

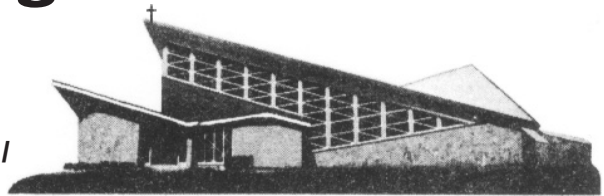
St. John the Evangelist Church

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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading, from the Book of the prophet Ezekiel, presents a passage in which the prophet deals with the situation of the people of Israel while they were in exile. They thought that their suffering in Babylon was a consequence for the sins of their parents. However, Ezekiel brings out for the first time the notion of personal responsibility. We will reap out in our lives according to our actions. If we have had goodwill, it will give us peace; on the other hand, if we have done evil, it will cause us anxiety and sadness. The Second Reading, from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians, offers us a meditation of St. Paul on the importance of unity and communion in the community. There were cases of dissension and discord in the community. To tackle this issue, St. Paul underlines the importance of being united and always looking for the upbuilding of others. It is very easy that we focus mainly on our own problems and concerns; however, there is the risk that it promotes our own selfish desires. God's grace will help us not only to fix our attention on our own selves but above all to be concerned on the good of others. When we do this, we will be fully satisfied and fulfilled. This is what Christ has done for us, and He will give us the strength to do the same for others. The Gospel, from St. Matthew, brings us the parable of two sons. Two children are called to go and work in the vineyard. One says that he is going but he ends up not going, whereas the other one says no and then changes his mind and he goes. The Pharisees and Scribes thought that they were good and fine people and they were always right. They refused Jesus' teaching and they did not need any repentance. With this attitude, they remain closed and refuse God's grace. Christ puts the example of such an attitude in the first son that apparently is open to God's will, but their hearts are far away from it. On other hand, there is the second son who is an image of the sinners who are away from God's will, yet they repent and welcome God's grace. Christ would like that we have the attitude of people in need of repentance who we can welcome God's mercy in our lives and act upon it. There is always the risk of thinking that we are fine, we are ok, we do not need to change anything. Let us pray to God that we may have repentant hearts that always welcome God's grace in our lives!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Benedict XVI's Angelus on the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (September 28, 2008)

Today the liturgy presents to us the Gospel parable of the two sons sent by their father to work in his vineyard. One of them immediately agrees to go but then does not; the other instead refuses but later repents and complies with his father's wishes. With this parable Jesus reaffirms his predilection for sinners who convert and teaches us that humility is necessary in order to accept the gift of salvation. St Paul too, in the passage from his Letter to the Philippians on which we are meditating today, urges us to be humble: "Do nothing from selfishness or conceit", he writes, "but... let each of you... in humility count others better than yourselves" (Phil 2: 3). These are the same sentiments as those of Christ who, emptying himself of divine glory out of love for us, became a man and humbled himself even to dying on a Cross (cf. Phil 2: 5-8). The verb used - *ekenôsen* - means literally that he "emptied himself" and sheds clear light on the deep humility and infinite love of Jesus, the humble Servant par excellence. In reflecting on these biblical texts, I immediately thought of Pope John Paul I, the 30th anniversary of whose death we are commemorating today. John Paul I chose as his episcopal motto the same motto as St Charles

Borromeo, namely: *Humilitas*. This single word sums up the essential of Christian life and indicates the indispensable virtue of those in the Church who are called to the service of authority. At one of the four General Audiences held during his extremely short Pontificate, he said, among other things, with that familiar tone that distinguished him: "I will just recommend one virtue so dear to the Lord. He said, "Learn from me who am meek and humble of heart'.... Even if you have done great things, say: "We are useless servants". And he observed: "On the contrary the tendency in all of us, is rather the opposite: to show off" (Homily, General Audience, 6 September 1978). Humility can be considered his spiritual testament. Because of this virtue of his, it only took 33 days for Pope Luciani to win people's hearts. In his Addresses he always referred to events in practical life, from his family memories and from popular wisdom. His simplicity was a vehicle for a solid, rich teaching which, thanks to the gift of an exceptional memory and a vast knowledge, he embellished with numerous citations from ecclesiastical and secular writers. Thus, he was an incomparable catechist, following in the footsteps of St Pius X, who came from the same region and was his Predecessor first on the throne of St Mark and then on that of St Peter. "We must feel small before God", he said during the same Audience. And he added, "I am not ashamed to feel like a child before his mother; one believes in one's mother; I believe in the Lord, in what he has revealed to me" (ibid., p. 1). These words reveal the full depth of his faith. As we thank God for having given him to the Church and to the world, let us treasure his example, striving to cultivate his same humility which enabled him to talk to everyone, especially the small and the "distant". For this, let us invoke Mary Most Holy, the humble Handmaid of the Lord.

Bible Study

Mondays beginning Oct 19th 7pm to 8:30pm
Study Guide \$30

Genesis: From Creation to Covenant

The Beginning of God's Story—and Yours

Genesis: From Creation to Covenant is an eight-session study exploring how the first book of the Bible lays the foundation for the entire story of salvation.

Guided by Jeff Cavins and Dr. Scott Powell, this study shows how God works through every generation and covenant promise to draw his people back into relationship with him and prepare the way for our salvation, a plan that continues to unfold in our lives today.

Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation Fund ***Collection October 3, 4, 2026***

Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Toronto are invited to participate in the collection being held on October 3, 4, 2026. This collection is part of a national grassroots effort to assist healing and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples of This Land. To date, the Archdiocese of Toronto has allocated \$4.5 million To support projects that focus on culture and language revitalization, education and community building, healing and reconciliation for communities and dialogue involving Indigenous elders, spiritual leaders and youth.

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 5pm, 9am & 11am Masses.** Enjoy a coffee and treat and visit our various ministry tables to learn more!

SACRAMENT PREPARATION PROGRAMS

2026– 2027

FIRST EUCHARIST (Grade 2)

**REGISTRATION and INFORMATION NIGHT
in the Church (one parent only to attend)
Tuesday, September 29th at 7:00 pm**

(please bring completed registration form, a \$50 fee for program expenses and a photocopy of your child's Baptism Certificate)

CONFIRMATION (Grade 7)

**REGISTRATION and INFORMATION NIGHT
in the Church (one parent & candidate to attend)
Tuesday, October 13th at 7:00 pm**

(please bring completed registration form, a \$60 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 participate in the Parish Home Catechism Program.

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, October 7, 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

We look forward to welcoming you—your time, talents, and enthusiasm can truly make a difference.



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



Masses For The Week

Sat Sept 26– 5:00pm

In Thanksgiving for 50th Anniversary & +Lois Russell

req. by John & Judy Morris

Mon Sept 28 – 8:20am

+Mairead Culliton

req. by Tom Troy

Tues Sept 29 - 8:20am

+Alice Hozjan

req. by Her Family

Wed Sept 30 – 7pm

+Vincent & Antonino Villanti

req. by the Villanti Family

+Russell Ferreira

req. by Maria Caravaggio

+Mary Patrick Eastman

req. by St. John's Choir

+Lucie Azzuolo

req. by The Rios Family

Thur Oct 1 – 8:20am

+Marvin Eddy

req. by the Eddy Family

Fri. Oct 2 – 8:20am

+Ivan Lee Sang

req. by His Family

Sat Oct 3 – 5:00pm

+Mary Helen

req. by Belshia



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. Prayer Sheets are available on the back counter.

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!

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