

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

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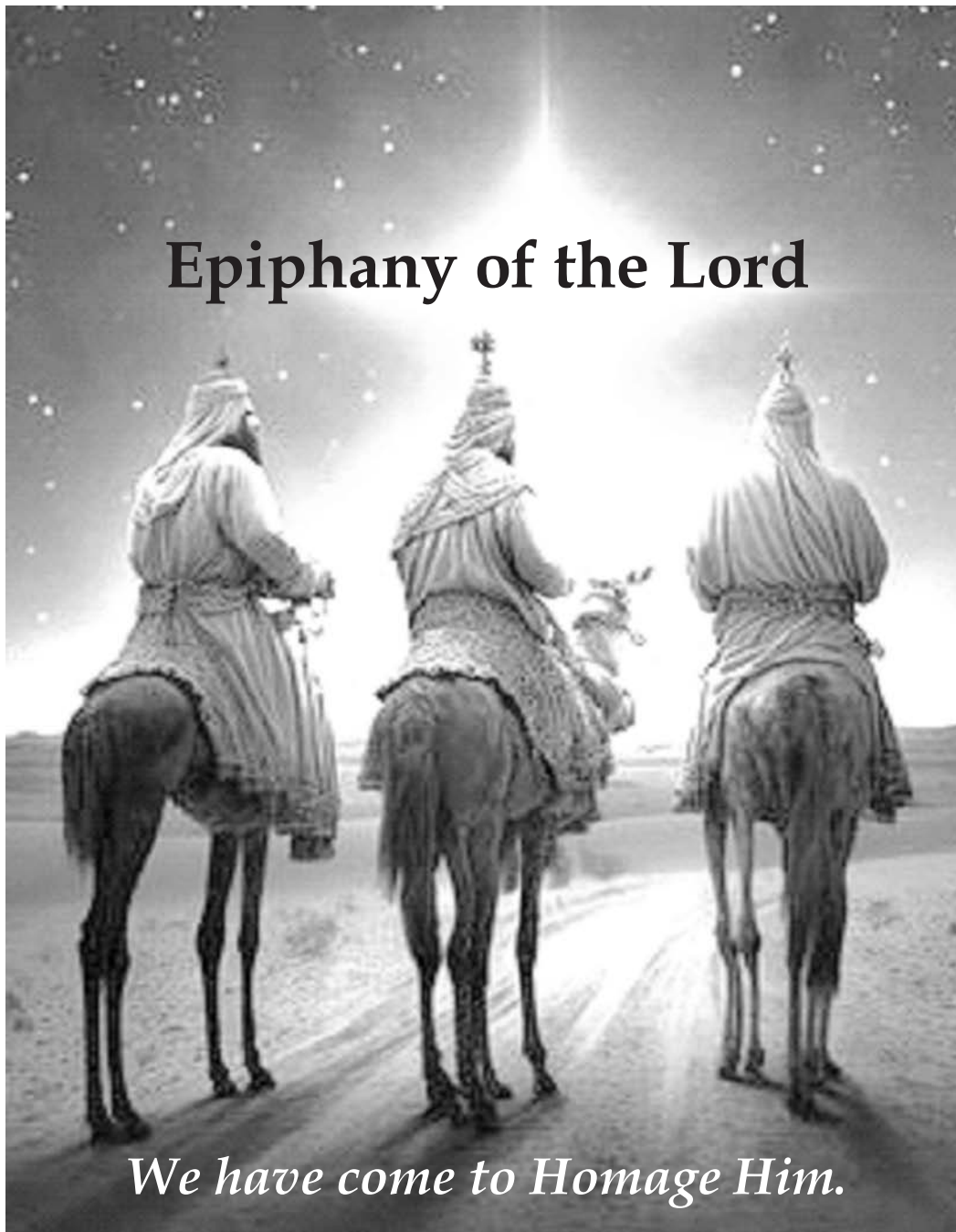
Office Hours - Monday to Friday 9:30 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

**Pastor:** Rev. John Pak jpak@archtoronto.org

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

**Deacon:** Dcn. David Langley

## Epiphany of the Lord



*We have come to Homage Him.*

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY, January 5, 7:00PM** +Generosa Paulos

+Virginia Correia +Lino Arruda

**TUESDAY, January 6, 9:00AM** +Virginia Correia

+Manuel Da Silva

**WEDNESDAY, January 7, 7:00PM** +Stacie Gibson  
Power

**THURSDAY, January 8, 9:00AM** \*Special Intention  
of Jane Ang

**FRIDAY, January 9, 7:00PM** +All Souls in Purgatory

**SATURDAY, January 9, 9:00AM**

+All Souls in Purgatory

**SATURDAY, January 10, 5:00PM** +Antonio Santana &

Maria Sousa +Vitorino Nazario & Olimpia Sousa

+Graciete Domingues +Leopoldo Volpe

**SUNDAY, January 11, 8:00AM** \*ProPopulo

**SUNDAY, January 11, 10:00AM** \*ProPopulo

**SUNDAY, January 11, 12:00PM** +Arminda Maia  
Balugas

**SUNDAY, January 11, 2:00PM** \*ProPopulo

**St. Philip of Jesus (Mission)**



### FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR ADORATION

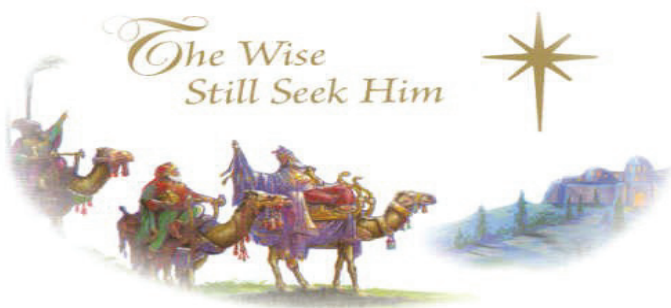
Holy hour will be celebrated on the First  
Friday of the month following the 7:00pm  
Mass.

### 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.

### A HEARTFELT MESSAGE OF THANKS TO YOU!

Let the brilliance of this Christmas light shine brightly  
upon you and your families and may the abundance of  
God's overflowing love be lavished upon each of you.  
Thank you to all our parishioners and community members  
for your kindness, support and generosity over the past  
year. We are truly blessed to have you apart of our parish  
community. Without your support, our Church would not  
be able to spread God's love to those in our community.  
The impact of your warm generosity over the years echo's  
the teaching of the Gospel, and for that we express our  
deepest gratitude. Once again, thank you for donating your  
time, gifts, talents, and resources and for being a beacon of  
kindness and hope to our community. May God bless each  
of you and your families with health, peace, prosperity and  
abundance. We look forward to celebrating 2026 together!



## REFLECTION

*When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of  
King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in  
Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him  
homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly  
troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. [Matthew 2:1-3](#)*

Why did God use a star to reveal the birth of the King of  
Kings to foreigners from the East? To Mary, Joseph, and  
even the shepherds, God sent an angel to announce the Good  
News. But to the Magi, He chose to use a medium they  
understood—a star.

The Magi, originally a priestly caste from Persia, were  
skilled in astrology, astronomy, dream interpretation, and  
other forms of wisdom and divination. The three Magi  
mentioned in Matthew's Gospel were clearly experts in  
astrology, carefully studying the night sky. On the night of  
Christ's birth, they made an extraordinary discovery: a new  
star had appeared in the sky. They knew it was a sign of  
great significance. According to their beliefs, the appearance  
of a new star heralded the birth of a new king.

This star was not just a celestial phenomenon; it symbolized  
the light of Christ breaking into the world, guiding all  
nations—Jew and Gentile alike—toward the Savior. Just as  
God drew humble Jewish shepherds to the newborn King,  
He also drew representatives of the Gentiles to adore Him,  
for Jesus came to save all of humanity.

The divine initiative to include the Gentiles was not a new  
concept but a fulfillment of a promise made to Abraham:  
"All the families of the earth will find blessing in you"  
([Genesis 12:3](#)). The prophets and Psalms echo this theme,  
emphasizing that all nations will come to the Lord  
(see [Isaiah 2:2-4](#); Psalm 67). In Jesus' public ministry, we  
see His outreach to the Gentiles, a mission that continued in  
the early Church, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. At  
the time of Jesus' birth, however, the Jewish emphasis was  
primarily on being the chosen people. The story of the  
Epiphany reveals God's universal call to holiness from the  
very beginning of Jesus' life, establishing that His mission  
was for all people, not just for Israel.

Because of this universal call to holiness, we who believe in  
Christ and live our Catholic faith must avoid becoming  
isolated or insular, creating a small, self-contained world.  
Instead, we are called to live our faith in a way that is  
welcoming to all and engaged with the broader world,  
reflecting the universal mission of the Church. Being  
Catholic is not merely a cultural heritage; it is the spiritual  
means of eternal salvation that everyone needs. The word  
"epiphany" means "manifestation," and Christ must be made  
manifest to all, becoming the King of every soul.

As we celebrate the Epiphany, be open to the ways God  
might want to use you to share the light of faith with those  
who are not yet faithful Catholics. We must be like the star  
of Bethlehem, drawing others to Christ in ways they can  
understand and accept. This is best accomplished when we  
place ourselves at God's service, ready to be used as

instruments of His grace. God alone knows how to draw all people to Himself, and when we offer ourselves to His service, He will inspire us and use us to be that shining light, guiding others out of darkness and into His marvelous light. *My Catholic Life! 2025*



Jesus' love and example inspire us to extend a helping hand to others, especially those facing the greatest challenges. Share Life agencies continue to reach out to the most vulnerable members of our community, offering essential services made possible by your compassionate and generous contributions. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, through our parish website or at [sharelife.org/donate](https://sharelife.org/donate).

## 2026 OFFERTORY BOXES READY

Offertory boxes are available once again for pick up in the foyer of the Church. **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.

## 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.



“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 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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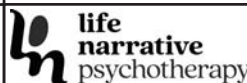
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