



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining 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 - August 1, 2021 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God's abundant love created us into being, and God promises to provide for all of our physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs into eternity. Think about that for a minute – *provide for all of our needs – into eternity!* Do we even have the capability to contemplate the largeness of God and God's promises for us? This awareness is beyond our comprehension, for God is the Creator of all things and we are the created, yet God yearns for us to know how much God loves us and provides for us.

God knows us intimately and wants a reciprocal relationship with us. God hears our voice and provides food to sustain our physical needs with a deep desire to provide so much more. God knows that our physical needs must be met in order for us to move beyond the physical to the spiritual. Sometimes we forget that we are more than just physical beings. Like the Israelites, we focus on our physical comforts. Anticipated fears take hold when we enter a wilderness in our lives, and we go into a tail spin. We catastrophize our situation, move into victim mode, and abnegate our responsibility by blaming everything and everyone around us, especially God. We've been asking for a way out of 'Egypt', whatever Egypt represents in our lives today, and God complies by leading us out, but it's not how we envisioned it! We then glorify the familiar rut and can't see beyond our own paradigm.

Physical needs placate our emotions and we can skim the surface of life with relative ease and little commitment. Yet, we are more than physical beings with immediate needs. We have been created in the image and likeness of God, to live the Kingdom here on earth, to be Christ-like to all we meet. When life throws a curve ball and we fall to our knees, we won't ask 'what must we do' and 'what sign are you going to give us' because we know what we are called to do and we know the sign of the rainbow, the covenant, and the miracles of healing and feeding. We are surrounded by the miracle of life every day for our focus is God!

Jesus invites us to believe in him and believe in God, an invitation into a greater way of being in the world. Through prayer, contemplation, reflection, and presence, let us open to the mystery of God, tune our hearts to God's voice, and lock our gaze on God. In the readings today God provides bread (an everyday staple) in an unexpected way (from heaven). Jesus, the incarnation, the true manna, the Bread of Life, rains down from heaven in abundance, filling us beyond our needs and giving us eternal life. An extraordinary promise that calls us to a deeper relationship, to move beyond the physical, to 'clothe ourselves in true righteousness and holiness', to literally become the Bread of Life.

Martin Luther observed:

*“God’s wonderful works which happen daily are lightly esteemed,
not because they are of no import
but because they happen so constantly and without interruption.
Man is used to the miracle that God rules the world and upholds all creation,
and because things daily run their appointed course, it seems insignificant,
and no man thinks it worth his while to meditate upon it
and to regard it as God’s wonderful work,
and yet it is a greater wonder
than that Christ fed five thousand men with five loaves
and made wine from water.”*

Let's believe and live into the largeness of God!

In God's abundance, Mona

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.

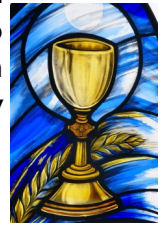
LIVESTREAM MASSES

We will not be livestreaming Mass while Fr. William is away on holidays. *Livestreaming will resume on Saturday, September 4th.* Thank you for your understanding. Just a reminder that the Bishop of Victoria will be livestreaming from the Cathedral every Sunday at 10am from the Diocesan link: www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES UPDATE:



Our amazing Holy Cross community has certainly been stepping up - and stepping in - for our Liturgical Ministry; thank you all for your service & commitment thus far! It's wonderful to experience the gift of community again. **ADDITIONAL USHERS NEEDED** – for both the Saturday 4pm & Sunday 9am Masses. Guidelines & training provided. A great way to welcome & connect with others! For those previously active in Liturgical Ministries, if you haven't already done so, please let Joanie know if you would like to continue or not. We will be holding a Ministries Fair sometime in September when Fr. William returns, which will be an opportunity to explore ways of serving in our community. The new schedule (for Oct/2021 to June/2022) will be distributed the end of September. Thanks all!



– Joanie Bidlake. Officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

JOB OPPORTUNITIES: ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Catholic Independent Schools of the Diocese of Victoria (Island Catholic Schools) is accepting applications for the following positions:

- After School Care Workers at St. Joseph's School in Victoria (Monday to Friday; 3 hours per day)
- Early Childhood Educators at St. John Paull II School, Mini Miracles Family Centre, in Port Alberni
- Part-time Librarian at St. Joseph's School in Victoria (4 days per week)
- Part-time Educational Assistant at St. Joseph's School in Victoria
- Part-time Teachers at St. Patrick's School and St. Andrew's Regional High School in Victoria
- On-call Teachers, Educational Assistants, Early Childhood Educators and Out of School Care Workers for all schools (Port Alberni, Duncan, Victoria)

Application forms and details are posted at: <http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>

RECONCILIATION CORNER

To further our knowledge of Indigenous history, cultures and experience, we are starting a special collection of books by Indigenous authors or on Indigenous issues for our parish library. This will become a **free circulating exchange**, placed in our church foyer for greater access. If you have appropriate **books to DONATE TO THIS COLLECTION**, please **drop them off at the Parish Office or leave them on the bookcase in the foyer for our librarian George Murphy**. Fiction and non-fiction, and books for all age groups are welcome. Once we have collected a sufficient number, we will start the circulation.



PRAYER REFLECTION

I long to understand in some degree thy truth, which my heart believes and loves. For I do not seek to understand that I may believe, but I believe in order to understand.

—Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109)

Yes, the time has come for conversion, for personal transformation, for inner renewal. We must get used to thinking in a new way, of humanity, of common life among humans, of the roads of history and the destiny of the world.

—Pope Paul VI (1897-1978)

Whoever believes in this bread will never hunger, will never be famished for want of hearing the word of God; nor will such a person be parched by spiritual thirst through lack of the waters of Baptism and the consecration imparted by the Spirit.

—Saint Theophylact (c. 1050-1109)

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/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream.

SUNDAY 10 AM

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 7 PM

British Columbia Bishops' Campaign in Support of Healing and Reconciliation

The Catholic bishops of British Columbia recognize the need for a province-wide initiative to raise funds to support healing and reconciliation among Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

This appeal will launch formally in September 2021, at which time further details will be provided.

Campaign Priorities

The goal of the Campaign is to support residential school survivors and Indigenous communities in our province as part of our ongoing response to the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. This includes projects that promote healing and reconciliation.

As part of this process, each bishop will consult with Indigenous leadership, survivors, elders, and other community members.

The bishops of British Columbia sincerely hope that this Campaign will help to restore trust and further the ongoing journey to truth and reconciliation.

In the Diocese of Victoria, donations may be made at:
<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/donate-healing-reconciliation>

The campaign message may be found on our Diocesan website at:
<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/special-announcements/bc-bishops-appeal-in-support-of-healing-and-reconciliation>

Just a reminder: Diocesan Bursaries and Awards application deadline has been extended to **August 13th**. For more information please visit: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/> and search Programs for Bursaries and Awards.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, July 31st

4pm Mass: Maria Huber +

SUNDAY, August 1st

9am Mass: Tony Hann +

MONDAY, August 2

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, August 3

9am Mass: Policarpio Dapat &
Candida Jalipa +

WEDNESDAY, August 4

9am Mass: Fedelino Beruno &
Celerina Aposin

THURSDAY, August 5

9am Mass: Ole Qualley &
Mary McRae +

FRIDAY, August 6

9am Mass: Salvatore Ciccone +

In-person Masses have resumed now with no restrictions on numbers. If you have any questions in this regard, please contact the Office (250-477-5321.)

Masks are now optional, with the exception of those not yet vaccinated, in the church and parish centre.



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

COLLECTION for July 26, 2021

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 1,920.00
Loose	\$ 165.00
Canada Helps	\$ 249.90
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,011.90

