

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 9, 2020 **Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

It should not be too difficult to identify with the disciples in the boat. The seas are rough, threatening. When we have lived a bit, we have all had experiences of the roof falling in on us, or the dropping out on us. It happens when our confidence in people, or for even that matter God, slowly erodes or gets shaken: when disillusioned or facing hardship or illness or coping with the ramifications of a virus.

It is in moments like this that we may find ourselves in the threatening darkness of night surrounded by powerful waves that threatened to swallow us up. "It is in moments like these that we may, like Peter scream: "Lord, save me!" or "Where are you? Where can you be found?" Or the situation may be so threatening, so overpowering, that we cannot even get these words over our lips anymore. It is in such distressing circumstances that the Gospel story of today summons us to confidence and hope. It tries to convince us of God's gracious presence to us, whatever overcomes us. When the Gospel story has Jesus walking on the water and joining the disciples in the chaos that threatens them, then we have a powerful image that in Jesus, God is present to us.

Jesus walking on the water is a powerful image of knowing we are borne and sustained by God's presence. We can only hope and pray for each other, and for ourselves, that the experience of God's presence may help us make it through the dark night of Covid 19, and in whatever ways the darkness of the night may strike us. When the seas of our minds and hearts are roiling; we reach out; allow ourselves to trust; and are offered a sign of peace.

Being dazed and confused, frightened and in pain is not how Jesus wants us to live. Think of the words of Jesus we repeat each time we gather at Eucharist: "My peace I leave you; my peace I give to you." Remember Christ's peace is yours for the taking. That is the miracle of Christian living. Problems and challenges do not disappear but our fear of them does. Instead of Peter's panic, "Lord, save me!"; our response can be modeled after Peter's faith, "Lord, command me to come to you." We can remain calm even in the midst of chaos. We can, in fact, walk on water. Believe that, and you will have plenty of peace to offer others.

Courage all and hello from waters edge of Champneys' West, Newfoundland.

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

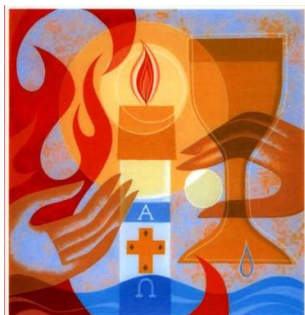
HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS: If you or someone you love is admitted to hospital and would like a visit from your pastor or Eucharistic Minister, please call your parish office or VGH/RJ hospital emergency pager **250-889-3761** and ask for **Fr. Sean Flynn** to make this request.

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: Live broadcast of Masses at Holy Cross / St. Patrick's Parishes will resume in September when Fr. William returns. 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:
<http://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne>.

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

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION COURSES 2020/2021**SACRAMENTAL PREP – YEAR I & II**

As summer progresses many of us are beginning to look ahead to the upcoming year for the sacraments of Confession, Confirmation & First Holy Communion. How exciting! 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. I will forward a registration form to you and add you to our mailing list for communication purposes.

- Barb Shenton, Sacramental Preparation Coordinator

SCAM ALERT

There is a scam going around using the Bishop of Victoria's name, BUT there has also been a resurgence of the scam involving Fr. William's name which has gone around in the past. The scam using email and text messages from Fr. William has also reared it's ugly head again. If you get a text message or an email from "Fr. William" asking for gift cards and or cash please **IGNORE** this message. Often the initial message is an invitation to call or email him back. **IGNORE** that also. Fr. William has never, will never and would never contact parishioners with this kind of request. Stay vigilant!

**SCAM
ALERT!**

THANK YOU

Thank you to Fr. Frank, and to all who have graciously been helping at our Masses as Ushers and Lectors. Your welcoming presence is so important and much appreciated during this time of pandemic.

Blessings & gratitude!

OFFICE HOURS NEXT WEEK

Please note that the office will be open on Tuesday, Aug. 11th from 9:00am to 12noon, and the church will be locked immediately following Mass that day. Valentina returns to the office on Wednesday, Aug. 12th - at which time, normal office hours (9am-2pm), and hours for private prayer in the church, following the 9am Mass (until 11am), will restart. **Welcome back, Valentina!**



PRAYER REFLECTION

It is Jesus that you seek when you dream of happiness. He is waiting for you when nothing else you find satisfies you.

—Pope St. John Paul II

The church of Christ acknowledges that in God’s plan of salvation, the beginning of her faith and her election is to be found in the patriarchs, Moses, and the prophets.

—Nostra Aetate, 1965

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/>

OUR PLACE

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 Items can be dropped off at 919 Pandora Ave, 7 days per week at Reception.) **Thank you for your continuing generosity to the Our Place Family.**

We have recently received sad news from a couple of parishioners and friends that they have lost family members. We keep these families, as well as all who have been affected by the coronavirus, in our prayers at this time. We pray especially for the repose of the souls of Esperanza Benitez Higuera, Albert Bushell, and Kamal Akeed Alraban.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, August 8th

2:30-3:15pm Reconciliation

4:00pm Mass: **Mazza family**

SUNDAY, August 9th

9:00am Mass: **Joan Blatch**

McLavery +

MONDAY, August 10th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, August 11th

9:00 am Mass: **For our Parish**

Community

WEDNESDAY, August 12th

9:00am Mass: **Fred Schemitsch+**

THURSDAY, August 13th

9:00am Mass: **Helen MacLure - 90th**

Birthday

FRIDAY, August 14th

9:00 am Mass: **Family Intention &**

Thanksgiving (Shanti)

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 3, 2020

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes/Canada Helps	\$ 1,705.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,452.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,157.00