



# 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 29, 2019**

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

In their young lives Mary and Joseph have already had many hardships and struggles. In today's gospel they again meet with very dangerous circumstances. The wise men have left; Herod believes his throne is being threatened and he prepares to take unspeakable action to protect his kingship. In a dream Joseph is warned by an angel that Jesus' life is in danger. The angel tells Joseph to flee immediately to Egypt with Mary and the Baby Jesus. Then we hear, "Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, by night and went to Egypt ....." As I reflected on these words, I wondered what was it that caused, allowed, prompted Joseph to immediately do as he had been told, obedience without question, if not without apprehension and worry. This prompted me to also wonder what was it that earlier had Mary say, "Let it be done unto me according to your word" and yet again what was it that had Jesus, many years later, during his most brutal, unbearable agony say, "Not my will but Yours be done." Each walked into the unknown, a journey of joy, yes, but also of anguish, heartbreak and in Jesus' case a journey to a cruel death on a cross, innocent but convicted and crucified nonetheless.



Joseph, as with countless others of his time and of today, lived everyday life out of the experience and knowledge, the certitude of God within, a consciousness of God present in life. They believed infinite divine love resided within them and God was one with them. They were 'temples of the Holy Spirit'. God was not outside them or distant from them. Knowing the God of love within brought forth in them total and utter TRUST and FAITH in God, gave a joy and peace incomprehensible. While life would surely be wrought with challenges, such as having to flee for safety, they knew the purity of God's love and his solidarity with their suffering; they could be in no better hands, in the hands of God!

As one might expect, I then thought about how I respond to the unknown, to crisis in my own life. Too often I think about God as outside myself, myself outside of God; I pray to God in heaven, not God within. I hurry to get my prayer requests and my intercessions known to God since I believe that my way of seeing how things should unfold and resolve are, of course, the right way. My rational mind tries desperately to understand, reason through and figure out 'why' things happen as they do and I expect God to rescue me from life, since I'm praying for what is good. A while ago, I found myself at emergency with a broken wrist, not a big deal but with a potential for seriousness. Waiting, I began to think about today's gospel. Surprisingly, I waited, hesitated and allowed God to speak first. His words, not delivered by an angel, but spoken in my heart simply said, "I am here with you, in you, in your pain, in your worry and in your angst." For a few moments, at least, I experienced Joseph's trust, faith, joy and peace. Through God's grace may all of us journey in a relationship of trust with the God within.

Trudy Holden

Happy Birthday Debby P., my fellow Gospel Pal!

### OFFICE HOURS

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

**Fr. William Hann, Pastor**

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC V8N 3X7  
Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844  
office@holycrossvictoria.org  
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.

**NEW YEAR'S MASS****New Year's Eve, December 31st**

St. Patrick's Parish, 4:00pm

**New Year's Day, January 1st**

Holy Cross: 9:00am

**Holiday Office Hours:**

Tuesday, December 31st: 9:00am—12noon

Wednesday, January 1st: Closed

Thursday, January 2nd: 9:00am—12noon

Friday, January 3rd: 9:00am—12noon

\* Regular mass and office hour schedule return on Tuesday, January 7th.

**TRY TO REMEMBER...**

Try to Remember ...After the needs of your spouse, children and loved ones are taken care of it would be terrific if you could remember Holy Cross in your Last Will. Some people choose to give a specific amount and others choose to leave a % portion of their estate. All gifts are welcome. Even as you have supported your parish community during your lifetime so, after death, you continue to offer your support and care. Thank you for your generosity.

**2020 COLLECTION ENVELOPES**

Envelope Reminder: Beginning January 1st please use your new envelopes (the 2020 envelopes are available in the foyer—sorted alphabetically); do not use envelopes from previous years as they may now belong to someone else. If you would like envelopes or would like to register for our Pre-Authorized Debit option please contact the parish office! To receive a 2019 tax receipt, donations must be received in or postmarked 2019.

**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.

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.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:sjtwoffice@shaw.ca)

### **PRAYER REFLECTION**

Love is something we learn; love is something we live; love grows as it is forged by the concrete situations which each particular family experiences.  
—Pope Francis

Nazareth is a kind of school where we may begin to discover what Christ's life was like and even to understand his gospel. Here we can observe and ponder the simple appeal of the way God's Son came to be known, profound yet full of hidden meaning. And gradually we may even learn to imitate him.  
—Pope Paul VI, homily given at Nazareth, 1964

The Holy Family is the beginning of countless other holy families.  
—Pope John Paul II, Letter to Families, 1994

### **AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE**

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE:** As we continue to develop a model of collaborative and shared ministry in our Diocese, Bishop Gary has, in consultation with the Priest Personnel Committee, made the following pastoral ministry changes, effective, January 2, 2020. Fr. Stephen Paine, has been granted a year's sabbatical and thus will be relinquishing his pastorship of St. Edward's Parish in Duncan, St. Louis de Montfort Parish in Lake Cowichan, and Queen of Angels School in Duncan. Fr. Stephen will be engaged in priestly and personal renewal through study, prayer, rest, and will retain his priestly faculties and be in and out of the Diocese during his sabbatical year. Fr. Roger Poblete, appointed Parochial Administrator of St. Edward's Parish in Duncan, and Bishop's Delegate of Queen of Angels School, in addition to his pastoral responsibilities as Pastor of St. Ann's Parish in Duncan. Fr. John Laszczyk, appointed Parochial Administrator Pro-Tem of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Mill Bay, in addition to his pastoral responsibilities as Vicar General, Judicial Vicar, and Rector of St. Andrew's Cathedral. We are grateful to the priests in our Diocese who continue to assume additional responsibilities as they respond to multiple pastoral needs in service to the parishes and school communities during these challenging times. *Thank you for your support and prayers for the ongoing pastoral needs in our Diocese.*
- **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](http://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment).
- **CAMP HOMEWOOD:** It is Camp Homewood Time!! All Youth (Gr 7-12) are invited to attend "Great Things" from Jan 31-Feb 2, 2020. 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 15<sup>th</sup> at the cost of \$160.00. See your parish office for more info or for a registration package.

### **OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

**SUNDAY, December 29th**

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

**MONDAY, December 30th**

Office Closed

**TUESDAY, December 31st**

4:00pm New Year's Eve Mass @ St. Patrick's Parish

**WEDNESDAY, January 1st**

9:00am New Years Day Mass @ Holy Cross Parish

**THURSDAY, January 2nd**

9:00am Mass: **Ron Tinney +**

**FRIDAY, January 3rd**

9:00am Mass: **Danny Fedrigo +**

**SATURDAY, January 4th**

4:00pm Mass: **Nick Leone +**

**SUNDAY, January 5th**

9:00am Mass: **Marita Simmons +**

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you to all who have worked many hours to prepare for our Christmas festivities: the members of the various choirs, those who decorated the church; and all the unsung heroes and heroines who labour behind the scenes in preparing for our liturgical celebrations. Thank you for the cards well wishes and gifts. I am full of gratitude.



**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 22, 2019**

### **WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:**

<b>Envelopes</b>	\$ 6,709.00
<b>Loose</b>	\$ 712.00
<b>Pre-Authorized Debit</b>	\$ 1,095.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,516.00</b>

## **HOLY CROSS MINISTRIES**

<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>COORDINATOR</b>	<b>PHONE</b>
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