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: holymartyrsofjapan@archtoronto.org website: holymartyrsofjapan.archtoronto.org Parish Office Hours—Monday to Friday—9:30am to 12:30pm and 1:00pm to 4:30pm



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.orgAssociate Pastor:Rev. Joseph Baal jbaal@archtoronto.orgDeacon:Deacon David LangleyLay Pastoral Associate:Eduardo Meneses

emeneses@archtoronto.org



St. Paul Miki and Companions—Pray for Us!

OFFICE STAFF

Office Manager: Delia McEvenue MINISTERS Youth Minister: Ray Reitzel email: reitzel@hotmail.co

Office Assistant: Anna Maria Mongillo Ray Reitzel email: reitzel@hotmail.com

nt:Ministry toongilloNancy Mora

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

<u>NEW PARISHIONERS:</u> 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 27, 7:00PM +Antonio Mirassol & Luis Sequeira +For All Our Deceased Brothers and Sisters in Syria & Turkey **TUESDAY, February 28, 9:00AM** +Duncan Drummond WEDNESDAY, March 1, 7:00PM +All Deceased Pinho Family Members THURSDAY, March 2, 9:00AM +Joao Domingues FRIDAY, March 3, 7:00PM +Samantha Diogo SATURDAY, March 4, 9:00AM – First Saturday +All Souls in Purgatory SATURDAY, March 4, 5:00PM +Maria & Eugenio Arruda +Rosa Oliveira +Manuel da Silva +Perpetua & Manuel Barros +Antonio Janeiro SATURDAY, March 4, 7:30PM Mass for Migrant Workers - El Sembrador +ProPopulo SUNDAY, March 5, 8:00AM +All Deceased Casey & Gaffney Family Members SUNDAY, March 5, 10:00AM +Romanko Sakac SUNDAY, March 5, 12:00PM +Carlo Marques & Grandparents SUNDAY, March 5, 6:30PM +ProPopulo

MONTHLY REQUIEM MASS AT HOLY MARTYRS OF JAPAN CHURCH– March 3, 2023 at 11:00am

CEMETERY WINTER VISITATION

When visiting the cemetery in the winter months we ask you to 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.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - *Ecumenical Worship* Service "I have heard about your Faith" -Taiwan March 9, 2023, at 6:30pm worship service at Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish – Refreshments to follow service. All are welcome. – Women's Inter-Church council of Canada

AMONG FRIENDS MINISTRIES

Among friends is a ministry supporting grieving women of all ages through social interaction and activities. This group meets once a month. The next meeting is Tuesday March 14 at 6:30pm downstairs in the small meeting room. If interested in attending, please contact Cecilia Podger at 416 710 3155 or email ceciliapodger@yahoo.ca

REFLECTION

"Forty" is a significant number. In Scripture, it is used more than 145 different times. For example, the rain during the Great Flood lasted forty days and forty nights. Each time Moses went up Mount Sinai, he remained there for forty days and nights. The Israelites wandered in the desert for forty years. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples for forty days before ascending into Heaven. Interestingly, forty is even significant within human nature, in that we develop within our mother's womb for forty weeks before being born.

The "forty" that we commemorate today is the forty days and forty nights that our Lord spent in the desert being tempted by the devil while He fasted and prayed. Forty is used to symbolize a time of testing, purification, trial or probation. For that reason, it should also be seen as a symbol of your entire life here on earth. In Saint Matthew's version of Jesus' temptation in the desert, He specifically uses the wording "forty days *and* forty nights." Saint Bede, in commenting upon this, points out that this period of time not only symbolizes our entire lives, but the "days" represent the many graces and blessings we receive, while the "nights" represent the crosses we endure.

As we begin our Lenten journey, it is important to once again apply the lessons of Jesus' time in the desert to our entire lives. Let's consider two lessons. First, we see that Jesus was "led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil." This teaches us that Jesus not only endured temptation, He confronted it. He was not afraid of the devil and did not fear his attacks. Instead, He willingly faced those temptations, being led by the Spirit, so as to not only overcome them in His life but also to enable us to confront, in our lives, every temptation by the power and initiative of the Holy Spirit. We must never be afraid to confront temptations directly and confidently when the Holy Spirit is in the lead.

A second important lesson is that Jesus voluntarily fasted during this time in the desert. This illustrates the importance of the virtue of temperance in life. If we see this period of forty as a symbol of our whole lives, then we will understand that temperance must always be part of our lives. When we experience the joys and blessings of life (the forty days), we must certainly celebrate them. But we must always do so with a certain self-denial, in that we must never allow the passing things of this world to become the primary satisfaction we seek. Saint John of the Cross teaches that we can even become overly attached to spiritual consolations. Conversely, when we experience the crosses of life (the forty nights), we must also practice a certain selfdenial, in that we must not allow the difficulties we endure to discourage us or to distract us from seeking out and fulfilling the will of God. Fasting, meaning our acquisition of the virtue of temperance, must lead us always through the ups and downs of life, helping us to keep our eyes on the truths God has revealed to us and rejecting the lies of the devil. Catholic News Agency 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LENTEN FAST and RECONCILIATION

- ✓ Fast from HURTING WORDS and say KIND WORDS
- ✓ Fast from SADNESS and be filled with GRATITUDE
- ✓ Fast from ANGER and be filled with PATIENCE
- ✓ Fast from PESSIMISM and be filled with HOPE
- ✓ Fast from WORRIES and TRUST IN GOD
- ✓ Fast from COMPLAINTS and contemplate SIMPLICITY
- ✓ Fast from PRESSURES and be PRAYERFUL
- ✓ Fast from BITTERNESS and fill your heart with JOY
- ✓ Fast from SELFISHNESS and be COMPASSIONATE to others
- ✓ Fast from GRUDGES and be RECONCILED
- ✓ Fast from WORDS and be SILENT so you can listen

PARISH LENTEN CONFESSIONS March 16, 2023 From 5:00pm to 8:00pm

Confesssions will be heard in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On March 3, 2023 the First Friday of the month adoration will be at 6:00pm followed by Mass at 7:00pm. Join us EVERY FRIDAY afterward, during the season of Lent for the Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm. Come Journey with Christ and prepare yourself for the Triduum.



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

HANDICRAFT HOLY LAND CHRISTIANS

On the weekend of March 11-12 in parish hall, we will welcome our special guest Sebastien Cardinal representing "Handicraft Holy Land Christians" who will have many unique hand carved olive wood religious art pieces made by these families in Bethlehem available for purchase after every Mass. Proceeds of the sales generate much needed employment for our Christian brothers and sisters in Bethlehem. Cash, debit, and cheques will be accepted.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY – Saturday March 18, 2023 DINNER / DANCE FUNDRAISER Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish Hall



This year the World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon Portugal. We have several young adults who wish to explore and deepen their faith by participating in this WYD event under the leadership of Fr. Joseph Baal. These delegates will be representatives of Holy Martyrs of Japan parish. The cost per delegate is approximately \$5000.00. HMJ will be organizing several fund raising events to assist the delegates with the cost of the pilgrimage. Please help support these delegates on this journey by attending and participating in these fundraising events.

Tickets: Adults \$50.00/person, Child (2-12) \$25.00/child, *Children under 2 are free.* Tickets will be sold after Saturday evening and Sunday Masses in the church foyer starting February 25, 2023 until March 12, 2023. Tickets can also be purchased in person from the parish office until March 12, 2023. **Attire: Green, White & Gold** Please join us for a night of delicious food (salad, mashed potatoes, rice, chicken and roast beef) good music and a fun time. Your attendance and support is greatly needed and appreciated. Volunteers are needed to help make this celebration a success. If you are interested in helping, please contact Fr. Joseph at the parish office 905 775 2065.

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^{nd} Soup Night. Saturday March 4^{th} 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.



