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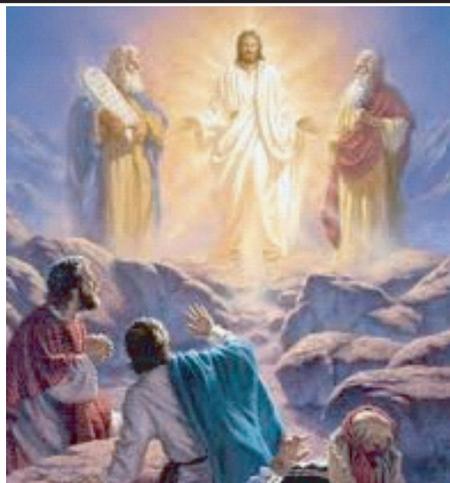
# Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish

P.O. Box 1180, 167 Essa Street, Bradford, Ont. L3Z 2B6

Telephone 905-775-2065 Parish subscription with Formed.org

Email: holymartyrssofjapan@archtoronto.org website: holymartyrssofjapan.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 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, March 2, 7:00PM**+Celestino Almeida +Milan Bobala +Eugenia Freskiw

**TUESDAY, March 3, 9:00AM** +Samantha Diogo +Manuel Da Silva

**WEDNESDAY, March 4, 7:00PM** +Generosa Paulos +Romanko Sakac

**THURSDAY, March 5, 9:00AM** \*ProPopulo

**FRIDAY, March 6, 7:00PM** +Milan Bobala +Vilma LaRoche

**SATURDAY, March 7, 9:00AM** +All Souls in Purgatory

**SATURDAY, March 7, 5:00PM** +Caterina & Michelle Puma +Isabel Camacho & Manuel Feliciano Coelho

+Maria & Eugenio Arruda +Helene Victorine Ophelders +Isaura Lourenco & All Deceased Family Members

+Graciete Domingues +Virgilio Domingues & Rosa Miranda +Terezinha Teixeira +Jose Manuel Caldas

Azevedo +Marco Fernandes +Lucia Balugas & Arminda Balugas +Carminie Furgiuele & Noah D'Allewa +Bruno

Serato +Vilma LaRoche +All Souls in Purgatory

**SUNDAY, March 8, 8:00AM** \*ProPopulo

**SUNDAY, March 8, 10:00AM** +Joao Perna +John Chyz

**SUNDAY, March 8, 12:00PM** +Lucinda Sousa & Scott Vierra +All Souls in Purgatory \*Special Intention for

Marilyn LaPierre

**SUNDAY March 8, 2:00PM** \*ProPopulo

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

### FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR ADORATION

Holy hour will be celebrated on **Friday March 6 from 6:00pm- 7:00pm** followed by the 7:00pm Mass and the Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm.

**CWL LENTEN SOUP NIGHT-Saturday, March 14, from 5:00pm - 7:00pm** Join us for our SOUP NIGHT in the Parish Hall. Come and warm up with some fresh homemade soup with a bun, coffee, tea, water and cookies. The cost is \$10.00 per person and \$5.00 for children under 10 years. **Pre-Orders for soup will be taken that evening for pickup on March 28/29**

## ShareLife Turns 50:

2026 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ShareLife. As we approach our first ShareLife Sunday collection on March 22, let us come together in celebration and compassion to meet our Parish Campaign goal. Our parish goal this year is \$55,000.00. By reaching this goal, our agencies will continue to:

- uplift young mothers and their babies
- enable more men to pursue priestly vocations
- connect seniors with dignity-affirming resources
- fight against hunger in our communities
- help families in times of need

Your support of ShareLife makes these programs possible, among many others. Please give at the parish using a ShareLife envelope, online through our parish website, or at [sharelife.org/donate](http://sharelife.org/donate).

## REFLECTION

*“Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” Matthew 17:4*

The Apostle Peter’s reaction to the Transfiguration reveals that he was overwhelmed by his firsthand experience of a glimpse of Jesus’ true glory. Not long before this moment, our Lord took His disciples north to Caesarea Philippi and asked them privately who they thought He was. Peter boldly proclaimed, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16). In response, Jesus promised Peter that He would build His Church upon Peter’s profession of faith and that Peter himself would be entrusted with the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven. It was a good day for Peter. Shortly after this, however, Jesus began to reveal to His disciples that He “must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised” (Matthew 16:21). In response, Peter pulled Jesus aside and said, “God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you” (Matthew 16:22). Jesus replied harshly to Peter’s rebuke: “Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do” (Matthew 16:23). It was a bad day for Peter.

Jesus then taught His disciples, “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it” (Matthew 16:24–25). Not only was Jesus soon to suffer greatly, but His followers, including the Twelve, were called to follow Him on this difficult path. This was hard news for them to accept.

In today’s Gospel, we hear the story of the Transfiguration. Interestingly, Jesus allowed the disciples to reflect on His prediction of suffering for six days before taking Peter, James, and John up a mountain for prayer and solitude. Jesus, aware of their confusion and struggles, was transfigured before their eyes. “[H]is face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him” (Matthew 17:2–3). Peter exclaimed in this moment of glory, “Lord, it is good that we are here.” It was another good day for Peter.

We all have good days and bad days. But what defines a good day versus a bad day? Was the day of Jesus’ Crucifixion a bad one for Him? Certainly not. Though filled with intense suffering, it was the most glorious day in history because His perfect obedience to the Father’s will was fulfilled. Similarly, Peter’s good and bad days can be understood in terms of his willingness to obey Christ, especially when the demands were great.

In our lives, we must also define our good and bad days through the lens of obedience to God’s will, especially when His will calls us to bear the Cross and practice sacrificial love. It’s easy to love God when we are consoled, but it becomes much more difficult when we face trials. Peter’s

declaration, “Lord, it is good that we are here,” is the perfect prayer for us to echo in every circumstance. When we are consoled, as Peter was at the Transfiguration, we must pray this prayer. But unlike Peter’s earlier missteps, we must also say, “It is good,” when we encounter opportunities for sacrificial love, even when difficult.

*My Catholic Life! 2026*



## ABIDING IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD

SEEKING THE KINGDOM OF GOD ABOVE AND BEYOND ALL OTHER THINGS- *Pastoral Letter to the People of God in Toronto 1 January 2024, Solemnity of Mary Mother of God Most Reverend Francis Leo Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto*

In a message from Cardinal Francis Leo from January 1 2024, he offers us some suggestions to help the reality of the Kingdom abide in our lives and our families, our communities and institutions, indeed in our entire archdiocesan family.

1. Acknowledge personally and communally Christ’s eternal and lasting Kingship and invite him to reign in our hearts, families and communities as King and Sovereign Lord.
2. Adopt an attitude of profound docility to the Holy Spirit to exercise daily conversion of heart so as to know and fulfill the will of God.
3. Place the Eucharistic Christ at the centre of our life of faith, of our Sunday worship, our entire Christian life and the daily living out of our particular vocation.
4. Embodiment in our daily living the three-fold “style of God” according to Pope Francis: closeness, compassion and tenderness.<sup>120</sup>
5. Love those Jesus loved particularly and actively care for them, especially the vulnerable, the poor and the abandoned, the ill and the elderly, the young and the ostracized.
6. Engage in the spiritual and temporal works of mercy, charity, justice and peace by active participation in the public square (education, politics, science, the arts, economics/finance, communications, social aid).
7. Daily seek out opportunities to spread and strengthen the Kingdom of God by working intentionally for truth and life, holiness and grace, justice, love and peace.
8. Get more involved in the local community’s renewal and blessing by sowing seeds of goodness, truth and beauty and sharing our gifts, talents and charisms.
9. Be socially conscious and engaged with regards to our environment, the climate crisis and caring for our common home.
10. Let daily prayer in its many forms (personal and communal, liturgical and devotional, vocal and mental) as well as the daily reading and meditation on the Word of God (lectio divina) nourish, heal and empower us.

11. Daily examine one’s conscience, using also the Ignatian examen, and frequently celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

12. Welcome into our lives and communities, through a profound devotion to and spirituality of Our Lady as our Mother and Queen since she has been entrusted to us as a loving maternal presence and we entrusted to her as devoted children.<sup>121</sup>

## LENTEN FOOD DRIVE – 40 cans for 40 days

As part of our Lenten Journey of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, consider donating to our local food bank in solidarity with our brothers and sisters, reflecting on Christ’s call to love, and with your prayers that your donation provides comfort and sustenance to those in our community. Imagine if each family offered 40 items for 40 days for the duration of lent!! **Consider donating nonperishable food items such as: tuna, canned meat, soups & stews, canned tomatoes and vegetables, bagged rice, baby formula and diapers, etc...** or a monetary donation to our St Vincent de Paul Society who help those in need in our local community. A crate for your goods will be available in the foyer for your donations.



## PARISH LENTEN CONFESSIONS

March 10, 2026

From 6:00pm to 8:00pm

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Starting Friday February 20, 2026, and every Friday thereafter during the season of Lent, join us for the Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm. Come Journey with Christ and prepare yourself for the Triduum.



## LENTEN MISSION – MARCH 18 & 19

**"Called to Dialogue: Listening to God, One’s self, and Neighbours"** with **Fr. John Elmer Abad** –

*Associate Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology at St. Augustine’s Seminary.*

The Lenten mission retreat will begin each evening with the Rosary at 6:30pm, followed by Mass at 7:00, and a guided spiritual journey, reflection, in deepening one’s faith through silence, scripture, and dialogue. All are welcome!

## 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: March 13, 2026 – Transformation**

## LIFE TEEN

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: March 6 – Wipe Out**

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