

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: holymartyrssofjapan@archtoronto.org website: holymartyrssofjapan.archtoronto.org

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

## PERFECT LOVE



**Pastor:** Rev. John Pak jpak@archtoronto.org  
**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Joseph Baal jbaal@archtoronto.org  
**Deacon:** Deacon David Langley  
**Lay Pastoral Associate:** Eduardo Meneses emeneses@archtoronto.org



## St. Paul Miki and Companions—Pray for Us!

### OFFICE STAFF

**Office Manager:**  
Delia McEvenue  
**Office Assistant:**  
Anna Maria Mongillo

### MINISTERS

**Youth Minister:**  
Ray Reitzel email: reitzel@hotmail.com  
**Ministry to Migrant Workers:**  
Nancy Mora

**Custodian/Maintenance:**  
Anthony Venroy

### 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

### 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

### 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, February 20, 9:00AM-FAMILY DAY

+Maria Clara & Lurdes Gomes +All Our Deceased Brothers and Sisters in Syria and Turkey

### TUESDAY, February 21, 9:00AM

+Jamie Meneses

### WEDNESDAY, February 22, 7:00PM

ASH WEDNESDAY

### THURSDAY, February 23, 9:00AM

+Orlando Catala

### FRIDAY, February 24, 7:00PM

+Romanko Sakac

### SATURDAY, February 25, 9:00AM

+ProPopulo

### SATURDAY, February 25, 5:00PM

+Carmine Furgiuele +Ema Correa & Jose Estrella +Manuel da Silva +Orlando Catala +Maria Albina & Natividade Miranda +Lola Silveira \*Special Intentions of Maria Silveira \*Special Intentions for Eduarda Romeiro

### SATURDAY, February 25, 7:30PM

Mass for Migrant Workers – El Sembrador

+ProPopulo

### SUNDAY, February 26, 8:00AM

+ProPopulo

### SUNDAY, February 26, 10:00AM

+Deolinda Oliveira

### SUNDAY, February 26, 12:00PM

+Bruno Serato

### SUNDAY, February 26, 6:30PM

+Onofrio Papasodaro

### MONTHLY REQUIEM MASS AT HOLY MARTYRS OF JAPAN CHURCH– March 3, 2023

Please join us in a Mass celebration at Holy Martyrs of Japan Church for the faithful departed, the first Friday of every month at 11:00am. Mass intentions can be booked through the parish office.

### CEMETERY WINTER VISITATION

Dear Parishioners, we realize how important it is to visit the grave sites of our beloved ones. Visiting the cemetery in spring, summer and fall is quite easy. However, winters can be most challenging as snow and ice become a safety factor. We ask that you take great caution upon entering and exiting the cemetery during these winter months, as the downward slope can be icy.

### TAX RECEIPTS FOR 2022

Should be received within the week of February 27, 2023. With our most sincere thanks for your continued support and generosity.

### FAMILY DAY – MONDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2023

Mass will be at 9:00am and the parish office will be closed. Wishing you and your families a blessed holiday.

## REFLECTION

Hating opponents is not in the Old Testament. Jesus didn't say, "It's written..." He says, "You heard that it was said..." Who said it? Some scribes and Pharisees believed this falsehood. Jesus addressed it.

Jesus calls us to a deeper love in this verse and others. "So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect," Jesus said at the end of this verse, recognizing the height of His teaching. We rarely accept perfection in life. We must strive for holiness even if we never reach it. We must love our "enemies" every day.

Who's your "enemy?" Jesus doesn't define this, but it's everyone with whom there's conflict. Someone may despise and mistreat you. You can be furious or judgmental toward someone you despise. Start by finding someone you don't love completely. That list may have more people than your "love" list.

Consider whether you love your enemies. One Church Father believes we love our opponent "when we are not unhappy at his victory, or delight in his demise." Consider this useful definition. This defines envy.

How do you feel when someone you despise succeeds? If you react viscerally or try to figure out why they should be congratulated, you may struggle with this sin. Consider your reaction if you hear someone you despise has a difficulty, gets into difficulties, or suffers a disaster. Empathy and concern are the best responses. If not, pay heed.

Jesus concludes that His Father "makes his sun rise on the wicked and the good, and sends rain to fall on the just and the unjust." Thus, God loves everyone equally. It's just that some accept mercy, and others don't. Like God, we must love and mercy everyone equally and totally. Though some may reject such love, like God's, it must always be offered and never rejected. Love of neighbour and enemy.

Today, consider those you strive to love perfectly. Possibly long. Start with those you see most or those you dislike. As you remember them, pray for their well-being and God's blessings. See their good side. Thank God for them and erase any distorted thoughts or attitudes towards them. Your goal to love like Jesus begins here. Catholic News Agency 2021



### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Will be held on March 3, 2023, at 6:00pm followed by the 7:00pm Mass and Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm

### WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE

Thank you to ALL who generously gave of their time and talents, and to those who donated desserts to our Holy Martyrs of Japan Feast Day Celebrations. It was a great success. We could not have done it without your kindness and service.



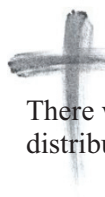
## AN INVITATION TO LENTEN PRAYER

We invite each of you to place a “Praying Hands” card on the board with a prayer request. We ask that during Lent, your REMOVE “Praying Hands” card and include that prayer request in your prayers during Lent.

What a great way to help our sisters and brothers in Christ.

## SHROVE TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2023

The Knights of Columbus invite you to a pancake and sausage supper with coffee on Shrove Tuesday from 5pm - 7pm in the parish hall. All profits raised from the supper will be donated to the Holy Martyrs of Japan Building Fund. The suggested donation is \$5.00 per person and \$20.00 per family.



## ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2023 THE BEGINNING OF LENT

There will be two Masses celebrated this day with the distribution of ashes. One at 12 noon and one at 7:00pm



### WHAT IS LENT?

**Lent is a time of prayer and penance, when Christ wants to lead us back to our baptismal promises of dying to sin and of living for God.**

### WHAT IS LENT?

**Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and continues until the afternoon of Holy Thursday. It runs for about 40 days. Why 40 days?** The “40 days” (not including Sundays) of fasting, prayer, and penance before Easter reflects Jesus’ 40 days in the wilderness.

### WHAT SHOULD WE DO DURING LENT?

#### 1. Turn away from our sins and turn back to God.

Detach from habits and tendencies that are contrary to God’s will. Lent is a time of conversion.

**2. Open our hearts to our Father,** so that we may live with Christ for God. Jesus is calling us to be people of praise and prayer and living signs of his love for all. Let us all answer the call.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Starting Friday February 24, 2023, and every Friday thereafter during the season of Lent, join us for the Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm. Come Journey with Christ and prepare yourself for the Triduum.



## LENTEN PARISH STUDY

Join our upcoming five -part Lenten Study Program “No greater Love”! A biblical Walk-Through Christ’s Passion that begins on Tuesday February 28 at 7:00pm. Registration is required. We will walk with Jesus on his journey from his agony in the garden to his crucifixion on Calvary.

Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God’s immeasurable and unconditional love for you!

**When:** Tuesdays during Lent 7pm-8:30pm

**Location:** Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish Hall

**Format:** Fellowship, small group discussions, 30 min video

**Suggested Donation:** \$40.00 (you will receive Dr. Edward Sri’s No Greater Love book, and workbook) Couples can share. For more information or to register please email Eduardo Meneses at: [emeneses@archtoronto.org](mailto:emeneses@archtoronto.org)

**Note: For parents with children, our large meeting room is available for childcare and activities during the study group.**

## CWL SOUP NIGHT

The Lenten season is here. A time of prayer, giving up some things, living modestly, and helping others. Join us for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Soup Night. Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Enjoy fresh homemade soup and a bun for \$8.00/person. \$25.00/family (children 10yr and under). Coffee, tea and water available with cookies. Take out container available for \$15.00. Pre-orders only. Soups are listed on the board in the foyer of the Church.


## Dynamic Women of Faith CATHOLIC MOM’S GROUP

An invitation to all to share in love, laughter, and moments of grace. We are happy to announce the launch of our Catholic Mother’s Ministry to support mothers in our community. There will be 2 groups.

1. Catholic Mom’s Group: which will meet the First Thursday of the Month starting March 2, 2023, from 7:00pm to 8:00pm in the Large Meeting Room.
2. Catholic Mom’s Group and Tots: This group will meet the First Thursday of every month starting March 2, 2023, from 10:00am to 12:00 noon.

Registration will take place at the door upon arrival.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

 Come to the EDGE! Grades 6, 7 & 8, every other Friday from 7:00-8:30pm in the Parish Hall. February 24 - Lights Out Dodge Ball March 10 - X-Ray

## LIFE TEEN

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.

March 3 -Aesthetic March 17 – No Life Night

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