

We welcome you to

Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish

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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



Feast of the Holy Family

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, December 29, 7:00PM*ProPopulo

TUESDAY, December 30, 9:00AM *ProPopulo

WEDNESDAY, December 31, 5:00PM & 7:00PM

See Christmas Mass Schedule

THURSDAY, January 1, 10:00AM & 12 Noon

See Christmas Mass Schedule

FRIDAY, January 2, 7:00PM *ProPopulo

SATURDAY, January 3, 9:00AM – First Saturday

+All Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, January 3, 5:00PM

+Samantha Diogo +Isabel Camacho & Manuel Feliciano

Coelho +Maria & Eugenio Arruda +Maria Dolores Vigario

+Helene Victorine Ophelders +Isaura Lorencio & All

Deceased Family Members +Carlos Pais +Jose Romeiro

+Graciete Domingues +Virgilio Domingues & Manuel

Marques +Lucy Balugas & Daniel Viveiros +Armindo

Balugas & Joao Balugas +Candido Rodrigues & Joaquim

Afonso +All Souls in Purgatory

SUNDAY, January 4, 8:00AM *ProPopulo

SUNDAY, January 4, 10:00AM +Romanko Sakac

+Carlos Marques & All Deceased Pinho Family Members

SUNDAY, January 4, 12:00PM +Generosa Paulos

SUNDAY, January 4, 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

The Requiem Mass will be celebrated on the last Friday of the month **January 30 at 11:00am at the Church**. Mass intentions can be booked at the parish office.

2026 OFFERTORY BOXES READY

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

When the magi had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. [Matthew 2:13-14](#)

Today we honor and ponder the family life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The love within their home exceeded that of any other household, and the love within their family poured forth upon their extended family and wider community.

Scripture gives us limited details about the life of the Holy Family. What we do know is that from the very beginning, they suffered through enormous challenges.

Mary's pregnancy was the first challenge they faced. She conceived the Christ Child before she and Joseph lived together. Though she knew how she conceived the Son of God, Joseph did not understand until the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. We can imagine that relatives and members of the community expressed their disapproval, given that the angel of the Lord did not reveal the truth to everyone.

Jesus was born far away from their home, in the little town of Bethlehem, in a cave, where animals dwelt. Humble shepherds were their first guests, and the magi from the East soon followed. Within a year or two after Jesus' birth, this family had to uproot from their home and flee to Egypt, find accommodations, and earn a living because Herod sought to kill the child Jesus.

After Herod's death, Joseph was instructed in two subsequent dreams that he could return to Israel and was to move his family to the small and unremarkable village of Nazareth. Though Nazareth was not held in high esteem, it was within this simple setting that Jesus was raised and learned the virtues of hard work, obedience, and humility. Nazareth, though overlooked by the world, became the sacred ground where the Savior of the world was prepared for His mission. Finally, given that Saint Joseph is not mentioned during the time that Jesus exercised His public ministry, it is commonly believed that Jesus and His mother experienced the human sorrow of Joseph's earthly death. Despite the hardships the Holy Family endured, the love in their home overshadowed every challenge, making their family life a source of the utmost consolation and joy.

Amidst the trials they faced, the Holy Family found joy, not in worldly comforts, but in their deep union with God and with each other. Their home was a sanctuary of love, prayer, and mutual support, where God's presence was always felt. How fascinating it will be one day, in Heaven, if God reveals to us the details about the earthly and hidden life of the Holy Family. Though the angels witnessed their lives as they unfolded in time, we can hope and imagine that God, in His goodness, will share these mysteries with the saints, revealing the true beauty of the Holy Family's earthly life together. Their conversations, interactions, charity, prayer,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph |
December 28, 2025

fun, work, and all that made up their family life will be a source of eternal admiration and gratitude. Reflect today on the Holy Family. Ask God to give you insight into their lives together. As you do, use any insights as a source of inspiration for your own life and relationships with those closest to you. Though we will all fall short of the charity that permeated the home of the Holy Family, we can work to imitate them by allowing God to increase our charity toward one another. Through daily prayer, acts of sacrifice, and a commitment to love one another, we can create a family life that reflects the holiness and unity of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.
My Catholic Life! 2025



Christmas Mass Schedule
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 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.

FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS DRIVE

Thank you to all who have answered the plea to help our brothers and sisters in need of food this year. You have truly made a difference! Please continue to help in any way you can by donating non-perishable items to our Food Bank. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ in our community displaying acts of charity and love of neighbor, especially during this Christmas season. Thank you for your generosity!

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, Your family life was holy beyond imagination. In your daily interactions, Your love was manifest and inspiring to each other and to Your relatives and friends. Please draw me into Your family life and teach me to love those in my family so that we will become a stronger community of love. Jesus, I trust in You.



“We all want to be better, to live our lives more fully and to love one another more selflessly. As we end one year and look to a new one, we pause to take inventory. In a rare moment of reflection and honest self-assessment, we admit our failures. We pledge to learn from them and move toward a better future.

On the first day of the New Year, Catholics celebrate the Feast of the Mother of God. This is no liturgical accident. She who beheld the face of the Savior invites us to hear the words of Jesus Christ, “Behold I make all things new!” (Rev. 21:5) He alone can fulfill the desire at the heart of the New Year’s celebration. She is the Mother of the New Creation because the One whom she held in her womb is the only One who can make all things new!

I am more grateful every year for the opportunity to attend Holy Mass on New Year’s Day and celebrate the Feast of the Mother of God. Mary is the first disciple, the prototype, the symbol of the whole Church. We who are members of the Church are invited to emulate her “Yes” to the invitation of God and make it our own. We are to make a place for Him within us and become bearers of Christ to the world. He alone can make us new”

May we “all find the fullness of grace which comes through a living relationship with the One who makes all things new (Rev 21:5), Jesus Christ” in 2026. “There is a universal longing in every human heart to be made new, to begin again, because the Holy Spirit prompts it in every human heart.”

“New Year’s Eve is a global existential moment, ripe with anticipation and expectations. It invites a spiritually cathartic time of reflection, offers us hope for change and invites us to make choices. In reality, our choices will make us. “Let us choose in” 2026 “to live our lives in, with and for Jesus Christ. That is the way we can turn resolutions into reality.”

Deacon Keith Fournier, The editor in Chief of Catholics online
<https://joyintruth.com/category/catholic-life/>

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

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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