



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining with St. Patrick's Parish

## SUNDAY - July 28, 2024

### Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, is the 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time. In John's Gospel we hear the well-known account of the feeding of the five thousand. This story is so familiar to us, we might be tempted to not give it much attention. But this event made such an impact on the people of Jesus' time that it is described in all four gospels. According to James Martin, SJ, the only other miracle narrative described in all four gospels is the Resurrection. "That provides a gauge for how dramatic, memorable, and important the event was for the disciples and the early church." (James Martin, *Jesus*).

The people of Israel had a deep appreciation that God provided for them throughout their history. In the first reading, Elisha, described as a *man of God*, ordered *loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain* to be given to a group of one hundred people. They ate until satisfied and *had some left, according to the word of the Lord*. In today's Psalm 145, the Lord is praised and thanked for providing for his people. *You open your hand to feed us, Lord; you satisfy all our needs*. In John's Gospel, Jesus saw the large crowd coming toward him and he *knew what he was going to do*. He was going to fulfill God's word and provide nourishment for all. Jesus knew that the people were tired and hungry, and he understood that he could help them. Furthermore, this amazing happening alerted the crowd to pay attention, to recognize that Jesus was the source of something more than bread, that he was the source of something they did not even realize they needed. A few verses after the miraculous feeding of the multitude was described in John's gospel, *Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty*. And as he had declared, Jesus offered his body and blood at the Last Supper. Jesus continues this act of love to this day – we are so loved and valued that Jesus gives himself to us again and again and we are transformed.

What about the boy with the loaves and fish? What is his role in this astonishing event? Maybe the boy overheard the apostles talking about their concern – and with the innocence of a child, he offered his little bit of food. What are two fish and five loaves *among so many people*? But *Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated*. And there was plenty for everyone! We are often caught in the perception that our little offering of money, food, encouragement, and example is too small compared to the overwhelming poverty of millions and the alarming damage caused to the environment. Let us trust like that little boy! Let us have faith that God will bless our small offerings and use them to nourish and heal our world. Our God is an Awesome God!



Tanya Taft

#### 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](https://www.rcdvictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit [BishopReportingSystem.ca](https://www.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](https://s3.amazonaws.com/media.cloversites.com/cf/cf43cd4b-2408-4957-a83c-d18c6511d74a/documents/Registration_Form_2020_SP_-_Yrs_I_II_-_FILLABLE.pdf)

### A Milestone Anniversary (time changed)



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 **5pm** followed by a bring-your-own picnic supper, at Holy Cross Parish. Beverages will be provided.



Please RSVP to [office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org), call 250-477-5321 or sign up in the foyer.

July 26<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> honour respectively, the feast days of St Anne & St Joachim (parents of the Virgin Mary)  
and Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saints-Anne-and-Joachim>

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saints-martha-mary-and-lazarus>



THE LIBRARY

CORNER

### **Prayer Reflection**

Through the eyes of faith, no two hours are alike, and the dullness and monotony [of life] disappear.

—*Saint Faustina Kowalska*

Faith and Reason are like two wings of the human spirit by which it soars to the truth.

—*Saint Pope John Paul II*

A good shepherd—not only does he keep his doors open, but he also goes to seek out those who no longer wish to enter them.

—*Pope Francis*

### **Question of the Week**

#### **What does it mean to have faith?**

When we put our faith in other people, it means we trust them to do as they say and to follow through on their promises. It doesn't mean we believe that they exist. Yet this minimalist definition of faith seems to be what's most often applied in the realm of religion. Contrast that with what happens if we extend the same faith in God that we offer to people. As Jesuit theologian Michael Cook describes it, we only surrender our trust to those with whom we have a shared history. Committing our faith to another person involves risk. We become vulnerable to betrayal, deceit, or disappointment. Who would take such a risk unless the one to whom we give our faith has proven worthy of it? This is precisely the kind of faith Abraham surrenders to the God who invites him to leave home and embark on a future that's unknown. God promises land and descendants. If Abraham hadn't believed God was good for it, he would never have left his father's tents.

**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 sessions to choose from will be held on Saturday, August 31 from 10 - 12 and on Saturday, September 28 from 10 - 12.

Please email [hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org) with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism and forward you the baptism registration form.

#### **Donation from Holy Cross Parish to Our Lady of the Rosary**

The Finance Committee, Parish Council and Executive Committee of Holy Cross Parish have all agreed that some of the funds in excess of our needs would be given (on a one-time basis) to Our Lady of the Rosary Parish's Building Fund. This week, the sum of \$30,000 was transferred to OLOR. This money was interest earned in 2023 from reserve savings. Our Lady of the Rosary has expressed their deepest gratitude for this support of their parish.

#### **The 10<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:familycamp@rcdvictoria.org). In addition, registration continues for this camp at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/family-camp>

### **OUR LITURGICAL LIFE**

SATURDAY, July 27, 2024

4PM MASS: Nevenka Kardum+

SUNDAY, July 28, 2024

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, July 29, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, July 30, 2024

9AM Liturgy of the Word with Communion  
Joe De Sousa (Int)

WEDNESDAY, July 31, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, August 1, 2024

9AM Liturgy of the Word with Communion  
Mariana Pareira+

FRIDAY, August 2, 2024

NO MASS

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

***Masks are optional at this time***  
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***The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available from 3:00- 3:45 on Saturdays***

#### **COLLECTIONS , July 14, 2024**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 3,005.00
Loose	\$ 390.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,015.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,410.00</b>

#### **Thank you!**

Thanks go out to the new Executive Committee at Holy Cross Parish for their diligent support of staff during this period of transition as we await a new Pastor. Your visits, phone calls, emails and regular meetings provide encouragement and advice we appreciate as we all adapt to our new reality. Thank you, Dave, Catherine and John!

## News from the Chancery

- 1) July 30<sup>th</sup> is the UN's World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. Barbara Renaud, a member of the Anti-Human Trafficking Committee of the Archdiocese of Vancouver, has written an article about this issue. It may be read online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/leave-no-child-behind-in-the-fight-against-human-trafficking>.
- 2) In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year, Pope Francis has announced that 2024 will be a "Year of Prayer". The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops invites all to participate in their webinar series, titled "A Great Symphony of Prayer". Part one of the series, "The Our Father as a Programme of Life", ran in April and is now available online at [ccb.ca/ourfather](http://ccb.ca/ourfather). Part two, "Mary, the Saints and Scripture", will be offered on Thursdays in October. For more information and to register, please visit [https://ccb-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Y6d9S5rIT5uIkGHCb9\\_IWw#/registration](https://ccb-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Y6d9S5rIT5uIkGHCb9_IWw#/registration).
- 3) The 2024 World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated on Sunday, July 28. This year's theme is "Do not cast me off in my old age" (Psalm 71:9), and the Catholic faithful are invited to reflect on the loneliness of the elderly and the role of the Church in addressing it. For more information, including Pope Francis' message for the Day and the official Prayer, please visit <https://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/eventi/2024/iv-giornata-mondiale-dei-nonni-e-degli-anziani.html>.
- 4) The Diocese of Victoria is now accepting applications for a full time temporary Intermediate Accountant. This position will assist the Controller in the administration of Diocesan financial operations by providing accounting services to the Catholic Independent Schools. The job posting is attached to this email, and may also be viewed at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment>. All applications must be received by August 2, 2024.
- 5) On the two-year anniversary of Pope Francis's penitential pilgrimage to Canada, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has written a "Letter to the People of God" to provide an update on the steps that the Catholic Church in Canada has taken to respond to the Holy Father's calls for a future of justice, healing, and reconciliation. It encourages Catholics across the country to continue to listen to and support residential school survivors and Indigenous communities on this journey. A copy of the letter may be read online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/indigenous/from-strong-words-to-meaningful-partnership>. For more information, please visit <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/from-strong-words-to-meaningful-partnership-a-renewed-catholic-commitment-to-indigenous-reconciliation/>.

## **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. Please see the poster on the bulletin board in the foyer at Holy Cross Parish for more details re accepted items, or 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](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

**Office Assistant:** Joanie Bidlake  
250-477-5321 [officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org)

**University Chaplain:** Vacant

**Parish Council Chair:** Catherine Davis

**Sacramental Preparation:** Michele Bristow  
[mbristow@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:mbristow@rcdvictoria.org)

**Baptismal Preparation:** Beverly Pulyk  
[hcsbpaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbpaptismalprep@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 Parish; 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.