

We welcome you to

Holy Martyrs of Japan Parish

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

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www.holymartyrs.ca

Parish Office Hours—Monday to Friday—9:00am to 12:30pm and 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Pastor:

Rev. Father Boniface Perri

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Father Kazimierz Brzozowski

Priest Celebrant Spanish Mass: Rev. Father Juan Triviño

Deacons:

Rev. Mr. David Langley

Rev. Mr. Pedro Guevara-Mann



*We saw his star in the East
and have come to worship Him.*

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

One of the most attractive scenes of the Christmas season is the picture of the Magi slowly approaching Bethlehem, guided by the star. We have all received Christmas cards with their picture. It's a scene to which we can all relate. First, there is the journey. The Gospel tells us that these wise men were guided by a star. There are many opinions about the star, whether it was a supernova, a comet or a miraculous star. The Gospel simply calls it a star. Something entered their horizon that changed their life and prompted this journey. Many of us have something like that in our life. The "star" that comes into our life can change us very powerfully as we begin to see more accurately the truth about ourselves, about others, about the Church or about the Lord. For us, of course, this journey is not a geographical journey but a personal one. It can be intellectual toward a deeper understanding of God's ways. It can be spiritual toward an awakening of spiritual capacities within us. The journey can be moral as we move toward a new embrace of Gospel teaching and come to see how spiritual values enlarge us while superficial values diminish us. We can understand that journey of the wise men and can easily put ourselves in that picture of the Magi. However, if not careful one can become a "spiritual shopper", gathering bits and pieces of different religions around them: a little bit of Buddhism, a little bit of Islam, a little bit of Christianity, a little bit of Judaism, a little bit of New Age thinking, a little bit of pop psychology, all blended into a kind of spiritual salad. The world of faith to them is like a huge galleria as they go from store to store buying an item here and item there for their spiritual shopping cart. The result is a mix that is nothing definite and has no name. It is faith without form, just a personal creation, loaded with clichés but powerless to redeem. Then, there are spiritual tourists. They are only visitors. They become religious at Christmas and Easter. They are sincerely impressed by the music, the incense, the message but then they leave church and go back to their world with warm memories but are unchanged and unredeemed. They leave as they came because they are only visitors. Finally, there is another group of people who don't journey at all but just comment on other people's journeys. They are like sports commentators who never played the game; political analysts who never won an election; military analysts who never served in the army. They are essentially observers not participants in the spiritual life. We are not spiritual shoppers, spiritual tourists, and spiritual commentators. We are on a spiritual journey with a destination, guided by the star in our life. Things that happen in our life can be like that star, and if we are faithful to the graces given us with that star we can come closer to the Lord who can cleanse, redeem, and give eternal life. Don't be distracted by those who say that all roads lead to the same point. They don't. Some are dead ends. Don't be distracted by those who say that the spiritual journey is not important. It is. It has to do with the salvation of our soul, the part of us that lasts beyond career, friends and health. The spiritual journey is about the part of that part of us that lasts forever.

The Epiphany is about more than a visit by exotic travelers from the East. It is about the journey of every soul toward God. The picture of these wise men before the Christ Child at the end of their journey should give us confidence that if we follow the grace and light God gives us, we will come to deeper union, fulfillment and peace in Christ, the perfect Light.

Excerpted from Captured Fire by Fr. S. Joseph Krempa

CHRISTMAS SEASON REMINDERS

Feast of the Epiphany – Sunday, January 5th

2014 Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

The Baptism of the Lord – Sunday, January 12,
2014 Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

ADORATION

ADORATION WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 7, 2014.

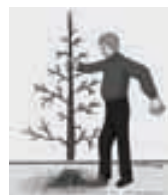
CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT

Confirmation Candidates are asked to attend any Mass on the weekends of January 18/19 or January 25/26 to enroll for immediate preparation for Confirmation. In so doing, they publicly state that they wish to live an active Catholic life style. We will give them a cross to wear as a symbol of that commitment. Confirmation Candidates are asked to bring in the Inscription Promise (yellow form) to any of these Masses. These will be given out at their schools the week of January 6th.

If you have not yet handed in a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate or purchased the Confirmation Book, you must come to the Parish Office during business hours (Mon. to Fri. 9:00am to 4:30pm, closed 12:30 to 1:00 for lunch) to do so. These items are required before the start of the Confirmation Classes the last week of February.

Attention: Confirmation Facilitators

Please be advised that there will be a meeting with Fr. Boniface on Tuesday, January 7th at 7:00pm in the Large Meeting Room.



Our thanks to all who helped decorate the Church for the Christmas Season. However, we are now looking for people to help us take down the decorations on Saturday, Jan. 11th at 10am.

Your help is appreciated.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Sunday Offering Envelopes will be now be available in the Parish Office. For new parishioners please ask the clergy for assistance to register and obtain offering envelopes. If you are interested in Pre-authorized giving, please come to the Parish Office to sign up.



PLEASE NOTE

Would the parents who submitted original baptism certificates for First Communion and Confirmation, please come to the Parish Office and pick them up. Thank You. Office Hours are Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:30pm (closed for lunch 12:30 - 1:00)

MASS INTENTIONS

5:00pm Saturday, January 4th

+ Johanna & St. Clair McEvenue by McEvenue Family
 + Antoniella & Pasquale Baccilieri by Family
 + Miguel Gomes & Mark Oliveira by Gina, Jack & Danny Gomes
 + Antonio Santana & Maria Sousa by Carolina Santana
 + Abilio de Melo Carreiro by Fr. Boniface & Staff
 + Timothy Francis Keefe by Dave Proctor
 + Gambacorta Family by Son Dorato & Wife Anna
 + Michael & Antonio Palermo by Concetta Palermo & Family

Sunday, January 5th

8:30am + John Eleno by Celso & Maria Domingues
 10:00am + Chris Berenz by Joanne Leroux
 11:30am + Sidonio Marques by Gorette & John Carvalho
 4:45pm Spanish Mass
 6:30pm Pro Populo

7:00pm Monday, January 6th

+ Arminda & Virgilio Almeida Jr. & Sr. by Cavaco Family
 + Maria Rosa Bellissimo by Galloro Family
 + Manuel & Carlos Santos by Wife & Mother
 + Tayah Jade Fairbrother by Holy Trinity High School
 + Deolinda de Jesus by Lurdes Marques & Family
 + Maria Meireles & Olimpia Sousa by Fernanda de Sa & Family

8:30am Tuesday, January 7th

+ All Souls

7:00pm Wednesday, January 8th

+Antonio & Cecile Fernandes by Fernandes Family

8:30am Thursday January 9th

+ All Souls

7:00pm Friday, January 10th

+ Francisco & Jose Francisco Rodrigues by Wife & Mother Ester

9:30am Saturday January 11th

* Sp. Int. for Fairbrother Family by McEvenue Family

5:00pm Saturday, January 11th

+ Giuseppe Beninati by Wife Francesca
 + Rafael Chavez Vazquez McEvenue Family
 + Bernardo Carvalho & Fernanda Costa by Gina, Jack & Danny Gomes
 + Sidonio Marques by Carvalho & Marques Families
 + John Ferreira by Bernardette Ferreira
 + Louis & John Tomazic by Luisa Giorgi
 + Tosca Tomazic & All Souls in Purgatory by Luisa Giorgi
 + Nuno Azevedo & Victor Latoszek by Frank & Susan Spray & Family

Sunday, January 5th

8:30am * In Thanksgiving for Ministry of Carlos Miranda by Parish Staff
 10:00am + Josef Balon 15th Anniversary by Wife Laddie & Family
 11:30am + Vitorino Nazario & Olimpia Sousa Carolina Santana
 4:45pm Spanish Mass
 6:30pm Pro Populo
 "May God Grant Them Eternal Peace"

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary His mother; and they knelt down and paid Him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." God asks us to give our lives. What treasures have been given to you to share with others in Christ's name? If God is calling you, contact Fr. Hansoo Park 416 968-0997, email vocations@vocations.ca www.vocationstoronto.ca



All Lifeteen events start following the 6:30pm Sunday Youth Mass	All EDGE events start at 7:00 to 8:30pm on Monday evening in the Parish Hall.
	Jan. 6 – Movie Night
	Jan. 13 – Well of Life
Merry Christmas!	Jan. 20 – Road Trip to Rio

Marriage Preparation

Holy Martyrs of Japan is offering a Marriage Preparation Course for couples who are planning to be married in 2014. The course will take place over two weekends - January 24-25 2014 and January 31-February 1, 2014. The registration fee is \$100.00 per couple (includes lunch) and is due at the time of registration. Please come to the Parish Office to register.

PHILIPPINES RELIEF

TO DATE WE HAVE COLLECTED \$10,000.00 FOR THE RELIEF EFFORT IN THE PHILIPPINES. THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT WILL MATCH THIS AMOUNT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Weekends of Jan. 18-19 2014 and 25-26 2014 Confirmation Enrolment at all Masses
- Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2014 Blood Donor Clinic in Parish Hall
- Sunday, Feb. 2, 2012 Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon after 11:30 am Mass
- Monday, Feb. 3, 2014 Blessing of the Throats during the 7:00pm Mass.
- Thursday, February 6, 2014 7:00pm Holy Martyrs Feast Day
- Saturday & Sunday Feb. 8 & 9, 2014 Pauline Sisters Book Sale, Large Meeting Room, after all Masses
- Saturday & Sunday Feb. 8 & 9 Marriage Sunday, blessing for Married Couples
- Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2014 Anointing Mass

Mass for the World Day of Migrants & Refugees

Sunday, January 19, 2014 – 3:00pm, St. Paul's Basilica, 83 Power Street, Toronto.

160 parishes in the Archdiocese of Toronto are involved in sponsoring refugees to resettle in Canada? Join us for a Mass to celebrate the many individuals and families who have escaped turmoil to resettle in Canada, for those who help them and also for those who are still seeking to leave areas of war and strife. Bishop McGrattan will preside. For more information visit www.archtoronto.org. All are welcome.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Catholic Family Services of Toronto are sponsoring an inspirational talk "Gratitude: A Powerful Attitude for Healing When We Have Suffered a Loss". January 7, 2014 at 7:00pm, Catholic Pastoral Centre, 1155 Yonge Street, 4th Floor (free underground parking). Guest Speaker Fr. Fred Scinto, C.R. For more info please contact Deacon James Shaughnessy 416-921-1163 Ext. 2227 or email jshaughn@cfstoronto.com

We have the wonderful privilege of having Fr. Tom Rosica, CEO of Salt & Light Television, join us on the weekend of January 18 and 19, 2014 to speak to us on the New Evangelization.

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