

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

Resurrection of the Lord

Alleluia! Alleluia! *I have seen the Lord!* The words of Mary Magdalene echo through the centuries into our hearts and minds. Her joyous words point us to a changed reality. After the suffering and execution of Jesus, this jubilant proclamation by Mary pierces through darkness and despair. *I have seen the Lord!* Jesus had been raised from the dead! Nothing like this had ever happened before in the known history of humanity. Jesus had raised Lazarus and a little girl from death during his ministry, but as far as we know, Lazarus and the little girl lived into old age and then passed away in the natural cycle of life. The resurrection of Jesus was different! Jesus was transformed! He walked through walls, appeared and disappeared instantly, not limited by his physical body. Jesus was alive and he had conquered death for all people. The beautiful liturgy of the Easter Vigil reminds us that the story of our redemption started with Genesis, the creation story, the Big Bang. *In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God.* (John 1:1) In the quiet of Easter morning, stillness swept over the earth as the word was fulfilled; love triumphed over sin and darkness, over pain and death.

We now live with hope and faith in a love so all-embracing that we trust that we will be treasured and loved throughout eternity. Jesus died on the cross to reveal the deep love of God for each of us and the resurrection completed and deepened that revelation. God loves us! God loves us so much! We cannot comprehend it. *I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.*

The glorious happening on Easter morning was not observed. There were no witnesses at the resurrection, in contrast to Friday when hundreds were present at Jesus' death, the sky darkened, and the world shuddered. However, though quiet, the resurrection was not hidden. The Gospels are filled with accounts of Jesus appearing after his resurrection to many believers in different situations. *God allowed [Jesus] to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses.* These witnesses announced the good news of unending love and mercy for all people. Our caring and compassionate God wants us to know, that after all the suffering, Jesus was resurrected. God wants us to know that the resurrection of Jesus signifies our resurrection in the future. We are Easter people! We can be filled with hope and joy, knowing that God is love and that despite the troubled world we live in, love has and will continue to triumph over war, hunger, despair, and death. Alleluia! Alleluia! *I have seen the Lord!*



Tanya Taft

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.rcdvictoria.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 11am 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, April 13 (10:00 am - 12 noon). Please email hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.

**EASTER & HOLY WEEK
MASS / SERVICE SCHEDULE 2024
Holy Cross & St. Patrick's Parishes**

HOLY THURSDAY, March 28th**Choir/Music**

Holy Cross Parish	7:00pm	Fr. William Hann	Paul Rossetti
Livestreamed at https://youtube.com/live/yOkChEiR7Ik?feature=share			

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE – March 29th

Stations of the Cross

St. Patrick's	9:00am	John Lucas / Michael Arsenault
Holy Cross	11:00am	John Lucas / Michael Arsenault
Holy Cross Parish	2:00pm	Fr. William Hann
St. Patrick's Parish	4:00pm	Fr. William Hann
Livestreamed at https://youtube.com/live/qXVN2bQmfWE?feature=share		VOX Couples for Christ

SATURDAY, March 30th – EASTER VIGIL (NO 4pm Mass)

Holy Cross Parish	7:45pm	Fr. William Hann	Bartle-Clar Family
Livestreamed at https://youtube.com/live/cmcy5x6RGKo?feature=share			

SUNDAY, March 31st – EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

Holy Cross Parish	9:00am	Fr. William Hann	Tafts
St. Patrick's Parish	11:00am	Fr. William Hann	Paul Rossetti
Livestreamed at https://youtube.com/live/mcWdRESlCCc?feature=share (NO 4pm Mass)			

SINCERE THANKS to all those who stepped forward to serve as Liturgical Ministers for Holy Week Services and Easter Masses. We deeply appreciate your generous spirit of service; it makes all the difference and is a beautiful example to all of us both at Holy Cross and St. Patrick's. May you and your families be blessed abundantly this Easter. - Joanie

**An Easter Story of JOY!**

In June of last year we were approached by a Ukrainian family desperate for housing. A parishioner of Holy Cross generously responded to that request and not only that, the whole community responded with their amazing financial support of this mother (expecting a child) and her two children. This support has meant the provision of their needs since July of last year. Little David was born in November, and is a thriving, happy little guy!

On Friday, March 22, we received a very special message that was FULL of JOY!

The whole family is now here! The father has arrived after a year of uncertainty. Thanks be to God! And thanks be to all who have provided in any way to this family's comfort and well-being. You have fulfilled the command to "love one another as I have loved you" John 15.12. **Easter Joy!**

Prayer Reflection

God made us for joy. God is joy, and the joy of living reflects the original joy that God felt in creating us.

—Saint John Paul II

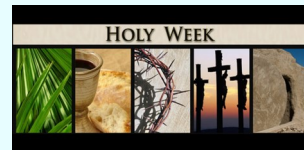
The joy of the gospel is for all people: no one can be excluded.

—Pope Francis

The story of Easter is the story of God's wonderful window of divine surprise.

—author Carl Knudsen

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE



THURSDAY, March 28, 2024

7PM: Holy Thursday Mass
Adoration 8pm - 10pm

FRIDAY, March 29, 2024

11AM: Stations of the Cross
2PM: Good Friday Service

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024

(NO 4PM MASS)

7:45PM: Easter Vigil
SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024
Easter Sunday

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, April 1, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, April 2, 2024

9AM Mass: Tony Hann+

WEDNESDAY, April 3, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, April 4, 2024

9AM Mass: Hilary Ribeiro+

FRIDAY, April 5, 2024

NO MASS

Adoration will be held on Friday,
April 5 at 9am

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.

Congratulations to all of our RCIA and RCIC candidates who will be received at the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday evening! God Bless you All!

Share Lent

The 2024 Development & Peace Create Hope campaign Reaping our Rights was once again a success thanks to the generosity of parishioners of Holy Cross Parish. Your donations will help our partners in the global south in their struggle for social, economic and environmental justice. The total money collected to date is \$3,880. Thank you!

“Many thanks to all those who so generously contributed to providing the Floral display this Easter.” Ann Francis

COLLECTIONS, March 24, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 2,450.00
Loose	\$ 752.00
Anawim	\$ 20.00
Development & Peace	\$ 635.00
Needs of the Church	\$ 20.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 800.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,310.00
	\$ 5,987.00

News from the Chancery

- 1) Bishop Gary Gordon has written a message to the People of God in the Diocese of Victoria on the occasion of Easter 2024. The message may be viewed online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/statements> (under "Pastoral Letters")
- 2) Registration is now open for the 10th Annual Family Life Conference and Camp, to be held August 15th – 18th at Nanoose Bay. All families are invited to enjoy this weekend full of fellowship, faith and fun! The weekend is sure to strengthen your family's connection with Christ, with one another, and with other families. Early Bird pricing is in effect until April 30. For more information and the link to register, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/family-camp>.
- 3) Anawim Companions Society is recruiting an Executive Director. This new staff position will oversee the Society's operations and work closely with the Board to implement strategic plans. The application deadline is April 18; for more information and to apply, please visit <https://ca.indeed.com/job/executive-director-5ae8f5e75c13e4bb>. Any questions about the position can be sent to anawimcompanionsociety@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - "COR": AN INVITATION



Calling All Men! St. Patrick's Council of the Knights of Columbus is inviting you to an evening session of **Cor: Thursday, April 4, 8:00 p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes Hall.**

Cor (Italian for heart) is a program of intentional prayer, faith formation and fellowship for men. Come join us as we watch a video by Father Casey Cole as he describes what the church is and does. Based on Avery Dulles' *Models of the Church* this presentation promised to spark lively discussion afterwards! Come join a band of brothers as we grow together in faith and fellowship.

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.

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

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

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

Office Assistant: Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

University Chaplain:

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow

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.