

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: holymartyrs of japan@archtoronto.org website: holymartyrs of japan.archtoronto.org

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



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

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!

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, September 15, 7:00PM +Salvatore Vena & Vincenzo DeGirolamo +Manuel Candido Rodrigues +Leonardo Talarico +Antonio Mirassol & Family +Maria Ramos Dias & Francisco Xavier +Stanley Rak *Special Intentions of the Margarido Family *Special Intentions for the Mongillo Family

TUESDAY, September 16, 9:00AM+Manuel Da Silva +Patrick & Margaret Connolly

WEDNESDAY, September 17, 7:00PM +Orlando Soares & Francisco Xavier +Dominic & Paula Saniga

THURSDAY, September 18, 9:00AM +Samantha Diogo +Jennifer DaSilva

FRIDAY, September 19, 7:00PM + Abilio Soares & Herminia da Silveira +Doris & Nick Yaremko

SATURDAY, September 20, 9:00AM *ProPopulo

SATURDAY, September 20, 5:00PM

+Arlindo Araujo +Celeste & Manuel Laranjeiro +Joao Balugas +Lucy Balugas & Danny Viveiros +Carlos Januario +Joao Laranjeiro & Emilia Laranjeiro +Victoria Miranda & Silvina Vieira +Graciete Domingues +Jose Dias Celestino & Antonio Ramos Dias +Theresa Nhon Nguyen +Arturo Espinosa *Special Intention for Erika Meneses

SUNDAY, September 21, 8:00AM +Manuel Nuno Rodrigues & Dennis Faria +Antonio Zic & All Deceased Zic Family Members

SUNDAY, September 21, 10:00AM+Luis Pontes +Bruno Tony Zambri

SUNDAY, September 21, 12:00pm *ProPopulo

SUNDAY, September 21, 2:00pm *ProPopulo
St. Philip of Jesus (Mission)



FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR ADORATION

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

REQUIEM MASS

The Requiem Mass will be celebrated on the **LAST FRIDAY** of the Month. **The Requiem Mass will be held on September 26, at 11:00am at the cemetery weather permitting.** Mass Intentions can be booked at the parish Office.

FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

Dates: Tuesdays September 23, October 28, November 25, From 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the Parish Hall. **This is a Free Event!** All are invited to our Faith and Fellowship evenings. We gather once a month to cover a different topic of Catholic theology. Come learn and share about our beautiful Catholic faith! For parents with young children, our large meeting room is available for childcare and activities to give parents the opportunity to participate.

REFLECTION

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. [John 3:16-17](#)

If Jesus would never have given His life on a cross for the salvation of the world, then a cross would never have been seen in “exultation.” A cross, in and of itself, is an instrument of death, a horrific and violent death. It’s also an instrument of humiliation and torture. Yet, today, the Cross is seen as a holy and blessed object. We hang crosses in our homes, wear them around our neck, keep them in our pocket on the end of the rosary, and spend time in prayer before them. The Cross is now an exalted image by which we turn to God in prayer and surrender. But that is only the case because it was on a cross that we were saved and brought to eternal life.

If you step back and consider the amazing truth that one of the worst instruments of torture and death is now seen as one of the holiest of images on earth, it should be awe inspiring. Comprehending this fact should lead us to the realization that God can do anything and everything. God can use the worst and transform it into the best. He can use death to bring forth life.

Though our celebration today, the “Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross,” is first and foremost a feast by which we give glory to the Father for what He did in the Person of His divine Son, it is also a feast by which we must humbly understand that God can “exalt” every cross we endure in life and bring forth much grace through them.

What is your heaviest cross? What is the source of your greatest suffering? Most often, our crosses and sufferings are things we seek to rid ourselves of. We easily point to crosses in life and blame them for a lack of happiness. We can easily think that if only this or that were to change or be removed, then our life would be better. So what is that cross in your life?

The truth is that whatever your heaviest cross is, there is extraordinary potential for that cross to become an actual source of grace in your life and in the world. But this is only possible if you embrace that cross in faith and hope so that our Lord can unite it to His and so that your crosses can also share in the exaltation of Christ’s Cross. Though this is a profoundly deep mystery of faith, it is also a profoundly deep truth of our faith.

Reflect, today, upon your own crosses. As you do, try not to see them as a burden. Instead, realize the potential within those crosses. Prayerfully look at your crosses as invitations to share in Christ’s Cross. Say “Yes” to your crosses.

Choose them freely. Unite them to Christ’s Cross. As you do, have hope that God’s glory will come forth in your life and in the world through your free embrace of them. Know that these “burdens” will be transformed and become a source of exaltation in your life by the transforming power of God. *My Catholic Life! 2025*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Exaltation of the Holy Cross | September 14, 2025

2026 CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We are looking forward to growing our membership and warmly welcome new members to join us in faith, service and community. Pre-Printed envelopes are available at the church entrance. Please complete ALL fields of information on the envelope. The membership fee is \$40.00. Fees can be paid via e-transfer to ceciliapodger@yahoo.ca or cheques can be made payable to Holy Martyrs of Japan CWL. Completed envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or given to directly to a CWL executive member. Please submit your membership ASAP.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE 2025!

We would like to officially kick off our 2025 Thanksgiving Food Drive! Food insecurity is now a nationwide crisis, deeply affecting the physical, mental and social well-being of individuals across Canada. The 2024 Food Price Report, jointly researched by leading Canadian universities, warns of a looming national emergency. More pressing locally, the latest Food Banks Canada Poverty Report Card reveals that 34 per cent of Ontarians are concerned about their ability to feed themselves or their families. It is anticipated that 100,000 people in Toronto will turn to food charities for the first time. "We see and feel the pain of those struggling to feed their families, and it moves us deeply." Says Archbishop Francis Leo. "Proverbs 22:9 reminds us, 'The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.'" Our faith calls and challenges us to be the beating heart and outstretched hands of Christ himself, extending His love and compassion to those in need. Together we will continue to bring hope and dignity to our community, to those who suffer thus making a palpable and concrete difference in the lives of our neighbours." *Archbishop Francis Leo, August 26, 2024, communication@archtoronto.org.* Let us come together with a renewed commitment to support and overwhelm our community food bank and its visitors not just with food, but with HOPE! Please drop off your non perishable donations in the crate at the entrance of the church. Thank you for your generosity.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY – Sunday September 21st

Our parishes are our spiritual homes where we come to worship God, encounter Christ in the Holy Eucharist, pray, and meet with one another as a parish community. Stewardship Sunday an annual occurrence in the Archdiocese of Toronto, celebrates our parishes which contain stewards who seek to grow in holiness and become saints by serving God and one another. You can read this homily by Archbishop Francis Leo and then prayerfully reflect on how you may be of service to others in your parish community and beyond. Go to the Archdiocese of Toronto website and look for his message for Stewardship Sunday.



OKTOBERFEST DINNER DANCE SATURDAY OCTOBER 18th, 2025

LIVE MUSIC/FOOD/RAFFLE PRIZES/ CASH BAR
Doors Open At 6:00pm

Tickets: Adults \$30.00 Youth (under 18) \$15.00

Tickets are \$35.00 at the door if available (children under 2 free) Tickets will be sold after Saturday evening and Sunday Masses in the church foyer starting September 20, 2025, or can be purchased in person from the parish office until October 12, 2025.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Ray Reitzel our youth minister at 905 251 8151 or email:

youthministry.hmj@hotmail.com

A Parish Youth Fundraising Event

BLESSING OF PETS

On the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi Saturday October 4, at 10:00am there will be a blessing of pets in the parking lot under the canopy. We kindly ask for donations of pet food to the Bradford Food bank.

SACRAMENTS

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION FOR 2026 SEASON

Information for the upcoming First Communion and Confirmation Registrations for the 2026 season will be made available sometime in late September / October. We invite you to celebrate Mass with us on Saturdays or Sundays. Announcements regarding registration will be made at Mass. Please be sure to stay connected with us, visit our website, and online bulletin for up-to-date information and registration for these sacraments.

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. Come to the EDGE! Grades 6, 7 & 8. **More information on dates and registration to follow.**

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. **More information on dates to follow.**

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