



# 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 - May 8, 2021**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

*Mother's Day*

We see the two sides of Christian living in the reading's this week! The Gospel radiates a calmness and peace and reassurance that we all so oftentimes need, and the first reading reflects on the area of difference and conflict that is bound to rise when Christians come face to face with new problems and new questions for the articulation of our faith. And come they do...then and now! The book of Acts shows us that the early Church was just like us today ... human. The followers were divided. Jesus was no longer among them as before. He had taught them, and the Spirit was sent to strengthen them, but conflicts arose as they always do. To seek unity, they gathered to pray, listen, and discern. Should Gentiles follow the same laws as Jews in the Christian movement? For the early Jewish disciples, it was difficult for them to give up the rules and the customs that governed every aspect of their worship. They believed that these ritual actions made them Holy in the sight of God.

That is why Peter walked into Cornelius' house with strongly cherished notions of who is and is not a member of the household of God. Circumcised believers who keep kosher were in; Gentiles with their unclean ways were obviously out. Nonetheless, the Holy Spirit did not respect his crystal distinction, pouring divine gifts lavishly on these unacceptable outsiders. Either Peter got it wrong, or God did. The smart money is on God. But Peter gets points for feeling his way through a very inclusive introduction—"I see that God shows no partiality"—followed by immediate responsiveness to the Spirit's downpour: "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people?" Peter kept talking to the Lord and so must we.

Dear friends, the beauty of Jesus farewell address is that it is his last will and testament, and we better listen! Jesus says to his disciples then and now to continue his legacy of love and peace. He assures them and us that the Holy Spirit will guide and teach them and us. They were distressed and Jesus speaks of peace by sending an advocate. This can be translated as Paraclete or comforter. It is much more than that... it is the one who speaks for you and stands up for you in time of need. The Jesuit Gerald Manley Hopkins wrote: *The Paraclete is the one who cheers for us, who encourages us and persuades us to go forward. The Holy Spirit will help us through our troubles, gives us confidence to face the future and help us to take the risks we need to take and say the things we need to say.*

Happy Mother's Day to our all mothers on earth and in heaven. Alice Walker writes...*and so our mothers and grandmothers have handed on the creative spark, the seed of the flower they themselves never hoped to see—or like a sealed letter they could not plainly read.* May we continue to grow in wisdom, age and grace before God and humankind by listening to the Holy Spirit in our midst.

Abide in love!  
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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**Effective Immediately:** As per the latest health protocols given to us by our Public Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, all in-person faith gatherings have been suspended until further notice. That means all weekend and weekday Masses at Holy Cross have been cancelled. The office will remain open from Tuesday to Friday 9am-2pm, but masks are mandatory before entering. The Church will be open Tues.-Fri. from 9am-1pm for private prayer; please sit on chairs on left side only. Thank You!

### **DIOCESAN BURSARIES AND AWARDS**

**BURSARIES and AWARDS** are available through the Diocesan website: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org> under Programs. **Deadline for submittals is July 15.**

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

**Last Chance to order veggies and flowers!** Veggie starters and daisies are ready for pick up. May 15th pickup for tomatoes, geraniums, and hanging baskets. Great growing weather and lots to see in the garden. **Greenhouse staff 100% vaccinated but mask still required.** Mount St. Mary Hospital thanks you as well!  
Ellis Achtem, 250-477-6754 or eachtem@shaw.ca

### **SCAM ALERT**

**SCAM  
ALERT!**

There is a scam going around using the Bishop of Victoria's name, BUT there has also been a resurgence of the scam involving Fr. William's name, which has gone around in the past. If you get a text message or an email from "Fr. William" asking for a "favor" which usually leads to gift cards and/or cash please IGNORE this message. Often the initial message is an invitation to call or email him back. IGNORE that also. Fr. William has never, will never and would never contact parishioners with this kind of request. If you get an email, look carefully at the email address, and report all suspicious emails and texts to the office. Stay vigilant!

### **LIBRARY CORNER**

Dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the month of May is filled with crucial events of early apostolic times:

**May 15**, the bodily Ascension of Jesus [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ascension\\_of\\_Jesus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ascension_of_Jesus)

**May 23**, Pentecost, the promised coming of the Holy Spirit to strengthen the resolve of the Apostles to spread the Good News of Christ's message <https://www.aboutcatholics.com/beliefs/pentecost/>

**May 29**, The Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit – the divine design of love that earthly Christians should emulate <https://cac.org/loving-relationship-2019-05-21/>

Fittingly in Mary's month, the gifted poet G M Hopkins compares Mary to the air we breathe <https://www.bartleby.com/122/37.html>



### **THANK YOU CORNER**

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus who are always there in a pinch! They are our steadfast volunteers, severing as traffic guides during Saturday Holy Communion drive-by's. They also helped deliver envelope boxes to those of you who could not come into the office to pick them up, and this week they had raspberry chocolates from Roger's available for any mother who came into the office. We are grateful for their attentive service to our community.

### **A REASON TO SMILE FROM ST. PAT'S SCHOOL**

**Maud Lewis inspired artwork by Grade 4A!**

<https://www.facebook.com/St.PatricksSchool/posts/4307304092665684>



**PRAYER REFLECTION**

Who except God can give you peace? Has the world ever been able to satisfy the heart?  
—Saint Gerard Majella

And so our mothers and grandmothers have, more often than not anonymously, handed on the creative spark, the seed of the flower they themselves never hoped to see—or like a sealed letter they could not plainly read.  
—Alice Walker

Let us in all time . . . learn to love as we should, God above all things, and all other things for him.  
—Saint Thomas More

I can think of no better way of redeeming this tragic world today than love and laughter. Too many of the young have forgotten how to laugh, and too many of the elders have forgotten how to love. Would not our lives be lightened if only we could all learn to laugh more easily at ourselves and to love one another?  
—Father Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C.

**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:** Pope Francis has called for a “marathon” of prayer in May for an end to the pandemic. Please find below a picture and short message to be shared with your communities. This has also been posted on the diocesan site at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/join-pope-francis-in-prayer-for-an-end-to-the-pandemic>.

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The Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization has issued a press release with more information about the month of prayer for an end to the pandemic. They’ve also provided a short liturgical guide which may be of interest: it includes an outline of the prayer service that will be used and a list of the shrines and special intentions which will be featured each day. Canada’s national Marian shrine, Notre Dame du Cap, is scheduled for Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Liturgical guide: <http://www.pcpne.va/content/dam/pcpne/pdf/Eventi/rosario2021/Sussidio%20Rosario%202021%20Inglese.pdf>

Full press release: <http://www.pcpne.va/content/pcpne/en/news/2021-04-23.html>

**LIVESTREAM MASSES**

**Live Mass broadcast this Saturday!** Mass is livestreamed from Holy Cross Parish every Saturday: Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

**SATURDAY, May 8th**

Intention: Dr. Michael Kovacs +

**SUNDAY, May 9th**

Intention: Rosemary Merrin +

**MONDAY, May 10th**

Office Closed/No Mass

**TUESDAY, May 11th**

Intention: Arturo Colangeli +  
Angela Murphy +

**WEDNESDAY, May 12th**

Intention: Frank Grealy +

**THURSDAY, May 13th**

Intention: Silvio Rossi +

**FRIDAY, May 14th**

Intention: Bev Swift +

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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.*



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

**COLLECTION for May 2, 2021**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2,420.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,097.00</b>

