



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 6, 2022
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

All of us are called by God each and every day. We are called to see, hear, touch, taste, and smell the goodness of God that surrounds us. God invites us into a deeper relationship, a relationship that calls us out of ourselves and into a bigger vision of who we are and what the world can be. Let us open our hearts and attune them to God's call.

God calls Isaiah, Paul, and Simon to be better versions of themselves and to be part of God's holy plan. All of them witness to the glory of God. Isaiah encounters a God of abundance, a God that fills the temple as holy, humble angels cry out *holy, holy, holy* in praise of God. Paul holds firm to the Good News, the glory of Christ who died, was buried and rose for us. Peter witnesses to the miraculous catch of fish. God's glory is all around us. We can see it in the beauty of a sunrise, hear it in the laughter of friends, feel it in the softness of pussy willows, taste it in freshly baked bread, and smell it on the spring air.

These experiences in life can transform us if we are open to the constant flow of God's grace freely given. How we receive God's grace determines the effectiveness of God's gift. Isaiah feels unworthy, yet his admission of sin and desire to be clean opens him up to God's grace of mercy, forgiveness, and healing. He is able to respond, 'Here am I; send me!' Paul knows the destruction he caused the Church of God, but his full cooperation with the grace of God allowed him to speak the Good News tirelessly. Simon Peter, even though he has caught nothing all night long, casts his net one more time because Jesus asked him. God's grace fills his nets to overflowing along with his heart, and Peter breaks down, aware of his sinful nature. Yet the grace of God bridges the gap that sin creates, helping Peter see his deep need and desire for God.

An encounter with God has the power to transform us. God knows the pain of sin, how it weighs us down and distorts and corrupts. God wants to take that burden away from each and every one of us. Let God's grace shine a light on our sins, our fears, our insecurities, on all the ways we hide from God. Through God's grace, we are forgiven and set free to be holy, to be totally other, to stand apart from all that is sinful and unclean.

Isn't it amazing that God asks us to assist in the building of the kingdom? God wants volunteers, people with ready hearts who give their all, who leave everything to follow a God of love. God is asking us – you and me – to fulfill God's will. God will not force us; God wants us to come willingly. God asks, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Are we ready to be the answer to God's question? Will we let our hearts be touched by God's cleansing fire?

We are called to be God's witnesses, to be God's voice in the world right now. It is in faith and trust that we leave what we know and follow Christ. God's call can overwhelm us, yet we are not alone in this venture – God is with us, God's grace is before us. Jesus says, 'Do not be afraid'.

God's abundance, Mona

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.

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

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from *St. Patrick's Parish on Saturday at 6pm*. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

LITURGICAL MINISTERS NEEDED

USHERS NEEDED – Saturday 4pm Mass: Ahoy anyone who might enjoy greeting people as they arrive for Mass, assisting with collection and directing 'traffic flow' at Communion time, we are looking for a few more volunteers for this Mass. Please contact Joanie Bidlake (email: officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org) if you would like to join us, or need further information. We are always happy to welcome new volunteers! Thank you.



Development
and Peace
CARITAS CANADA

PEOPLE AND PLANET FIRST: DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

The global economy is a much more complex system than we think. The products we enjoy in hand every day are a part of a unique and complicated web of international value chains, the details (and loop holes) of which most of us are not privy to. But what we need to know is this: the result of this distant trade inter web has two big costs: human rights and the environment.

Development and Peace strives to provide people with education and tools that can help mitigate some of the damage. Their latest campaign - People and Planet First, serves to do just that. Next week the D&P team at Holy Cross invites you to sign a petition asking the Federal Government to adopt human rights and environmental due diligence legislation. This would ensure, in part, that the Canadian mining companies operating abroad would be accountable for their actions.

This weekend the petition will be available in the foyer of the church. In the meantime, please consider learning more about this issue by reading the material and watching the videos provided on these links:

<https://www.devp.org/en/campaign/people-planet-first/>

<https://www.devp.org/en/campaign/people-planet-first/take-action/>

HANGING BASKET EMPTIES

It really starts to feel like Spring when Ellis starts talking about hanging basket season! Hope is most definitely on the horizon for some bursts of fragrant colour soon, but he is still a few short of his desired hanging basket. If you have an old and empty hanging basket from the Garden of Ellis (it has to be that specific one) please drop them off at the office so Ellis can repurpose them into new creations! If you are unsure if you have the right one, feel free to send a picture to Ellis by email: eachtem@shaw.ca
Empties can be dropped off at the parish office during office hours! Thanks for your support.

CONDOLENCES

Brendan Holden passed away on February 2nd, 2022. His vigil (visitation and viewing) will be held on **Sunday at 7pm, with a funeral to follow on Monday, February 7th, at 1pm**. Brendan was a long time member of Holy Cross Parish, one of the main supporting beams of this parish. His years of dedication, love and loyalty for this community was lived out in all of his words and actions. He will be missed beyond measure. Our prayers are with his family and friends, both local and afar, as they navigate this impossible time of grief and loss. **The funeral will be limited to 140 people**, but can be livestreamed from this link:

<https://youtu.be/o3d2MjaSJF8>

Most Rev. Remi De Roo, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Victoria, who passed away peacefully in Victoria on February 1, 2022 at the age of 97 years old. Bishop De Roo served as Bishop of the Diocese of Victoria from 1962-1999. The funeral will be livestreamed on the Diocese's livestream page: <https://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne>

PRAYER REFLECTION

The responsible person seeks to make his or her whole life a response to the question and call of God. —Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Today we still cast the net. And Christ fills it. And Christ calls to conversion those who are found . . . among the waves and tempests of the world. —Cyril of Alexandria

A NOTE FROM THE DIOCESE

Please note the following changes to the schedule in February. We have also posted these changes at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/dailymasslivestreamed> and <https://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne/about>.

- Friday, Feb 18: Livestream at 7 pm from Port Hardy
 - Sunday, Feb 20: Livestream at 9 am from Port McNeill
- Monday, Feb 21 - Thursday, Feb 24: Livestream cancelled

On all other days, the regular schedule is in effect: 7 pm on weeknights, and 9:30 am on Sundays from St. Andrew’s Cathedral in Victoria.

Bishop Gary Gordon will celebrate a special Mass at 7:00 pm on Friday, February 11, the World Day of the Sick, in honour of the dedicated work of those in health care. Everyone is invited to attend, either in person at St. Andrew’s Cathedral in Victoria, or via livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne>

A post has just been added to the Diocesan website about the press release announcing a new date for the Indigenous delegation to Rome. The text of the post is copied below, or it can be read online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/indigenous/new-date-for-the-delegation-to-rome>. As well as a post on the Diocesan website with details about CCCB’s national Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. The text of the post is copied below, or it can be read online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/indigenous/indigenous-reconciliation-fund-details-released>.

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.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, February 5th

3:00pm-3:45pm: Confession
4pm Mass: Elmo Beruno +

SUNDAY, February 6th

9am Mass: Clive Loader +
7pm: Vigil/Viewing for Brendan Holden

MONDAY, February 7th

Office Closed/No Mass
1pm: Funeral for Brendan Holden

TUESDAY, February 8th

9am Mass: Kerry Keilty +

WEDNESDAY, February 9th

9am Mass: Dr. John Calder +

THURSDAY, February 10th

9am Mass: Judy Ackroyd +

FRIDAY, February 11th

9am: Mass: Gordon Holden +,
Ed Lake +

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. Masks are now mandatory everywhere at all times.



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

COLLECTION for January 30, 2022

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2,730.00
Loose	\$ 230.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,637.00

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

Come and see some of the amazingly creative and mind boggling art on display on the hallway walls of the school, as well as a little Ivy League action:

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

Silent Auction! After the success last year, the PSG is hosting another online silent auction this year! Stay tuned for information on how to bid, but in the meantime if you have any donations of gift cards, services or goods, please contact the parish office or the PSG to let them know!



NOTE FROM THE UVIC/CAMOSUN CHAPLAIN LYDIA FOCH

On February 12, 2022 you are invited to get outside with your peers and enjoy the presence of God and the bounty of His creation while skiing/boarding at Mount Washington! This opportunity is being subsidized by the Diocese of Victoria and includes a coach bus, lift ticket and rentals if required. The total cost to you is only \$50! Space is limited to 35 people so please register through Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/uvic-and-camosun-students-ski-trip-to-mount-washington-one-day-event-registration-244596794597>

On February 12th we will meet at the Multifaith centre at 5:30am and return by 7:30pm. Please note that, as per Diocesan guidelines, participants will be required to show their vaccine passports and student ID's before boarding the bus.

A ROOF FOR EVERYONE: Gvat WORKSHOP ON HOUSING CRISIS

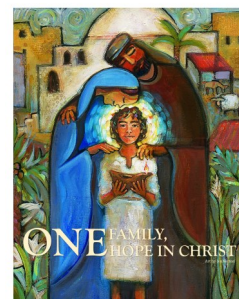
On **Saturday, February 26, 2022**, Holy Cross Parish will be hosting a mini-workshop on the Housing Crisis in Saanich, for parishioners of Holy Cross, St. Patrick's, and Broad View United who are residents of Saanich. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, the number of participants is limited to just 40. Those who wish to sign up should email Yvonne Hsieh as soon as possible. Please read the bulletin insert for more information on this workshop or view it [here](#).

ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic Schools' Week – Feb 6-12, 2022

Today marks the beginning of Catholic Schools' Week (CSW). The theme this year is *One Family, One Hope In Christ*. Each and every year, Catholic schools join together to share a message about the importance and value of Catholic education to the Church and society as a whole. For those that are not aware, there are five Catholic Schools in the Diocese (4 elementary and 1 high school) educating approximately 1400 students in the communities of Port Alberni, Duncan and Victoria.

On behalf of all the Catholic schools in the diocese, thank you for your ongoing support whether that be through prayer, time, talent or treasure. This week also marks the beginning of registration time for the 2022-23 school year. Please consider registering your child in a Catholic school. Catholic Education is a valuable ministry in the Church and diocese so we ask that you please continue to pray for their success.



FREE MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

All people of the Diocese of Victoria are invited to attend a free online workshop on Thursday, February 10 from 3:00 – 5:00 pm:

“Mental Health in Times of Crisis: Emotional and Spiritual Coping Skills”

The workshop will be led by Fr. Stephen Kappler (*Psy.D., C.Psych., R. Psych*), the President and Chief Psychologist of the Southdown Institute. Advance registration is required at <https://mentalhealthintimesofcrisis.eventbrite.com>

The past months and years have held many challenges for the people of our Diocese, our province, and our world. We hope you will join us for a time of encouragement and to learn practical strategies for coping with the distress and trauma of these present days.

The A Roof for Everyone: GVAT Mini-Workshop on Housing Crisis in Saanich (Sat. Feb. 26, 2022, 1 - 3:30 pm; Holy Cross Parish Hall)

Dear Parishioners:

In October 2019, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) released a statement entitled *Poverty in Canada: Ensuring Safe, Secure and Affordable Housing*. The statement presents a brief overview of poverty in modern-day Canada, with a focus on the **current housing crisis**, and calls for collaboration between charitable organizations, all levels of government, and dioceses, as well as local parishes, to support individuals who are in need. Bishop Gary Gordon urged all Catholic parishes in Greater Victoria to organize study sessions to reflect on poverty within our community, and on ways in which we can make a difference. The Holy Cross Social & Eco Justice Committee had already planned for a joint Holy Cross/St. Patrick's study session for March 2020 when . . . the pandemic hit!

After a two-year delay, we are inviting you to attend a GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together) mini-workshop on housing in Saanich, organized by Holy Cross, St. Patrick's, Broad View United and First Unitarian Churches (all member associations of GVAT), on Feb. 26.

The workshop is mainly for residents of Saanich and is intended to:

- inform participants of the gap between current and projected housing needs in Saanich, and the available housing supply;
- dispel biases and misconceptions against renters and residents of social housing;
- invite participants to imagine truly inclusive communities (sharing space with others);
- create understanding of different Housing terms (market, affordable, social, supportive, emergency).

Saanich Councillor Zac de Vries will give a presentation on Saanich housing needs and how Saanich Council plans to address these needs. A Q & A period will follow, after which participants will divide into small groups to discuss different questions related to housing and inclusive neighbourhoods. The workshop will conclude with suggestions for follow-up actions.

Refreshments will be served if allowable under prevailing public health rules. Due to Covid 19 restrictions and the interactive nature of the workshop, **the number of participants is limited to 40**. We will be checking for proof of vaccination at the door. **To sign up, please contact Yvonne Hsieh (email: yhsieh@uvic.ca).**

In the two years since the release of the CCCB's statement, the housing affordability crisis has only gotten worse. This is an issue we should all be concerned about. Come to this workshop to find out what you can do to help.