

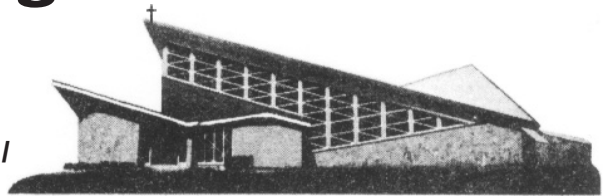
St. John the Evangelist Church

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
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

3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1

905-576-6150

www.dcdsb.ca

905-666-9301

905-666-7753

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS DAY)

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of All Souls. Today we pray for our deceased loved ones and reflect that we have been created for Eternal Life. The First Reading, from the Book of Wisdom, presents to us the important notion that even though we are all going to die one day, the Lord calls us to share into His Kingdom. It is important to be hopeful and put our heart in what endures for ever. Then, we can live to the fullest; even now. The Second Reading, from the Book of Revelation, offers us the description of the New Jerusalem to which we are all called to. The Risen Lord has the power to make everything new, and He has destroyed death and sin so that we may share into everlasting life. The Gospel, from St. Luke, shows us the episode of the son of the widow of Nain. This young man dies and his mother and the whole village grieves with deep sadness. It is also what we experience when somebody dear to us passes away. The Lord accompanies us in our grief, and He transforms it into consolation and hope. Let us open our hearts to the Lord so that we may experience the hope of the Resurrection!

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 witness 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' Homily on the Deceased Cardinals and Bishops (November 3, 2023)

Jesus is about to enter Nain; the disciples and "a great crowd" are walking with him (cf. Lk 7:11). As he approaches the city gate, another procession is setting out, but in the opposite direction: it is going to bury the only son of a widowed mother. The Gospel tells us that, "when the Lord saw her, he had compassion" (Lk 7:13). Jesus saw what happened and he was moved by compassion. Benedict XVI, whom we remember today, together with the Cardinals and Bishops who died in the past year, wrote in his first Encyclical that the programme of Jesus is "a heart that sees" (*Deus Caritas Est*, 31). How many times did he keep reminding us that faith is not primarily an idea to be understood or a moral precept to be followed, but a person to be encountered. That person is Jesus Christ, whose heart beats with love for us, whose eyes look with pity upon our suffering.

The Lord halts before the tragedy of death. It is significant that this is the first time that Luke's Gospel calls Jesus "Lord": "the Lord was moved with great compassion". He is called Lord – the God who exercises lordship over all things – in the very act of showing compassion for a widowed mother who lost, along with her only son, her reason for living. Here we see our God, whose divinity shines forth in contact with our sorrow and grief, for his is a heart full of compassion. The raising of that young man, the gift of life that overcomes death, has its source precisely there, in the compassion of the Lord, who is moved by death, the greatest cause of our suffering. How

important it is to communicate that same look of compassion to all those who grieve for the death of their loved ones!

Jesus' compassion is concrete. The Gospel tells us that he "came forward and touched the bier" (cf. Lk 7:14). He did not have to do that, and in any event, in those days, touching the bier of a dead person was considered something unclean, defiling those who did so. Jesus, however, cares nothing about that; his compassion makes him reach out to all those who suffer. That is God's "style", one of closeness, compassion and tenderness. And one of few words. Christ does not start preaching about death, but simply tells the young man's mother: "Do not weep!" (Lk 7:13). Why? Is it wrong to weep? No, Jesus himself weeps in the Gospels. He says to the mother, "Do not weep", because with the Lord tears do not last forever; they have an end. Jesus is the God who, as Scripture prophesies, will "swallow up death" and "wipe away tears from all faces" (Is 25:8; cf. Rev 21:4). He has made our tears his own in order to take them away.

Here, then, we see the Lord's compassion, which leads him to raise that young son. Yet here, unlike other miracles he performed, Jesus does not first ask the mother to have faith. Why this extraordinary and unusual miracle? Because it has to do with an orphan and a widow, those whom the Bible, along with strangers, considers most alone and forsaken, having no one else to trust but God. The widow, the orphan, the stranger: these are the people closest and dearest to the Lord. We cannot be close and dear to God if we ignore those who enjoy his protection and preferential love, for one day they will be the ones to welcome us to heaven: the widow, the orphan, the stranger.

Considering them too, we discover another important point, which I would condense into today's second word: humility. For the orphan and the widow are "the humble" par excellence: those who, placing all their hope in the Lord and not in themselves, have made God the centre of their lives. They no longer rely on their own strength, but on him and his unfailing care. Rejecting any presumption of self-sufficiency, they recognize their need for God and put their trust in him. It is the humble, the poor in spirit, who reveal to us the "littleness" so pleasing to the Lord, the path that leads to heaven. God seeks the humble, those who hope in him and not in themselves and their own plans. Dear brothers and sisters, this is Christian humility, which is not simply one virtue among others, but the basic disposition of life: believing ourselves to be in need of God, making room for him and putting all our trust in him. This is Christian humility.

God loves humility because it permits him to interact with us. Even more, God loves humility because he himself is humble. He comes down to us; he lowers himself; he does not impose himself; he makes room for us. God is not only humble; he is humility itself. "You are humility, Lord" was the prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi (Cf. Lodi: FF 261). We think of the Father, whose name is entirely a reference to the Son rather than to himself, and of the Son, whose name is completely in relation to the Father. God loves those who do not put themselves at the centre: the humble, who most resemble him. That is why, as Jesus says, "those who humble themselves will be exalted" (Lk 14:11). I like to recall the very first words with which Pope Benedict described himself following his election: "a humble labourer in the vineyard of the Lord." Indeed, Christians, especially the Pope, the Cardinals and the Bishops, are called to be humble labourers: to serve, not to be served and to put the fruits of the Lord's vineyard before their advantage. What a fine thing it is to renounce ourselves for the Church of Jesus!

The 2025-2026 Sunday Missals are \$5 per book, located at the back of the church.



Handicraft Holy Land Christians

On the weekend of November 15-16, we will welcome our special guest Vanessa from Sebastien Cardinal's team

representing "Handicraft Holy Land Christians", who after all the masses will briefly address the issues and concerns regarding the Christian presence in the Holy Land.

Christians in the Holy Land graciously ask your support through conscience prayers and will have many unique hand carved olive wood religious art pieces made by these families in Bethlehem available for purchase after every mass.

The Book of Life

The month of November is traditionally known as the month of the Holy Souls, having at its' beginning, the two great feasts - All Saints and All Souls. To commemorate your faithful departed family and friends, you are invited to submit a page for the "Book of Life." This page should be 8 ½" by 11" and fit into a standard 3-ring binder. On it you may type or print the names of whomever you would like to have remembered in a special way at all our parish Masses during November. You may decorate your "Family Page" in whatever way you wish, as long as it fits the above requirements. This "Book of Life" will be left in the sanctuary during November to remind us to pray, at church and at home for our loved ones. Please note previous years of pages are included already.



Donation envelopes for All Souls are available to write out the names of those you wish to be prayed for on our Special Commemoration Mass on Wednesday November 12th at 7pm, and every Wednesday in November at 7:00pm.

Please include your name and address for tax receipt purposes.

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 Nov 1 – 5:00pm

+Maria Zak

req. by Ann Mueller & Family

Mon Nov 3 – 8:20am

+Antonio, Rosina & Giovanni Bozzarello

req. by Anna & Natale Ciardullo

Tues Nov 4 – 8:20am

+Humberto Schenflede

req. by His Wife & Family

Wed Nov 5 – 7:00pm

+All Souls in Purgatory

req. by Joe & Joy

+Shirley, Stan & Mark Harris

req. by the Harris Family

+Jeyanathirajah

req. by Christine Marioselva

+Deceased Members of the Kuslusi & Kapuscinski Families

req. by Doreen Kapuscinski

+Martin Doleweerd

req. by Beppie Doleweerd

A Personal Intention

req. by Denise Lewis

Thur Nov 6 – 8:20am

In Thanksgiving for Our 60th Wedding Anniversary

req. by Clark & Pat Weddell

Fri Nov 7 – 8:20am

+Fortunato, Maria & Daniele Ciardullo

req. by Anna & Natale ciardullo

Make A Joyful Noise to the Lord!

St. John the Evangelist Parish Children's and Youth
Christmas Choir 2025

Calling all young singers, age 7 and up! You are invited to share your talents as Music Ministers, leading the people in singing praise to God for Christmas Eve 5pm Family mass.

4 Sunday Rehearsals at the Parish:

NOV 30, DEC 7, 14, 3:00-4:45 pm DEC 21 2:30-5:00 pm

Attendance at ALL rehearsals is necessary for all choir members, to learn the music well, build a solid team effort in harmony, and feel confident and ready to lead song together.

To register, please contact Eileen McGowan

905 668-0959 (home), Cell phone or text: 905 442-0567

email ejpmcgowan1@rogers.com

Before November 25th please

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

REMINDER: BUNDLE SUNDAY IS NEXT WEEKEND, NOV 8/9, 2025 IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT. CLOTHING AND LINENS ACCEPTED IN BAGS.

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