



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - June 23, 2024

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel story is about Jesus stilling the storm. The story is often used to show how great and powerful Jesus is in references to the forces of nature. For me, it is much more fascinating to see how Jesus approaches his disciples in their fear. He asks them "*why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?*" These are words that appear quite frequently in the Gospel, words of Jesus to people who are frightened, who know themselves sinners, who feel rejected: "*Have no fear; I am here.*" The disciples were people very much like us; people with their failures, with their desires, with their moments of fear; moments of care and love for each other. In their contact with Jesus, they had an overwhelming experience; the experience that Jesus stood by them in their fear, that he broke through their fears; the experience that his love was so heartwarming that the fear by which they felt imprisoned evaporated.

Mark wants the readers of his Gospel to believe in the protection of God in times of fear. The Gospel today clearly identifies the terror that the disciples experienced in that sudden storm on the Sea of Galilee, and the Psalm says that God "brought them out of their distress." What today's Gospel story summons us to is to have no fear, to give ourselves over to a God who knows our hearts and who loves us to the end? That is the God of Jesus Christ! For a community fearing persecution (most probably under Nero), this story was meant to reassure them that Jesus has the same power as God claims in the reading from Job. The boat is a symbol of a storm-tossed church. But Jesus could triumph over the forces of evil and destruction, and whatever else was threatening the community. Perhaps this is why Mark also stressed Jesus' sleeping while the disciples were struggling with their fears. Even if God seems absent or uncaring, we have nothing to fear.

I read this week that *Jesus knows all the metaphors for the trembling of our hearts, for bones aching for reassurance, for our confusions and knotted stomachs, the depression that can dampen our spirits and erode our faith.* Sometimes Jesus is a hidden, silent God, seemingly asleep, as if to test our faith. But He is always there, though, calming the storm and stilling the waves. The gift of a believing community is that hands and hearts help us get there. We have the support and love of others to hold us up when we are alone and afraid. That is the kind of community I find strength in.

In our own time as well, one of the questions people seem to wrestle with is the seeming absence of God in the face of evil in the world. As Edward Schillebeeckx would say, we have an excess of evil. Whether it be the suffering and death of a loved one, or the horrific scale of war and politics gone mad, people's faith begins to falter. People wonder if God is even aware of our problems. The natural tendency is to cry out to God, as did the disciples in the boat, "Don't you care?" Meanwhile, Jesus looks at us and says, "Why do you have such little faith? Do you believe and trust only when you have no troubles in your life?" God in Jesus calms even what seems like the most unconquerable disturbances, like storms at sea. What "storms" assail your faith? How do you look to Jesus to quiet your fears? Saint Francis de Sales said...do not look forward to the trials and crosses of this life and fear. Rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God, to whom you belong, will deliver you from them.

Fear Not,

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 St. Patrick's Parish at 4pm 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 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>

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>

Note from Ellis regarding Our Lady of the Rosary Building Fund Donations

I GUESS I BIT OFF MORE THAN I COULD CHEW!!!!

As they say "it ain't over 'til the large lady sings" so I am not giving up. **FIRSTLY** thanks to those of you who have given or pledged the sum of \$134,900. I'm sure Father William will be happy as should the parishioners of Our Lady Of the Rosary. **SECONDLY** the thing is, they will be paying off this debt for longer than the average house mortgage. My hope was we could raise \$400,000 for the young families out there. While that is now unlikely, we should continue to do our best to help them and Father William. Thus I am asking you all to do your (our) bit and dig a little deeper. Those yet to help, please come forward, as we would like to complete the program by the end of June. **REMEMBER WE ALL FEEL BETTER WHEN WE HELP SOMEONE IN NEED, THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE!**

PLEASE, let's keep going!

Ellis

Knights of Columbus Online Presentation

The Knights of Columbus invites members of the parish to view the following on-line presentation:

Topic: What is Life Insurance? Things you didn't know your Knights of Columbus Membership gets you.

Date and Time: Wednesday June 26th at 7:00 pm, PDT

Link to Register: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/139848423200918876>



Prayer Reflection

Do not look forward to the trials and crosses of this life and fear. Rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God, to whom you belong, will deliver you from them.

—*Saint Francis de Sales*

Let us be silent that we may hear the whispers of God.

—*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Reflection of the Week

Solemnity of the

Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (June 24)

Respond to your deepest calling

The name John means “God’s gift,” and such was the Baptist. From the moment he came on the preaching scene, he proved himself a powerful, captivating herald of God. His bold, dramatic, austere, and uncompromising style is what many people had in mind when they hoped for a Messiah. But John understood that his role was to prepare the way for the One who was to come, the light of our salvation.

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

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, June 22, 2024

4PM Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Federico Beruno+ and Anita Sanz+

SUNDAY, June 23, 2024

9AM MASS: Patrick Hann+

MONDAY, June 24, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, June 25, 2024

9AM Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Kathleen Matlock (Int)

WEDNESDAY, June 26, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, June 27, 2024

9AM Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Jorge Cabral Medeiros+

FRIDAY, June 28, 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 will not be available on Saturday before the 4pm Liturgy of the Word this weekend but will be available at 3pm as usual in the coming months.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation this weekend: Please Note!

On this weekend only, as there is no priest available, confessions will not be heard. There will be Liturgy of the Word with Communion at 4pm. St. Patrick’s Parish does have a weekly confession time at 11:30am on Fridays. Confessions will be available at Holy Cross Parish on Saturdays at 3pm as usual next weekend and through the coming months with visiting priests.

COLLECTIONS , June 16, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 1,975.00
Loose	\$ 505.00
Peter’s Pence	\$ 20.00
Anawim for Men	\$ 115.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	<u>\$ 1,268.75</u>
TOTAL	\$ 3,883.75

Thank you!

Thanks go out to Father William for continuing to provide his wisdom via the bulletin reflection, quotes, reflection of the week and intercessions. It is a joy to continue to ‘hear your voice’!

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) 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) "Grief to Grace" will be holding a retreat in September 2024 in Kelowna. This program is for people who have endured neglect, physical, emotional, sexual, and/or spiritual abuse in their family of origin, their community, from spouses/partners, and/or coworkers or supervisors. Through a retreat program facilitated by mental health professionals and centered on Jesus Christ, participants are helped to find healing and journey to wholeness. For more information please email griegtograncelowna@gmail.com or make a confidential call to 250-808-6403.

4) Rachel's Vineyard will be hosting a retreat on Vancouver Island from October 24 – 27, 2024. This ministry is a safe place for people to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. For more information and to register, please contact Nicola at rachelsvineyardvancouverisland@gmail.com or 250-514-3973.

Vocation Live-In at the Seminary of Christ the King

There will be a Vocation Live-In on the weekend of July 6 -7 at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission, BC. Anyone wishing to enter the Seminary in the next couple of years is welcome. For more information phone 604-826-8975 or email rector.minors@sck.ca

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: 11:30am on Friday at St. Patrick's Parish (No confession at Holy Cross Parish Saturday, June 22)

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.