

# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

## **Mission Statement: Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish**

Rooted in the community of Gordon Head and the University, in communion with the Roman Catholic Church, Holy Cross Parish serves the people of God by sharing, teaching and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**SUNDAY - April 11, 2021**  
**Divine Mercy Sunday**

Thomas is held up as the poster child of doubt—the one who had to see and touch the wounds of the risen Jesus before he would believe in the resurrection—and he is also the straw man for Jesus' words, "Have you believed because you have seen me?" But give Thomas a break: He was only asking for what the other apostles had—they believed because they had seen the Lord already! Thomas is also the set-up man for an even more important teaching: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Only the first generation of Christ's followers would know him in the flesh. The rest of us believe through hearing the good news about him. By his doubting, he strengthened faith. Because Thomas was bidden to see and hear in person, I learn to believe unswervingly and with steady faith that human death was overcome by the death of Christ crucified.

Thomas should go down in legacy as Thomas the Confessor rather than the name by which he is more frequently known. Thomas set his eyes on Jesus for only a moment and knew just who he was. "My Lord and my God!" he shouted. Twenty centuries later, it remains the best and truest response. Many things can—and have—been said about the apostle Thomas and his infamous demand to see the risen Christ in person rather than rely on the reports of the other disciples. Some have vilified him as the arch doubter, while others have praised him for his persistence in seeking out the risen Christ for himself. In the end it shouts to us: Thomas got on board! From the start Jesus calls disciples for the expressed purpose of going on a fishing expedition for his sake. The roll call of those who got in the boat with Peter is not random: Thomas the confessor, Nathaniel the reformed cynic, Zebedee's now humbled sons, and two mysterious "others"—one of whom is the Beloved Disciple. No point in spilling more ink in the controversy of who the Beloved Disciple is, which will not be solved here. It is more intriguing to consider who the other "other" might be: Does that leave room for you or me in the boat?

The early church community knew just what to do: They laid everything down, every worldly advantage, as a resource of the church for the sake of the gospel. This kind of full-scale surrender of goods seems unthinkable today, but what sort of parallel offering of absolute confidence in Christ might we make? Laying down our daily lives as witnesses to the truth in word and deed is not too much to ask. As we look at that cross, we must make up our minds, once and for all, who Jesus is for us. His empire, founded on love, remains the only reign that will last. If Jesus is our Lord and God, as Thomas claimed him, then it will not be hard to know what to do. All we have to do is follow, and he will be happy to lead us.

My Lord and my God

Father William



### **OFFICE HOURS**

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed  
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:30pm  
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:00pm

**Fr. William Hann, Pastor**

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www.holycrossvictoria.org

**Effective Immediately:** As per the latest health protocols given to us by our Public Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, all in-person faith gatherings have been suspended until further notice. That means all weekend and weekday Masses at Holy Cross have been cancelled. The office will remain open from Tuesday to Friday 9am-2pm, but masks are mandatory before entering. The Church will be open Tues.-Fri. from 9am-1pm for private prayer; please sit on chairs on left side only. Thank You!

**HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS:** If you or someone you love is admitted to hospital and would like a visit from our VGH/RJ hospital chaplain please call the emergency pager **250-889-3761** and ask for **Fr. Sean Flynn** to make this request.



### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - GIANT 50 / 50 RAFFLE**

**JACKPOT IS OVER \$32,000 AND GROWING!** Get your tickets at our KofC website [www.kofcbc5050.ca](http://www.kofcbc5050.ca) All tickets are sold online. The more you buy the less it costs.

\$10 for 10 tickets, \$25 for 50 tickets, Best Value **\$50 for 200 tickets!** Draw Date: 6:30 pm, Friday April 30th, 2021 Proceeds support our local charities. When you buy tickets, we're working together to make our communities better. Thank you for your support! [BC Gaming Licence #127997]

### **BIRTHRIGHT PLANT SALE**

Birthright is taking orders now for tomato plants and other edibles, perennials and shrubs. Please see their website below for more details.

Pre-paid plant orders will be delivered to St. Patrick's parking lot in mid May for local pick-up. (Target date is May 15, subject to weather.) <https://birthrightvictoria.org/garden-babies-for-birthright-plant-sales/>



### **ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - BOTTLE DRIVE**



**Saturday, April 10th, from 10am - 12noon** bring your Easter Empties to the school parking lot on 2368 Trent Street. Just pull up and everything will be taken care of for you. This fundraiser goes to support the Grade 7's year end retreat. Thank you for your support!

### **PASTORAL TRAINING OUTREACH MINISTRY**

**Diocesan Pastoral Training Outreach training will be offered through nine online Sessions:**

The Pastoral Care Outreach Training series will be launched via Zoom starting April 17, 2021 and will be offered over nine consecutive Saturdays (9:30 to noon) concluding on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Participants will require a phone number and an email address and they should register through their local parish. Participants will require a computer, smartphone, or tablet with a strong internet connection, with access to speakers, a microphone and a camera. If you are fluent with the Zoom platform, using visuals, breakout rooms and can troubleshoot minor issues we need your volunteer support with one or more of the new nine Diocesan Pastoral Care sessions.

For inquiries or to volunteer to assist with one or more sessions, please contact: [moiraking@shaw.ca](mailto:moiraking@shaw.ca)

### **MOUNT ST. MARY HOSPITAL, HANGING BASKETS AND OTHER VEGGIES**

**It's not too late for veggies and flowers!** Tomatoes coming along nicely for mid-May planting. There are also still lots of daisies, geraniums, and lettuce left in the Garden of Ellis. Phone with your orders in to our resident green thumb, Ellis Achtem, 250-477-6754 or [eachtem@shaw.ca](mailto:eachtem@shaw.ca)



### **PRAYER REFLECTION**

The gate of heaven is very low; only the humble can enter it.

—Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

We too often forget that faith is a matter of questioning and struggle before it becomes one of certitude and peace. You have to doubt and reject everything else in order to believe firmly in Christ, and after you have begun to believe, your faith itself must be tested and purified.

—Thomas Merton

To the hungry belongs the bread you have. To the naked belongs the cloak that is hidden in your trunk. To the footsore, the shoes rotting in your house. To the poor the money you have buried in the earth. How can you oppress so many people that you could help?

—Saint Basil the Great

### **A NOTE FROM THE DIOCESE**

To access the live stream link from the Diocese of Victoria website simply google: Diocese of Victoria or go to [www.rcdvictoria.org/dioocese-of-victoria-live-stream](http://www.rcdvictoria.org/dioocese-of-victoria-live-stream).

**SUNDAY** ..... 10 AM

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY** ..... 7 PM

**Diocesan Blog:** Bishop Gary Gordon, in his 2021 Easter Letter, wishes all of the people in the Diocese of Victoria and abroad that this season of Easter joy may enliven us to go forth and bear witness to the Good News. You can read his letter [here](#).

### **THANK YOU CORNER**

A heartfelt thank you to Ann and Bob Francis, and all of the members of the Arts and Environment Ministry that made Easter so beautiful in our Church. They also organized the memorial flower display, which is still in the church is you want to stop by and see it during the hours we are open for private prayer.

### **JOB POSTING - CHAPLAIN UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA AND CAMOSUN**

The Diocese of Victoria, is accepting applications for the position of Roman Catholic Campus Chaplain. The Catholic Chaplain reports directly to the Bishop of Victoria, or his delegate. We seek a Chaplain who is committed to helping students grow and flourish within the Catholic faith tradition while living and learning in a secular campus environment. The Chaplain will work in collaboration with the Catholic Christian Outreach team, and a *Multifaith Chaplaincy* team at the University of Victoria. The successful Chaplain will be committed to meeting a stranger on the road, envisaging and engendering an open world, and nurturing connections across many religious and secular communities. This position will not be confined to a standard 9-5 weekday work schedule.

### **LIVESTREAM MASSES**

**Live Mass broadcast this Saturday!** Mass will be livestreamed from Holy Cross Parish, Saturday, April 10th: Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

### **OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

#### **SATURDAY, April 10th**

Intention: Jose & Regina DeJesus +

#### **SUNDAY, April 11th**

Intention: Regina DeJesus+

#### **MONDAY, April 12th**

Office Closed/No Mass

#### **TUESDAY, April 13th**

Intention: Clive Loader +

#### **WEDNESDAY, April 14th**

Intention: Mercy & Nicholas +

#### **THURSDAY, April 15th**

Intention: Ramona Weisgerber +

#### **FRIDAY, April 16th**

Intention: Clive Loader+

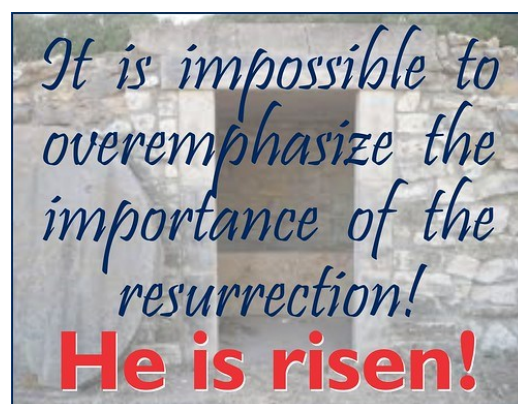
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**At this time there are no in-person Masses being held.**

**The church will be open for private prayer from 9am-1pm from Tuesday to Friday. Please sit only on the chairs on the left side of the church at this time, to make cleaning easier for our custodians.**

**Thank you!**

**Masks are now mandatory in the church and parish centre at all times.**



### **COLLECTION for April 4th, 2021**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2,485.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,677.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,162.00</b>