



# 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 31st, 2019 Fourth Sunday in Lent

*"Come back to me, with all your heart. Don't let fear keep us apart." Hosea 6:1*

The Parable of the Prodigal Son in the Gospel of Luke is familiar to most of us. It's the story of a rebellious son who rejects his father's upbringing. Proudful and strong, the son heads off to a far-away land, leads a wild life of adventure, and squanders everything of value. Not until he's confronted with failure and despair, does he return home, repentant and willing to do anything to win back his father's favor. To his surprise he's welcomed into his father's loving and forgiving arms. *"For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found"*. The prodigal son represents the lost. The Father represents God/Jesus. And the graciousness of the father overshadows the sinfulness of the son. It is the mercy of the father's goodness that brings the son to repentance. Jesus is portrayed as the father waiting and watching for his son to return. God patiently waits for us to repent so he can show us his great mercy. The father does not condemn his son for his willfulness. Within the parable itself, Christ profiles his own heart – the heart of God – in the behaviour of the father, who lived only for his son's well-being. *"All I have is yours"*. In Christ, in the Church, in the Eucharist, God has held nothing back from us. There is rejoicing for a son who was dead but is now alive. The older son represents reconciliation between Father and son. However, obvious by his words and his actions he is not showing love for his father or brother. One of the duties of the eldest son would include reconciliation between the father and his son. Yet he remains in the field instead of going to the party inside the house. The older brother's focus was on himself and as a result there was no joy in his brother's arrival home. Despite the father's pleading to come into the house, his elder son refused, instead of opening his heart and setting aside his ego his story has a tragic ending, turning his back on his father. And like the Pharisees turning on Christ.

What we are to learn from this parable is that God does not give up on us. The message of this parable is that God is patient and gracious with all of His children. He is watching and waiting to welcome each of us home into His loving and forgiving arms. We too need to learn to give and receive forgiveness. We must become the father and set the example of forgiveness, love and harmony in our families and communities.

*"While he was a long way off, his father caught sight of him."* We don't have to go far to find God. We merely need to open our hearts to the grace and love of God and to keep our eyes on Jesus.

Wandering with you,

Debby Pietraszek

### OFFICE HOURS

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

**Fr. William Hann, Pastor**

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC V8N 3X7  
Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844  
office@holycrossvictoria.org  
www.holycrossvictoria.org

**HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS:** At the moment, eight different pastors in Victoria, in addition to their regular duties, will carry the hospital phone for **emergency calls only** (250-889-3761) on rotation.

### **SHARE THE JOURNEY: SHARE LENT 2019 Week 4: March 31**

*Share the journey with those forcibly displaced in Colombia* In Colombia, over 6.5 million people have been forcibly displaced due to conflict, violence, natural disasters, and development projects. With your support, Development and Peace's partner the National Agrarian Coordination (NAC) is working with Indigenous women, many of whom are victims of forced displacement, to help them gain the skills and confidence to be intermediaries with the authorities. By promoting inclusive and participatory democracies, we are addressing one of the root causes of forced migration! Next week is Solidarity Sunday, when the Share Lent collection in support of the work of Development and Peace will take place. Your generosity has a real impact on the lives of our sisters and brothers in the Global South! **Next week is Solidarity Sunday**, when the Share Lent collection in support of the work of Development and Peace will take place. Your generosity has a real impact on the lives of our sisters and brothers in the Global South!

### **OUR PLACE BREAKFAST**

Serving a nutritious meal to the hungry is a meaningful way to prepare our hearts for Holy Week. On **Saturday April 13**, Holy Cross will be sponsoring another **breakfast at Our Place** (8 – 10:30 am). We need **volunteers** to constitute a team of 10-12 people. Please contact Yvonne Hsieh at 250-385-8322 or at [yhsieh@uvic.ca](mailto:yhsieh@uvic.ca).

### **WHOLLY HUMAN, HOLY DIVINE ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERIES**

Our annual five week ecumenical Lenten series will start Wednesday March 13th. The evening starts at 6pm with shared soup dinner followed by video and group discussion.

**April 3rd:** St. Luke's Anglican—"The Prayer"

**April 10th:** At Grace Lutheran with "The Place" Community—"Letting Go"

Sign up Sheets are in the foyer. Registration is required.

### **LEARN TO PROTECT**

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria is asking all its parishes to implement the Praesidium "Learn to Protect" Program for all parish volunteers and employees. This is a very easy and interesting on-line program that teaches you how to keep children and vulnerable adults in your care safe from abuse, how to protect yourself from false allegations of abuse, and how to create a safe Church environment for all. You will be notified via email with more information when your specific volunteer area is ready to begin.

### **COMPUTER BUDDIES NEEDED!**

Now that Holy Cross Volunteers are well underway taking their "Learn to Protect" online courses, we need a number of people who are willing to assist fellow parishioners who need a little help with the computer. Sign up sheets are in the foyer!

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND ROSARY**

During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross every Friday after the 9am mass. There is also daily rosary before morning mass from Tuesday to Friday at 8:30am all through the year. All are welcome to join these extra times of prayer and worship.

### **PRAYER REFLECTION**

“Raising children in today’s culture can be a challenge. But you’re not alone in the journey as a father. God, the perfect father in Heaven, offers grace to help you along the journey.” —Pope Francis

“There are many kinds of alms the giving of which helps us to obtain pardon for our sins; but none is greater than that by which we forgive from our heart a sin that someone has committed against us.” —Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

### **AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE**

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **CHRISM MASS:** On Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm Bishop Gary Gordon will be the principal celebrant at a Mass that is celebrated annually. At this liturgy, we gather around the bishop for the blessing and consecration of the oils that will be used in all our parishes in the coming year. **All are invited to attend. A reception will follow.**
- **CATECHIST SPRING GATHERING:** Families at the Center of Faith. April 13<sup>th</sup> at Holy Cross, Victoria – Hall. We will explore ways to engage children and their families as we accompany them on their journey of faith. All Catechists, Youth Ministers and Ministers of Liturgy of the Word for Children and those interested in these ministries are invited to bring an idea, question or lesson to share. <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/catechist-gatheringholy-cross-families-at-the-centre-of-faith-tickets-53749035813> or email [gjahelka@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:gjahelka@rcdvictoria.org) phone 250-753-3570 ext 5
- **SKATE WITH BISHOP GARY:** On **Wed, April 3<sup>rd</sup>** at 5 p.m. families are invited to come out for a skate with Bishop Gary and the St. Andrew’s High School. Stay after for the Jamieson cup hockey game between the teachers and students. Rentals available. \$4. **G.R. Pearkes Arena 3100 Tillicum Rd**

### **RECONCILIATION SERVICES**

Fr. William encourages parishioners to take advantage of the Penitential services at the following parishes. Over the next few weeks join him at one of these services based on your schedule.

**Holy Cross/St. Patrick’s at Holy Cross:** April 4th, 7pm  
**Our Lady of the Rosary:** April 9th, 7pm.

### **REMEMBERING YOUR LOVED ONES 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 foyer. Once you have filled it out, place your donation inside and drop in the collection basket. **Deadline is April 13rd.**

### **OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

#### **MONDAY, April 1st**

No Mass

#### **TUESDAY, April 2nd**

9:00 am Mass: **Mary Smith +**

#### **WEDNESDAY, April 3rd**

9:00 am Mass: Mary Loughran +  
6:00 pm St. Luke’s Anglican..The Prayer

#### **THURSDAY, April 4th**

9:00 am Mass: **Hilary Ribeiro +**  
7:00 pm Holy cross and St. Patrick’s reconciliation service (at Holy Cross)

#### **FRIDAY, April 5th**

9:00 am Mass: **Freda Hancock +**

#### **SATURDAY, April 6th**

4:00pm Mass: **Deceased members of the Bruni Family +**

#### **SUNDAY, April 7th**

9:00am Mass: **Debbie Underhill +;**  
**Thanksgiving**  
4:00 pm Mass University Mass

## **THANK YOU CORNER!**

Thank you Grett! You did an awesome and amazing job in all things office this past week. Things went like clock-work and we are grateful for your volunteer skills put to good and effective use. See you next time.....

### **PARISH SOCIAL LIFE**

**Joint Wellness**—Monday and Thursday 10am  
**Wednesday Social group**— 1-3pm  
**Duplicate Bridge**—Wednesday 7pm.  
**Social Bridge**—First Sunday of every month.

## **CONTACTS**

### **Pastor: Fr. William Hann**

250-477-5321 whann@rcdvictoria.org

250-294-9615 after hours

**Hospital Chaplain:** 250-889-3761

**Pastoral Assistant:** Anna Mendonca

250-477-5321 pastoralassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

**Administrative Assistant:** Valentina Boyd

250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

**Parish Council:** Esther Sangster-Gormley

egorm@uvic.ca

**University Chaplain:** Fr. Dean Henderson

250-721-8339 (office) 250-882-2151 (cell)

catholic@uvic.ca



holy cross church garden head rd. victoria, b.c.

## **COLLECTION March 24, 2019**

### **WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:**

<b>Envelopes</b>	\$ 4541.90
<b>Loose</b>	\$ 415.00
<b>Pre-Authorized Debit</b>	\$ 1,095.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6051.90</b>
<b>Anawim</b>	<b>\$ 821.00</b>

## **HOLY CROSS MINISTRIES**

<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>COORDINATOR</b>	<b>PHONE</b>
Liturgy	Debby Pietraszek	250-477-7375
Liturgical Ministries:		
Usher / Greeter	Maria Arruda	250-477-5526
Altar Server	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Music	Various Choirs	250-477-5321
Altar Linens	Marg McDonnell	250-477-6332
Flowers/Art Envir.	Ann Francis	250-477-8650
Sun. Coffee, 8:30	Darlene Southwell	250-477-5738
Sun. Coffee, 10:30	Yvonne Hsieh	250-385-8322
Bulletin Folders	Vicki Ponsioen	250-383-0654
Sacramental Wine	John Bartle-Clar	250-995-1891

### **SERVING OUR HOLY CROSS PARISH COMMUNITY**

Responsible Min.	Martha Oleson	250-477-6455
	Muna Haddad	778-881-5843
Parish Council	Esther Gormley	250-360-0107
Finance	David Begg	250-658-0870
Maintenance/Bldg.	Ed Boomars	250-881-8124
Cleaning Kitchens	Loretta Macdonald	250-477-6682
Annual Shed Clean	Jack Ponsioen	250-383-0654
Parish Grounds	Joe Mendonca	250-888-8930
Social/Comm. Life		
Baptism Prep.	Anna Mendonca	250-477-5321
Marriage Prep.	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Children's Rel. Ed.	Giacinta Bewley	250-652-0204

Children's Liturgy of the Word	Bobbi Bartle-Clar/ Valentina Boyd	250-995-1891 250-813-0230
Catholicism		
Library	George Murphy	250-658-6061
Outreach/Visiting	Anna Mendonca	250-477-3552
Bereavement / Funeral / Follow-Up	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Funeral Reception	Barb McKrow	250-477-8322

### **SERVING COMMUNITIES BEYOND OUR DOORS**

Diocesan Appeal	Ed Chwyl	
Could You Ever Come Back To The Church	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
RCIA	Glenn Palahicky	250-479-1331
	Phil / Sheila Wall	250-385-7007
RCIC	Dan Taft Jr.	250-721-0821
Ecumenism	Terry Marner	250-380-0157
Social & Eco. Justice	Yvonne Hsieh	250-385-8322
Anawim	Parish Office	250-477-5321
Christmas Project	Coordinated by the Parish Office	
D&P/Share Lent	Barb McKrow	250-477-8322
Refugees	Trudy Holden	250-472-1079
St. Vincent De Paul	Martin Fletcher	250-592-9297
Univ/Camosun Bursaries	Tony Southwell	250-477-5738
Uvic/Camosun Outreach	John Oleson	250-477-6455