

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 8, 2020
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

This past week, we priests had three zoom study days on Covid redemption. We explored all the losses we are experiencing because of Covid 19, and we named our feelings and needs; and we were able to share with each other how Covid 19 has affected us all in unique and different ways. We then explored stress management skills that can help us move through the current stress, and, as well, explored our emotional strengths which help us manoeuvre through this pandemic and find balance and perspective. The two priests, who led our study groups, were “wisdom people” for us this week, and it struck me how blessed we were to be given this time to examine how we are coping so far. It struck me as people of faith, we have many resources to help us move forward. We are here today because, as people of faith, we know we can put our landscapes right here... at the word and table of mercy where unconditional love is freely given! Such wisdom!

Wisdom is the central theme of today's readings. The wedding banquet is a regular image of eternal life in the Gospels. The wedding banquet is a consistent image of eternal life in the New Testament. We can only speak about the unknown and unfamiliar in terms of what is known and familiar. The wedding banquet highlights eternal life as that state in which the deepest hunger and thirst in our lives will be satisfied, especially the hunger and thirst for love, for God who is love.

The refusal of the wise virgins to share may appear selfish. But here we are not talking really about lamps and oil but about people and life. We need wisdom people in our lives, people whose wisdom guides us on our pilgrim way. **What wisdom can the church and Christianity offer this culture?** Well, Christ tells us that we are not alone and that we have not been abandoned, and all we need to do is call out his name. We, as baptized disciples of Jesus, must be confident and proud of our faith. We have something to offer this world and it is a pearl of great price, it is wisdom. The bridegroom is coming, and the wise virgins are the ones who are ready for him. Which is to say: God's wisdom is always searching for us, but we also must look for it to see it. The Lord is coming at any time, but we still must be watchful for him. What gives us this sight? One little word: love. If we love God, God will know He is welcome in our lives. Let us ask ourselves: How is God looking for me?

Dear friends, when we are faithful to the relationship with God, we put oil in our lamps for when we need it. Moral courage is stored there, as is access to wisdom, compassion, and the willingness for self-sacrifice. When darkness arrives like Covid 19, and the oil is required, it will be there for us. One thing is certain: The hour of darkness comes into every life. We will have to wrestle with loss and loneliness, failure and betrayal, fear and weakness, anxiety for those we love trapped in the web of human brokenness.

Fear not.
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.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE: COVID-19, RECOVERING TOGETHER

Please give generously, so we are all *Recovering Together*

Today, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada invites us to be in solidarity with communities in the Global South, whose situation is worsening due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Let's act together for a just recovery that includes all. Thank you for your generosity and solidarity. Your donation will help our partners in their struggle to improve the lives of the most vulnerable and marginalized in their communities.

You can contribute to the parish collection or online: <https://www.devp.org/en/civicrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=30>

HOLY CROSS PRAYER CHAIN

I know you are prayer warriors on your own but we all know there is strength in numbers, so we are setting up a prayer chain in the parish. If you sign on you would be notified by email, (if you have it) or telephone when there are specific requests for prayer. Many subjects would be ongoing such as the homeless, world peace. End of Covid-19, etc. If you are interested in being a part of this powerful army, or if you have an intention you would like the group to keep in prayer, please contact **Marcia Thompson by email at marciathompson@shaw.ca** or phone at 250-472-1740. If you are willing to be a contact person, one who forwards to a group, please let me know. Blessings on your day.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

This year we cannot have our Book of Remembrance out in the church like we normally do. In the past, the book would be placed at the doors of the church where people could write down the names of those deceased loved ones that we would like to remember during this month of remembrance. This year, however, if you have a name of someone you would like to remember, please send it to Valentina at the office either by phone: 250-477-5321 or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org and she will write it in the book for you. The book will be placed by the ambo during all masses and our loved ones will be prayed for during this month of November.

LIBRARY CORNER

Wednesday, November 11, 2018 Remembrance Day has inspired some of the most memorable literary moments of that 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 time is St Crispin's feast day, Oct 25, which Shakespeare used for Henry V's famous speech to English troops confronting the French at Agincourt in 1415.



<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/history/first-world-war/mccrae>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dulce_et_Decorum_estoffered

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://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Crispin%27s_Day_Speech

PRAYER REFLECTION

When Mary holds you up, you do not fall; when she protects you, you need not fear; when she leads you, you do not tire; when she is favorable to you, you arrive at the harbor of safety.

—*Saint Bonaventure*

The Wisdom of God . . . comes forth, reaching from "end to end mightily." She wills to be also the unseen pivot of all nature, the center and significance of all the light that is in all and for all. That which is poorest and humblest, that which is most hidden in all things is nevertheless most obvious in them, and quite manifest, for it is their own self that stands before us, naked and without care.

—*Thomas Merton, Hagia Sophia*

The times we find ourselves having to wait on others may be the perfect opportunities to train ourselves to wait on the Lord.

—*Joni Eareckson Tada, disabled artist and writer*

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 latest Diocesan Blog post entitled "Up here, quarantine was easy", featuring St. Bonaventure Parish in Port Hardy. Here's the link: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/up-here-quarantine-was-easy>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Island Catholic Schools is accepting applications for the following positions:

- Educational Assistant at St. Joseph's School in Victoria (8:30am to 3:00pm - Monday to Friday).
- On-call Teachers for all schools (Port Alberni, Duncan, Victoria).

Application forms and details are posted at:

<http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>

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/>
Like and follow the page and please do send photos of the church for posting!

Live Mass broadcast this Sunday! Mass will be broadcast from **Holy Cross Parish on Sunday, November 8th at 9am on the YouTube page.**

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

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, November 7th

2:30-3:15pm Reconciliation
4:00pm Mass: **Salvatore Ciccone +**

SUNDAY, November 8th

9:00am Mass: **Franz Schmid +**

MONDAY, November 9th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, November 10th

9:00 am Mass: **Dan Johnson +**

WEDNESDAY, November 11th

OFFICE CLOSED—Remembrance Day

9:00am Mass: **Gladys Gray +**

7:00pm Mass: **No Intention**

THURSDAY, November 12th

9:00am Mass: **Linda Castelino +**

FRIDAY, November 13th

9:00 am Mass: **Gordon Masten +**

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:

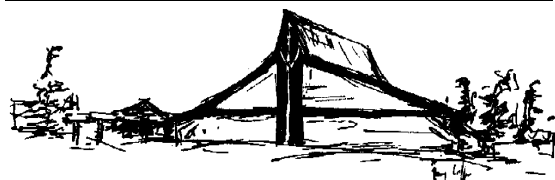
Tuesday – Friday: 9am Mass

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 1, 2020

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes/Canada Helps	\$ 7,685.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,372.00
TOTAL	\$ 9,057.00