

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

Pastor: Rev. John Pak jpak@archtoronto.org

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

Deacon: Dcn. David Langley

prepare the way...



ADVENT

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, December 22, 7:00PM +Romanko Sakac
+Virginia Correia +Jose Francisco Marques & Maria
Celeste Joaquina +Antonio Gallo

TUESDAY, December 23, 9:00AM *ProPopulo

**WEDNESDAY, December 24, 4:00PM, 6:00PM &
12 Midnight** - See Christmas Mass Schedule

THURSDAY, December 25, 10:00AM & 12 Noon
See Christmas Mass Schedule

FRIDAY, December 26, 7:00PM *ProPopulo

SATURDAY, December 27, 9:00AM *ProPopulo

SATURDAY, December 27, 5:00PM

+Manuel Da Silva +Romanko Sakac +Augusta Barros &
Joao Gomes Faria +Eduino Cabral & Fernando Paulino
+Terezinha Texeira +Manuel Martins +Arminda Maia
Balugas +Eduardo & Irma Lancha +Joao & Maria Ferreira
+Jose Lancha & Luisa Maia +Lucy Balugas +Graciete
Domingues +Fatima Faria & John Faria +Dennis Faria &
Maria Faria +All Souls in Purgatory

SUNDAY, December 28, 8:00AM *Fernando Marques

SUNDAY, December 28, 10:00AM *ProPopulo

SUNDAY, December 28, 12:00PM +Margaret Connolly
+Generosa Paulos

SUNDAY, December 28, 2:00PM *ProPopulo
St. Philip of Jesus (Mission)

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR ADORATION

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

REQUIEM MASS – Time Change

The Requiem Mass will be celebrated **Friday December
26 at 7:00pm at the Church**. Mass intentions can be
booked at the parish office.

2026 OFFERTORY BOXES READY

**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
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

*Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord
appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of
David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your
home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has
been conceived in her.” Matthew 1:20*

Joseph knew that the penalty for adultery was death by
stoning. His heart must have been deeply conflicted. On one
hand, the virtues of his betrothed wife, Mary, were
abundantly clear. Mary radiated holiness. Impurity was
foreign to her Immaculate Heart. Yet she was pregnant, and
Joseph was not the father. What should he do?

To protect Mary from public shame, Joseph decided to do
what he believed was the most merciful thing—he “decided
to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention...” Though
little is known about Joseph, this Gospel passage identifies
him as “a righteous man.” Many saints, popes, and Church
documents highlight his unquestionable sanctity. He was not
immaculate and free from sin as was his wife, but God the
Father would have chosen a righteous and holy man to be
the foster father of the Son of God.

Joseph's actions reveal his deep faith. As he slept, “the angel
of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph,
son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into
your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child
has been conceived in her.’” The angel explained to him that
Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would be born of a virgin
(see Isaiah 7:14) and that Joseph was to take Mary and her
unborn Son into his home and care for them. When he
awoke, he did as the angel commanded.

Joseph's dream was no ordinary dream. The Holy Spirit
accompanied the angel and instilled the certitude of faith in
Joseph's mind, empowering his will to obey God's will.
Joseph became the father and guardian of the Savior of the
World. On December 8, 1847, Pope Pius IX declared Saint
Joseph to be the Universal Patron and Protector of the
Catholic Church. Just as he protected the Son of God, so he
intercedes for us who are members of Christ's body, the
Church.

As our Advent season enters its final week, we are reminded
of the role that Jesus' foster father played not only in the life
of the Holy Family, but also about the role Saint Joseph
continues to play in the life of the Church and in each one of
our lives. His intercessory power from Heaven is great, and
we should not hesitate to call upon his prayers, especially
when we need protection, struggle with fear, or face some
grave challenge.

Reflect today on your personal devotion to Saint Joseph.
Ponder, especially, his deep faith and obedience to the will
of God as was communicated to him in a dream. Strive to
imitate that obedience in your own life, never hesitating to
undertake the mission God has given you. Turn to Saint
Joseph in prayer and know that his powerful intercession
will help protect you and win God's grace in the areas you
need it the most. *My Catholic Life! 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.



Amplify your love through ShareLife

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! Right now, there's a mother wondering how she'll feed her child, a senior hoping someone will remember them, a family praying for a way forward. Your support for ShareLife and the Food Security Grants is not only a source of hope but a tangible lifeline, ensuring that food finds its way to the tables of those who need it most. 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: January 16, 2026 - Crumpled**



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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