



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 - January 10, 2021 Baptism of the Lord

Today we mark the transition from the celebration of Christmas into the work that Jesus has come to do. While the Christmas readings have provided us with stories of Jesus' revelation to the shepherds, the magi, and prophets in the temple in Jerusalem, the focus was always on Jesus' private life. Today, he leaves that private, hidden life behind and seeks out John. Something new is about to happen in the history of the world and it all began with his baptism by John in the Jordan.

My dear friends, when we read the story of the baptism of Jesus in Mark's Gospel, we almost get the impression that Mark wants to say: "Now the show, the real thing with Jesus of Nazareth can get underway." When Jesus is baptized in the river Jordan, he is set on the path of service, of love, of simplicity. It is also at that moment that Jesus receives his true name: *God's Son, God's beloved.*

Out of that baptism and out of his being claimed by God as his beloved Son, Jesus will go to all people, all through the pages and stories of the Gospel; he will look at people with God's goodness in his eyes; he will cure them with God's power in his hands; he will liberate them with God's love in his heart; he will forgive them with God's mercy in his words.

The point is that out of his being baptized and out of his being claimed by God as his beloved Son, Jesus will give totally of himself until that baptism is entirely accomplished, and that is at his death on the cross. For it is on the cross that the baptism has fully matured, has come full circle. There is where God's goodness, God's power, God's message, and God's mercy, as embodied in Jesus, reach their climax.

The significance of being baptized only begins to dawn on us during the course of the years. Our being baptized only becomes something fascinating when we let ourselves be fascinated by Jesus; when we try to look at people with Jesus' goodness; when we are prepared to forgive them with his mercy; when we try to liberate them with his message, when we try to love them with his love.

Our being baptized really becomes significant when we make room for Jesus in our lives, so that he may become visible to others in our eyes, in our hearts, in our words, in our hands. In other words, our being baptized is not something of the past, but becomes something very much of the present, when slowly Jesus comes to life and to resurrection in our lives.

When we celebrate Christ's baptism today, then I do not think that we can get around celebrating our baptism as well. And if it is true that in the Gospels, in story after story, on page after page, we find what being baptized meant for Jesus, then we too may find there what our being baptized can mean for us.

So, we go on our way: all of us baptized in Jesus' name and others who long for it: men and women, young and old, boys and girls. We go on our way, full of enthusiasm, but also with a good amount of hesitation, supporting each other, praying that Jesus may be in us, his disciples.

Abundant blessings
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

Effective Immediately: As per the latest health protocols given to us by our Public Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, all in-person faith gatherings have been suspended until February 5th. That means all weekend and weekday Masses at Holy Cross have been cancelled. The office will remain open from Tuesday to Friday 9am-2pm, but masks are mandatory before entering. The Church will be open Tues.-Fri. from 9-1pm for private prayer; please sit on chairs on left side only. Thank You!

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS

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

PROVINCIAL HEALTH ORDER EXTENDED UNTIL FEBRUARY 5TH

As you may know on Thursday, January 7, 2021, Minister of Health Adrian Dix, and Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry extended the Provincial Health Order currently in place with restrictions to curb the spread of COVID-19 until **February 5, 2021**. Therefore, the Directives previously issued have been extended and remain in place in the Diocese. The Memo from Bishop Gordon, is attached to the outgoing e-mail of the bulletin, as well as on our parish website: www.holycrossvictoria.org

We remain grateful for all the People of God in our Diocese who work together, in the words of Pope Francis, “to cooperate and care for the most vulnerable, doing the hard work of learning to listen to and accompany others” during this pandemic. The Gospel Acclamation for today “Jesus preached the good news of the kingdom and healed all who were sick” (Mt.4.23) encourages us to remain united in prayer as we look to the light that dawns on the horizon of hope in the future.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES—SUPERINTENDENT OF ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Diocese of Victoria is searching for a dynamic individual for the position of Superintendent of the Catholic Independent Schools of the Diocese of Victoria (CISDV), with duties to commence August 1st, 2021. We are seeking a practicing Catholic who will lead with visionary impact, guide our schools with a strong Catholic identity, strive for academic excellence, and nurture a safe and caring environment. The successful candidate will have the ability to improve student achievement, provide leadership, manage employees for success, and communicate openly and clearly with all stakeholders. A full description of the role of the Superintendent is available at: https://www.cisdv.bc.ca/media/user/docs/Policy_Manual_Nov_2016_300s/301_Superintendent_Role_Mar_2012.pdf **Application deadline:** February 8, 2021

Diocese of Victoria – Superintendent Search Committee

Attention: Fr. William Hann, Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools

4044 Nelthorpe Street , Victoria, BC V8X 2A1 **Email:** jobs@rcdvictoria.org

Island Catholic Schools is accepting applications for the following positions:

On-call Educational Assistants for all schools (Victoria, Duncan, Port Alberni)

On-call Teachers for all schools (Victoria, Duncan, Port Alberni)

Application forms and details are posted at: <http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>

THANK YOU FROM ANAWIM HOUSE

This year has been a challenge for all of us! Thanks to your continued support in these times of uncertainty Anawim House has been able to continue to look after those seeking love, support and acceptance during these uncertain times. Your generosity has allowed us to adjust how we provide this care in a “covid safe” environment. We look forward to being able to open the doors to everyone again in 2021. Our heartfelt gratitude is extended to each of you and we wish you hope, happiness and health in 2021.

PRAYER REFLECTION

Hold your eyes on God and leave the doing to him. That is all the doing you have to worry about. —Saint Jane Frances de Chantal

Jesus rises from the waters; the world rises with him. —Saint Gregory of Nazianzen

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

Diocesan BLOG: Mindful that we continue to journey through Advent, we draw strength from the Antiphon for today “Behold, the Lord will come, and all his holy ones with him; and on that day there will be a great light” (Cf. Zec 14.5,7)

Please find below the link to the latest Diocesan Blog (Our Church of Many Faces) featuring Holy Family Parish in Ucluelet.
<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/one-holy-family>

PLEASE SAVE the DATE: Every Thursday beginning **February 18th, 2020 (7:30 – 8:30 pm)** during the 6 weeks of Lent we will have an opportunity to explore the new Encyclical, “**Fratelli Tutti**” (on Fraternity and Social Friendship).

In “**Fratelli Tutti**” Pope Francis underlines that in our common home we all live as one family, and he proposes concrete actions to restore the world. As a Diocese we are invited to put forth this new vision of fraternity and social friendship. We invite you to explore this Encyclical during the Lenten series which will be offered via Zoom. More details and registration information to follow.

In Communion,
Bishop Gary Gordon

**please note that Holy Cross has ordered five copies of Fratelli Tutti and they should be arriving in the next week. There after, they will be available in the library for parishioners to borrow.*

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this Saturday! Mass will be broadcast from **Holy Cross Parish on Saturday, January 9th at 4pm on the YouTube page.**

Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

A REASON TO SMILE FROM ST. PAT’S SCHOOL

See the New Year’s Resolutions the Grade 1 students are making for 2021 at St. Patrick’s Elementary school:

<https://www.facebook.com/St.PatricksSchool/posts/3967322979997132>

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, January 9th, 2020

No Mass

SUNDAY, January 10th

No Mass

MONDAY, January 11th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, January 12th

No Mass

WEDNESDAY, January 13th

No Mass

THURSDAY, January 14th

No Mass

FRIDAY, January 15th

No Mass

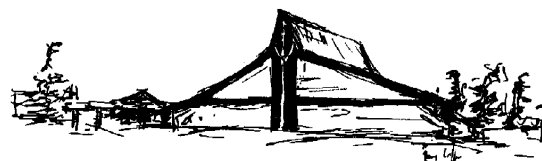
Please note that until February 5th all Masses will be temporarily suspended. Father William will continue to live-stream one Mass per week.

The church will be open for private prayer from 9am-1pm from Tuesday to Friday. Please sit only on the chairs on the left side of the church at this time, to make cleaning easier for our custodians.

Thank you!

Masks are now mandatory in the church and parish centre at all times.

*****There are still 2021 calendars from Catholic Missions in Canada available, and the collection envelopes are ready for pick up!***



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

We keep prayer the family of Harold Gray. Harold and Dorothy were early parishioners of Holy Cross Parish. Harold passed away of Covid-19 earlier this week in Ontario.