

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - October 13, 2024 Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Last Sunday the gospel addressed how Christians should view marriage and divorce. Today we look at the Christian attitude to wealth and possessions. Those readings and the readings from the next two Sunday's Gospel all come from chapter 10 of Mark, in which Jesus reveals to the disciple's important challenges that they must face if they want to continue to follow him. Season in, season out, spring, summer, fall and especially during thanksgiving... it is always about a God who looks at us with love and invites us to follow Him always.

Each of us knows the challenges inherent in that invitation: it is not for the faint of heart. And, if you are the faint of heart, and trust me we all have those moments, there is a line in scripture this week that should comfort us. Jesus, looking at him, that rich young man *loved him* and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' I could imagine that moment of deep intimacy when the Lord invited that young man to a deeper relationship. He looks at us and says to us: I love you. Do we hear what he is saying to us?

Jesus says to you: trust me and *stay with me* in all the moments of your life, *stay with me* in your emptiness and pain, *stay with me* when it appears easy to run, *stay with me* when the scorn is loud and *stay with me* in your addiction and see me look at you with love. *Stay with me* with all that you have... be it wealth, fame, an excellent job and friends galore. *Stay with me* and take the long view for I am your God, and *my word is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, it is able to judge the intentions of the heart.* Stay with me... stay with me when all seems lost... when staying is difficult... stay with me for I look on you with love. The love I speak about was so eloquently expressed in the words of a great Jesuit who was superior general of his order in a time of great transition in the church. *Fall in love with Jesus, stay in love with Jesus and it will make all the difference.*

Today's readings remind us that there is 'no easy' button for disciples to push that will make following Jesus less demanding. Jesus reminds the rich young man that following him will always challenge us to give up whatever it is that we most want to hold on to. Each of us "has our riches" that make it difficult, at times impossible, to let go and follow Jesus on the way. When we, like the rich man, keep the commandments without too much trouble, Jesus offers a new way that requires more - usually more than we imagined or bargained for. Though Jesus looks at the man with love, he does not lessen his demands or make this choice any easier. The rich man chooses to walk away - and Jesus lets him go. The spiritual journey is a lifelong process of having our fingers pried off false security. No one is exempt. The call to let go of all that we hold onto is not a call coming from the heart of a forbidding God. It is a call from the heart of the Beloved: "Please...look into my eyes. Let me be your security, your validation, and your only source of satisfaction. Let me be your love."

Eyes on Jesus!

Father William

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm

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 at 11am Sunday. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

Bishop's Appeal: Information Weekend

The *Sharing God's Gifts* Appeal is very active in all parishes throughout the Diocese of Victoria and I am happy to announce that 10 families of Holy Cross have contributed thus far and we have raised \$5,445 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

Daily Services and Mass schedule will change as of October 15, 2024. Masses will be scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9am. No services will be held at Holy Cross Parish on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays regularly. We encourage parishioners to attend St. Patrick's Parish for daily mass on Wednesdays and Fridays at 12.10pm.

Updated Time: The Monthly Sunday Night Bridge

The Monthly Sunday Night Bridge begins on November 3rd from **1:30-3:30pm** in the Parish Hall. This will mark the 43rd year of this enjoyable social evening at Holy Cross. If you are interested in joining this group or would like more information please contact Tony Southwell at (250)477-5738 or e-mail: tony_southwell@hotmail.com

TOMBOLA TICKETS WINNERS!

Congratulations to the winners of the Tombola Draw on Saturday Oct. 5, 2024, at 2pm!

- **First Prize of \$300 went to Peter Bray**
- **Second Prize of \$200 went to Pauline Callan**
- **Third Prize of \$100 went to Pauline Callan**

A BIG *thank you* to all who supported this fundraiser on behalf of SVDP - Rosalie's Village the Oak Bay Volunteers and Mt. St. Mary's.

- Barb Shenton, Tombola/Raffle Convenor

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

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 hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details and forward you the baptism registration form.

Francophone? Est-ce que vous êtes au courant qu'il existe la Paroisse Française St.Jean-Baptiste a 307 Richmond, Victoria? Chaque Dimanche a 13 :30 hrs. nous célébrons en Français l'Eucharistie/la Messe avec notre cure le Père Rolf Hasenack, OP et avec des chants et accompagnement au piano et au guitar.

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

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.

Prayer Reflection

What we must have now are organized interrelated ministries. The act of social justice is organization.

—Msgr. Jack Egan

Faith does not force obedience, though it increases responsibility.

—Saint John Henry Newman

Family Directories are in!

The family photo directories have been delivered and are available for pickup in the office during office hours. If you had your photo taken and have not yet picked up your directory, please come and see us.

Taizé Prayer Monthly Events

St. Philip's Anglican Church has renewed their monthly events of Taizé Prayer. Please join us at St Philip Oak Bay for a candlelit service of song, silence and contemplation on October 24th at 7pm. These events will continue on the 4th Thursdays of the month at 7pm.

Foster & Promote Vocations with the Serra Club @ SJTW

Join us on **Thursday 17 October @ 6-8 pm** for Holy Mass and Eucharistic Adoration followed by an engaging talk by Fr. Sean Flynn who will share his own vocation story. Be encouraged as he explains the importance of creating a culture of vocations in parishes, specifically how families can nurture a vocational calling to the priesthood for their sons. We will finish the evening with a small reception with food & fellowship. All are welcome!

Thank you: A message from Joanie Bidlake

I would like to extend a very sincere THANK YOU to all those who helped make the farewell for my husband, John Bidlake, so special and meaningful last Friday at his Funeral here at Holy Cross. I couldn't have done it without the kind and patient help of Sheila & Phil in the Office; Anna & Julia – with organizing the service; Pete & Evelyn for setting up the hall; Suzy & Tanya who provided the beautiful music; Jim for the live streaming (so helpful for family who were unable to be here!). Sincere thanks to our amazing and welcoming Liturgical Ministers, including Muriel, Colleen, Pete, David, Russ, Patti-Lee & Joe; our Sacristan – Trish. And of course, my deep gratitude to Msgr. Michael – our gracious presider; Fr. William, who kindly came to concelebrate; and Bishop Gary (and Taku) - who somehow fit into his crazy schedule, time to also join us. Thank you to everyone who attended – you helped make it such a special day, and I am deeply grateful. On behalf of all our family – we offer our love and thanks - Joanie Bidlake.

Please note all services and Masses will be cancelled from Tuesday October 22 to Friday, October 25th for Fire Safety Maintenance and Testing.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, October 12, 2024

4PM MASS: Paula Mann (INT)

SUNDAY, October 13, 2024

9AM MASS: Tony Hann+

MONDAY, October 14, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, October 15, 2024

9AM MASS

Joe Hilario+ and Mark H. (INT)

WEDNESDAY, October 16, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, October 17, 2024

9AM MASS: Vera Hilario (INT) and

John Bidlake+

FRIDAY, October 18, 2024

NO MASS

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

Masks are optional at this time

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 3 - 3:45pm**

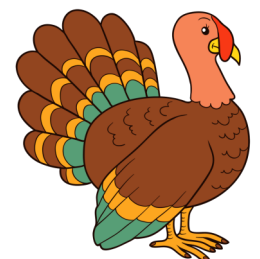
COLLECTIONS , Oct. 6, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$	2060.00
Loose	\$	307.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$	1184.80
Needs of the Church in Canada		\$ 20
Total	\$	3571.80

Happy Thanksgiving!

Happy Thanksgiving to all our parishioners and thank you for all that you do! Enjoy this time of gratitude with your family and friends.



News from the Chancery

- 1) During this month of October dedicated to Mary, at a time when there continues to be so much violence between peoples and nations in the Middle East and elsewhere, the President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops invites all Catholics in Canada to take up Pope Francis' invitation to pray and fast for peace. To read his invitation, please visit <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/statement-by-the-most-rev-william-t-mcgrattan-bishop-of-calgary-and-ccb-president-to-the-catholic-faithful-in-canada-inviting-them-to-pray-and-fast-for-peace/>.
- 2) The Canadian branch of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association is launching a campaign to raise funds for families displaced by the escalating conflict in Lebanon. For more information, and to donate, please visit <https://cnewa.org/ca/>.
- 3) The annual Camp Homewood Youth Retreat is looking for new members to serve on the planning team. An online meeting will be held on October 29 at 7:00 pm at <https://meet.google.com/bqf-icdp-hxp>. For further details, please contact Jeremy Lenz at jeremylenz81@gmail.com
- 4) The Diocese is looking for volunteers to livestream the 9 am Sunday Mass from St. Andrew's Cathedral. No previous experience is necessary, and all training will be provided. For more information or to apply, please email chancery@rcdvictoria.org.

Vocation Live-In Weekend on November 2-3

Anyone wishing to enter the seminary in the next few years is welcome to attend the Vocation Live-In Weekend on November 2-3, 2024, at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission, BC. See the poster on the Bulletin Board for more information, or contact 604-826-8975 or email rector.minors@sck.ca

Sacred Heart Church Community Garage Sale: Rent A Table

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. If you are interested in renting a table to sell your items, please contact Denise at 250-580-0066 or deniseowen@shaw.ca

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.

Pastor: Vacant

Executive Team:

Catherine Davis, John Bartle-Clar, David Begg

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistants: Phil & Sheila Wall
250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

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

University Chaplain: Vacant

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow
mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk
hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Mass times - Holy Cross Parish:

4pm Saturday,

9am Sunday;

9am Thursday and Friday,

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

9am Tuesday and Wednesday

Mass times - St. Patrick's Parish:

11am Sunday, 4pm Sunday;

12:10pm Wednesday and 12:10pm Friday

Confessions: 3:00 - 3:45pm Saturdays, Holy Cross Parish; 11:30am Friday St. Patrick's Parish