



# 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 12, 2020**

## **The Resurrection of the Lord**

Mary Magdalene finds the empty tomb and runs to the apostles to tell them her astonishing news. Only in St John's account are the apostles directly involved in finding that the tomb was empty, though neither Jesus nor an angel gave them any guidance about what it meant. The Beloved Disciple was beside Peter to see the discarded burial-cloths within the tomb, and he at once realised what this meant: that Jesus was risen from the dead!

Dear friends, Easter Sunday is the celebration of the great, simple, gospel truth at the center of our faith. We can express it in one marvellously short sentence: *Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!* When it comes to the "mystery of faith," perhaps long catechisms and creedal professions only conceal what is finally a very simple thing. *We have nothing to fear, not even suffering and death. Jesus is here and invites us to share his life without end.*

The Easter message, this truly *great* news, is timelessly true, and so it is still a message for *here and now*. We can identify with each person in the story told by Saint John today. Do we, like Mary Magdalene, share with others the news of the resurrection? Do we run eagerly to the tomb, like Peter and John, to find out how and whether Jesus can still feature in our lives? Only rarely do we *experience* the Easter mystery – but we can catch some hint of the wonder of it from the Gospel stories. The message is that God does not forget or forsake us, and the darkest hour is just before the dawn.

On Easter morning, the stone was rolled away. Are our hearts like a tomb awaiting new life? Is anything holding us back from renewal of spirit? As Pope Francis says, we are called to be people of joyful hope, not prophets of doom. Through the resurrection of Jesus, we get an infusion of hope and joy, and an invitation to share them by our way of living. That is a message we need to hear as we live in these Coved 19 days! We are gathered even in distance because we are united in Christ.

Dear friends, Easter tells us that the risen Jesus will speak our own names as he did to Magdalene. And hearing our own names spoken by the risen Christ is hearing God say to us—in person—you are mine. *I will carry you beyond loss and death to the fullness of the life that you most deeply seek.* That is what we are looking for. That is what the risen Jesus brings us. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Jesus lives in his people. He's here today - alive, in our midst. Edmond Pressensé said it best...the empty tomb of Christ has been the cradle of the church. We are invited into a relationship with a person who will unite us with God. Jesus is the way.



Easter joy  
Father William

### OFFICE HOURS

Open for phone and email Tuesday to Friday

**Fr. William Hann, Pastor**

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# EASTER

## A NOTE FROM THE DIOCESE

The global pandemic and the reality of COVID-19 has forced us to explore new ways of drawing close to the Lord and each other, despite the limitations presented in our liturgical and communal practices.

As we journey together (in the confines and safety of our homes) to celebrate Holy Week, and the weeks ahead, we are invited to explore new opportunities to unite as a faith community. We have been given this time to build our communion as a Diocesan Church, and we continue to strive to find new ways to stay connected.

**Live Streaming:** Join Bishop Gary Gordon as he celebrates daily Mass (Mon. to Fri. at 7 pm) and Sunday (at 10 am). This Holy Week, Bishop Gary continues to lead a Diocesan Mission after the 7 pm Mass, reflecting on the theme “People of God – a Covenant People”. The Easter Triduum will be celebrated on: Holy Thursday at 7 pm; Good Friday at 3 pm; Easter Vigil at 7 pm; and Easter Sunday at 10 am. To access the live streaming, please click on <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream>

**Diocesan Website:** In order to keep up to date with the latest news, parishioners are encouraged to subscribe to the Diocesan Blog and Newsletter through our Diocesan website. New updates include “Merlin’s Musings”, and the Office of Faith Formation & Evangelization has expanded catechetical resources, including the link to “Holy Week at Home – Rituals for Family & Household Prayer” <https://offers.litpress.org/coronavirus-response-to-customers>

**Parish Websites, Emails, Bulletins, Phone Calls:** Parishioners are encouraged to contact their pastor and/or parish office to ensure that they are on the distribution list for regular news and updates. If you know of parishioners who do not have computer access and are more isolated, please call them to offer assistance and help them stay connected. If you have had a change in your contact information, please advise your parish office.

***As we journey through Holy Week towards the Resurrection of the Lord, may we be filled with renewed gratitude and trust in our loving God who is the source of all hope.***

For the latest updates, memos and information please check our parish website frequently:  
[www.holycrossvictoria.org](http://www.holycrossvictoria.org)



holy cross church garden head rd. victoria, b.c.

## COLLECTION for March 29, 2020

**WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$ 1,470.00</b>
<b>Pre-Authorized Debit</b>	<b>\$ 1,292.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,762.00</b>

If you would like to learn more about your giving options during this time, please contact the office Tuesday to Friday 9am-12noon.

## OUR VIRTUAL COMMUNITY

Father William has created a **YouTube** page and a **Facebook** page for the combined St. Patrick's and Holy Cross families! Please visit the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StPatsHolyCross/>  
**Like and follow the page and please do send photos of the church for posting!**

**Live Mass broadcast this Sunday!** Easter Sunday will be broadcast live from Holy Cross on Sunday April 12th at 9:00am on the YouTube page.

Click the link here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5NzsSMWmOTJe7UdReKf6Kw>

**Please subscribe to the page for future Masses!**



## EASTER MASS IN OUR DIOCESE

During these challenging times, we continue to journey through Holy Week together, and to celebrate the Liturgies as an online community through our live streamed transmissions. Tune in to Bishop Gary Gordon as he celebrates daily Mass, a Diocesan Mission during Holy Week, and the Paschal Triduum streamed live from St. Andrew's Cathedral. The schedule is listed below:

### Daily Mass

Monday through Friday — 7pm

### Holy Week

Good Friday, April 10—3:00pm

Easter Vigil, April 11—7:00pm

Easter Sunday, April 12—10:00am

**To access the live mass please follow this link:**

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream>