



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining 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 - January 30, 2022** **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Today is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 30<sup>th</sup>, and the readings are disconcerting. Whenever I hear the gospel account about people of Nazareth wanting to throw Jesus off a cliff, I am startled. This is unbelievable! And why is the beautiful reading of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13 about love connected to this Gospel? Somebody must have made a mistake. It was only after spending time thinking about the reading from Jeremiah that I started to realize that as so often the readings are about God's extraordinary love.

All of us long to be known, to be truly and deeply known. The initial words of today's 1<sup>st</sup> reading are so comforting. *"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you . . ."* God knew us first and then formed us in our mother's womb. God wanted and wants us to exist! From the very beginning we were loved, even before we lived. It is hard for us to comprehend such an amazing and unending love.

But Jesus did, Jesus understood. He was filled with the Holy Spirit and took the words of Jeremiah seriously . . . *"stand up and tell the people everything that I command you . . ."* Jesus spoke of truth and love in the synagogue and all who heard him *"were amazed at the gracious words."* Yet, as he continued speaking, indicating what the listeners were thinking, fear and distress filled the people in the synagogue. Not only did they reject what Jesus was saying but they also wanted to harm him. Preposterous! Who would want to hurt Jesus? If I had been in that crowd, would I also have wanted to injure Jesus? What an upsetting thought! I cannot imagine that I would have been that angry and fearful.

And yet, fear, anxiety and feeling threatened can lead all of us to choose actions that are not loving. We protect ourselves, our loved ones, our communities. Currently we are living in historical times in which the whole world is dealing with a fear that can be all consuming and paralyzing. The media demonstrates again and again how anxiety is leading to tension in communities and families. To mask or not to mask, to vax or not to vax, to isolate or not to isolate. And all we want is for it to be over!

We must dig deep to have courage in these times of uncertainty, dealing with changing protocols, isolation, fear of illness, cancelled plans and celebrations. How can we look to the future with hope and confidence? How can we adopt the message of Corinthians 13? Because God knows us and loves us. Because God tells us through Jeremiah . . . *"For I am with you . . . , to deliver you."*

Today's readings remind us that we are loved and that our loving, compassionate God is with us, even now, during these challenging times.

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>

## 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](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org)) if you would like to join us, or need further information. We are always happy to welcome new volunteers! Thank you.

## 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.

Next 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](mailto:eachtem@shaw.ca)

Empties can be dropped off at the parish office during office hours! Thanks for your support.

## LIBRARY CORNER

**NEW!!!** The Parish Library is setting-up a small display of books to borrow in the entrance of the church (much like the Indigenous table we had in the fall --- but smaller). Please be sure to sign out and return when finished reading. This selection of books is from prominent authors: C S Lewis, Thomas Merton, Jean Vanier, Richard Rohr, Henri Nouwen, Ronald Rolheiser and Gregory Baum.

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**Indigenous Library:** The Indigenous Library table is now on the shelf near the back wall. We ask that parishioners who have checked out books, please return them to keep circulation going strong. We thank everyone who have returned books. In friendship!



### PRAYER REFLECTION

We must let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us.

—Joseph Campbell

I have found my place in the church, and this place, O my God, you have given me. In the heart of the church, my mother, I will be love.

—Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

When the Son of Man went into the place where he belonged, his own people did not receive him. The “patriotism” of this elected people should have consisted in faith in God and in his word, and therefore also in his new word, but the incarnate Word did not encounter faith.

-Karl Rahner

### A NOTE FROM THE DIOCESE

Please note the following changes to the Diocesan Livestream schedule in January. These changes are also posted at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/dailymasslivestreamed> and <https://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne/about>.

Friday, Jan 28: Livestream at 7 pm from Port Hardy

Sunday, Jan 30: Livestream at 9 am from Port McNeill

**On all other days, the regular schedule is in effect: 7 pm on weeknights, and 9:30 am on Sundays**

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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>

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**Job Opportunity:** A job posting for the position of Director of Development for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria and Island Catholic Schools is available online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment>. Applications are being accepted until February 15, 2022; we ask for your help in sharing this posting with your communities.

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The Catholic Independent Schools of the Kamloops Diocese have asked us to share their job posting for a Superintendent of Schools. More information can be found online at <https://www.rcdk.org/employment-opportunities>

### NEWS FROM ST. PATRICK’S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Right before school broke for Christmas holiday, it quite literally broke when a massive flood overtook the lower level of the school, where both grade 5 classes are housed. Since then the school has been a virtual construction zone! Aside from the unexpected financial hit to the school, the poor grade 5’s have been displaced to whatever space can fit them. Alas the **bright side**: children love a good construction site! <https://www.facebook.com/St.PatricksSchool/>

### **OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

#### **SATURDAY, January 29th**

3:00pm-3:45pm: Confession

4pm Mass: John Garcia +

#### **SUNDAY, January 30th**

9am Mass: Tony Perram+

#### **MONDAY, January 31st**

Office Closed/No Mass

#### **TUESDAY, February 1st**

9am Mass: Aaron DeSilva +

#### **WEDNESDAY, February 2nd**

9am Mass: Dr. John Calder +

#### **THURSDAY, February 3rd**

9am Mass: Robert Wilson +

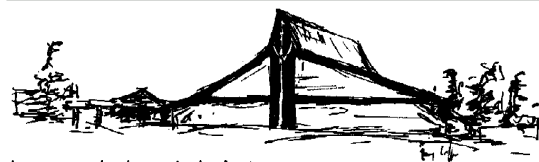
#### **FRIDAY, February 4th**

9am: Mass: Catherine Helgason & Norman Millar +

12 noon: Adoration in the Mercy Chapel

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**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 23, 2022**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

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

### **ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL**

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

## 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](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

**Office Assistant:** Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 [officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org)

**University Chaplain:** Lydia Foch

[lfoch@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:lfoch@rcdvictoria.org)

**Parish Council Chair:** Debra Prior

250-661-0250 [debroussel@hotmail.com](mailto:debroussel@hotmail.com)

**Children's Religious Education:** Barbara Shenton

[bshenton@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:bshenton@rcdvictoria.org)

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.



## NOTE FROM THE UVIC/CAMOSUN CHAPLAIN LYDIA FOCH

Welcome back students! As we continue our New Year, there are many ongoing events at Multifaith to enjoy fellowship, community and a chance to incorporate faith into our lives in small and fun ways! Food is always provided. Please visit the Multifaith site to see what may be of interest to you: <https://www.uvic.ca/student-wellness/events-workshops/index.php> There are both weekly and monthly events. The online Alpha series has begun, in addition to an online RCIA. If students would like to join any of these in addition to an online Bible study, or if you have any questions about events, please email the University Chaplain, Lydia at: [lfoch@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:lfoch@rcdvictoria.org).

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 12<sup>th</sup> 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](#).



## 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](http://cwldov.org) or from your local CWL president. **The deadline for applications is March 31, 2022,**

## 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 (CCCCB) 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](mailto:yhsieh@uvic.ca)).**

In the two years since the release of the CCCC'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.