

We welcome you to

Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish

P.O. Box 1180, 167 Essa Street, Bradford, Ont. L3Z 2B6

Telephone 905-775-2065 Fax 905-775-9241 Parish subscription with Formed.org

Email: holymartyrs of japan@archtoronto.org website: holymartyrs of japan.archtoronto.org

Parish Office Hours—Monday to Friday—9:30am to 12:30pm and 1:00pm to 4:30pm

JOY



SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

El Sembrador Spanish Mass 4th Saturday: 7:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm & 6:30pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 7:00pm

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays 9:00am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 8:00am to 8:30am and 3:30pm to 4:30pm
or by appointment.

BAPTISMS

Please contact Father John at jpak@archtoronto.org

MARRIAGE

Please contact Father John at jpak@archtoronto.org

HOLY COMMUNION for SHUT-INS and SICK

If you know of anyone who is sick and would like to have communion brought to them or would like the Sacrament of the Sick, or simply would like to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful, contact us.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Holy Trinity High School—905-775-4841

St. Marie of the Incarnation—905-775-3492

St. Teresa of Calcutta—905-778-8653

St. Charles—905-775-6762

St. Jean de Brebeuf—905-775-8460

St. Angela Merici—289-231-2085

Pastor: Rev. John Pak jpak@archtoronto.org

Associate Pastor: Rev. Joseph Baal jbaal@archtoronto.org

Deacon: Deacon David Langley



St. Paul Miki and Companions—Pray for Us!

OFFICE STAFF

Office Manager:

Delia McEvenue

Office Assistant:

Anna Maria Mongillo

Custodian/Maintenance:

Anthony Venroy

MINISTERS

Youth Minister:

Ray Reitzel email: reitzel@hotmail.com

Ministry to Migrant Workers:

Nancy Mora

PARISH MINISTRIES and SOCIETIES

Alpha

CWL (Catholic Women's League)

Consolation and Hope

EDGE Youth Ministry

El Sembrador - Ministry to Migrant Workers

Knights of Columbus

LifeTeen Youth Ministry

Liturgical Ministers

Nossa Senhora De Fatima

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Rosary Apostolate

Sacramental Preparation & Catechesis

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Santissima Divinidade

NEW PARISHIONERS: WELCOME!

We are delighted to have you join our parish family; we invite you to register by completing the form in the parish foyer or at the parish office. Offering envelopes available by request.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, December 12, 7:00PM

+Vita & Stephanie Nalli +Afonso Lameirinhas +Manuel Barroso +Lilia Tanon

TUESDAY, December 13, 9:00AM

+Joao Domingues

WEDNESDAY, December 14, 7:00PM

+Pietro Landolfi

THURSDAY, December 15, 9:00AM

+Euclides Pinho

FRIDAY, December 16, 7:00PM

+Anna Chafe

SATURDAY, December 17, 9:00AM

+Manuel Da Silva

SATURDAY, December 17, 5:00PM

+Matthew Talarico +Arlindo Araujo Sr. +Manuel Nuno

Rodrigues & Fatima Faria +Carlos & Maria Medeiros

+Jose Miranda +Silvina Vieira +Manuel Pereira

+Florimundo & Cila Abreu +Nelda Buttignol +Antonio

Julio Diogo +Stacie Gibson Power +Anna Catalano +Lidia

Nunes +All Deceased Members of the Portuguese

Committee *Special Intention for Zulmira Vigario

SUNDAY, December 18, 8:00AM

+ProPopulo

SUNDAY, December 18, 10:00AM

+Matthew Talarico

SUNDAY, December 18, 12:00PM

+Abilio Soares & Antonio Simoes

SUNDAY, December 18, 6:30PM

+Fred & Mark Oliviera

FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS DRIVE

Help to spread the message of Christ's HOPE this season by donating non-perishable items to our Food Bank. Please feel free to drop off your food items in the crate at the entrance of the Church when you come to Mass. Let us overwhelm our Food Bank with FOOD, HOPE and LOVE this season!



2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Will be made available for pick up starting Saturday **December 3-18** at any Saturday

or Sunday Mass. If you are unable to find your box# please contact the parish office directly. Offertory boxes can also be picked up anytime after December 18, at the parish office. Please call. Pre- authorized Giving (PAG) is also an option. This allows you to give to your parish through scheduled monthly transfers from your bank account. Please contact the parish office or email: holymartysofjapan@archtoronto.org.

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

All Sundays, Christmas Day (The Nativity of the Lord) and New Year's Day (Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God) are days of Holy Obligation for Catholics in Canada

REFLECTION

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Matthew 11:2-3

Why did Saint John the Baptist send his disciples to Jesus to ask this question? Recall that John had previously stated about Jesus, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). So if John knew that Jesus was the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world," then why would he send his disciples to ask Jesus if He is the one who is to come?

The Church Fathers explore many reasons, but most arrive at the conclusion that John did this not because he didn't know Who Jesus was, but for the sake of his disciples, so that they would come to follow our Lord once John was killed by Herod. So this was a way of trying to point his disciples to Jesus and to encourage them to embrace this new change in their life of faith.

Jesus understood the reason John sent his disciples to Him. As a result, Jesus gave these disciples what they needed so as to come to believe themselves. He points them to the works that He has done as the Christ so that they would be able to interpret these works on their own and, thus, come to the newness of faith. Jesus points out that the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. Who could argue with such miraculous signs from Heaven? But Jesus goes even further and states something very subtle. He says, "And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me." This line appears to be one way that Jesus gently reproached these disciples for what appears to be their own personal struggle with this change of spiritual leaders. Jesus identified a certain "offense" that they were dealing with. They were "offended" by the fact that Jesus was indeed increasing while John was decreasing.

In many ways, this is a common experience any time there is a change in our spiritual lives. When something is new, we often struggle with various aspects of the change and newness. But the Christian life is all about change, transformation and newness of life. And this is good. We must seek to change, be transformed, build better and new relationships, learn new ways of loving and reaching out, and become very comfortable with any and every new experience that our Lord places in our lives.

Reflect, today, upon any way that you have struggled with changes in your spiritual life. Oftentimes, those things we struggle with are actually glorious opportunities to live our Christian faith and charity on a new level. Seek out the changes God is calling you to embrace in your life and know that even if they are difficult, they are the surest pathway to a life of greater holiness for you. Catholic News Agency 2021

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - Saturday December 24, 2022

4:00pm - Children's Choir (Livestream), 6:00pm,
8:00pm - (Refreshments after Mass),
12:00 Midnight-Portuguese Choir Songs in English &
Portuguese
(No 9:00am Mass, No Morning Confession)

Christmas Day - Sunday December 25, 2022

10:00am, 12:00 Noon
(No 8:00am Mass or 6:30pm Mass)

Holy Family - Friday December 30, 2022, at 7:00pm

Saturday December 31, 2022-Vigil-Mary Mother of God

5:00pm Livestream, 7:00pm
(No 9:00am Mass, Confessions from 3:30-4:30pm Only)

*The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
Sunday January 1, 2023*

10:00am Livestream, 12:00 Noon
(No 8:00am Mass or 6:30pm Mass)

CHRISTMAS NOVENA – 9 DAY NIGHT MASS

*A Filipino and Spanish Christmas Tradition:
Simbang Gabi / Misa de Aguinaldo*

This custom began as a way of accompanying Mary symbolically in prayer through the nine months of her pregnancy in anticipation of the coming of Our Lord. We invite all the faithful to celebrate this "Promise of Salvation" to attend this nine-day English Novena Mass starting on December 15 at 8:00pm to December 23 in our Parish. Experience the Joy with a peaceful spirit as we await the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. All are welcome! "Advent is the anticipation of the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ the Light that will lead us out of darkness."

POINSETTIA MEMORIAL GARDEN

We invite all parishioners to bring a poinsettia in memory of their loved ones to be placed in our poinsettia memorial garden for the altar. **Poinsettias are asked to be dropped off starting on Wednesday December 21st and Thursday December 22nd and Friday December 23rd until 4:00pm in the Narthex of the Church.** Labels will be available to you to write the name(s) of your loved ones. Please affix the label to your poinsettia. They will later be placed at the altar for our Christmas celebration.



ADVENT

Reconciliation

SCHEDULE

Prepare your hearts for the coming of the Lord

Monday December 12: 5:30-7:00pm & 7:30-8:30pm

Wednesday December 14: 5:30-7:00pm (Confessions available in English & Portuguese) & 7:30-8:30pm (English Only)

Friday December 16: 5:30-7:00pm (Confessions available in English & Spanish) & 7:30-8:30pm (English Only)

Saturday December 17: 8:00-8:30am, 9:30-11am,
3:30-4:30pm

Monday December 19: 5:30-7:00pm & 7:30-8:30pm

Wednesday December 21: 5:30-7:00pm & 7:30-8:30pm

"Create in me a clean heart, O God and put a new and right spirit within me" Psalm 51:10

SACRAMENTS

REGISTRATION FOR 2023 FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION IS OPEN!

Registration forms are available online or can be picked up in person after Mass in the foyer. Forms can be accessed from our website: holymartyrssofjapan.archtoronto.org by going to "Sacraments", choose First Communion or Confirmation and complete the registration form. PLEASE BE SURE TO ATTACH YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISM CERTIFICATE ALONG WITH THE COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM FOR FIRST COMMUNION OR CONFIRMATION.

Registration forms and a copy of your child's baptismal certificate can be submitted in person to the parish office or by email at: sacraments.hmoj@gmail.com

First Communion Deadline for Registration:

January 31, 2023

Confirmation Deadline for Registration:

December 31, 2022

Please submit your registrations before the deadline this will ensure your child is signed up for preparation classes.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION PREPARATION. Anyone interested, please contact the parish office.

YOUTH MINISTRY



EDGE December 23 - No Edge – Christmas

LIFE TEEN LIFE TEEN is for youth in Grades 9-12 and will be held on every other Friday from 7:00pm to 9:00pm are all welcome! No registration required. The next Life night is December 16 – Will be an Advent/Christmas Social

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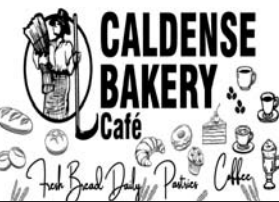
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