



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 27, 2019
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"God is love, and all who live in love, live in God"

Just as the judge and the widow of the last week's gospel are opposites, so are the Pharisee and the tax collector. Pharisees were members of an exacting party of the Jews who believed in strictly observing God's law, self-righteous and smug. The tax collectors followed another law, the law of the Roman oppressors. It was their job to collect taxes for the Romans. Tax collectors were hated because they were considered traitors and cheaters. It isn't hard to see the contrast between the two: the righteous Pharisee and the morally bankrupt tax collector.

"The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week: I give a tenth of all my income.' "

But his entire prayer is about himself. He thanks God, not for blessings, but that he isn't a sinner like others. He also reminds God of how pious he is, fasting and tithing.

The tax collector's prayer is short. *"God, be merciful to me, a sinner!"*

First, he addresses God, just as the Pharisee had done, but his prayer instead of telling God all the good things about himself, describes himself as a sinner. He makes no excuses for his behavior, offers no mitigating circumstances. He is confessing his sinfulness before God and taking full responsibility for it.

What strikes us is the difference in the way that each has approached God in prayer. The humility of the tax collector, standing at a distance from the Temple, not raising his eyes to heaven, beating his breast, asking for mercy. The Pharisee stood and prayed to himself. He asks God for nothing. In his mind, he already knows he is better than other people. What more could he ask of God than the high standing that he already enjoys? In his humility, the tax collector asks only for God's mercy.

The message in today's Gospel is to be humble and to pray with a pure heart.

Robert Michel, an Oblate priest says, "You must try to pray so that, in your prayer, you open yourself in such a way that sometime – perhaps not today, but sometime – you are able to hear God say to you: 'I love you!' These words, addressed to you by God, are the most important words you will ever hear because, before you hear them, nothing is ever completely right with you, but, after you hear them, something will be right in your life at a very deep level."

These are simple words, but they capture what we ultimately try to do when we "lift mind and heart to God" in prayer. We must put aside our egos. We mustn't let the sound of our own voices prevent us from hearing God speak to us. We need to open ourselves to God in such a way that we are capable of hearing God say to us, individually, "I love you!"

Praying, and listening, with you,

Debby Pietraszek

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 office or Eucharistic Minister, please call your parish office or VGH/RJ hospital emergency pager **250-889-3761** and ask for **Fr. Thomas Chinnappa** to make this request.

COUNTDOWN TO PARISH BAZAAR

Preparations are well on their way for a successful bazaar. Many thanks to those who have already given so generously. To those who have signed up to bake, please drop off your items to the Parish Centre anytime on Friday. Any frozen items can be brought to the Bazaar on Saturday morning. **See you at the bazaar Saturday 10 - 3!**

**REMEMBRANCE DAY MASS**

Remembrance Day Mass for Holy Cross and St. Pat's Parishes will be held at Holy Cross Church on Monday, November 11th at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. A special invitation is extended to our Military Men and Women, those retired and those in active service to our country, as we honor them and the memory of their comrades who have died. We wish to pay respect and give tribute to our Military by having them process in with Fr. William for the Mass.

If you are Military and part of the Liturgical Ministries at Holy Cross or St. Pat's and are able to help at this Mass please let us know by calling Valentina at the Holy Cross Office 250-477-5321. Thank You.

ALL SOULS DAY MASS

All Souls Day Mass for Holy Cross and St. Pat's Parishes will be held at Holy Cross Church on Friday, November 1st at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend and bring a picture of their deceased loved ones which will be placed in the Sanctuary during Mass as a special honour and memory to those who have passed away. Thank You.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

The 2019 Appeal theme, Imagine, invites us to unite in the mission to serve the Lord through acts of charity and love as a way of giving back.

Your pledge to the Appeal will assist us in reaching our Diocese and parish donation and participation targets - at Holy Cross our participation goal is 200 families. Along with supporting Diocesan programs and initiatives across the Island your participation will support our Holy Cross local and global projects, namely the **Shelbourne Community Kitchen** and a **pre-k school in Columbia in honour of our late parishioner Ivor Williams**. Please give prayerful consideration towards our Appeal and know that you can truly make a difference. Return your PLEDGE FORM to the parish or mail it directly to the Diocese.

RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY

Responsible Ministry As part of the Diocese of Victoria's deep commitment to ensure the safety of children, youth and vulnerable adults entrusted to our care, the Diocese has contracted Praesidium Inc. to provide abuse prevention training through an online program entitled "Armatus: Learn to Protect". All members of the clergy, religious, employees and volunteers will now be required to complete this online training to ensure the safety of one and all. Volunteers have received an introductory email from our Parish Responsible Ministry Coordinator, followed shortly thereafter by an email from "Armatus Administrator" which will include a link to access the online program. The parish will start with ministry volunteers that have direct involvement with children and vulnerable adults, and then expand so that ALL ministry volunteers are contacted. For those without a computer, arrangements will be made to have the online training completed at the parish office. This is insurance for all of us and **all volunteers must complete this program without exception.**

PRAYER REFLECTION

Judging others make us blind, whereas love is illuminating. By judging others we blind ourselves . . . to the grace which others are just as entitled to as are we.

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Unless we perform divine service with every willing act of our life, we never perform it at all.

—John Ruskin

We descend by self-exaltation and ascend by humility.

—Benedict of Nursia

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **HOLY RELICS OF ST. ANOTHONY OF PADUA:** Two first class relics will travel from Padua, Italy to Western Canada at the invitation of the Bishop. The relics will visit 15 churches in our Diocese including St. Patrick’s parish on Thurs., Oct. 31st from 9:30am-11:30pm. More info on the bulletin board.
- **EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH:** Pope Francis is calling us to an Extraordinary Missionary Month! This is an hour of prayer and reflection to help us grow as missionary disciples. Attend one or both sessions. *No sign up necessary!* **St. Joseph the Worker**, Sunday, October 20 & 29 following 6pm Mass. For more info please email: gjahelka@rcdvictoria.org
- **MEN’S FAITH BREAKFAST:** Saturday November 16th, 8:00 a.m. at the Victoria Horseshoe club (620 Kenneth St, Victoria, BC V8Z 2B9). Come be inspired by some personal sharing from Young Adults & Glen Palahicky on the question of questions: Who is Jesus and what difference does he make? Please RSVP to info@mcaff.org by Nov 12 to ensure a seat. \$13.00
- **DIOCESAN MASS OF REMEMBRANCE:** Mass, with Bishop Gary Gordon presiding, will be celebrated at Church of the Ascension on Tuesday, November 5th, at 5 pm for all deceased priests, bishops and religious of the diocese. Remember in your prayers those who have laboured for the Church in the Diocese of Victoria and pray that the Lord will send dedicated men and women to continue their work.
- **MNT ST MARY’S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALE:** You’re invited to Mount St. Mary’s annual Christmas Market on Saturday, November 16 from 9:30am – 2:30pm. This **FREE**, fun, and festive event will be held at 861 Fairfield Road in Mount St. Mary Hospital’s Village Square. All funds raised will guarantee specialized equipment and programs for Mount St. Mary residents. For more info visit mountstmary.ca or contact Jane Bowers at jbowers@mountstmary.ca or 250-480-3138.

Try to RememberAfter the needs of your spouse, children and loved ones are taken care of it would be terrific if you could remember Holy Cross Parish in your Last Will. Some people choose to give a specific amount and others choose to leave a % portion of their estate. All gifts are welcome. Thank you for your generosity.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:
SUNDAY, October 27th

9:00am Mass: **Gerry Klitsie +**

MONDAY, October 28th

Office Closed

TUESDAY, October 29th

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

11:30 Uvic mass at Interfaith chapel

WEDNESDAY, October 30th

9:00am Mass: **Adriano Pacheco +**

THURSDAY, October 31st

9:00am Mass: **Ernest Torres +**

FRIDAY, November 1st

9:00am All Saints Mass: **Pat Sexton +**

7:00pm All Souls Mass

SATURDAY, November 2nd

4:00pm Mass: **Deceased members of the Todoro Family**

SUNDAY, November 3rd

9:00am Mass: **Stan Prince +**

THANK YOU

Thank you to Walt Burgess, who volunteered his time to be the project manager for our recent construction project to the outside of our building. His gift of time and talent saved our parish considerable funds and for this we are so grateful.



PARISH SOCIAL LIFE

Wednesday Social group— 1pm on Wednesdays.

Duplicate Bridge—Start up October 16th at 7pm.

Social Bridge—First Sunday of the month at 7pm.

Joint Wellness— Monday and Thursday 10-11am

CONTACTS

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 *after hours*

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistant: Valentina Boyd

250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

Parish Council: Debra Prior

250-661-0250 debroussel@hotmail.com

Children's Religious Education: Barbara Shenton

bjeens958@gmail.com



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

COLLECTION for October 20, 2019

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 6, 608.00
Loose	\$ 480.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 095.00
TOTAL	\$ 8, 183.00

World Mission Sunday **\$ 2, 372.00**

HOLY CROSS MINISTRIES

MINISTRY	COORDINATOR	PHONE
Liturgy	Debby Pietraszek	250-477-7375
Liturgical Ministries:		
Usher / Greeter	Maria Arruda	250-477-5526
Altar Server	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Music	Various Choirs	250-477-5321
Altar Linens	Marg McDonnell	250-477-6332
Flowers/Art Envir.	Ann Francis	250-477-8650
Sun. Coffee, 9:00	Darlene Southwell	250-477-5738
Bulletin Folders	Vicki Ponsioen	250-383-0654
Sacramental Wine	John Bartle-Clar	250-995-1891

SERVING OUR HOLY CROSS PARISH COMMUNITY

Responsible Min.	Martha Oleson Muna Haddad	250-477-6455 1-778-881-5843
Parish Council	Debra Prior	250-661-0252
Finance	David Begg	250-658-0870
Maintenance/Bldg.	Ed Boomars	250-881-8124
Annual Shed Clean	Jack Ponsioen	250-383-0654
Parish Grounds	Joe Mendonca	250-888-8930
Social/Comm. Life		
Baptism Prep.	Call office	250-477-5321
Marriage Prep.	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Children's Rel. Ed.	Barb Shenton	250-592-7391

Children's Liturgy of the Word	Valentina Boyd	250-813-0230
Catholicism		
Library	George Murphy	250-658-6061
Outreach/Visiting	Sheridan Cooper	250-598-0248
Bereavement / Funeral / Follow-Up	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Funeral Reception	Barb McKrow	250-477-8322

SERVING COMMUNITIES BEYOND OUR DOORS

Diocesan Appeal	John Bartle Clar	250-995-1891
Could You Ever Come Back To The Church	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
RCIA	Glenn Palahicky	250-479-1331
	Phil / Sheila Wall	250-385-7007
RCIC	Barb Shenton	250-592-7391
Ecumenism	Terry Marner	250-380-0157
Social & Eco. Justice	Yvonne Hsieh	250-385-8322
Anawim	Parish Office	250-477-5321
Christmas Project	Coordinated by the Parish Office	
D&P/Share Lent	Barb McKrow	250-477-8322
St. Vincent De Paul	Martin Fletcher	250-592-9297
Univ/Camosun Bursaries	Tony Southwell	250-477-5738
Uvic/Camosun Outreach	John Oleson	250-477-6455