



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - July 14, 2024
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

If this week's readings have a theme, it might be: "Everything starts with God." Jesus' empowering and "sending" of the apostles to extend his mission of healing reflects the missionary strategy of the Early Church: travel light and keep moving, do what is good, and put your trust completely in God. That is a good approach for Christians of any time and place. Life is a journey, a pilgrimage to holiness. Today when we hear this Jesus, the Master Pastor "summoning" or calling the disciples to be his followers we should take comfort. Aware of their failures and sinfulness, they also know themselves, in the power of God, to be capable of going beyond their own abilities.

"Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out". And God, foolishly perhaps, chooses us to breathe life into this chaotic world of ours. And in that choice God opens for us new horizons. What is significant here is the role of the Twelve. They do not preach a message of their own. They have been sent by Christ, and he told them what to do and say, and even what to wear and not wear. They were his ambassadors. Amos, Paul, the Twelve, you, and me: All have been chosen by God "before the foundation of the world" and given (Ephesians) a mission. God's calls us today. Hearing his call, we may feel unworthy, and we may put up walls and busy ourselves in several ways. In our fears and doubts it is good to remember how the giants of our tradition (the apostles) were people who felt unworthy and were in every sense of the word afraid. Yet, they had an overwhelming experience of the love of God and were transformed.

In the call of the disciples Jesus wanted them to be "unencumbered." They were to be apostles of healing and forgiveness. Jesus is asking them to trust only his grace and loving involvement in their lives. It takes a strong stretch of imagination to step into the shoes of those disciples. Are you up to it? Jesus gives the Twelve their marching orders: one tunic, sandals, and a staff. This evokes the instructions given the Israelites on the eve of their departure from Egypt. The Christian journey is a personal passage from the slavery to sin, to the true freedom of the children of God.

This was the gift they were able to offer to others. The message the Twelve preached is the same one that Jesus preached as he began his ministry—repentance. A saying goes: "There are many things a person can do alone, but being a Christian is not one of them." Jesus knew that of course, which is why he sent out his disciples two-by-two. Jesus knew that community and companionship, giving and sharing are essential to the Christian journey. Amos denies his critic's claim that he is a professional prophet; he insists he was unexpectedly called by God, just as the twelve apostles were and just as each of us is, so that, in the words of Saint Paul, "we might exist for the praise of God's glory." Think about your own call: the apostles were sent out into the world with just a single tunic and a walking stick. As fishers of people, despite their lack of fancy gear, they brought in quite a haul.

Let us go forth to build the Kingdom and let us do it together.

Father William



OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm

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 or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit BishopReportingSystem.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. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

2024/25 Sacramental Preparation Programs for Children/Teenagers of St Patrick's and Holy Cross

Journey of Faith for Teenagers: Learn about the Catholic Faith, what it means to follow Jesus, and how to receive the graces needed to live the Way, the Truth and the Life. This program is designed for teenagers to venture on a faith journey and enter new life in right relationship with God. Students may prepare to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Communion and Reconciliation, as appropriate. ALL STUDENTS AGED 13+ YEARS OLD ARE WELCOME. Each student must participate with a sponsor.

Journey of Faith for Children: Does your child want to learn more about the Catholic Faith? This program is designed for children to venture on a faith journey and enter new life in relationship with God. Candidates may prepare for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Communion and Reconciliation, as appropriate. ALL SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN AGED 9-12 YEARS OLD ARE WELCOME. Each student must participate with a parent.

Together in Jesus First Reconciliation for Grades 2 and 3: Children who are baptized are ready to prepare for First Reconciliation in the Year 1 group when they reach the minimum age of 7 years old. This program is suitable for children 7-9 years old. Lessons edify their imagination and sense of wonder through storytelling, interactive learning, and prayer rituals. Each student must participate with a parent.

Together in Jesus Confirmation and First Communion for Grades 3 and 4: Children who have received the sacrament of First Reconciliation are ready to prepare for Confirmation and First Communion in the Year 2 group. Candidates who were in the First Reconciliation Year 1 group at St Patrick's/Holy Cross are automatically registered into the Year 2 group. If your child is not registered and wishes to join this group, please contact the Sacramental Prep Coordinator - Michele Bristow mbristow@rcdvictoria.org.

Please attend one of the Parent Info Sessions to be held on **Saturday Sep 14 at 3pm or Sep 21 at 5:15pm (30 min) at Holy Cross**. The First Reconciliation session for baptized candidates begins on Oct 5. Preparation for Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion begins in January. This year all classes take place at Holy Cross Parish (4049 Gordon Head Rd) before or after the Saturday 4pm mass. For more information, contact the Sacramental Prep Coordinator - Michele Bristow mbristow@rcdvictoria.org. Registration forms are available online: https://s3.amazonaws.com/media.cloversites.com/cf/cf43cd4b-2408-4957-a83c-d18c6511d74a/documents/Registration_Form_2020_SP_-_Yrs_I_II_-_FILLABLE.pdf

Become a Volunteer Catechist 2024-2025

Grow in and share your faith with children and youth of St Patrick's and Holy Cross parishes. Effective catechists are patient, responsible, confident and creative. You bring a generosity of spirit, respect for diversity and a habit of hospitality and inclusion. We provide you with training in Catholic teaching, Scripture and Tradition to teach students and their families. Complete a [Ministry Volunteer Application Form](#) and submit it to the parish office. For more information contact the Sacramental Prep Coordinator Michele Bristow mbristow@rcdvictoria.org. For volunteer screening procedures go to: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/responsible-ministry>

A Milestone Anniversary



On August 15, 2024, Father William will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. In honour of this special milestone, there will be a celebration! Please join us for Mass beginning at 4pm followed by a bring-your-own picnic supper, at Holy Cross Parish. Beverages will be provided. Please RSVP to office@holycrossvictoria.org



Prayer Reflection

To convert somebody, go and take them by the hand and guide them.

—*Saint Thomas Aquinas*

It is no use walking anywhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching.

—*Saint Francis of Assisi*

Authentic Christian discipleship is marked by a sense of wonder.

—*Pope Benedict XVI*

Word of the Week

Disciple

Literally, one who learns. In ancient times, disciples followed and imitated a teacher, sharing in the master's way of life. In the New Testament, the term implies a broader definition than those described as "apostles" or "the Twelve." To be a disciple of Jesus today involves the same investment his original followers made. Imitating Jesus means embracing his way of healing, liberating, and forgiving. Disciples are called to be witnesses of Christ to the world and to live out the gospel daily. As Dorothy Day put it: "Everything a baptized person does every day should be directly or indirectly related to the corporal and spiritual works of mercy." From the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "From the beginning, the first disciples burned with the desire to proclaim Christ: 'We cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.' And they invite people of every era to enter into the joy of their communion with Christ" (423).

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. The next course will be held on Saturday, August 31 from 10 - 12. Please email hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.

The 10th Annual Family Life Conference and Camp

The planning committee for the 10th Annual Family Life Conference and Camp is looking for volunteers to assist with the camp. If interested in volunteering, please email: familycamp@rcdvictoria.org. In addition, registration continues for this camp at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/family-camp>



OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, July 13, 2024

4PM MASS: Jess Narciso+

SUNDAY, July 14, 2024

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, July 15, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, July 16, 2024

9AM Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Dorothy Maclsaac+

WEDNESDAY, July 17, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, July 18, 2024

9AM Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Chris Button+

FRIDAY, July 19, 2024

NO MASS

The Chapel will be open this week Tuesday to Friday 9 - 12

Masks are optional at this time

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available from 3:00- 3:45 on Saturdays

COLLECTIONS , July 7, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 3,721.00
Loose	\$ 300.00
Anawim for Men	\$ 5.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,015.00
TOTAL	\$ 5,041.00

Thank you!

Special thanks go out to Sally McAuley for her perseverance with an uncooperative computer program while volunteering here. Job done, well done!
Thank you!



News from the Chancery

1) Serra is a global organization of lay Catholics who promote and foster vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life. Work is underway to start a Serra club in our Diocese, and the organizers invite everyone to their 2nd Anniversary Celebration on Thursday, July 25 at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Victoria (4635 Elk Lake Dr). Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will start at 6 pm, with Mass at 6:30 and a small reception to follow. To learn more about Serra, please visit <https://serracanada.com/about-serra/>

2) The Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2025-2026 cohort of their Leadership Program. This certificate program, offered in partnership with Saint Paul University in Ottawa, was developed to help Catholic women strengthen their leadership skills in an environment which integrates faith and spirituality. The program will begin in June 2025 and is offered mainly online, with a final in-person residency in Ottawa in June 2026. For more information and to apply, please visit <https://www.cwlfcanada.ca/>. The application deadline is December 15, 2024.

3) July 15 is the deadline to apply for bursaries and awards offered by the Diocese of Victoria to outstanding students and educators. More information and application forms are available at the following links:

[The Jawl Bundon LLP Bursary](#) (\$2500): for a grade 12 Catholic student who has been accepted to a post-secondary institution. Preference will be given to Indigenous students, and to students who live outside of Greater Victoria and Nanaimo.

[The Blessed Marie Anne Blondin Bursary](#) (\$1000): for a lay woman who is accepted or enrolled in a program or course for ministry in the Church, such as religious education, social justice, liturgy, social action, care of the sick, etc.

[The Char Deslippe Memorial Award](#) (\$500): for a teacher working in Island Catholic Schools or a parish catechist serving in children, youth or adult ministry.

CWL Fantastic Fall Bazaar will be held on October 5, 2024

Donations to the Fall Bazaar at St. Patrick's Parish will be accepted **beginning August 1st and continuing until October 4**, Tuesdays to Fridays from 11am - 3pm. Donations needed are: Books, CDs, DVDs and Jigsaw Puzzles, Christian jewellery, statues, crucifixes, large and small, new Christmas items (no lights), garden produce, fruit, fresh flowers, bouquets, house plants, garden tools and accessories (no wicker baskets, silk or dried flowers), home baking divided into small packages and labeled, household items, china, pictures, small appliances and Halloween décor (no plastic items, large appliances or cameras), Jewellery of any kind, kids' games, puzzles, books, new and like-new toys, and Silent Auction items (one-of-a-kind new items, product or Contribution of Service). Please see the poster on the bulletin board in the foyer at Holy Cross Parish for more details if you wish to have your donation picked up.

Pastor: Vacant

Executive Team:

Catherine Davis, John Bartle-Clar, Dave Begg

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: Vacant

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow

mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk

hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Mass times - Holy Cross Parish: 4pm Saturday, 9am

Sunday; **Liturgy of the Word with Communion:**

9am Tuesday and 9am Thursday

Mass times - St. Patrick's Parish: 11am Sunday, 4pm

Sunday; 12:10pm Wednesday and 12:10pm Friday

Confessions: 3:00 - 3:45pm Saturdays, Holy Cross Par-

ish; 11:30am on Friday 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.