



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

**SUNDAY - April 14, 2024**

***Third Sunday of Easter***

Today's readings outline the ways to know and love God and become witnesses of the Lord's saving truth. Last week in John's gospel Thomas took the rap for demanding tangible signs of the Resurrection of Jesus. This week in Luke's account Jesus spontaneously offers concrete evidence of his presence to quell his disciples' unuttered questions. He invites them to touch him. He insists on eating in their midst. He illuminates their minds—this on a par with the greatest of his miracles!—so they finally get what he has been saying to them all this while about the law, the prophets, and himself. Lastly, Jesus ordains that they be witnesses of everything they have heard, seen, know, and have touched.

How do we reconcile the gospel treatment of Thomas' need for a sign with the free handouts lavished on the whole gang in this story? We do not have to. Jesus obviously did not. In both cases Jesus does not hesitate to offer what is necessary to bring his disciples to faith. Clearly Jesus is not offended by our human need for assurances. What is more important to him is that we do, in fact, climb on board the ark of faith. So spread your fleece. Ask for what you need. Make your bargain; name your price. Jesus wants you on board. Whatever it takes to get you there, Jesus is prepared to pay the price.

And if we spend any time considering this story at all we realize that Jesus already has. Jesus demonstrates with the sign of the cross that the price of buying us back for God is never too steep. That is how dearly our participation in the grand story of love is valued. Jesus wants you—like the ultimate recruitment poster for the ultimate call to service. Your testimony is urgently requested. Your life's witness is the most precious thing in the universe as it stands in this moment. Heaven holds its angelic breath awaiting your decision. The testimony of Thomas—"My Lord and my God!"—is already on record. So are those of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, and all the saints.

The witness that salvation history depends on now is yours, and mine, because the story of salvation is still unfolding, and grace is still operating. How many of us are prepared to make our full-hearted profession of faith? That is what we do next, you know. After I stop preaching, the assembly takes to their feet and offers their response. You do not have to get up if you do not want to. You can sit there and give it more time, consider your options, reflect on what it means to say: "We believe in one God, and in Jesus, and in his Spirit, and in the church." The moment of our testimony has arrived. In the words of Saint Ignatius, *I wish not merely to be called Christian, but also to be Christian.*

Easter joy in our time of transition  
Father William

## OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed

Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm

Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm

**Fr. William Hann, Pastor**

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC

V8N 3X7

Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844

office@holycrossvictoria.org

***We acknowledge and respect the  
Lekwungen peoples on whose  
traditional territory Holy Cross Parish  
stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt  
and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose  
historical relationships with the land  
continue to this day.***

## Report Sexual Abuse

To report sexual abuse by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, visit [RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry](https://www.rcd-victoria.org/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit [BishopReportingSystem.ca](https://www.bishopreportingsystem.ca) or call 1-866-892-3737

### LIVESTREAM MASSES

**Live Mass broadcast this weekend!** Mass is livestreamed this week from St. Patrick's Parish at 4pm Sunday. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

**Baptismal Prep** Do you want to have your child welcomed into the family of God through baptism? To prepare you must complete a registration form and complete a Baptismal Preparation course. Please note that the next session for Baptismal Preparation is: Saturday, May 25th (10:00 am - 12 noon). Please email [hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org) with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.

### Outreach Ministry Requests for Visits

If you or a person you know would like a visit from an Outreach Ministry Volunteer to bring Holy Communion to someone at home who is unable to get to Mass; or - someone in long-term care, please contact the Office at 250-477-5321, or email: [office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

**Hearing Loop System** Holy Cross Parish is equipped with a hearing loop system. If you wear hearing aids, switch your hearing aid to T-Coil and you will be connected to the hearing loop system. See: [www.advancedlistening.ca](http://www.advancedlistening.ca)

### Do you want to know more about palliative care?

As Catholics, our faith in Jesus Christ has much to teach us about living well until the end of life. A parishioner may be interested in the topic of palliative care because:

- A person or a loved one has been recently diagnosed with a chronic or life-threatening illness.
- Caregivers and/or family members:
  - ◇ may wonder about their decisions regarding the care of a person who has recently died
  - ◇ are grieving the death of a loved one and are seeking a supportive community that they can learn with
  - ◇ are trying to discern their gifts to accompany, care for, and support caregivers and the person who is ill.
- A person may want to:
  - ◇ understand how palliative care is different from Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD)
  - ◇ understand the Church's teaching on end-of-life care questions.
- A person may simply want to learn more about palliative care

Facilitators Claire Colistro and Bev Pulyk invite you to participate in learning sessions on *Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care*. The program will help parishioners, caregivers, and family members who may be facing a terminal illness to learn more about palliative care. Throughout four modules, the learning and discussion sessions address themes such as *understanding the dying process, discernment and decision-making at the end of life, accompaniment, and the importance of building Compassionate Communities*.

**The four-module program will take place in the Chapel on Tuesdays and Thursdays April 16, 18, 23, 25 (10:00am to noon each day). To register call or email the parish office by April 12.**

### Attention former & current staff / former students - St. Andrew's Regional High School

A Memorial Mass will be held for former SARHS teacher, Mick Goodger (who passed away in early January) on Friday, April 26th, 2024 at 5:00pm – Holy Cross Church; Mass will be followed by a pot-luck supper in the Hall where we will share memories about Mick. Please contact Joanie Bidlake at: [officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org) for pot-luck registration: to bring a salad, main dish or dessert. Refreshments will be provided. Thank you – Fr. William Hann and friends of Mick.”

### DYR 2024 Diocesan Youth Retreat

At: Beautiful Camp Imadene

On: May 10 and 11

Speaker: Leah Perrault

Registration on Eventbrite (includes T-shirt!)

For information, contact Joelle Dressler, Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization

[jdressler@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:jdressler@rcdvictoria.org)

**Registration CLOSES**  
**April 15th!**

### Prayer Reflection

Liturgy is, therefore, both word and action . . . the Liturgy of the Eucharist is the action that flows from the word.

—*Sister Julia Upton, R.S.M.*

Ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ!

—*Saint Jerome*

There is always more work to be done on this side of heaven.

—*Father Josh Johnson*

### **Word of the Week:**

#### **Eucharist!**

Eucharist, Greek for “thanksgiving,” is the formal name for the Mass. Also part three of the four-part movement of the Mass: the Introductory Rite, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, and Concluding Rite. The Liturgy of the Eucharist includes the people's offering, the Eucharistic Prayer, and the Communion rite. We celebrate our faith in two main units of liturgy that serve as the spiritual lungs of the church: Word and Eucharist. The first tells the story of how we came to be the People of God. The second gives thanks for this astonishing reality. In addition, the church teaches in *Lumen Gentium* that the faithful, “as true witnesses of Christ,” are “obliged to spread the faith by word and deed,” which includes taking part in the Eucharistic sacrifice, “the source and summit of the Christian life.” From the General Instruction of the Roman Missal: The Church has arranged the entire celebration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist in parts corresponding to precisely [the] words and actions of Christ (no. 72). Allow Easter to help you locate yourself in the vast sweep of history and see that you are the intended beneficiary of God’s grace since the beginning of time.

### **GVAT 2023 Annual Report**

Holy Cross and St. Patrick's are member organizations of [GVAT](#) (Greater Victoria Acting Together) and the joint Social & Eco Justice Committee of both parishes actively supports GVAT's actions on social and climate justice issues. We invite you to read about these actions in its [2023 Annual Report](#). Look closely at the photos and you will recognize some familiar faces!

### **Fraudulent Emails**

Please be aware that the fraudulent email scammers are back at it! A valid email from Father William will have his proper email in the sender line - [whann@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:whann@rcdvictoria.org). Please take note before replying to an email that seems to be from Father William that it has his proper email address. Father William will not ever solicit gifts or gift cards from parishioners. Do not reply to fraudulent emails - delete them!

### **OUR LITURGICAL LIFE**

SATURDAY, April 13, 2024

4PM Mass: Bernice Kobylanski+

SUNDAY, April 14, 2024

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, April 15, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, April 16, 2024

9AM Mass: Patrick Hann+

WEDNESDAY, April 17, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, April 18, 2024

9AM Mass: Eileen Knapik+

FRIDAY, April 19 2024

NO MASS

**Adoration is held on the first Friday of the month.**

**The Chapel will be open this week Tuesday to Friday 9am—noon.**

**Masks are no longer mandatory indoors. We do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed.**

### **COLLECTIONS , April 7, 2024**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 3,675.00
Loose	\$ 472.00
Mass Intentions	\$ 390.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,048.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,585.00</b>



holy cross church garden head rd. victoria, b.c.

### **Thank you!**

A very special thanks goes out to the organizers and volunteers involved in the creation of a new family directory for the parish. The days since April 1st have been busy! To Anna Mendonca, Trudy Holden and Leslie Saxon - thank you for your meticulous organization! To the 24 volunteers 'checking everyone in' - thank you!

### News from the Chancery

1) After prayerful discernment, Bishop Gary Gordon, in collaboration with the Diocesan Personnel Committee, has announced new pastoral appointments to take effect June 15, 2024. The appointments may be viewed online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/2024-pastoral-appointments>

2) A “Love and Respect” marriage retreat will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Victoria (753 Burnside Rd W) in May. Come and embark on a wonderful adventure - as we spend time viewing and discussing videos, we will be answering three major questions: Why do we negatively react to each other in marriage? How do I best motivate my spouse? What if my spouse does not respond to me? The retreat will be held over five Thursday evenings from 7 – 9 pm, starting on May 2nd. Please register in advance at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeO3axTZQ5GDP4ycAM3u2KLQOxbAIMJUPyp0kr546fZV\\_6-Fg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeO3axTZQ5GDP4ycAM3u2KLQOxbAIMJUPyp0kr546fZV_6-Fg/viewform)



### Planet Positive tips

Water is a precious resource. We should do everything possible to respect, treasure and conserve it. This Spring especially, with the threat of drought, consider the following actions to protect and conserve water in your home.

#### Limit tap time

- Turn the faucet off while you are lathering soap, brushing your teeth, or shaving, is part of living green.
- Strive for 5 minute showers
- Plug the sink when handwashing to avoid leaving the water running.
- Fill the dishwasher and run full loads rather than washing by hand

### Celebrating Spring - Pancake Breakfast

Mark your calendar! The **St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus** will be firing up the griddle on April 21st from 10am to 1pm. Come and enjoy fluffy golden pancakes with sauteed sausages, steaming scrambled eggs and tastiest golden hash browns. Fresh Coffee, tea, and juice. \$30 per family or \$10 per person. Lady of Lourdes Hall, St. Patrick's Church. All are welcome!



### The “MOUNT ST MARY ANNUAL ELLIS ACHEM FUNDRAISER” IS ON AGAIN!

**ELLIS** has a **GREENHOUSE** full of great things for **SPRING PLANTING**  
**CALL NOW, 250-477-6754** to order plants, veggies and of course, **HANGING BASKETS.**

As usual all proceeds to **MT.ST.MARY HOSPITAL**

First 100 callers get a **FREE SUNFLOWER** (what a deal !)

**If you are tired of planting your own patio pots, bring your empty patio pots to Ellis by April 25th and they'll be ready for your patio by May 15th.**



**Pastor:** Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 (after hours)

**Hospital Chaplain:** 250-889-3761

**Administrative Assistants:** Phil & Sheila Wall

250-477-5321 [office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

**Office Assistant:** Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 [officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org)

**University Chaplain:**

**Parish Council Chair:** Catherine Davis

**Sacramental Preparation:** Michele Bristow

[mbristow@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:mbristow@rcdvictoria.org)

### REGULAR MASS TIMES

**Mass times - Holy Cross Parish:**

4pm Saturday, 9am Sunday

9am Tuesday and 9am Thursday

**Mass times - St. Patrick's Parish:**

11am Sunday, 4pm Sunday

12:10pm Wednesday and 12:10pm Friday

### HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS:

If you or someone you love is admitted to hospital and would like a visit from our VGH/RJH hospital chaplain, please call the emergency pager **250-889-3761** and ask for **Fr. Sean Flynn** to make this request.