



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 December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday in Advent

In today's gospel we hear part of Jesus' birth story. It's a remarkable story starring Joseph, a righteous man, who listened to his inner dreams and found a way to make room in his life and in his heart for an unexpected child. Joseph was a stand-up guy, a regular Joe, a by-the-book rule follower, a good Jew. But like any faithful person, he let his conscience be his final guide. By feeling compassion for Mary and taking her into his home despite her unlawful condition, he was being obedient to the spirit of his faith in a loving and merciful God. It takes a special courage for rule followers to bend and stretch as Joseph did.



Joseph is a good model for all of us plodding our way through the final days of Advent. Righteousness or self-righteousness? That is the question! Lots of us are tempted to believe in our own moral goodness more than the promises of God. Do you think of yourself as living a virtuous life? Do others perceive you as righteous? What makes the difference between the righteous and self-righteous person? What is a righteous person supposed to look like? We can make all kinds of guesses, some scholarly, others opinionated. The Hebrew word for righteousness implied a true weight, as the one used to balance an honest scale. A righteous weight is one that is what it says it is. Righteousness described a straight path that goes directly without meandering to its destination. A sacrificial offering was righteous if it followed the prescriptions of the law flawlessly. The measure of this characteristic is met when a thing meets its standard perfectly. That's why, according to the Hebraic use of the word, a righteous person is one who keeps the law. Joseph, betrothed to Mary, was deemed a righteous man.

The Josephs of this world, with their simple empathies for others, keep us open to life-giving possibilities and alert to the presence of God among us as we work and play and go about our daily tasks. It's the week before Christmas. Why not bend the cultural rules a little and show compassion toward even the most undeserving store clerk? Ignore the messages to buy more and spend less time shopping. Enjoy the company of your family, and, like Joseph, take others into your home with no other expectation than to share the good tidings of God's love. Day by day we try to make room in our lives and in our hearts for

Jesus, the beloved child of God. We do so by being mindful of our longing, by looking for wondrous sights of the season, and opening our hearts to the songs that speak of this amazing child who comes to save us. Ever have a Joseph moment?

Saint Joseph pray for us

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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www.holycrossvictoria.org

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**Christmas Eve, Tues. Dec. 24th:**

Holy Cross: 4pm and Midnight mass

St. Patrick's: 6pm (family mass with pageant), and 9pm

Christmas Day, Wed. Dec. 25th

Holy Cross: 9am

St. Patrick's: 11am

**Holiday Office Hours:**

Tuesday, December 24th: 9am-12noon

Tuesday, December 31st: 9am-12noon

Wednesday, December 25th: Closed

Wednesday, January 1, 2020: Closed

Thursday, December 26th: Closed

Friday, December 27th: Closed

A NOTE ABOUT THE BAPTISMAL FONT

As we enter our Church we now have a baptismal font in the church made of Vancouver Island Marble. According to liturgical guidelines the font is to be placed at the entrance of the church signifying our entry into community at key moments in our pilgrim journey, like baptism. The location has also been approved by the Saanich Fire Department. Until we get used to the location please be careful coming and going around our entrance. We have planned for this for four years and now it has arrived. I want to thank Matrix Marble who upon receipt of invoice on Thursday did not charge us for the materials. It cost much less than we budgeted. Please support Matrix Marble! We will bless it in the New Year!

DIOCESAN PASTORAL CARE OUTREACH TRAINING 2020

Sessions are 9:00 am – 3:00 pm and are free.

Please bring a bag lunch to each session. Coffee and Tea will be provided.

A Certificate of Completion is provided to those who attend all four sessions.

When we visit the lonely, sick, injured, elderly, and dying, in their homes, or hospitals, retirement centres, and long-term care facilities, we are living out our baptismal identity. Lay pastoral care visitors can assist their pastors by helping to share Christ's healing love and compassion with those in need –by offering friendship, encouragement, the ministry of presence, and, when requested, prayer, and Holy Communion. **Young adults are also encouraged to attend as a means of discerning this ministry.**

St. Patrick's Parish

Saturday, Feb. 22 – **Session 1: The Healing Ministry of Christ** – Fr. William Hann will be the morning presenter.

Saturday, March 14 – **Session 2: Listening & Communication and Mental Health**

Contact the parish office to register: (250) 592-7391 or stpat190@telus.net

St. Joseph the Worker Parish

Saturday, April 18 – **Session 3: The Grieving Process and Ministering to Families**

Saturday, May 30 – **Session 4: Who am I as a Pastoral Care Visitor?**

Contact the parish office to register: (250) 479-7413 or sjtwoffice@shaw.ca

PRAYER REFLECTION

On my table I have an image of Saint Joseph sleeping. . . . So when I have a problem, a difficulty, I write a little note and I put it underneath Saint Joseph, so that he can dream about it! In other words I tell him: pray for this problem!
—Pope Francis

What emanates from the figure of Saint Joseph is faith Joseph of Nazareth is a “just man” because he totally “lives by faith.” He is holy because his faith is truly heroic.
—Pope John Paul II

From [David’s] descendants, God, according to his promise, has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus.
—Acts 13:23

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **LIVING DEEPLY—DYING WELL: End of Life Health Issues – Workshop January 11, 2020, 10:30 – 2:30 pm in Cathedral Hall.** We live in a culture that, if we do not prepare to die well, someone else will make decisions for us. Very often they may not reflect our beliefs or wishes. Each person has a God given responsibility to make informed decisions on their own behalf and then communicate those decisions to someone they trust. We plan to live well. It is also our responsibility to plan to die well. **Lunch will be provided with a donation requested. Presenters: Phil Jennings, Tim McGee, Annette Turgeon. To register:** Please call St. Andrew’s Cathedral 250-388-5571 or email standrewscathedral@gmail.com
- **CAMP HOMEWOOD:** It is Camp Homewood Time!! **All Youth (Gr 7-12) are invited to attend “Great Things” from Jan 31- Feb 2, 2020.** This is a ‘can’t miss’ weekend of faith and fun. Bring a friend! Face to Face Ministries will lead meaningful talks, games, praise and worship AND there is all the fun of Camp Homewood- archery, sailing, riding and more! Register before January 15th at the cost of \$160.00 (This is a great Christmas gift for children and grandchildren!). See your youth coordinator or parish office for more info or for a registration package.
- **INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY:** Have you ever wondered what theology is? Join Fr. Harrison Ayre at the Cathedral parish for an introduction to some of the core elements of Catholic theology. Once a month, on a Friday night from 7 – 9 pm and then on the Saturday from 10:30 – 12:30 (see dates below). This is an introductory class, but come expected to be stretched! Register at the Cathedral parish office 250-388-5571 or standrewscathedral@gmail.com. **Dates are: Jan. 24 & 25; Feb. 7 & 8; March 13 & 14; April 24 & 25; May 22 & 23.**
- **GOT WORDS?:** The Diocese of Victoria is seeking a Communications Coordinator who is an excellent communicator with first-rate writing skills, solid ability to multi-task, and exceptional interpersonal skills. Together with the Chancellor, you will be responsible for all aspects of communications for the Diocese of Victoria. Experience with *InDesign* will be an asset. For more information, visit www.rcdvictoria.org/employment.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, December 22nd

Fourth Sunday in Advent

9:00am Mass: **Hilary Ribeiro + Jose DeJesus +**

MONDAY, December 23rd

Office Closed

TUESDAY, December 24th

4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

12:00am Midnight Mass

WEDNESDAY, December 25th

9:00am Christmas Day mass

THURSDAY, December 26th

No mass / office closed

FRIDAY, December 27th

No mass / office closed

SATURDAY, December 28th

4:00pm Mass: **Dal Poggett +**

Danny Fedrigo +

SUNDAY, December 29th

9:00am Mass: **Bill MacNutt +**

THANK YOU

To Sheila and Phil Wall who have prepared and organized all the liturgical ministries for our upcoming Christmas masses. We appreciate all the work, emails and phone calls that went into making sure everything is in place. Thank you.



It’s cold and flu season! It is that time of year where illness and germs are in abundance, and as we have many elderly and immune vulnerable in our parish community we ask that everyone does their due diligence in keeping up with best hygiene practices by using the hand sanitation pumps located throughout the church. If you are sick with a cold please consider bowing slightly with your hands pressed together (prayer style) in lieu of hand shaking during the sign of peace. Let’s work together to keep the people in our community healthy and safe!

CONTACTS

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 *after hours*

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistant: Valentina Boyd

250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

Parish Council: Debra Prior

250-661-0250 debroussel@hotmail.com

Children's Religious Education: Barbara Shenton

bjeens958@gmail.com



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

COLLECTION for December 15, 2019

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 6,517.00
Loose	\$ 325.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,095.00
TOTAL	\$ 7,937.00

HOLY CROSS MINISTRIES

MINISTRY	COORDINATOR	PHONE
Liturgy	Debby Pietraszek	250-477-7375
Liturgical Ministries:		
Usher / Greeter	Maria Arruda	250-477-5526
Altar Server	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Music	Various Choirs	250-477-5321
Altar Linens	Marg McDonnell	250-477-6332
Flowers/Art Envir.	Ann Francis	250-477-8650
Sun. Coffee, 9:00	Darlene Southwell	250-477-5738
Bulletin Folders	Vicki Ponsioen	250-383-0654
Sacramental Wine	John Bartle-Clar	250-995-1891

SERVING OUR HOLY CROSS PARISH COMMUNITY

Responsible Min.	Martha Oleson Muna Haddad	250-477-6455 1-778-881-5843
Parish Council	Debra Prior	250-661-0252
Finance	David Begg	250-658-0870
Maintenance/Bldg.	Ed Boomars	250-881-8124
Annual Shed Clean	Jack Ponsioen	250-383-0654
Parish Grounds	Joe Mendonca	250-888-8930
Social/Comm. Life		
Baptism Prep.	Call office	250-477-5321
Marriage Prep.	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Children's Rel. Ed.	Barb Shenton	250-592-7391

Children's Liturgy of the Word	Valentina Boyd	250-813-0230
Catholicism		
Library	George Murphy	250-658-6061
Outreach/Visiting	Sheridan Cooper	250-598-0248
Bereavement / Funeral / Follow-Up	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Funeral Reception	Barb McKrow	250-477-8322

SERVING COMMUNITIES BEYOND OUR DOORS

Diocesan Appeal	John Bartle Clar	250-995-1891
Could You Ever Come Back To The Church	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
RCIA	Glenn Palahicky Phil / Sheila Wall	250-479-1331 250-385-7007
RCIC	Barb Shenton	250-592-7391
Ecumenism	Terry Marner	250-380-0157
Social & Eco. Justice	Yvonne Hsieh	250-385-8322
Anawim	Parish Office	250-477-5321
Christmas Project	Coordinated by the Parish Office	
D&P/Share Lent	Barb McKrow	250-477-8322
St. Vincent De Paul	Martin Fletcher	250-592-9297
Univ/Camosun Bursaries	Tony Southwell	250-477-5738
Uvic/Camosun Outreach	John Oleson	250-477-6455