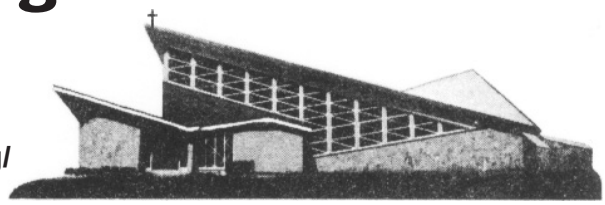
St. John the Evangelist Church

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
Mr. Kyle Abrahamse	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)	

EUCHARISTIC 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		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
1103 Giffard St., Whitby L1N 2S3
St. Luke the Evangelist School 905-665-5828
55 Twin Streams Road, Whitby L1P 1N9

St. Marguerite d'Youville School 905-666-9301
250 Michael Blvd., Whitby L1N 6B1
All Saints Catholic Secondary School 905-666-7753
3001 Country Lane, Whitby L1P 1M1

Durham Catholic District School Board 905-576-6150 www.dcdsb.ca

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Message from the Pastor

Peace to all of you!

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe. The First Reading, from the Book of the prophet Ezekiel, presents a beautiful passage in which God is portrayed as the Good Shepherd who takes care of His people. At that time, Israel was on exile at Babylon, and they were suffering greatly because of their rebelliousness. However, God promises them to look after them, to heal them and to bring them back to their own land. Jesus Christ is the One who has brought to fulfillment this prophecy. He is the Good Shepherd who has come to give His life for us so that we may live to the fullest. Let us find hope in the fact that we have someone who cares so much for us. The Second Reading, from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, proclaims the essential fact that in Christ Risen we share in the hope of the Resurrection. All of us experience every day the power of sin, sickness, and problems. However, through His Death and Resurrection, Christ has shown us that He is stronger than sin and death. He has defeated death through His Resurrection and He makes us sharers by living in a new way. What normally takes away our peace, now with God's grace we can overcome. The Gospel, from St. Matthew, brings us the parable in which is portrayed the last judgement. There are those who have served and loved their brothers and sisters in a practical way. On the other hand, there are those who have not even recognized the needs of those around them. This parable helps us to see that the most important aspect of our life is the love we show to those around us. To love, we need to be aware of how much Christ has loved us first. With this in mind, our eyes are open to recognize the needs of those around us and with the strength of Christ, we can love them as we have been loved. This is what fulfills our life and gives real meaning to every moment of our existence. On the contrary, when we are caught up in our pride, in our own needs, then we cannot love others, we remain empty. Let us ask the Lord that in this feast of Christ the King we can recognize that He is the One who reigns by loving unconditionally and that He may bring us to love others in the same way!

Let us also pray for our deceased brothers and sisters during the month of November!

Fr. Francisco Fernandez, Your servant and your Pastor

Pope Benedict XVI's Homily on the Solemnity of Christ the King (November 20, 2011)

The Gospel which we have just heard tells us that Jesus, the Son of Man, the ultimate judge of our lives, wished to appear as one who hungers and thirsts, as a stranger, as one of those who are naked, sick or imprisoned, ultimately, of those who suffer or are outcast; how we treat them will be taken as the way we treat Jesus himself. We do not see here a simple literary device, or a simple metaphor. Jesus's entire existence is an example of it. He, the Son of God, became man, he shared our existence, even down to the smallest details, he became the servant of the least of his brothers and sisters. He who had nowhere to lay his head, was condemned to death on a cross. This is the King we celebrate!

Without a doubt this can appear a little disconcerting to us. Today, like two thousand years ago, accustomed to seeing the signs of royalty in success, power, money and ability, we find it hard to accept such a king, a king who makes himself the servant of the little ones, of the most humble, a king whose throne is a cross. And yet, the Scriptures tell us, in this is the glory of Christ revealed; it is in the humility of his earthly existence that he finds his power to judge the world. For him, to reign is to serve! And what he asks of us is to follow him along the way, to serve, to be attentive to the cry of the poor, the weak, the outcast. The baptized know that the decision to follow Christ can entail great sacrifices, at times even the sacrifice of one's life. However, as Saint Paul reminds us, Christ has overcome death and he brings us with him in his resurrection. He introduces us to a new world, a world of freedom and joy. Today, so much still binds us to the world of the past, so many fears hold us prisoners and prevent us from living in freedom and happiness. Let us allow Christ to free us from the world of the past! Our faith in him, which frees us from all our fears and miseries, gives us access to a new world, a world where justice and truth are not a byword, a world of interior freedom and of peace with ourselves, with our neighbours and with God. This is the gift God gave us at our baptism!

LEGION OF MARY, are a lay apostolic associate Catholics, inspired by a devotion to Our Blessed Mother through prayer and service.

WEEKLY EVENING MEETINGS EACH FRIDAY AT 6:30PM IN THE PARISH CENTRE.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!
St. John the Evangelist Parish
Children's and Youth Christmas Choir 2026

Calling all young singers ages 7 and up! Share your musical gifts as we lead the parish in joyful song at the **Christmas Eve 5:00 PM Family Mass.**

Rehearsals at the Parish:

Saturday, Nov 28 | 3:00–4:45 PM
Saturday, Dec 5 | 3:00–4:45 PM
Saturday, Dec 12 | 3:00–4:45 PM
Saturday, Dec 19 | 2:30–5:00 PM

Attendance at all four rehearsals is required.

To register by November 25, contact Eileen McGowan:
Home: 905-668-0959 | Call or text: 905-442-0567
Email: eileen.mcgowan59@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS GIVING – 2026

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul will be assisting our neighbours in need at Christmas. As with previous years, gift cards will be distributed. To support this endeavour, we are requesting your support with either CASH OR CHEQUE donations. The Society provides tax receipts for cash or cheque donations. Please use the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul envelopes which are available on the back counter in the Church. We will use your generous donations to purchase gift cards and will distribute them to our neighbours in need in early December. It would be very helpful if we received your donation by November 30th, 2026. Thank you for your generous support.

Thank you to those who applied for the Bookkeeper position. The position is now filled!

ADVENT BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY NOV 29TH



The Advent Season, time to prepare!

The Catholic Church Liturgical Year starts with the 1st Sunday of Advent

Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Latin "adventus" (Preparation). It marks the four Sundays before Christmas. It was developed as a way of helping Christians prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. It turns our attention more fully to the true meaning of Christmas.

Advent Wreaths

Part of our spiritual preparation for Christmas. Christ is "the Light that came into the world" to dispel the darkness of sin and to radiate the truth and love of God (John 3:19-21).

The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life.

The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the everlasting life found in Christ.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent.

The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time.

The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday which is called Gaudete Sunday. It is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over, and they are close to Christmas.

Only one purple candle is lit during the first week, two in the second week, three (incl. the pink one) in the third week, and all four during the fourth week of Advent

The gradually increasing light symbolizes the approach of Christmas, the birth of Jesus, the light of the world.

A fifth candle (white) can be added in the middle of the wreath for Christmas Eve and Day (*or replace all four purple and pink candles with white ones*) symbolizing the arrival of Christ, the light of the world. Light the white candle(s) until The Baptism of the Lord.

Families are encouraged to observe Advent by gathering around a wreath for brief Advent prayers and readings lighting the appropriate number of candles for each week.

Traditions assign specific symbolism to each of the candles:

1) The Prophet's Candle, symbolizing Hope
2) The Bethlehem Candle, symbolizing Peace
3) The Shepherd's Candle, symbolizing Joy
4) The Angel's Candle, symbolizing Love.

Suggested Daily Readings (from the Sacred App – and this is an opportunity to discuss the readings as a family)

Leader: The Lord is our faith and our life.
All: May the Lord's peace be with us all.
Leader: And may his love shine in our hearts.
All: Our hope is in the coming of the Lord.

Masses For The Week

Sat Nov 21 – 5:00pm
+Bryan, Laura & Leanne McEachen
req. by Their Family

Mon Nov 23 – 8:20am
+Andrew Marioselva
req. by. Christine Marioselva

Tues Nov 24 - 8:20am
+Pietro & Enzo Beltrano
req. by Anna & Natale Ciardullo

Wed Nov 25 – *8:20am*
+Salvatore Palazzolo
req. by His Wife & Family
+Blair Morris
req. by Nina Veltri
+Maria Cassano
req. by Nina Veltri
+Mary Fitzpatrick
req. by David & Sallia Fitzpatrick
+Luisinha Fernandes
req. by Friends
+Aroon Bailey
req. by Maureen Prakken
+Will Oryschak
req. by The LaBarre Family
+Marie Choueiry
req. by Her Family

Thur Nov 26 – 8:20am
+Michael Lawson
req. by His Family

Fri. Nov 27 – 8:20am
+Sheila Phillips
req. by The Phillips Family

Sat Nov 28 – 5:00pm
+Rita Hadden
req. by Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Aid to Women

Thank you for kindly returning the baby bottles last weekend. If you have not already done so, please return them to the office at your earliest convenience.

KNIGHTS ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Saturday December 5: 8:00-10:30AM
at Knights' Hall: 133 Brock St. N.
(Before Whitby Santa Claus Parade)
All are welcome.
Full breakfast of pancakes, bacon, sausage, and beverages.
$8 per person $25 per family

Prayer Group
Wednesday, November 25th 1pm, PC
Movie Presentation: Mother Cabrini
All are welcome to attend

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