



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 26, 2020
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



"Come and follow me...I will bring you home... I love you and you are mine." By David Haas



The Kingdom of God is all around us and within us...do we see it? Or are we like the little fish at the bottom of the ocean who asks his mother where the water is? Like that little fish, I often fail to see what's right in front of me; so wrapped up in my worries and fears, I miss God at work in the present moment. In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that his Kingdom is our greatest treasure, the finest pearl, whether we stumble upon it like the worker in the field or we seek it like the merchant, finding Jesus will transform our heart and our lives.

So, how do we stumble into God's Kingdom in our day-to-day? Is it when we hear the soft whisper of the Holy Spirit asking us to look, and we see the miracle of a hummingbird hovering over a red geranium, and for a few moments, time seems to stop as we witness this gift of God's creation? Or when we hold a little grandchild in our arms, getting lost in their gaze of pure love, the kind that pierces the heart and touches the soul...Jesus' kind of love; and we forget to breathe, suspended in the wonder and beauty of God. In our stumble, we bump smack into Jesus, our King; it's his love that allows us to see our world through his eyes, having glimpsed in that brief moment the beauty, joy and peace of his Kingdom we long for more, turning us into seekers of Jesus.

But it's Jesus who seeks us first; he's our shepherd and his call to follow him is a gentle call. A call I heard more clearly during the quiet months of self isolation; when the whole world was hushed and all of a sudden there was more time to be still, more time to pray. St. Teresa of Avila once said that we hear a lot about what people do in prayer, but we don't often hear about what God achieves in us in prayer. What is achieved is the dialogue of hearts between us and Jesus...he opens our eyes and ears to his presence in our lives. We seek and find Jesus in our love of family, in the acts of mercy by the neighbor next door, in the kind words spoken by the stranger...a clear sign, Jesus, our King, is at work in his Kingdom. A Kingdom we help to build by taking the love and faith we have in Jesus and sharing it with the world.

The Kingdom of God is here, but like the oceans that are continuously fed by fresh water from the rivers and streams, God's Kingdom continues to come. Jesus knows our struggles, he is beside us when we stumble, when we seek and especially when we are so lost we need to be carried back to Him by those who love us. Our treasure is the faith we have in Jesus, knowing he will never ever give up on us, we are ALL children of God and he will lead us back to his Father, all he asks is that we follow.

As I stumble,
Anna Mendonca

OFFICE HOURS

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

Fr. William Hann, Pastor

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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!

Please Note: Live broadcast of Masses at Holy Cross / St. Patrick's Parishes will resume in September when Fr. William returns. In the meantime, you may access live stream masses from the Cathedral with Bishop Gary Gordon via this link: www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream.

Alternatively, the Cathedral also streams it's **Saturday 4pm mass** which you can view through this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VEFsrcjpF5s&feature=youtu.be>

**Father William will be away from July 22-August 31st. His first mass back will be Tuesday, September 1st for the 9:00am mass.*

SCAM ALERT

There is a scam going around using the Bishop of Victoria's name, BUT there has also been a resurgence of the scam involving Fr. William's name which has gone around in the past. The scam using email and text messages from Fr. William has also reared it's ugly head again. If you get a text message or an email from "Fr. William" asking for gift cards and or cash please **IGNORE** this message. Often the initial message is an invitation to call or email him back. **IGNORE** that also. Fr. William has never, will never and would never contact parishioners with this kind of request.

**SCAM
ALERT!****FR. ALFIE'S TABLE**

Fr. Alfredo from St. Joseph the Worker parish, has had weekly cooking lessons on his YouTube segments titled Fr. Alfie's Table. You can see the many episodes he'd done so far by going to his YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnrXph4ihY4GxglSalq9pxQ>
Some highlight recipes include: Eggplant parmagiana, Gnocchi, lamb chops, chicken cacciatore, and much, much, more! *Buon Appetito!*

'LIBRARY CORNER' from George Murphy

July 29 is the feast day of St Martha --- she it was 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, "*housewives*", innkeepers, laundry workers, maids, servants, cleaners and servers. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martha>



PRAYER REFLECTION

Those therefore who wish to . . . inherit the everlasting kingdom of God must not be weeds but wheat. They must avoid saying or doing anything useless, and practice the opposite virtues, thus bringing forth the fruits of repentance.

—Gregory Palamas

Holy Spirit, spirit of truth, you are the reward of the saints, the comforter of souls, light in the darkness, riches to the poor . . . food for the hungry, comfort to those who are wandering; to sum up you are the one in whom all treasures are contained.

—Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi

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

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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/>

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Island Catholic Schools is accepting applications for full-time, part-time and on-call Educational Assistants for schools in Victoria. Application forms and details are posted at:

<http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>

THANK YOU

Thank you to Fr. Frank Franz, who will be joining us for the next six weeks while Fr. Willam is away on holiday. Fr. Frank will be presiding over all the Masses, any Sacraments that may arise during this period, and will also be hearing Confessions at Holy Cross on Saturdays from 2:30-3:15pm. We welcome Fr. Frank with much gratitude, and offer him our full support as we all continue to navigate our way through new protocols and routines during this time of pandemic.

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 25th

2:30-3:15pm Reconciliation

4:00pm Mass: **Maria Huber&Martin Schierli +**

SUNDAY, July 26th

9:00am Mass: **Luvy Oxa +**

MONDAY, July 27th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, July 28th

9:00 am Mass: **Lucien LeBlanc +**

WEDNESDAY, July 29th

9:00am Mass: **Hilary Ribeiro & Jose Pacheco +**

THURSDAY, July 30th

9:00am Mass: **No Intention**

FRIDAY, July 31st

9:00 am Mass : **Armido Cazzola +**

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 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 to 11:00am Tuesday to Friday only.



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

COLLECTION for July 19, 2020

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2,535.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,452.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,987.00