



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - November 10, 2024 *Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

It is a tale of two widows this Sunday. These stories zip by us so fast we may miss how incredibly strange they are. Yet they tell us something about real faith and moral courage. They are worth a second look to catch what they hold out for us. Every widow and orphan in Israel were affected by drought in the time of King Ahab. Yet Elijah went to Zarephath and saved this family. Why them? As far as we can tell, precisely because they were insignificant. The prophet was hounded by his own king and rejected by his community, just as they rejected their own God in favor of Baal and his priesthood. So, Elijah dusted off his sandals and went north to a people who had never prayed to the God of the Hebrews in their lives. He told a poor widow that if she showed a prophet of Israel her generosity, the God of Israel would bless her. She did. And God did. Would you or I accept such a bargain if it came knocking on our door? Hand over the last hearth cake we had, made for our own hungry child, to some foreign holy man? This desperate woman does something so contrary to our instincts that we can scarcely understand it. She puts her trust not in the bread and not in the prophet but in a God she does not see. And her reward is food for a year, outlasting the drought itself.

At least the second story is about a Jewish widow. She visits the Temple treasury in Jerusalem, so we know she is devout. The fact that she puts the coins in herself betrays her dire economic status. No man is there to do it—not father nor husband nor son. That puts her in the poorest of the poor category: a woman with no man to champion her in a male-dominated society. Jesus already has his eye on her. When she shakes out her bag and only two coins emerge, she takes both and puts them in the treasury. She holds nothing back for tomorrow. God is all the future she has now. Today, Jesus does not have to tell a story. This woman is the story. In praising the widow who gave her last two coins to the temple treasury, Jesus is not suggesting that you and I need to give away our last penny. Rather, Jesus acknowledges that it is often the poorest of the poor who show the greatest charity, who risk the most to be loving. Jesus criticized the scribes and priests not only because of their apparent stinginess in donating to the Temple, but also because people such as the widow were often made poor by those in power who laid religious taxes and excessive expectations upon them.

The poor widow offers a model for the disciples who, like her, are called to imitate their Lord's total reliance on the Father's will and complete willingness to sacrifice everything for the salvation of all so that "jars of flour" and "jugs of oil" may remain full forever. From Brother Andrew's *The Calling* ...there is no higher calling, no loftier dream, and no greater goal than to live, breathe, and be poured out for Jesus Christ. The final weeks of the church year guide our thoughts to endings. It is a time to reflect on the last things. We are dear friends living somewhere between the beginning and the end of our own pilgrim journey to God. We are in the words of my father quoting William Penn...I shall only pass this way but once.... any good thing that I can do or say let me do it now and not defer it...for I shall not pass this way again. That is what Jesus did for the world. He gave himself to others so that all may live. All we must do is accept that offer.

Love in words and deeds,
Father William

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday-Friday: 8:30am-3:30pm

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC
V8N 3X7
Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844
office@holycrossvictoria.org
www.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 on Sunday at 4pm. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

Bishop's Appeal Update

The *Sharing God's Gifts* Appeal is very active in all parishes throughout the Diocese of Victoria and I am happy to announce that 85 families of Holy Cross have contributed thus far and we have raised \$37,070 towards our goal. This is an encouraging start and we are asking you to join your fellow parishioners in supporting this Appeal with a gift. We need your support because your contribution will make a difference! Our parish project is supporting Anawim House and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (locally & internationally). Parish Goal: \$ 70,000

Upcoming Ministry Fair : A Call for Volunteers

Please join us for the 2024 Holy Cross Ministry Fair following both the 4pm and 9am Mass on November 16 and 17th. We are in need of support in various ministries. Volunteer descriptions and sign up sheets will be placed on tables at the back of the church. Snacks and drinks will be available.

Note: (1) Please do not sign up for a ministry which you already serve. (2) CRC, Covenant of Care forms, and Praesidium will only be required if it has not yet been completed previously..

Sacred Heart Church Community Garage Sale

Please come to the Sacred Heart Church Community Garage Sale that will be held on November 16th in the church hall at 4040 Nelthorpe St. from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. There will be new and used treasures as well as coffee, tea, baking and yummy BBQ food. There is lots of parking and the hall is wheelchair accessible.

November Indigenous Book Fair

In support of Truth and Reconciliation, Holy Cross's Social and Ecological Justice Committee has organized a book fair showcasing books authored by Indigenous people from our library. This collection includes authors from BC, books geared to young readers and much more. Please sign out books in the notebook provided. Please return the books to the table or the return box in the foyer ... Thank you!



Remembrance Day Service

This year, our Remembrance Day Service will be held on Monday, November 11th, 9:00am at Holy Cross Church. We are honoured to have several of our veterans and/or members of their family join us again this year. As always, we remain eternally grateful for their service. If you would like to bring a special photo of your family member who is/was a veteran, there will be a section in the front of the altar for placement.

New procedure for Distribution of Gluten Free Hosts

We have updated our procedure for receiving Gluten Free (GF) hosts at Communion time during the Mass. If you require a GF host, please enter the communion line on the far right side of the church (facing the altar), closest to the piano. A Sacristan will stand slightly behind the Priest/Eucharistic Minister with a GF ciborium. Please indicate your desire to receive a GF host by approaching the Sacristan. If you have any questions about this new procedure, please contact the office at office@holycrossvictoria.org.

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. The next session to choose from will be held on Saturday, November 16 from 10 - 12. Please email hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details and forward you the baptism registration form.

Word of the Week: Cardinal and quotes

From Latin cardo, for "hinge," a high church official who ranks just below pope, can only be appointed by the pope, and serves primarily as a papal advisor. The significance of the office of the cardinal lies in direct and close relationship to the pope. The worldwide governance of the church is no small thing, and the burden is just a little lighter when cardinals share in the responsibilities as papal advisors, celebrants, envoys, and representatives. From The Code of Canon Law by James H. Provost: The cardinals are a unique figure of Roman Catholicism. They exercise major influence in the church, not only because they form the college that elects the bishop of Rome, but also because they occupy major positions in the central administration of the church and, increasingly, are the diocesan bishops of major sees around the world. What is the role of a cardinal?

Cardinals were originally priests with permanent parish assignments. In the fifth century, the title was first given to the superior priest at a major church. Cardinal-priests rendered judgments on clergy and laity, and later served as grand inquisitors in determining heresies. Cardinals became electors of the pope in the 11th century by decree of Pope Nicholas II. Today, most cardinals are elevated from bishops in prominent dioceses. The College of Cardinals functions primarily as a consulting body for the pope as well as aiding in the governance of the church throughout the world.

When we walk without the cross, we are not disciples of the Lord. We are worldly. We may be bishops, priests, cardinals, popes, all of this, but we are not disciples of the Lord.
—Pope Francis

The cardinals have elected me, a simple, humble worker in the Lord's vineyard.
—Pope Benedict XVI

Sunday Missal Sales

2024-2025 Sunday Missals will be sold for \$5 before and after mass in the foyer on November 9/10th, and November 16/17th. Please bring cash. Thank you to our volunteers for working the booth!

Confession Availability and Clergy Support

Confession Times:	Clergy Consult:
St. Patrick's: Friday 11:30 – 12:00	Please call the Parish offices.
St. Joseph's: 1/2 hour before Mass	St. Patrick's: (250) 592-7391
Sacred Heart: Saturday 3:00 – 3:45	St. Joseph's: (250) 479-7413
Our Lady of Fatima: Saturday 4:00	Sacred Heart: (250)-479-1611
	Our Lady of Fatima: (250) 658-1587

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, November 9, 2024
4PM MASS: Alfredo & Espirito Santo Galvao+

SUNDAY, November 10, 2024
9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, November 11, 2024
9AM MASS: Remembrance Day

TUESDAY, November 12, 2024
9 AM MASS: Vera Hilario (INT)

WEDNESDAY, November 13, 2024
NO MASS

THURSDAY, November 14, 2024
9 AM MASS: John Bidlake+

FRIDAY, November 15 2024
NO MASS

The Chapel will be open this week Tuesday to Friday 9 - 12

Reconciliation is available on Saturday, November 2, at 3:00pm

COLLECTIONS , November 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$	4625.00
Loose	\$	360.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$	1332.90
Total	\$	6317.90

Thank you to our Committee and Ministry leaders for supporting the planning of the Ministry Fair!

Next week during the Ministry Fair, Lydia Foch, the former Chaplain at UVic and Camosun will be coming back to Holy Cross Parish to discuss and share her new book called **Landing Softly**, an inspiration memoir showing how she transitioned from trauma to healing.

Please approach Lydia at her booth and sign up to order a copy.



News from the Chancery

1) The local Indigenous Reconciliation Fund is now accepting grant applications. Indigenous groups from Vancouver Island and the surrounding islands are encouraged to apply for funding for projects and initiatives that foster good medicine for people harmed by the legacy of residential schools. For more information and the application package, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/irf> or call 250-800-3167. The application deadlines for this round of funding are November 15 2024, February 15 2025, and May 15 2025.

To my dear people in the diocese and beyond:

*My health has been suffering since early September. After some tests and scans at the hospital in Courtenay, some swollen lymph nodes were found in my stomach and neck. From the symptoms that I have been having for a while now, I suspected that I had lymphoma. A biopsy happened Oct. 9th and on Oct. 31st my hematologist in Victoria called and gave the news that I do have lymphoma. I will be starting on Thursday Nov. 7th six sessions of chemotherapy every three weeks. This will be the second cancer journey that I will be on as back in 2021 I went through treatment for multiple myeloma. I know this illness will be more challenging, however with the support of family, friends and parishioners near and far I will get through this.
Fr. Mike Favero*

Silent Auction for Our Lady of the Rosary

Building Together! Save the date! Friday, November 29th from 6 to 9pm at Royal Colwood Golf Course 629 Goldstream Avenue. This silent and live auction will raise funds to build our church. For admission, tickets cost \$50 each. Contact Cynthia at 250 478 3482 or email her at olorchurch@rcdvictoria.org.

Job Posting: Administrative Assistant

Our Lady of the Rosary Roman Catholic Parish is seeking a full-time administrative assistant to support the Pastor and parish. This is a front office position for 35 hours a week (8:30 TO 4PM), from Monday to Friday, complete with a benefit package Candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Fr. William Hann olorpas-tor@rcdvictoria.org or in person during office hours, by Nov 15.

The Monthly Sunday Night Bridge

Monthly Sunday Bridge in the Parish Hall will continue on December 1st. Please contact the office at office@holycrossvictoria.org to be connected to Tony Southwell for further information.

Would you like to receive the bulletin by email? If so, please email office@holycrossvictoria.org to be added to the list.

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.

Pastor: Vacant

Executive Team:

Catherine Davis, John Bartle-Clar, David Begg

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistant: Sloane Secord
250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

Office Assistant: Joanie Bidlake
250-477-5321 officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow
mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk
hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

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

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Mass times - Holy Cross Parish:

4pm Saturday,

9am Sunday;

9am Tuesday and Thursday

Mass times - St. Patrick's Parish:

11am Sunday, 4pm Sunday;

12:10pm Tuesday-Friday