

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - June 16, 2024

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

I bet many gathered here today are thinking about their fathers, our fathers on earth and in heaven and so we should! Happy Father's Day to our fathers on earth and in heaven! Jesus was a great believer in and promoter of renewal, both of his hearers' personal outlook and of the structures and priorities of the Jewish religion. In today's parable, he draws attention to the mysterious miracle of growth and fruitfulness. As I leave Saint Patrick's and Holy Cross and begin a new ministry at Our Lady of the Rosary the readings this week are relevant. All parishes are living the process of renewal.

The readings this week show that what is small, hard to see, and even invisible can have vast importance. Whether it is the tender shoot of the cedar tree or the tiny seed of the mustard plant, what seems slight now will become something mighty. "We walk by faith, not by sight," the Second Letter to the Corinthians says; we hope in that what is unseen and in the future will come to pass. The important thing, though, is to realize how the present still matters. Think of the little seeds, shoots, and easy-to-miss places in your life where more attention and cultivation "shall bear fruit," as the psalmist says, in the kingdom of God.

Jesus issues an invitation for all of us in this season of renewal—for fathers and for the rest of us who hope to lead fruitful lives. It is the way of the farmer, who views the ground not only as dirt but as the matrix of all hope. For the ground, coupled with his own purposeful activity, is the medium of a harvest through God's holy desire to bring forth life. The seed sleeps in the dark soil, dying to its original being to emerge as something greater than itself. This world is the soil of our lives. It is where potential meets possibility and possibility the movement toward perfection.

Thomas Merton described grace as the hidden potential we have for every virtue—like the oak tree hidden in the meat of an acorn. "To be an acorn," he wrote, "is to have a taste for being an oak tree." You and I seek grace, desire its transformative effect, because we are acorns with oak trees inside with a taste for who we are meant to be. Planted in the soil of this world, with proper care and attention, the virtues in our spiritual genes will emerge and we will assume our place in the grove of those giants, the saints. It is not only simple to do, but also the plan. God's plan, anyway. The only thing that interferes with its maturity is if we plan something else.

Eyes on Jesus

Father William



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

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>

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 courses will be held on Saturday, June 29 from 10 - 12, and Saturday, August 31 from 10 - 12. Please email hcsfbaptismalprep@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>

Planet Positive Tips

The environmental impact of plastic wrap

Plastic wrap is made from low density polyethylene which, despite being considered safe for use in the kitchen, is contributing to the devastating impact of single use plastics on our marine environment.

Some alternatives are:

- Beeswax wraps and bags which can be wiped and re-used many times and are compostable. A locally made example is Naturebee (<https://www.naturebeewraps.ca>)
- Mason jars and glass storage containers
- A plate and a bowl
- Cotton mesh bags for vegetable storage



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>

A Special Message from Father William

Thank You!

I want to express my gratitude to all for a memorable farewell evening. *Grateful people are like fertile fields, they give back what they receive tenfold.* My life has been blessed by being planted among the good people of Holy Cross and Saint Patrick's. Your kind words, gifts and donations to my new parish building fund have touched me deeply. I will hold you all in memory and in prayer in these days of transition. I love you! Eyes on Jesus!! I will continue to be part of a team writing the bulletin articles and Universal Prayers until a Pastor arrives.

Prayer Reflection

The kingdom of God is where our best dreams come from and our truest prayers. We glimpse it at those moments when we find ourselves being better than we are and wiser than we know.
—Frederick Buechner

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.
—Gerard Manley Hopkins

He who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love.
—Saint Basil the Great

Word of the Week: Kingdom of God

The kingdom of God isn't "heaven"—that is, it's not where we go when we die. It's not even a place. Kingdom refers to God's rule. Jesus refers to the Kingdom as "among" us and "within" us—always within reach. We don't "get there" so much as abide in it where we are. We participate in the Kingdom in various ways: changing our hearts, working toward justice, protecting the vulnerable, and freeing the burdened. We pray for the Kingdom to come in the Lord's Prayer. Jesus offers stories and metaphors for understanding the Kingdom: a sower, a mustard seed, a treasure, a banquet. Matthew's gospel references the Kingdom almost 50 times. John's gospel makes clear that the Kingdom isn't territory to be gained. It's where peace rules and oppression ends. No political system or social program can establish God's rule. We can't make "Kingdom come" by our own efforts. Yet we're summoned to enter more fully into the Kingdom by reshaping society to conform to its values. Also, reign of God or kingdom of heaven. The spiritual realm over which God reigns, which transcends time and space. A central element to the teaching of Jesus. As we live in anticipation of the fullness of the Kingdom, we have a responsibility to create a world more in keeping with the values of the reign of God.
—Helen Doohan

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, June 15, 2024
4PM Mass: Fedelino Beruno+ and
Celerina Aposin+
Orlando Torralba+

SUNDAY, June 16, 2024
9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, June 17, 2024
NO MASS

TUESDAY, June 18, 2024
9AM Liturgy of the Word with
Communion
Tom Shreve (Int)

WEDNESDAY, June 19, 2024
NO MASS

THURSDAY, June 20, 2024
9AM Liturgy of the Word with
Communion
Gary Robertson+

FRIDAY, June 21, 2024
NO MASS

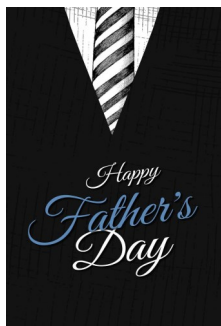
**The Chapel will be open this week
Tuesday to Friday 9 - 12**

Masks are optional at this time

COLLECTIONS, June 9, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS	
Envelopes	\$ 800.00
Anawim for Men	\$ 205.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,268.75
TOTAL	\$ 2,273.75

Our Lady of the Rosary Building Fund forms will be available in the foyer this weekend with new information regarding alternate methods of paying (e-transfer and credit card) included.



To All the Dads!

Photos from the Farewell Event

If you had your photo taken with Fr. William at the farewell event and would like to be able to view it, please contact the office.
250-477-5321



thank you

Words cannot express the thanks felt for the many volunteers that made Father William's Farewell event a success. Abundant thanks to you and also to the team of volunteers that cleared out and restored the church and hall for floor cleaning.
We are blessed!

News from the Chancery

1) Deacon Joseph Yuson, a seminarian for the Diocese of Victoria, will be ordained to the Ministerial Priesthood on Saturday, June 22, 2024 at 10:00 am at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Victoria. All are invited to participate in Deacon Joseph's ordination Mass, either in person at St. Andrew's or via the livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MullFNXUEkl>. A reception will follow the ordination at St. Andrew's Regional High School (880 McKenzie Ave, Victoria). Your prayers for Joseph and his intentions are appreciated as he prepares for service as a ministerial priest to the People of God in the Diocese of Victoria.

2) The Society of Saint Vincent De Paul Vancouver Island is a non-profit organization dedicated to living the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice and joy. They are seeking a volunteer Treasurer to join their Board. If you have experience in accounting or finance and are willing to serving, a job description can be found at <https://svdp.bamboohr.com/careers/31?source=aWQ9MTg%3D>

3) The Diocese of Victoria is participating in an international research project about how religious communities experienced the COVID-19 pandemic. All parishioners are invited to complete an anonymous online questionnaire about your experiences during the pandemic. For more information and to access the questionnaire, please visit <https://www.research.net/r/covidandreligion>. The final deadline to complete the questionnaire is June 30, 2024.

4) Applications are now being accepted for bursaries and awards offered by the Diocese of Victoria to outstanding students and educators. The deadline for applications is July 15th. 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.

HOSTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Thank you so much to all of you who already responded! We are close to having every student placed, however the **St. Andrew's International Student Program** is in need of one additional host family for September 2024 for a boy from Mexico (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 \$1,275 per month to cover costs. Please contact Nina Timm **ASAP** at : homestay@cisdv.bc.ca / Tel: 403-771-2519

Prayer in the style of Taize 6pm - September 20 October 18 November 15
St Michael and All Angels Anglican Church MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Pastor:

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:

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 are at 3:00pm on Saturdays at Holy Cross Parish and at 11:30am on Fridays 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.