

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: [holymartyrsfjapan@archtoronto.org](mailto:holymartyrsfjapan@archtoronto.org) website: [holymartyrsfjapan.archtoronto.org](http://holymartyrsfjapan.archtoronto.org)

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

Pastor: Rev. John Pak [jpak@archtoronto.org](mailto:jpak@archtoronto.org)

Associate Pastor: Rev. Edwin Logrono [elogrono@archtoronto.org](mailto:elogrono@archtoronto.org)

Deacon: Dcn. David Langley



*Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations  
by the guidance of a star. Lead us to  
Your Glory in Heaven by the Light of Faith.*

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY, January 6, 7:00PM**

\*ProPopulo

**TUESDAY, January 7, 9:00AM**

+All Souls in Purgatory

\*Special Intentions of the McEvenue Family

**WEDNESDAY, January 8, 7:00PM**

\*ProPopulo

**THURSDAY, January 9, 9:00AM**

+Eugenia Freskiw

**FRIDAY, January 10, 7:00PM**

+Stephen LaRoche

\*Special Intention for Tymothy Tuyen Tran

**SATURDAY, January 11, 9:00AM**

\*ProPopulo

**SATURDAY, January 11, 5:00PM**

+Joao Balugas +Manuel da Silva +Isaura

Lorenco +Jose Manuel Caldas Azevedo \*Special

Intentions of the McEvenue Family \*Special

Intentions for Delia McEvenue

**SUNDAY, January 12, 8:00PM**

+ Amelia Oliveira Domingues

**SUNDAY, January 12, 10:00AM**

\*ProPopulo

**SUNDAY, January 12, 12:00pm**

+Marilyn Pethick +Leopoldo Volpe

**SUNDAY, January 12, 2:00pm**

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

### FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR ADORATION

Holy hour will be on the first Friday of the month 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 the first Friday of the month at 11:00am. Mass Intentions can be booked at the parish office

### 2025 OFFERTORY BOXES READY

**2025 Offertory Boxes will be available for pick up in the foyer until December 22, 2024!** After this date, offertory boxes can be picked up at the parish office. **If you do not find your box, please contact the parish office.**

### NOTE TO ALL USING OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

We kindly ask that you please complete the full name and address on each envelope, to ensure proper allocation of funds for tax purposes. 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

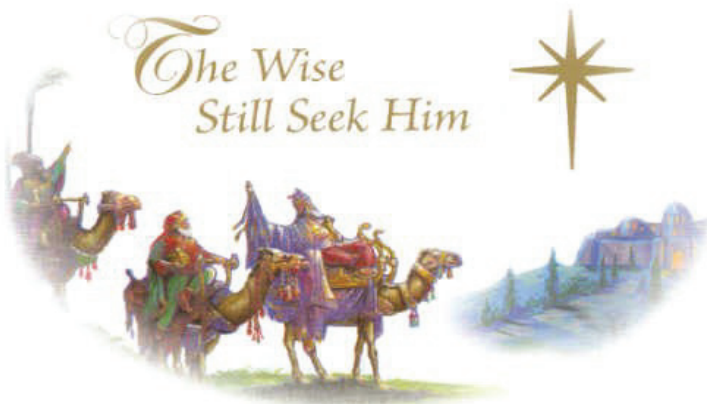
*When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." [Matthew 2:1-2](#)*

The Magi were most likely from Persia, modern-day Iran. They were men who regularly engaged in a study of the stars. They were not Jewish but were most likely aware of the popular belief of the Jewish people that a king would be born who would save them.

These Magi were called by God to encounter the Savior of the World. Interestingly, God used something very familiar to them as an instrument of their calling: the stars. It was among their belief that when someone of great importance was born, this birth was accompanied by a new star. So when they saw this new, bright and brilliant star, they were filled with curiosity and hope. One of the most significant aspects of this story is that they responded. God called them through the use of a star, and they chose to follow this sign, embarking on a long and arduous journey.

God often uses those things most familiar to us that are part of our daily life to send forth His calling. Recall, for example, that many of the Apostles were fishermen, and Jesus used their occupation to call them, making them "fishers of men." He especially used the miraculous catch of fish to clearly indicate to them that they had a new calling. In our own lives, God is constantly calling us to seek Him out and worship Him. He will often use some of the most ordinary parts of our lives to send forth that calling. How is He calling you? In what way is He sending you a star to follow? Many times when God speaks, we ignore His voice. We must learn from these Magi and diligently respond when He calls. We must not hesitate and must seek to daily be attentive to the ways that God invites us to deeper trust, surrender and worship.

Reflect, today, upon God's call in your life. Are you listening? Are you responding? Are you ready and willing to abandon all else in life so as to serve His holy will? Seek Him, wait on Him and respond. Doing so will be the best decision you ever make. *My Catholic Life! 2024*



## Jubilee - Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis declared that 2024 be marked as a year dedicated to prayer in preparation of the Jubilee. The year of prayer is, in the Pope's words, focused on *"rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life in the life of the Church, prayer in the world."* In 2025, let us turn to our example of our Holy Mother, and learn from her live everyday, every moment, every occupation with our inner gaze turned to Jesus. In preparation of the 2025 Jubilee, Pilgrims of Hope, which starts December 24, 2024 (Christmas Eve), to January 6, 2026 (Feast of the Epiphany), let us continue to pray for peace, in our hearts, in our homes, in our workplaces, in our communities, our city and world. Let us pray for peace and for one another.

**Pope Francis: "Peace is not the responsibility of a few, but of the entire human family. Let us all cooperate to build it with gestures of compassion and courage!"**

A Jubilee year is a particular year set aside to encourage the faithful to embark on pilgrimages, to repent of their sins and forgive the sins of others, and to renew and focus on the spiritual life. In the Hebrew tradition, as recorded in Leviticus, a Jubilee was celebrated every 50 years with the freeing of slaves and the forgiveness of debts. In the 1300, Pope Boniface VIII instituted the first Christian Jubilee, and since then the Church has designated each new Jubilee as a special year of grace and forgiveness, offering the faithful an opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence. Let us unite in prayer for an international outpouring of graces for belief, love and adoration of the Eucharist, to reach every Catholic, all non-believing or lapsed Catholics, and every non-Catholic!

*Holy Spirit, stir up and awaken within us, within our diocese, within our parishes, and within all the faithful a lively devotion, profound reverence, and deep love for the Sacrament of Eucharist. Grant us the grace to hunger and thirst for you in the Eucharist. Help us to approach You in Holy Communion frequently and to receive you worthily and fruitfully. 2017 Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough*

## A HEARTFELT MESSAGE OF THANKS TO YOU!

Thank you to all our parishioners and community members for your kindness, support and generosity over the past year. We are truly blessed to have you apart of our parish community. Without your support, our Church would not be able to spread God's love to those in our community. The impact of your warm generosity over the years echo's the teaching of the Gospel. And for that we express our deepest gratitude. Once again, thank you for donating your time, gifts, talents, and resources and for being a beacon of kindness and hope to our community. May God bless each of you and your families with health, peace, prosperity and abundance. We look forward to celebrating 2025 together!

## ShareLife

Jesus' love and example inspire us to extend a helping hand to others, especially those facing the greatest challenges. Share Life agencies continue to reach out to the most vulnerable members of our community, offering essential services made possible by your compassionate and generous contributions.

Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, through our parish website or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate). Please help us reach our goal!

## VOCATIONS

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." If you think God is calling you 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](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 in now 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



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 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: January 17 – No Strings Attached**

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