

St. John the Evangelist Church

903 Giffard Street, Whitby, ON 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
Eileen McGowan	Music Director

Support Staff

Mr. Francisco Perez	Caretaker
Mrs. Sue McGee	Bookkeeper
Mrs. Gail Stewart	Cook/Housekeeper



A Thanksgiving Prayer

Heavenly Creator,

*In this season of gratitude and abundance,
we give You thanks for our many blessings
as we pray for all who struggle with hunger and want.
Be with them in the dark of night, when all hope seems lost.
Keep their faith strong as they await relief.
And let Your goodness flow through our
hearts and hands as we reach out to one
another in the full, true joy of Thanksgiving in Christ.*

Amen

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Second Book of Kings, presents to us the episode of the healing of Naaman the Syrian. He got leprosy and was cured by bathing seven times in the river Jordan. The prophet Elisha asked him to obey to this simple command and Naaman got healed. Leprosy is an image of the destruction caused in our hearts by sin. Christ is the only one who can heal us when we confess our sins and show true repentance in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Second Reading, from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy, offers encouraging words to remain faithful to the Lord. At times, we face difficulties and struggles, St. Paul asks us to put our trust in God's faithfulness. It is in Him that we can find strength and courage to go on in our daily lives. By following the Lord, we will receive fullness of life. The Gospel, from St. Luke, shows us the episode of ten lepers who were healed by Christ. Only one out of the ten came back to give thanks to the Lord for being healed. We are called to be thankful in our lives for all the graces that we have received from the Lord. He constantly showers us with mercy, peace, consolation, and many other graces even though we do not deserve them. We often ask God for favors, but it is very important to be thankful for the wonderful things that the Lord accomplishes in our lives. To be thankful every day, especially on this Thanksgiving weekend, is a path to peace and happiness. Let us be thankful to the Lord for all the graces that He has given us in Christ!

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you and all your families!

On Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30pm we are having the announcement of the Good News in our parish. I really encourage you attend and to experience how much God loves us and to experience His mercy in our lives. It is free and you do not need to sign up, just come and listen to Him. Come, the Lord is waiting for you!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant, and your Pastor

Pope Francis's Homily on the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 9, 2016)

This Sunday's Gospel (cf. Lk 17:11-19) invites us to acknowledge God's gifts with wonder and gratitude. On the way to his

death and resurrection, Jesus meets ten lepers, who approach him, keep their distance and tell their troubles to the one whom their faith perceived as a possible saviour: "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" (v. 13). They are sick and they are looking someone to heal them. Jesus responds by telling them to go and present themselves to the priests, who according to the Law were charged with certifying presumed healings. In this way, Jesus does not simply make them a promise; he tests their faith. At that moment, in fact, the ten were not yet healed. They were restored to health after they set out in obedience to Jesus' command. Then, rejoicing, they showed themselves to the priests and continued on their way. They forgot the Giver, the Father, who cured them through Jesus, his Son made man.

All but one: a Samaritan, a foreigner living on the fringes of the chosen people, practically a pagan! This man was not content with being healed by his faith, but brought that healing to completion by returning to express his gratitude for the gift received. He recognized in Jesus the true Priest, who raised him up and saved him, who can now set him on his way and accept him as one of his disciples.

To be able to offer thanks, to be able to praise the Lord for what he has done for us: this is important! So we can ask ourselves: Are we capable of saying "Thank you"? How many times do we say "Thank you" in our family, our community, and in the Church? How many times do we say "Thank you" to those who help us, to those close to us, to those who accompany us through life? Often we take everything for granted! This also happens with God. It is easy to approach the Lord to ask for something, but to return and give thanks... That is why Jesus so emphasizes the failure of the nine ungrateful lepers: "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" (Lk 17:17-18). On this Jubilee day, we are given a model, indeed the model, to whom we can look: Mary, our Mother. After hearing the message of the Angel, she lifted up her heart in a song of praise and thanksgiving to God: "My soul magnifies the Lord..." Let us ask our Lady to help us recognize that everything is God's gift, and to be able to say "Thank you". Then, I assure you, our joy will be complete. Only those who know how to say "Thank you", will experience the fullness of joy. It also takes humility to be able to give thanks. In the first reading we heard the singular story of Naaman, the commander of the army of the King of Aram (cf. 2 Kg 5:14-17). In order to be

cured of his leprosy, he accepts the suggestion of a poor slave and entrusts himself to the prophet Elisha, whom he considered an enemy. Naaman was nonetheless ready to humble himself. Elisha asks nothing of him, but simply orders him to bathe in the waters of the River Jordan. This request leaves Naaman perplexed, even annoyed. Can a God who demands such banal things truly be God? He would like to turn back, but then he agrees to be immersed in the Jordan and immediately he is cured.

The heart of Mary, more than any other, is a humble heart, capable of accepting God's gifts. In order to become man, God chose precisely her, a simple young woman of Nazareth, who did not dwell in the palaces of power and wealth, who did not do extraordinary things. Let us ask ourselves – it will do us good – if we are prepared to accept God's gifts, or prefer instead to shut ourselves up within our forms of material security, intellectual security, the security of our plans.



"May the God of hope fill you

with all joy and peace as you trust in Him"

Romans 15:13
GOD WANTS TO GIVE YOU LIFE TO THE FULLEST!

**Word of Good News for Youth & Adults
Starting October 6, 2025**

Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30pm

St. John the Evangelist Parish

903 Giffard St. Whitby

COME AND SEE!



On Monday, Oct 13, 2025,
Mass is at 9am.
The office is closed.

St. Vincent de Paul
THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Pasta Sauce
Canned Fruit
Canned Vegetables
Peanut butter
Cereal

Please drop off your food donations during October into the gray bin provided in the foyer.

Please check all expiry dates before making your donation!
THANK YOU!

St. John's Prayer Group meet every Wednesday afternoon from 1pm to 3pm, in the parish centre.
All are welcome!

Knights - Annual Bottle Drive

A collection of Bottle & Cash Donations for Special Olympics is being accepted at the Parish Centre Entrance after all Masses on Saturday October 25th & Sunday October 26th

Oktoberfest!

The Knights of Columbus invite you to our annual Oktoberfest event! Join us for some German cheer, beer and fun. Featuring special musical guest The Usual Suspects. All proceeds go to support your local Knights of Columbus council for St John's.

Saturday Oct 25th
\$25 per person
Whitby Columbus Club
133 Brock St N Whitby
Doors open 6:30, Music at 7:30
Cash bar and snacks



All Saints Day
Mass
Saturday,
November 1,
2025

We invite all children to dress like their favourite Saint, and join us on November 1st at 5pm Mass (arrival at 4:45pm)

This will be followed by a show and tell party and a potluck, in the Parish Centre after mass at 6pm.
Please RSVP using the QR code from the poster in the foyer.

San Juan Diego Spanish Mission
DINNER & DANCE GALA
WITH A LATIN FLARE

Saturday, November 8, 2025
6pm to 1am - dinner at 7pm
Tosca Banquet Hall, 800 Champlain Ave, Oshawa
Tickets \$120 per person
Raffle Prizes, 50-50 Cash Only!
Tickets available at the parish office



Masses For The Week

Sat Oct 11- 5:00pm
+Des Newman
req. by Kathie Steffler & Linda Calder

Mon Oct 13 - 8:20am
+Francis Dorhan & Herbert Doran
req. by Alice Deehan

Tues Oct 14 - 8:20am
+Maria Costa
req. by Mario Costa

Wed Oct 15 - 7:00pm
+All Souls in Purgatory
req. by Broderick, Howard, Harrington
Families
+John Robinson
req. by His Family
+Deceased Members of the Struna & Hrovat Families
req. by Anne & Peter Struna
+Mario Veltri
req. by Nina Veltri & Family
+Jacintha D'Cunha
req. by Her Family

+Brian Windross
req. by Sou Yen Shu
+Ida Edgecombe
req. by Colin Edgecombe

Thur Oct 16 - 8:20am
+Maria Zak
req. by Ann Mueller

Fri Oct 17 - 8:20am
+Pedro Veloza
req. by Claudia Veloza

Nourish Caring for the Caregiver

Virtually every one of us will care for a loved one at some time in our life. Though rewarding, it's not always easy. Nourish for Caregivers is for anyone juggling the challenges of everyday life, health, career and caring for an aging parent, spouse, child or grandparent, in town or at a distance. Nourish provides caregivers a faith perspective, as well as practical and emotional support, useful tools, and share experience. Discover the blessings that come from caring for another.

Please join us beginning Monday, October 6th in the St. Joseph's Room at 7pm - 8pm

For more information please visit www.NourishForCaregivers.com, or contact Robert MacLennan, 905-668-3676 or email stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org



EDGE on Thurs, Oct 9, 2025 @ 7 pm
Grade 5-8 meet on 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
7-8:30 pm, St. Joseph's Room



Grade 9-12 meet on 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month
7-8:30 pm, St. Joseph's Room

Please contact Sarah Rodrigues for more information!
srodrigues@archtoronto.org

J. Thomas Hamer
Barrister and Solicitor
WILLS
POWERS of ATTORNEY
ADMINISTRATION of ESTATES

Ecclesone, Hamer, Poisson,
Neuwald & Freeman
330 Byron St. S.
jthamer@ehpnf.com
416-520-2242
www.ehpnf.com

**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)



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
FUNERAL SERVICES

In keeping with your Catholic faith
www.catholic-cemeteries.com

Resurrection Cemetery 905-668-8912



**TEAM
FENNESSEY**
The team you will recommend!

TOBY FENNESSEY
Broker | Residential/Investment Properties

St. John's parishioner since 1988
Direct: 905-622-3667 | toby@teamfennessey.com
www.teamfennessey.com | teamfennessey
Royal Heritage Realty Ltd., Brokerage

Funeral Director – Michael Lodge

W.C. Town Funeral Chapel

110 Dundas St. E., Whitby 905-668-3410



Chris Leahy
**DURHAM
SECURITY**
905-556-1801

Turn your home into a Smart Home!
\$50 donated to St. John's for every new contract.
chris@durhamsecurity.ca

**THE LIVING
BENEFITS GROUP**
life • disability • critical illness
long term care • health • dental • RRSPs
JIM CORRIGAN
310 Byron St. S. 905.430.7921

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

Call 1-800-268-2637 for this space



Stafford Monuments Limited
Granite & Bronze Family & Civic Memorials
Inscriptions & Cemetery Restoration
318 Dundas St. E. 905-668-3552
~ 6 Generations of Service, Quality & Trust ~

For all your mortgage needs!



**Caroline
Anderson**
Mortgage Agent
905.767.2748

MORTGAGE INTELLIGENCE
Brokerage #10428
caroline.anderson@migroup.ca

DR. J. D'SOUZA
FAMILY DENTIST
New Patients Welcome
185 Brock St. N. (at Mary)
905-430-0118

ERC EYE
REJUVENATION
CENTER
OPTOMETRY



Your Dry Eye &
Ocular Disease
Specialists
Urgent Eye Care
Family Eye Exams

289-638-2150
www.ercptometry.com



JY HEATING & COOLING INC.

- Furnaces
- Water Heaters / Tankless
- Air Conditioners
- Humidifiers
- Gas Lines (BBQ, Fireplace, Stove)
- Duct Work (New & Old House Relocations)



FREE ESTIMATES

647-807-0209 | JayYang1013@gmail.com



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



BE THE GOOD

Inquire about financial assistance
at stmichaelscollegeschool.com



SMCS
ST. MICHAEL'S
COLLEGE SCHOOL



EDITH LOSADA

Realtor®/Parishioner

Service in Spanish & English
SU AMIGA EN REAL ESTATE

C: **289-939-3600**

B: **905-665-2500**

EdithLosada10@gmail.com



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

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



WCC Hall Rentals

133 Brock St. N.

rentals@whitbycolumbusclub.ca

www.whitbycolumbusclub.ca

905-668-6412

**THE PERFECT SPOT
TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!**



**TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE PLEASE CALL
1-800-268-2637**