

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - March 24, 2024

Passion Sunday

Palm Sunday marks our entrance into Holy Week and the time of Jesus' Passion and the most sacred time in our lives as Christians. The entire range of human emotions come into play in the readings today, evoking connections with those of us who have experienced loss, failure, misunderstanding, injustice, illness, temptation, abandonment, and betrayal, as well as courage in the face of danger and faithfulness in the face of even death. Here, dear friends, the entirety of humankind's religious and emotional sensibilities is presented in stark form. All the characters in the story run the gamut of humanity's fickleness. We meet good, bad, and confused people. There is the drama of love mixed with hate, friendships betrayed, greed, false accusations, denials, lying, pride, arrogance, tenderness, and compassion. Life is starkly presented here and deep down we prefer to identify with the courageous, non-violent Jesus, who draws us to him with a love that can only emanate from God Himself.

The Passion narrative is so enthralling on its own terms it can be difficult to keep in mind that it is not simply a drama about the death of Jesus. Gospel stories are deliberately told in a way that always invites us to find our place in the story. So, we, too, *must choose*, Mark says with each comparison. Never is that more apparent than in the Passion account, where marvelous characterizations offer early church members—and modern ones, too—the opportunity to decide whether courage or cowardice will mark their own discipleship. On the Mount of Olives Jesus said three things would happen: His disciples would flee; one of his closest disciples, Peter, would deny knowing him not once but three times; and after his resurrection he would go ahead of his band of followers to Galilee. Put yourself in the shoes of Mark's original audience: "Would I have distanced myself from Jesus, both physically and spiritually? Would I have gone to Galilee with the hope of seeing him?" Then put yourself back in your own shoes and ask: "When have I run away from Christ? Where do I go to meet him? Those who leave the side of Jesus in the critical hour are truly naked and vulnerable. Mark asks us to contrast that image with that of Jesus, sitting at supper, saying, "Take it; this is my body." Take it, and never forsake it.

The story we have just heard invites us to identify with those who saw Jesus with the eyes of faith and love, who recognized the light of God in the darkness of Jesus' passion and death. When we look upon the passion and death of Jesus with such eyes, we see a divine love that is stronger than sin, a divine light that shines in all our darknesses, a divine power that brings new life out of all our deaths, a divine poverty that enriches us at the deepest level of our being. We have heard the story of Jesus' last journey told in the space of ten minutes. This Holy Week, the church invites us to travel that journey at a much slower pace, day by day as it were. We are invited to enter into that journey with the eyes of the anointing woman, the centurion, Joseph of Arimathea and the group of faithful women. We look beneath the surface of what is happening, we listen deeply to all that is taking place, so as to recognize the good Shepherd who laid down his life for us all, so that we might have life and have it to the full.



Let us walk slowly into Holy Week

Father William

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

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>

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, April 13 (10:00 am - 12 noon). Please email hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.

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

EASTER & HOLY WEEK MASS / SERVICE SCHEDULE 2024



Holy Cross & St. Patrick's Parishes

HOLY THURSDAY, March 28th**Choir/Music**

Holy Cross Parish	7:00pm	Fr. William Hann	Paul Rossetti
Livestreamed at https://youtube.com/live/yQkChEiR7lk?feature=share			

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE – March 29th**Stations of the Cross**

St. Patrick's	9:00am	John Lucas / Michael Arsenault	
Holy Cross	11:00am	John Lucas / Michael Arsenault	
Holy Cross Parish	2:00pm	Fr. William Hann	VOX
St. Patrick's Parish	4:00pm	Fr. William Hann	Couples for Christ
Livestreamed at https://youtube.com/live/qXVN2bQmfWE?feature=share			

SATURDAY, March 30th – EASTER VIGIL (NO 4pm Mass)

Holy Cross Parish	7:45pm	Fr. William Hann	Bartle-Clar Family
Livestreamed at https://youtube.com/live/cmcy5x6RGKo?feature=share			

SUNDAY, March 31st – EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

Holy Cross Parish	9:00am	Fr. William Hann	Tafts
St. Patrick's Parish	11:00am	Fr. William Hann	Paul Rossetti
Livestreamed at https://youtube.com/live/mcWdRESICCc?feature=share			
(NO 4pm Mass)			

Spring has officially arrived - and we are thankful for the special reminder provided by Pat Lee. The beautiful display of pussy willows adorning our space is truly amazing. Thank you, Pat, for this gift to Holy Cross Parish!



Prayer Reflection

[The Magi] saw the child with Mary his mother.
They **prostrated** themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts.
—*Matthew 2:11*

In Hebrew, the root of the word for “dismayed” can also mean “**prostrate**.” That’s what dismay and fear do. They take the legs from under us.
—*Saint Mary’s College of Oscott Seminary*

It is not as a child that I believe and confess Jesus Christ.
My hosanna is born of a furnace of doubt.
—*Fyodor Dostoyevsky*

Word of the Week:

PROSTRATION

Lying face down in a ritual expressing humility, reverence, and submission. Used in the liturgy of ordination, it is also the posture assumed during the entrance ritual on Good Friday when priests and ministers proceed in silence and then reverence the altar before all assembled with a full **prostration**. Postures are powerful. We say much without saying a word. Genuflection and kneeling demonstrate respect. The Asian kowtow—kneeling while touching forehead to the ground—is a deeper display of reverence. The rare full **prostration** symbolizes total submission to God alone. The ultimate **prostration** of Jesus on the cross brings about our salvation. From the *Circular Letter Concerning the Preparation and Celebration of the Easter Feasts*: This act of **prostration** [on Good Friday], signifies both the abasement of “earthly man” and also the grief and sorrow of the Church.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday, April 7, 2024 is Divine Mercy Sunday. Pope John Paul II established this special day, and urged the recitation of the Divine Mercy Novena, beginning on Good Friday. You can learn more about the Divine Mercy Novena and how to pray the chaplet of Divine Mercy at the following links:



<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena>
<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet>

Thank you!

Thanks go out to Bob Francis this week for ‘turning on the lights’ in the office for Father William and office staff - the fluorescent blinking lights have been replaced and what a difference this has made! Thanks also for all of your work replacing the required batteries in our fire alert system. The generosity of your time and expertise has been very much appreciated!



OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, March 23, 2024

4PM Mass: Narciso Dapat+ and Socorro Arceno+

SUNDAY, March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday 9AM Mass: Pro Populo

MONDAY, March 25, 2024

9AM Liturgy of the Word with Communion

TUESDAY, March 26, 2024

9AM Mass: Jack Moreau+

WEDNESDAY, March 27, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, March 28, 2024

(NO 9AM MASS)

7PM: Holy Thursday Mass
Adoration 8pm - 10pm

FRIDAY, March 29, 2024

11AM: Stations of the Cross
2PM: Good Friday Service

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024

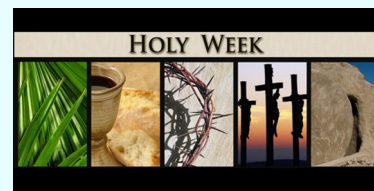
(NO 4PM MASS)

7:45PM: Easter Vigil

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

9AM MASS: Pro Populo



The Chapel will be open this week
Tuesday to Friday, 9am—noon

Masks are no longer mandatory indoors. We do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed.

COLLECTIONS, March 17, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 4,237.75
Loose	\$ 255.00
Anawim	\$ 135.00
Development & Peace	\$ 3,245.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,310.00
TOTAL	\$9,182.75

News from the Chancery

1) As we enter Holy Week, a reminder that the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops is offering a *Journey Through Lent* video series. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, and for each Sunday in Lent, a video has been shared the CCCB website featuring pastoral reflections based on the Readings for the Sunday Eucharistic Celebration. This series is meant to offer spiritual inspiration and guidance on how to prepare well for the Easter season. To view the videos, please visit <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-lent/>.

2) In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year, Pope Francis has announced that 2024 will be a "Year of Prayer". The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops invites all to participate in their webinar series, titled "A Great Symphony of Prayer". Dr. Josephine Lombardi from St. Augustine's Seminary will present two four-part sessions, one in April and one in October. The webinars will be recorded and made available after the completion of the final session; please register for at least one session if you wish to receive a notification when the recordings are available. For more information and to register, please visit https://cccb-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/8017107746637/WN_E7HPS7PeQAOXnuBjLt9Qg#/registration.

3) The Archdiocese of Regina is seeking a Financial Officer. Reporting to the Director of Pastoral Services, and working collaboratively with the Archbishop and Archdiocesan Administration, the Financial Officer is responsible for oversight of all financial operations of the Archdiocese and provides strategic financial guidance and effective advisory support to the Leadership Team of the Archdiocese of Regina. Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume and cover letter by April 1st. For more information, please visit <https://archregina.sk.ca/employment/>.

GARDENING VOLUNTEERS!

Spring has sprung and that means working in the Holy Cross garden. In April and May the volunteer group will meet every second Wednesday starting April 3 from 10-12 am. The rest of the gardening season our group will meet every Wednesday. Work will consist of weeding, watering, planting, pruning, deadheading and general tidy up activities. New and past volunteers are always welcome! To sign up please contact John Seale at jseale1234@gmail.com.

Start digging the garden plot as you can plant lettuce starters first week of April.

Six packs of lettuce, (three varieties) \$5 pick up end of March

Geraniums, 4 colors, plus lemon scented, \$6 order now for May 15 pickup

Hanging baskets, preparing 70 \$50, again May 15 pickup

Don't forget the best tomatoes in Gordon Head, large and cherry, \$4, May 20 planting

Assorted flowers, daisies, marigold and sunflower for planting May 15

And of course zucchini may 15

Happy to plant your patio pots...seems to be popular and keeps me busy and out of the kitchen!!

THANKS for your support, ALL PROCEEDS FOR MT.ST.MARY HOSPITAL; as I have not increased the prices you are welcome to provide a little extra for the hospital!!

Call Ellis Achtem, 250-477-6754, to **place your order now**.



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:

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow

mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Mass times - Holy Cross Parish:

4pm Saturday, 9am Sunday

9am Tuesday and 9am Thursday

Mass times - St. Patrick's Parish:

11am Sunday, 4pm Sunday

12:10pm Wednesday and 12:10pm Friday

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.