



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining with St. Patrick's Parish

**SUNDAY - November 5, 2023**

**Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

God calls us to remember and live into our covenantal relationship, a relationship where we are God's chosen people and our focus is on God's loving ways. We know God is faithful, compassionate and merciful, offering us eternal life and the indwelling Spirit. God makes, keeps, and fulfills this relationship; it's us who falter and lose our focus when the lure of the world gives our egos and self-glorification the garish spotlight.

Christ, the Word of God, renews our hearts and fills us with intimate knowledge of God. Through his teachings, his relationships, his actions, his silence, we come to know a God who humbly serves the world, and we are called to do the same. Jesus shows us how to BE in the world: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws" (Ezekiel 36:26-27). Can we abandon fear, pride, judgment, laziness, bitterness, and apathy in order to give God our true selves, our whole selves?

As Paul ministers to the Thessalonians, his confidence in the power of the Word of God to transform lives is palpable. Paul knows, for he lives out of his own conversion experience! His relationship with Christ fulfills him and love flows out of him to all the communities he encounters. He abandons his whole self and immerses his whole being to bring about God's kingdom. Do we help guide, strengthen, and bless others to grow in faith? As disciples of Christ, we are called to do our part.

Matthew asks if we recognize the Pharisee within. Do we imitate the leadership philosophy and style of the scribes and Pharisees or Jesus' leadership style? Do we burden our children and family through eyes of judgment, using shame and guilt? Does our faith give us wings to fly or a weight that pulls us down? Is our relationship with God a matter of love or law? Jesus offers love, light, compassion, rest...a yoke that is shared. With gifts given, each of us are called to build God's kingdom.

### **Cardinal John Dearden of Detroit offered this prayer in 1979**

*It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.  
The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts,  
it is even beyond our vision.  
We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent  
enterprise that is God's work.  
Nothing we do is complete,  
which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.  
No statement says all that could be said.  
No prayer fully expresses our faith.  
No confession brings perfection.  
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.  
No program accomplishes the Church's mission.  
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.  
This is what we are about.  
We plant the seeds that one day will grow.*

*We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future  
promise.  
We lay foundations that will need further development.  
We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.  
We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in  
realizing that.  
This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.  
It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the  
way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the  
rest.  
We may never see the end results, but that is the difference  
between the master builder and the worker.  
We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.  
We are prophets of a future not our own.*

God's abundance, Mona



#### OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed  
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm  
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm  
**Fr. William Hann, Pastor**  
4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC  
V8N 3X7  
Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844  
office@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](https://www.rcdvictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146  
To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit [BishopReportingSystem.ca](https://www.bishopreportingsystem.ca) or call 1-866-892-3737

### 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>

### 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. Please note that the next sessions to choose from for Baptismal Preparation are:

Sat, Nov 18 (10:00 am – 12 noon)

Sat, Dec 9 (10:00 am – 12 noon)

Please email [hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org) with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.

### The Bishop's Appeal 2023

Please consider making a financial commitment to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Not only are you helping your own parish, but you are making a real difference to our greater Diocesan faith community, including our Local Mission Parishes. It is through your commitment and efforts that we will be able to weave our own unique tapestry of faith. Donations may be made on-line at:

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/bishops-appeal>

Our parish project is to financially support the private sponsorship of a refugee family.

Parish Goal: \$49,000    Actual to Date: \$16,585    Number of Gifts: 34

Father William will be attending Leadership Study Days from November 6th - 9th up island. Liturgy of the Word with Communion will be celebrated at Holy Cross Parish on Tuesday, November 7th and Thursday, November 9th.

Father William will be offering Mass for the intentions requested on those days while he is away.

### Remembrance Day Mass

There will be a special Remembrance Day Mass at 9am on Saturday, November 11th at Holy Cross Parish giving us all an opportunity to honour our fallen soldiers from ages past. A special invitation is extended to Veterans to attend this Mass.



REMEMBRANCE DAY  
*Left We Forget*

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

#### 62nd ANNUAL CHARITY APPEAL RAFFLE

15 prizes totalling \$100,000

Grand Prize is a Toyota RAV4

Tickets are \$5 each, 10 for \$25 or **50 for \$50!**

Two \$1,000 Early Bird draws every two weeks

Get your tickets at our KofC Website at: [kofcBCraffle](http://kofcBCraffle)  
[ Main Draw Dec 16, 2023 : BC Gaming Licence #144568 ]



**Remembrance Day** commemorates some of the most memorable literary moments of an earlier time. Consider the famous poem *In Flanders Fields* by the Canadian physician Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, who died some months before the war ended. And again, the English poet Wilfred Owen, who died in battle a week before the armistice, who gave us his dark, sardonic take on the foolish enthusiasm of war in *Dulce et Decorum Est*. In novels: Erich Maria Remarque, a veteran of the German army in *All Quiet on the Western Front* and Robert Graves, in *Good-Bye to All That* recount their war-front experiences. Closely in liturgical time is St Crispin's feast day Oct 25 which Shakespeare used in *Henry V* to spell out the consequences of war "if the cause be not good" when the English troops were confronting the French at Agincourt in 1415.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In\\_Flanders\\_Fields](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In_Flanders_Fields)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dulce\\_et\\_Decorum\\_est](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dulce_et_Decorum_est)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All\\_Quiet\\_on\\_the\\_Western\\_Front](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Quiet_on_the_Western_Front)

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/70663/good-bye-to-all-that-by-robert-graves-introduction-by-paul-fussell/>

<https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/481667-but-if-the-cause-be-not-good-the-king-himself>



### Prayer Reflection

God favors the humble. Scripture tells us that he resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. In fact he gives them everything . . . . He cannot refuse it. He gives himself entirely to humility.

—Cardinal Jean Verdier

Priesthood is not about power, prestige, or privilege. The pedestal has been struck down. The status lost. The Lord cautioned his disciples not to be seeking places of honor.

—Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas

We must begin by purifying ourselves before purifying others; we must be instructed to be able to instruct, become light to illuminate, draw close to God to bring him close to others, be sanctified to sanctify, lead by the hand and counsel prudently.

—Saint Gregory of Nazianzus

### **OUR LITURGICAL LIFE**

#### **SATURDAY, November 4th**

4PM Mass: Candida+

#### **SUNDAY, November 5th**

9AM Mass: Stan Prince+

#### **MONDAY, November 6th**

NO MASS

#### **TUESDAY, November 7th**

9AM Liturgy of the Word (Marcia)  
Ethan Stone+

#### **WEDNESDAY, November 8th**

NO MASS

#### **THURSDAY, November 9th**

9AM Liturgy of the Word (Trish)  
Ben Perri+

#### **FRIDAY, November 10th**

NO MASS

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**The Chapel will be open for private prayers this week from Tuesday to Friday, 9am—noon via the side door.**

### **RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 Mercy Chapel

### **ADORATION**

9AM First Friday of the month in the Chapel

**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.**

### **Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time – November 5, 2023**

"The greatest among you will be your servant." Can I respond to God as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? If God is calling you, 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)

**CISDV – AGM:** The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Victoria (CISDV) Society will be held on **Wednesday, November 22**. 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 Friday, November 10**. 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.

### **COLLECTIONS October 29, 2023**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 2,795.00
Loose	\$ 372.00
Evangelization of Nations	\$ 40.00
Canada Helps	\$ 130.28
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,370.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,707.28</b>

### **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)

**Don't Forget!**

**The time changes this weekend!**



## News from the Chancery

1) Please consider making a financial commitment to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Not only are you helping your own parish, but you are making a real difference to our greater Diocesan faith community, including our Local Mission Parishes. It is through your commitment and efforts that we will be able to weave our own unique tapestry of faith. Donations may be made on-line at:

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/bishops-appeal>

2) On Sunday, October 29, the first session of the Universal Phase of Synod 2021-2024 drew to a close. The 365 voting members of the assembly, which for the first time includes lay men and women, have released a Letter to the People of God giving thanks for their experience, detailing their work, and expressing their hope for the coming month. To read the letter, please visit <https://www.synod.va/en/news/letter-of-the-xvi-ordinary-general-assembly-of-the-synod-of-bishops-to-the-people-of-god.html>.

The assembly has also released a Synthesis Report which traces the path for the work to be done in the second session in October 2024. The report is not yet available in English, but a summary has been published by the Vatican News at <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2023-10/the-synod-report-a-church-that-involves-everyone.html>.

3) On Tuesday, November 14, 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/@RCDVictoriaLiveOne>

4) Congratulations to Angela McLeish, Vice Principal of St. Patrick's School in Victoria, for receiving the Premier's Award for Excellence in Education – School Leadership. Her award video can be viewed online at <https://youtu.be/YcNY58byUZY>

5) The Diocese is pleased to offer two upcoming opportunities to deepen and develop in your faith. All of these events are free, and open to anyone in the Diocese. For questions about these events, or assistance in registering, please email [mgwyn@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:mgwyn@rcdvictoria.org) or call 250-479-1331 ext 227.

- Saturday, November 25 is the date for our annual Diocesan Faith Day - this year's theme is "Serving with Spirit: Transformation from the Inside out". Join us for a day of learning in community with our guest speaker, Catholic speaker and author Leah Perault, as we consider how the Holy Spirit leads us within a changing church and world. The Faith Day will be held from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm at St. Edward's Church in Duncan. For more information and to register please visit <https://DioConferenceServewithSpirit.eventbrite.com>
- On January 5 & 6 2024, the Diocesan liturgical conference "The Epiphany of the Liturgy: Welcoming the Closeness of God" will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Victoria. This conference is an opportunity to enter into a richer experience of the Trinity in our Eucharistic Celebrations, and will be valuable both for those who serve in liturgical ministries and those who participate in the assembly. The presenters will be Dr. Glenn Byer and Dr. David Pitt, liturgical and musical educators at Catholic colleges in the U.S. The workshop will run Friday, January 5 from 7 - 9:30 pm and Saturday, January 6 from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. For more information and to register please visit <https://EpiphanyLiturgyConference.eventbrite.com>

**Missals will be sold after Mass on Nov. 18/19 and Nov. 25/26. The price is still \$5.00. Exact change is appreciated!**

**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:** Dan Taft

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

**Parish Council Chair:** Catherine Davis

**Sacramental Preparation:** Michele Bristow

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

**Baptismal Preparation:** Beverly Pulyk

[hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org)

**Birthright Fudge Sales** Birthright will be selling specialty Fudges after weekend Masses on Nov 18/19 (The packets make great stocking stuffers and freeze well!) Birthright assists women in difficult or crisis pregnancies, offering hope and encouraging Mothers to give the precious gift of Life to their babies - how fitting as we prepare for the Christ Child! Please consider supporting this worthwhile cause.

**Monthly Sunday Bridge at Holy Cross** A warm welcome is extended to all Bridge players to join this friendly group as we prepare for the start of our 42nd year of Social Bridge which begins Sunday, November 5th @7:00 p.m. in the Parish Centre. Contact Tony Southwell at (250) 477-5738 or via e-mail at [tony\\_southwell@hotmail.com](mailto:tony_southwell@hotmail.com) 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.