

Living the
Gospel



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St. John the Evangelist Church

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Easter. The First Reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, continues the preaching of St. Peter on the day of Pentecost. He proclaimed that with the event of the Death and Resurrection of Christ, Jesus was considered from now on, Lord over sin and death. When people heard this, they were touched to the heart, and they asked Peter what they needed to do to welcome this announcement. He told them to convert and be baptized in the name of Jesus. It meant to allow Jesus to transform their hearts and to shape their lives by the attitudes of Jesus. We are also called to be transformed by the Risen Christ. He will help us to pass from an attitude of selfishness, greed, impatient and anger to one of patience, meekness, love and forgiveness. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Peter, continues with the advice given to those who were baptized at Easter. As Christ was crucified and died without defending Himself, those who follow Christ receive the grace to act in the same way. We are all weak and when we face disagreements or people tell us something that we do not like, we usually put our foot down and try to argue. Then, we get angry, and we lose our peace. Christ wants to help us so that what normally touches our skin and makes us react, now with Him it is possible that we do not lose our calmness and we remain at peace. We do this out of love for the other person and with the help of Christ. The Gospel, from St. John, presents the beautiful passage of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Jesus is presented as the Gate of salvation through which we all must enter if we want to have fullness of life. Throughout His life, Jesus has been always obedient to His Father and has always done His will. He is the way and the door through which we may find salvation. It is essential that we follow Him, and we need to listen to His voice because His words give us Eternal Life. Let us have an open heart and an open hear so that we find abundant life in the Risen Lord!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Benedict XVI's Angelus (May 15, 2011)

The Liturgy of the Fourth Sunday of Easter presents to us one of the most beautiful images that has portrayed the Lord Jesus since the earliest centuries of the Church: the Good Shepherd. The Gospel of St John, in chapter 10, describes the special features of the relationship between Christ the Good Shepherd and his flock, a relationship so close that no one will ever be able to snatch sheep from his hand. Indeed, the sheep are united to him by a bond of love and of reciprocal knowledge, which guarantees to them the immeasurable gift of eternal life.

At the same time, the flock's attitude to the Good Shepherd, Christ, is presented by the Evangelist with two specific verbs: "to listen" and "to follow". These terms suggest the fundamental characteristics of those who live out the following of the Lord.

First of all, by listening to his word, from which faith is born and by which it is nurtured. Only those who are attentive to the Lord's voice can assess in their own conscience the right decisions for acting in accordance with God. Thus, the following of Jesus derives from listening: we act as disciples only after hearing and inwardly accepting the Master's teachings in order to put them into practice every day.

On this Sunday, therefore, it comes naturally to remember to God the pastors of the Church and those who are training to become

pastors. I therefore invite you to say a special prayer for the bishops – including the Bishop of Rome! – for the parish priests, for all those who have responsibilities in the guidance of Christ's flock, so that they may be faithful and wise in carrying out their ministry. In particular, let us pray for vocations to the priesthood on this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, so that effective workers in the Lord's harvest may never be lacking.

Prayer Group
Bi-weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 1pm
April 29, May 13, 27, June 10, 24

 ShareLife

GOAL \$178,500
As of April 14, 2026 \$50,345

ShareLife Sunday is this weekend, celebrating 50 years

Today is ShareLife Sunday, the second weekend of special collections.

ShareLife recognizes that all humans are created in the image of God, with a commitment to the dignity of the individual and the right to life, working on behalf of the poor and vulnerable. As we celebrate this milestone anniversary in 2026, we invite you to join us in honouring this legacy of serving the marginalized in our parish community and around the world. With your support, ShareLife-funded agencies can continue to provide vital services—like counselling for families, support for isolated seniors, and care for those facing mental health challenges—for years to come.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.



Volunteer Gardeners are needed!
Planting, weeding, watering...
Please let us know if you can help us!

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

SENIORS' RETREAT

Thursday May 21, 2026 10:00-3:00
MANRESA SPIRITUAL RETREAT CENTRE
Father Charles Pottie, S.J. Facilitator
The price includes lunch. \$55/person
See the notice on the board for details



Golf Scramble Saturday, May 23rd at South Ajax Golf Course.

Golfers of all abilities are welcome. Registration is now open!

Use the QR code

Lunch, door prizes and silent auction that includes a Dave Keon autographed Toronto Leafs Jersey!

We are also gratefully accepting prize donations for the prize table.



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!



Society of St. Vincent de Paul,
St. John the Evangelist Conference
BUNDLE WEEKEND May 2/3, 2026

A truck will be parked in St. John Parish parking lot over the weekend May 2nd & 3rd accepting gently used/new clothing, coats, linens, towels, bedding, textiles, drapery, shoes/boots.

We CANNOT accept furniture, appliances, mattresses, used baby equipment, furniture, books, dishes, construction material or video tapes.

Please bring your items to the truck after mass Saturday at 5pm, Sunday 9am or 11am or 2:00 pm in Spanish.

Mothers-to-Mothers Campaign

Your CWL is sponsoring a collection of items for Rose of Durham on Mother's Day, May 9/10, hence the name Mothers-to-Mothers. Rose of Durham provides support for young and/or vulnerable parents and their children. Their greatest needs are: baby formula such as Good Start, Similac, Parents Choice, size 4 diapers and pull-ups and toiletries such as shampoo, body wash, lotion, shaving lotion and razors. Thank you in advance for your generous support.



Masses For The Week

Sat Apr 25- 5:00pm

+Carol Fernandes

req. by Eleuterio Fernandes

Mon Apr 27 - 8:20am

+Allyson Partridge Rios

req. by John & Cathy Fernandes

Tues Apr 28 - 8:20am

+Michael Ajram

req. by the Taccogna Family

Wed Apr 29 - 7pm

+Vincenzo Villanti

req. by The Eblat Family

+Salvatore Palazzolo

req. by Angelina & Family

+Raymond Mallais

req. by The LaBarre Family

+Ruby Sawh

req. by Sylvie Forte & Ken Michalko

Thur Apr 30 - 8:20am

+Irma James

req. by Valerie James

Fri. May 1 - 8:20am

+Sandy Murray

req. by Kathleen Murray & Family

Join the Knights of Columbus

Serve. Connect. Make a Difference.

The Knights of Columbus, St. John the Evangelist Council, is a welcoming group of men dedicated to faith, service, charity, and fraternity. We work together to support the St. John's community, build lasting friendships, and make a meaningful difference close to home. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month, from September to June, and we warmly invite you to attend our next meeting:

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 8:00 PM

Knights Hall, 133 Brock Street North

Whether you're looking to give back, meet like-minded individuals, or explore becoming a Knight, this is a great opportunity to learn more and see how you can get involved. No commitment—just come by, meet the members, and see what we're about.

To reserve your spot at our next meeting, please contact:

Bryan Childerhouse bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com

☎ 416-508-9877

Catholic Cemeteries Pre-Planning Seminar

Planning ahead is one of the most thoughtful and compassionate decisions you can make for your family. Join us for an informative seminar designed to help you understand your options and make confident, faith-informed decisions.

Learn about:

Funeral and burial options

- Planning in advance to ease burden on loved ones
- Catholic teachings on cremation
- Flexible payment options (including 0% financing options)

Presented by Resurrection Catholic Cemetery

Wednesday May 27, 2026 at 7:00 PM

St. Mary of the People Parish, 570 Marion Ave, Oshawa

To RSVP call 905-668-8912 or

email resurrectioninquiry@cc-fs.ca

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