



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 October 25, 2020 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's gospel the religious leaders test Jesus. Trying to undermine him and his message and to flaunt their own knowledge and authority, they asked Jesus what the greatest commandment was. I can picture Jesus "looking upon him with love" as he answered his tester. Jesus' answer is familiar to us; we could flawlessly recite the two great commandments and we try to live by them: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind You shall love your neighbour as yourself". Love everyone in all things.

Reflecting upon this gospel, the question about driving-speed-limits in school zones came to mind. The question asks – why do you obey school zone speed limits. For some the answer is quick and simple; it's the law and if you break the law you'll get punished, get a speeding ticket – an 'ouch' to pocket book and budget. For some the answer is entirely different; they drive the speed limit to avoid hitting and injuring or killing a child who might run unexpectedly into the street to catch that errant ball in the heat of a recess game. Both answers are acceptable but not equal and both are rooted differently. The first is a head response based on literally following the rules and laws to avoid punishment or gain reward. It is about duty and responsibility, largely about self. The second answer reflects an integration of head and heart. There is knowledge, understanding and respect for the law but there is a deep seated love and concern for the other, love that propels action, action borne out of love. It is not about self or selfish motivation, and most certainly not about 'what's in it for me', 'what do I deserve to get from it'.

I fancy following God's two great commandments has the same two camps of motivation. There are those of us who follow God's commandments out of the same fear of punishment or hope and expectation of reward as those adhering to school zone speed limits, or for self-aggrandizement. There are those of us who follow God's commandments out of the same loving compassion and mercy as shown by Jesus. It is genuine, done in union with God who loved us to the cross and to resurrection.

St. Paul ventures to say that no matter what we do, without love whatever we do is for naught; it comes to nothing. He says we may speak eloquently, possess unmatched wisdom, have faith so deep we could actually work miracles, show extreme charity and generosity that could leave us paupers or obey God's great commandments to exacting standards BUT, and this is key, without love as the motivator, without love as the basis we have done nothing. When our lives are defined by love as Jesus commands us in his two great commandments we have chosen the "more excellent way". When we aspire to see God present – in everyone, in everything, in all of creation we can't help but be love in our everyday lives. In the unity of head and heart we find true peace, deep gladness and a knowing that brings joy and assurance.

Put very simply, and drawing on an old Christmas story, when we live God's commandments rooted in love and unity of head and heart, our heart, like that of the Grinch's, will grow "by three sizes that day", every day!

We are "companions on the journey" in the one spirit.

Trudy H.

OFFICE HOURS

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

Fr. William Hann, Pastor

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC V8N 3X7
Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844
office@holycrossvictoria.org
www.holycrossvictoria.org

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.

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 Saturday! Mass will be broadcast from **Holy Cross Parish on Saturday, October 24th at 4pm on the YouTube page.**

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

UPDATED AND REVISED PROTOCOLS AND DIRECTIVES

By now, most of you have seen the new directives from the Bishop of Victoria that came out last week. There are a few highlights that affect us directly at Holy Cross. Namely, music and "walk-in's".

Music: It is important to remember that, as unnatural as it seems during Mass, **congregational singing is not permitted.** It has been proven that germs spread faster and longer distances when there is singing. Music will be limited to a single cantor and an accompanist, and only they will sing an entrance, communion and recessional hymn. The rest of the Mass will be spoken.

"Walk-ins": Here at Holy Cross, this only applies to the Saturday and Sunday Masses. Each Mass has been designated a volunteer who will oversee the Mass list. If you are unable to attend your Mass on either Saturday or Sunday, you are asked to reach out to your Mass volunteer and let them know **in advance** so they can offer a seat to someone on the waitlist. There will be no "walk-ins", and only those on the waitlist will be offered empty seats. The maximum seating of 50 people will not change. Your Mass volunteer should be reaching out to you by email shortly to introduce details of this revised protocol in the coming days.

The new protocols, in their entirety, are posted in the church foyer. If you have not received an email copy and would like to, please contact the office: office@holycrossvictoria.org

WARM CLOTHING DRIVE AT ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY

Ms. Janette Redchurch and her Grade 2 class at St. Patrick's Elementary School are kicking off their annual outreach clothing drive! Between October 19th-30th they are hoping to collect as many **NEW adult winter socks (work socks)**, **adult toques and gloves**, and **children's toques and gloves** as they can, which they will then donate to Anawim House and the St. Vincent De Paul Society. We are expecting our first real cold snap of the season this weekend so **donations are needed now more than ever!** Please remember that these items are meant to provide warmth, and must be **NEW**.



Items can be dropped off at the parish office during office hours, or left in the Anawim shopping cart in the church foyer. They will safely be delivered to the school by one of the Gr. 2 students. Thank you in advance for your support for this valuable outreach project. This is the last week to support this cause!

LIBRARY CORNER

Some, maybe many in this parish, would remember their younger dating days (when churches were many and closer together) of trekking to six or seven churches in the one afternoon and evening on All Souls Day Nov 2, to light a candle in prayer and remembrance for those who had died — and sometimes starting a day earlier on All Saints Day Nov 1 when the "treats" had run out after Halloween Oct 31. Fr Rolheiser remarks on why we pray for and with the dead.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Souls%27_Day

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Saints%27_Day

<https://ronrolheiser.com/praying-for-the-dead/#.X4tZa9BKjIU>



PRAYER REFLECTION

We should strive to keep our hearts open to the sufferings and wretchedness of other people, and pray continually that God may grant us that spirit of compassion which is truly the spirit of God.

—*Vincent de Paul*

The love of God is the first in the order of precepts; the love of neighbor is the first in the order of practice.

—*Augustine of Hippo*

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

—*Deuteronomy 6:5*

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

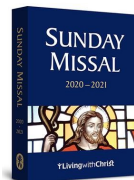
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 7 PM

DIOCESAN BLOG: Please find below the latest Blog post, written by Bishop Gary Gordon, which highlights the Pope’s Prayer intention for the month of October. We pray that “ by the virtue of Baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church”.

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/the-laitys-mission-in-the-church>

2020-2021 SUNDAY MISSALS

Our Sunday Missals have arrived! Drop by the office during office hours Tuesday to Friday to pick yours up.
Cost \$5.00



Horizon of Hope – 2020 Bishop’s Appeal Commitment Week - October 24th to 30th

The Bishop’s Appeal is such a vital and worthy cause in our Diocese. Not only are you helping your own parish but you are aiding countless other parishes that desperately need help with essentials. If not for the money raised last year, the Diocese would not have been able to create a sustainable financial plan to get some of our parishes through one of the hardest times in our history. The Diocese is committed to your success; please consider making your own commitment. Thank you to all those who have already pledged!

Our Parish project is: Supporting the North Island Parishes

Our Goal: \$65,000

Actual pledged to date: \$26,045 Number of gifts: 36 out of 498 parish families

To view Fr. William’s video: <https://youtu.be/KvWvij2zgTA>

To donate online: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/horizonofhope2020>

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, October 24th

2:30-3:15pm Reconciliation

4:00pm Mass: **Salvatore Ciccone**

SUNDAY, October 25th

9:00am Mass: **Hiran Fernando +**

MONDAY, October 26th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, October 27th

9:00 am Mass: **Betty Hooks (Int)**

WEDNESDAY, October 28th

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

7:00pm Mass: **Global healing**

THURSDAY, October 29th

9:00am Mass: **George Chin +**

FRIDAY, October 30th

9:00 am Mass: **Jose & Regina**

DeJesus +

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 October 18, 2020

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes/Canada Helps	\$ 1,891.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,372.00
TOTAL	\$ 3, 263.00