

# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

## Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

**SUNDAY - November 3, 2024**  
**Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

When Jesus is quizzed about the single most important Commandment, he responds with two—love of God AND love of neighbor. Today, we refer to this two-in-one directive as the Great Commandment. One of the consistent messages of the gospel is the need for your actions to match your true intentions. What you do reveals who you really are, and if you're a person of faith, how you live should reflect that reality. It's easy to hide behind words; they can conceal your motivations and make you appear to be someone you're not. Hence the gospels' deemphasizing of outer ritual and emphasizing of inner faith. In the readings this week we hear about sacrifices and high priests, and here's why: If you want to worship the one God, then you need to do so with your whole self. If you reverently participate in the sacrifice of the liturgy, you should have the same reverence when it comes to making sacrifices for others. If you love God, then show that in your love of your neighbor. Having integrity and sincerity will put you "not far from the kingdom of God."

The old parlor game asks: If you knew you were going to die tonight, what would you do today? Variations abound. If you found out you had an incurable disease, which decisions would you make now that you've been putting off? If you had one last chance to say or do something for the people you care about, what would it be? Your answer to all these questions of ultimate concern should be the same: Love. That's not a hippie reply, though even some churchgoers may be tempted to bat it away with impatience as such. Love sounds vague and mushy but only because we live in an age when love stories have been reduced to rushed escapades of sexual attraction and indulgence. Real love stories take more time and require more investment and not a little sacrifice. It's not a matter of boy-meets-girl but human-need-meets-divinely-ordained-response.

When an educated man came to Jesus with a question of ultimate concern such as those listed above—if you had to govern your life according to one Commandment, which would it be?—Jesus did not hesitate to respond with *love*. He certainly didn't mean romance, and he intended nothing vague or mushy at all. Jesus spelled out in great detail what he meant by love in his ministry and teachings. Care for the stranger, widow, child, and the poor. Heal human misery, rid society of its demons. Feed the hungry, give your clothes to the naked. Welcome the outsider, forgive the sinner. Befriend your enemy. Refuse to participate in the ways of violence. Stay close to God, the source of love, in prayer and obedient listening.

Do you have any doubt as to how to do that? If you're clear that your primary allegiance is to God with heart, soul, mind, and strength, you'll know how to live, choose, value, and vote. Some religious groups will pass out preselected voting cards, but for those who attend to the gospel, that is unnecessary. Your process is: pray, listen, love, choose—it's the same procedure you're obliged to follow in every hour of your life and in every interaction. If you would shape the future as God would have it, the only method is love. G. K. Chesterton writes... "the Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and to love our enemies; probably because they are generally the same people." And Liz Summers' reflection in *Living with Christ* for this Sunday, said the same thing... "Jesus teaches us to look at tradition with discernment and to love God through each of our neighbours." When all is said and done what would you want on your headstone? What really counts in God's sight is, How much did they love? Wouldn't it be great if, when all the speeches are over, the final verdict on our life was, "Kind, thoughtful, devoted to others, committed to love?"

Love in word and deed.  
Father William

Report Sexual Abuse

### 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](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)  
[www.holycrossvictoria.org](http://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.**

To report sexual abuse by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, visit [RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry](http://RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit [BishopReportingSystem.ca](http://BishopReportingSystem.ca) or call 1-866-892-3737

### **LIVESTREAM MASSES**

**Live Mass broadcast this weekend!** Mass is livestreamed this week from Holy Cross Parish on Saturday at 4pm. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

### **Bishop's Appeal Update**

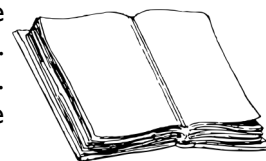
The *Sharing God's Gifts* Appeal is very active in all parishes throughout the Diocese of Victoria and I am happy to announce that 78 families of Holy Cross have contributed thus far and we have raised \$32,950 towards our goal. This is an encouraging start and we are asking you to join your fellow parishioners 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

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

### **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.

### **Planet Positive Tips**



The high per-capita carbon dioxide emissions in rich countries are in part due to the wide choice of food available here, because of "the year-round habit of consumers in rich countries for non-seasonal food products that need to be shipped from elsewhere". Let's think about how many miles our fruits and vegetables travel to get to our stores. Let's try to shop local from our local farmers, if possible, and buy seasonal fruits and vegetables.

A message from the Social and Ecological Justice Committee

### **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 [hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org) with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details and forward you the baptism registration form.

### **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.

### **Hearing Loop System**

Holy Cross Parish is equipped with a hearing loop system. If you wear hearing aids, switch your hearing aid to T-Coil and you will be connected to the hearing loop system. See: [www.advancedlistening.ca](http://www.advancedlistening.ca)

**Prayer Reflection**

-The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and to love our enemies; probably because they are generally the same people.

—G. K. Chesterton

In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human success, but rather on how much we have loved.

—John of the Cross

Learning to stand in somebody else's shoes, to see through their eyes, that's how peace begins. Empathy is a quality of character that can change the world.

—Barack Obama

**Job Posting: Senior Accountant**

The Diocese is now accepting applications for the position of Senior Accountant. The job posting may be viewed at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment> The posting will be open until the position is filled.

**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 [olorpastor@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:olorpastor@rcdvictoria.org) or in person during office hours, by Nov 15.

**The Monthly Sunday Night Bridge**

Monthly Sunday Bridge will resume this Sunday, November 3rd at 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please contact the office at [office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org) to be connected to Tony Southwell for further information.

**Confession availability and Clergy Support**

Without a parish priest, updates about confession availability will be posted under the mass times each week in the Bulletin. Please note reconciliation and clergy support is available at other local parishes.

**Confession Times:**

St. Patrick's: Friday's 11:30 – 12:00

St. Joseph's: Half an hour before every Mass

Sacred Heart: Saturday's 3:00 – 3:45

Our Lady of Fatima: Saturday's 4pm

**Clergy Consult:**

Please call the Parish offices.

St. Patrick's: (250) 592-7391

St. Joseph's: (250) 479-7413

Sacred Heart: (250)-479-1611

Our Lady of Fatima: (250) 658-1587

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE**

SATURDAY, November 2, 2024

4PM MASS: Pro Populo

SUNDAY, November 3, 2024

9AM MASS: Stan Prince+

MONDAY, November 4, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, November 5, 2024

9 AM MASS: John Bidlake+

WEDNESDAY, November 6, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, November 7, 2024

9 AM MASS: Manuel & Urania Carroca+

FRIDAY, November 8, 2024

NO MASS

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

**Reconciliation is available on Saturday, November 2, at 3:30pm**

**\*Masks are optional**

**COLLECTIONS , Oct. 27 , 2024**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$	4890.00
Loose	\$	335.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$	1184.80
Evangelization of Nations	\$	40.00
Total	\$	6449.80

Thank you to all our volunteers and committee members that are keeping community initiatives going strong! Your contribution helps us stay connected and focused. A special acknowledgement to the liturgical team, and the teams who set up the book fair, & the dried rosemary sales!



### **News from the Chancery**

1) Our Garry Oak Ecosystem Restoration Project has come to a close for 2024. A big thank you to the dozens of volunteers who helped remove invasive plants from the properties of St. Andrew's Regional High School, Sacred Heart Parish, and the Diocesan Pastoral Centre. To view a gallery of images from the project, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/gratitude-for-our-garry-oak-ecosystem-restoration-team>.

2) On Wednesday, November 13, Bishop Gary will celebrate a Mass of Remembrance for the clergy and religious who served in our Diocese who have died in the past year. The Mass will be held at noon; all are invited to participate, either in person at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Victoria (740 View St), or via the Diocesan livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pxIA6RN4AXE>.

### **Upcoming Election for the CISDV Board of Directors**

**CISDV – AGM:** The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Victoria (CISDV) Society will be held on **Wednesday, November 13, 2024**. There will be a private ballot election for two positions to the CISDV Board of Directors at this meeting. Each position is for a three-year term. Nomination forms may be requested from [schools@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:schools@cisdv.bc.ca) and must be completed and sent to the Nomination Committee at [schools@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:schools@cisdv.bc.ca) **no later than Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**. Potential Board Members must meet the following requirements for nomination:

1. Be a practising Catholic and an active member of a Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Victoria.
2. Not be an employee of the CISDV, an immediate relative of an employee of the CISDV, nor a student of a school under the jurisdiction of CISDV.
3. Read and understand the constitution and bylaws, policies 200 and 201 and the method of election.
4. Have a signed nomination form which includes two sponsors and Parish Priest.

For further information, contact the Island Catholic Schools office at 250-727-6893 ext. 240.

### **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](mailto:olorchurch@rcdvictoria.org).

### **Mount St Mary's Hospital's Christmas Market**

If you would like to donate NEW items such as quilts, blankets, or Christmas ornaments to support the Christmas Market, please contact the office at [office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org). At the moment, only NEW items can be accepted.

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

**Office Assistant:** Joanie Bidlake  
250-477-5321 [officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org)

**University Chaplain:** Vacant

**Parish Council Chair:** Catherine Davis

**Sacramental Preparation:** Michele Bristow  
[mbristow@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:mbristow@rcdvictoria.org)

**Baptismal Preparation:** Beverly Pulyk  
[hcspbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcspbaptismalprep@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](mailto: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