

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - July 7, 2024
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus returns to his hometown to proclaim the message that's begun to be well received far and wide. But the hometown folks can't get past their preconceived notions of Jesus. "Hey, we know all there is to know about this guy. Who does he think he is?" Because of their shortsightedness, they missed out on the Good News that Jesus embodies. "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account," Jesus famously taught in his Sermon on the Mount. And he should know, because Jesus faced precisely this kind of treatment at his debut in Nazareth. Folks didn't simply disapprove of his teaching. They questioned his credentials and even his paternity (being called the "son of Mary" was irregular in a land where your father's lineage was paramount). In fact, the opposition got rather physical, if you include nearly being hurled off a cliff at the end of the lesson. Their lack of belief was the cause of His not being able to do the signs and mighty deeds they were seeking. The "honor" for which He was asking them was not based on locale or family ties, but on accepting Him as The One Who is Sent. He leaves the temple, but to add to their confusion, Jesus does heal a few by touching them, but departs as amazed at their lack of faith as they are amazed at His unpredictable behavior. We have these two, Ezekiel and Jesus showing up just being who they are. Both know they are going to be resisted for just being who they are and how they do who they know themselves to be.

Talking to God can be a lot of trouble, and hearing from God maybe worse. But you know what's worst of all? A world in which God's voice is not heard at all. A world in which Jesus himself walks into a house of prayer and his own community doubts him. That didn't just happen once in Nazareth, unhappily. It happens all the time. If you look around our Church, you see several images honoring Jesus: a central crucifix, the Stations of the Cross, statues, an icon, a votive stand and other sacramental's of beauty such as the tabernacle. The tabernacle essentially houses the true presence of Christ in our midst. Honor and worship, though, is easy. Discipleship is hard. Living it is a challenge and the prophets are ones that lived it. They were amazing conduits of grace!

Faith is to believe despite all evidence to the contrary. Do we believe that a single task as Christians is to practice our faith, to train our minds to believe, even when the evidence suggests otherwise. What scripture invites us to do today is not simply to bow but to listen. Listen for the voice that still brings the word of God into the world. It will not shout out loud or break a bruised reed. It whispers, an indwelling Spirit that longs to speak directly to your heart and mine. Listen. The prophets were clear that God was continuing to work in the universe and in all history. Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Jesus all showed up, because they had all received well their persons and their missions. They did not care about what others were saying about them, because they knew what they, themselves, were saying about themselves. There have been many prophetic persons in my life, telling me, pushing me, slowing me down, building me up and often it took me time to hear, receive, take it to heart and so begin to show up with the simpler self which helps me offer others their good truths. It is not for me as a preacher to judge others on this score. But on the one hand, I would be an unfaithful preacher if I did not point to that aspect of the Gospel message as well. But then not as a word of judgment or condemnation, but as a word of vigilance, a summons to an ever-increasing faith in Jesus, so that, when our time comes, Jesus can say to each one of us: "Welcome home, you faithful disciples". (continued on page 2)

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

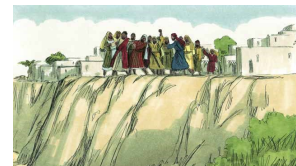
To report sexual abuse by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, visit RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit BishopReportingSystem.ca or call 1-866-892-3737

My dear friends, a gracious God is also part of our world scene, and not as a threatening, a punishing, or a destructive God, but as a God who is generous to the point of being prodigal in the way he brings forth new life in our world. Every one of us, simply because of our baptism, has been called to be a prophet. We have all been called to spread the message of the Gospel in our families, in our working places, among our friends, in our society. Whatever is happening we must be ready to proclaim and uphold God's truth, love, justice, freedom, people's rights, and dignity. There are some things over which we cannot compromise; there are times when we cannot keep silent. There are times when we may be afraid, or when we feel incompetent or inadequate. We can take encouragement from Paul in the Second Reading today. We need to learn what St. Paul proclaimed so clearly about his own experience when he discovered how weak he was, when he discovered how powerless he was. He said: I am blessed because when I am powerless, when I am weak, then I am most powerful.

All for the greater glory of God

Father William



LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from St Patrick's Parish at I Iam Sunday. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

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

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 hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.

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>

Catholic Pilgrimage May 2025 - a Message from Father Dean

Dear friends in Christ. Pope Francis has called for a Jubilee Year of Hope for 2025 and to celebrate, I'd like to offer a pilgrimage occasion in the Marian Month of May. Our Catholic pilgrimage coordinating agent did an inspirational job for 30 Diocesan pilgrims who joined me in the Holy Land in 2023 and has put together a wonderful 12-day itinerary. For detailed queries read the attached and if needed, contact IHS directly, but for more general questions you're welcome to be in touch with me. Blessings in the Jubilee Hope of Jesus.

Father Dean Henderson, St. Andrew's Cathedral Office 250.388.5571

Information and Registration forms are available in the foyer.

Prayer Reflection

We must often draw the comparison between time and eternity. This is the remedy of all our troubles. How small will the present moment appear when we enter that great ocean.

—Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

My attitude is that if you push me toward something that you think is a weakness, then I will turn that perceived weakness into a strength.

—Michael Jordan

Word of the Week

Penitential Act

A short rite recognizing our failures that is part of the opening rite of the Mass. Sometimes the Penitential Act includes the Confiteor ("I confess to almighty God") or the Kyrie ("Lord have mercy"). Another suitable prayer may also be used. The Penitential Act opens with an introduction from the priest. He invites the whole community—himself included—to acknowledge their sins. This honest look inside ourselves during the Penitential Act helps us to be aware of our sin and our need for God to help us overcome sin. The Penitential Act is a recognition that God is merciful, and we need mercy. Admitting fault is the antidote to self-justification. I'm a sinner! And, thanks be to God, forgiven.

Please Note: As there is a funeral at 11am Tuesday, July 9 for Josephine Loughren, Liturgy of the Word will not be held on that day.

Our Lady of the Rosary Building Fund Donations Update

We have passed the \$180,000 mark so with extra thinking during this week we might get to \$200,000... THAT WOULD BE GREAT for the parish and a BIG BOOST FOR FATHER WILLIAM. Remember.....'and the greatest of these is CHARITY'.

ON BEHALF OF FATHER WILLIAM AND THE LANGFORD PARISH,
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP AND I WILL NO MORE ASK YOU FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
ELLIS

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 6, 2024
4PM MASS: Anthony Montebello+

SUNDAY, July 7, 2024
9AM MASS: Giuseppe Zinetti+

MONDAY, July 8, 2024
NO MASS

TUESDAY, July 9, 2024
11AM Funeral Mass for Josephine Loughran

WEDNESDAY, July 10, 2024
NO MASS

THURSDAY, July 11, 2024
9AM Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Amaro Dapat+

FRIDAY, July 12, 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 , June 30, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 4,505.00
Loose	\$ 597.00
Anawim for Men	\$ 80.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	<u>\$ 1,268.75</u>
TOTAL	\$ 6,450.75

Thank you!

Thank you to two recent 'retirees' from the 'volunteers list':

Alastair Maclsaac and

Dianne Green

Your long and dedicated service to Liturgical Ministry and the Floral Team has been greatly appreciated!

News from the Chancery

1) The Diocese of Victoria is seeking a Communications Coordinator. We are looking for a strong community-minded team member, with a commitment to the Mission of the Roman Catholic church and a strong work ethic, to assist the Bishop and the Chancellor with internal and external communications. The job posting may viewed at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment>. All applications must be received by July 16, 2024.

2) 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.

3) World Wide Marriage Encounter is offering a weekend marriage retreat on the mainland this fall from October 25-27, 2024. Rekindle the romance, remind yourselves why you fell in love, and learn how to make a good marriage even better – you both deserve it! Early bird pricing is available until September 9, and registration closes October 14. For more info and to register, please visit <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/couple-retreat-by-worldwide-marriage-encounter>



Happy Birthday wishes go out to Pete Vijandre who celebrated his 80th birthday on July 4th! Blessings on the year ahead, Pete!

Save the date! August 15th

A special event!

More to follow....



Hearing Loop System Holy Cross Parish is equipped with a hearing loop system. If you wear hearing aids, switch your hearing aid to T-Coil and you will be connected to the hearing loop system. See: www.advancedlistening.ca

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
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 - 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.