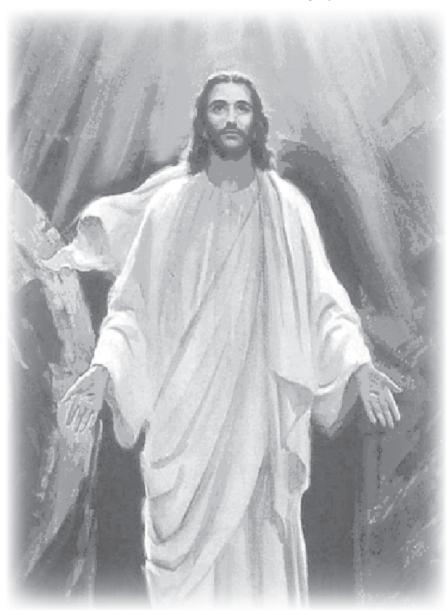
We welcome you to

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

Pastor: Rev. John Pak jpak@archtoronto.org **Associate Pastor:** Rev. Joseph Baal jbaal@archtoronto.org **Residence:** Rev. Edwin Logrono elogrono@archtoronto.org

Deacon: Deacon David Langley



Christ is Risen!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, April 1, 7:00PM – Easter Monday NO MASS

TUESDAY, April 2, 9:00AM

+Duncan Drummond

WEDNESDAY, April 3, 7:00pm

+Samantha Diogo

THURSDAY, April 4, 9:00AM

+Maria Dolores Vigario

FRIDAY, April 5, 7:00PM

+Antonio Janeiro & All Souls

SATURDAY, April 6, 9:00AM - First Saturday

+All Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, April 6, 5:00PM

+Antonio Carneiro & Antonio Cardoso +Maria & Eugenio Arruda +Manuel da Silva +Luisa & Garcia Miguelo +Tony Toich & All Deceased Family Members +Virgilio Domingues & Manuel Oliveira +Antonio Caietta +Sidonio Marques & Augusto Marques +Jan & Mallina Woznica +Wladyslawa Balon +Vincenzo Pagliuca +Jeyaseelia Adaikalamthu

SUNDAY, April 7, 8:00AM

*Special Intention for Rui Sanots Domingues

SUNDAY, April 7, 10:00AM

+Romanko Sakac

SUNDAY, April 7, 12:00PM

+Elijah Roberts & Astrid Marson

SUNDAY, April 7, 4:30PM

Migrant Worker Ministry Spanish Mass

*Special Intention of the McEvenue Family

SUNDAY, April 7, 6:30PM

*ProPopulo

MONDAY APRIL 1, – EASTER MONDAY

There will be no Mass on this day and the parish office will be closed. Wishing you and your family a blessed Easter celebration!



FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR ADORATION

Will be held on Friday April 5, 2024, at 7:30pm following the 7:00pm Mass

MONTHLY REQUIEM MASS AT HOLY MARTYRS OF JAPAN – April 5, 2024, at 11:00am

Mass will be held at the church. Mass Intentions can be booked at the parish office.

VOCATIONS

Blessed are those who come in the Name of the Lord! Blessed are they who live their lives in the Name of the Lord! If you feel God is giving you the blessing of a call to be a priest, religious, or permanent deacon, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416 968 0997. Email: vocations@archtoronto.org

REFLECTION

"Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.' Behold, I have told you." Matthew 28:5-7 The Lord has truly risen! Alleluia! Sin and death have been destroyed, and new life has been offered to all who cling to the Savior in faith. What a glorious day we celebrate today! Matthew's Gospel, quoted above, is read at the Easter Vigil Mass. There are seventeen readings in all at the Easter Vigil! For that reason, the Easter Vigil is called "the mother of all vigils." Though many people have not had the opportunity to participate in the Easter Vigil, it is helpful to understand it, because its structure and length reflect the awe and wonder we must have at the Resurrection of Christ. The Vigil Mass begins in darkness, after the sun sets, with all the lights out in the Church. Outside, a new "blazing fire" is lit and blessed that symbolizes the Light of Christ that dispels all darkness. From that fire, the Easter candle and other candles held by the faithful in the church are lit, and the new light illuminates the church. The procession into the church with the candles is followed by the singing of the ancient hymn the Exaultat. That hymn is the Church's announcement of the Resurrection of Christ and is filled with profound theology, presented with youthful excitement and amazement. The tabernacle remains empty as a way of inviting the faithful to anticipate the celebration of the Eucharist once again. The lengthy Liturgy of the Word follows, as it recounts the history of God's plan of salvation. Finally, the Sacraments of Initiation are celebrated within the Mass that culminates with the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharist.

Why is so much solemnity given to this celebration? Because Easter is worth it! Nothing ever has been and nothing ever will be more glorious than the triumph of the Son of God over sin and death. Easter must fill us with awe and wonder. Because of His death and Resurrection, our lives are changed forever. Therefore even if you are not able to participate in the "mother of all vigils," try to learn the lessons this vigil teaches.

Among the many lessons we can learn from the Easter Vigil is that God's glorious plan of salvation unfolds over time and then culminates with glory beyond imagination. This is especially depicted through the many readings in the Liturgy of the Word. The first reading for that Mass comes from Genesis and recounts the six days of creation. We then read the story of Abraham, our father in faith, and how his trust in God was tested when he was told to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice, in a prefiguration of the Father in Heaven offering His only Son for us all. We then read the story of Moses leading the people out of Egypt from slavery through the Red Sea. The waters of the Red Sea are a symbol of Baptism that crushes sin and leads us to freedom. Readings from the prophets Isaiah, Baruch and Ezekiel follow,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

revealing the unfolding of God's promise of the gift of salvation to come.

At times in life, we can become impatient. We tend to want what we want when we want it. But the lesson of the Holy Scriptures is that God's plan is not only perfect but is also fulfilled only in accord with God's timing. This is His perfect wisdom. It's a wisdom that we cannot always comprehend. In the end, if we embrace the perfect plan of God in our lives, we will share in the Resurrection of Christ. Nothing could ever be better than this. There is nothing that this world can offer us that even comes close to the glorious reward of sharing in the Resurrection of Christ.

As we celebrate the great Solemnity of Easter, reflect, today, upon the fact that God's plan for your life is perfect. It's a plan that God wants to unfold for you one step at a time. The end result is the glory of the Resurrection! It's a life of perfection with Him in Heaven when every tear will be wiped away. It's a plan that removes every sin, sorrow and suffering, and leads you to the fullness of joy. The way to embrace that plan is to take one step at a time as God leads. Little by little, God wants to change you, free you, forgive you, strengthen you and set you on the path to glory. Believe in the most awe-inspiring glory that you could ever share in. Believe in the promise of the Resurrection. Make sharing in it your one and only goal in life, and let God lead you down that path, one step at a time. Catholic News Agency2021

SL ShareLife

ShareLife: Embrace Jesus' love and compassion through giving.

Jesus' love and example inspire us to extend a helping hand to others, especially those facing the greatest challenges. ShareLife agencies continue to reach out to the most vulnerable members of our community, offering essential services made possible by your compassion and generous contributions. Thank you for your support! Please give using a ShareLife envelope or through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate. We thank you for your kindness and generosity.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - WITH THANKS!

Over the past few weeks your Knights of Columbus council hosted two parish event: a full breakfast in January and our Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner. Your generous support has allowed us to make the following donations: Rose of Sharon \$1000.00, Faith and Fellowship Ministry: \$500.00 and\$500.00 towards sending our youth to the upcoming Ordinandi Dinner. Thank you to all the Knights who participated in these events, and to all parishioners who attended.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday April 7, 2024, at 3:00pm (Livestream)

Adoration and the Chaplet in Song

"On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open, I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.

The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.

On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened.

Let no soul fear to draw neat to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.

My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity."

-Diary of Saint Faustina, 699

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Our parish community is invited to pray the Divine Mercy Starting on Good Friday after the 3:00pm service and continues every day for 9 days at 3:00pm concluding on Divine Mercy Sunday. Please note: The church is closed on Easter Monday, pray the Novena at home this day.

Divine Mercy Sunday – April 7, 2024, at 3:00pm (Livestream) Adoration and the Chaplet in Song

YOUTH MINISTRY



Grades 6, 7 & 8's are invited to come to the EDGE, on Fridays 7:00-8:30pm in the Parish Hall.

New Friends, Fun Games, Deepen your Faith. Each Edge Night will be themed with a different superhero as a fun way to demonstrate each fruit of the spirit.

Next Edge Night: April 5 – Binary Code

CLIFE TEEN

LIFE TEEN is an international Catholic ministry that serves the Church and leads all teens closer to Christ. 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!

Next Life Teen Night: April 12 - First Hand



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