

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday, January 19, 2025

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, January 18,
4PM MASS: Hedviges
Pacheco+

SUNDAY, January 19,
9AM MASS: Jim
Brannigan+

TUESDAY, January 21,
9AM MASS: Irv Roth+

THURSDAY, January 23,
9AM MASS: Evangeline De
Silva+

— CHAPEL

Open 9am-12pm TUES-
DAY to FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY, January 18,
3:30PM



QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK:

The first lesson from Cana is: “Aid yourself, and Heaven will aid you.”

—*Bishop Fulton Sheen*

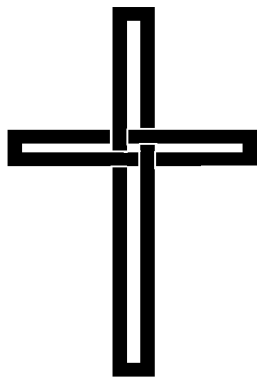
Ever notice how God never requires us to “say when”? The extravagant gesture is God's signature statement. When Jesus turned water into wine, it was a *lot* of wine, and the best kind, too. Abundance is God's way of doing things. In your charitable giving count on God's making it up to you—and then some!

—*Father William*

JUBILEE YEAR: PILGRAM OF HOPE

HOW CAN HOLY CROSS PARTICIPATE?

We ask you to prayerfully consider this question and submit your suggestions to the office via email by February 7th. To reach more about the Jubilee year and the Vatican's *Spes Non Confundit* go to: www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/the-ordinary-jubilee-of-the-year-2025/cccb-adult-faith-resources-on-the-jubilee-year-2025/



LIVESTREAMING

SUNDAY, January 19,
4PM MASS:

Find the link here:

[http://www.youtube.com/c/
StPatricksHolyCrossChurch](http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch)

*“May the power of hope fill our
days” — Pope Francis*

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Raising Money for Wheelchairs: Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Silent Auction and Banquet on February 8th, at St. Joseph the Worker hall from 6:00-9:00pm to raise money for wheelchairs that will be sent to Ukraine. Tickets are \$45 and available for purchase this Sunday following the 9am mass in the foyer and in the office during the office hours. KofC are also accepting cash donations to this cause or items/services for Auction. To donate additional items, please contact the office or see the poster on the Bulletin board in the foyer. Please support this great cause.

Goal: 50 Wheelchairs

Planet Positive Tips: Our Plastic Footprint

*"There is no such thing as 'away'! When we throw anything away it must go somewhere."
From Annie Leonard "The Story of Stuff"*



We are using too much plastic which ends up as trash. Only 9% of all plastic gets recycled. The other 91% ends up in our oceans, on our beaches and in our overflowing landfills. Every single bit that any of us has ever touched is still lingering somewhere on our planet. Build your awareness by actively pay attention to the plastic packaging and pouches that are part of the purchases you make. Try grocery shopping with reusable shopping bags and reusable produce and food bags. Carry your coffee in a travel mug wherever you can & use a reusable water bottle. These small acts do make a difference!

Reconciliation for Men and Women Organized by Opus Dei

An evening reconciliation for women will be held at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, 4635 Elk Lake Drive, Saanich, on Monday, January 20th from 7-9pm. It will be preceded by Mass at 6pm and confession at 6:30pm.

An evening reconciliation for men will be held on Tuesday, January 21st at Sacred Heart Parish, 4040 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria, from 6-8pm. It will be preceded by Mass at 5:15pm.

Holy Cross's Bishop Appeal Funds

We are pleased to inform you that, in accordance with the guidance of the Holy Cross Parish Executive Committee, Bishop's Appeal Committee and Financial Committee, we have issued \$10,000 to both Anawim for Men and St. Vincent de Paul. These funds are from the Bishop's Appeal. We thank our generous parishioners for their donations to this appeal allowing us to show support to these exceptional organizations.

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada's campaign Workshop

This fall, as we continue our *Create Hope: Reaping our Rights campaign*, we will encounter peasant and rural communities who care for the Earth and feed the world. In solidarity with them, we will call on Canada to adopt mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence legislation, so that no Canadian company can trample on their rights. Over the next few weeks, we will continue to spread awareness about the initiatives and actions taking place internationally to support human rights.

Fundamentals of Anti-Oppression Training

GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together) is hosting this online training session by Bakau Consulting, leaders in the field of equity, diversity and inclusion. Attend for free thanks to a grant from the Victoria Foundation. You will learn language and concepts to create a welcoming, supportive culture and positive interactions within your community or workplace. Holy Cross and St. Patrick's are member organizations of GVAT, so any parishioner can register.

Date: February 12th, Time: 6:45-8:45 pm, Location: On Zoom, Cost: Free; Register and read more on the GVAT website: <https://www.gvat.ca/events-training>



WEEKLY FAITHFUL REFLECTION

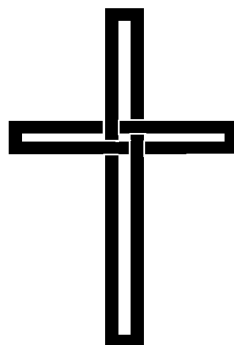
We get to eavesdrop on Jesus and Mary only twice in the Bible—both in John's gospel. The first verbal exchange involves 12-year-old Jesus being left behind in the Temple. The second time is also the last time we hear Mary say anything: the wedding feast in Cana. There, Mary makes two statements that sum up her significance for Catholic Christians: (1) "There is no wine." Mary directs this simple observation to Jesus. She does not ask him to do anything about it, let alone anything specific. (2) "Do whatever he tells you." In addressing the wedding servers, Mary addresses us. Mary's famous last words tell us to take our marching orders from Jesus—not her.

Today's well known Gospel story, in many ways, a follow-up to the Gospel story of last week. Last week, the feast of the baptism of the Lord, Jesus was introduced as God's beloved Son to whom we are invited to listen. Today we are being invited to look at and to give ourselves over to the mystery of Christ's transforming presence in our world. The Gospel writer, John, constructs his presentation of Jesus with the help of the highly symbolic story of Jesus changing the water into wine at the wedding of Cana. Listening to that story in John's Gospel, and building on John's use of symbolism, I wonder whether that story of the water being changed into wine does not hold an important message for us as well. When John has Mary say: "They have no wine", something in our own life experience may resonate with that, is it not true that for many people life is anything but a feast? What people need to have life be a feast is often lacking? Many must do without friendship and security, and all they experience is loneliness. Life is cold and empty for them, without any purpose. There are many that face the sudden trauma of a medical diagnosis, and they too feel like empty jars waiting to be filled with hope, healing, and peace. On the contrary, all they can conclude from their own life experience is that life is 'the pits'. In the words of the first reading, they know their land is forsaken, desolate.

It is against the background of this experience of life that John presents Jesus to us in today's Gospel. He really wants to make his case that with Jesus' life changes. To convey that message, that Good News to us, John has Jesus change the water into wine. The message of this story goes beyond the ability of Jesus to change water into wine. What John wants to say is that with Jesus appearing on the scene, life loses its emptiness, its forsakenness, and its purposelessness. The colorless and tasteless water changes into first rate wine. What is being proclaimed is that Jesus, that he alone brings true joy and fulfillment and purpose to life. The evangelist John tells us this story to proclaim right from the beginning that Jesus is the one who brings peace. He is the one who on behalf of, and in the power of God, brings happiness into our lives. That is the Good News: Jesus brings joy, he provides us with a future, and he enables us to get on with life. That is, it, the Cana party, here, today, invites us to get in touch with the truth that we must drink deep of our faith. It should exhilarate us, invigorate us, urge us to joyfully abandon complacency, risk our fortunes, even our dignity, if we can in daily living bring blessings to one another. Jerusalem, the people of God, the jugs of water, our old human condition are so precious to God who keeps sending us the new four major food groups, Jesus, the Sacraments, our personal selves, and those to whom God sends us to nourish and through whom to be nourished. That is the claim with which we are being confronted in today's Gospel.

Let us rediscover this in the year of hope!
Fr. William

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

NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY

- 1) Thank you to everyone who donated to the 2024 Appeal, "Sharing God's Gifts." As of Thursday, January 16th, we have reached 99.11% of our goal and have decided to extend the opportunity for donations for a few more weeks up to February 5, 2025.
- 2) Bishop Gary Gordon has written a message to the People of God in the Diocese of Victoria announcing the questions that will be explored in the 2025 cycle of the Diocesan Permanent Pastoral Synod. The message may be read online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/bishop-gary-gordons-message-for-the-2025-dpps-cycle>.
- 3) Job Opportunity: Administrative Assistant - St. Andrew's Regional High School is seeking an Administrative Assistant for a Temporary Full-Time contract from January 27 to March 14, 2025, continued with a Permanent Part-Time contract, starting on March 31, 2025. Please look at the Diocese website or the Bulletin Board for more info. Salary: \$26.36 – \$27.88

PARISH MINISTRY UPDATE

Baptismal Prep

Do you want to have your child welcomed into the family of God through baptism? To prepare for your child's baptism, a registration form and Baptismal Preparation course must be completed.

Please note the next Baptismal Preparation courses are held on:

Sat, Feb 15 (10:00 am – 12pm)

Please email hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information.

COLLECTIONS

January 12, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$3590.00
Loose	\$290.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1066.30
Total	\$4946.30

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



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