

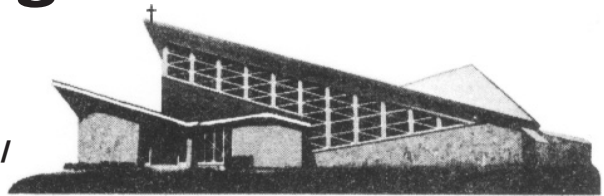
# St. John the Evangelist Church

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  
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)

Saturday 7:30pm

## **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	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

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**Durham Catholic District School Board**

**St. Marguerite d'Youville School**

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**All Saints Catholic Secondary School**

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905-666-9301

905-666-7753

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

This Sunday we celebrate the Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of Sirach, offers us a wisdom passage in which God encourages people to keep the commandments. We have been created with the freedom to choose. We can either choose goodness and find life or choose evil and find death. God's commandments are not burdensome or demanding, they are rather a path to life. With God's grace, we can act according to God's commandments and find peace, fulfillment and happiness. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, gives us a meditation on Christian wisdom. To be wise in society is to know a lot of things and to be skilled in so many trades. It has the risk that it is for oneself, for self perfection and not for the building of others. The wisdom of a disciple of Christ is based on the experience that God acts in our personal lives. It always seeks the good of others, and it is always diffusive, not self centered. It is a wisdom that comes from the experience of life events and not knowledge of books. The wise person is the one who has lived long enough and knows where the truth of life lies. Let us ask the Lord that we may grow in true wisdom. The Gospel, from St. Matthew, continues with the Sermon of the Mount. Jesus Christ has come to fulfill for us God's commandments. On our own, we realize that we fail to keep his commandments, and they may seem a burden. However, Christ has been sent to teach us the real meaning of the commandments as a path to life. Moreover, He also gives us the grace to keep them without effort. He gives us the possibility to love unconditionally each other and to reconcile with those around us. He allows us to see the person next to us with respect and with dignity and not with lust. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can act in a way that whatever we do is always for the good of others. It is important to realize that God does not expect too

much of us but rather He wants to give us so much. Let us be open to God's grace and we will be able to love completely.

This Wednesday we start the time of Lent with Ash Wednesday which will bring us to be transformed and renewed at Easter. Let us allow the grace of God to transform us completely!

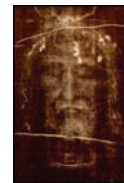
Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Benedict's Angelus on the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (February 13, 2011)

In this Sunday's Liturgy we continue to read Jesus' so-called "Sermon on the Mount". It is contained in chapters 5, 6 and 7 of Matthew's Gospel. After the Beatitudes, which are the programme of his life, Jesus proclaims the new Law, his Torah, as our Jewish brothers and sisters call it. In fact, on his coming, the Messiah was also to bring the definitive revelation of the Law and this is precisely what Jesus declares: "Think not that I have come to abolish the Law and the Prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them". Addressing his disciples, he adds: "unless your righteousness exceeds that of the Scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven" (Mt 5:17,20). But what do this "fullness" of Christ's Law and this "superior" justice that he demands consist in? Jesus explains it with a series of antitheses between the old commandments and his new way of propounding them. He begins each time: "You have heard that it was said to the men of old...", and then he asserts: "but I say to you".... For example, "You have heard that it was said to the men of old, 'you shall not kill; and whoever kills shall be liable to judgement'. But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgement" (Mt 5:21-22). He does this six times. This manner of speaking made a great impression on the people, who were shocked, because those words: "I say to you" were equivalent to claiming the actual authority of God,

the source of the Law. The newness of Jesus consists essentially in the fact that he himself "fulfils" the commandments with the love of God, with the power of the Holy Spirit who dwells within him. And we, through faith in Christ, can open ourselves to the action of the Holy Spirit who makes us capable of living divine love. So it is that every precept becomes true as a requirement of love, and all join in a single commandment: love God with all your heart and love your neighbour as yourself. "Love is the fulfilling of the Law", St Paul writes (Rom 13:10).

With regard to this requirement, for example, the pitiful case of the four Rom children, who died last week when their shack caught fire on the outskirts of this city, forces us to ask ourselves whether a more supportive and fraternal society, more consistent in love, in other words more Christian, might not have been able to prevent this tragic event. And this question applies in the case of so many other grievous events, more or less known, which occur daily in our cities and our towns.



**Tuesday February 17<sup>th</sup>  
9am to 10am  
Devotion to the Holy  
Face of Jesus with  
Adoration and Prayers in  
the Church.  
All are welcome**

### Coffee With Friends

Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, Parish Centre,  
9:30am

An opportunity to:

- Experience fellowship; Enjoy delicious pancakes
  - Make new acquaintances ; Learn about a Lenten tradition
- Come celebrate Shrove Tuesday & Learn about 'The Pretzel'  
*Hosted by: Maturing Adults Ministry Team*

***On Family Day Monday February 16<sup>th</sup>, the office is closed, Mass is at 9am. Have a very happy and blessed Family Day!***

**CWL GENERAL MEETING**

Ladies of the parish, mark your calendars for Thursday, February 19th at 7:30 p.m. in the main room of the parish centre for our February general meeting. Attendance is very important as we will be voting on Notices of Motions to change our Constitution and By Laws. Not a member, you are welcome to join us. If you have any questions, or require transportation, please contact Lynne Childerhouse at 905-431-6582

or [Ichilderhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:Ichilderhouse@hotmail.com)

**Respect for Life:**

Bill C-218 will receive second reading this March. In keeping with Catholic teaching on the dignity of every human life, parishioners are encouraged to contact MP Ryan Turnbull and urge his support for Bill C-218, which protects those with mental illness from being offered Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD).

**Organ Fundraiser**

**Special Collection Bolstered by Donor Matching!  
For Church Organ Refurbishment**

Our organ is now obsolete despite repairs over recent years, and failing. As previously announced, we will take up a special collection for the organ. All donations will be matched by an anonymous group of parishioners, therefore doubled.

Envelopes will be available at the back of the church and in the Parish Bulletins for February 21/22 and February 28/March 01.

**Please identify yourself with name and address for tax receipt purposes.** Thank you!

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

**We are currently looking for someone to assist leading the Prayer Group. Please contact Klara 905-668-9579.**

**LENT BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY**

**February 18, 2026**

**Mass with Ashes at  
8:20am & 7:00pm**

**PENANCE IN LENT**

Fridays in the Lenten Season are days of penance, when small sacrifices are encouraged. Abstaining from meat on Fridays has become a customary Lenten penance for Catholics. The Canadian Bishops have recommended that this penitential practice continue among the faithful, but also stated that other acts of penance may be substituted, such as special prayers or acts of service for others.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday** are days of obligatory fasting and abstinence from meat. "The law of fasting prescribes that only one meal be taken in a day; but it does not forbid taking some nourishment in the morning and evening" (Letters & Legislation, Archdiocese of Toronto). The law of fasting binds those from 18 to 59 years of age, while the law of abstinence from meat binds Catholics who are 14 years of age and older, but every person, regardless of age, can participate in fasting and abstaining from meat if they wish, as long as one's health will allow it.

Parents and educators are reminded of their duty to introduce children gradually to the understanding and practice of penance, including fasting and abstinence, in the life of Catholics. Adult example will be the greatest influence in this matter (Guidelines for Pastoral Liturgy, 1999-2000, CCCB).

**A reminder that during Fridays in Lent, Stations of the Cross begin at 6:30pm, followed by Mass at 7:00pm. Stations in Spanish are at 7:30pm. There is no morning mass on Fridays in Lent.**



**Social Sunday  
TODAY!**

In the Parish Center

AFTER 9AM & 11AM Masses  
Our Youth Ministry (Edge & Lifteen) invites all Parishioners to celebrate Shrove (Pancake) Tuesday, on Sunday Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, following the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses.

All are welcome! Donations are gratefully accepted for the Youth Ministry.



**Stations of the Cross Fridays  
in Lent**

**Stations of the Cross start 6:30pm**

**in English, Followed by Mass at 7:00pm**

**Stations of the Cross in Spanish at  
7:30pm**

- Feb 20 Easter Reflections
- Feb 27 Everyone's Way of the Cross
- Mar 6 Family Centred Way of the Cross
- Mar 13 Praying the Psalms with Jesus
- Mar 20 Development & Peace
- Mar 27 Mary's Way of the Cross
- Apr 3 Good Friday presented by Youth

**Prayers for the Sick in our Parish**

*Sylvie Forte; Andrew Dundas;  
Doreen Pereira ; Anna Lalla ; Jack  
McCabe; Ian Hamilton; Gina  
Mancuso; John Morris; Christiane  
Prior; Fritz Jansen; Jill Morris Jones*



**Masses For The Week**

**Sat Feb 14 – 5:00pm**

**In Thanksgiving**

*req. by The Hannon Family*

**Mon Feb 16 – 9:00am FAMILY DAY  
HOLIDAY**

**+Samantha Goodwin**

*req. by Gail & Leanne Stewart*

**Tues Feb 17 – 8:20am**

**+Doug Jordens**

*req. by Dan & Victoria Humphries*

**Wed Feb 18 – 8:20am Ash Wednesday**

**Wed Feb 18 – 7pm Ash Wednesday**

**+Cecil Molligoda**

*req. by Ranjit Molligoda*

**+Charles & Bridget Carolan**

*req. by Richard & Pauline Fitzpatrick*

**+Rado Colic**

*req. by Anne & Peter Struna*

**+Halina**

*req. by Her Family*

**+Carmelo Molica-Franco**

*req. by Angela Molica-Lazzaro & Family*

**In Thanksgiving**

*req. by Mary Jeyanathirajah*

**Thur Feb 19 – 8:20am**

**+John Elliott**

*req. by Rosanne Elliott & Family*

**Fri. Feb 20 – 8:20am**

**+Idalina Leitao**

*req. by Her Family*



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