



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining with St. Patrick's Parish

**SUNDAY - April 7, 2024**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**Divine Mercy Sunday**



The life, death and resurrection of Jesus is all about LOVE and believing in that love, having faith and hope in that love, and being empowered by the Spirit of truth and peace to proclaim that love in the world. It's about believing that Jesus came to reveal the Father's love...that through God's commandments we learn how to love God and one another. It's about believing that Jesus died for us – for you and me – out of a great love for us. It's about believing in the will of God and God's covenantal love for us as Jesus places His whole being into God's hands, in obedience and trust. Jesus' love destroys all barriers between heaven and earth; His loving mercy, forgiveness, and peace renews and transforms us.

The disciples were all grieving; they were devastated and afraid that they might face the same fate as Jesus; they lost hope in their future. So they locked all the doors physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually! Pain, hurt, and fear create barriers between ourselves and others, between ourselves and God. Sometimes in our grief our faith is shattered, we lose hope, we feel isolated, lost and alone AND we need to return to our faith community, return to Scripture that reveals all the signs and wonders Jesus gave us...water into wine, healing the lame and blind, raising people from the dead, walking on water, and the greatest sign – Jesus' death and resurrection! Faith isn't a blind leap, it's in our DNA (Divine NATURE)! Our faith and hope is in the risen Christ, and we are called to respond as witnesses to the risen Christ in the world by loving one another.

It doesn't matter how we come to believe, but that we do! The beloved disciple believes upon seeing the empty tomb, Mary believes when the Lord calls her name, the disciples believe when Jesus "came and stood among them." Thomas says that he must touch Jesus' wounds although that need vanishes once he sees the risen Christ and professes "My Lord and my God!"

We see how faith is personal but it is not a private affair. Faith and hope grows within community, and our communal experiences strengthen us. We need to come together and share our doubts and fears and trust in our hearts that Jesus comes right through our locked, grieving hearts and offers us His peace, His *shalom*, a blessing that imparts a deep and holistic sense of well-being in the midst of our agony, uncertainty, and anxiety.

Jesus sends us out to continue His mission of revealing God's love to the world. Again, we are never called to do it alone. We move from confusion to understanding and joy as Jesus births His Spirit from the cross, from the water and blood flowing from His pierced side, gifting us with the Spirit, a witness and an advocate to strengthen our faith and hope as we stand as witnesses to the death and resurrection of Jesus in the world today. The disciples came together and lived as one through the power of God's grace, and we are called and sent to do the same. Jesus breathes new life into all of life's situations. His constant presence, words and promise of peace are always with us, all we need to do is place ourselves into His hands.



We are Easter people, and God's steadfast love endures forever!

Abundant Blessings, Mona

## 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 Holy Cross Parish at 4pm Saturday. 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, April 13 (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.

**Congratulations to the Children and Adults who received Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at the Easter Vigil:** *O God, Loving Father, you have blessed the church with little ones born to new Christian life and sealed by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Through them we are encouraged in our own faith. Help us surround them with love and community, for their angels always see the face of God our Father in heaven. May we edify our new brothers and sisters in Christ by word and deed and truly share in Jesus' resurrection and eternal life. Amen.* We welcomed 14 children and 4 adults as full members of the Body of Christ at the Easter Vigil at Holy Cross. Thank you all for your prayers for the neophytes at St Patrick's and Holy Cross!

**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 CLOSSES  
April 15th!**

### Prayer Reflection

The mystery of the **Annunciation** reveals the depth of God's love for us, and his desire to be in relationship with us.

—Henri Nouwen

The importance of the **Annunciation** is underscored by the fact that this is the first mystery of the Rosary and is celebrated by the Angelus as well.

—David Bryan

Souls that make an appeal to my mercy delight me. To such souls I grant even more graces than they ask.

—Words of Divine Mercy as revealed to Saint Faustina Kowalska

### OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, April 6, 2024

4PM Mass: Deceased Members of the Bruni Family+

SUNDAY, April 7, 2024

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, April 8, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, April 9, 2024

9AM Mass: Mary Hann+

WEDNESDAY, April 10, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, April 11, 2024

9AM Mass: Ellen Ring+  
Char Deslippe+

FRIDAY, April 12 2024

NO MASS

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

**The Chapel will not be open this week as pictures are being taken in the chapel for the Family Directory. The church will be open Tuesday to Friday 9am—noon.**

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

### Word of the Week:

#### Annunciation

From Latin, “to bring news,” the angelic proclamation to Mary of Nazareth that she would be the mother of Jesus. Mary's submission to this divine plan is simply given: "Let it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). Her “yes” is often referred to as Mary’s *fiat* (Latin for “let it be done”). Unlike many saving acts that are unilaterally achieved by the divine will, in the **Annunciation** a woman is invited to participate in the saving event that has consequences for all people and all time. Mary’s yes is universal and limitless. At the **Annunciation**, Mary perfectly consents to God’s will, then bears the Son, and is filled with the Spirit, which, as theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar notes, is wholly trinitarian. From Pope Paul VI’s *Marialis Cultus* (“Devotion to Mary”): [The **Annunciation** observance] was and is a joint one of Christ and of the Blessed Virgin: of the Word, who becomes Son of Mary, and of the Virgin, who becomes Mother of God. Mary is the mother of the church and the model of all Christians. At the message of an angel, she believed beyond all reason and offered her life in service of God’s plan. Her response, “let it be,” is the answer of every disciple who trusts in God’s word to make all things new.

### COLLECTIONS , March 31, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 4,610.00
Loose	\$ 1,575.00
Social Justice	\$ 10.00
Development & Peace	\$ 55.00
Needs of the Church	\$ 1,690.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,310.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,250.00</b>

### 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)

### Parish Directory - Photo Appointments

There are a few photo appointment times available for the coming week. Please contact the Parish Office 250-477-5321 or [office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org) for further information.



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

### Thank you!

*Thank you to each and everyone who made the celebration of the Triduum so special - from the floral team, Liturgical Ministers, choirs and participants -We are blessed beyond measure.*

### News from the Chancery

1) A Women of Faith and Fellowship Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 8:00 – 10:30 am at the Horse-shoe Club of Victoria (620 Kenneth Street). This in-person event is a wonderful opportunity to come together in community with women of faith for a morning of inspiration, connection, and delicious food. The guest speaker will be Bishop Gary Gordon. Advance registration is required and space is limited. For more information and to register, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/april-women-of-faith-and-fellowship-breakfast-tickets-870723125307>

2) The choral and band students from St. Patrick's, St. Joseph's, and St. Andrew's Regional High School will present the annual ICS Music Showcase Concert on April 16 at 6 pm at the UVic Farquhar Auditorium. To reserve a free ticket, please visit <https://tickets.uvic.ca/TheatreManager/1/tmEvent/tmEvent3284.html>. Donations will be collected at the door to help support CISDV music programs, with tax receipts available for donations over \$20.

### 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!



### GARDENING VOLUNTEERS!

Spring has sprung and that means working in the Holy Cross garden. In April and May the volunteer group will meet every second Wednesday starting April 3 from 10-12 am. The rest of the gardening season our group will meet every Wednesday. Work will consist of weeding, watering, planting, pruning, deadheading and general tidy up activities. New and past volunteers are always welcome! To sign up please contact John Seale at [jseale1234@gmail.com](mailto:jseale1234@gmail.com).

### The "MOUNT ST MARY ANNUAL ELLIS ACHTEM FUNDRAISER" IS ON AGAIN!



Ellis is busy planting baskets and nurturing seedlings in his greenhouses again this year. He is **currently taking orders** for pickup in May, with all proceeds going to Mount St Mary Hospital. Order your hanging basket, geraniums, lettuce, zucchini and assorted flowers by calling Ellis at 250-477-6754. Ellis is also happy to plant your patio pots.



**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)

**Social Bridge Night!** Is held the first Sunday of the month in the Parish Centre. Contact Tony Southwell to register. 250-477-5738 or Email: [tony\\_southwell@hotmail.com](mailto:tony_southwell@hotmail.com)

#### **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.