

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

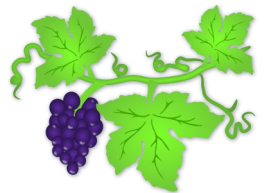
SUNDAY - April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

This Sunday, April 28th, is the 5th Sunday of Easter. In John's Gospel, Jesus once again surprises us with the depth of his love and the extraordinary intimacy that he offers us. Inviting his disciples to *abide in him*, he compares himself to a vine. *I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. . . . I am the vine, you are the branches.* Anyone who has worked with grapes or spent time among vineyards knows that it is through the vine that the branches receive nourishment which enables them to thrive and bear fruit. If a branch is removed from the vine, it dries up and crumples into dust. The branches need to be attached to the vine to live. And this is how Jesus describes his relationship with his disciples and with all of us! We, too, need to be attached to Jesus with an attachment that connects us intimately. *Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.* What a revealing image of Jesus' love and desire to be close to us. His words and spirit nourish us, and his love and mercy enable us to grow. He is our source of life and love.

Every good deed, every great thought, every brilliant creation comes from the one source of life and love. We thrive and bear fruit when we allow ourselves to live in God and God to live in us. We find courage and strength to love and forgive, to share mercy and compassion. We all have seen branches ripped from vines and trees by wind and extreme temperatures, observed how they dry up and disintegrate. But our Jesus, our vine, continuously invites us back to himself. When the troubles of life rip us from our faith and trust in God, we just have to ask, and we are grafted back onto the vine by the never-ending love and mercy of Jesus our God.

If we are uncertain about our connection to Jesus, John's first letter reassures us. *Whoever obeys his commandments abides in him, and he abides in them.* We try every day to keep God's commandments. We fail, we try again, trusting in God's support and compassion. This is how we bear fruit; we grow in love. We must not forget how important this is and what a difference we can make when we let God's love flow through us into the world. In discussing Teilhard de Chardin (a Jesuit priest and paleontologist), John Haught said: "Each of us has something to contribute to the world's ongoing creation and the building up of Christ's body- especially through acts that bring unity and overcome division." Jesus is our vine, and we are called to bear fruit, to contribute to the building and growing of God's kingdom! Alleluia! Alleluia!



Tanya Taft

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed

Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm

Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm

Fr. William Hann, Pastor

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC

V8N 3X7

Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844

office@holycrossvictoria.org

***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 or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit BishopReportingSystem.ca or call 1-866-892-3737

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from St Patrick's Parish at 11am Sunday. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

Baptismal Prep Do you want to have your child welcomed into the family of God through baptism? To prepare you must complete a registration form and complete a Baptismal Preparation course. Please note that the next session for Baptismal Preparation is: Saturday, May 25th (10:00 am - 12 noon). Please email hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.

Outreach Ministry Requests for Visits

If you or a person you know would like a visit from an Outreach Ministry Volunteer to bring Holy Communion to someone at home who is unable to get to Mass; or - someone in long-term care, please contact the Office at 250-477-5321, or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org

St. Andrew's Regional High School and the Diocese of Victoria are excited to announce the final phase of the Building on Success Campaign - the Field Project, which has been unfolding behind the scenes since completion of the Performing Arts Wing in 2020. This final phase will create an all-weather field so students can participate in physical education classes year-round, join sports teams, and have a safe outdoor learning space.

The Building on Success Campaign is being revitalized to accept donations needed to complete the sports field by September 2024. Ongoing donations are also greatly appreciated. For more details and to donate, please visit the St. Andrew's High School web page at: <https://standrewshigh.ca> You can donate directly online via Canada Helps at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/5107>

Thank you for supporting our high school.

Got extra yarn? Judy Begg has been knitting baby sweaters for the RJH gift shop for quite some time - 494 to-date! She's happy to keep knitting, but could use some yarn donations. If you have extra yarn that you would be willing to donate, please drop it off at the office.


Job Opportunity

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria and Island Catholic Schools are seeking a part-time fundraising coordinator for the period of June 3, 2024 to June 30, 2025. We are looking for a dynamic individual with donor relationship experience, and excellent organizational, administrative and communication skills.

The job posting may be viewed at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment>. All applications must be received by May 13, 2024.

St. Patrick's CWL Annual Spring Sale - Mark your calendar!

St. Patrick's Parish CWL will be holding their Annual Spring Good Used Clothing, Jewellery and Book Sale on Friday, May 10th 9:30am to 4:00pm and Saturday, May 11th 9:30am to 2:00pm in Lourdes Hall. All are welcome!

 **GVAT Civic Academy on Vacancy Control, Sun. May 5, 1 – 4:30 pm, Fernwood Community Centre (1240 Gladstone Avenue)**

Have you ever wondered why rents in Greater Victoria keep rising well beyond the rate of inflation, despite provincial rent control policies which limit annual increases for a continuing tenant? This is because BC has no Vacancy Control (which limits rent increases for a rental unit in between tenants). Join **GVAT** (Greater Victoria Acting Together) for an afternoon of learning and planning about Vacancy Control. You will find out what vacancy control is, where it is currently in place, and how it could work in BC. Spread the word to anyone who is a renter living in fear of receiving an eviction notice! The housing crisis affects us all, even if we ourselves enjoy housing security. **RRSP at this LINK**. For more info, email Yvonne Hsieh at yvonneh@gvat.ca.

Prayer Reflection

The **doctors of the church** were apostles of the pen. —*Homiletics & Pastoral Review*

You have to prune so you can grow.

—*Liz Montigny, goals coach and retreat leader*

Vines and trees will teach you that which you will never learn from masters.

—*Saint Bernard of Clairvaux*

Word of the Week: Doctor of the Church

Doctor, from the Latin *docere*, meaning “to teach”; an eminent teacher of the faith, canonized and recognized as such by the pope or church council. Originally eight in number, four were chosen from the Eastern Church and four from the West. **Doctors of the church** are always canonized saints, defined by three criteria: eminent learning, a high degree of sanctity, and proclamation by a pope or council. Their naming isn't an infallible decision and doesn't presume their writings are free from error. A doctor's primary significance is as Confessor of the faith. That is why martyrs, such as Ignatius and Cyprian, were originally excluded. Irenaeus of Lyon was added in 2022, however, so doctor-martyrs are now a possibility. Currently, there are 37 doctors of the church (4 woman) , with 17 being from religious orders: Five Benedictines; three each of Carmelites, Dominicans, and Franciscans; two Jesuits; and one Redemptorist. Each doctor reveals an avenue of grace through unique achievements in such areas as apologetics, homiletics, history, education, science, art, music, poetry, catechesis, mysticism, morality, and spirituality. We celebrate Catherine of Sienna feast this week. Catherine of Siena transcended the narrow roles to which Medieval laypeople—and women in particular—were subject. She gave wise counsel to popes, negotiated settlements, kept a continuous correspondence with her followers throughout Italy, and composed *The Dialogue*, an account of her conversation with God, which is widely considered a masterpiece of spiritual literature and contributed to her being named a doctor of the church. Amazingly she accomplished all this despite being almost completely illiterate! How? She dictated everything. Each one of us has shortcomings. Today, before you feel defeated by a limitation, heed Catherine’s advice: “Don’t look at your weaknesses. Realize instead that in Christ crucified you can do everything.”

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, April 27, 2024

4PM Mass: Joanne Jones+

SUNDAY, April 28, 2024

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, April 29, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, April 30, 2024

9AM Mass: Christopher Pomeroy+

WEDNESDAY, May 1, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, May 2, 2024

9AM Mass: Mike Balough+

FRIDAY, May 3 2024

NO MASS

Adoration is held on the first Friday of the month.

The Chapel will be open this week Tuesday to Friday 9 - 12

Masks are no longer mandatory indoors. We do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed.

COLLECTIONS , April 21, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 4,395.00
Loose	\$ 405.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,048.00
TOTAL	\$ 5,848.00

Sacred Music Symposium

Our Lady of the Rosary Young Adults is hosting the Sacred Music Symposium on May 24-25 at The Chapel of Our Lady Star of the Sea (595 Galiano Cres, Colwood). This is an opportunity to learn about Sacred Music, new chants and hymns, as well as sing alongside a professional schola, Sacred Music Sundays, at a Mass. Everyone - musicians, non-musicians alike - are invited to attend. Cost is by donation (\$10 minimum is requested). For more information about the weekend, Sacred Music Sundays, event agenda, and to register, please visit:bit.ly/OLORYAGRetreat.

Prayer for the Children Celebrating Confirmation and First Communion at St Patrick’s at Pentecost:

Lord Jesus Christ, bless the children ready to receive Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Come Holy Spirit and rest upon them - the Spirit of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Might, Knowledge, Reverence, and Fear of the LORD. Lord Jesus, welcome them to your sacred table to nourish their bodies and souls with Yourself, true bread of eternal life. Amen.

The Year 2 group will celebrate the sacraments on Sunday May 19, 2024 at the 4pm Pentecost Sunday Mass at St Patrick’s with the Bishop’s visit and reception to follow. All are welcome to bring a favourite food and share a potluck meal in Our Lady of Lourdes Hall. Sign up [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cbTzjXXntfiA7MYBj583v3UsL4TsZGJHXt7jK9M9978/edit?usp=sharing). Thank you for keeping the children of St Patrick’s and Holy Cross in your prayers! Potluck Sign up sheet: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cbTzjXXntfiA7MYBj583v3UsL4TsZGJHXt7jK9M9978/edit?usp=sharing>

News from the Chancery

- 1) April 30 is the early bird registration deadline for the 10th Annual Family Life Conference and Camp, to be held August 15th – 18th at Nanoose Bay. All families are invited to enjoy this weekend full of fellowship, faith and fun! The weekend is sure to strengthen your family's connection with Christ, with one another, and with other families. For more information and the link to register, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/family-camp>.
- 2) The annual March for Life happens this year on Thursday, May 9. Bishop Gary will be celebrating Mass at St. Andrew's Cathedral at noon that day; all are welcome
- 3) With the celebration of Earth Day on April 22 this week, the time seems right for an update on our diocesan Garry Oak ecosystem restoration project. Over the past eight Saturdays, 20 volunteers have cleared invasive species from over 1000 square feet of land, cut ivy off dozens of Garry Oaks, and found a surprisingly large number of golf balls! To learn more, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/garry-oak-ecosystem-restoration-update>. Please also visit and share our Eventbrite page with your friends and family – new volunteers are always welcome: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/garry-oak-ecosystem-restoration-project-867898697367>
- 4) In late February, Karno Batiran, one of Development and Peace's partners from Indonesia, came to the Diocese of Victoria to learn about and share information on sustainable farming. To read more about his visit, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/development-and-peace-partner-visits-diocese-of-victoria>
- 5) The Diocese of Nelson is seeking a Payroll and Benefits Coordinator. The position will be based at their Catholic Pastoral Centre in Kelowna, and will be responsible for the administration of payroll and benefit programs for the Diocese of Nelson including all of its parishes and Catholic schools in accordance with diocesan policies and current legislation. Applications must be received by May 3. For more information, please visit <https://www.nelsondiocese.org/apps/jobs/>

Ellis' Fundraiser for Mount St Mary Hospital is ongoing. Order your hanging baskets, veggies and plants by calling Ellis at 250-477-6754. Pickup is May 15th. If you have empty planters, you're invited to take them to Ellis to plant - drop off by April 25th, also for May 15 pickup.

South Island Harmony Spring Concert

South Island Harmony presents "*Come Together in Harmony*" on May 11th at 2pm at the Dave Dunnet Theatre at Oak Bay High School, Oak Bay. Tickets are \$25 for Adults, and \$10 for Students. A few tickets are available in the office at Holy Cross Parish or may be purchased on the website: <https://www.southislandharmony.com/>. South Island Harmony choir members are also selling tickets.

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 (after hours)

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistants: Phil & Sheila Wall

250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

Office Assistant: Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

University Chaplain:

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow

mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk

hcspbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Mass times - Holy Cross Parish:

4pm Saturday, 9am Sunday

9am Tuesday and 9am Thursday

Mass times - St. Patrick's Parish:

11am Sunday, 4pm Sunday

12:10pm Wednesday and 12:10pm Friday

Confessions are at 3:00pm on Saturdays at Holy Cross Parish and at 11:30am on Fridays at St. Patrick's Parish.

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.