

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 August 23, 2020 Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

So what did Peter get when Jesus proclaimed him the rock and gave him the keys? Nothing discernible at the time, we can be sure, except perhaps a warm, glowing feeling that was brutally short (see next week's gospel). What made Peter papabile? To his credit, he was one of the earliest disciples called, and he emerged as the most outspoken of the 12 apostles. Peter was close enough to Jesus to become part of the inner circle of three (including Zebedee's sons James and John) who were present for some of the critical hours of Jesus' life. Peter was characteristically passionate and motivated to act—which in an environment of slack-jawed and passive disciples certainly merited some points. But what proved the tipping point in Jesus' assessment was the day when Peter got the right answer to the question, "Who do you say that I am?"

According to Matthew's reckoning, it wasn't that Peter blurted out the correct response by dumb luck or that he shared aloud his long-held private belief about Jesus at a well-timed moment. Peter's response was, to Jesus, a sign that the Holy Spirit was with him. Peter's susceptibility to the promptings of grace was far more important than the idea that he might be smart enough to have figured Jesus out. Intelligence was nice enough as far as it goes—but the capacity to channel inspiration was what Jesus was looking for in a leader.

On the other hand, much can be said about what Peter was not. His faith faltered in moments of crisis, as when he tried to walk on water. He lacked courage in the face of outside challenge; witness his waffling on the matter of eating with Gentiles in Acts. Peter could not be depended on for loyalty, a failing that grieved him terribly in the time of his historic denial. He was as capable of getting the answer very wrong as well as spectacularly right—but again, we anticipate next week's gospel. It is obvious that Peter was not chosen to lead the church because he was perfect. His appointment did not come as a result of his strengths any more than it did in spite of his weaknesses. What made Peter a good choice, the premiere choice, is that the Holy Spirit demonstrably could work with him. Susceptibility to the Holy Spirit remains the best criteria for choosing leadership in the church today. "Who do you say I am?" Jesus asks. How has your answer to that question changed as you have grown and matured?

Everyone gets promoted to his or her level of incompetence, according to the Peter Principle. That could certainly be said of the Apostle Peter. He showed promise and passion, but to shepherd Jesus' followers in their faith was a tall order for the guy who denied Jesus three times. Yet in love, if not in corporate culture, competence is a rather tricky thing to measure—it's all about heart and soul; intention and effort; humility and perseverance. It's definitely not about perfection or stellar performance. Peter kept talking to the Lord and that is what saved him and us. Think of the people you would follow to the ends of the earth: a spouse, a child, a best friend, a mentor, a parent, a sibling. These people are far from faultless, yet they are worthy companions along the way because they love you and are loved in return. Many people have power and influence over us, but only those who love can lead us in faith. Let's put our trust where it can do us the most good: in Jesus and anyone who, however imperfectly, lives in his spirit.

Let us rise with Peter, Father William

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:30pm
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:00pm

Fr. William Hann, Pastor

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HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS: If you or someone you love is admitted to hospital and would like a visit from your pastor or Eucharistic Minister, please call your parish office or VGH/RJ hospital emergency pager **250-889-3761** and ask for **Fr. Sean Flynn** to make this request.

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!

Please Note: All are invited to join Bishop Gary Gordon from the comfort and safety of your homes as he celebrates Mass through a live stream from St. Joseph's Church in Tahsis. Masses are livestreamed Monday to Friday at 7pm and on Sundays at 10am. To access the live stream <https://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne>

The Saturday 4 pm Mass is also live streamed to the St. Andrew's Cathedral YouTube site with one of the priests residing at the Cathedral celebrating. It can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tKnRCVYp4PA&feature=youtu.be>

***Father William will be away from July 22-August 31st. His first mass back will be Tuesday, September 1st for the 9:00am mass.**

DONATIONS FOR BEIRUT

Following the deadly explosions that devastated Beirut, thousands of people have been affected as 159 people have died, more than 6,000 have been injured, and over 300,000 people have been left homeless. Development and Peace, the official international development organization of the Catholic Church in Canada, is working with Caritas Lebanon to provide food, water, medical aid, and psychological and social support to those impacted by this crisis. You may donate directly to Development and Peace at: <https://bit.ly/2DRwfiv> or by calling 1 888 664-3387. **Any donations made to Development and Peace before August 24, will be matched by the Canadian government.**

OUR PLACE—DONATIONS NEEDED

As we reopen our doors to welcome our family members back to Our Place at 919 Pandora, we find ourselves in need of toiletries – (hotel size shampoo, soap, skin lotions, toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouth wash, dental floss, deodorant, safety razors, shaving cream, band aids, sun screen). Thank you for your continuing generosity to the Our Place Family. Items can be dropped off at 919 Pandora Ave 7 days per week at Reception.



'LIBRARY CORNER'

August 28 is the feast day of St Augustine (350 to 430) --- rightly famous for his Confessions which remains as one of the finest autobiographies ever written and his The City of God which contrasts what he saw in 5th century Rome with what Christ would want that city to be.

For **brief chapter outlines** of Confessions visit [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confessions_\(Augustine\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confessions_(Augustine)),

And for The City of God https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_City_of_God

For his memorable quotations visit https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/6819578.Augustine_of_Hippo

e.g. *“Lord, help me to be chaste, but not just yet”* and *“God is closer to me than I am”*

PRAYER REFLECTION

I am to be loved, honored and respected solely because I exist. I am to be cherished, spoiled, celebrated because I Am! I was made to be admired. I am a beloved child of God after all.

— *Emmanuella Raphaelle, author*

There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.

— *Maya Angelou*

Peter, the leader of the choir, the mouth of all the apostles, the head of that tribe, the ruler of the whole world, the foundation of the church, the ardent lover of Christ. — *John Chrysostom (c. 350-407)*

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

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MERLIN'S MUSINGS: These can be accessed through the following link: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesan-blog/merlinsmusings17>

Note: During the summer months the Diocesan Pastoral Centre will **be closed on Fridays**. Please see their website for current opening hours: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/>

HOMEGROWN ORGANIC GARLIC FOR SALE

These are organically grown Russian Red "Hardneck" Garlic, known for their mildness, yet beautiful richer, smoother and more garlicky flavors when compared to the commonly found supermarkets garlic that are often imported "Softneck" variety. **Russian Red garlics** have bigger cloves, are odorless and easier to peel, have the best storage life and more importantly healthier for you.

Our very own Holy Cross parishioner, Harry Wan, grew these in his garden, and has 2 inch size bulbs available, **3 for \$8**.

All proceeds go to Anawim House: . <https://www.anawimhouse.com/> Please call the office if you would like to buy some and arrange pick up. Thank you for your support.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION COURSES 2020/2021

As summer progresses many of us are beginning to look ahead to the upcoming year for the sacraments of Confession, Confirmation & First Holy Communion. We plan to have classes beginning in late September. Due to COVID-19, how this year of preparation will unfold is still being planned. For now, we welcome new registrations for either year. Please send an email to barbshenton@ics.rcdvictoria.org with your family name, your child's name and age and a return email. A registration form will be forwarded to you.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, August 22nd

2:30-3:15pm Reconciliation

4:00pm Mass: **Dr. James Henry Purvis + (Wilma Saville's brother)**

SUNDAY, August 23rd

9:00am Mass: **Birdie Glancy +**

MONDAY, August 24th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, August 25th

9:00 am Mass: **Kevin Lynch**

WEDNESDAY, August 26th

9:00am Mass: **No Intention**

THURSDAY, August 27th

9:00am Mass: **Maria & Jose Fernandez Grandizo**
32nd Anniversary

FRIDAY, August 28th

9:00 am Mass: **Alan Bailey (int)**

At Holy Cross Parish you must now register for which day of the week you would like to attend Mass. You can register by emailing Joanie Bidlake at:

officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

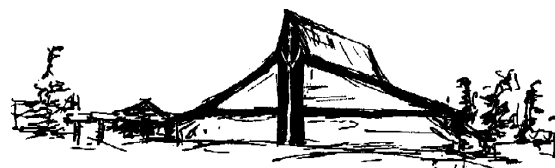
Our Mass schedule remains the same for now:

Tuesday – Friday: 9am Mass

Saturday: 4pm Mass (full)

Sunday: 9am Mass (full)

*please note that you may select a Mass time from St. Patrick's Parish Mass schedule. To do this please call Deborah Mackay at St. Pat's at: **250-592-7391**.



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

COLLECTION for August 16, 2020

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes/Canada Helps	\$ 1,960.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,452.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,412.00