



# 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 July 12, 2020 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's parable of the sower invites us not to discount the fact that a gracious God is also part of our world scene, and not as a threatening, a punishing, or a destructive God, but as a God who is generous to the point of being prodigal in the way he brings forth new life in our world. God is too much for us--too generous, too imaginative, and too down to earth ... too close. Like the seed bursting open, God will change us--if we allow it. We long to be changed, and we fear it. This parable is of great comfort to us--all of us to whom the gospel has been entrusted. The seed of God is potent and sometimes the harvest is rich. What takes root in our lives bears fruit and can yield even a hundredfold. That is great news and, as someone said, "it's like a refreshing shower" that brings our drooping spirits back to life.

What this parable summons us to is to have faith in God who will not stand for it that our world, or our personal life stories will go to pieces. What Jesus suggests is that we do not look only at the frustrating conditions! Yes, some of the seed that God sows will be eaten by the birds; some will be scorched by the sun and wither away; some of it will be choked by thorns and weeds; in spite of all that, God sows and sows. He is unrelenting and lavish in sowing seed that will produce their crop. Truly, it is a mixture of stubbornness and tenderness that marks God's dealings with us. It is amazing when we wake up to God's lavish love for us and become new men and women. When we experience his love and somehow all or today's and tomorrow's come into a new focus and we see anew.

In it all, God summons us not to rely so much on our own strength, as if our salvation and that of the world depend on us; rather he wants to make us see that he himself has a stake in what happens to the world and to our own life stories. The initiative lies with God, and it is a grace filled initiative; it does not cancel out our response and our cooperation; on the contrary, it is an initiative on God's part that triggers our response and that sustains and inspires us in all our efforts.

Standing in the world with that perspective and with a God-anchored hope prevents us from becoming uptight about where our life stories and the direction of our world is going. It does not make us irresponsible or careless; on the contrary, it gives us much ground for a caring responsibility for ourselves, for others, and for the world around us. Then we see that we move and live in a world which is not just our narrow space, but it is even more God's space, a space in which a gracious God slugs it out with us and shows us the way. And the path that God shows is, despite everything, a path that leads to life.

On Good Soil  
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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office@holycrossvictoria.org  
www.holycrossvictoria.org

### **HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS**

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

### **OUR VIRTUAL COMMUNITY**

Father William has created a **YouTube** page and a **Facebook** page for the combined St. Patrick's and Holy Cross families! Please visit the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StPatsHolyCross/>  
**Like and follow the page and please do send photos of the church for posting!**

**Live Mass broadcast this Saturday!** Mass will be broadcast from **Holy Cross Parish on Saturday, July 11th at 4pm on the YouTube page.**

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

### **ONLINE MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE**

During this time, we are offering our Marriage Preparation Course fully online, and couples will be able to work through the program at their own pace. The cost is \$125 per couple, and the price also includes an online individualized couple assessment as well as a liturgy planning guide. For more information, go to: <https://bit.ly/3hgzRGW> or find the course on Eventbrite. You may also find the information on the Diocese website. Questions? Contact Louis Melendez at [lmelendez@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:lmelendez@rcdvictoria.org)

### **SCAM ALERT**

Please note that a fraudulent scam has circulated globally over the course of several months regarding a letter of "endorsement" from Bishop Gordon which "confirms and encourages collaboration" with the Congregational Leader (Sr. Mary Beth McCurdy) of the Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception (SCIS), located in Saint John, NB. Several fake versions of the correspondence have appeared alleging that the SCIS wish to donate funds and thereby require banking information. Apparently the emails (and letters) have also been translated into other languages and there have been follow-up telephone calls, resulting in valuable banking information being shared and serious financial loss to vulnerable Catholic organizations/congregations in dire need.

This scam serves as a sad reminder that churches and charities are often the victims of fraud. All donations for legitimate parish and diocesan activities are made through traditional verifiable methods and to the charitable organization, not individuals. Please do not share personal banking information with anyone or any organization without verifying the authenticity, appropriateness and validity of the request, or call the Diocesan Finance Office 250-479-1331. If you have been the victim of a financial scam, you are encouraged to make a report to the police.

### **THANK YOU**

You can never say thank you enough, and we would like to extend another heartfelt thank you to Pete and Evelyn, who come every day to keep the church clean and sanitized according to the protocols sent to us from the Diocese of Victoria and the Provincial Health Ministry. We are grateful for all the extra hours, the daily trips to the church, and the dedication you have shown and continue to show as this pandemic wears on. Thank you Pete and Evelyn!

Thank you also to Joanie Bidlake, who has been the mastermind behind any and all mass scheduling that has been happening here at Holy Cross. Whether it's keeping track of church bubbles, or scheduling lectors and ushers, we are filled with gratitude that you are here to handle it!



**PRAYER REFLECTION**

Speak the truth in a million voices. It is silence that kills.  
—*Saint Catherine of Siena*  
Among all human pursuits, the pursuit of wisdom is more perfect,  
more noble, more useful, and more full of joy. —*Thomas Aquinas (c. 1225-74)*  
I do not want the peace that passeth understanding. I want the  
understanding which bringeth peace. —*Helen Keller (1880-1968)*

**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](http://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream).

SUNDAY ..... 10 AM  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY ..... 7 PM

**MERLIN'S MUSINGS:** Merlin has just sent in his latest musing. Please click here to access his video: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesan-blog/merlinsmusings17>

**Note:** During the summer months the Diocesan Pastoral Centre will be closed on Fridays. Please see their website for current opening hours: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/>

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**PASTORAL MINSITRY CHANGES AND APPOINTMENTS**

**Effective immediately:**

**Fr. Devane Sam**, on loan from the Diocese of Bellary, who has been in India since February, will not return to serve in the Diocese of Victoria due to the global pandemic.

**Effective July 15, 2020:**

**Fr. John Vines**, retired from the Diocese of Whitehorse, who has provided pastoral ministry at St. Louis de Montfort in Lake Cowichan the last few years, will move to the United States to be closer to his family.

**Fr. Mel Bayron**, in addition to serving as Pastor of All Saints Parish (Ladysmith and Chemainus), will provide sacramental ministry to St. Louis de Montfort Parish in Lake Cowichan.

**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.



**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

**SATURDAY, July 11th**

2:30-3:15pm Reconciliation  
4:00pm Mass: **Amparo Beruno+**

**SUNDAY, July 12th**

9:00am Mass: **Joan Blatch-McLavery +**  
**MONDAY, July 13th**  
Office Closed/No Mass

**TUESDAY, July 14th**

9:00 am Mass: **Tim Marshall +**  
**WEDNESDAY, July 15th**

9:00am Mass: **Michael Kovacs +**  
**THURSDAY, July 16th**

9:00am Mass: **Nino Antoniazzi +**  
**FRIDAY, July 17th**

9:00 am Mass : **Michael Kovacs +**  
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**At Holy Cross Parish you must now register for which day of the week you would like to attend Mass. You can register by emailing Joanie Bidlake at:**

**officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org**  
**Our Mass schedule remains the same for now:**

**Tuesday –Friday:** 9am Mass  
**Saturday:** 4pm Mass (full)  
**Sunday:** 9am Mass (full)

*\*please note that if these Masses are inconvenient for you, you may select a Mass time from St. Patrick's Parish Mass schedule. To do this please call Deborah Mackay at St. Pat's at: 250-592-7391*

**The church will remain open for private prayer next week from 9:30am (after morning Mass) to 11:00am Tuesday to Friday only.**



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

**COLLECTION for July 5, 2020**

**WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:**

Envelopes	\$ 1, 550.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 452.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3, 002.00</b>