

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 2025

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, May 10
4PM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION: Pro
Populo

SUNDAY, May 11
9AM MASS: Arturo
Colangeli +

TUESDAY, May 13
9AM MASS: Dorothy &
Alastair Maclsaac+

THURSDAY, May 15
9AM MASS: Marguerite
MacDonald+

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CHAPEL
Open 9am-12pm
TUESDAY to FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION
No events scheduled.

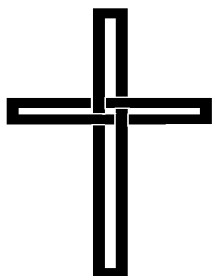
LIVESTREAMING
SATURDAY, May 10, 4PM
<https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

We have come together here in Jesus' name; we have placed ourselves under the word of Scripture, and at the Eucharistic altar, we give thanks for what is proclaimed to us in Scriptures. We most likely do this for a variety of reasons. But underneath it all, I take it that what we do here is in some way explained as a response on our part to our being known by him who identifies Himself as the Good Shepherd. As the Gospel reading puts it: "My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me." What we are about here is the celebration of someone who knows us, because He became who we are. It is not we who stand central here, with the knowledge of ourselves, of our brokenness; that is to no avail; in fact, in some instances, it could be rather depressing. What stands central here is what God has done to us in Jesus. We know ourselves best by His wounds, by His suffering, by His death and His life. Here we are not washed clean by self-knowledge and self-accusation, but because He knows us in his very body and He carries us with Him as a mark on His risen body, as members of His risen body.

If our identity lies in our being known by Him who is our shepherd, because He Himself becomes the lamb, then we also realize that our being known by Him entails an inevitable imperative. Our being known by this kind of shepherd issues forth in the mission to bring about concretely something of the vision of the book of Revelation. We are summoned to accept to solidarity with those who hunger or thirst, who now, in whatever form, must endure the plague of a burning sun or scorching wind, because all are entitled to be led to springs of living water and to have all tears wiped from their eyes.

Today is also World Day of Prayer for vocations. It is obvious that our Church today needs good shepherds, totally committed to the Way of Jesus. We are asked to pray today especially that our Christian communities will be graced with good shepherds and pastors. However, in praying for vocations don't forget to pray for your own. I want to emphasize very strongly that every single baptized person has a 'vocation'. Everyone is called by God to play a specific role in the Christian community and in the wider community. Is it our job, as church leaders, to persuade others to become like us? Or is our mandate to empower Christians to engage and fulfill their Christianity?

Our Christian communities can only grow and thrive when every member contributes to the well being of the whole. It is necessary for us to always ask ourselves, "What does God want me to be? What are my gifts? How can I offer these gifts in service to the wider community and to my own Christian Community? [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

A Prayer for Our Mothers on Mother's Day

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you give life and care for your Church. Bless these women, as we celebrate this day in their honor. May they be strengthened as Christian mothers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honour and appreciate them with a spirit of profound respect and gratitude. May the example of Mary, mother of Jesus, inspire them to live their vocation as Christian mothers and call their children to faith. Guide and protect them in challenging times and help them to continue to trust in you all the days of their life. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



St. Joseph the Worker Church Community Garage Sale

On Sat. May 10, 9 am - 2 pm over 30 tables of a little or a lot of everything, including: household items gently used, Jewellery, books, plants, sports, tools, vintage items, clothing, etc. Coffee, Tea, Lemonade available to enjoy while you shop. KoC also providing Hot Egg McKnight and BBQed Burgers & Hotdogs.

St. Elizabeth's Craft Sale & Flea Market

On May 10 at St. Elizabeth Parish's from 9am - 1pm come to the craft sale and flea market. Everyone is welcome to attend, and admission is free!

Dessert Auction Fundraiser Friday, May 30 7:00pm

Beloved Catholic Women's Ministries invites you to a Dessert Auction Fundraiser on May 30, 2025, from 7-9 PM at St. Joseph the Worker Parish (753 Burnside Rd W, Victoria). Proceeds support women in our Diocese who face financial barriers to attending the annual Women's Retreat at Camp Homewood. Reserve your free ticket by May 26 at:



<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/dessert-auction-fundraiser-tickets-1343131946809>. To donate a dessert or make a financial contribution, email: vicatholicwomensretreat@gmail.com

A Call for Volunteers

Holy Cross is looking for various volunteer positions to be filled. If you are interested in any of the following please email the Holy Cross Office: office@holycrossvictoria.org.

- ⇒ Liturgical ministry: 2 Gift Bearers (one for the 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month - 4pm Mass) and a Eucharistic Minister (4th Saturday of the month - 4pm Mass) for questions or to sign up, please reach out to Joanie: officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org
- ⇒ Social Committee Members
- ⇒ Parish Council Members (see below)



A Call for Parish Council Members!

We are currently seeking new members of the Parish Council starting in June. Until May 20th, Holy Cross Parish is accepting names of those who are interested in serving on the council for a 3-year term. Please extend your interest to the office by email at office@holycrossvictoria.org. The council meets 4-5x yearly. Each member collects updates from their assigned committee for Parish Council meetings. Being on Parish council is an important position, to help identify the needs of the Parish, work with the Executive Committee to make decisions for the good of the Parish. Please consider being a part of our Parish Council. No qualifications are required.

RETROACTIVE QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK: May 4:

As salt is needed for all kinds of foods, so humility is needed for all kinds of virtues.

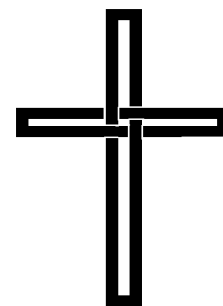
—*Saint Isaac the Syrian*

I go fishing not to find myself but to lose myself.

—*Joseph Monninger*

Jesus is concerned with whether Peter loves him; not whether he acknowledges his doctrine; not whether he has the desire to become a fisherman again, but whether there is affection in his heart.

—*Auguste Valensin, S.J.*



The Blood of Christ

Letter from Bishop Gary on Reintroduction of distribution of Blood of Christ: On April 28, 2025 Bishop Gary sent a letter to all Parishes, advising that, after “consultation with the Diocesan Liturgical Commission, the Diocesan Health Care Committee, and Council of Priests, [he has] determined that it is now time to reintroduce the distribution of the Precious Blood from the chalice during Liturgies....” This change will come into effect June 22, 2025. With respect to, and in support of, this change, Holy Cross will be looking for additional volunteers to help with distribution of the Precious Blood at Masses. Some of you may have been involved with this ministry in the past and may wish to resume this service; if so, we would welcome your involvement again. Others may be new to this, and we would also welcome your participation. Training will be provided. We will need two additional Eucharistic Ministers for each Mass – or four more ministers per weekend. For more information or to express interest, please contact Joanie Bidlake at: officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org Or phone the Office: 250-477-5321. As always, thank you in advance for your consideration of this important ministry.

Listening Circles at Holy Cross

We are beginning this year’s cycle of Listening Circles at Holy Cross as part of the ongoing Diocesan Permanent Pastoral Synod. These gatherings are safe, respectful spaces where we listen deeply to one another, guided by the Holy Spirit, as we build a community of hope together. You are invited to participate in one of the following sessions. Each session lasts about 1.5 hours.

- Sunday, May 18 at 10:30am (Chapel)
- Thursday, May 22 after 9:00am Mass (Chapel)
- Online session at 6:30pm (Date TBA)

Please reflect on three questions about your faith journey, experiences with Christ, and signs of hope in your life. Please see the poster for all the detailed information on the Bulletin Board, or check your weekly cover letter email. Sign up at in the Narthex or contact the parish office. Bishop Gary hopes to hear from as many of us as possible!

Talize Prayer

All are invited to come pray in the style of Taize resumes at Broad View United Church, 3703 St Aidans Street, 6pm on May 16 and June 20. www.taize.fr

[Continued from page 1...]There is only one vocation in Christianity: to be the Body of Christ more and more perfectly. The mission of the church is the same for 2,000 years: proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. Good shepherds know that and fearlessly do it. Jesus says, “My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” With all the noise going on in the world it can take consistent effort to hear the voice of Jesus. Why not begin your morning with this prayer: “Jesus, help me to hear your voice.” And then just sit and listen.

Easter Joy and Happy Mother’s Day

Fr. William

NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY & ICS

- 1) Applications are being accepted for bursaries and awards offered by the Diocese of Victoria in 2025 to outstanding students and educators. Please find more details on deadlines and application information here: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/2025-bursaries-awards>
- 2) The Conclave begins on Wednesday, May 7, 2025. During this time, the faithful are invited to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, and Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has prepared a selection of resources and prayers, which you can find here: <https://www.cccb.ca/about/apostolic-nunciature/pope-francis/the-election-of-a-new-pope/>
- 3) Rachel's Vineyard on Vancouver Island offers safe and confidential retreats for women and men seeking healing and peace after abortion. To learn more, please email rachelsvineyardvancouverisland@gmail.com or visit <https://www.rachelsvineyardvanisland.org/>
- 4) The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has expanded its social media presence with the recent launch of official accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, in addition to their existing X (formerly Twitter) and YouTube presence. Please find the links to all current CCCB platforms below.
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/conferencecccb/>
 - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cccb.cecc/>
 - LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cccbcecc/>
 - X (formerly Twitter): https://x.com/CCCB_CECC
 - YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@CCCBCECC>

Baptismal Prep

Want your child baptized? Please complete a registration form and attend a Baptismal Prep session. Upcoming sessions: Sat, May 3 or Sat, June 7 (10:00 am–12:00 pm). Email hcsppbaptismal-prep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact info. The coordinator will follow up with details.

THANK YOU

Ongoing thanks to our livestream team—Sean and Phil—for their hard work setting up the new system. And thank you to our Liturgy of the Word team for stepping in over the coming months to help with shifting schedules. Finally, a big thank you to our Executive Committee for helping keep our beloved parish running smoothly!



COLLECTIONS

May 4, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Envelopes | \$7,795.00 |
| Loose | \$ 445.00 |
| Canada Helps | \$ 288.50 |
| Pre-Authorized Debit | \$1,307.75 |
| Total | \$9,836.25 |

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 Road Victoria, BC V8N 3X7

www.holycrossvictoria.org

250-477-5321

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9AM

Saturday 4PM

Sunday: 9AM



Catholic Diocese of Victoria

Office of the Bishop

1-4044 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria, BC V8X 2A1 - Tel: 250-479-1331 - Fax: 250-479-5423 - Web: redvictoria.org

April 28, 2025

Dear People of God,

After consultation with the Diocesan Liturgical Commission, the Diocesan Health Care Committee, and the Council of Priests, I have determined that it is now time to reintroduce the distribution of the Precious Blood from the chalice during the Liturgy of the Eucharist to all the faithful. This change will come into effect on the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, June 22, 2025.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) has a number of statements lauding the practice of the administration of both species (i.e., the Body and the Blood of Christ) in the Mass. For example:

80. Since the Eucharistic Celebration is the Paschal Banquet, it is desirable that in keeping with the Lord's command, his Body and Blood should be received as spiritual food by the faithful who are properly disposed.

281. Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it is distributed under both kinds. For in this form the sign of the Eucharistic banquet is more clearly evident and clear expression is given to the divine will by which the new and eternal Covenant is ratified in the Blood of the Lord, as also the relationship between the Eucharistic banquet and the eschatological banquet in the Father's Kingdom (Eucharisticum Mysterium, May 25, 1967, no. 32)

The liturgical principle laid out in GIRM # 160 of making a simple bow of the head before receiving the Body of Christ would apply when receiving the Blood of Christ.

GIRM # 286 then states that the communicant "*moves and **stands** facing the minister of the chalice. The minister says, The Blood of Christ, the communicant responds, Amen, and the minister hands over the chalice, which the communicant raises to his or her mouth. Each communicant drinks a little from the chalice, hands it back to the minister, and then withdraws; the minister wipes the rim of the chalice with the purificator.*" (emphasis mine).

It is important here to reiterate the above instruction of the Church that the posture for receiving the Blood of Christ is one of standing. This is done to avoid situations of spillage from the chalice. It is much safer for the minister who is standing to give the chalice to a communicant who is also standing; it also allows for easier flow within the liturgy.

Pastors / pastoral administrators / executive committees with their parishes are free to choose if and when they will offer Communion under both kinds at their Masses. Please note that on



occasions when I visit parishes to celebrate the Eucharist, it would be my hope, for all the above reasons of the Church's teaching, that Communion would be offered under both kinds

I am grateful for the patience of those who have been eagerly waiting to resume receiving from the Chalice. And I understand the concerns of those who feel this practice is still too hazardous. **It is important to note that no one is required to receive under both species**, because the fullness of Christ (the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of our Lord) is present in either of the Sacred Species (Catechism, #1390).

Finally, I wish to say again – it continues to be an act of supreme love for one another to stay home if we are sick or unwell. If you are sick with symptoms of Covid, the flu, the common cold, upper respiratory infections, or any other communicable disease, please do not come to church. This sacrifice is an act of charity, and a source of blessings for both you and your community.

May our Risen Lord continue to guide and nourish us, and keep us holy and safe during this Easter season and in the days to come.

In Communion,

A handwritten signature in black ink, preceded by a small cross symbol. The signature reads "Gary Gordon".

Most Reverend Gary Gordon
Bishop of Victoria