

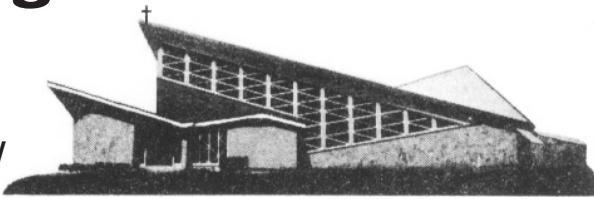
# St. John the Evangelist Church

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. Neocatechumenal Way

Saturday 7:30pm

## SPANISH MASS —

Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

## WEEKDAY MASSES —

Sunday 2:00 p.m.

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  | Estela & Bill Rios      | 905-668-3676 |
| 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 | 905-668-8912 |
| Catholic Family Services                       | 1-800-241-3534      | 905-428-1984 |
| Rose of Durham (Young Parent Support Services) |                     | 905-432-3622 |

|  |              |   |  |
|--|--------------|---|--|
| <b>St. John the Evangelist School</b>        | 905-668-4011 | <b>St. Marguerite d'Youville School</b>     | 905-666-9301                                   |
| 1103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3             |              | 250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N 6B1           |  |
| <b>St. Luke the Evangelist School</b>        | 905-665-5828 | <b>All Saints Catholic Secondary School</b> | 905-666-7753                                   |
| 55 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9         |              | 3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1           |  |
| <b>Durham Catholic District School Board</b> |              | 905-576-6150                                | <a href="http://www.dcdsb.ca">www.dcdsb.ca</a> |

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of the prophet Isaiah, offers us a very encouraging and hopeful message to the people of Israel. Those who lived in the north were passing through a great period of anguish because they had been invaded and illtreated by the Assyrians. In front of this dreadful situation, it is announced to them the coming of a future king who will free them and fill them with peace and security. Even in times when we feel oppressed with burdens and it seems that God has abandoned us, yet He comes to our rescue to free us and to give us peace. Let us present to the Lord all the trials and difficulties of our daily lives so that in Him we find support and consolation. The Second Reading, from the First Letter to the Corinthians, presents us a passage that deals with the problem of disunity and disagreement that there was in the Church of Corinth. There were factions and four parties that caused the community to be divided. St. Paul called them to agree and to be united because they all follow Christ and not other apostles. A sign of a strong community is that there is unity and peace rather than division and disagreement. We are focusing this week on the unity and agreement that must be in the Church. Yet, the Church is divided into many denominations. We pray that the Lord brings harmony and unity within all the Christian denominations. Let us also pray that the community of St. John may be united and grow in peace. It will be a strong sign for all the people who live in Whitby. The Gospel, from St. Matthew, indicates that Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah. He is the true king and Messiah who is going to free humanity from the oppression to sin. He comes to live, and He settles in the north of Israel announcing the kingdom of God and curing people who were in need. Jesus Christ calls us as well to share in his kingdom and to participate in the new life that He brings us. We just need to open our hearts and to see that we need Christ to transform our hearts. He calls his disciples to share in this mission by living with Him and announcing to those around the coming of God's kingdom. Jesus also calls us to be with Him, to follow Him and to receive life from Him. If we are shaped by Him, then we can attract those around us to follow Him as well. Let us accept this invitation from the Lord and enter a wonderful adventure of life to the fullest!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Benedict's Angelus on the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (January 27, 2008)

today's liturgy the Evangelist Matthew, who will accompany us throughout this liturgical year, presents the beginning of Christ's public mission. It consisted essentially in preaching the Kingdom of God and healing the sick, showing that this Kingdom is close at hand and is already in our midst. Jesus began his preaching in Galilee, the region where he grew up, the "outskirts" in comparison with the heart of the Jewish

Nation which was Judea, and in it, Jerusalem. But the Prophet Isaiah

had foretold that this land, assigned to the tribes of Zebulun and Napthali, would have a glorious future: the people immersed in darkness would see a great light (cf. Is 8: 23-9: 2). In Jesus' time, the term "gospel" was used by Roman emperors for their proclamations. Independently of their content, they were described as "good news" or announcements of salvation, because the emperor was considered lord of the world and his every edict as a portent of good. Thus, the application of this phrase to Jesus' preaching had a strongly critical meaning, as if to say God, and not the emperor, is Lord of the world, and the true Gospel is that of Jesus Christ.

The "Good News" which Jesus proclaims is summed up in this sentence: "The Kingdom of God - or Kingdom of Heaven - is at hand" (cf. Mt 4: 17; Mk 1: 15). What do these words mean? They do not of course refer to an earthly region marked out in space and time, but rather to an announcement that it is God who reigns, that God is Lord and that his lordship is present and actual, it is being realized. The newness of Christ's message, therefore, is that God made himself close in him and now reigns in our midst, as the miracles and healings that he works demonstrate. God reigns in the world through his Son made man and with the power of the Holy Spirit who is called "the finger of God" (Lk 11: 20). Wherever Jesus goes the Creator Spirit brings life, and men and women are healed of diseases of body and spirit. God's lordship is thus manifest in the human being's integral healing. By this, Jesus wanted to reveal the Face of the true God, the God who is close, full of mercy for every human being; the God who makes us a gift of life in abundance, his own life. The Kingdom of God is therefore life that asserts itself over death, the light of truth that dispels the darkness of ignorance and lies.

Let us pray to Mary Most Holy that she will always obtain for the Church the same passion for God's Kingdom which enlivened the mission of Jesus Christ: a passion for God, for his lordship of love and life; a passion for man, encountered in truth with the desire to give him the most precious treasure: the love of God, his Creator and Father.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENT MEETING**

Tuesday February 3rd, 2026 at 7pm  
Rite of Enrolment Cards will be distributed at this time.

**Prayer Group meets every Wednesday at 1pm in the Parish Centre. All are welcome.**

**CWL 2026 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

Calling all CWL members and ladies of the parish to renew or join the Catholic Women's League at St. John the Evangelist after masses on Saturday, January 24th and Sunday, January 25th. This one-stop women's organization focuses on faith, service and social justice. Become active and involved in your area of interest. Your place is among us. If you have any questions, please contact Lynne Childerhouse at [lchilderhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:lchilderhouse@hotmail.com).

 **Masses For The Week**

**Sat Jan 24 – 5:00pm**

**+Leona Vallance**  
*req. by Florence & Liam Venner*

**Mon Jan 26 – 8:20am**

**+Angelina Faraon Carandang**  
*req. by Hector & Sally*

**Tues Jan 27 – 8:20am**

**+William Waugh & +Susan Friel**  
*req. by Alice Doran*

**Wed Jan 28 – 7pm**

**+Salvatore Palazzolo**  
*req. by Angelina & Family*  
**+Vincenzo Villanti**  
*req. by Elda & Family*  
**+Jo Will Podris**  
*req. by Frits Jansen*  
**+Edward & +Patrick Fitzgerald**  
*req. by Brendan & Maureen Fitzgerald*  
**+Tom Gaboury**  
*req. by Geraldine & Family*  
**+Bill Rail**  
*req. by The Thursday Coffee Group*

**Thur Jan 29 – 8:20am**

**+Matilda L'Estrange**  
*req. by Godfrey & Jennie Cunningham*

**Fri. Jan 30 – 8:20am**

**+Irwin Coutinho**  
*req. by Godfrey & Jennie Cunningham*

**Special Collections:**

**Youth Ministry and Organ Fundraiser**

In order to set aside money needed to fundraise for Our Youth Ministry and the Organ Fundraising, there will be two special collections in the coming months.

Youth Ministry – Edge, LifeTEEN, Toton Tuus

This is a great way for our youth to grow in their faith.

Presentation & talk Feb 7/8, Collection February 14/15

Organ Fundraiser

Presentation & talk Feb 21/22, Collection Feb 28/2Mar1

Recently, our organist Ken Merola, presented to the Parish, the technical breakdowns of the Parish Organ, which is over 40 years old. Despite several repairs it is not fully operational and in need of replacement.

A collection will be taken up in the coming months. A private group of donors will match the donations received, so your giving will be doubled.

**Envelopes will be available for your donation. Please identify yourself with name and address for tax receipt purposes.**

Thank you!

**Marriage Sunday**

**February 7/8, 2026**

Marriage Sunday highlights the importance of the sacrament of marriage, affirms couples who strengthen our faith community through their witness, and complements World Marriage Sunday celebrations that take place across North America. It also honours those who serve in marriage ministries, whether in marriage preparation or marriage enrichment.

**Celebration of Marriage Mass**

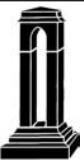
As part of Marriage Sunday 2026 celebrations, Bishop John Boissonneau will preside at a special Mass to honour married couples, with special recognition for those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2026. The Mass will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday February 8, 2026 at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica (65 Bond St., Toronto). All married couples will have the opportunity to renew their marriage commitment during the Mass.

All are welcome to attend. Reserved seating is available for couples celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ anniversary in 2026. Reserved seating is limited, so please register early. All other seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are unable to attend the Cathedral are invited to join the celebration via livestream Mass <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>. The broadcast will begin at 2:15 p.m.

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