

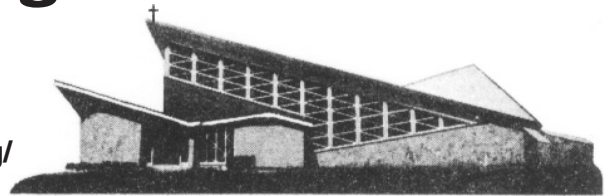
St. John the Evangelist Church

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.

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 — One Sunday 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

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Fifth Sunday of Easter. The First Reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, describes the need that the community had to ordain deacons. At every gathering, there was the preaching of the Word of God, the breaking of the bread and the sharing of a meal. People were not treated fairly, and it was too much for the apostles to serve the people by distributing food. Therefore, they chose seven men who appointed as deacons with the role to serve and to wait on tables while the apostles continued with the preaching of the word. The ministry of service is very important in the Church by which we are called to care and to show love for each other. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Peter, shows how those who had been baptized are called to act as the people of God. They had been elected by the Lord to be precious stones of the spiritual temple of God. Through their faith and deeds, they were called to be an example of God's love for all people. In our parish community, God has chosen us and has done wonderful deeds of salvation in our lives so that we share the Good News to those around us by the way we live. The Gospel, from St. John, offers us a portion of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper with His disciples. He had told them that someone will betray Him and that they will not see Him any longer. The disciples were confused and sad, but Jesus Christ reassured them to trust in Him. He is going to prepare a place for them so that they can share with Him forever. They were called to believe that He is the one on whom they needed to put their total trust because through Him they are going to receive fullness of life. Let us trust in the Lord and rely in Him so that we can receive fullness of life in the midst of our struggles!

Let us pray for all the children who will receive their First Communion in the following Sundays. May God fill them with the joy of receiving Christ!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Benedict XVI's Angelus (May 22, 2011)

The Gospel of this Sunday, the Fifth of Easter, proposes a twofold commandment of faith: to believe in God and to believe in Jesus. In fact, the Lord said to his disciples: "Believe in God, believe also in me" (Jn 14:1). They are not two separate acts but one single act of faith, full adherence to salvation wrought by God the Father through his Only-begotten Son.

The New Testament puts an end to the Father's invisibility. God has shown his face, as Jesus' answer to the Apostle Philip confirms: "He who has seen me has seen the Father" (Jn 14:9). With his Incarnation, death and Resurrection, the Son of God has freed us from the slavery of sin to give us the freedom of the children of God and he has shown us the face of God, which is love: God can be seen, he is visible in Christ.

St Teresa of Avila wrote: "the last thing we should do is to withdraw from our greatest good and blessing, which is the most sacred humanity of Our Lord Jesus Christ" (cf. The Interior Castle, 6, ch. 7). Therefore, only by believing in Christ, by remaining united to him, may the disciples, among whom we too are, continue their permanent action in history: "Truly, truly, I say to you," says the Lord, "he who believes in me will also do the works that I do" (Jn 14:12).

Faith in Jesus entails following him daily, in the simple actions that make up our day. "It is part of the mystery of God that he acts so

gently, that he only gradually builds up his history within the great history of mankind; that he becomes man and so can be overlooked by his contemporaries and by the decisive forces within history; that he suffers and dies and that, having risen again, he chooses to come to mankind only through the faith of the disciples to whom he reveals himself; that he continues to knock gently at the doors of our hearts and slowly opens our eyes if we open our doors to him" (Jesus of Nazareth II, 2011, p. 276).

St Augustine says that "it was necessary for Jesus to say: 'I am the way, the truth, and the life' (Jn 14:6) because once the way was known, the end remained to be known" (cf. In Evangelium Iohannis Tractatus, 69, 2: CCL 36, 500), and the end is the Father. For Christians, for each one of us, hence, the way to the Father is to allow ourselves to be guided by Jesus, by his word of truth, and to receive the gift of his life. Let us make St Bonaventure's invitation our own: "Open, therefore, your eyes, lend your spiritual ear, open your lips and dispose your heart, so that you will be able to see, hear, praise, love, venerate, glorify, honour your God in all creatures" (Itinerarium mentis in Deum, i, 15).

Dear friends, the commitment to proclaim Jesus Christ, "the way, the truth, and the life" (Jn 14:6), is the main task of the Church. Let us invoke the Virgin Mary that she may always assist the Pastors and those in the different ministries to proclaim the Good News of salvation, that the Word of God may be spread and the number of disciples multiplied (cf. Acts 6:7)

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



**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

Prayer Group

**Bi-weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 1pm
May 13, 27, June 10, 24**

St. Vincent de Paul are in need of peanut butter, which is a main staple in most grocery deliveries.



GOAL \$178,500
As of April 27, 2026 \$79,413

Your gift to ShareLife can build the path to hope
Bradley's life was in ruins, shattered by addiction and a pain so deep, he couldn't escape. At just 14, drugs became his refuge, a desperate attempt to numb the emptiness that consumed him. He fought to build something—a job, a home, a family—but addiction tore it all apart. For Bradley, the road to healing seemed impossible—until you stepped in. Through your kindness, he found the Good Shepherd's DARE Program, made possible by your support of ShareLife. Without this opportunity, Bradley's story would have been one of loss and despair, but because of you, he found a second chance. With the alarming increases in mental health and addictions, there are so many more people waiting for someone like you to help turn their broken road into a path of hope. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

SENIORS' RETREAT

Thursday May 21, 2026 10:00-3:00
MANRESA SPIRITUAL RETREAT CENTRE
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 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!

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 May 2 – 5:00pm
+Rick Virostek
req. by Sonya & Paul Wright

Mon May 4 – 8:20am
+ Maria Teresa & +John Jeronimo
req. by Nelly & Todd Johnson

Tues May 5 – 8:20am
+Humberto Schenflede
req. by His Wife & Family

Wed May 6 – 7pm
Int. for the Permanent Diaconate
req. by Deacon Dan
+Ted Kapuscinski
req. by Doreen Kapuscinski & Family
+Jim & Theresa Kuslusi
req. by Doreen Kapuscinski
+Edmund Paty
req. by Mary Louise LaBarre & Ken Reilly & Family
+Norman Rich
Req. by Joan Rich
+Edward O'Hanlon
Req. by Pat McDonald

Thur May 7 – 8:20am
+John Riccotone
req. by Tom & Teresa Simmons

Fri. May 8 – 8:20am
+Shaun Donnelly
req. by Pat & Mary Mullen

Join the Knights of Columbus
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
To reserve your spot at our next meeting, please contact:
Bryan Childerhouse bryan.childerhouse@rogers.com
416-508-9877

Catholic Cemeteries Pre-Planning Seminar
Funeral and burial 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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Providing support to students and families who face financial or personal hardship. Providing assistance so every child can fully participate in school.
PLEASE SEE THE ENCLOSED HANDOUT. THIS COLLECTION IS NOT A PARISH SECOND COLLECTION, HOWEVER THE ENVELOPES WILL BE COLLECTED BY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS ON MAY 9/10. PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF WITH NAME AND ADDRESS FOR TAX RECEIPT PURPOSES.

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