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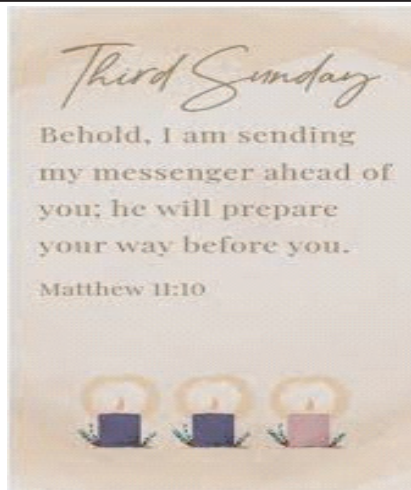
Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish

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



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

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 Trinite & 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 15, 7:00PM +Antonio Mirassol & Family +Virginia Correia

TUESDAY, December 16, 9:00AM +Matthew Talarico

WEDNESDAY, December 17, 7:00PM +Manuel Da Silva +Agnes Hwang

THURSDAY, December 18, 9:00AM +Abilio Soares & Antonio Simoes +Lucy Dantas

FRIDAY, December 19, 7:00PM +Danilo Mendoza +Doris & Nick Yaremko

SATURDAY, December 20, 9:00AM *ProPopulo

SATURDAY, December 20, 5:00PM +Manuel Da Silva +Jose Manuel Barbosa +Arlindo Araujo +Manuel Nuno Rodrigues & Maria Faria +Antonio Santana & Maria Sousa +Vitorino Nazario & Olimpia Sousa +Lucy Balugas & Danny Viveiros +Isaura Lorencio +Jose Manuel Caldas Azevedo +Celeste & Manuel Laranjeiro +Tony Toich & All Deceased Toich Family Members +Isaura Lorenzo & Manuel Oliveira +Laura & Augusto Marques +Sidonio Marques +Julia Jover +Virgilio Pinho

SUNDAY, December 21, 8:00AM *ProPopulo

SUNDAY, December 21, 10:00AM +Graciete Domingues

*Special Intention in Thanksgiving to St. Antonio

SUNDAY, December 21, 12:00pm +Generosa Paulos +All Deceased Mazzotta & Angiollella Family Members

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

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR ADORATION

Holy Hour will be celebrated on Friday January 2, 2026, after the 7:00pm Mass.

REQUIEM MASS-TIME CHANGE will be celebrated **Friday December 26 at 7:00pm at the Church.** Mass intentions can be booked at the parish office.

2026 OFFERTORY BOXES - 2026 Offertory Boxes will be available for pick up in the foyer until December 21, 2025! 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. For New Parishioners or New Envelope users, please notify the parish office via email that you are using a new box number. Be sure to include your full name, address, phone number and box number for proper allocation of funds for tax purposes.**

NOTE TO ALL USING OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: We kindly ask that you please complete the full name and address on each envelope. 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. **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

“Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me.” Matthew 11:4-6

Suppose a priest came to your church to put on a parish mission, and during that mission he miraculously healed the blind, crippled, terminally ill, and deaf. What if he even raised the dead to life? How would you respond? You'd contact everyone close to you and tell them about those miracles, encouraging them to attend the next session. Though Jesus' ministry was filled with miracles, they were far from the most important part of His mission. His miracles healed bodies that would eventually die, but His preaching healed souls that would live forever because His preaching ultimately pointed to His greatest work—to suffer and die for the salvation of souls.

If you were alive as Jesus walked the earth, performed miracles, preached the Good News, suffered death and rose again, which of His actions would have the greatest effect on you? When we consider our Lord's mission, we must consider it all as one unified whole, not missing the most important aspects. From a faith perspective, Jesus' suffering, death, and Resurrection are clearly His greatest acts. By freely embracing suffering and death, He transformed the worst into the best: the consequence of sin—which is death—into the instrument of eternal life. When Jesus said, “And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me,” He was identifying those as blessed who discovered the great value of His Cross.

If we were to ask Jesus' first followers whether they would prefer to see Jesus perform miracles or suffer and die, most likely they would prefer the miracles. Such a question might have even left them confused. Why would anyone want to see a great prophet suffer and die? Yet, today, from a theological perspective, it is clear that Jesus' suffering, death, and Resurrection are the greatest acts in human history.

Imagine being our Blessed Mother who witnessed it all, stood by her Son as He endured His Cross, and rejoiced with Him when He rose. Unquestionably, if we asked our Blessed Mother whether she preferred to see a few miracles from her Son or to witness His perfect sacrifice that brought salvation to the world, her holy and sorrowful heart would choose the latter.

Reflect today on these questions within the context of your own life. When you pray, do you primarily ask for favors, blessings, or miracles? Or do you primarily pray for the Cross? Do you see greater value in having God remove some suffering from your life or in transforming your suffering by the power of His Cross? Ask for the grace to die with our Lord, to become a living sacrifice of love, and to have the strength to lay down your life for others. By choosing that which has eternal value, you choose the better part and will rejoice in that better part forever.

My Catholic Life! 2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS

3rd Sunday of Advent | December 14, 2025

Christmas Mass Schedule

*On Christmas Eve, Day, and Holy Family Masses,
the Rosary will begin 45 minutes before Mass
followed by caroling*

Christmas Eve – Wednesday December 24, 2025

Nativity of the Lord

4:00pm English, 6:00pm-Spanish

12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day – Thursday December 25, 2025

Nativity of the Lord

10:00am (Livestream), 12 Noon

Holy Family – Saturday December 27, 2025

5:00pm

Holy Family – Sunday December 28, 2025

8:00am, 10:00am (Livestream), 12 Noon, 2:00pm-Spanish

Mary Mother of God – Wednesday December 31, 2025

5:00pm-English, 7:00pm-Spanish

Mary Mother of God – Thursday January 1, 2026

10:00am (Livestream), 12 Noon

**Please Note: The parish office will be closed on
December 24, 25, 26, 31, and January 1, & 2, 2026.**

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

All Sundays, 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.

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 20th until Tuesday December 23rd 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.



CHURCH DECORATING INVITATION

We will be decorating our Church for Christmas on Saturday December 20 after 12 Noon. Everyone is welcome to come in fellowship and help out.



Your gift will double in value from November 3 until year end, your contribution to our parish's ShareLife campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to a total of \$500,000.00! The ShareLife Parish Campaign brings our Catholic faith and Gospel values to life, uniting us as a strong and compassionate Catholic Community. With your loving support ShareLife-funded agencies are helping the most vulnerable in our community and around the world. Thank you for living the Gospel this Christmas by providing for those in need. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at sharelife.org/donate.

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!

SACRAMENTS

REGISTRATION FOR 2026 FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION IS NOW CLOSED!

Thank you to all who registered to receive the sacrament of First Communion and Confirmation scheduled for Spring of 2026. Registration is now closed, and we are now able to move forward with the next stage of our planning process; sacramental preparation, and the recruiting of the volunteers required to assist with the number of children registered. For all those who have not registered for the 2026 sacramental season, we look forward to celebrating these sacraments with you next year. Be sure to visit our website and online bulletin for future communications regarding sacramental registration for next year.

YOUTH MINISTRY



Grades 6, 7 & 8 are invited to come to Edge, on Fridays at 7:00-8:30pm in the Parish Hall. **Next Edge Night: Date: December 19 -Christmas Social**



LIFE TEEN is for youth in Grades 9-12 and will be held every other Friday from 7:00-9:00pm. In the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

Next LifeTeen Night: Date: January 9 – But Why?

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