

# 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 22, 2021**  
**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"I will walk by faith even when I can not see." – 2. Corinthians 5:7

Jesus said to the people: "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you." This was the tipping point for the crowds that had been following Jesus. Jesus unveiled the mystery of the Eucharist and they could not accept it. They turned their back on Him and walked away. How sad to imagine Jesus standing there and watching them go, but Jesus did not say anything more to stop them. His message had been clear. It wasn't wrapped up in a parable to be interpreted, no metaphors were used, and no further explanation was needed. Jesus then turned to his disciples and asks, "Do you also wish to go away?"

How would we answer?

I believe our answer would depend on how strong our faith in Jesus is. Like Peter, we have our faith filled days and then sadly those days when we too deny Jesus. I'd like to think we could echo Peter's words. "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life." Peter's response touches our heart. We recognize his faith in his words. Peter may have not fully understood what Jesus had spoken, but he, unlike the crowd, was very close to Jesus; he loved Jesus; he trusted Jesus, he believed that Jesus was indeed "the Holy One of God", and he places his faith in Jesus.

In the second reading Paul shares how we can build on our faith and our connection to Jesus. He asks us, as God's children, to live in love, just as Jesus did, by treating others with kindness, having an open heart, and showing forgiveness. It's a reminder to us that our relationship with Jesus is not just about us; we need to be present for others. We receive Jesus, the Bread of Life, in communion with others. We need community. Pope Francis once said that faith always leads you out of yourself, that faith needs to be transmitted. We've all been recipients of transmitted faith. We all have those amazing people in our lives that live their faith and inspire deeper faith in us. These are the same people who have had the greatest loss and tragedy in their lives, they are compassionate, they listen and they don't judge. They imitate Jesus' way of being, and in loving others they fall deeper in love with Jesus.

This summer I have been fascinated with a climbing clematis I have on my deck. It's amazing how the new leaf stems search for something to grab onto. When it finds a branch it wraps itself so tightly around it. Once the leaf stem takes hold there's no way to separate it from the rest of the plant, even if a section of the clematis dies you still can't remove the stem. Our faith is like that; once it takes hold it's forever a part of us. It's God's gift to us. It may ebb and flow at different times in our lives, but it's still with us. It's this faith that helps us trust in Jesus in difficult times. It's this faith that allows us to trust Jesus more than we trust ourselves. It's this faith which moves us to believe, even though, we too, like the disciples, may not fully understand.

"Faith is like the feet wherewith the soul journeys to God, and love is the guide that directs it."

-St John

Your sister in faith,  
Anna Mendonca

## 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.

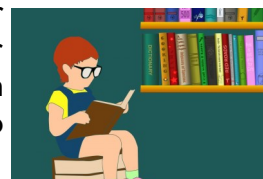
### **LIVESTREAM MASSES**

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 St. Joseph's in Tahsis every Sunday at 10am from the Diocesan link: [www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream](http://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream)

### **LIBRARY CORNER**

Two new, recent books on the Library's Suggestion shelf: Unbelievers: An Emotional History of Doubt by A Ryrie --- What prepared the way for the current crop of Godless scientists/philosophers/journalists like Dawkins, Harris, Hitchens? And, Dorothy Day: Dissenting Voice of the American Century by J Loughery --- Dorothy Day is recently remembered by Pope Francis as one who lived with, spoke for, and went to jail with the disadvantaged.

**A Reminder:** of the request in the "Reconciliation Corner" in last Sunday's Bulletin for book donations to a newly established "Collection of Books by Indigenous Authors or on Indigenous Issues". This collection will be conveniently accessible in the church foyer before and after Mass as soon as there are a reasonable number of books to offer a choice.



### **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**



#### **The 4 Cs: Catechism Confession, Confirmation & Communion REGISTRATION Info & Forms**

Are you wanting to help your child prepare to receive these sacraments and to grow to know Jesus as their best friend? Step right up! Welcome to another year of Our Journey of Faith. These programs run from mid September to early May. Please complete and submit the registration form for Sacramental Preparation You can find them on St. Patrick's Parish Web Site under Religious Education or obtain a hard copy from Holy Cross or St. Patrick's Parish Office.

Contact Barb Shenton at [bshenton@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:bshenton@rcdvictoria.org) for further information.

### **RECONCILIATION CORNER**



We now have a small **collection of books by Indigenous authors and on Indigenous issues**, and parishioners will be able to **borrow them starting this weekend** (in the church foyer). Please take only one book per person at a time; sign it out using the check-out notebook; and return it promptly after reading. We continue to accept donations of books towards the collection. Please place them on top of the bookcase in the foyer, or leave them at the parish office.

### **ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL**

First Friday adoration in the mercy chapel will be starting on Friday, September 3rd, right after morning mass. Any questions? Please call Trish Westwood 250-477-6032.

**PRAYER REFLECTION**

Do not regard the bread and wine as natural elements because they are, as the Master declared, body and blood. . . . [D]o not judge by taste but by faith; be fully assured, you who have been judged worthy of the body and blood of Christ.  
—Saint Cyril of Jerusalem (315?-386)

No one realizes the mystery of the Incarnation but must feel disposed towards that of Holy Communion. Let us pray [to Jesus] to give us an earnest longing after him—a thirst for his presence—and anxiety to find him—a joy on hearing that he is to be found, even now, under the veil of sensible things—and a good hope that we shall find him there.  
—Cardinal John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

**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](http://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream). Celebrate Mass on-line with Bishop Gary at St. Joseph's in Tahsis.

**SUNDAY** ..... 10 AM  
**MONDAY TO FRIDAY** ..... 7 PM

From the Chancery: Pope Francis urges vaccination against Covid-19:  
A post has just been added to the Diocesan website about Pope Francis' new video message urging people to get vaccinated against Covid-19:  
<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/pope-francis-urges-people-to-get-vaccinated-against-covid-19>

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**Pope Francis urges people to get vaccinated against Covid-19**

Pope Francis is making a powerful appeal for people to get vaccinated against Covid-19. In a new video released on August 17, the Pope is joined by Cardinals and Archbishops from across North, Central and South America who speak about the suffering and death the pandemic has brought and the heroic efforts of researchers who developed the vaccines.

To view the video on YouTube, click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWf3ji1EaU>

“Vaccination helps us protect the most vulnerable”, says Cardinal Gregorio Rosa Chávez, Auxiliary Bishop of San Salvador, in the video. “Our choice to get vaccinated affects others. It is a moral responsibility, an act of love for the whole community”.

The Pope repeats this message in the conclusion of the video: “Getting vaccinated is a simple yet profound way to care for one another, especially the most vulnerable. I pray to God that each one of us can make his or her own small gesture of love... small gestures for a better future”.

In British Columbia, drop-in clinics are open for people who haven't yet received their first dose and for those whose first dose was more than 28 days ago. No appointment is necessary, and anyone born in 2009 or earlier is eligible. For locations and hours of drop-in clinics in the Island Health Region, visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/vaxforbc#vancouver-island>. If you prefer to book an appointment, this can be done by phone at 1-833-838-2323 or online at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/register>.

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

**SATURDAY, August 21st**

4pm Mass: Noel Vitch +

**SUNDAY, August 22nd**

9am Mass: Eileen Knapik +

**MONDAY, August 23rd**

Office Closed/No Mass

**TUESDAY, August 24th**

9am Mass: Joseph Zhang + Monica Lu+

**WEDNESDAY, August 25th**

9am Mass: Anna Cheung +

**THURSDAY, August 26th**

9am Mass: Randy Tannock +

**FRIDAY, August 27th**

9am Mass: David Gaffney +

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*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 August 15, 2021**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2,440.00
Loose	\$ 185.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,302.00</b>

