



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining with St. Patrick's Parish

**SUNDAY - March 5th, 2023**

***The Second Sunday of Lent***

Our Lenten journey is a holy call from God to TRUST. Trust in the promises of God; trust in the crucified Christ; trust in the voice of God who proclaims Jesus as Beloved Son and Saviour of the world. We are called to fast from self-reliance and trust in God.

God tells Abram to leave his homeland, his extended family and friends, all he knows and trusts to be true, good, safe and secure and go to an unknown land! In those days, the world was very tribal, yet God was asking Abram to leave his clan, his support systems, and take a leap of faith. Was it reckless and uncomfortable? You bet!

God promises Abram that he will be a great nation, and despite the odds, Abram trusts. God continues to bestow blessings on Abram, and the power of God's blessings reverberates out so Abram will be a blessing to others, and those who bless Abram will be blessed, and in Abram, all families of the earth shall be blessed. And it is through these blessings that God provides layers of protection and security for Abram's journey forward.

God specifically blesses each one of us with life, with gifts given through God's grace so we can say 'yes' to God's call to 'go.' God's blessing is specific enough to address our specific circumstances and universal enough to extend to all peoples of the earth.

God calls Abram to cut off ties to his past and his future. How does he respond? In faithful obedience and complete trust in God's promises. Let us pray for the grace to respond like Abram!

If Abram isn't your cup of tea, check out Paul who is in prison for Christ! Paul gladly suffers for the truth; he knows the true power of God, the power of salvation that saves souls and transforms lives. Paul trusts that the power of God is always present, but it is not always there to *remove* the difficulty. Sometimes it is there to see us *through* the difficulty.

Paul is ready to die for Christ...are we? He is Christ-focused, courageous, relies completely on the indwelling Spirit, and challenges us to trust in the crucified Christ. Like Paul, we are called to fulfill our holy calling, this God given grace to live as the Body of Christ, a body where we love one another and serve one another in the world.

If these two humans don't convince us to trust, will God? The transfiguration calls us to trust in Christ the Saviour. God very clearly says, "This is **my Son**, the **Beloved**; with him I am **well pleased**; **listen** to him!" God sets Jesus above the Law (Moses) and the Prophets (Elijah) as *the* Messiah. God reiterates what was said at Jesus' baptism, but this time, the disciples hear God's voice. Can you imagine the holy awe felt by the disciples?!

We also hear the gentle voice of Jesus telling us to "Get up and do not be afraid." Jesus is calling us to a new life, a life filled with His love, peace, grace, and compassion that can *transfigure* us each and every day. This Lent, take the time to sit and listen to God's voice, pray for a listening heart, a heart full of love for God, a heart that is open to transformation. Let us pray that our journey through Lent be a metamorphosis, where we are transformed into a butterfly.

I invite you to join me and other fellow parishioners and "go" to the Parish Lenten Mission *God's Love for Us is Boundless*: Monday, March 13 *Turn from Sin*; Tuesday, March 14 *Surrender to Love*; and Wednesday, March 15 *Be the Light of Salvation* 7:00 – 8:00 pm. See you soon.

God's abundance, Mona

#### OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed  
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm  
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm  
Fr. William Hann, Pastor

***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.***

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office@holycrossvictoria.org  
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### **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>

**Did you know - Development and Peace-Caritas Canada funds 86 projects in 40 countries.** Check out the map in our Mini-magazine, "Create Hope: Stand for the Land". Please support the Share Lent collection on March 26.

**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](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

### **Stations of the Cross**

Stations of the Cross will be held in the church on Fridays at 9am during Lent. An invitation is extended to all to attend, and for the following groups to lead throughout the Season of Lent: March 10th—Ushers; March 17th—Refugee Committee; March 24th—Development and Peace; March 31st—office staff. Stations of the Cross resources will be available on Fridays in the Church for both leaders and attendees.



**Sunday's 40th Anniversary Celebration** was a "great hit"! This has been the recurring message received from many, many parishioners who attended the event. **Thank you to Fr. William** for both the inspiration to have a dinner to mark this special occasion and for the generosity of sponsoring it. To ALL the many hearts and hands that together made this a joyous, memorable event, thank you! To the organizers, The Gospel Gals, Congratulations on a job well done. To the floral artists - thank you for the stunning display of flowers. To Alex McAuley, thank you for a thoughtful toast. To Tony Southwell and his 'team', Janita McHugh, Larry Martell and Dianne Green, thanks for the memories. To Lucy Nana Konadu Arthur, your creativity is outstanding - Lucy worked for two months making the cake that was served and donated for this celebration. Thank you! And to all who helped with the set up and take down, thank you! It was an evening to remember!



This year's **Chrism Mass** will be held on **Thursday, March 30th at 7:00pm at St. Peter's Parish in Nanaimo.** Father William would like a volunteer from the parish to receive the Oils that evening and bring them back to our Parish. These oils are presented to each Parish in the Diocese at this special Mass, and are used throughout the year for the Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick, Baptism and Confirmation. If you are able to volunteer, please speak to Fr. William.

For parishioners interested in attending the Chrism Mass who don't want to drive, Father William has five bus tickets. Please contact the office to reserve your seat on the bus. The bus will leave from the Pastoral Centre on Nelthorpe Street at 3:30. These bus tickets will be available for the next two weeks only. After that time, they will be released, so please call now if you wish to go by bus to this Mass. 250-477-5321.

We offer our condolences to Colleen Loader on the passing of her mother, Carmel Loader, on Friday, March 3rd. A funeral Mass will be held at Holy Cross Parish on Saturday, March 11th at 11am. Carmel and Clive were long time members of this Parish and will be remembered for their dedicated and joyful service.

You are invited to pray the **Way of the Cross** next Friday, 10 March at 6pm with Development & Peace at **Sacred Heart Parish.** This will be followed by an evening of fellowship in the Parish Hall over soup and buns.

**Prayer Reflection**

O Father, Son and Spirit Blest, with hearts transfigured by your grace, may we your matchless splendor praise and see the glory of your face.

—*Breviary Lauds hymn on the Feast of the Transfiguration*

To heal divisions, to relieve the oppress'd, In virtue rich; in blessing others, bless'd.

—*The Odyssey*

A promise is a cloud; fulfillment is rain.

—*Arab proverb*

**Second Sunday of Lent - March 5, 2023**

Peter, James and John had a mountaintop experience with Jesus by witnessing His transfiguration. We too can have a mountaintop experience when we open our minds and hearts to following God's Will for our life. If God is calling you to serve him as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, contact Fr. David Hogman or Fr. Harrison Ayre, Directors of Vocations in the Diocese of Victoria.

**Fr. David Hogman:** [dhogman@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:dhogman@rcdvictoria.org) **Fr. Harrison Ayre:** [hayre@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hayre@rcdvictoria.org)

**Extra Lenten Prayer**

Are you interested in extra prayer time through lent? Please join us in the Mercy chapel after the morning masses for 10 minutes of intercessory prayers.

**God's love for us is Boundless**

Holy Cross/St. Patrick's Parish Lenten Mission

Mona Goodman facilitating

Monday, March 13 @ 7:00 pm Holy Cross Parish

Turn from Sin

Tuesday, March 14 @ 7:00 pm St. Patrick's Parish

Surrender to Love

Wednesday, March 15 @ 7:00 pm Holy Cross Parish

followed by Penitential Service

Be the Light of Salvation

**Called and Gifted Workbooks**

There are some workbooks remaining from the Called and Gifted workshop that was held at Holy Cross Parish on February 4th. These are available in the office by donation as long as supply lasts.

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE**

**SATURDAY, March 4th**

3-3:45pm: Confession

4pm Mass: David Gaffney+

**SUNDAY, March 5th**

9am Mass: Marie Arsenault+

**MONDAY, March 6th**

NO MASS

**TUESDAY, March 7th**

9am Mass: Derek Whiskin+  
Collin McKenzie (Int)

**WEDNESDAY, March 8th**

NO MASS

**THURSDAY, March 9th**

9am Mass: Shirley Allen+

**FRIDAY, March 10th**

9am: Stations of the Cross

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The Church will be open for private prayers this week from Tuesday to Friday, 9am—noon

Adoration in the Mercy Chapel - is held on the First Friday of the month

Masks are no longer mandatory indoors. We do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed. If you are feeling unwell please stay home.

**COLLECTION for Feb. 26th, 2023**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 2,095.00
Loose	\$ 485.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,345.00
Canada Helps Donations	\$ 173.71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,098.71</b>



### **A Note from your Catholic Students' Association**

We hope you had a restful and relaxing Reading Break. We are still offering some events during March. In collaboration with CCO and CSA, Summit will be taking place on March 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Patrick's beginning at 7pm. This is an evening of worship and prayer. Everyone is welcome. The Blanket Exercise will be held at Multifaith on Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup>, please register at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/501407973747>. Hospitality will be offered. Bring your friends. The event is at no cost to all participants. Our final Feeding the Homeless Initiative (Sandwich Patrol) will be taking place on Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup>. We meet at St. Andrew's at 2:45pm. Please contact Lydia at [lfoch@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:lfoch@rcdvictoria.org) for further details. Blankets are urgently needed by the homeless as well as sandwiches with snacks and a drink assembled in zip lock bags. We are looking for one more participant on our, '**Come Follow Me**' Retreat on Salt Spring Island on March 25-26<sup>th</sup>. The weekend is at no cost. Please contact Lydia with further details. Hope to see you at one of our events.

**News from the Diocese** - please go to the Diocesan webpage to get the latest news: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news>. Livestreaming schedule can be found at: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/dailymasslivestreamed>

All people of the Diocese of Victoria are invited to join in the celebration of the Chrism Mass. At this yearly liturgy, sacred oils are blessed and given to representatives from each parish in the diocese. These will be presented in each church on Holy Thursday and used during the coming year for Baptisms, Confirmations, and Anointings of the Sick. The Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, March 30 at 7:00 pm at St. Peter's Parish in Nanaimo (301 Machleary St). This information may also be found online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/2023-chrism-mass>

Bishop Gary Gordon will celebrate a special Mass at 4:00 pm on Sunday, March 19 in honour of the dedicated work of those in health care. Everyone is invited to attend, either in person at Christ the King Parish in Courtenay (1599 Tunner Drive), or via livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/@ChristTheKingComoxValley>. A parish dinner will follow for those attending in person.

### **Forgiveness Seminar – March 25, 2023**

A one-day seminar will be held on March 25, at Our Lady of the Rosary (small hall) from 9am – 3pm. Topics are the meaning of forgiveness, emotional and psychological process of forgiveness, and benefits of forgiveness. The presenter is Jim Kiernan who has worked in the field of mental health for 35 years. Refreshments and lunch will be provided by donation. To register please contact Roland Wauthy at [rwauthy@telus.net](mailto:rwauthy@telus.net).

**Sunday Social Bridge** is held on the first Sunday of the month from 7 - 10 pm in the Parish Hall. Contact Tony Southwell at (250) 477-5738 to register.

### **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](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

**Office Assistant:** Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 [officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org)

**University Chaplain:** Lydia Foch

[lfoch@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:lfoch@rcdvictoria.org)

**Parish Council Chair:** Catherine Davis

**Sacramental Preparation:**

Simona Stramaccioni-Bailey

[spchsacramentalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:spchsacramentalprep@rcdvictoria.org)

The **Social Concerns Office (SCO)** at [833 View Street](https://www.rcdvictoria.org/833-View-Street) in Victoria will be starting their **Income Tax Program** in March, and are in need of volunteers.

This will require 6 volunteers a day, Monday to Friday from 8:45 am to 12:00 noon, for the months of March, April and May. These are the volunteer roles: **Greeter, Tax Screener, Tax Filer** Contact Helen Ong Office: 250.727.0007, ext. 3222 Email: [hong@svdpvictoria.com](mailto:hong@svdpvictoria.com)

40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil will be held February 22 to April 2nd. Visit [40daysforlife.com/Victoria, BC](https://40daysforlife.com/Victoria_BC) for more information.

### **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.