

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

THE SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI

June 22, 2025

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, June 21
4PM MASS: Pro Populo

SUNDAY, June 22
9AM MASS: Howie Davies+

MONDAY, June 23
7PM MASS

TUESDAY, June 24
9AM LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION

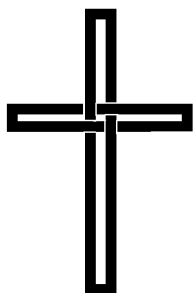
THURSDAY, June 26
9AM LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION

—
CHAPEL

Open 9am-12pm
TUESDAY to FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION
No scheduled events

LIVESTREAMING
SATURDAY, June 21,
4PM
<https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>



The church celebrates the Eucharist in a special way today. Second only to Holy Thursday, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ offers an opportunity to focus on the meaning of the eucharistic sacrament. Among other things, the Eucharist brings the church together and sustains it. It makes real the basic mystery of the Christian faith: the saving death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It provides spiritual food and empowers believers to follow Christ. Jesus offers this gift "on the night before he was handed over." Like any gift, it has a clear context. Our Eucharist can't be understood outside of its proximity to the Passion and death of Jesus. Christ makes his great self-offering before anyone else can lay claim to his life. When we proclaim this great truth, we proclaim his death. When we drink this cup, we share his death. Eucharist is thanksgiving: What we are grateful for is that Jesus laid down his life for his friends—you and I among them. If we understood what this meal represents, we should treat it like all great feasts and rush to claim our seat at the table. We would dance up the aisles, unable to contain our joy at being included in this gracious event. We would dance our way out of the church at the dismissal, too, consciously brimming with the life that has no end.

Of all the memorable meals we've enjoyed, this one recalls for us the greatest hour of human history, when God's life and our lives were joined in one eternal reality. What's more, our Eucharist isn't simply a commemoration or reenactment but an actual participation in that holy hour. What once was, is now—and will be forever. Scientists tell us that when we remember something, our brains recreate the chemistry of the original event so that we technically "re-live" the experience in our bodies as well as in our thoughts. What happens in the action of our Eucharist is more powerful still. By God's design, our sacrament makes real and vital the presence of Christ and the life of Christ in our midst. "When we eat this bread and drink this cup," as Saint Paul tells us, Christ's own journey from death into everlasting life becomes ours. Humanity once stood before a locked door through which we could not pass. Our participation in this meal identifies us as the people with the key, and freedom of passage. As theologian Eugene Laverdiere points out, the giving and taking of Eucharist is far from a passive event. Jesus intends it, and we signal our intentions by our participation. Jesus gives his life—no one takes it from him without his permission. When we accept his life in the Eucharist, we join with Jesus in saying to the world: "This is my body, my life, and it is for you." We shouldn't take it if we don't mean it. We'd be fools to take it if we aren't prepared to do as we are saying. It's a big, hungry world out there, as the gospel story reminds us. Jesus invites us not to simply spread his Eucharist around but to "give them some food yourselves." Receiving consecrated food makes us consecrated people. This feast reminds us: It's time to live up to our reputation. The world can be a lonely place, but parishes centered on Eucharist cannot allow themselves to imitate that spirit. Jesus was unwilling to send people off to find their own provisions; he fed them in groups of 50 and kept the community together. ... [CONTINUED ON PAGE 3]

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 at
RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry
or call 1-800-968-3146.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Canada Day BBQ

Holy Cross Parish is hosting a Canada Day BBQ on Sunday, June 29th for Holy Cross Parishioners.

- ⇒ 9am Mass
- ⇒ 10am Coffee/Tea
- ⇒ 11am Lunch in the Church Hall and Gardens

To volunteer to support the event, please also sign up in the foyer, and Sloane will contact you with volunteering details. This event is FREE. Donations to contribute to costs are welcome!



Not Getting the Bulletin by Email Anymore?

Many email chain companies (Yahoo, Gmail, Shaw etc.) have updated their security settings and 'mass emails' are frequently sent to people's spam or junk folders in order to keep people safe from hackers and scammers. Many parishioners have contacted the office about this issue. However, it is up to each parishioner to mark their preferences in the settings of their email. **HOW TO:** Find an email from the Holy Cross Office in either your Junk or Spam folders. Go to the three dots on the right side of the email, you should be able to "Mark Sender as Not Spam" or "Mark as Not Phishing." Select either option. For ongoing issues, bring your device to the office for support from Sloane.



Donate to Maryam's Education

Maryam, our Holy Cross newcomer, has enrolled at Camosun College in the social work program. She continues to work to full-time while pursuing her studies. Some parishioners have requested the opportunity to help with her course fees. Hence, donors who wish to contribute to her education may now do so through the Holy Cross Refugee Fund. Checks must be made out to the "Holy Cross Refugee Fund: Maryam's Education". Tax receipts will be issued. If you have questions, call Martha at 250-477-6455 or the Holy Cross Office.

Knights of Columbus Presents: "K of C Multicultural Festival 2025"

A **Potluck Festival** will be held on Saturday, July 5th from 5:30pm to 9:30pm at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall (4040 Nelthorpe St., Saanich). Bring your family's most delicious ethnic specialty (between 5:00pm - 5:30pm) and then watch & listen to colourful Mexican dancers, Philippine bamboo dancers, Persian & Belly Dancers, Hawaiian Hula Girls & other ethnic performing groups. Join us in celebrating Canadian multiculturalism on the week of Canada Day! Call 778-265-0013 or email perezdetagleoscar@gmail.com for more information.

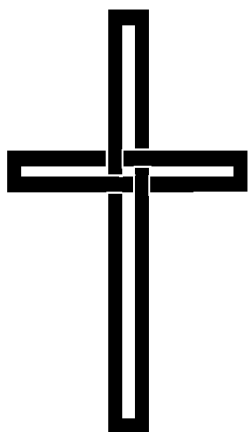
An Invitation from the Gospel Gals

Monday, June 23, 2025, 9:00am, in the Church

You are invited to enter deeply into the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, meditating through Scripture, song and light, on Monday, June 23 at 9:00am in the Church. During the Jubilee Year as Pilgrims of Hope please join us for these Mysteries of hope and stay afterwards for fellowship and community. All are welcome.

St Josemaría Feast Day Mass

You are invited to join Bishop Gary as he celebrates the feast day Mass of St Josemaría Escrivá, the founder of Opus Dei, who was called the "saint of the ordinary" by Pope St John Paul II. The Mass, marking the 50th anniversary of the death of St Josemaría, will be celebrated on **Tuesday, June 24th at 6pm at St Joseph the Worker**. Light refreshments will follow.



QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

“A generous spirit is itself great wealth.
—Saint Leo the Great

Receive Communion often, very often . . . there you have the sole remedy, if you want to be cured. Jesus has not put this attraction in your heart for nothing.

—Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

If we but paused for a moment to consider attentively what takes place in this sacrament, I am sure that the thought of Christ’s love for us would transform the coldness of our hearts into a fire of love and gratitude.

—Saint Angela of Foligno

Pastoral Care Telephone

Visits Are you feeling lonely or know someone who would appreciate a friendly conversation? Our Pastoral Care volunteers are available to telephone those who are lonely, homebound, isolated, or simply in need of a listening ear. These calls are a gentle reminder that no one is ever alone and that our parish community is here to accompany, encourage, and support one another. To request a telephone call for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office at 250-477-5321 or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org.

Letter of Gratitude Posted on Bulletin Board

A letter of gratitude from our first refugee family was received in April. To recap, this Iraqi family of 4 was sponsored by Holy Cross and arrived in Victoria in September 2018. This letter was read during the May 4 weekend masses. For those who missed the reading, the letter will be displayed on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Job Opportunity: Pastoral Administrator for Holy Cross Parish

The Diocese is seeking a Pastoral Administrator for Holy Cross Parish in Victoria. For more information and how to apply, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment>. Applications must be received by June 21.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1] Yet so often, Holy Communion paradoxically becomes “holy isolation” as each person enters a solitary, personal frame of mind to get his or her sacrament. A few moments of silence or reflective music is welcome in our noisy world, but not at the expense of the spirit of gathering. Eucharist is never a personal covenant between me and God.

When we approach the minister of the Holy Eucharist in the communion procession, we hear the same words repeated and again: “The body of Christ” and the response, “Amen(saying Amen is a must).” The declaration “body of Christ” refers not only to the consecrated bread handed to the communicant; it also refers to that woman or man whose hands reach out to receive it. We receive both the Bread and the Cup, taking each in our own hands to feed ourselves at the banquet of the Kingdom of God, not as servants but as children rightfully there. We are joined to one another and to our God in covenant sealed in the Body and Blood of Jesus the Christ. Our works and struggles, our accomplishments and failures, our delights and sufferings are placed on the table as gifts to our God. God makes holy those gifts through the work of the Spirit. This transformed food and drink are returned to us as the Body given and Blood outpoured in a meal of communion. We believe in the love of God present for us. Jesus gave us the sacrament of His presence. For many centuries we placed the Eucharist in a building and in a golden box within that building. We still need to learn how to take the Eucharist with us into the world and make all things new. Do we not know how to apply the presence of Jesus to the moments of our living? When we eat this bread and drink this cup, the consequences are always a shared and common life. It’s easy to feel overwhelmed by the problems the world faces. But we can take solace, and guidance, in these words of Dorothy Day: “What we do is very little, but it’s like the little boy with a few loaves and fishes. Christ took that little and increased it. He will do the rest.”

Eucharistic joy,
Fr. William

NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY & ICS

1) All are welcome to celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi with St. John Henry Newman Catholic Church on Sunday, June 22 at 2:30 pm. Mass will be followed—weather permitting—by an outdoor procession of the Blessed Sacrament. St. John Henry Newman Church is a Roman Catholic parish of the Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter and worships at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 849 Old Esquimalt Road, Victoria.

2) The Diocese of Victoria is seeking a full-time Accounting Clerk with a strong financial background and excellent organizational skills. Interested applicants are invited to submit a résumé and cover letter by June 23, 2025, to jobs@rcdvictoria.org. For more information, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment>.

3) Serra Club in formation meets every last Tuesday of the month in different Parishes. Their next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 24th at 6:00 pm at St. Patrick's Parish (2060 Haultain Street, Victoria). Mass for vocations will start at 6:00 pm, followed by an information meeting, in which Fr. Benson Asuming will be sharing his vocational journey to the priesthood. For more information, please email: victoria@serrainternational.org.

4) Amid the rising tensions and violence in the Middle East, the Catholic faithful in Canada are reminded of the urgent need to pray for peace. During this month—dedicated in the Latin Church to the Sacred Heart of Jesus—we have a unique opportunity to seek the Lord's mercy, healing, and peace for our divided world. Please read the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops' call to prayer for peace here: <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/a-call-to-prayer-for-peace-in-the-holy-land-and-the-middle-east-during-the-month-of-the-sacred-heart/>

5) St. Teresa's Chapel on Pender Island is celebrating 25 years of faithful service to the Catholic community on Sunday, July 6. All are welcome to join Bishop Gary Gordon for Mass at 11:00 am to celebrate this milestone, followed by a casual luncheon and afternoon of fellowship.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Matthew Orlowski and Michele Bristow for all their hard work this year, helping our candidates to discover the riches of our Catholic faith before their Sacraments of Initiation. Your evangelistic efforts are so appreciated! God bless you!



COLLECTIONS

June 15, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$3,580.00
Loose	\$ 270.00
Development and Peace	\$ 50.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,064.34
Total	4,964.34

CONTACT US

Pastor: Vacant

Executive Team: Catherine Davis, John Bartle-Clar & David Begg

Administrative Assistant: Sloane Secord

250-477-5321 / office@holycrossvictoria.org

Office Assistant: Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 / officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

Hospital Emergency Chaplain: Fr. Sean Flynn

250-889-3761

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30am-3:30pm

4049 Gordon Head Rd Victoria, BC V8N 3X7

www.holycrossvictoria.org

250-477-5321

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9AM

Saturday 4PM

Sunday: 9AM