

We welcome you to

Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish

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

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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

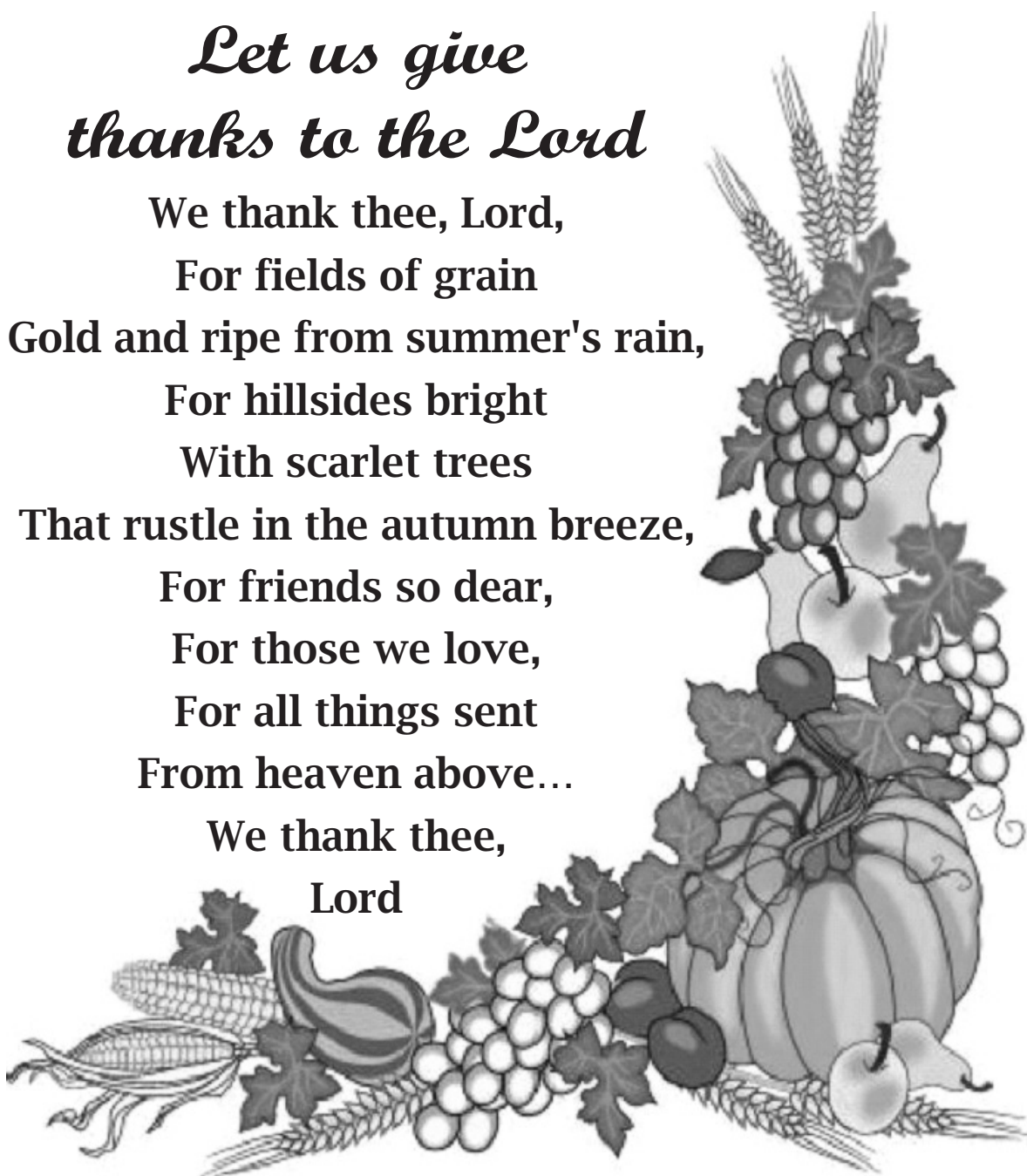
Pastor: Rev. John Pak jpak@archtoronto.org

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

Deacon: Dcn. David Langley

Let us give thanks to the Lord

We thank thee, Lord,
For fields of grain
Gold and ripe from summer's rain,
For hillsides bright
With scarlet trees
That rustle in the autumn breeze,
For friends so dear,
For those we love,
For all things sent
From heaven above...
We thank thee,
Lord



WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, October 12, 9:00AM +Romanko Sakac +Sergio Gomes +Rosa Do Fernandes +Fred Oliveira & Mark Oliveira
+For the Liberation of Souls of All Deceased Priests

TUESDAY, October 13, 9:00AM +Manuel Da Silva +Joao & Manuel Veloso

WEDNESDAY, October 14, 7:00PM +Cindy Diogo & Antonio Diogo +Silvana Battaglia

THURSDAY, October 15, 9:00AM +Gloria Dias +Lucia Conceicao

FRIDAY, October 16, 7:00PM +Salvatore Vena & Vincenzo De Girolamo +Rosa Carvalho

SATURDAY, October 17, 9:00AM *ProPopulo

SATURDAY, October 17, 5:00PM +Isaura Lourenco & Gabriel Oliveira +Arlindo Araujo +Jose Manuel Caldas Azevedo +Celeste & Manuel Laranjeiro +Afonso Lameirinhas + Perpetua & Manuel Barroso +Fernando & Graciete Domingues + Manuel Nuno Rodrigues & Dennis Faria
*Special Intention for the Parish Community of Holy Martyrs of Japan

SUNDAY, October 18, 8:00AM *ProPopulo

SUNDAY, October 18, 10:00AM +Luis Pontes *Special Intention for Joe Mongillo

SUNDAY, October 18, 12:00PM +Elvira Maria Di Re & Domenico Di Re

SUNDAY, October 18, 2:00PM *ProPopulo
St. Philip of Jesus Mission



THANKSGIVING DAY – Monday October 12, 2026

Wishing everyone a peaceful long weekend with family and friends as we celebrate this time of gratitude for our many blessings. Mass will be at 9:00am on Thanksgiving Monday, October 12, and the parish office will be closed.

MAGNIFICAT BREAKFAST – A Ministry to Catholic Women - Saturday October 24 from 9:30-12:30 St Benedict Parish Hall, 2194 Kipling Ave.

Guest Speaker: Deacon Michael Carrera – Register online Credit/Debit Accepted. Register early! Inquiries: Feiona 416 846 4068 or email: magnificate.toronto.chapter@gmail.com

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027 – SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA - Theme Song: "Confidite, Ego Vici Mundum"

"Take courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33)
The late Pope Francis proclaimed these words as the theme for World Youth Day (WYD) Seoul 2027. These words were spoken by Jesus to His disciples at the Last Supper, just before He fulfilled the salvific mission entrusted to Him by God. Washing His disciples' feet and showing them the fullness of His love, Jesus desired His disciples to love one another as He had shown them. Along with this tangible example of love, Jesus left His disciples with a final teaching: although they would face suffering, they should not yield to the world, but take courage and live out love.

REFLECTION

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come." Matthew 22:1-3

Today's parable is part of Jesus' final teachings in Jerusalem during Holy Week. It continues His direct confrontation with the religious leaders of Israel—specifically, the chief priests and elders. Through this story, Jesus unveils the mystery of the Kingdom, the tragedy of Israel's rejection, and the universal call to salvation.

The central theme of this parable is found in the opening line: "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son." In this parable, the king is God the Father, the Son is Jesus, and the Wedding Feast represents the Messianic Banquet—a celebration of the eternal joy of union with God. Today, the Holy Mass is a real participation in that Messianic Banquet and a foretaste of its fullness to come.

The first invited guests "refused to come." This is commonly understood to refer to many among the people of Israel who rejected Jesus as the Messiah, especially the religious leaders. The second invitation was ignored by some and met with hostility by others. This reflects the way the prophets were treated throughout salvation history—ignored, rejected, and often persecuted.

When the king learned of their refusal, he sent his troops to destroy those who had been invited, which is a clear reference to God's justice, His judgment, and the penalty of grave sin: spiritual death. The king then sends his servants out to invite everyone they can find. This is the mission of the Church. From the moment Jesus founded His Church and entrusted it to the Apostles, the invitation to the heavenly banquet has gone out to the ends of the earth, and it continues to this day.

Each of us has received this divine invitation. Today, the fullest way to participate in the Wedding Feast is through the Holy Mass. The Mass is truly our wedding banquet, and our union with Christ is sealed in Holy Communion. But do we see the Mass this way? Often, we tend to evaluate the Mass by the personality and preaching of the priest, the quality of the music, or other superficial elements.

When we fail to attend Mass as we would attend the Wedding Feast of the Son of God, then we, like the first group, "refuse to come"—even if we are physically present. True attendance requires spiritual attentiveness and interior participation. When we view the Mass as a burden or inconvenience, we act like those in the second group who responded with indifference or hostility.

Ideally, we will attend Mass every Sunday—and more often if possible—willingly, joyfully, reverently, and with hearts prepared to encounter the Bridegroom. This requires that we remain in a state of grace. The parable ends with a sobering image: A man found at the feast without a wedding garment is cast out into the darkness. The "wedding garment"

symbolizes the state of the soul, especially the presence of sanctifying grace, which is received in Baptism and restored through Confession. To approach the altar without this garment is to risk being cast out, as the man in the parable was. We must therefore examine our conscience, repent of sin, and prepare our hearts with devotion so that we may worthily partake of this Heavenly Meal. Reflect today on the Mass as the true Wedding Feast of the Lamb. Do you approach this sacred celebration with joyful reverence, spiritual preparation, and genuine love for the Bridegroom? Strive to make your presence at Mass much more than physical; let it be the expression of a soul properly clothed, joyfully responding to the King's invitation. May our worthy participation in the Eucharist be a foretaste of the eternal banquet prepared for those who are invited and respond with all their hearts.

My Catholic Life! 2026



THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE – WITH THANKS

With hearts full of gratitude, we extend our sincere thanks to each of you for your generous donations of food, through our thanksgiving food drive, to support our community and families in need. Your compassion and willingness to share God's blessings have brought hope, comfort, and nourishment to many.

Your generosity is a beautiful reflection of Christ's love in action. Through your kindness, you have reminded those facing difficult times that they are not alone and that they are deeply cared for by their parish family.

We pray that the Lord will return your kindness to you tenfold and pour out His abundant blessings upon you and your loved ones. May He continue to bless your homes with peace, good health, joy, and every grace.

"Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

— Luke 6:38



It is a ministry for people who wish to inquire about becoming full members of our faith community. This program is geared towards prospective adults wishing to become fully initiated into the Catholic Church. If you would like to know more about the process or know someone who may be interested in the Catholic faith, please contact the Parish Office at 905 775 2065.

ALL SAINTS DAY - Children Celebration

Children are welcome to dress up as their favorite Saint or Angel and come to the Saturday October 31 at 5:00pm Mass or any of the Sunday Masses on November 1 where they will be called to the front and given a blessing. Chocolate and candy donations will be greatly appreciated.

SACRAMENTS

FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION FOR 2026/27 SEASON OPENED SUNDAY OCTOBER 4th !

Registration for First Communion and Confirmation opened on SUNDAY OCTOBER 4, 2026! Registration forms for each sacrament can be found on our parish website at holymartyrsofjapan.archtoronto.org click "Sacraments" on the menu bar and click on "First Communion" or "Confirmation" and go to registrations 2026-2027.

NOTE THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 31, 2026 (INCLUSIVE).

YOUTH MINISTRY



EDGE is a fun, exciting and free program for grades 6, 7, & 8 that offers youth the opportunity to grow in faith and fellowship with other youth and peer leaders. Come to the EDGE, on every other Friday at 7:00-8:30pm in the parish hall! ***For more information and to pre-register, please visit our parish website or just show up on the night and our team members will assist you to register.***

Next Edge Night: October 23 - Coaching Staff

LIFE TEEN LIFE TEEN is an international Catholic ministry that serves the Church and leads all teens closer to Christ by providing resources that encourage vibrant Eucharistic celebrations and opportunities for teens to grow in their faith. 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. ***For more information and to pre-register, please visit our website or just show up on the night and our team members will assist you to register.***
Next LifeTeen Night: October 30 – 1 to 1

YOUNG ADULT GROUP AGES 18-39

Calling all young adults to join us Sundays at 3:00 in the large meeting room. It is an opportunity to get together, grow in faith alongside like-minded people in a similar stage of life. We look forward to seeing you. For more info, contact Fr. John at jpak@archtoronto.org.

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