the love he asks us to show to others – "so you must love one another".

First, the words "as I have loved you". How did Jesus love us? To the very end, to the total gift of himself. It is striking to think that he spoke these words on that night of darkness, when the atmosphere in the Upper Room was one of deep emotion and anxiety: deep emotion, because the Master was about to bid farewell to his disciples; anxiety because he had said that one of them would betray him. We can imagine the sorrow that filled the heart of Jesus, the dark clouds that were gathering in the hearts of the apostles, and their bitterness at seeing Judas who, after receiving the morsel dipped for him by the Master, left the room to enter into the night of betrayal. Yet at the very hour of his betrayal, Jesus reaffirmed his love for his own. For amid the darkness and tempests of life, that is the most important thing of all: God loves us.

Brothers and sisters, may this message be the core of our own faith and all the ways in which we express it: "...not that we loved

God but that he loved us" (1 Jn 4:10). Let us never forget this. Our abilities and our merits are not the central thing, but rather the unconditional, free and unmerited love of God. Our Christian lives begin not with doctrine and good works, but with the amazement born of realizing that we are loved, prior to any response on our part. While the world frequently tries to convince us that we are valued only for what we can produce, the Gospel reminds us of the real truth of life: we are loved. A contemporary spiritual writer put it this way: "Long before any human being saw us, we were seen by God's loving eyes. Long before anyone heard us cry or laugh, we were heard by our God, who is all ears for us. Long before any person spoke to us in this world, we were spoken to by the voice of eternal love" (H. NOUWEN, *Life of the Beloved*). He loved us first; he waits for us; he keeps loving us. This is our identity: we are God's loved ones. This is our strength: we are loved by God.

Acknowledging this truth requires a conversion in the way we often think of holiness. At times, by over-emphasizing our efforts to do good works, we have created an ideal of holiness excessively based on ourselves, our personal heroics, our capacity for renunciation, our readiness for self-sacrifice to achieve a reward. This can at times appear as an overly "pelagian" way of viewing life and holiness. We have turned holiness into an unattainable goal. We have separated it from everyday life, instead of looking for it and embracing it in our daily routines, in the dust of the streets, in the trials of real life and, in the words of Teresa of Avila to her Sisters, "among the pots and pans". Being disciples of Jesus and advancing on the path of holiness means first and foremost letting ourselves be transfigured by the power of God's love. Let us never forget the primacy of God over self, of the Spirit over the flesh, of grace over works. For we at times give more importance to self, flesh and works. No, the primacy is that of God over self, of the Spirit over the flesh, of grace over works.

The love that we receive from the Lord is the force that transforms our lives. It opens our hearts and enables us to love. For this reason, Jesus says – here is the second element – "as I have loved you, so must you love one another". That word "as" is not simply an invitation to imitate Jesus' love; it tells us that we are able to love only because he has loved us, because he pours into our hearts his own Spirit, the Spirit of holiness, love that heals and transforms. As a result, we can make decisions and perform works of love in every situation and for every brother and sister whom we meet, because we ourselves are loved and we have the power to love. As I myself am loved, so I can love others. The love I give is united to Jesus' love for me. "As" he loved me, so I can love others. The Christian life is just that simple. Let's not make it more complicated with so many things. It is just that simple.



Happy Victoria Day! The Parish Office is closed on Monday May 19th. The mass is at 9am.



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!

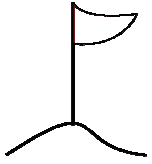
MAY 18, 2025



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.



St. John Parish Golf Update

Saturday, June 21st 10am Shotgun start
Lyndebrook Golf Course
5055 Baldwin St. N, Whitby

Registration after all masses to begin on May 25/26
QR Code Registration and all the details

Note: 50% of spots already booked!



PRAYER FOR PEACE
SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025

All are invited to the 10th Anniversary of the Prayer for Peace Multifaith Service on Saturday, June 14, 2025, 2:00pm to 3:00 pm at St. John the Evangelist Church. There will be a reception to follow from 3:00 to 4:00 pm in the Parish Centre.

For information on the Prayer for Peace 2025 please contact Deidre Newman

dnewman@danewmanlaw.com

Youth (7-17 years of age) are invited to create Art with the theme: "What is Peace?"

The Art submissions are to be 8.5 x 11 in. or 8.5 x 14 in., with a title, first name of the youth and age.

The Art submissions in original form are to be delivered to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Parish Office between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm by June 6, 2025. Selected Art Submissions will be displayed on June 14, 2025 at the Prayer for Peace. Original Art will be returned to the Youth after the Prayer for Peace.

We encourage all Youth of the Parish to participate.

For information on the Art event please contact Meryl Aguiar aguairmeryl184@gmail.com

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 17 - 5:00pm

+Mary Helen Jeyarajah

req. by Belshia

Mon. May 19 – 9:00 am Victoria Day Holiday

Int. for the Yearwood Family

req. by Mary Yearwood

Tues May 20 – 8:20am

+Frank Kapuscinski

req. by Pat Kapuscinski

Wed May 21 – 7:00pm

+Samantha Goldwin

req. by Mary Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Family

+Sheila McVeigh

req. by Frances & Desmond Toner

+Mukasa Naah

req. by Boniface Tuurosong & Family

+Emily Blaney

req. by Eileen Cruz

Int. for Ryan Devlin

req. by Frances Brown

Int. for Yvonne Brown

req. by Frances Brown

Thur May 22 – 8:20am

+Andrew Marioselva

req. by His Family

Fri May 23 – 8:20am

+Olga Pugliese

req. by Gail McMonagle

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W.C. Town Funeral Chapel
110 Dundas St. E., Whitby 905-668-3410

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