

# St. John the Evangelist Church

903 Giffard Street, Whitby, ON 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 |



## *Feast of the Holy Family*

## THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH



Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

I would like to wish to all of you and your families a blessed Christmas.

I would like to thank all the parishioners for your support, friendship, and prayers. It is truly amazing and a privilege to serve you and to walk with you in faith. Thanks for your cooperation and generous support. I am extremely grateful to all the parish staff for their faithful collaboration. To Vicki Morgan, Gail Stewart, Kristine Blyth, Sarah Rodrigues, Francisco Perez, and Sue McGee, I am deeply grateful for their continuous dedication and love to the parish. Thanks to Deacon Dan Humphries and his family for sharing his faith and gift of the diaconate with us. I want to thank all the counters and the Finance Council for their advice and support. Thanks to Paul D'Aurelio, Lisa Maltby and Bob Koziol. Thanks to our screening committee, Minnie Chillingworth, Regina Annis and Nalini Shekhar. Thanks also to all the ladies who have decorated the Church, Pat Garrard, Theresa Howard, Diane Webber, and Margrith Petermann and many others, and Gail Stewart for placing the liturgical banners, fresh flowers, and altar changes. Thanks to Jim and Krystine Blyth and all the RCIA team for sharing their faith. Thanks to Lorraine Thomas and all the PHCP team for teaching our children the faith with dedication. Thanks to all the lectors, coordinated by Deidre Newman, ushers, coordinated by Sharon Weslake, and ministers of communion, coordinated by Fred Shady, who have been serving constantly during this year. Thanks to Florence Venner, Lynne Childerhouse and all the ladies who have accommodated and served parishioners at funeral receptions. Thanks to Alice Deehan, Suzanne Pazos and Maire Fitzpatrick for taking care of changing the candles. Thanks to Theresa Robinson and the baptismal preparation team for providing monthly classes to help parents pass on faith to their children. Thanks to Joan Willems and her baptismal hospitality team for their dedication in assisting with the baptisms during the whole year. Thanks to Al Taylor and all the Knights of Columbus for their support to our parish by being always ready to help at any time. Thanks to Lynne Childerhouse and all the ladies of the CWL for their dedication and love to support the parish. Thanks to our prayer group lead by Klara Bari, for praising the Lord and sharing the faith on a weekly basis. Thanks to our Parish council, Social and Fundraising committees, lead by Premila Lobo and Ken Michalko for their ideas, contributions and organization of social events and fundraisers throughout the year. Thanks to our marriage preparation coordinators Lynne & Bryan Childerhouse and all the couples who have been sharing their faith journey with other couples. Thanks to our home communion teams lead by Clark Weddell, for Claire Brown and Kathie Steffler for organizing communion and mass at Fairview and for everybody who goes to Taunton Mills as well. Thanks to our Funeral altar servers, lead by Mac Beynon, I am very grateful because they are always making themselves yourself available. Thanks to Phyllis Pereira, Catherine Phillips, Meryl Aguiar, for teaching the faith our younger children through the Children's Liturgy. Thanks to our St. Vincent de Paul Society, who have been very generous with their time helping so many people in need. Thanks to Chris and Paul Campbell for organizing and providing food for the hungry. Thanks to the community of the Neocatechumenal Way for their dedication in sharing and growing in the faith. Thanks to the team of ladies that lead the Consolation Ministry and bring support to those who grieve. Thanks to the team of Rosary Apostolate who go to pray the Rosary at the schools. Thanks to Robert and Maritza for always helping the migrant workers. Thanks to Eileen McGowan, Marisa Dashney, Ken Merola, Arianna Veltri, Afton Shah, Henry Remiz, Cassandra Sullivan, Jeremy Rodrigo and the whole choir for

making our liturgies and masses so engaging. Thanks for the altar servers who have been assisting so faithfully at mass. Thank you to the gardeners for making the gardens look so beautiful. Thanks to Sarah Rodrigues, for leading the youth group and Edge and Life teen groups with so much dedication. I want to wish to all of you a blessed and hopeful new year! May the peace of Christ overflow in all your homes!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Benedict XVI's Angelus on the Feast of Holy Family of Nazareth (December 28, 2008) On this Sunday following the Nativity of the Lord we are joyfully celebrating the Holy Family of Nazareth. It is a most suitable context because Christmas is the Feast of the family par excellence. This is demonstrated by numerous traditions and social customs, especially the practice of gathering together as a family for festive meals and for greetings and the exchange of gifts; and how can the hardship and suffering caused by certain family wounds which on these occasions are amplified go unnoticed? Jesus willed to be born and to grow up in a human family; he had the Virgin Mary as his mother and Joseph who acted as his father; they raised and educated him with immense love. Jesus' family truly deserves the title "Holy", for it was fully engaged in the desire to do the will of God, incarnate in the adorable presence of Jesus. On the one hand, it was a family like all others and as such, it is a model of conjugal love, collaboration, sacrifice and entrustment to divine Providence, hard work and solidarity in short, of all those values that the family safeguards and promotes, making an important contribution to forming the fabric of every society. At the same time, however, the Family of Nazareth was unique, different from all other families because of its singular vocation linked to the mission of the Son of God. With precisely this uniqueness it points out to every family and in the first place to Christian families God's horizon, the sweet and demanding primacy of his will, the prospect of Heaven to which we are all destined. For all this, today we thank God, but also the Virgin Mary and St Joseph, who with much faith and willingness cooperated in the Lord's plan of salvation.

Thousands of people are meeting in Madrid today to express the beauty and value of the family. I would now like to speak to them in Spanish.

I now address a cordial greeting to the participants gathered at this moving celebration in Madrid to pray for the family and to commit with fortitude and hope to work in its favour. The family is certainly a grace of God through which transpires what God himself is: Love an entirely free love that sustains boundless fidelity, even in times of difficulty or dejection. These qualities are reflected eminently in the Holy Family in which Jesus came into the world, was raised and was filled with wisdom, with Mary's thoughtful care and St Joseph's faithful custody. Dear families, do not let the love, openness to life and incomparable ties that unite your home weaken. Ask God for this constantly, pray together so that your resolutions may be enlightened by faith and strengthened by divine grace on the path to holiness. Thus, with the joy of sharing all things in love, you will give the world a beautiful witness to how important the family is for the human person and for society. The Pope is beside you, praying the Lord especially for those in every family who are

most in need of health, work, comfort and company. In this Angelus prayer, I entrust you all to our Mother in Heaven, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary.



GOAL ACHIEVED! THANK YOU!!!

GOAL \$174,000

As of December 2025

\$177,175.46

MEMORIES OF LOVED ONES  
WE HAVE LOST

\*\*\*

Someone Who Is Missing at Christmas

*Let this be a loving reminder*

*That someone is missing today,*

*Someone our hearts still hold on to,*

*As we travel along life's way.*

*Someone who made life so special,*

*For all those who gather here,*

*Someone who won't be forgotten,*

*But cherished from year to year.*

*And now as we pause to remember,*

*Let us all fondly recall,*

*How dearly they were loved by each of us,*

*And oh...how they loved us all.*

*Adapted from G Graveline's Someone Is Missing at  
Christmas*

\*\*\*

God bless you at this Christmas time,  
Your Parish Ministry of Consolation



Masses For The Week

Sat Dec 27 – 5:00pm

+Alexander (Sandy) Murray  
*req. by His Wife & Family*

Mon Dec 29 – 8:20am

+Mary Kelly  
*req. by Liam & Florence Venner*

Tues Dec 30 – 8:20am

+Bonnie Kay Latour  
*req. by Margaret Lance*

Wed Dec 31 – 5pm SEVENTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS  
NO INTENTIONS

Thur Jan 1 – 9am, 11am MARY, MOTHER OF GOD  
NO INTENTIONS

Fri Jan 2 – 8:20am FIRST FRIDAY, ADORATION TO FOLLOW  
A Personal Intention  
*req. by A Parishioner*

ATTENTION ENGAGED COUPLES!  
MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASSES

Our next Marriage Preparation Course at St. John the Evangelist will begin on Monday nights, April 6, 2026 to May 11, 2026 from 7pm to 9pm. Call 668-3676 to register. Cost is \$300 per couple.

As we enter the New Year 2026, let us seek God's guidance, blessings, and renewal for the year ahead.

A New Year Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we step into 2026, we thank You for the gift of a new year. We are grateful for Your mercy and grace that have carried us through the past year. We ask for Your guidance and protection over our lives, families, and communities in the coming year. May each day be filled with wisdom, health, and prosperity.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENT MEETING** Tuesday  
February 3rd, 2026 at 7pm Rite of Enrolment Cards will be distributed at this time.

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION Session #2** January 2026  
Please see your Sacrament schedule for your child's date.

OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2025  
8:20AM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2025  
8:20AM

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31, 2025  
OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY  
5PM WITH ADORATION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026  
SOLEMNITY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD  
9AM, 11AM, 2PM

SAT/SUN JANUARY 3, 4, 2026  
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD  
5PM, 9AM, 11AM  
2PM SPANISH

**New Assistive Hearing Devices**

We have 3 new hearing-impaired auditory units available to use for those who need an assistive device to hear the homily during mass. Please ask an usher or Vicki or Fr. Francisco to provide you with one and give a quick demonstration. All devices must be returned after mass so everyone can utilize them. Thank you!

*The office will close at noon on Dec 31<sup>st</sup> and  
reopen Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 9am.  
Happy New Year!*



**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)

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



**CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**  
FUNERAL SERVICES

In keeping with your Catholic faith  
[www.catholic-cemeteries.com](http://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](mailto:toby@teamfennessey.com)  
[www.teamfennessey.com](http://www.teamfennessey.com) | [teamfennessey](https://www.facebook.com/teamfennessey)  
Royal Heritage Realty Ltd., Brokerage

**NOFRILLS**  
920 Dundas Street West, Whitby

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](mailto: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](http://www.opticalgroup.ca)



**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](mailto:caroline.anderson@migroup.ca)

**QVN NAILS**  
Diabetic & ingrown toenail care  
& corn extractions. All types of  
manicures & Spa pedicures. Waxing  
100B Lupin Dr. | Linh: 416-882-9153

**ERC EYE  
REJUVENATION  
CENTER**  
OPTOMETRY



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

289-638-2150  
[www.ercptometry.com](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:mlabarre@sympatico.ca)



**BE THE GOOD**

Inquire about financial assistance  
at [stmichaelscollegeschool.com](http://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](mailto:EdithLosada10@gmail.com)



Welcoming New Patients!

We are proud to accept  
CDCP-eligible patients as well

**Coryma  
Dental**  
Whitby



Our team speaks  
5 additional languages to make your  
visit comfortable and stress-free.

Spanish, Mandarin,  
Hungarian, Farsi & Hindi

✓ Offering Family,  
Cosmetic & Implant  
Dentistry

✓ Open every day,  
including Sundays!

✓ Free parking

905-430-9623 [corymadental.com](http://corymadental.com) 220 Dundas St West



**WCC Hall Rentals**  
133 Brock St. N.  
[rentals@whitbycolumbusclub.ca](mailto:rentals@whitbycolumbusclub.ca)  
[www.whitbycolumbusclub.ca](http://www.whitbycolumbusclub.ca)  
**905-668-6412**

**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](mailto:dnewman@danewmanlaw.com)

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



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