



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 November 14, 2020
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

What gifts do you have? Today's Gospel invites to reflect on what we bring to life's table. We each have a little something special we can call our own. Maybe it's school smarts or street smarts or a talent we use for good. Maybe you know your way around the halls of power or around the kitchen. Some are good with kids, others with elders, still others with sick or dying people. You might be great with people, or math, or words, or research. You could be physically strong or have that dogged ability to keep at a task when everybody else gives up. It is good to do an assessment of your gifts and skills. Whatever your special talent is, put it at the disposal of grace. We are each "talented" by the God who gifts us and provides us with every grace and blessing. The point of today's parable is that we take good notice of what each one of us has been graced with by God. I am not talking about material wealth or intellectual capacity. What I am referring to is our ability to love our ability to give life to the persons around us. We have all been equally graced with that sort of talent. With that ability to love that has been freely given to us, we are summoned to make our own contribution, in word and deed, to the growth and realization of God's kingdom on earth.

What today's parable suggests is that we make full use of that one God-given talent that we have all received. But then making full use of it, not out of fear for the eventual account we have to give of it, not out of fear of a punishing God who will take no nonsense in the end. That sort of fear paralyzes you. And we turn into pathetic creatures, lacking all self-confidence and initiative. Moreover, that sort of fear is an insult to God. God has given us a precious talent, and the parable summons us to make full use of it. This has everything to do with taking pride in the fact that God entrusts us with this talent and that he chooses us as partners in his enterprise to establish his kingdom of love in our world.

Each one of us has that talent freely given by God. We have received it not to bury it, but to use it; not out of fear, but out of confidence and pride, knowing that by our doing, God's kingdom of love can be brought a little bit closer. If you're still fumbling around wondering where your talent lies, what you're especially good at, consider getting good at the fruits of the Holy Spirit. **Master love.** Whatever your capacity for love is, widen it a little every day, practicing tenderness, mercy, and compassion, especially when it's really hard to do so. The more you love, the more you can love. **Master joy.** Take delight in small things: a leave falling, a child's trust in you, the greeting of a stranger on the street, someone else's good news. In our cynical culture, the cultivation of joy is a deliberate decision. If you don't feel happy enough for joy, start with gratitude for every good thing that comes your way and work your way up. **Master peace.** Choose nonviolence in your speech, in the slowness to take offense, in the charity of giving the other person the benefit of the doubt when you feel hurt. Whenever the fierce feelings arise in you, counter them with some quiet time, prayer for the offender, forgiveness, and letting yourself off the hook, too, for a change. The parable of the talents remind us how "nice" God has been to bless us with so much. But with those gifts comes an important responsibility: to use them and share them in a way that they are not squandered.

Blessings

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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HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS: If you or someone you love is admitted to hospital and would like a visit from your pastor or Eucharistic Minister, please call your parish office or VGH/RJ hospital emergency pager **250-889-3761** and ask for **Fr. Sean Flynn** to make this request.

SCAM ALERT

It's happening again. There is an email scam going around using Fr. William's name. This scam has been going around for a while now, and in the last week directly affected one of our long time parishioners. The mail states that Fr. William has a friend battling cancer at Royal Jubilee Hospital, and requests gift cards to help support this friend. Fr. William would like to stress once more that **he would never ask anyone for money or gift cards from any of his friends, or parishioners.** If you receive an email like this and feel unsure of it's authenticity, **please call Fr. William directly to clarify before you buy any gift cards, and please do not reply to the email!** Also - check the actual sent e-mail address - many times these scams have a very different identification than what they purport to be. It is heart breaking to know this is happening to parishioners our Pastor cares deeply about. Please be very cautious with any emails or text messages of this nature.

BOTTLE DRIVE

The Grade 7 class at St. Patrick's Elementary School (2368 Trent Street) is holding a Bottle Drive to help raise funds for their year end camp (which at this point looks like they will be able to do safely as a cohort). This year the Bottle Depot is offering a "no-sort" bottle drive option. All you need to do is collect containers and bring the to the school parking lot on **Saturday, November 28th between 9am and 11am.** The Gr. 7's will take it from there! Thank you for considering support of our local parish Catholic School in this fundraiser!

BIRTHRIGHT FUDGE

Birtheright is taking orders for their delicious Chocolate Fudge this November. A bit of sweet in this challenging year! The packets make great stocking stuffers or holiday gifts. Arrangements have been made for pre-paid parishioner orders to be delivered to the Parish Office for collection in December, during office hours (Tuesday – Friday 9AM - 2PM.) Please see the attached poster for ordering details. Your purchase helps makes possible the pro-life pregnancy support work of Birtheright Victoria. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Many of you have been inquiring recently about the plan for the Christmas Mass schedule. For those of you who already attend (are registered for) a Mass, you have likely already heard about Fr. William's "*Twelve Days of Christmas*" plan. He hopes to keep everyone who's already in a Mass bubble secure in their bubble; and he plans to celebrate a Christmas Mass on everyone's individual Mass day (ex: if you attend Mass on Tuesdays 9am, your Christmas Mass will be celebrated the Tuesday of Christmas week - December 22nd). For those of you who have not attended Mass since March, are not part of a Mass bubble and have not attended Mass at any other parish in the Diocese, Fr. William will be adding a couple of extra Masses that you may register for. There will also be an extra Mass added for families with children who have not had the opportunity to attend Mass since March.

These extra Mass times and further details will be published in next week's bulletin, as well as the date for when registration will open for registering for these additional Masses.

We know what a challenging time this has been for everyone. As infection numbers increase on the Island, our future is uncertain. We thank you for your understanding and patience as we strive to do what's best to keep everyone safe, while keeping the church open for Christmas. Please stay tuned to the bulletin for further information. Thank you all.

PRAYER REFLECTION

Even to the birds was it said, "Be fruitful and multiply." Do you wish to hold as a great blessing what was given to birds? Who can be ignorant, that it was given indeed by the voice of God? But use these goods, if you receive them; and rather think how you may nourish those who have been born, that others may be born.

—Saint Augustine

Psychology says, "Let go." Spirituality says, "Wake up." In both cases there is a withdrawal from the busyness of daily life (our dream state) and a waking up to the subconscious and spiritual depths of ourselves.

—Alfred McBride, O. Praem., The Priest

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.

SUNDAY 10 AM

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 7 PM

DIOCESAN BLOG: Please find below the link to the Blog post for this week written by Bishop Gary Gordon on the theme of "Remembrance and World Day of the Poor". We continue to remember the deceased veterans and we prayerfully reflect on the enormity of human poverty and misery caused by war. We will mark the World Day of the Poor on Sunday and we remain thankful for the various ways that the People of God support the poor in their own communities as they work together with helping hands to make a difference.

Kindly please share the link below with your community members.

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/we-shall-remember-them-lest-we-forget>

HORIZONS OF HOPE

The Appeal Team wants to give all of Holy Cross a great big socially distant HUG for coming together during these difficult times and rising to the challenge set before us by Bishop Gary. We have almost reached our parish goal of \$65,000 and there is still time to donate. Our parish goal is to support the North Island Parishes this year. Many, many thanks to all of you who have already donated, and for playing a big part in showing our connectedness to the greater Catholic community. Be kind. Be calm. Be safe

OUR VIRTUAL COMMUNITY

Father William has created a **YouTube** page and a **Facebook** page for the combined St. Patrick's and Holy Cross families! Please visit the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StPatsHolyCross/>

Live Mass broadcast this Saturday! Mass will be broadcast from **Holy Cross Parish on Saturday, November 14th at 4pm on the YouTube page.**

Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, November 14th

2:30-3:15pm Reconciliation

4:00pm Mass: **Serafino & Giuseppina Spada +**

SUNDAY, November 15th

9:00am Mass: **Joe Laternus +**

MONDAY, November 16th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, November 17th

9:00 am Mass: **Eileen & Michael Doyle +**

WEDNESDAY, November 18th

9:00am Mass: **No intention**

7:00pm Mass: **Trevor Thompsett +**

THURSDAY, November 19th

9:00am Mass: **Tony Hann (int)**

FRIDAY, November 20th

9:00 am Mass: **Dr. John Calder +**

At Holy Cross Parish you must now register for which day of the week you would like to attend Mass. You can register by emailing Joanie Bidlake at:

officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

Our Mass schedule remains the same for now:

Tuesday – Friday: 9am Mass

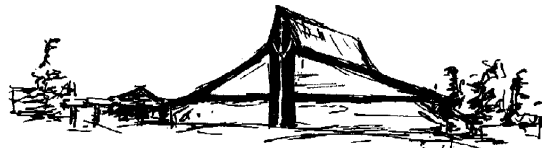
Wednesday: 7pm (full)

Saturday: 4pm Mass (full)

Sunday: 9am Mass (full)

**please note that you may select a Mass time from St. Patrick's Parish Mass schedule. To do this please call Deborah Mackay at St. Pat's at:*

250-592-7391.



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

COLLECTION for November 8, 2020

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes/Canada Helps	\$ 2, 575.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,372.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,947.00