

We welcome you to

# Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish

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

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

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

Office Hours - Monday to Friday 9:30 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

# JOY

**Pastor:** Rev. John Pak jpak@archtoronto.org

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Edwin Logrono  
elogrono@archtoronto.org

**Deacon:** Dcn. David Langley



## Holy Martyrs of Japan-Pray for Us!

### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm  
8:00 am (Mass in Portuguese the second Sunday of the month.)  
10:00 am, 12:00 pm  
2:00 pm St. Philip of Jesus Mission (Migrant Workers in Spanish)

### 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  
At least one year's notice is needed and do not book venues until the first meeting with the priest.

### 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.

### PARISH 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

### OFFICE STAFF

**Office Manager:**  
Delia McEvenue  
**Office Assistant:**  
Anna Maria Mongillo  
**Custodian/Maintenance:**  
Anthony Venroy

### MINISTERS

**Youth Minister:**  
Ray Reitzel email: reitzel@hotmail.com

### PARISH MINISTRIES and SOCIETIES

Alpha  
Among Friends (Ministry for grieving women)  
Catholic Moms Group  
CWL (Catholic Women's League)  
Consolation and Hope  
EDGE Youth Ministry  
Faith and Fellowship  
Knights of Columbus  
LIFETEEN Youth Ministry  
Liturgical Ministers  
Nossa Senhora de Fatima  
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)  
Rosary Apostolate  
St. Vincent de Paul Society  
St. Philip of Jesus Mission for the Migrant Workers  
Santissima Trinitade & Espirito Santo  
Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

### 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 16, 7:00PM**

+Matthew Talarico +Sheila Godin +Margaret Dudo & Maria Keliar +Felice Tarantino +Margaret Roberts +Marie Nakhleh +Manuel Rodrigues +Laura Fess +Anna Chafe +All Souls in Purgatory \*Special Intention for Timothy Tran

**TUESDAY, December 17, 9:00AM** +Manuel Da Silva

**WEDNESDAY, December 18, 7:00PM**

+Abilio Soares & Antonio Simoes

**THURSDAY, December 19, 9:00AM** +Lucy Dantas

**FRIDAY, December 20, 7:00PM** +Carole Reitzel

**SATURDAY, December 21, 9:00AM** +Nathan Moniz

**SATURDAY, December 21, 5:00PM**

+Duncan Drummond +Arlindo Araujo +Manuel da Silva +Eduino Cabral & Fernando Paulino +Antonio Santana & Maria Sousa +Vitorino Nazario & Olimpia Sousa +Terezinha Teixeira +Jose Rodrigues +Eduardo & Irma Lancha +Joao Ferreira & Jose Lancha +Virgilio Pinho +Teresa Silva +Joao Balugas +Mary Matos +Perpetua & Manuel Barroso

**SUNDAY, December 22, 8:00AM**

+Manuel Martins & Maria Amada

**SUNDAY, December 22, 10:00AM** +Mirabel Rabbah

**SUNDAY, December 22, 12:00PM** +Elio Bellon

**SUNDAY, December 22, 2:00PM**

**St. Philip of Jesus (Mission) \*ProPopulo**



### FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR ADORATION

Holy hour will be on Friday January 3, 2025 at 7:30pm following the 7:00pm Mass

### MONTHLY REQUIEM MASS AT HOLY MARTYRS

**OF JAPAN** Requiem Mass will be held at the church on January 3, 2025, at 11:00am. Mass Intentions can be booked at the parish office.

### CHURCH DECORATING INVITATION

We will be decorating our Church for Christmas on Saturday December 21 after the 9:00am Mass and do the poinsettias on Monday December 23 after the 7:00pm Mass. Everyone is welcome to come in fellowship and help out.

### 2025 OFFERTORY BOXES READY

**2025 Offertory Boxes will be available for pick up in the foyer until December 22, 2024! If you do not find your box please contact the parish office.** If you are new to our parish community, and would like to register with our parish, or would like to start using offering envelopes or wish to set up Pre-Authorized Giving, please contact the parish office at 905 775 2065. **We would kindly ask that parishioners not use old envelope numbers from previous years for your offering as old numbers may no longer be active.** If you have moved, please don't forget to notify the parish office so we can update our database. Thank you for your kindness, support, and generosity.

## REFLECTION

*“The crowds asked John the Baptist, “What should we do?” Luke 3:10*

Among those within the crowds who were asking Saint John the Baptist this question were tax collectors, soldiers and ordinary people. John gave an answer to them all, first telling them to turn away from the sins that they struggled with the most. Sin takes on many forms and often is closely associated with our daily duties in life. Some sins are sins of commission, meaning sins we commit by an intentional act. Some sins are those of omission, meaning a lack of certain virtues or a failure to do what we ought to do.

After addressing the particular sins that those in the crowds were struggling with, John then turns their attention to Christ. He states to them that “one mightier than I is coming” and that “He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” In other words, John was giving the people a twofold command. First, work to overcome sin. And second, turn your eyes to Him Who is coming to you. Repenting from sin is not enough. Once we repent, we must then fill the void within our souls with the presence of Christ.

Advent, just like Lent, is an important time within our liturgical year to heed these messages. Though it's true that we must work to overcome sin and turn to Christ every day of the year, God knows we need a special time each year when we give concerted effort to these spiritual endeavors. So before Advent passes you by, heed the words of the Baptist and take some time to examine your conscience thoroughly. Perhaps use a detailed list of the Ten Commandments or the Seven Capital Sins. Once you do that, seek out an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Doing so is essential to a fruitful Advent season.

Once you thoroughly repent of the sins you struggle with the most right now, turn to the Savior of the World with special attentiveness to the miracle of the Incarnation this Advent. Spend time adoring the God Who came to us in the form of a little child. Meditate on this Gift. Gaze at a nativity scene prayerfully. Read the Scripture passages about the birth of Christ. Close your eyes and imagine yourself there at His birth.

Reflect, today, upon this twofold exhortation from John and apply it to your Advent preparations. Cleanse your soul in a special way from all sin this Advent. Then prayerfully ponder and meditate upon the reality we are preparing to celebrate. As John says, allow the Christ Child to truly “baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire” through your deepening devotion and prayer this Advent. *My Catholic Life 2024*

*My dear Jesus, please help me to see my sins as You see them. Help me to be attentive to every sinful action I commit and even those smaller sins of omission. As I ponder my sin, please draw me to Your mercy and grace so that I can then open the eyes of my soul more deeply to see You and to adore You more completely this Advent. Jesus, I trust in You.*



## Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve – Tuesday December 24, 2024**  
5:00pm English, 7:00pm-Spanish  
12:00 Midnight

**Christmas Day – Wednesday December 25, 2024**  
10:00am (Livestream), 12 Noon

Rosary will begin 45 minutes before Christmas Masses followed by singing of carols

**Holy Family – Sunday December 29, 2024**  
8:00am, 10:00am (Livestream), 12 Noon, 2:00pm

**Vigil-Mary Mother of God – Tuesday December 31, 2024,**  
5:00pm-Spanish, 7:00pm-English

**Mary Mother of God – Wednesday January 1, 2025**  
10:00am (Livestream), 12 Noon

**Please note: There will be No Mass on Thursday December 26, 2024, and Thursday January 2 and the office will be closed on December 25, 26, 31, January 1, and 2, 2025.**

### 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 Saturday December 21<sup>st</sup> until Monday December 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

All Sunday, 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.

### FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS DRIVE

The plea to help our brothers and sisters in need of food is huge this year, and ever increasing! Please help in any way you can by donating non-perishable items to our Food Bank! Let us be the hands and feet of Christ in our community displaying acts of charity and love of neighbor, especially during this season of Advent. Help spread the message of Christ's HOPE this season! Please feel free to drop off your donations in the crate at the entrance of our church. Thank you for your generosity!

### 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 the 7:00pm Mass, through 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."*

### VOCATIONS

If you think God is calling you to be a priest, religious or deacon, call Fr. Matt McCarthy, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416 968 0997 email: [vocations@archtoronto.org](mailto:vocations@archtoronto.org)

## SACRAMENTS

### FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION 2024-2025 REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED!!

Thank you to all who have registered to receive the Sacrament of First Communion and Confirmation scheduled for the spring of 2025. As of November 30, 2024, the registration process for the Sacraments is closed and we are able to move into the next stages of the planning process based on our number of registrations. For all those who have not registered for the 2025 Sacramental season, we look forward to celebrating these Sacraments with you next year. Be sure to visit our website and Online bulletin for future communication regarding the registration process for next year.

## YOUTH MINISTRY



Edge is a fun, exciting and free Program that offers youth the

opportunity to grow in faith and fellowship with other youth and peer leaders. Grades 6, 7 & 8's are invited to come to the EDGE, on Fridays 7:00-8:30pm in the Parish Hall.

**Next Edge Night: January 10 – Winter Games**

## LIFE TEEN

LIFE TEEN is an international Catholic ministry that serves the Church and leads all teens closer to Christ by providing resources that encourage vibrant Eucharistic celebrations and opportunities for teens to grow in their faith. 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 Lifeteen Night is: December 20 – Christmas Party**

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