



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

**Mission Statement:** 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 24, 2022**  
**Divine Mercy Sunday**

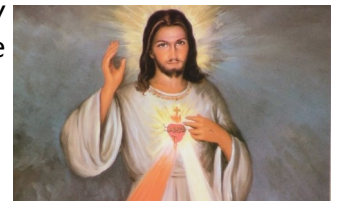
Today is Divine Mercy Sunday, which is news to Catholics who have not paid much attention since the year 2000, when Pope John Paul II inaugurated this feast to be celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter each year. The designation has its basis in a revelation to Sister Faustina Kowalska, the Polish sister who died in 1938, concerning the extravagant abundance of compassion available in Jesus Christ. But it would not be necessary to appeal to a private revelation to know that we follow a Lord whose Sacred Heart is on fire with love and mercy for sinners. The cross of Christ, that most public of declarations, is on display around the world to remind us that the breadth and depth and height of divine compassion is beyond humanity's wildest estimations. Saint Gertrude the Great expresses gratitude to God for how divine mercy "has led me through the many obstacles I have placed in the way of your love." Love better by loving with compassion.

Our readings on the second Sunday of Easter from the Acts of the Apostles, the book of Revelation, and the Gospel according to John give us insight into the process of "coming to believe". This journey is indeed a process. When you hear the story of those early days of real community centered around "the breaking of the bread and the prayers," all those "signs and wonders," that singing and praising, you may feel a little thrill—or a little jealous. Our contemporary situation is not unlike being Thomas on the first day of the week: All your friends have seen the Lord, but not you! If an event does not happen to you, it is like it did not happen at all.

Thomas was dead right to demand such an encounter. Second-hand faith is never enough to lose your life for, nor is it enough to save it. Every follower of Jesus requires the reality-shattering experience of an incarnate encounter with God-with-you. If you have not once in your lives leaped to your feet or sunk to your knees shouting, "My Lord and my God!" then it is time you have been given the opportunity. The everlasting love of God comes to you in flesh and blood at every Eucharist. If you have not seen the Lord yet, it is time to demand the revelation you need to buy into the gospel and be church. The hound of heaven waits!

It was that incredibly wise man, author, and wit, GK Chesterton, who about one hundred years ago, said "*When people cease to believe in something, they will believe in anything.*" They are prophetic words, because we live in a world and a society where there is no lack of belief at all - for people will believe in anything provided is different, novel, or unusual. Faith is not about fancy or novelty. It is not without foundation in fact, or in history. Faith's firm foundation is the Good News, the amazing message of what really happened, and the power of Life and Love which still dwells amongst us, full of grace and truth. N.T wright has a message for our questioning world...*Jesus' Resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from Earth to heaven but to colonize Earth with the life of heaven. St. John Vianney (the patron Saint of Priests) wrote...Our sins are nothing but a grain of sand alongside the great mountain of the mercy of God.*

Mercy abounds  
Father William



## OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed  
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:30pm  
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:00pm  
Fr. William Hann, Pastor

**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.**

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

**LIVESTREAM MASSES**

**Live Mass broadcast this weekend!** Mass is livestreamed this week from *Holy Cross Parish* on Saturday at 4pm. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

**CELEBRATE EARTH DAY!!!**



The earth needs us, every one, to care for the beauty that God has created. The SEJC recommend celebrating this special day over the weekend! Plant a tree Saanich needs your help in planting trees. They will purchase and plant the tree(s)! and you maintain it. Or Listen to music . The Earth needs us to do our share in keeping rivers and oceans clean, the air unpolluted, and pollinators happily pollinating. **“You are not a drop in the ocean; you are the entire ocean in a drop.”** Rumi

**FATHER WILLIAM IS AWAY NEXT WEEK**

**Please note:** Fr. William will be away next week for a much needed break. In his place Fr. Frank will be presiding over all weekend Masses. On weekdays (Tuesday-Friday) there will be a 9am lay-led Liturgy of the Word with communion. Mass intentions will be honoured, both at the lay-led service and by Fr. William who will be praying for the intentions during his daily private Masses while he is away. Fr. William will return to his normal schedule on Tuesday, May 3rd.

***Please also note, that there will be no confession this Saturday, but Fr. Fr. Frank will be available for confessions an hour before Mass on Saturday April 30th.***

**GARDEN OF ELLIS.....(NO TREES OF FORBIDDEN FRUIT)**

Great growing weather and the greenhouses are bursting. Same program with all proceeds going to charity, this year either Mt. St. Mary Hospital or the Ukranian Relief Fund (red cross), your choice. The *hanging baskets are almost sold out*, but there are lots of flowers and veggies available. We have geraniums, daisies and sunflowers, plus lettuce, basil, zucchini, pumpkins and of course the usual award-winning Gordon Head tomatoes, large and cherries, red and yellow. You are most welcome to come and view in advance, or order by phone 250-477-6754  
Thanks for your anticipated support., Ellis



**LIBRARY CORNER FOR HOLY WEEK**

The Parish Library table in the foyer of the church has been replenished with several of the wonderful books by Pope Francis. On a wide range of topics, they show the great and compassionate heart of our beloved Pope.

**Will those who still have books outstanding by HV Morton on his travels in 1930 to the Holy Land return them (to the foyer table or the Parish Centre) when they are finished reading them, so that they can be incorporated into the Parish Library permanent holdings.**



**CWL GENTLY USED CLOTHING SALE!**

Friday, April 29th and Saturday, April 30th: 9:30am-2:00pm at St. Patrick’s Church (main level). Masks strongly encouraged. All proceeds go to various charities!

**PRAYER REFLECTION**

Our sins are nothing but a grain of sand alongside the great mountain of the mercy of God.

—Saint John Vianney

Above all, attention shall be paid to the care of the sick, so that they shall be served as if they were Christ himself.

—Saint Benedict

Jesus' Resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from Earth to heaven but to colonize Earth with the life of heaven.

—N. T. Wright

**NOTE FROM THE DIOCESE**

Please note the following changes to the Diocesan livestream schedule in April. We have also posted these changes at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/dailymasslivestreamed> and <https://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne/about>.

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This Sunday, April 24, is Divine Mercy Sunday. As a sign of God's mercy at work in the world, Bishop Gary Gordon asks that the full text of Pope Francis' apology for the Catholic Church's role in Canada's residential school system be included in parish bulletins this Sunday. The apology is copied below. It can also be found online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/indigenous/gods-divine-mercy-at-work-in-the-world>, together with an introduction about the connection between divine mercy and reconciliation.

This Sunday also marks Pascha, Easter Sunday for Ukrainian Catholics and other Christians who follow the Julian Calendar. The Canadian Council of Churches (CCC), in collaboration with the Canadian Bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox Churches, has issued an invitation to Christians in Canada to pray for peace in Ukraine and to ring church bells at noon local time on April 24. More information, including three prayer options, can be found at <https://www.councilofchurches.ca/news/april-24-2022-prayer-for-ukraine-and-for-peace-for-the-world>.

**THANK YOU CORNER**



*Thank you to Ann Francis and Marian Duke for all of their hard work in preparing the Church for Easter!*

The Lenten ambiance and the Easter beauty we have enjoyed in the church over this season has been because of the vision and hard work of all the volunteers that are part of our Arts & Environment Ministry led by Ann Francis.

The outstanding floral display we enjoyed this weekend, along with the beautiful and touching memorial display was all do to the endless hours these volunteers put in over the last week. We are grateful for their gifts and talent. Thank you Ann and the gang, and to everyone who donated to the flower display this year!

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

**SATURDAY, April 23rd**

\*No Confession Today

4pm Mass: Salvatore Ciccone +

**SUNDAY, April 24th**

9am Mass: Carmen Rose +

**MONDAY, April 25th**

Office Closed/No Mass

**TUESDAY, April 26th**

9am Mass: Brendan Holden +

**WEDNESDAY, April 27th**

9am Mass: Brendan Holden +

**THURSDAY, April 28th**

9am Mass: Brendan Holden +

**FRIDAY, April 29th**

9am Mass: Fred Keizer +

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*Masks are no longer mandatory indoors, though we do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed. As always, if you are feeling unwell or symptomatic please stay home.*



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

**COLLECTION for April 17, 2022**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 6,140.00
Loose	\$ 925.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,742.00</b>

**Development and Peace: \$3, 270.00**

**Needs of the Church in Canada: \$765.00**





## **NEWS FROM ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Four words: The Chickens Are Back!!

<https://www.facebook.com/St.PatricksSchool/>



### **FLOWERS FOR ANAWIM GARDEN**

The garden at Anawim needs a little pep in it's step, and the garden volunteers are wondering if you can help support the beauty of the outdoor space with donations of hardy plants that don't need too much tending. Heather was mentioned as an example. If you are able to help call the parish office or drop donations off during office hours. Thank you!



**Pastor: Fr. William Hann**

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 *after hours*

**Hospital Chaplain:** 250-889-3761

**Administrative Assistant:** Valentina Boyd

250-477-5321 [office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

**Office Assistant:** Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 [officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org)

**University Chaplain:** Lydia Foch

[lfoch@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:lfoch@rcdvictoria.org)

**Parish Council Chair:** Debra Prior

250-661-0250

**Children's Religious Education:** Barbara Shenton

[bshenton@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:bshenton@rcdvictoria.org)

### **VYSHNEVSKYY FAMILY - ARSON VICTIMS**

#### **Note from St. Pat's School Principal Deanne Paulson**

St. Patrick's students, staff and parents have been collecting toys and clothing for their classmates who lost their home to arson this week. Father Yuri's mother-in-law died after a gas stove explosion in Kiev 3 years ago and, being the only members of their families in Canada, they have been worried for friends and family in Ukraine. As if that wouldn't be so awful to deal with, I can only imagine how devastated they feel after losing their home, almost their lives, to arson. Please keep them in your prayers.

If you have toys or clothing to donate the three girls are aged: 5, 7 and 11. Donations can be dropped off at Holy Cross Parish office during office hours. Please call the parish office if you have any questions.

A Go Fund Me pages has been set up if you would like to help the family through financial donations.

[Fundraiser by Andriy Fabrikov : Ukrainian family of 5 - home was arsoned. \(gofundme.com\)](https://www.gofundme.com)

### **St Patrick's Local School Council Notice of Annual Public Meeting and \*Elections\***

**AGM Date:** 18 May, 2022

**Time:** 6:30 PM

**Place:** St Patrick's Elementary (in-person subject to confirmation). Zoom option will also be available.

Three seats are available for election. Anyone eligible to vote (parents, staff, parish members) may nominate candidates to Local School Council.

The nomination form and further information about the meeting and eligibility are available from the school office. Please contact [sp@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:sp@cisdv.bc.ca) or 250-592-6713.

**Nominations must be submitted to the school office by April 27th 3pm** (paper copy or emailed).

### **SYNOD ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

**Have you participated in any Synod activities yet? If no, you have until the end of April.**

Let your voice be heard. You can still participate in the Synod by:

Join the **last in-person Parish Synod Listening Circle session** scheduled for **Sunday, April 24** at 10:30 in the church. **Call the parish office to register.**

**OR** - Respond to a survey: Paper survey is available at the back of the church. Paper surveys can be dropped off or mailed to the church or Diocesan Office **OR** [Click here to complete the form online.](#)

You may visit the diocesan website for more information on the Synod, [www.rcdvictoria.org/synod](http://www.rcdvictoria.org/synod).