



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 8, 2021
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

John 6.41-51 *“Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw them: and I will raise that person on the last day.”*

I would like to share a passage from John Bartunek's book, *The Better Part*.

“He gave himself to be our food: unhappy is the one who is unaware of so great a gift.” St Cajetan

Through the centuries, many have continued to 'complain' about Jesus, contending that he is only a man, only a great teacher. Only when we allow ourselves to let God into our hearts, “No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father”, can we see beyond the confines of our limited understanding does Jesus of Nazareth become for us Jesus the Christ, Christ the Lord. In today's Gospel, Christ packs three momentous lessons into this discourse. First, he points out the mystery of faith, no one can believe in him “unless he is drawn to the Father.”

Second, faith in Christ leads to 'eternal life'. In Biblical language, “knowing” implies deep personal intimacy, the kind of relationship we all yearn for. That we can have this with God himself, who is more lovable, more beautiful than any other person is or every could be, is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Third, Jesus himself is the bread of this eternal life, it's source and sustenance. Without bread, without food, physical life perishes; without Jesus, with his 'flesh for the life of the world" in the Eucharist, our life of intimate communion with God will perish. Several times in his discourse Jesus speaks of himself as the bread of life; you would think we would get the message.

Those who believe in Jesus will have “eternal life” they will “not die” but will “live forever”; those who come to him will be “raised on the last day”. How odd to be thinking of that even before he himself has been raised! And yet, it is why he came; it is the goal of all his sufferings and efforts. He wants to bring each of us into the everlasting Kingdom of light and joy, and he never lets that goal drift into the background. Friendship with Christ is not a temporary fix. When Jesus extends his hand in friendship, which he never stops doing, he means to walk with us in time and in eternity, if we're willing.

Love gives itself, it shares itself completely. Christ loves to the extreme: he gives us his own life. He shares with us his own divine existence – “Whoever eats me will draw life from me.” This is the meaning of the Eucharist, which the Church calls the “source and summit” of Christian life. It is the sacrament of love par excellence, because there, Love makes himself available 24/7. We will never be able to comprehend exactly how it happens, but we know that it does happen, and we know why: so that we will “live forever”. In the face of such love, the only appropriate response is to humbly accept this precious gift and give our own love in return.

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances: for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

He satisfies the hungry heart,

Debby Pietraszek

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.

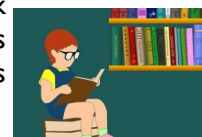
LIVESTREAM MASSES

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

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, Hitchins? 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.



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

Reminder: if you have **books to donate to the special collection of books by Indigenous authors or on Indigenous issues** (see last week's bulletin), 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.

Reconciliation action for this week: watch the documentary "[Picking up the Pieces: the Making of the Witness Blanket](#)." Coast Salish artist and UVic Professor Carey Newman created this monumental art installation from items collected from residential schools, government buildings and churches across Canada, to commemorate the victims of residential schools.



PRAYER REFLECTION

Love is fully sufficient to itself, when it enters the heart, it absorbs all other feelings. The soul who loves, loves and knows nothing more. To God alone, honor and glory. But God accepts these only when seasoned with the honey of love.

—Saint Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)

Give me persons who love and they will understand what I am saying. Give me persons who desire; who are hungry; who, after a pilgrimage in the wilderness, are thirsty and pine for the source of the eternal homeland; give me such persons and they will understand what I am saying.

—Saint Augustine (354-430)

The Eucharist shows us in the glorified flesh of the Risen Christ the world already transfigured, and it inaugurates the definitive harmony of earthly things, the harmony of glory. Rise, my soul, take and eat the pledge of all salvation and glory for all flesh.

—Karl Rahner (1904-1984)

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. Celebrate Mass on-line with Bishop Gary at St. Joseph's in Tahsis.

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>

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, August 7th
4pm Mass: Salvatore Ciccone

SUNDAY, August 8th
9am Mass: Narciso Dapat +
and Socorno Arceno +

MONDAY, August 9th
Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, August 10th
9am Mass: Elmo Beruno +
and Amparo Dapat +

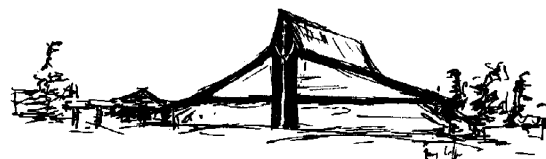
WEDNESDAY, August 11th
9am Mass: Bill Philion +
and Anna Mendonca

THURSDAY, August 12th
9am Mass: Federico and Victoria
Beruno +

FRIDAY, August 13th
9am Mass: Gregory and Lucy Zhang +

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 Aug. 1, 2021

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

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|----------------------|--------------------|
| Envelopes | \$ 3,795.00 |
| Loose | \$ 170.00 |
| Pre-Authorized Debit | \$ 1,677.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 5,642.00 |

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.

