



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning 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 - February 27, 2022
Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today, February 27th, is the 8th Sunday in Ordinary time. In Luke's Gospel we hear an inspiring phrase from Jesus. *It is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.* What a beautiful vision of a heart, overflowing with kindness, mercy, forgiveness, and love; pouring forth words of healing, comfort, peace, and joy. This is the heart of Jesus, of Mary, of Saint Francis, of Mother Teresa. Could it be our heart? Today's readings are full of recommendations on how we can nourish our hearts so that our mouths speak words of love and healing.

In the first reading Sirach reminds us that just as *its fruit discloses the cultivation of a tree*, our words reveal our worries, thoughts, our hearts. Therefore, let us take our worries and thoughts to God and let his Spirit fill our hearts.

In the second reading Paul encourages us to *always [be] excelling in the work of the Lord*. We understand what that means, *for I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.* (Matthew 25:35). Therefore, let us be aware of the needs of our brothers and sisters that we encounter each day, so that we do not miss an opportunity to do God's work.

In the Gospel by Luke, Jesus asks us not to worry about the faults of our brothers and sisters but to be aware of our own failings. *Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?* Therefore, let us not judge our neighbour but examine our own actions and behaviour and turn to God for support. Jesus also talks about good and bad trees and fruit. *Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.* Therefore, let us tend carefully to our hearts, providing light of knowledge, nourishment of understanding and streams of tranquility.

If we embrace the words of Sirach, St. Paul and Jesus, we might ever so slowly nourish and grow our heart's capacity for love and mercy. The Psalmist tell us that even in old age the righteous *still produce fruit [as] they are always green and full of sap.* Let us be like trees, rooted in God, who fills our hearts with his spirit and mercy so that our mouths overflow with his words of love. *It is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.*

Tanya Taft

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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LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from *Holy Cross Parish* on Saturday at 4pm. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

Ash Wednesday: *There will be no 9am Mass on this day.* There will be a 12:10pm Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Patrick's Parish (livestreamed) and a 7:00pm Mass at Holy Cross Parish.

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

You gave to the Bishop's Appeal, and the money allocated back to our Parish's project has succeeded in allowing us to sponsor a refugee family! This week the agreement between Holy Cross Parish and the Office for Refugees, Archdiocese of Toronto was formalized. A family of three, parents and their 21-year-old daughter, are in the last stages of having their application to come to Canada approved. They should be arriving within a couple of months if all continues to go well. In our initial email exchange, they relayed the following message: "I'm very thankful to you for your support. May God bless. We are very excited to see you soon." The Refugee Sponsorship Group is now preparing for the arrival of this family, and we are so grateful for your support and continuing prayers.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES

The Diocese of Victoria is now offering our Marriage Preparation Course fully online. The cost is \$80 per couple.

The course consists of several modules on relevant subjects, individual and couple activities, and assessments as well as a liturgy planning guide. Couples will be able to work through the program at their own pace. At the end of the course, you will receive a Certificate of Completion, which will be recognized by any parish within our Diocese.

For more information, go to the Diocese website: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/marriage-prep> OR find the course on Eventbrite. **Questions?** Contact Moira Gill at mgill@rcdvictoria.org OR 250-470-1331 ext. 237.

VICTORIA DIOCESAN BURSARY IN MEMORY OF FREDA SMITH

The Victoria Diocesan CWL Council is offering a \$750 bursary to a graduating Catholic student within the Diocese of Victoria. This bursary will be awarded to a student proceeding on to a form of higher education. Criteria and applications are available at the Parish Office, online at cwldov.org or from your local CWL president. ***The deadline for applications is March 31, 2022,***

LIBRARY CORNER

A new selection of books is on display in the church foyer to peruse and sign out. They are all authored by HV Morton who is a remarkably fine and engaging writer and was arguably, the most notable travel writer of the early-to-middle 20th century. In the 1930s he travelled throughout Palestine, Turkey and Greece following the footsteps of Jesus and Saint Paul. He will add to your knowledge and understanding of the gospels and epistles as he visits among others: Nazareth, Cana, Capernaum, the site of the Beatitudes, the Sea of Galilee, Bethany (Martha and Mary's home!) and Jerusalem. Or follow, with the Acts of the Apostles in hand, as he tracks St Paul's journeys through the early Christian communities in Ephesus, Corinth and Athens. These could be travel books for a soon-to-come Lenten Journey.

-In The Steps of the Master, 1934.

-Women of the Bible, 1941

-Other writings by Morton

-In The Steps of St Paul. 1936 - In The Steps of Jesus, 1954

-In Search of the Holy Land, (illustrated with R Burri), 1934, 1979

-A Traveller in Italy, 1964 - A Stranger in Spain, 1955.

<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2009/26-june/features/in-the-steps-of-h-v-morton>

PRAYER REFLECTION

You cannot teach a person anything. You can only help him discover it within himself. —Galileo Galilei
A teacher is not served by a student who does not surpass the teacher. —Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche

A NOTE FROM THE DIOCESE

You will find all of the latest and most up to date Mass times with the Bishop at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/dailymasslivestreamed> and <https://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne/about>.

A post has just been added to the Diocesan website about the escalation of conflict in Ukraine. The text of the post is copied below, or it can be read online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/pray-for-peace-in-ukraine>. Please share with your communities.

In addition, parishes are encouraged to include a suitable intercessory prayer in their liturgical celebrations, such as the following:

We pray for an end to conflict in Ukraine, and that peace will be brought through dialogue and diplomacy.

Synod Announcement:

Last October, Pope Francis launched Synod 2021-2023. A synod is a process of listening and discernment. In this Synod, the Pope is asking Catholics everywhere to reflect together on how we the Church can live in Communion, achieve full Participation, and open ourselves to discover our Mission.

All people of the Diocese of Victoria are invited to participate in the Synod, to help chart a course for our journey together, now and in the future, as the people of God. For more information regarding how you may participate, either in person or online, please visit www.rcdvictoria.org/synod.

Information about Listening Circles on back page.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES:

The job postings are available through the parish office and may be viewed at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment>.

UNIVERSITY SUPPER

A supper for UVic and Camosun students is scheduled for Sunday March 6. The menu features food in the Asian tradition. I have placed a sign up list for food donation in the foyer of the church, and we still need a few volunteers. If you are not attending mass, you can e-mail or phone me to have your name added to the list: jpoleson@uvic.ca, 250-477-6455. Thanks for your support! John Oleson.

LEFTOVER DISHES: There are a lot of serving dishes left to be picked up in the parish kitchen. Please come claim your dish asap as any left over dishes will be donated at the end of March. They are cluttering the counter space.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, February 26th

3:00pm-3:45pm: Confession
4pm Mass: Deceased Members of the Virgillio Family

SUNDAY, February 27th

9am Mass: Gloria Grant +

MONDAY, February 28th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, March 1st

9am Mass: Mary Gillen +

WEDNESDAY, March 2nd

7pm Mass: Ash Wednesday
Tom Sheedy +

THURSDAY, March 3rd

9am Mass: Pat Gabany +

FRIDAY, March 4th

9am: Mass: Mary Gillen +

Update: There will be only half capacity allowed in the church, which is 140 people at Holy Cross. Ushers will be counting people as they enter and will lock the doors when capacity is reached.



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

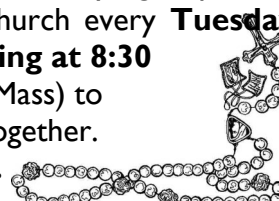
COLLECTION for February 20, 2022

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2,192.00
Loose	\$ 185.00
Canada Helps	\$ 57.90
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,111.90

MORNING ROSARY

Please join the rosary group that gathers in the Church every **Tuesday to Friday morning at 8:30** (before morning Mass) to pray the rosary together. **All are welcome.**



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

Office Assistant: Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

University Chaplain: Lydia Foch

lfoch@rcdvictoria.org

Parish Council Chair: Debra Prior

250-661-0250 debroussel@hotmail.com

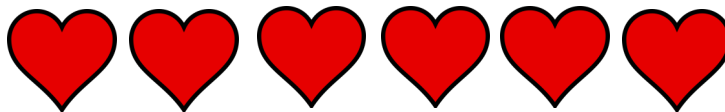
Children's Religious Education: Barbara Shenton

bshenton@rcdvictoria.org

NEWS FROM ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Bishop with his dogs, pink shirt day and showing appreciation for the staff at RJH, it's just another week at St. Pat's elementary. Join the fun on their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/St.PatricksSchool/>



ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL

First Friday adoration in the mercy chapel will be next held on **Friday, March 4th from 12-1pm** in the Mercy Chapel.

SYNOD LISTENING CIRCLE INFORMATION

As many of you know, in unity with our Holy Father Pope Francis, our diocese is embarking on a special journey toward a synodal Church, a listening Church. Bishop Gary invites each and every person to participate and contribute to the synod process in our diocese.

To participate, you can:

Join one of the upcoming *Listening Circles* being offered via zoom **by the diocese**. Dates to choose from are (click on the link to register)

[Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 1:00 PM](#)

[Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 6:30 PM](#)

[Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 10:00 AM](#)

Watch the diocesan website for additional dates

Join one of the *Listening Circles* being offered **here at Holy Cross on:**

Thurs, March 10 after morning mass (9:45am at the church)

Thurs, March 17 at 6:30pm via zoom

Wed, April 6 after morning mass (9:45am at the church)

To sign up for any of the parish *Listening Circles*, please call or email the parish office with your name and contact information (phone and email).

NOTE: If you are interested in attending an in-person *Listening Circle* on an evening or weekend here in our parish, please let the parish office know and Bev Pulyk would be happy to organize one.

Respond to a survey

paper survey – [Click here for a PDF version of the form](#)

respond to an online survey - [Click here to complete the form online.](#)

Once you have completed the PDF form, please send it to us by [email](#), or mail it to: Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria - Synod Committee, #1-4044 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria, BC, V8X 2A1

We want to hear from everyone. In preparation for your participation, we invite you to reflect on these questions:

How is "journeying together" happening today in our particular church or community?

What steps does the Spirit invite us to take to grow in our "journeying together"?

For more information on the Synod, you may visit the diocesan website. www.rcdvictoria.org/synod. Please, be a part of the conversation, so we all may grow in participation, communion, and mission.

SILENT AUCTION AT ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY

Mark your calendar: February 27th to March 13th 2022

<https://www.32auctions.com/PSG2022>



Check out some of the items donated so far:

- 2 Nights Salt Spring Island lakeside cottage
- WildPlay gift certificate
- 4 Cats gift certificate
- Restaurant gift cards (Romeo's, Blue Crab, Finns, White Spot, Dead Beetz Burger, Fernwood Pizza etc)
- Book store gift cards (Russell Books, Ivy's book)
- Spa packages
- Retail gift cards (Thrifty Foods, Mr. Pet's, Uptown Mall, Slaters Meat, Market on Yates etc)
- Gift Baskets (Save on Foods, Pharmasave, Dental Gift Basket)
- Services (BC Ferries, Oak Bay Rec Centre drop in courtesy passes)
- and much more!

Thank you to everyone who donated to this fundraiser! Your support is very much appreciated!

Care for our Common HOME



Sacred Heart Franciscan Youth Group gathers biweekly to build a community that cares for God's creation and one another by learning, having fun and deepening our faith.

Sundays at 1pm on Zoom

Register by email: religioused@sacredheartvictoria.com



WORLD YOUTH DAYS INFORMATION MEETING

The next World Youth Day will be in August 2023 in Lisbon Portugal. World Youth Day is a gathering of young adult Catholics from all over the world to gather in a particular place to pray, learn, and celebrate the joy of being Catholic. The event concludes with an overnight vigil and Mass on the Sunday with the Pope! Open to anyone 19-35. The Diocese of Victoria will be organizing a pilgrimage group to go to World Youth Day with Fr Harrison Ayre and Fr Eduardo Santos as chaplains. We will be holding an informational meeting at Our Lady of Fatima on April 10th at 4pm to talk about costs, dates, and help you learn more about what WYD is. If you're unable to be in Victoria, we will try to have a zoom link available for those in other parts of the diocese. Please e-mail Fr. Harrison at hayre@rcdvictoria.org to register.

GREEN FUNERAL BINDERS

This is a gentle reminder that if you have a **green funeral planning binder** from the library please return it and any accompanying hymnals to the office. Thank you!

NOTE FROM THE UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN

There is always lots going on for University and College students! From game nights to movie nights to book clubs. Gatherings are social and fun and a great opportunity to consider Christ in all things. **Bonus:** Shared snacks are usually provided! For more information on what's coming up next please contact Lydia Foch: lfoch@rcdvictoria.org