

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: holymartyrsjapan@archtoronto.org website: holymartyrsjapan.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

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

Deacon: Dcn. David Langley



He is Risen!
Alleluia, Alleluia

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, April 21, 7:00PM-No Mass-Easter Monday

TUESDAY, April 22, 9:00AM

+Manuel Da Silva +All Deceased Gambacorta & Palermo Family Members

WEDNESDAY, April 23, 7:00PM

+Maurizio Rapisardi

*Special Intentions of the McEvenue Family

THURSDAY, April 24, 9:00AM +Clara Gomes & Family

+Antonio Martins & Family

FRIDAY, April 25, 7:00PM

+Antonio Mirassol & Family +Stacie Gibson Power

SATURDAY, April 26, 9:00AM *ProPopulo

SATURDAY, April 26, 5:00PM

+Augusta Barros & Joao Gomes Faria +Manuel Nuno

Rodrigues & Maria Faria +Beatriz & Antonio Sousa

+Mario Cemas & Ana Balkovec +Isaura Oliveira Lourenco

& Manuel Oliveira +Antonio Nazario & Luisa Nazario

+Terezinha Teixeira +Herman Avelar +Mary Gres &

Margaret Dudo +Eduardo & Irma Lancha +Joao Ferreira &

Maria Ferreira +Joao Balugas +Jose Lancha +Lucy

Balugas +Virginia Correia

SUNDAY, April 27, 8:00PM +Antonio Gallo

SUNDAY, April 27, 10:00AM

+Assunta & Mario Mazzotta +Maria & Pietro Angolella

SUNDAY, April 27, 12:00pm *ProPopulo

SUNDAY, April 27, 2:00pm *ProPopulo

St. Philip of Jesus (Mission)

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO MASS ON MONDAY APRIL 21, 2025, AND THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED.



FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR ADORATION

Holy hour will be on Friday May 2, 2025 at 7:30pm following the 7:00pm Mass

NOTE: CHANGE TO REQUIEM MASS SCHEDULE

Starting the month of April, the Requiem Mass will be celebrated on the **LAST FRIDAY** of the Month, **APRIL 25, at 11:00am**. Mass Intentions can be booked at the parish office.

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP- Tuesday April 22, 7-8:30pm

All are invited to our Faith & Evenings, where we gather each month to cover a topic of Catholic theology. Note: This is a free event, no registration necessary. For parents with young children, our large meeting room is available for childcare to give parents the opportunity to participate.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST

Your Knights of Columbus will be serving breakfast after the 8am, 10am and Noon Masses on Sunday, May 4th. Unfortunately, the parish hall is booked for Saturday evening and we'll be unable to serve parishioners who attend Saturday evening Mass. Hopefully we will be able to find a date to serve dinner to those parishioners in the near future.

REFLECTION

Today's glorious solemnity is the ultimate cause of all joy, fulfillment, happiness, and glory. If Jesus only died on the Cross, destroying death, something would be missing—the restoration of life into a transformed and glorified living. Easter is not only about the forgiveness of sins, it's about the temporal and eternal glorification of every human soul who dies and rises with Christ. When we focus upon the Gospel and consider the many lessons Jesus taught and the example He set, the Cross is often considered the difficult message and Easter the easy message. But is it?

The message of the Cross, as presented to us through both Jesus' teachings and His lived example, is certainly challenging. Each one of us is called to the same depth of selfless surrender of our lives to the Father's will. We must each die completely to ourselves, be purified from every sin and every attachment to sin, from every bad habit and every worldly thought, and from everything that is not God and God alone. When our calling to die with Christ and to embrace His Cross is clearly understood, as it has been by the saints, it is likely that Christians become overwhelmed at the seemingly daunting and impossible task of dying in and with Christ.

When it comes to the Resurrection, one might be tempted to say that it is easy to accept the message it presents. New life in Christ, the fullness of joy, complete transformation, and eternal beatitude in Heaven—these initially appear easy to embrace. However, the challenge that the profound reality of Easter presents to us is that we can be certain that our current understanding of what it means to share in the Resurrection of Christ is but the faintest shadow of the reality. In truth, very few people in this life have come close to understanding the glory to which we are called on account of the Resurrection. Saints Francis of Assisi, Catherine of Sienna, John of the Cross, Thérèse of Lisieux, to name a few, are among those who penetrated the mystery of Easter while still here on earth. They achieved this spiritual knowledge only by fully dying with Christ through a life of profound prayer, penance, and charity that completely united their souls to the Most Holy Trinity.

As we celebrate Easter, it is important to *know* that we *do not yet know* all that is promised to us by the Resurrection of Christ. If we can at least know that, then our spiritual appetites will make us hungry to know. Too often, Christians go through life satisfied with the most basic understanding of the Gospel. We know that God became man, lived His life, gathered followers, taught and performed miracles, died on the Cross, rose again, ascended into Heaven, and sent the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, we have hope in His promise that if we remain in His grace, then we will share in Heaven after we die. But this is an exceptionally incomplete view of the full reality that has been comprehended in this life by the saints. It is their understanding we must seek with every power of our souls. What does it mean to share in the new life of Christ? What does it mean to share in the glory of the Resurrection? What

will Heaven be like for those who enter into the highest realms of glory in this life compared to those who only do the basics? What will the New Heavens and the New Earth be like when Jesus returns in all His glory for the Final Judgment? If these are questions you have never deeply pondered and probed, then know that the answers that await you are more glorious than you could ever imagine. In other words, if you were to imagine the best and most glorious life, trying to use your mind to draw a picture of the happiness and full joy of Heaven, you can be certain that you could never even come close to imagining the reality. That humble fact ought not discourage you; it should fill your conscience with a desire to know what you do not know. That is the first step.

A deep and vast spiritual comprehension of the joy of sharing fully in the Resurrection of Christ can only be given to us by a direct infusion of grace by God Himself. When a soul receives this infused knowledge, they become so overwhelmed with wonder and awe that they realize that committing even the smallest sin is absolute foolishness and is the path to the loss of everything. They realize that if they were to gain everything this world has to offer—every comfort, wealth, power, and prestige—they would be absolutely miserable compared to the person who shares fully in the Resurrection. They realize that the only thing worth anything is the complete abandonment of one's life to the will of God, a willingness to suffer anything and everything for Christ, to serve and not be served, to forgive everyone completely, to love with every fiber of their being, and to continuously remain in a state of prayerful recollection with God. If living such a life seems impossible, it's not. It only seems that way when we fail to grasp the prize that awaits those who strive for the perfection of divine union. The Easter message and mystery is not just about being good and happy. It's not just about trusting in the hope of Heaven after we die. The fullness of the message and mystery of Easter can only be understood if we begin the long and difficult journey toward divine union. Only those who begin it in haste have a chance of completing it. Begin today. There is so much that God is calling you to and wants to bestow upon you. There is more joy in the Resurrection of Christ than anything else in life. Don't aim for the lowly and passing things of life—aim for the highest heights of glory. Seek to understand the Resurrection this Easter so that you will be able to share more fully in the higher grades of glory that God wants to bestow upon you. *My Catholic Life! 2025*

"I think that many people do not fully understand the value of Mass, because if they recognized the enormous blessing we have in a Lord who gives himself as our food and drink in the Sacred Host, they would go to Mass every day to participate in the fruits of the sacrifice and let go of so many superfluous things." – Blessed Carlo Acutis (age 15) – soon to be SAINT Carlo Acutis, Pray for Us!



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**Sunday April 27, 2024, at 3:30pm (Livestream)
Holy Hour 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 near 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

ShareLife

May 4, 2025, is ShareLife Sunday

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. Please continue to give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

REGISTER TODAY FOR “A DAY WITH MARY”

This FREE outdoor event is taking place Saturday, May 31 on the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Villanova College in King City. There will be food, music, fellowship, and Holy Mass celebrated by our Archbishop, His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo. For more information and to register, visit archtoronto.org/mary.

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: May 2 – Easter Eggstravaganza

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: April 25 – On the Same Page

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