

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning 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 - July 25, 2021
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

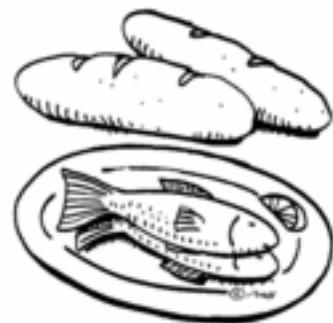
Jesus feeds the crowd of more than five thousand people with five barley loaves and two fish.

In our reflection, of this miracle can we envision the young boy bringing the loaves and fish to Jesus, the apostles questioning Jesus about all the people to feed, and then maybe the many people sitting on the grassy mountain side? I can see Jesus quietly blessing the bread and fish and giving them to the disciples to distribute to the people. As the story continues I also imagine the baskets brimming with the leftover food too, as all are abundantly fed.

Jesus' multiplication of the loaves is as a sign of his authority and divinity. His language is similar to the language he used at the Last Supper. There is the bread, transformed to feed many. At the Last Supper the bread and wine are transformed to the Body and Blood of Christ. Today Mass offers us the Holy Eucharist. This miracle of God's Love for us continues. In the Eucharist we are fed by Jesus himself. The word Eucharist is taken from the Greek language and describes an action: "to give thanks". The Mass is our most blessed prayer to God. We present the fruits of our labours, represented by the bread and wine. These gifts given to us by God as grain and fruit, are returned to God in our offering of Thanksgiving. God in return transforms our gifts making the bread and wine the precious Body and Blood of Jesus. We also offer ourselves in this exchange and we too are transformed as God feeds and nourishes us.

Food for thought...I have also read, "All People Hunger for God" and a faithful friend says this gospel of John's is "All about Love". We are called to live the Eucharistic life of Love for God and neighbor. Jesus' miracle on the mountain made all these people share in a banquet of Love. Each day we give thanks to God for nourishing us physically and spiritually. These days seem to be reminding us to believe in miracles and always share and care for others.

Blessings,
Marian



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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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.

LIVESTREAM MASSES

We will not be livestreaming Mass while Fr. William is away on holidays. Livestreaming will resume on Saturday, September 4th. Thank you for your understanding. Just a reminder that the Bishop of Victoria will be livestreaming from the Cathedral every Sunday at 10am from the Diocesan link: www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES UPDATE:

Sincere thanks to everyone who has agreed to begin or continue in a Liturgical Ministry role for our Saturday & Sunday Masses since we've opened up again. Your support has been fantastic! The past two weeks have been a bit of a whirlwind trying to set up the schedule again, but with lots of help we're working through it - although summer is usually somewhat inconsistent anyway with many travelling or away (now that that's possible again!) Thank you for your patience. If you haven't already, please let me or Valentina know if you are still interested in serving at the Masses, or if you would like to begin something new by serving in this ministry, or if you're no longer able to. When Fr. William returns in September, we'll likely hold a "Ministries Fair" as an invitation to those who may be thinking about Liturgical Ministry. The new schedule for the year - **October 2021 to June 2022**, will be distributed sometime mid-September. It's been fantastic seeing so many familiar faces again! - Joanie Bidlake, Office Assistant. officeassistant@holycrossvictori.org

JOB OPPORTUNITY: ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Catholic Independent Schools of the Diocese of Victoria (Island Catholic Schools) is accepting applications for the following positions:

After School Care Workers at St. Joseph's School in Victoria (Monday to Friday; 3 hours per day)

Early Childhood Educators at St. John Paull II School, Mini Miracles Family Centre, in Port Alberni

Part-time Librarian at St. Joseph's School in Victoria (4 days per week)

Part-time Educational Assistant at St. Joseph's School in Victoria

Part-time Teachers at St. Patrick's School and St. Andrew's Regional High School in Victoria

On-call Teachers, Educational Assistants, Early Childhood Educators and Out of School Care Workers for all schools (Port Alberni, Duncan, Victoria)

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

LIBRARY CORNER

July 29 is the feast day of St Martha --- it was she who laboured in the kitchen while her sister Mary was listening at the Lord's feet, but later was the more outgoing in asking Jesus to raise her brother Lazarus from the dead. She seems to be remembered for her household duties more than the latter request, and has become the heavenly advocate for those who keep our lives orderly, comfortable, and contented: the cooks, domestic servants, homemakers, hotel-keepers, housemaids, innkeepers, laundry workers, maids, servants, cleaners and servers --- front line in pandemic times. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martha>



PRAYER REFLECTION

Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.
—Mother Teresa

Since once again, Lord . . . I have neither bread, nor wine, nor altar, I will raise myself above these symbols . . . I, your priest, will make the whole Earth my altar and on it will offer you all the labors and sufferings of the world.
—Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

Bread plays so many roles! We have learned to recognize, in it, an instrument of the human community, because of the bread we break together. We have learned to recognize, in it, the image of the nobility of work, because of the bread we earn by the sweat of our brow. We have learned to recognize, in it, the essential vehicle of pity, because of the bread we distribute in times of want.
—Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

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 Posts: A new post has just been added to the Diocesan site about the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which will be celebrated this Sunday, July 25th:

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/world-day-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly>

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly: Sunday, July 25th will be the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Pope Francis announced the institution of this new World Day in January, scheduling it to take place each year on the fourth Sunday in July, close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-01/pope-establishes-world-day-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly.html>).

Included in the bulletin (page 4) is a beautiful Prayer for the First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

RECONCILIATION CORNER

In this 7-minute [video](#) shot in Goldstream Park, our WSÁNEĆ neighbor, MENEŁOT, speaks of the importance of teaching environmental stewardship to the younger generations. To learn more about Indigenous peoples' traditional respect for their lands, read the international bestseller *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by environmental biologist Robin Wall Kimmerer. No time to read the book? Watch this 3 ½- minute [video](#) to understand the concept of "The Honorable Harvest."

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, July 24th

4pm Mass: Harry Winfield Barrett +

SUNDAY, July 25th

9am Mass: Virgillio Family Int.

MONDAY, July 26th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, July 27th

9am Mass: Tony Hann +

WEDNESDAY, July 28th

9am Mass: Alastair MacIsaac (int)

THURSDAY, July 29th

9am Mass: Dorothy MacIsaac +

FRIDAY, July 30th

9am Mass: Amparo Dapat +

In-person Masses have resumed now with no restrictions on numbers. If you have any questions in this regard, please contact the Office (250-477-5321.)

Masks are now optional, with the exception of those not yet vaccinated, in the church and parish centre.



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

COLLECTION for July 18, 2021

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2,500.00
Loose	\$ 242.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,419.00



PRAYER FOR THE FIRST WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

I thank You, Lord,
for the comfort of Your presence:
even in times of loneliness,
You are my hope and my confidence,
You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth!
I thank You for having given me a family
and for having blessed me with a long life.
I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty,
for the dreams that have already come true in my life and for
those that are still ahead of me.
I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness to which You
call me.
Increase, O Lord, my faith,
make me a channel of your peace,
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me,
to never stop dreaming
and to tell of your wonders to new generations.
Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church,
that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the earth.
Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world,
that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed,
the poor consoled and wars ended.
Sustain me in weakness
and help me to live life to the full
in each moment that You give me,
in the certainty that you are with me every day,
even until the end of the age.
Amen.

