

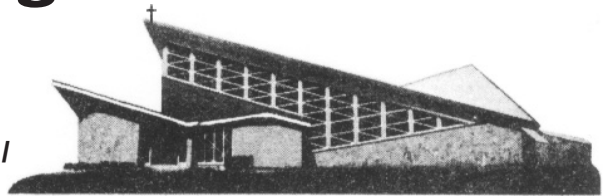
St. John the Evangelist Church

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

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St. Luke the Evangelist School 905-665-5828

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Durham Catholic District School Board

St. Marguerite d'Youville School

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905-666-7753

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ, the King of the Universe. With this Solemnity we conclude the liturgical year as we emphasize that the culmination of the history of the world is that Christ reigns over all Creation. The First Reading, from the Second Book of Samuel, presents to us the episode of the anointing of David as king of Israel. He is a prefiguration of the true King, who is Jesus Christ. As David was anointed king, Jesus Christ was anointed by the Holy Spirit and publicly recognized by His Father when He was baptized. We are encouraged to follow and find life in Jesus, who reigns with peace, justice, and mercy. The Second Reading, from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians, offers us the Hymn to Christ as the Savior of the world. Through Christ, we have been freed from sin and called to share in a new life. He is the culmination and fulfillment of our lives. If we place our hope and trust in Him, we will find fullness of life in Heaven with the Lord. The Gospel, from St. Luke, gives us a portion of Jesus' crucifixion. At the Cross, Jesus has manifested what kind of King He is. He is One who is humble, merciful, and forgiving. Despite our sins and shortcomings, He offers us redemption, salvation, and Eternal Life. In the Cross, we find the fullest manifestation of Christ's love for us: unconditional and until the end. We are encouraged to have Christ the King as the center of our lives and the Cross as the source of all graces. What a gift to have such a King who has given His life for us and who dies so that we may live eternally. Let us anchor our lives in the King of Kings who loves us so much!

Let us continue pray for our deceased relatives and friends during the month of November! Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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 Benedict XVI's Angelus on the Solemnity of Christ the King (November 21, 2010)

Dear Brothers and Sisters, The Liturgy of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King of the Universe in the Vatican Basilica has just ended. It was also celebrated by the 24 new Cardinals created at yesterday's Consistory. The Solemnity of Christ the King was established by Pius XI in 1925 and, later, after the Second Vatican Council, it was placed at the close of the liturgical year. The Gospel according to St Luke presents, as in a great painting, the kingship of Jesus at the moment of his Crucifixion. The leaders of the people and the soldiers taunt "the first-born of all creation" (Col 1:15) and put him to the test to see whether he has the power to save himself from death (cf. Luke 23:35-37).

Yet precisely: "on the Cross, Jesus is exalted to the very 'height' of the God who is Love. It is there that he can be 'known'.... Jesus gives us 'life' because he gives us God. He can give God because he himself is one with God" (Benedict XVI, Jesus of Nazareth (English translation, Doubleday, New York, 2007, pp. 349 and 354). In fact, while the Lord seems to be mistaken because he is between two wrong-doers, one of them, aware of his sins, opens himself to truth, arrives at faith and prays "the King of the Jews": "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Lk 23:42).

From the One who "is before all things, and in him all things hold together" (Col 1:17) the so-called "Good Thief" straight away receives forgiveness and the joy of entering the Kingdom of Heaven. "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (Lk 23:43). With these words, Jesus, from the throne of the Cross welcomes every human being with infinite mercy. St Ambrose comments that this "is a beautiful example of conversion to which one should aspire: forgiveness is very quickly offered to the thief and grace is more abundant than the request; the Lord in fact", St Ambrose says, "always gives more than is asked for.... Life is being with Christ because where Christ is there is the Kingdom" (Expositio Ev. sec. Lucam X, 121: ccl 14, 379).

Dear Friends, we can also contemplate in Christian art the way of love that the Lord reveals to us and invites us to take. In fact, in the past "in the arrangement of Christian sacred buildings... it became customary to depict the Lord returning as a king — the symbol of hope — at the east end; while the west wall normally portrayed the Last Judgement as a symbol of our

responsibility for our lives" (Encyclical Spe Salvi, n. 41): hope in the infinite love of God and commitment to ordering our life in accordance with the love of God.

When we contemplate depictions of Jesus inspired by the New Testament — as an ancient Council teaches — we are led to "understand... the sublimity and the humiliation of the Word of God and... to remember his life in the flesh, his Passion and his salvific death, and the redemption that the world derived from it" (Council in Trullo, [691 or 692], can. 82).

"Yes, we need it, precisely to... become capable of recognizing in the pierced heart of the Crucified One the mystery of God" (J. Ratzinger, Teologia della liturgia: La fondazione sacramentale dell'esistenza cristiana, LEV 2010, p. 69).

CONFIRMATION RITE OF ENROLMENT

Sat Dec 6th @ 5:00pm
Sun Dec 7th @ 9:00am, 11:00am
Masses



The Advent Season begins next week

The Catholic Church Liturgical Year starts with the 1st Sunday of Advent on Sunday November 30, 2025. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Latin "adventus" (Preparation) Marks the four Sundays before Christmas

Advent Wreaths

Part of our spiritual preparation for Christmas. Christ is "the Light that came into the world" to dispel the darkness of sin and to radiate the truth and love of God (John 3:19-21).

- The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life.
- The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the everlasting life found in Christ.
- The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent.

The purple candles symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time.

The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday which is called Gaudete Sunday. It is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent,

when their preparation is now half over, and they are close to Christmas.

· Only one purple candle is lit during the first week, two in the second week, three (incl. the pink one) in the third week, and all four during the fourth week of Advent. The gradually increasing light symbolizes the approach of Christmas, the birth of Jesus, the light of the world.

· A fifth candle (white) can be added in the middle of the wreath for Christmas Eve and Day (or replace all four purple and pink candles with white ones) symbolizing the arrival of Christ, the light of the world. Light the white candle(s) until The Baptism of the Lord.



Families are encouraged to observe Advent by gathering around a wreath for brief Advent prayers and readings lighting the appropriate

number of candles for each week.

Traditions assign specific symbolism to each of the candles:

- 1) The Prophet's Candle, symbolizing Hope
- 2) The Bethlehem Candle, symbolizing Love & Faith
- 3) The Shepherd's Candle, symbolizing Joy
- 4) The Angel's Candle, symbolizing Peace.

MAID – Medical Assisted Death

In an ongoing effort to protect the vulnerable population from choosing MAID (Medical Assistance in Dying), a Private Members bill has been introduced into the House of Commons. Bill C-218 recognizes that mental illness is treatable with adequate community supports and is requesting that people suffering solely from a mental illness be excluded from eligibility for MAID.

Please support Bill C-218 in the signature campaign sponsored in our parish. Individuals suffering from a mental illness have the potential to lead a fruitful life with our prayers and with community supports. Your support of this bill will be recognized in the House of Commons. Any signatures collected on either a provided letter or collective petition will be presented in the House of Commons by the Member of Parliament presenting the bill on December 5th.



VANDERMEER CHRISTMAS FLORAL FUNDRAISER

This year, we are partnering with Vandermeer Garden Centre to offer **vouchers** for fresh, high-quality floral arrangements. These vouchers can be used at your convenience to pick up your flowers directly from Vandermeer Nurseries.

Enjoy flowers at their freshest! Please take a flyer from the foyer table. Use the QR code to select your option.



CHRISTMAS GIVING – 2025

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will be assisting our neighbours in need at Christmas. As with previous years, gift cards will be distributed. To support this endeavour, we are requesting your support with either CASH OR CHEQUE donations. The Society provides **tax receipts for cash or cheque donations**. Donations of GROCERY GIFT CARDS are also gratefully accepted, however, we are not able to provide receipts for gift cards. Please use the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul envelopes which are available on the back counter in the Church. We will use your generous donations to purchase gift cards and will distribute them to our neighbours in need in early December. It would be very helpful if we received your donation by November 30th, 2025. Thank you for your generous support.



Masses For The Week

Sat Nov 22 – 5:00pm

+Andrew Marioselva
req. by His Family

Mon Nov 24 – 8:20am

+Rosina, +Giovanni & +Maria Ciardullo
req. by Anna & Natale Ciardullo

Tues Nov 25 – 8:20am

+Michael Lawson
req. by His Family

Wed Nov 26 – 7:00pm

+Elton Samuel
req. By Jennifer Samuel
+Carrie Schranz
req. by Ed Schranz
+Joven Rambacal
req. by Chito & Astrid Favis
+Carmen Gintoli
req. by Mary Frances Enright

+Marie Noujaim
req. by Her Family

+Mary Daly

req. by St. John the Evangelist Adult Choir

+Shirley Barrett

req. by Her Family

Thur Nov 27 – 8:20am

+Harold Coker

req. by Annette & Gary Hudson

Fri Nov 28 – 8:20am

+Bob Griffiths

req. by Iris McNulty

Make A Joyful Noise to the Lord!

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

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

eipmcmgowan1@rogers.com

Before November 25th please

GRAND IN YOUR HAND

Your Catholic Women's League will be selling 50/50 tickets for the "Grand in Your Hand" draw after all masses on November 22\23. 100 tickets will be sold at \$20.00 each. The winner will win \$1,000.00 and \$1,000.00 will go towards our January charitable disbursements. Once the 100 tickets are sold, the draw will be made. The winner will be contacted and announced in the bulletin. We thank you for your continued support and we wish you luck.

CWL GENERAL MEETING

There is no general meeting this month. Our next meeting will be in December. This month we are doing a Social Justice project to support Bill C-218, requesting mental illness be removed from MAiD, Medical Assistance in Dying.

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