



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - July 30th, 2023
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This Sunday, July 30th, is the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Last Sunday we heard Matthew's Gospel in which Jesus compared the Kingdom of Heaven to a mustard seed and yeast and described it as containing both wheat and weeds. In today's Gospel, Jesus continues to teach on this topic as he shares three short accounts which express the value of the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus does not tell his listeners what the Kingdom of Heaven is, but states what *the Kingdom of Heaven is like*. It is like a treasure that is recognized as something exceptionally priceless.

As a child, Pierre Teilhard De Chardin (a Jesuit priest and paleontologist) searched for permanency among stones, rocks, and metals. Maturity and studies in science and theology led him to the understanding that the universe and all it contained was evolving and, therefore, changing. Teilhard recognized that the only permanent piece in the universe was God and God's love. The earth and all its contents were changing. In five billion years the earth will be swallowed by the sun, as the sun evolves into a red giant. Yet, we believe that all moments of love and the patterns of us beings, will exist for ever in the incomprehensible, loving embrace of God.

Does this imply that the Kingdom of Heaven is for the future? As with all things of God, the Kingdom of Heaven is a mystery, and we can only catch small glimpses. However, one aspect seems clear. If the Kingdom of Heaven is God, then it is always in existence, and we do not have to wait for the future to be part of it. This is what Jesus was telling the crowds and this is what he is telling us in Matthew's Gospel. Examine what you are spending your time and effort on, assess what you are accumulating. What things in your life do you pay attention to, do you worry about, do you value? The Kingdom of Heaven is not gold or pearls, it is not money or power. The Kingdom of Heaven is truly valuable because it is permanent, it will exist forever since love exists forever. Every loving gesture and kindness, every act of compassion and respect builds the Kingdom of Heaven and lasts forever.

Jesus wants us to recognize the Kingdom of Heaven, realize its value, and choose it. In every account that Jesus shared, the individual recognized the value of the treasure and gave up other materials to possess the prize. Not only are we asked to choose the Kingdom of Heaven, but we are called to help build it. Teilhard said: "Our duty, as men and women, is to proceed as if limits to our ability did not exist. We are collaborators in creation."

God has given us a remarkable invitation and responsibility. God created us to make a difference! So let us collaborate, let us be part of the evolution of the universe, let us build the Kingdom of Heaven.

Tanya Taft



OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm
Fr. William Hann, Pastor
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

Just a reminder that there will be no livestreaming of Masses from Holy Cross or St. Patrick's Parishes until September 9th. For the month of August, Diocesan livestream will happen on weeknights at 7:00 pm and Sundays at 10:00 am from Tahsis, BC. Check out: [RCD Victoria Live One - YouTube](#)

August Bulletin Please be aware that this is the last bulletin until September 3, 2023. Notices of importance will be sent out via email during this time.

FUNDRAISER "THE CAROL BURNETT SHOW!" AUG 12 & 13 AT ST. ELIZABETH'S

Parishioners of Saanich Peninsula Parish will be putting on the "Carol Burnett Show!" at St. Elizabeth's church located at 10030 Third street (between Henry & Malaview) in Sidney.

2 Shows! Saturday August 12 at 7pm & Sunday August 13 at 2pm.

It features local talented actors, Kelly Vanderswan, Matt Watson, Chris Blackie, Roy Battilana and Melanie Ehrlich, 3 of whom are members of St. Elizabeth's church. Piano accompaniment by Joseph Shadian who is also a member of the church.

Join us for loads of laughs and fun as we showcase 4 hysterical sketch comedies from the timeless comedy show "The Howl & the Pussycat" "Alice Portnoy at the Hospital" "The Old Folks #4" and "Divorce American Style".

Admission is BY DONATION at the door. ALL proceeds go to help refugees in Aleppo, Syria!



Thank You!

Everything was perfect at Gyro Beach for last weekend's twinned parishes picnic! Abundant thanks go out to the Knights of Columbus and the CWL of St. Patrick's Parish for organizing and working so very hard to provide a wonderful community event for both parishes. What a great day it was!



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. Please note that the next session for Baptismal Preparation is: Saturday, August 26 (10:00 am – 12 noon). Please email hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will email you a registration form.

The **Environmental Book Collection** currently displayed in the lobby **will be moved to St. Patrick's Parish as of Sept. 1**. You have till the end of August to borrow and return books in this collection. Take advantage of this opportunity while there's still time!



Library Corner in Church Foyer

July brings us four notable commemorative feast days: July 3 --- St Thomas who doubted the word of his fellow apostles that Jesus had risen from the dead, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_the_Apostle; July 11 --- St Benedict (480-548) whose rules for monastic life have been adopted in many monasteries since that time https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benedict_of_Nursia; July 25 --- St James whose gospel reminds us that "faith is shown by good works" (2:17-26) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_the_Great; and July 29 --- Saints Martha & Mary where we observe Mary's adoration and Martha's employment,



Prayer Reflection

In the kingdom of love there is no competition; there is no possessiveness or control. The more love you give away, the more love you will have.

—John O'Donohue

Every faithful act of service, every honest labor to make the world a better place . . . will be seen on that day to have contributed to the perfect fellowship of God's kingdom.

—Amy L. Sherman

On the one hand, love everything without distinction. On the other, love only the good. A mystery.

—Simone Weil

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 30, 2023 “Give your servant therefore an understanding mind...” Perhaps the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life awaits you. If God is calling you contact Fr. David Hogman or Fr. Harrison Ayre, Directors of Vocations in the Diocese of Victoria

Fr. David Hogman: dhogman@rcdvictoria.org

Fr. Harrison Ayre: hayre@rcdvictoria.org

Outreach Ministry Requests for Visits

If you or a person you know would like a visit from an Outreach Ministry Volunteer to bring Holy Communion to someone at home who is unable to get to Mass; or - someone in long-term care, please contact the Office at 250-477-5321, or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org

Knights of Columbus - Free 1 Year On-Line Membership. You can enjoy the benefits of being a Knights of Columbus member including Accidental Death Benefit and the famous Columbia Magazine. Go to: www.kofc.org/joinus Promo Code: BLESSEDMCGIVNEY After joining, please check your INBOX for confirmation.

Pastoral Care Outreach Training series: Nine sessions will be held via Zoom on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – noon, starting on September 23 and running until November 25, 2023 (with no session on October 7 for Thanksgiving). Participants who attend all sessions will receive a Certificate of Completion. Participants will require a phone number and email address, a computer, tablet or smartphone with speakers, microphone and webcam, a reliable Internet connection and access to Zoom. Whether you are a member of your parish Pastoral Care Team, an Extraordinary Minister of Communion, a member of the Knights of Columbus, CWL or St. Vincent de Paul, clergy or religious, caring for a family member, or someone attending as a personal undertaking, this training program is important. It will show why those who visit the sick are unique and how they can offer more than a friendly visit – they can be the hands and face of Christ to others. Bishop Gary Gordon feels “it is important to have parishioners trained at the ready to provide a caring and compassionate experience to those who are most in need.” Please register through your local parish by September 12. For further information, please email moiraking@shaw.ca

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, July 29th

4PM Mass: Maria Huber+

SUNDAY, July 30th

9AM Mass: Leonarda Virgillio+

MONDAY, July 31st

NO MASS

TUESDAY, August 1st

9AM Liturgy of the Word
(Marcia Thompson)
Stephanie Wheaton+

WEDNESDAY, August 2nd

NO MASS

THURSDAY, August 3rd

9AM Liturgy of the Word
(Tanya Taft)
Romulo+ & Victoria+
Bernice Kobylanski+

FRIDAY, August 4th

NO MASS

The Church will be open for private prayers this week from Tuesday to Friday, 9am—noon

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 Mercy Chapel

Masks are no longer mandatory indoors. We do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed. If you are feeling unwell please stay home.

COLLECTION for July 23rd 2023

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 2,405.00
Loose	\$ 255.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,096.00
Anawim for Men	\$ 50.00
TOTAL	\$3,806.00

Harry's Garlic is almost ready! This fund raiser for Anawim House was hugely successful the past couple of years, and will continue this year. Stay tuned for pricing and availability. Red Russian garlic will be sold by weight from the office.



News from the Chancery

1) Sunday, July 30 is the United Nation's World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. The Diocese of Victoria, the Archdiocese of Vancouver, and the Diocese of Saskatchewan have created the "[Working Towards Freedom](#)" study guide to help people become more aware of the human trafficking that is occurring in our midst, and to learn how to bring to light situations where people may be in danger. To read the guide, and the [CCCB Pastoral Letter](#) on which it is based, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/working-towards-freedom-study-guide-on-human-trafficking-now-available>.

2) World Youth Day is happening next week from August 2 – 6, and over 5,000 Canadian youth are on their way to Lisbon, Portugal to participate. To learn more, please visit <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/5000-canadian-youth-join-pope-francis-in-portugal-for-world-youth-day/>.

3) Diocesan livestream upcoming schedule:

Sunday, July 30: Livestream at 11:00 am from St. Mary's, Port McNeill

Monday, July 31: Livestream at 7:00 pm from Sacred Heart, Victoria

For the month of August, the livestream will happen on weeknights at 7:00 pm and Sundays at 10:00 am from Tahsis, BC. [RCD Victoria Live One - YouTube](#)

The St. Andrew's International Student Program is in need of an additional host family for September 2023 for a female Chinese student, attending Grade 10 for the full school year. If you would be willing to support a young person on their international high school journey/ experience, please consider welcoming one of our international students into your family. Host families receive \$1,200 per month to cover costs. Please contact Nina Timm **ASAP** at: homestay@cisdv.bc.ca / Tel: 403-771-2519

Show Us Your Face, Lord: Catholic Retreat with Fr. Mark Cherry

In September, Fr. Mark Cherry, a retreat and mission speaker from Halifax, will lead a retreat in Victoria with the theme "Show Us Your Face, Lord" to bring us closer to Him. The retreat will take place **September 29 – 30 (Friday evening and Saturday)** at St. Joseph the Worker Parish (753 Burnside Road W) with three talks, adoration and benediction, worship, a healing service and Mass. Confession will also be available. Space is limited. Early bird registration is \$35 before Aug 31st and \$45 as of Sep 1st. Lunch is not included – bring a bag lunch. To register, please visit our website at www.tinyurl.com/showusyourface2023. For more information, email catholicretreat7@gmail.com or phone 250-383-7746.

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 (*after hours*)

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: Dan Taft

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: pending

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk

hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

Mass and Liturgy of the Word **Summer Schedule**

Holy Cross Parish

Mass Saturday 4pm, Sunday 9am

From July 25 - September 5, Liturgy of the Word with Communion - Tuesday and Thursday, 9am.

St. Patrick's Parish

Sunday Masses 11am and 4pm.

From July 25 - September 5, Liturgy of the Word with Communion - Wednesday and Friday 12:10pm.

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.