

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



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: 9:30am

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.

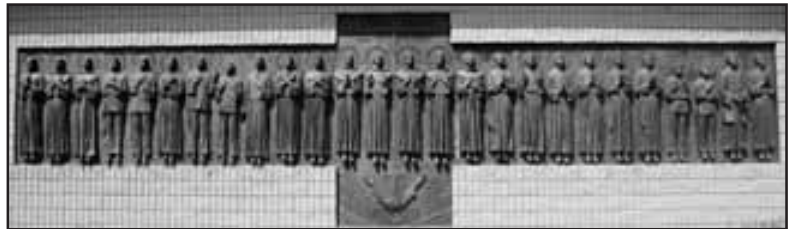
HOLY COMMUNION for SHUT-INS and SICK

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.

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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

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Associate Pastor: Rev. Father Joseph Lam Tran
Deacon: Rev. Mr. David Langley
Rev. Fr. Arthur Sequeira, S.A.C.:
Chaplain to Southlake Regional Health Centre



St. Paul Miki and Companions—Pray for Us!

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Delia McEvenue
Secretarial Assistant:
Patty Hofland

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Ministry to Housebound/Shut-ins:
Sister Jean Doyle O.S.U.
Youth Ministry:
Ray Reitzel reitzel@hotmail.com
Catechist: Christina Schrobback

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New Beginnings
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El Sembrador Co-ordinator - Nancy Mora 905-898-8577
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.

On the Road to Jerusalem

SUNDAY, FIRST WEEK of LENT

Then Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit to be tempted by the devil. (Matthew 4:1)

Lord, I am aware of the many temptations in my life, but today I draw new courage from your example of fidelity in rejecting the devil and all his works and all his empty promises.

MONDAY, FIRST WEEK of LENT

By holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy. (Leviticus 19:2)

Though I do not always act like it, Lord, I really do want to be holy; I ask your grace to imitate your holiness in my life.

TUESDAY, FIRST WEEK of LENT

This is how you are to pray: Our Father in heaven. (Matthew 6:9)

Thank you, Lord, for teaching us the way to pray; as I now slowly pray the prayer you taught us, let the truth of it strike deep roots in my heart.

WEDNESDAY, FIRST WEEK of LENT

At the judgment, the citizens of Nineveh will rise along with the present generation, and they will condemn it. (Luke 11:32)

Lord, the citizens of Nineveh, unlike "the present generation," had the humility and wisdom to repent; grant me, during this Lent, the same humility and wisdom.

THURSDAY, FIRST WEEK of LENT

Ask, and you will receive. See, and you will find. Knock, and it will be opened to you. (Matthew 7:7)

Your promises, Lord, are music to my ears; I desire today to have absolute confidence that you will hear and answer my prayers.

FRIDAY, FIRST WEEK of LENT

If you bring your gift to the altar and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift at the altar, go first to be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5:23-24)

Because of my pride and stubbornness, Lord, I find it hard to be reconciled to some of my brothers and sisters; today I beg you for the grace to work for reconciliation with others and to be open to reconciliation when your grace is at work through others.

SATURDAY, FIRST WEEK of LENT

My command to you is: love your enemies, pray for your persecutors. (Matthew 5:44)

Once again I pray, Lord, to be freed from the chains of hatred, resentment, and revenge that choke me; create within me a new heart and a new spirit.

Weekday's Readings and a thought of the day taken from "Mini-Meditations for Lent" by Daniel L. Lowery, C.S.S.R.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Offertory donation for February 19th - \$5,737.14

Our weekly goal is \$6,000.00

One or two dollars more with help us through the winter months.

Living Lent

Purpose of Lent today: Lent is a time of prayer and penance, when Christ wants to lead us back to our baptismal promises of dying to sin and of living for God. We prepare ourselves to enter once again into Jesus' Paschal mystery and to renew it in our lives.

Our Lord: Jesus invited us to follow him by carrying our cross with him each day. (Luke 9:23) He indicated that his followers would fast and do penance after he returned to heaven. (Luke 5:33-35) We are to go hungry and thirsty for the sake of justice (Matthew 5:6) and to do our praying, fasting and almsgiving without showing off. (Matthew 6:1-6, 16-17)

Christians: From the earliest centuries, Jesus' followers have tried to follow these commands. Since it was on a Friday that Jesus freely died to save us from our sins, the faithful made a special effort to do some form of penance on this day: going without food for most of the day, spending extra time in prayer, doing good works, refraining from eating meat. Like St. Paul, they wanted to offer their penances for Christ's body, the Church. (Colossians 1:24)

In today's Church: Over the centuries, these forms of penance have varied, and sometimes have been neglected. Today, we are being invited once more to obey our Saviour: we are to do penance for our sins and those of others, for the people of God, for peace in the world, and for the building up of God's kingdom on earth. So to make Lent an effective time of renewal for the great celebration of Easter, let us commit ourselves to the practices of Lent.

Praying: Jesus and his apostles tell us to pray always, to be constant in prayer. Traditional times for Christians to pray are morning, evening and mealtimes. Personal prayer is a necessary preparation for our sharing in the Church's public worship, the liturgy. In our love, we join Jesus and all God's people in praying for ourselves, for our family and friends, for our leaders, for those who suffer, and for the Church and the world.

Fasting: Fasting means cutting down on the amount and richness of our food and drink. Done as a penance for sin, it helps us to pray better: an empty stomach can lead to more attentive prayer. The money we save on food should be given to others in alms. The law of fasting obliges adults until they are 60 years old.

Abstinence: This form of penance needs to be seen as a near cousin of fasting. We may give up meat especially on Fridays, the day of Christ's saving death on the cross. Our abstinence is another way of sharing in Christ's work of saving the world. We may also substitute other good actions for abstinence from meat. These could include special acts of charity (visiting the sick or aged, helping those in any need, contributing time or money to a work of charity) or other acts of piety.

Giving alms: We give alms to help God's poor and to support the good works of the Church and other positive agencies. Again our help is being given to Christ in his brothers and sisters. Blessed Teresa of Calcutta when asked how much to give "give until your can feel it". We do not give in order to show off or keep up with others; instead we give cheerfully to God, who has given us everything we have.

Excerpts from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

HOLY HOUR

This Friday being the first Friday in Lent, there will be the Stations of the Cross and an hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacraments followed by Benediction. Please come and spend an hour in prayer with Christ.

OUR FAMILY of SAINTS

Little children follow and obey their father, they love their mother. They know nothing of covetousness, ill-will, bad temper, arrogance and lying. This state of mind opens the road to Heaven. To imitate our Lord's own humility, we must return to the simplicity of God's little ones.

St. Hilary – Feb 28th

St. David – Mar 1st

St. Katherine Drexel – Mar 3rd

Pray for us!



All Lifeteen events start following the 6:30pm Sunday Youth Mass

Feb 26th - TBA
Mar 4th - TBA



All EDGE events start at 7:00pm to 8:30pm on Monday evenings in the Parish Hall. Questions or Concerns - Call Diane at 705-737-5260 ext 79203 or 705-458-1718

Feb 27th - Around the Table
Mar 5th - Near & Far

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

5:00pm Saturday, February 25th

- + Anthony McEvenue by Family
- + Paul Taucar Sr. by K. Spehor
- + Ignazio Polizzi by Wife
- + Caterina & Michele Puma by Family
- + Jose & Marie Ferreira by Jose Fernandes
- + Vera Mulligan & Marcy Perri by Girard & George Families
- + Dawn Parnell & Colleen Milne by Girard & George Families
- + Louis Tomazic & Joseph Srebot by Matilda Tomazic

Sunday, February 26th

- 8:30am Pro Populo
- 10:00am + Vitorina Nazario & Olimpia Sousa by Carolina Santana
- 11:30am + Joseph Kurasz by Children & Families
- 6:30pm + Parker Ramsay by Bews Family

7:00pm Monday, February 27th

- + John Ferreira by Bernardette Ferreira
- + Dennis Fatima & Maria Faria by Family
- * Special Intentions & for All Souls by David & Rosa Oliveira
- + John Paz by Jose Fernandes
- + Laurindo Neto by David & Rosa Oliveira
- + Jose Freire & Antonio Francisco by Fatima & Children
- + Aida Catania by Holy Martyrs Seniors Group
- + All Souls by Helena Peixoto

8:00am Tuesday, February 28th

- + Gioacchino Cristina & Pietro Asaro by Wife

7:00pm Wednesday, February 29th

- + Sandra & Jennifer by Maria Da Silva

8:00am Thursday, March 1st

- + Jamie Meneses by Family

7:00pm Friday, March 2nd

- + Stations of the Cross

9:30am Saturday, March 3rd

- + Helen Cartney Kibsey by Husband William & Family

5:00pm Saturday, March 3rd

- + Giuseppe Beninati by Wife Francesca
- + Margaret Langley by Rev. David Langley
- + Antonio & Cecilia Fernandes by Jose Fernandes
- + Josephine & Gerard Di Fonzo by Giulio & Maria Di Fonzo
- + Vergili Domingues & Maria Rosa Miranda by Lurdes Domingues & Family
- + Fernando Viaes by Deonilde Bento
- + Maria Nazare by Maria Sergio
- + Pasquale & Antonietta Baccilieri by Family

Sunday, March 4th

- 8:30am + Fernando Viaes by Carlos, Alison, Tiago & Niko
- 10:00am + Antonio Santana & Maria Sousa by Carolina Santana
- 11:30am + Joao Laranjeiro by Wife & Children
- 5:00pm Spanish Mass
- 6:30pm Pro Populo
- "May God Grant Them Eternal Peace"

SUNDAY to SUNDAY.....

UPCOMING EVENTS at HOLY MARTYR'S PARISH

- Mon Feb 27th – 7:30pm – CWL Executive Meeting
- Mon Feb 27th – 8:00pm – St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
- Fri Mar 2nd – 7:00pm – Stations of the Cross & Holy Hour

ROSARY

After the 6:30pm Mass starting on the First Sunday in Lent on Sunday February 26th, we will be reciting the Rosary. Please join us for this important devotion.

The Holy Martyrs of Japan Catholic Women's League is collecting Mitts, Toques, Scarves and Socks for the Northern Catholic Missions in Canada. We have received an urgent request and these items are always in demand in our cold Canadian winters. There will be a basket in the Church entrance for these items and will be collected each Sunday morning in February and until March 11th. Donations of these items will be much appreciated. Thank you. Carol Sargeant, Community Life Convener. (905-775-2778).



MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDERS

Our Annual Multi-Cultural Dinner on Saturday, April 14th after Mass. More details to follow in future bulletins.



The Bradford West Gwillimbury Ministerial Presents

An Ecumenical Lenten Series

Join us on Wednesday evenings in Lent as we worship together as sisters and brothers in Christ.

Wednesday, February 20th – 7:30pm

Trinity Anglican Church, 62 Church Street
The Rev. Tim Walker (Bradford Baptist Church)

Wednesday, March 7th – 7:30pm

St. John Presbyterian Church, 2940 – 10th Sideroad
The Rev. Canon Barb Hammon (St. Pauls Anglican Church)

Wednesday, March 14th – 8:00pm

Holy Martyrs of Japan Roman Catholic Church, 167 Essa St.
The Rev. Richard Bodini
(Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church)

Wednesday, March 21st – 7:30pm

Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie Street
The Rev. Fr. Boniface Perri
(Holy Martyrs of Japan Roman Catholic Church)

Wednesday, March 28th – 7:30pm

St. Catherine of Alexandria Byzantine Catholic Church,
56 Hearn Street, Bond Head
The Rev. Jim Keenan (Bradford United Church)

Wednesday, April 4th – 7:30pm

Bradford Baptist Church, 3224 – 10th Sideroad
The Rev. Dr. Daniel Scott (St. John's Presbyterian Church)

Light Refreshments will be served following each service.



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