



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining with St. Patrick's Parish

**Mission Statement:** 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 31, 2021**  
**Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Finding common ground with someone we disagree with takes a lot of effort. You have to be willing to truly listen. It's only by listening that we understand. And it's only when we seek to understand that we have a chance of a relationship with someone. In today's gospel we meet the wise scribe who shows us how it's done. Instead of being swayed by the crowd, he instead chooses to first listen to Jesus, so as to find common ground. He asks Jesus "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus tells him there are two. First, "Love the Lord your God", and second, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." In Jesus' reply, the scribe, the crowd, us, and all of our brothers and sisters find our common ground. It's love.*

*To love God and to love neighbor— seems so simple, but it's not. It takes a lifetime to figure it out. Jesus tells us we are to love God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength. In other words, we are to give ourselves completely to God, holding nothing back. To love Him in the same way His son Jesus loves him, and to love Him as he loves us. We are to love unconditionally. This is where it gets difficult. How do we begin to love like that? Jesus was perfect. We on the other hand not so much. To begin to love like Jesus, we first must listen to Him. The more we listen, the more we seek to know Him. It's in that seeking that we discover our weakness. And it's only when we admit our weakness that we let God in. God's love has a way of freeing us from the grip of our old selves. With the gift of God's love and grace, we are able to unlearn all those things that keep us from being merciful and compassionate disciples of Jesus. Is it easy? Definitely not! Like Saint Paul the Apostle, we too struggle with doing those things we don't want to do. But we are not alone in our struggle. God is with us, with a love that is patient and kind.*

As parents we have experienced the joy of watching our children grow. Our Father in Heaven experiences that same joy in our transformation. He remembers our "first times" too. The first when we called Jesus our friend. The first time we chose to be silent, so as to keep the peace. The first time we let gossip die with us. The first time we said thank you for all the blessings in our day. The first time we looked at the stranger and recognized a child of God. With God's love there will be many more "firsts" to come. All we have to do is keep an open heart and open mind.

Henri Nouwen once said, **"God loved you before you were born, and God will love you after you die. This is who you are whether you feel it or not. You belong to God from eternity to eternity. Life is just a little opportunity for you during a few years to say, "I love you, too."** So let our love of God spill over into those we meet in our day.

Let us listen to others like Jesus listened, being fully present in the moment; knowing that our common ground with all our brothers and sisters is our Creator, our Father, our God of love. This is the essence of our faith.

Together in God's Love,  
Anna Mendonca

#### OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed  
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:30pm  
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:00pm  
Fr. William Hann, Pastor

**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.**

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office@holycrossvictoria.org  
www.holycrossvictoria.org

**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.

### LIVESTREAM MASSES

**Live Mass broadcast this weekend!** Mass is livestreamed this week from *Holy Cross Parish* on Saturday at 4pm. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

### TENANT STARTER KITS



The Social and Ecological Justice Committee at Holy Cross Parish would like to say *Thank You* to everyone who supported this project! Our list is complete, and the majority of items have come in. It is overwhelming and inspirational, how quickly parishioners responded to this project, and how clear it is that supporting Victoria's most vulnerable is at the forefront of so many of your hearts and minds.

This Tenant Started Kit will be put together and delivered by members of the SEJC, but none of it would have happened without your generosity and effort. You brought Mother Theresa's words to life: "*It is impossible to love God, without loving our neighbour.*" Thank you.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Charity Appeal

The annual K of C Charity Appeal ticket sales opened on Monday, Oct. 18. Ticket prices are only \$3, with a 1st Prize of \$60,000, all cash prizes, and even early bird prizes drawn on Dec. 4. Tickets can only be bought online with a credit card, by going to the same address as last year. By using the link with St. Patrick's Council number 7934, our council will be credited with a portion of the proceeds to distribute to local charities: [www.KofCDraw.net/C7934](http://www.KofCDraw.net/C7934)

### ALL SOUL'S MASS

There will be a *special Mass on Tuesday, November 2nd* in honour of All Soul's Day at **7pm at Holy Cross**, and earlier at 12:10pm at St. Patrick's Parish. Please feel free to bring a **framed** photograph of a deceased loved one, which will be put in a place of honour during the service. This year, in particular, we pay special tribute to all those we lost during the pandemic. Those whose funerals we did not have an opportunity to attend. Those that we were not given a proper time and space to grieve. This years service will be specially dedicated to their memory, along with all those that went before them.

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The **Book of Remembrance** will be out in the foyer as of November 2nd. Feel free to write the names of all your deceased loved ones in the book and they will be prayed for over the month of November.

### LIBRARY CORNER

*Some would remember, 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 doing so a day earlier on All Saints Day Nov 1, with "treats" in hand from Halloween Oct 31. Fr Rolheiser remarks on why we pray for and with the dead, and they for us.*

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

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All\\_Souls%27\\_Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Souls%27_Day)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All\\_Saints%27\\_Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Saints%27_Day)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halloween>



**PRAYER REFLECTION**

When you knock, ask to see God—none of the servants.  
—Henry David Thoreau  
To have a Christian love for our neighbors is to love God in them, or them in God; it is to cherish God alone for his own sake, and his creatures for love of him.  
—Saint Francis de Sales

**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/dioocese-of-victoria-live-stream](http://www.rcdvictoria.org/dioocese-of-victoria-live-stream). Celebrate Mass on-line with Bishop Gary.

**SUNDAY** ..... 10 AM  
**MONDAY TO FRIDAY** ..... 7 PM

The National Liturgy Office of the CCCB is offering a free three-part webinar on November 8, 9, and 10 from 11 am – 1 pm each day. The aim of this webinar is to reflect more deeply on the meaning of the Eucharist in order to invigorate how we celebrate, live out, and give witness to what the Eucharist means. Registration is open to clergy, religious, liturgy committee members, pastoral council members, chaplains, and any interested parishioners. For more information and to register, please visit <https://www.cccb.ca/liturgy-sacraments/resources-in-english/national-liturgy-webinar/>.

**BISHOP’S APPEAL 2021**

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 healing & reconciliation initiatives for Indigenous peoples in our Diocese. It is through your commitment and efforts that we will be able to continue to build relationships in the **“Spirit of Hope – Healing and Reconciliation”**. Donations may be made on-line [www.rcdvictoria.org/spirit-of-hope-2021](http://www.rcdvictoria.org/spirit-of-hope-2021)  
Our parish project is: **Sponsoring a refugee family**

Parish Goal: **\$60,000** Actual to Date: **\$44,211.01** Number of Gifts: **79**

**RECONCILIATION CORNER**

Watch this 47-minute documentary on **Olive Dickason**, the **first scholar to write the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada**. Of Métis heritage, Dr. Dickason worked first as a journalist, then with the National Gallery of Canada, before becoming a Professor of History at the University of Alberta. Her ground-breaking book, *Canada’s First Nations* (1992), gave an overview of Canadian Indigenous societies. She received the Order of Canada in 1996, and the National Aboriginal Achievement Award in 1997. This film, produced in 2002, is an illuminating documentary on a researcher who redefined how Canadian history is done. (Note that Dr. Dickason uses the term “Indians” in the film, a term replaced now by “First Nations people.”)

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**  
**SATURDAY, October 30th**  
4pm Mass: For Deceased relatives of the Qualley family  
**SUNDAY, October 31st**  
9am Mass: For all souls  
**MONDAY, November 1st**  
Office Closed/No Mass  
**TUESDAY, November 2nd**  
9am Mass: Frank & Esther Gormley (int)  
7pm: Special Mass for All Soul’s  
**WEDNESDAY, November 3rd**  
9am Mass: Stan Prince +  
**THURSDAY, November 4th**  
9am Mass: Joan Marcus +  
**FRIDAY, November 5th**  
9am Mass: Brian Wall +  
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*In-person Masses have resumed now with no restrictions on numbers. If you have any questions in this regard, please contact the Office (250-477-5321.)  
Masks are now mandatory for everyone in the Church and the parish centre.*



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

**COLLECTION for October 17, 2021**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2,851.00
Loose	\$ 210.00
Canada Helps	\$ 57.90
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,795.90</b>
Evangelization of the Nations: \$700.00	



## **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

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

**University Chaplain:** Lydia Foch  
[lfoch@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:lfoch@rcdvictoria.org)

**Parish Council:** Debra Prior  
250-661-0250 debroussel@hotmail.com

**Children's Religious Education:** Barbara Shenton  
[bshenton@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:bshenton@rcdvictoria.org)

## **A Reason to Smile from St. Patrick's Elementary School**

The Gr. 3 students at St. Patrick's Elementary are making their own pet monsters this spooky week ahead of Halloween. View their creations if you dare [here!](#)



## **ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL**

First Friday adoration in the mercy chapel will be next held on **Friday, November 5th** from 1-2pm in the Mercy Chapel.

## **NOTE FROM THE UVIC/CAMOSUN CHAPLAIN**

**UNIVERSITY STUDENT SUPPER!!** The next student supper will be on Sunday, November 7th. There will be a special student Mass at 4pm in the Church, followed by supper in the Parish Hall. All post secondary students are invited to attend. There will be a special guest speaker from Anawim House. Please contact Lydia Foch if you have any questions: [lfoch@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:lfoch@rcdvictoria.org)

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**Holy Cross Parishioners:** If you would like to volunteer for this ministry by preparing and dropping off meals for the students, please email John Oleson at [jpoleson@uvic.ca](mailto:jpoleson@uvic.ca)

## **RACHEL'S VINEYARD**

Please note that **Rachel's Vineyard** will be coming to our Diocese in the near future. This ministry is a safe place for people to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. For information please contact Nicola at [nicolamgallagher0123@gmail.com](mailto:nicolamgallagher0123@gmail.com)

## **CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS DIOCESE OF VICTORIA: AGM**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Victoria (CISDV) Society will be held on **Tuesday, November 23 at 7:00pm** in the library at St. Andrew's Regional High School. 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 Wednesday, 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.

Read and understand the constitution and bylaws (<https://www.cisdv.bc.ca/island-catholic-schools-board.php>), policies 200 and 201 (<https://www.cisdv.bc.ca/200-governance.php>) and the method of election.

Have a signed nomination form which includes two sponsors and Parish Priest.

For further information, contact Katja Groves, Superintendent of Schools (250-727-6893 ext 242).