

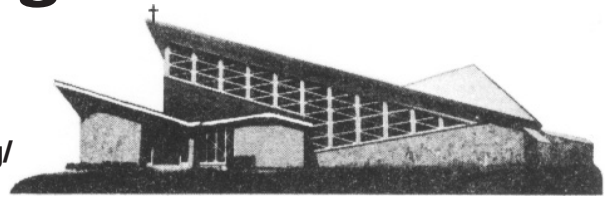
St. John the Evangelist Church

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.

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|-------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| SUNDAY LITURGY — | Saturday | 5:00 p.m. | Neocatechumenal Way | Saturday 7:30pm |
| | Sunday | 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. | | EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR |
| SPANISH MASS — | Sunday | 2:00 p.m. | | On first Friday of each month |
| WEEKDAY MASSES — | Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday | 8:20 a.m. | | following morning mass. |
| | Wednesday (Rosary at 6:30 p.m.) | 7:00 p.m. (OLPH Devotions) | | |

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) 9am Mass | Catherine Phillips 647-504-3647, 11am mass | Meryl Aguiar 647-524-1519 |
| 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 | | 905-668-8912 |
| Catholic Family Services | Oshawa 905-725-3513 | Ajax 905-428-1984 |
| Rose of Durham (Young Parent Support Services) | 1-800-241-3534 | or 905-432-3622 |

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

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we continue celebrating the joy of the Resurrection. We also celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. The First Reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, presents the daily living of the early Christian community. After the Resurrection of Christ, they were transformed, and they were gathering with a very joyful spirit. Four characteristics underlined the meetings of the early Church: they were listening to the teaching of the apostles by which they witnessed to the events of the Death and Resurrection of Christ. They were living in unity, and they were sharing their goods. They were meeting in houses to celebrate the Eucharist and to pray together. Their gatherings were so powerful that many people, even pagans were attracted to join them, and they became believers. After the Second Vatican Council, the Church is going back to the roots of the early Church and is trying to rediscover the basil elements of the Christian community. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Peter, offers us a teaching addressed to those who have just received baptism at the Easter Vigil. St. Peter reminded them that through their baptism they have shared in the Resurrection of Christ. They had received a heavenly inheritance that cannot fade, and nothing can destroy it. Even though we go through trials or sufferings, this faith allows us to overcome them and live all these painful events at peace. The Gospel, from St. John, gives us the account of the appearance of Jesus to the apostles and St. Thomas. The apostles were very fearful, and they remained behind closed doors. The Risen Christ came amid them and showed them His hands and His feet. By doing this, He assured them that He was risen, and He took them out of their fears. St. Thomas was not present when Jesus appeared to them, and he doubted that Christ was truly risen. The following week, Christ came in again and allowed Thomas to touch His hands and His side and he believes that He is truly risen. As the

apostles, we are called to experience the Risen Christ in our daily lives, especially when we are fearful and struggling. Let us experience the transformative mercy of Christ that comes to transform our hardened hearts!

Let us pray for peace around the world in this Divine Mercy Sunday!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Benedict's Angelus on Divine Mercy Sunday (April 15, 2012)

Every year in celebrating Easter we relive the experience of the first disciples of Jesus, the experience of the encounter with him risen: the Gospel of John tells that they saw him appear in their midst in the Upper Room on the evening of the very day of the Resurrection, "the first day of the week", and subsequently eight days later (Jn 20:19, 26). That day, later called "the Lord's Day", was the day of the assembly of the Christian community which gathered for its own devotion, that is, to the Eucharist, a new form of worship which from the outset differed from the Judaic worship of the Sabbath. Indeed, the celebration of the Lord's Day is a very strong proof of Christ's Resurrection, for only an extraordinary and overwhelming event could have induced the first Christians to begin a form of worship that differed with regard to the Jewish Sabbath.

Then, as today, Christian worship is not only a commemoration of past events nor even a specific, inner mystical experience; rather, it is essentially an encounter with the Risen Lord who lives in the dimension of God beyond time and space, and yet becomes really present amidst the community, speaks to us in the Sacred Scriptures and breaks the bread of eternal life for us.

It is through these signs that we relive what the disciples experienced, that is, the event of seeing Jesus and at the same time of not recognizing him; of touching his body, a real body and yet free from earthly bonds.

What the Gospel says is very important: namely, that Jesus, in his two appearances to the Apostles gathered in the Upper Room, repeats several times the greeting: "Peace be with you" (Jn 20:19, 21, 26). Here, the traditional greeting with which people wish one another shalom, peace, becomes something new: it becomes the gift of the

peace that Jesus alone can give because it is the fruit of his radical victory over evil.

The "peace" that Jesus gives to his friends is the fruit of the love of God which led him to die on the cross, to pour out all his blood, as a meek and humble lamb "full of grace and truth" (Jn 1:14). For this reason Bl. John Paul II chose to call this Sunday after Easter, Divine Mercy, with a very specific image: that of Jesus' pierced side from which blood and water flowed, according to the account of an eyewitness, the Apostle John (cf. Jn 19:34-37). However, Jesus is now risen and the paschal Sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist flow from him, who is alive: those who receive them with faith receive the gift of eternal life.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us accept the gift of peace which the Risen Jesus offers us, let us allow our hearts to be filled with his mercy! In this way, with the power of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit who raised Christ from the dead, we too can bring these Easter gifts to others. May Mary Most Holy obtain this for us.



APRIL 12, 2026

CWL APRIL GENERAL MEETING

The Catholic Women's League (CWL) general meeting will take place on Thursday, April 23rd, at 7:30 p.m. in the main room of the parish centre. 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 lchilderhouse@hotmail.com.

An Event of Orchestral Music for all Ages

With "La Jeunesse Youth Orchestra"

*Proceeds to support the Music
Ministry in our Parish*

Enjoy movie tracks and other well-known favourites

played by this full orchestra of talented musicians

Saturday, April 18th, 2026,
at 1:15 pm

Suggested donation:

Adults: \$ 25.00 - Youth (13 to 18): \$ 10.00

Children (6 to 12): free

Tickets available after the masses
this weekend

(Church or by: Online e-transfer to
SJtickets2026@gmail.com)

Prayer Group

Returns Wednesday, April 15th

in the Parish Centre at 1pm

All are welcome!

Totus Tuus Returns this Summer!

Mark your calendars for **July 5-10, 2025!** Totus Tuus is a fun & faith-filled Summer camp for the youth of the parish run by missionaries. There is a day camp for children entering grade 1-6 in the fall and an evening program for youth entering grade 7-12 in the fall.

Registration deadline is June 15th!
Deadline for volunteer screening is May 15th

Youth Minister Job Posting
We are hiring a youth minister to cover for Cassandra's maternity leave beginning in June 2026 for approximately 1 year. Please contact Fr. Francisco for details and a copy of the job description.

Ladies Golf League

Are you interested in playing golf or learning to play golf, then consider joining our league. We play Tuesday evenings 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Deer Creek Practice and Performance Centre (formerly Salem Ridge), an executive 9-hole course. We have lots of fun and we do improve our game. If you are interested in joining us, please come to our general meeting on Tuesday, April 14th at 7:30 p.m. in room 2 of the Parish Centre for our kick-off meeting. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lynne Childerhouse at 905-431-6582 or lchilderhouse@hotmail.com.

ATTENTION: NEW TEACHER

APPLICANTS

Important Information for Pastoral References

If you are a teacher, or currently studying to be a teacher in our Catholic schools, part of the application process includes a Pastoral Letter of Reference from a priest. It is the policy to be an attending member of the parish and volunteer in a children's ministry. (<https://bit.ly/PracticingCath>)

Prayers for the Sick in our Parish

Sylvie Forte; Andrew Dundas; Doreen Pereira ; Anna Lalla ; Jack McCabe; Gina Mancuso; John Morris; Christiane Prior; Fritz Jansen; Jill Morris Jones; Shiva Dean, Blanca Arias, Frank Verwey, Caroline Contreras, Mary Patrick Eastman, Marianna Griffiths, Steve McCall, Edmund Paty, Nora Rodriguez



Flower Envelopes can be found on the back counter. Donations to offset the costs are greatly appreciated. Please identify yourself for tax receipt purposes.



Masses For The Week

Sat Apr 11– 5:00pm
+Bill Rail
req. by The Hannon Family

Mon Apr 13 – 8:20am
+Maria Costa
req. by Mario Costa

Tues Apr 14 – 8:20am
+Helen Silveira
req. by Her Children

Wed Apr 15 – 7pm
+Rachel & Afzal Bhatti
req. by Rani & Rai
+Marcel & Maureen LaBarre
req. by The LaBarre Family
+John Early
req. by Hugh McCann
+Carleton Wong
req. by Society of St. Vincent de Paul
+Laura McEachen
Mary Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Family

Thur Apr 16 – 8:20am
+Tilda McCann
req. by The Fitzpatrick Family

Fri. Apr 17 – 8:20am
+Don Legault
req. by His Family

SAVE THE DATES

SENIORS' RETREAT

Thursday May 21, 2026 10:00-3:00

Father Charles Pottie, SJ.

Facilitator

The price includes lunch.

\$55/person

See the notice on the board for details



Golf Scramble

Saturday, May 23rd at S.
Ajax Golf Course.

Golfers of all abilities are
welcome.

FAMILY FUN DAY & TASTE OF THE PARISH

Date: Saturday, June 13, 2026

Time: 11:30am - 3:00pm

On the Parish Centre Grounds

Bring your own lawn chair!

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