



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

## **Mission Statement: Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish**

Rooted in the community of Gordon Head and the University, in communion with the Roman Catholic Church, Holy Cross Parish serves the people of God by sharing, teaching and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**SUNDAY - March 21st, 2021**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

None of us needs a reminder that life is full of suffering and loss. We will all have a generous share of sorrow before we are through. We should not have too much difficulty recognizing ourselves in the moving words of Jesus: "now my soul is troubled." When we have lived a bit, then we will also have stumbled every so often upon the harsh reality of human suffering, suffering with its many faces. However, varied all the forms of suffering, they all make us wonder about life. What is the sense of it all? We can be so gripped by inner turmoil, so overcome by anguish, anxiety, and pain and our experience of life can be so devastating, that we can only cry out: "Save me from this hour." If that is not our personal experience, I am sure we all know persons to whom this applies.

"Save me from this hour. My soul is troubled." That is the cry of Jesus when he comes face to face with the tragedy of his life and when he must enter the school of suffering. And he wonders out loud: "what shall I say?" It is a question that comes straight from the heart of someone who begins to taste the cruelty and bitterness of life, the inhumane features that mark life for many. It becomes even more paradoxical when we consider that it is Jesus who utters these words. His life has been marked by resisting every form of suffering and he knew himself called to be the healer of broken persons. But despite his healing commitment he finds himself up against a power that will also claim him: the power of suffering and death. He learns first-hand the human situation of suffering and dying. He prays aloud and in silent tears. It is the instinctive reaction of people when confronted with suffering: "Save me from this hour."

But he does not stay there! The gospel today presses on. When Jesus is shaken by the thought of his imminent suffering and death he turns to God, he clings to him. Precisely at this moment, Jesus cannot and will not let go of God. He continues to believe that, despite contrary evidence, God is his life and his future. When all becomes darkness around him, he remains tuned into the God who has been the ground of his life-project. He pleads with God: "*Father, glorify your name.*" Mysterious words, no doubt. Words by which we will continue to be puzzled and embarrassed. "*Father, glorify your name.*" In these words, Jesus consents to the fact that in his suffering and death God will show his divine compassion for his people.

The suffering and death of Jesus becomes for God the occasion to show his presence and saving solidarity with us. That is the New Covenant. In the suffering and dying Jesus, God binds himself irrevocably to us his people. It is a bonding that is marked by love and fidelity. As we face of all these inevitable losses that are integral to life, we are strengthened by the words of Jesus in today's gospel, "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself." We trust and believe that, at the end of the day, after we have struggled through all our losses, the Lord will draw us to himself, and, when that happens, we will lack nothing.

God is faithful!  
Father William

#### OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed  
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:30pm  
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:00pm

**Fr. William Hann, Pastor**

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**MOUNT ST. MARY HOSPITAL, HANGING BASKETS AND OTHER VEGGIES**

**Alas, there are no more hanging baskets available. However, there are still plenty of geraniums and daisy annuals left to beautify your gardens.** Also, this year there are tomatoes, and veggie transplants available for your gardens. And do you know the best way to avoid grocery stores during a pandemic? Grow your own food! Lettuce (red and green), basil, bok choy, onions and leeks, all ready for setting out at the right time. Phone with your orders in to our resident green thumb, Ellis Achtem, 250-477-6754 or eachtem@shaw.ca

**DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE: SOLIDARITY SUNDAY**

**Mark your calendars!** Development and Peace has partnered with Salt & Light Media to broadcast the Solidarity Sunday mass on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 21st. The mass will be livestreamed at this link: <https://slmedia.org/live>

More information can be found on our website: [www.holycrossvictoria.org](http://www.holycrossvictoria.org)

**CWL BURSARIES**

Are you a graduating grade 12 student? If so, you may be interested in the following bursary that is available through the Victoria Diocesan CWL:

**VICTORIA DIOCESAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE BURSARY, "In Memory of Freda Smith" (\$750)**

Application Deadline: **April 15, 2021**. In memory of Freda Smith this bursary is awarded annually to a child or a grandchild of members of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Victoria.

-Student must complete the Catholic Women's League Bursary Application Form - available at Parish Office or online at <https://cwldov.org/bursaries>

-Student must attach a transcript of his/her current academic standing.

-Student must attach a narrative essay outlining his successes, achievements, parish and community involvement and future goals

**THE CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF BC**

Application Deadline: **April 2, 2021**. Although not a CWL bursary, this may also be of interest to you. One bursary of **\$500** - to a graduating student enrolled in a Catholic secondary school, or who are members of a BC or Yukon parish and enrolled in a public secondary school or are home-schooled. Criteria and application process available at <https://www.chabc.bc.ca/bursary/>

**PASTORAL TRAINING OUTREACH MINISTRY****Diocesan Pastoral Training Outreach training will be offered through nine online Sessions:**

The Pastoral Care Outreach Training series will be launched via Zoom starting April 17, 2021 and will be offered over nine consecutive Saturdays (9:30 to noon) concluding on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Participants will require a phone number and an email address and they should register through their local parish. Participants will require a computer, smartphone, or tablet with a strong internet connection, with access to speakers, a microphone and a camera. If you are fluent with the Zoom platform, using visuals, breakout rooms and can troubleshoot minor issues we need your volunteer support with one or more of the new nine Diocesan Pastoral Care sessions.

For inquiries or to volunteer to assist with one or more sessions, please contact: [moiraking@shaw.ca](mailto:moiraking@shaw.ca)

**A REASON TO SMILE FROM ST. PAT'S SCHOOL****St. Patrick's celebrations at St. Patrick's school:**

<https://www.facebook.com/St.PatricksSchool/photos/pcb.4159321797463915/4159315047464590>

<https://www.facebook.com/St.PatricksSchool/photos/pcb.4159525367443558/4159514927444602/>

**PRAYER REFLECTION**

We know then that joy is sweetness of contact with the love of God, that affliction is the wound of this same contact when it is painful, and that only the contact matters, not the manner of it.  
—Simone Weil

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

—Mahatma Gandhi

I know the power obedience has of making things easy which seem impossible.

—Saint Teresa of Calcutta

**A NOTE FROM THE DIOCESE**

To access the live stream link from the Diocese of Victoria website simply google: Diocese of Victoria or go to [www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream](http://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream).

**SUNDAY** ..... 10 AM

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY** ..... 7 PM

**Diocesan BLOG:** Please find below the link to the latest blog post featuring St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Tofino:

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/st.-francis-of-assisi-tofino-legacies-of-faithful-service>

**REMEMBERING SOMEONE SPECIAL AT EASTER**



We welcome donations for the Easter floral display. If you would like to contribute to our Easter flowers and remember a loved one, please pick up an envelope at the back of the church or the office. Once you have filled it out, place your donation inside please drop it off at the office **before March 31**.

**FREE FIREWOOD!**

If you are in need of or can use free firewood, a parishioner at Holy Cross has some available. Keep yourself warm during these last few cold days of winter! Contact Tony Southwell if you are interested: (250) 477-5738 or e-mail: [tsouthwell@shaw.ca](mailto:tsouthwell@shaw.ca)

**40 CANS FOR 40 DAYS FOOD DRIVE**

Mission Possible! St. Vincent de Paul and the St. Joseph Knights of Columbus are holding a non-perishable food drive at St. Joseph the Worker Parish parking lot (753 Burnside Rd. W.) on Saturday March 20th, Sunday March 21st, Saturday March 27th, and Sunday March 28th. Just put your non-perishable donations in the trunk of your car, drive up to the parking lot, pop the trunk and a friendly volunteer will unload for you. Thank you for your support!

**LIVESTREAM MASSES**

**Live Mass broadcast this Saturday!** Mass will be broadcast from **Holy Cross Parish on Saturday, March 20th at 4pm on the YouTube page.** Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

**SATURDAY, March 20th**

Intention: Joseph Soares+  
1:00pm Funeral Mass for Les McAdams  
(Live Streamed)

**SUNDAY, March 21st**

Intention: Max Price +

**MONDAY, March 22nd**

Office Closed/No Mass

**TUESDAY, March 23rd**

Intention: Maura Minehane +

**WEDNESDAY, March 24th**

Intention: Violet Rae Thorton +

**THURSDAY, March 25th**

Intention: Sandra Jadulco +

**FRIDAY, March 26th**

Intention: Bill Malcomson +

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*At this time there are no in-person Masses being held.*

*The church will be open for private prayer from 9am-1pm from Tuesday to Friday. Please sit only on the chairs on the left side of the church at this time, to make cleaning easier for our custodians.*

*Thank you!*

Masks are now mandatory in the church and parish centre at all times.



**COLLECTION for March 14, 2021**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$5,750.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,677.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,427.00</b>