

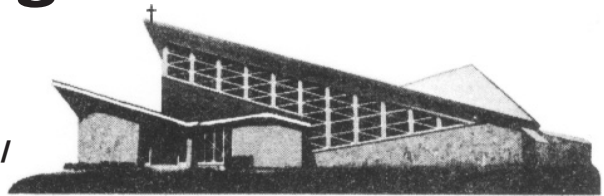
# St. John the Evangelist Church

903 Giffard Street, Whitby, Ontario L1N 2S3

Rectory Office: Ph:905-668-3676

email: [stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org](mailto:stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org)

website: [www.stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org/](http://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  
Eileen McGowan Music 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	Eileen McGowan	905-668-0959
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**

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[www.dcdsb.ca](http://www.dcdsb.ca)

905-666-9301

905-666-7753

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of Sirach, presents the greatness of the virtue of humility in the spiritual life. It is essential to be humble to receive all the graces that God wants to give us. It means to be conscious that we need God's help in our lives. It brings us to accept our weaknesses and to be open to God's gracious gifts. Humility is the basis of true life and from which all other virtues are built upon. The Second Reading, from the Letter to the Hebrews, gives us a beautiful image of the Heavenly Jerusalem. We are all on a pilgrimage to meet the Lord fully in Heaven. For now, we are walking every day guided by our faith and hope focusing on the great goal that awaits us. Let us never lose heart during the pilgrimage of our lives because Jesus walks ahead of us and guides us. The Gospel, from St. Luke, gives us the account of parable of the wedding banquet. Jesus is encouraging us to have an attitude of humility, service, and love in our daily lives. We should not be looking to our own advantage and have the first place but always looking for the good of the others. Christ has come with an attitude of service always looking for our own good. We have received so much from Him; the Lord is inviting us to have the same attitude towards others. Let us receive the mercy of God so that we can do the same with others!



I hope that you have had a very restful and peaceful summer. Let us pray that all the children and young people may have a blessed school year ahead of them!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

### Pope Benedict XVI's Angelus on the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 29, 2010)

In this Sunday's Gospel (Lk 14: 1, 7-14), we find Jesus as a guest dining at the house of a Pharisee leader. Noting that the guests were choosing the best places at table, he recounted a parable in the setting of a marriage feast. "When you are invited by any one to a marriage feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest a more eminent man than you be invited by him; and he who invited you both will come, and say to you, 'Give place to this man'.... But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place" (Lk

14: 8-10). The Lord does not intend to give a lesson on etiquette or on the hierarchy of the different authorities. Rather, he insists on a crucial point, that of humility: "Every one who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Lk 14: 11). A deeper meaning of this parable also makes us think of the position of the human being in relation to God. The "lowest place" can in fact represent the condition of humanity degraded by sin, a condition from which the Incarnation of the Only-Begotten Son alone can raise it. For this reason Christ himself "took the lowest place in the world the Cross and by this radical humility he redeemed us and constantly comes to our aid" (Encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*, n. 35).

At the end of the parable Jesus suggests to the Pharisee leader that he invite to his table not his friends, kinsmen or rich neighbours, but rather poorer and more marginalized people who can in no way reciprocate (cf. Lk 14: 13-14), so that the gift may be given freely. The true reward, in fact, will ultimately be given by God, "who governs the world.... We offer him our service only to the extent that we can, and for as long as he grants us the strength" (Encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*, n. 35). Once again, therefore, let us look to Christ as a model of humility and of giving freely: let us learn from him patience in temptation, meekness in offence, obedience to God in suffering, in the hope that the One who has invited us will say to us: "Friend, go up higher" (cf. Lk 14: 10). Indeed, the true good is being close to him. St Louis IX, King of France whose Memorial was last Wednesday put into practice what is written in the Book of Sirach: "The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord" (3: 18). This is what the King wrote in his "Spiritual Testament to his son": "If the Lord grant you some prosperity, not only must you humbly thank him but take care not to become worse by boasting or in any other way, make sure, that is, that you do not come into conflict with God or offend him with his own gifts" (cf. *Acta Sanctorum Augusti* 5 [1868], 546).

Dear friends, today we are also commemorating the Martyrdom of St John the Baptist, the greatest among the prophets of Christ, who was able to deny himself to make room for the Saviour and who suffered and died for the truth. Let us ask him and the Virgin Mary to guide us on the path of humility, in order to become worthy of the divine reward.

### DAILY MISSAL BOOKLET EXPENSES

As of September, we have made the decision to request donations of \$2.00 per daily missal booklet from our weekday mass parishioners. In the past, they have been free, however costs have increased. The booklets cost the parish over \$3.50 each per month. If you have any questions, please contact the office for more information.

### St. John the Evangelist

11am mass Choir

Our 11 am Sunday mass Choir is gearing up for the new Choir Season! We welcome all new and returning singers, age 13 and up. Music reading ability is an asset, but not a requirement. All are welcome. Bring a smile, a pencil, your water bottle, and get ready to make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Practices: Tuesdays 7pm-8:30 in the Parish Centre, starting Sept 9, 2025.

Registration/Information contact: Eileen McGowan 905 442-0567 (call or text) ejpmcgowan1@rogers.com

### CWL SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

League Sisters and women of the parish mark your calendar – you are invited to our wine & cheese start-up meeting, Thursday, September 18th, 7:30 p.m. in the main room of the parish centre. If you have any questions, or require transportation, please contact Lynne Childerhouse at 905-431-6582 or [lchilderhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:lchilderhouse@hotmail.com)

### Youth Ministry Begins Soon!

Youth ministry helps our young parishioners have fun, make friends and grow in their faith.

**Life Teen**, for grade 9-12 will take place every 1st and 3rd Thursday from 7-8:30 pm **beginning on October 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

**EDGE**, for grade 5-8 will take place every 2nd and 4th Thursday from 7-8:30 pm **beginning on October 9th**.

For more information about registering or volunteering for this important ministry, contact Sarah at [srodriques@archtoronto.org](mailto:srodriques@archtoronto.org)

**\*\*THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED LABOUR DAY MONDAY, MASS IS AT 9AM\*\***

## SACRAMENT PREPARATION PROGRAMS

2025-2026

### FIRST EUCHARIST (Grade 2)

#### REGISTRATION and INFORMATION NIGHT in the Church (one parent only to attend) Tuesday, September 30th at 7:00 pm

(please bring completed registration form, a \$50 fee for program expenses and a **photocopy** of your child's Baptism Certificate)

### CONFIRMATION (Grade 7)

#### REGISTRATION and INFORMATION NIGHT in the Church (one parent & candidate to attend) Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm

(please bring completed registration form, a \$60 fee for program expenses and a **photocopy** of your child's Baptism Certificate)

**It is mandatory that all children who do not attend Catholic school participate in the Parish Home Catechism Program.**

### PARISH HOME CATECHISM PROGRAM (PHCP) 2025-26

St. John the Evangelist PHCP provides faith formation classes for elementary school children. Our mission is to assist parents in developing the Catholic Faith in their children. This is usually offered to students in non Catholic schools, however it is also offered to all elementary students to increase their faith knowledge. PHCP runs 2 Wednesday evenings per month, 6:15– 7:15 p.m., September through to May. Classes begin Wednesday, September 10, 2025 with a “meet and greet” registration/activity evening.

#### PHCP REGISTRATION:

#### Registration Night Wednesday, September 10, 2025

For your convenience, registration forms are available on the parish website, at the back of the Church or in the Parish Office.

Please register in person in the parish office during regular business hours or you may place your registration package, labelled PHCP in the Sunday collection basket.

The registration fee is \$60 per child. If you are interested in registering your child for PHCP and would like more information about the program, please contact Lorraine Thomas, PHCP Coordinator, 905-409-1743 or [ltomas@archtoronto.org](mailto:ltomas@archtoronto.org).

**Please Note: Parents/guardians are required to provide a copy of the child's baptismal certificate for children who are NEW to the PHCP and who were not baptized at St. John the Evangelist Church.**

### Knights of Columbus News

Knights of Columbus, St John the Evangelist Council, meetings are the **1st Wednesday of each month from Sept to June. The next open meeting is Wednesday September 3, 2025 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](mailto:bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com) or call 416-508-9877**

#### R.C.I.A

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) provides instruction and spiritual formation to anyone 16 years of age and older who are not baptized, or baptized in another Christian community, who would like to become a member of the Catholic Church. Catholic adults who have not yet celebrated their First Eucharist or the Sacrament of Confirmation may also take part. RCIA Sessions take place on Thursday evenings from 7pm to 9pm in the Parish Centre beginning soon. Interested participants should contact Fr. Francisco at the Parish Office as soon as possible to register: (905) 668-3676



### Masses For The Week

Sat Aug 30– 5:00pm  
Special Intention for Erin & Cole Simpson  
*req. by Pat & Vicki Morgan*

Mon Sept 1– 9:00am  
+Patrick Driver  
*req. by Kathy Webb*

Tues Sept 2 – 8:20am  
+All Souls  
*req. by Dora Schenflede*

Wed Sept 3 – 8:20am  
+Stan, Shirley & Mark Harris  
*req. by The Family*  
+All Souls in Purgatory  
*req. by Broderick, Howard & Harrington Families*  
+Louise Dunn  
*req. by The LaBarre Family*  
+Fiorina Donatelli  
*req. by Her Family*  
+Dan Dandridge  
*req. by M.L. LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Fam*

Thur Sept 4 – 8:20am  
+Nicky Edge  
*req. by Trenton Legion of Mary*

Fri Sept 5 – 8:20am  
+Humberto Schenflede  
*req. by His Wife & Family*

### CWL WALK-A-THON

CWL members will be participating in a 5-kms walk-a-thon to raise funds for our charitable donations. We will be handing out sponsor forms the weekend of September 13 & 14. Your sponsorship of a CWL member would be most appreciated. Or, pick up a sponsorship form, solicit your sponsors and join us in the fund raising activity. Thank you for your continued support.



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