



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - January 21, 2024

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Pope Francis declared this as Sunday of the Word of God, and it is also the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity! Word of God Sunday aligns well with Jesus who, in today's Gospel, presents us with his platform. It is part of the beginning of Mark's Gospel. Jesus appears on the scene. He does not have much to say, but in the little he does say it is not difficult to detect a tone of urgency: *the time is fulfilled; the Kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the Good News*. Something significant is happening. "And if we take the dust of these Gospel words, kingdom, and repentance, then we will discover Jesus providing us with a new perspective. With this perspective, those deeply human values such as being married, our family, social responsibilities, and mourning take on a new depth.

If we want to know what the Kingdom of God means, then we should not go to dictionaries or books of theology, but rather to Jesus himself, who as no other has given concrete shape to that Kingdom. He has not just talked about it. He has done it. The Gospels are full of it. The Kingdom of God happened when little people who were burdened with their sinfulness, with their confusion, with their pains and uncertainties, upon meeting Jesus experience how they are being given back to themselves. They can live again with freedom and dignity. This is the Kingdom of God.

But that Kingdom of God still happens among us. It depends on us, to the extent that we let ourselves be won over by Jesus' way of dealing with life, by his way of interacting with people. That is what Jesus calls for when he says: "repent and believe the Good News." That is not something negative or depressing. On the contrary, it suggests that we dare to live from another logic than what the world preaches, because that logic holds that you fend for yourself and the heck with everyone else. That logic leads to loneliness and rivalry and is a dead-end-street, not to mention tittering on the edge of global war. But the logic to which Jesus summons us in the words "repent and believe the Good News" is a logic that has something foolish about it, because it operates from the premise in that service to others and solidarity with them lead to a new life; it is a logic that accepts that others in their need have a right to disturb us in our comfort.

My friends, we hear Jesus' invitation "Come follow me," each day as life presents us with choices. Shall we forgive when asked? Shall we help someone in need? Shall we buy less for ourselves and give more to the poor? Shall we see injustice or turn a blind eye? In these, and so many other occasions, we hear the same invitation Jesus made to those fishermen and like them, we put considerations aside to follow him. We need to be mindful of our words and actions. We must encourage each other to always use words that nurture and gestures which heal. If we act out of compassion rather than indifference, out of understanding rather than disdain, out of kindness rather than selfishness, we will indeed bring about the fullness of the kingdom of God.

Happy Word of God Sunday

Father William

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed

Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm

Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm

Fr. William Hann, Pastor

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC

V8N 3X7

Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844

office@holycrossvictoria.org

***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.***

Report Sexual Abuse

To report sexual abuse by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, visit [RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry](https://www.rcd.victoria.ca/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit [BishopReportingSystem.ca](https://www.bishopreporting.ca) or call 1-866-892-3737

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from Holy Cross Parish at 4pm Saturday, January 20, 2024. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

Baptismal Prep

Do you want to have your child welcomed into the family of God through baptism? To prepare you must complete a registration form and complete a Baptismal Preparation course. Please note that the next session for Baptismal Preparation is: Saturday, Feb 10 (10:00 am – 12 noon)
Please email hcsbpaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.

Outreach Ministry Requests for Visits

If you or a person you know would like a visit from an Outreach Ministry Volunteer to bring Holy Communion to someone at home who is unable to get to Mass; or - someone in long-term care, please contact the Office at 250-477-5321, or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org

Temporary Accommodation Required Holy Cross Parish is looking for temporary accommodation for a Ukrainian family of four (mother and three children, 16yrs, 5yrs and 2 months old) beginning March 1, 2024. If you are able to provide help with this or would like more information, please contact Holy Cross Parish office at 250-477-5321. It is anticipated that this accommodation will be required for three to six months.

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE



It's membership renewal time! All ladies of St. Patrick's & Holy Cross Parishes are welcome to renew – or join for the first time. Membership forms are available online to download/print at [St. Patrick's Parish | Service Organizations \(stpatsvictoria.com\)](http://St.Patrick's Parish | Service Organizations (stpatsvictoria.com)) or [CWL_renew_2024_Final.pdf](#). Forms can be dropped off at St. Pat's office (in person or by mail) along with your fee prior to January 31st. Or they can be scanned and emailed to theresasmith1225@shaw.ca. We are trying to minimize postage costs but are happy to mail forms to anyone who requests them. We hope you will join us to help us continue to serve our community. For information, or to request a form contact Theresa Smith theresasmith1225@shaw.ca, or Layne Moore margaretlaynemooore@gmail.com.

GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together), the social and climate justice alliance of which Holy Cross, St. Patrick's, the Sisters of St. Ann, and Anawim House are all member organizations, is urgently looking for a **volunteer Treasurer**. The Treasurer serves as a member of GVAT's Board of Directors, and keeps track of the organization's income and expenditures, payroll for 2 part-time staff and banking authorizations. The retiring Treasurer will remain available to provide training and oversight for the new office holder. Please contact Yvonne Hsieh (yhsieh@uvic.ca; 250-385-8322) if you are interested or able to suggest someone we could approach.



January 28th celebrates the Feast Day of the 13th century Dominican friar, St Thomas Aquinas, whose moral and theological thought underlay the “Natural Law”, the foundation of Catholic belief. We have three copies of his biography by G K Chesterton. Chesterton is brilliant, but not an easy read and It may be better to skip his lengthy introductory chapter and proceed directly to the edifying and varied life of this international medieval scholar. It is Thomas who gave us the cautionary reminder that “it is a sin to withhold a compliment”. Earlier in the month on the 17th is the Feast Day of St

Anthony, “the patron saint of lost things” --- wise to keep on the best side of him --- these white-haired days. See the Suggestion Shelf in the Parish Library
-St Thomas Aquinas, the Dumb Ox by G K Chesterton
-Saints Who Changed Things (Chapter 11) by L Knowles



THE LIBRARY

CORNER

- Life: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Aquinas
- Quotes: https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/158904.Thomas_Aquinas
- Lost things: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthony_of_Padua

Prayer Reflection

Community takes transformation. Being people of communion requires **metanoia** that results from encounter and dialogue.

—*Sister Nicole Trahan, F.M.I.*

Far from being a demand to feel lousy about our screw-ups, **metanoia** invites us to radically transform the way we perceive others, ourselves, and the world.

—*David Anderson*

Metanoia invites us to meet all situations, however unfair, with understanding and an empathetic heart.

—*Father Ronald Rolheiser, O.M.I.*

At last, I have found my vocation: My vocation is love.

—*Saint Thérèse of Lisieux*

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, January 20, 2024

4PM Mass: Fred Alois+

SUNDAY, January 21, 2024

9AM Mass: Gloria Hopewell+

MONDAY, January 22, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, January 23, 2024

9AM Mass: Maria Ramus+

WEDNESDAY, January 24, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, January 25, 2024

9AM Mass: Marianne Southwell (Int)

FRIDAY, January 26, 2024

NO MASS

The Chapel will be open for private prayers this week from Tuesday to Friday, 9am—noon via the side door.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 Mercy Chapel

ADORATION

First Friday of the Month in the Chapel

Masks are no longer mandatory indoors. We do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed. If you are feeling unwell please stay home.

Word of the Week:

Metanoia

Greek word in the New Testament translated as "change of mind" or "change of heart." It corresponds with the Old Testament word for repentance and the Latin *conversio*, turning or returning, from which derives the idea of *conversion*. *Turning* is key, assuming we have lost our way or gone off course.

The willingness to change is a crucial ingredient in a life of integrity. On the journey through the years, we will all be confused or misdirected and swerve off the path of truth. **Metanoia** is the much-needed spiritual course correction. Consider **metanoia** the vital summons to recalculate where we're headed and what needs to change for us to get there. From the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Jesus' call to conversion and repentance, does not aim first at outward works, but at the *conversion of the heart, interior conversion* (1430).

Liturgical Ministers needed: There are currently a few open spots for Liturgical Ministers on both the Saturday 4pm Mass and Sunday 9am Mass at Holy Cross. Please take a look and see if you, or anyone you know, may be interested in filling these roles at our Masses; any necessary training will be provided:

Saturday, 4pm Mass:

1. 1st Saturday of the Month, effective April 2024: Usher needed (to replace Clinton Pereira)
2. 2nd Saturday of the Month: 1 Eucharistic Minister, and 1 Gift Bearer needed
3. 3rd Saturday of the Month: 2 Gift Bearers needed
4. 4th Saturday of the Month: 1 Usher needed
- 5th Saturday of the Month: 1 Eucharistic Minister needed

Sunday, 9am Mass:

1st Sunday of the Month: 1 Gift Bearer needed

We welcome any who wish to become a part of our Liturgical Ministry community! Please contact Joanie Bidlake for more information: officeassis-tant@holycrossvictoria.org or phone the Parish Office at 250-477-5321.

Thank you in advance.

COLLECTIONS , January 14, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 3,775.00
Loose	\$ 425.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,048.00
TOTAL	\$5,248.00

Thank you!

Thanks to our shoveling team over the past couple of days who worked to keep the pathways cleared and salted!



News from the Chancery

- 1) Our Lady of Victory Mission on Gabriola Island has sent an update on how the Bishop's Annual Appeal has helped their community. To read the update, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/warm-thanks-from-our-lady-of-victory-mission>.
- 2) To mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, all are invited to an ecumenical service at Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria (930 Burdett Ave) on Sunday, January 21 at 4:00 pm. Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee of the Anglican Diocese of Islands and Inlets will preside, and Bishop Gary will preach. A reception will follow the service.
- 3) Holy Family Notre Dame Parish in Port Alberni will be hosting "Faith through Film", a film festival about Jesus, during Lent 2024. To kick off the festival and in honour of Catholic Schools' Week, they will be showing *The Miracle Maker*, an animated film, at noon on Sunday, January 28. Lunch will be provided, and everyone is welcome! Through grant funding made available by the Bishop's Annual Appeal, admission to the showings is free, and popcorn as well as other movie-related snacks will be available. To help with planning, pre-registration is encouraged; please phone 250-723-8912 or email hfn@rcdvictoria.org. To see the full schedule of films, please visit the Diocesan Events Calendar at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events-calendar>.
- 4) Youth in grades 7-12 are invited to the annual Diocese of Victoria Youth Retreat, which runs from February 2 – 4, 2024 at Camp Homewood on Quadra Island. This year's theme is "Seek Him", and the retreat will be presented by Face to Face Ministries. The cost is \$195 per participant, which includes all food, accommodation, and activities. Youth are asked to register with their local parish. For more information, contact St. Patrick's Parish in Campbell River (stpatricks-CR@shaw.ca or 250-287-3498), or Bonni Roset, Camp Coordinator, at broset@telus.net or 250-203-1518.
- 5) There will be a Vocation Live-In on the weekend of February 10 -11 at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission, BC. Anyone wishing to enter the Seminary in the next couple of years is welcome. For more information, please phone 604-826-8975 or email rector.minors@sck.ca.

Victoria Diocesan Catholic Women's League Bursary

The Victoria Diocesan Catholic Women's League is now accepting applications for a \$750 bursary "in memory of Freda Smith". The bursary is available to Catholic students studying in the Diocese of Victoria, who will be graduating from secondary school this year and who will be proceeding on to a form of higher education. Criteria for selection are financial need, academic performance and church and community involvement. Along with a completed application form, students must attach an official transcript and a narrative essay. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2024. Full details and application forms are available in the foyer or from the office.

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 (after hours)

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistants: Phil & Sheila Wall
250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

Office Assistant: Joanie Bidlake
250-477-5321 officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

University Chaplain:

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow
mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk
hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

Regular Mass Times

Holy Cross and St. Patrick's Parishes

Mass times at Holy Cross Parish are 4pm Saturday, 9am Sunday, 9am Tuesday and 9am Thursday.

Mass times at St. Patrick's Church are 11am Sunday, 4pm Sunday, 12:10pm Wednesday and 12:10pm Friday.

Confessions are at 3:00 on Saturdays at Holy Cross Parish and at 11:30am on Fridays at St. Patrick's Parish.

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS:

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