

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 25, 2025

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, May 24
4PM MASS: Pro
Populo

SUNDAY, May 25
9AM MASS: Jose
Pacheco+

MONDAY, May 26
7PM MASS

TUESDAY, May 27
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION

WEDNESDAY, May 28
7PM MASS

THURSDAY, May 29
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION
7PM MASS

FRIDAY, May 30
11AM JUBILEE MASS:
Sr. Marina Smith
celebrating 70 years

—
CHAPEL

Open 9am-12pm
TUESDAY to THURSDAY

RECONCILIATION
No events scheduled.

LIVESTREAMING
SATURDAY, May 24, 4PM
<https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

This Sunday, May 25th, is the sixth Sunday of Easter. The Gospel of John reminds us not only of how much we are loved by Jesus and His Father in heaven, but also how intimately we are known by our Redeemer and our Creator. Jesus appeared numerous times to His disciples and followers after His resurrection, bringing elation and relief to the people who loved him. Yet Jesus knew that He would be returning to the Father and that it would be difficult for the people who cared for Him. After grieving His death, they would then grieve His ascension into heaven. Therefore, just like a compassionate parent or leader, Jesus explained what would happen and reassured His followers. *I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.* Jesus continued His reassurance by promising His disciples His peace and urging them not to let their hearts be troubled or afraid. All of Jesus' words spoke of His great love for His people and His genuine understanding of their fears and hopes, needs and strengths. He knew His people, just as He knows us.

In the last paragraph of today's Gospel, Jesus reiterated that His people would not be abandoned. *You heard me say to you. 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.'* These words must have been confusing. What did Jesus mean, He is going away and coming to us? As Jesus explained, He was going to return to the Father, and the Father was going to send the Holy Spirit in Jesus' name, to dwell within the hearts of His followers. Jesus made that promise to us, too. His Holy Spirit dwells within our hearts. His Spirit reminds us of His words. His Spirit fills us with strength and courage, comforts us and brings us His peace. Yet, we are given the choice to accept or reject His Holy Spirit. We have been given free will and we can choose to embrace His Holy Spirit, love Him and follow His word. *Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.* What a promise, God will come to us! How much Jesus and the Father must love all people! *God, our God, has blessed us. . . . Let all the ends of the earth revere him.* But what if we choose not to love God and refuse to keep His word? We will not be forsaken. Jesus is always by our side, His Spirit always ready to respond. All we need to do, is open our hearts and listen to His voice. *And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.* (Matthew 28:20) Jesus' Spirit will wait for us to the end of the age. He loves us.

Tanya Taft

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](https://www.rcdvictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

St. Andrew's High School Spring Fling Concert



On Wednesday, May 28th, 7pm @Holy Cross St. Andrew's Regional High School Music Department will be presenting their annual Spring Fling concert on Wed, May 28th at 7pm at Holy Cross Church. This is sure to be a fantastic evening of music featuring performances by the award-winning St. Andrew's Singers, Concert Band and Jazz Band. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and they can be purchased at the door. Join a reception with food following the concert in the church hall. All are welcome!

2025 Anawim AGM Announcement

Dear Members and Friends of the Anawim Companions Society, you are invited to attend the Anawim Companions Society's 2025 AGM. When: June 12, 2025 at 7-8:30 PM, doors open at 6:30PM / Where: Holy Cross Parish Hall, 4049 Gordon Head Rd.

Holy Cross Library

The Holy Cross Library, located in the Parish Centre, contains approximately 1800 books concerning all aspects of our catholic faith, liturgy, and church history. The collection can be browsed during office hours, unless the room is booked for a meeting, and books can be signed out (except for the reference collection). We will try to keep some books on display in the church foyer that relate to themes in the liturgical year and can also be signed out right there. Please let us know if there are recently published books you feel should be added to the collection. We also welcome the donation of recently published books in good condition that are relevant to the collection and its purpose. Contact John or Martha Oleson for information by emailing office@holycrossvictoria.org.



Library Corner

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 June 20. www.taize.fr

Holy Cross Job Opportunity: Parish Administrator

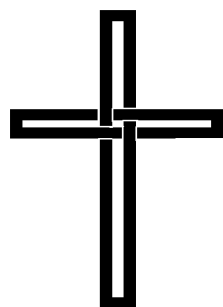
As announced the Parish Executive Committee has reviewed the last year without a priest and determined that our staff, volunteers and community would be better served if we hire a Parish Administrator (PA). This is until a new priest is appointed. Rest assured, the Bishop continues to search. The Executive Committee is seeking feedback and discussion from the parish until Sunday, May 25 about the position. Executive Committee members will be at weekend masses and you can email the parish office. The PA will work the equivalent of 3 days a week and we have budget to cover that. We hope to post in late May/early June. Looking forward to hearing from you; David, Catherine and John.

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: officeassitant@holycrossvictoria.org
- ⇒ Social Committee Members





QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, not even if your whole world seems upset. If you find that you have wandered away from the shelter of God, lead your heart back to Him quietly and simply.

—Saint Francis de Sales

Between saying and doing many a pair of shoes is worn out.

—Italian proverb

If I differ from you, I do not lessen, but increase you.

—Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Development & Peace

Caritas Canada invites you to come and celebrate Jubilee 2025 and the 10th Anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si. Friday June 20th 5:00-8:00 pm at Sacred Heart Parish Hall. The evening will begin at 5:00 pm with an opportunity for fellowship, followed by a potluck dinner. Our two after dinner speakers are Bishop Gary Gordon and D&P animator Raphael Freston. Please bring a pot-luck item to share, beverages will be provided. Please RSVP to Nancy Stuart at nancys-tuart7@gmail.com if you plan to attend. All are welcome.

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

Listening Circles at Holy Cross

As part of the ongoing Diocesan Permanent Pastoral Synod, you can still participate in this year's cycle of Listening Circles at Holy Cross. You are invited to participate in the **one** of the remaining session to be held virtually on Monday, June 9 at 6:30pm (Online).

Please reflect ahead of time on following three questions:

- What is one story from your own faith and life that you would like to share?
- What is your experience or connection with Christ, the Anointed One, in your faith journey?
- How have you experienced blessings and hope in your life, in your parish, in your school, in your church, or in your family?

To register contact the parish office. Bishop Gary hopes to hear from as many of us as possible!

The Blood of Christ

Letter from Bishop Gary on Reintroduction of distribution of Blood of Christ. This change will come into effect June 22, 2025. Therefore, Holy Cross will be looking for additional volunteers to help with distribution of the Precious Blood at Masses. We welcome new and existing Eucharistic Ministers to serve in this capacity. Training will be provided. Two additional Eucharistic Ministers will be needed for each Mass. For more information, please contact Joanie Bidlake at: officeasistant@holycrossvictoria.org Or phone the Office: 250-477-5321. Thank you in advance.



NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY & ICS

1) 1) The Diocese of Victoria's annual priests' retreat will take place from June 2–6. During this time, weekday Mass schedules may vary. Please contact your parish directly for updates or changes to Mass times.

Pastoral Care: Social Visits

Do you or someone you love feel isolated and would benefit from a friendly visit? Our Pastoral Care Ministry offers in-person social visits to those in homes, care facilities, or hospitals. These visits provide the comfort of companionship, a listening ear, and the ministry of presence, bringing warmth and encouragement to those who may be feeling disconnected. To arrange a social visit, please call 250-477-5321 or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org.

Baptismal Prep

Want your child baptized? Please complete a registration form and attend a Baptismal Prep session. Upcoming sessions: 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.



Invitation from St Jean Baptiste Parish

Francophone? Est-ce que vous êtes au courant qu'il existe la Paroisse Française St.Jean-Baptiste a 307 Richmond, Victoria? Chaque Dimanche a 13 :30 hrs. nous célébrons en Français l'Eucharistie/la Messe avec notre cure le Père Rolf Hasenack, OP et avec des chants et accompagnement au piano et au guitar.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to those who do an unseen job by volunteering on one of our financial teams. From planning, to counting, and tax receipting, we have much to thank you all for: Harry, Colleen, Mary S., Jim M, David, Muriel, Jim R, Theresa, Mary D, David, Sally, Ed, Sheila, and Trudy. Please excuse any missing names!



COLLECTIONS

May 18, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$4,330.00
Loose	\$ 380.00
D&P	\$ 20.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,307.75
Total	\$6,044.75

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