

We welcome you to

# Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish

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

Telephone (905) 775-2065 Fax (905) 775-9241

holymartyrs@rogers.com

www.holymartyrs.ca

Parish Office Hours—Monday through Friday—9:00am to 4:00pm



**Pastor:** Rev. Father Boniface Perri  
**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Father Joseph Lam Tran  
**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. David Langley



**St. Paul Miki and Companions—Pray for Us!**

## OFFICE STAFF

**Parish Secretary:**  
Delia McEvenue  
**Secretarial Assistant:**  
Patty Hofland

## MINISTERS

**Ministry to Housebound/Shut-ins:**  
Sister Jean Doyle O.S.U.  
**Youth Ministry:**  
Ray Reitzel  
reitzel@hotmail.com  
**Parish Social Ministry:**  
Jean Lashley 905-392-1909

## SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00pm  
Sunday: 8:30am, 10:00am & 11:30am  
Life Teen Mass—6:30pm  
Seasonal Spanish Mass—5:00pm

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays—7:00pm  
Tuesdays & Thursdays—8:00am  
Saturdays: 9:15am

## CONFESSIONS

1/2 hour before each Sunday Mass or by appointment.

## BAPTISMS

Please contact us one month or more in advance.

## MARRIAGE

Please contact us one year in advance for adequate preparation.

## 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.

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Holy Trinity High School—905-775-4841  
Marie of the Incarnation—905-775-3492  
Mother Teresa—905-778-8653  
St. Charles—905-775-6762  
St. Jean de Brebeuf—905-775-8460

## PARISH MINISTRIES and SOCIETIES

Bereavement Support Group	CWL (Catholic Women's League)
Consolation and Hope	Development and Peace
Life Teen	Knights of Columbus
EDGE Youth Ministry	Seniors Club
Liturgical Ministers	Social Club
New Beginnings	St. Vincent de Paul Society
Parish Library	
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	
Sacramental Preparation & Catechesis	

## CULTURAL GROUPS

Divino Espirito Santo  
Nossa Senhora De Fatima  
Santissima Trindade

## NEW PARISHIONERS: WELCOME !

You are invited to register by completing the form at the Parish Office or in the gathering space at the back of the Church. Offering Envelopes are available.

### THE THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

The liturgy of today's Mass repeats the words of St. Paul in which he urges the first Christians of Philippi: *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.* Phil 4:4 And the Apostle goes on to give the basic reason for this profound happiness: *the Lord is at hand.*

This is also the joy of Advent. We call today Gaudete Sunday, Sunday of rejoicing. We wear rose vestments to signify that while we wait we are happy. Happiness should be essential to the Christian. Ours, however, is not just any sort of happiness. It is the happiness of Christ, which brings justice and peace. Only He can give it and preserve it, because the world does not possess its secret. Worldly happiness leads inevitably to its own loss,,, it arises precisely when we contrive to escape from our selves, when we look outwards, when we manage to turn our gaze away from meaningless and a solitary interior life. The Christian carries his joy within, because they meet God in his soul in grace. This is the unfailing spring of happiness.

It is not difficult to imagine Our Lady, in these days of Advent, radiant with joy at carrying the Son of God beneath her heart. John the Baptist prepared for this too. He was the greatest of the prophets for he immediately prepared for Christ but he did not see to it personally, so he was least in that kingdom of joy until he entered heaven himself.

The Christian's happiness is profound and can exist in the midst of difficulties. It is compatible with pain, with illness, with failures and contradictions. Our Lord has promised: *Your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.* John 16:22 Unless we separate ourselves from its source, nothing and nobody can take away this joyful peace. Gaudete Rejoice!

*In Conversation with God by Francis Fernandez*

### OFFERING ENVELOPES

Sunday Offering Envelopes are now available at the back of the Church. Please check and ensure that you have your right number on the box. If there are any changes to names or addresses, please call the office or fill out the forms located on the Lobby counter and give to Father.



If you are a new member, please fill out the information required on the envelopes so that we may enter your particulars in our data base for income tax receipts, and give forms to Father.

### CHURCH DECORATING

We will be decorating the Church on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00am to 4:00pm. Everyone is invited to come help out and enjoy fellowship while decorating the Church for Christmas.

### PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION

We will be celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation on Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm. Priests speaking Italian and Portuguese will be here. We invite everyone to prepare their hearts for the coming of Christ.

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

**Offertory Donation was \$5,555.03**

Our Weekly Goal is \$6,000.00

Thank you for your generosity!

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve – Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

- ❖ 6:00pm
- ❖ 8:00pm
- ❖ 12:00 midnight

### Christmas Day – Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

- ❖ 10:00am
- ❖ 11:30am

(Please note that there will be no Saturday 5:00pm Mass)

### Feast of the Holy Family - Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>

- ❖ 8:30am
- ❖ 10:00am
- ❖ 11:30am
- ❖ 6:30pm

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

- ❖ 6:00pm

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

- ❖ 10:00am
- ❖ 11:30am

(Please note that there is no Saturday 5:00pm Mass. The Solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation.)

### Feast of the Epiphany – Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011

- ❖ 8:30am
- ❖ 10:00am
- ❖ 11:30am
- ❖ 6:30pm



### GARDEN of POINSETTIA

Christmas is a sacred time to the faithful and people often celebrate by assembling and decorating their churches. Parishioners are invited to bring a poinsettia (red or white only) to the church preferably on December 23<sup>rd</sup> or the weekend of December 19<sup>th</sup>.

Labels will be supplied (in Church Lobby) for the name of your loved one so that they will be remembered in the prayers for the deceased and the Eucharistic

Prayer at all Masses during the Christmas Season.

## MASS

Our Intention for this Mass is for all our faithful departed. Mass will be on **Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm.** All are welcome to come and pray for their loved ones.

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Please be advised that the Parish Office will be closed on the following days: Friday, December 24, Monday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, and on Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*From all the parish staff at Holy Martyrs, we wish you a wonderful Christmas and New Year and that the peace of Christ reign in your hearts. We hope to share this joy with you all year round.*

## Quote of the Week

He that seeks not the cross of Christ seeks not the glory of Christ.

*St. John of the Cross – December 14<sup>th</sup>*

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

### 5:00pm Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

- + Antonio & Cecilia Fernandes by Fernandes Family
- + Brian Collier by Idalina, Carlos & Roger Correia
- + Gioacchino Czystina & Pietro Asaro by Wife
- + Adelia Cavalheiro by Family
- + Ferenc & Maria Szabo by Daughter
- + Marjorie McEvenue by Patty Hofland
- + Daniel & Maria Ferreira & Amilcar Mendes by Manuel & Elisabete Ferreira
- + Marjorie McEvenue by Holy Martyrs Seniors Group

### Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

- 8:30am + Joseph Matys by Dolinski, Matys, & Nonowski Families
- 10:00am + Joseph Srebot by Anna Likon
- 11:30pm + Joseph Matys by Vilma La Roche & Family
- 6:30pm Pro Populo

### 7:00pm Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

- + Jose Dias by Daughter – Celeste
- + Vita & Stephanie Nalli by Mary & Albert Ingoglia & Family
- + Laurentina & Manuel Neto by Joaquim Neto
- + John Ferreira by Bernardete Ferreira
- + Celeste Oliveira Semiao by Saverio & Ensa Saracino
- + Csery Emma by Helen Sxabo
- + All Souls by Helena Peixoto
- + Candida Dinis by Manuela & Paulo Polonio

### 8:00am Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

- + Helen Fredina Richards by M. Kemp

### 7:00pm Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

- + Jose, Maria & Luis Ferreira by Fernandes Family

### 8:00am Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

- + Jose De Sousa by Wife & Family

### 7:00pm Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

- + Jose, Maria & Luis Ferreira by Fernandes Family

### 9:15am Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

- + All Souls by Helena Peixoto

### 5:00pm Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

- + Antonio Ferreira by Paulina Ferreira
- + Tony Toich by Family
- + Ciro Naso by Anna Naso & Family
- + Cotellessa Serafina by Maria & Nick Di Renzo
- + Giuseppe Marrelli by Wife & Family
- + Irene Moriarity by Florence Cronan
- + Anna Paola Gucciardo by Sorella Saracino & Family
- + Antonio Morales Castro by Wife & Family

### Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

- 8:30am + Manuel Dias by Wife & Family
- 10:00am + John & Mary Stimes by Mary Kavchak & Family
- 11:30am + Norberto & Jose Silva by Luis & Zelia Pontes
- 6:30pm Pro Populo

*"May God Grant Them Eternal Peace"*

## ***Marriage Preparation Classes***

Holy Martyrs of Japan is proud to present Marriage Preparation Classes on Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:30pm to 9pm and on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm and on Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 7:30pm to 9pm and on Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm. Cost of this course is \$50.00 per couple, Lunch will be provided. If you are planning on getting married next year, you should be signing up for these very informative classes. Please call the Parish Office for registration 905-775-2065 or see Father after any Mass or drop by the Office for forms.

## Sunday to Sunday .....

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOLY MARTYR'S PARISH**

- Sun Dec 12 – Coffee Sunday after all Masses
- Mon Dec 13 – 7:30pm – RCIA
- Mon Dec 13 – 7:30pm – Bible Study
- Mon Dec 13 – 8:00pm – St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
- Tue Dec 14 – 7:00pm – First Reconciliation – St. Charles School
- Tue Dec 14 – 7:30pm – RCIA
- Wed Dec 15 – 8:00pm – Al-Anon
- Sat Dec 18 – 10:00am to 4:00pm – Church Decorating
- Sun Dec 19 – 12:30pm – RCIA



- December 12<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Caroling
- December 19<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Social at Shoeless Joe's



- December 13<sup>th</sup> – Contemplative Prayer
- December 20<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Social



EDGE Hockey – Thursday nights from 7:00-8:30pm until December 16<sup>th</sup> in the back parking lot of the church

### **CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE.....Did you know**



- \* In most of the United States and Canada, 2 out of 5 food bank users are children.
- \* Children who are hungry are less likely to succeed in school and more likely to get sick.
- \* 841,640 Canadians use food banks every month. We will be collecting donations of food for the food bank for the upcoming Christmas Season and any cash donations to the St. Vincent de Paul Society would be appreciated.

***Please give generously!***

### **OUTSIDE EVENTS**

#### **Christmas Caroling in Nature**

We are having "Christmas Caroling in Nature" at the Scanlon Creek Conservation Area on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:00pm to 5:30pm. It will be outdoors near the Nature Centre and the caroling will take place around a bonfire. Tim Horton's is donating hot chocolate and Timbits. All are welcome!

#### **Holy Martyrs of Japan and the Social Committee**

Are proud to present 1 hour of free skating on Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 11:00am at the Bob Fallis Arena. Free Hot Chocolate and Goodies for all that attend. So get your skates out and bring the kids for an enjoyable hour of fun, frivolity and fellowship.



### **Attention: Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers**

The schedules for the Christmas Masses are in the Sacristy ready for sign-up. Please choose as soon as possible what date you would like to participate in these very Holy Masses. Thank You!



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