

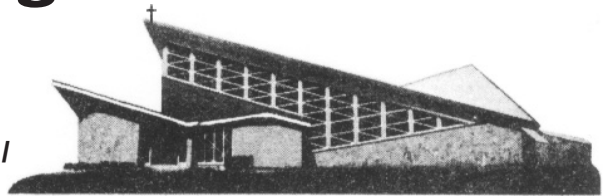
St. John the Evangelist Church

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. Cassandra Hamilton 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.
Saturday 7:30pm Neocatechumenal Way
Sunday 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. Spanish
WEEKDAY MASSES — 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 — 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	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	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

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of Sirach, presents a passage that gives advice regarding being angry and harbouring grudges. All of us must deal with conflicts and disagreements in our lives. Being resentful and getting even is certainly not a path that produces peace; on the contrary, it destroys our soul and brings about distress and anguish. The best approach to take is the path of forgiveness and reconciliation. If we realize how much God has forgiven us, then it will help us to forgive as we have been forgiven. The fruit of forgiveness and reconciliation is endless peace and serenity. The Second Reading, from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans, offers us a beautiful exhortation on the purpose and meaning of our lives. It is easy that we live mainly worried with our own ideas and plans, for our family and work. All these things are important but transitory. The Lord has created us to be eternal and to find fulfillment. The Lord invites us to have this horizon in our lives and to enter God's plan which brings us to be completely satisfied. The Gospel, from St. Matthew, brings us a parable on reconciliation and forgiveness. Peter asks Jesus how many times one should forgive. Humanly speaking there is a limit; however, God forgives us always. He continually forgives us and if we repent, we welcome this mercy. To forgive means that He takes upon Himself the consequences of our actions and He give us in return restoration and peace. This is what God has done for us many times. If we are aware of this fact and we are grateful, this forgiveness transforms our hearts and enables us to forgive others as we have been forgiven. It is not easy to do, and many times we fail. So, let us ask the Lord for more awareness of His forgiveness so that we can be instruments of reconciliation and peace!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Francis' Holy on the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (September 13, 2020)

In the parable in today's Gospel reading, that of the merciful King (see Mt 18:21-35), twice we find this plea: "Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full" (vv. 26, 29). The first time it is pronounced by the servant who owes his master ten thousand talents, an enormous sum. Today it would be millions and millions of dollars. The second time it is repeated by another servant of the same master. He too is in debt, not towards the master, but towards the same servant who has that enormous debt. And his debt is very

small, maybe a week's wages. The heart of the parable is the indulgence the master shows towards his servant with the bigger debt. The evangelist underlines that, "moved with compassion the master"- we should never forget this word of Jesus: "Have compassion", Jesus always had compassion - "moved with compassion the master let him go and forgave him the loan" (v. 27). An enormous debt, therefore a huge remission! But that servant, immediately afterwards, showed himself to be pitiless towards his companion, who owed him a modest sum. He does not listen to him, he is extremely hostile against him and has him thrown in prison until he has paid his debt (see v. 30). The master hears about this and, outraged, calls the wicked servant back and has him condemned (see vv. 32-34). "I forgave you a great deal and you are not capable of forgiving so little?"

In the parable we find two different attitudes: God's - represented by the king who forgives a lot, because God always forgives - and the human person's. The divine attitude is justice pervaded with mercy, whereas the human attitude is limited to justice. Jesus exhorts us to open ourselves with courage to the strength of forgiveness, because in life not everything can be resolved with justice. We know this. There is a need for that merciful love, which is also at the basis of the Lord's answer to Peter's question, which precedes the parable. Peter's question goes like this: "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him?" (v. 21). And Jesus replies, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times" (v. 22). In the symbolic language of the Bible this means that we are called to forgive always. How much suffering, how many wounds, how many wars could be avoided if forgiveness and mercy were the style of our life! Even in families, even in families. How many families are disunited, who do not know how to forgive each other. How many brothers and sisters bear resentment within. It is necessary to apply merciful love to all human relationships: between spouses, between parents and children, within our communities, in the Church and also in society and politics.

New Altar Servers Needed!
Please contact the parish office or speak to Fr. Francisco for any child interested in serving at Mass, ages 8 and older and have had their First Communion. Training provided.

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Enter your city to locate your Parish .

Prayer Group
Join us every Wednesday
from 1pm – 3pm
in the Parish Centre. All are welcome

Ministry Fair
Share your gifts and talents with our parish and extended community! We have some amazing opportunities for you to consider! **Join us in the Parish Center for our Ministry Fair on Saturday & Sunday October 4, 2026, following the 9am & 11am Masses.** Enjoy a coffee and treat and visit our various ministry tables to learn more!

R.C.I.A
The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) provides instruction and spiritual formation to anyone 16 years of age and older who are not baptized, or baptized in another Christian community, who would like to become a member of the Catholic Church. Catholic adults who have not yet celebrated their First Eucharist or the Sacrament of Confirmation may also take part. RCIA Sessions take place on Thursday evenings from 7pm to 9pm in the Parish Centre beginning October 1st. Interested participants should contact Fr. Francisco at the Parish Office as soon as possible to register: (905) 668-3676

CWL SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING
Wine & Cheese Start Up Meeting
Thursday, September 17th @ 7:30pm in PC
Room 1. Contact Lynne for more
information or transportation 905-431-
6582 lchilderhouse@hotmail.com

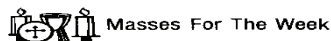
CWL Walkathon
CWL members will be participating in a 5-kms walk-a-thon to raise funds for our charitable donations to be disbursed in January. We will be handing out sponsor forms the weekend of September 19th & 20th. Your sponsorship of a CWL member would be most appreciated. Or pick up a sponsorship form, solicit your sponsors and join us in the fund-raising activity.

FIRST EUCHARIST (Grade 2)

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION NIGHT

in the Church (one parent only to attend)
Tuesday, September 29th at 7:00pm
Please bring the completed registration form
and \$50 fee for program expenses and a
photocopy of your child's baptism certificate.

It is mandatory that all children who do not
attend Catholic school enrol in Parish Home
Catechism Program.



Sat Sept 12 – 5:00pm

**+Rosina, Salvatore, Carmelo & Carmelo
Molica Lazzaro**
req. by Angela D'Angelo

Mon Sept 14 – 8:20am

**Int. for the L'Estrange & Cunningham
Family**
req. by Henrietta L'Estrange

Tues Sept 15 – 8:20am

+Walter Belej
req. by Ann Belej-Corrigan & Jim Corrigan

Wed Sept 16 – 7pm

**+Deceased Members of the Harris
Family**
req. by Their Family

Thur Sept 17 – 8:20am

+John Robinson
req. by Theresa Robinson

Fri. Sept 18 – 8:20am

+In Thanksgiving
req. by Henrietta L'Estrange

Sat Sept 19 – 5:00pm

+Mollie & Tec Hughes
req. by Kathie Steffler



Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St.
John the Evangelist Conference

BUNDLE WEEKEND October 24/25, 2026

A truck will be parked in St. John Parish parking
lot over the weekend Oct 24th/25th accepting
gently used/new clothing, coats, linens, towels,
bedding, textiles, drapery, shoes/boots.

We CANNOT accept furniture, appliances,
mattresses, used baby equipment, 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. Assistance provided
to load your donation onto the truck. Thank
you!**

Humanitarian Relief – Nepal Mudslides

The Archdiocese of Toronto is accepting
donations to support humanitarian relief
efforts following the devastating mudslides
and flooding in Nepal. The disaster has
resulted in significant loss of life,
displacement and widespread damage to
homes, roads, bridges and other critical
infrastructure. Those wishing to help may
donate online through

www.archtoronto.org, by phone through
the Donations Processing Centre at **437-
529-1287**, or through the parish. Funds will
be channeled through trusted Catholic
partners assisting those most affected.
Please pray for those who have died, those
who are grieving or displaced, and all those
providing emergency assistance and
support.

Humanitarian Relief – Colombia Earthquake

The Archdiocese of Toronto is accepting
donations to support humanitarian relief
efforts following the recent devastating
earthquake in Colombia. The earthquake
has resulted in significant loss of life and
injuries, displaced families and caused
extensive damage to homes and critical
infrastructure. *Refer to above to donate.*
Please pray for those who have died, those
who have lost loved ones or homes, and all
those providing emergency assistance and
support to affected communities.

Veggie Bags are Back!

Our Thanksgiving Vegetable Foodraiser & Fundraiser

Order on-line OR pick up your order envelope
in the upcoming September bulletin or at the
back of the church. If ordering by envelope, fill
out the order form and return it in the
envelope with your payment by Sunday
September 28th. You can bring your orders
to the Parish Office or place them in the
Collection Baskets at any Mass. When
considering orders for friends or family, please
also consider the option to donate to St.
Vincent de Paul. On the order form there will
be a place to indicate if the vegetables are to
be donated; donated bags do not need to be
picked up.

**Order by Sunday September 28th Office
Pick-up by Sunday October 04th Parish Ctre**



LIFE CHAIN

Life Chain is an annual prayerful
pro-life event taking place across North
America on SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH AT
3PM. We will meet at the corner of
Cochrane and Hwy 2 (Dundas) to provide a
quiet witness to the community. Please join
us.

Canada Needs Our Lady Rosary

Saturday, October 10, 2026

12:00 – 1:00pm

**Gather in the Church parking lot and
proceed to Cochrane & Dundas Sts
Bring your Rosary!**

Nourish Caring for the Caregiver

Virtually every one of us will care for a
loved one at some time in our life. Though
rewarding, it's not always easy. Nourish for
Caregivers is for anyone juggling the
challenges of everyday life, health, career
and caring for an aging parent, spouse,
child or grandparent, in town or at a
distance. Nourish provides caregivers a
faith perspective, as well as practical and
emotional support, useful tools, and share
experience. Discover the blessings that
come from caring for another.
Please join us beginning Monday, October
5th in the St. Joseph's Room at 7pm – 8pm
For more information please visit
www.NourishForCaregivers.com, or
contact Robert MacLennan, 905-668-3676
or email
stjohntheevangelistwh@archtoronto.org

St. John the Evangelist
11am mass Choir

Our 11 am Sunday mass Choir is gearing
up for the new Choir Season! We welcome
all new and returning singers. Music
reading ability is an asset, but not a
requirement. All are welcome. Bring a
smile, a pencil, your water bottle, and get
ready to make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**Practices: Tuesdays 7pm-8:30 in the
Parish Centre, starting Sept 15, 2026.**

Registration/Information contact: Eileen
McGowan 905 442-0567 (Please leave
voice message or text)
ejpmcgowan1@rogers.com

PARISH HOME CATECHISM PROGRAM (PHCP) 2026-27

PHCP runs 2 Wednesday evenings per
month, 6:15– 7:15 p.m., September
through to May.

Registration open until
Wed, Oct 14, 2026. Fee \$60

Registration forms are available on the
parish website, at the back of the Church
or in the Parish Office. Please register in
person in the parish office during regular
business hours.

Please contact Lorraine Thomas, PHCP
Coordinator, 905-409-1743
or lthomas@archtoronto.org.

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W.C. Town Funeral Chapel
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