



# 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 3, 2021**  
**Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Who is God? A miraculous, ingenious Creator using dust and God's very breath to breathe life into us. A loving care-giver who prepares a beautiful garden for us. A collaborative, humble God who entrusts us to care for God's unique, diverse, amazing work of art and asks us to be co-creators by naming the animals, birds, and all living creatures. *Naming* is a blessing, a gift, an anointing, a sacramental act, "What name do you give your child?" an honour given to us by a generous, selfless God who trusts us. Because God is a relational outpouring of love, because we are created in God's image, God intuitively and compassionately fashions flesh from flesh so we are never alone.

LOVE motivates God. God creates out of unconditional love and overflowing abundance; God connects, weaves, and knits all things together because God is in all things; balance, profound simplicity, reciprocity, and creativity thrives because God is love. God is *ALL* in. God doesn't hedge the bets. God comes to us, as one of us, and teaches us humility, surrender, sacrifice, and salvation. God's plan, purpose, and design for us is to be open to the transformative love of God, trust, then become that love in the world.

What motivates us? Are we like the Pharisees who test Jesus, whose arrogance and pride creates a stony heart, who follows a checklist of rules and laws so we can earn our way to heaven? God isn't about rules and who's in and who's out. God wants our hearts not the checklist.

God gives us opportunities to see the way God sees. For example, when we see dust, God sees organic matter teeming with life! Brian McLaren's book *We Make the Road by Walking* writes, "You are made from common soil...*dust*, Genesis says; *stardust*, astronomers tell us...soil that becomes watermelons and grain and apples and peanuts, and then they become food, and then that food becomes you. As highly organized dust, you are closely related to frogs and tortoises, lions and field mice, bison and elephants and gorillas. Together with all living things, you share the breath of life, participating in the same cycles of birth and death, reproduction and recycling and renewal. You, with them, are part of the story of creation - different branches on the tree of life. In that story, you are connected and related to everything everywhere. In fact, that is a good partial definition of God: *God is the one through whom we are related and connected to everything.*" Human beings are teaming with life! Can we see the miracle of who we are and be amazed?

God sees marriage as the overflowing interconnected love of Father, Son, and Spirit, a strong unifying bond, working together as one because together we are stronger. Like a pair of oxen yoked together, a couple can accomplish tasks that would be too much for one person. Some may be thinking, 'marriage is a yoke alright!' yet the yoke allows us to work in harmony and in relationship with God, making the burden light [Mt 11:30]. Marriage is an enduring commitment that exceeds contractual obligations in God's eyes. Do we see marriage the way God designed it to be? Is God a part of our marriage? And when we fail, and we will because we are human, our hope rests in the grace, mercy and love of God. We are never left alone!

We are called to be childlike, to come to Jesus with hearts filled with wonder and awe, curiosity and openness. An image of a dandelion comes to mind. God created the dandelion for children and their parents! I see God like a child who picks dandelions for us. Brimming with love, excitement, unbridled joy and delight, God gifts us with a brilliant yellow bouquet. We see a dandelion bouquet and God sees a nurturing plant filled with a sunny disposition and medicinal healing properties. God, our source and summit, abundant, relational love, the life-breath of everything, drawing us ever deeper into the largeness of God!

God's abundance, Mona

## 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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**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 Saturday! Fr. William is BACK and that means so is our livestreaming.** Mass is livestreamed from Holy Cross Parish on Saturday at 4pm: Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA

The Diocese of Victoria is seeking a **full-time Computer Technician** to assist and support Island Catholic Schools and the Roman Catholic Diocese by installing, maintaining and repairing computers and networks. *\*detailed info available from parish office on request.*

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria is also seeking an **Administrative Assistant (part-time 15 hours per week)** to act on behalf of the Judicial Vicar and the Marriage Tribunal (in all matters pertaining to marriage) in a confidential and professional manner. *\*detailed info available from parish office on request.*

### TENANT STARTER KITS



Tenant Starter Kits: Last Spring the SEJC committee responded to a plea from Our Place to collect 50 tenant starter kits for the unhoused moving into tiny homes. That quota has been filled. Our Place works in cooperation with Victoria Cool Aid Society which operates the same program. Cool Aid offers services to Victoria's most vulnerable. These include accessible, affordable housing, emergency shelter, health and dental care and employment assistance.

Please see the list of items needed to complete a starter kit in the foyer. Once you have checked off a box please bring the item (s) to the parish hall or drop them off in the specified bin in the Church foyer. New or gently used items are best (some items are specified as New Only). For further information or pick up contact Barb McKrow: [bmckrow@shaw.ca](mailto:bmckrow@shaw.ca) 250-477-8322 or Sonja Ruffell: [sonjaruffell@gmail.com](mailto:sonjaruffell@gmail.com) 250 472-0033.

### RCIA - LAST CALL!

Last call for RCIA for those interested in exploring the catholic faith. Holy Cross and Saint Patrick's are joining St. Joseph the Worker in offering this program. Please contact Carmelle at [carmelle.whiteley@gmail.com](mailto:carmelle.whiteley@gmail.com) to register.

### MORNING ROSARY AT HOLY CROSS

Please join the rosary group that gathers in the Church every **Tuesday to Friday morning at 8:30** (before morning Mass) to pray the rosary together. All are welcome. It's a great way to start off your day!

### BISHOP'S APPEAL 2021

#### **Week One Bulletin Insert: Kickoff Week October 2-8**

This week we kick off the Bishop's Appeal along with all other parishes and missions throughout our Diocese. The 2021 Appeal theme, *Spirit of Hope – Healing & Reconciliation*, encourages us to create a path of accompaniment and relationship with Indigenous peoples. With the help of the Holy Spirit and through your generosity we can support the need for healing & reconciliation. Please consider pledging to this worthwhile endeavour. Parish Goal: \$ 60,000.00.

Our parish project this year is **sponsoring a refugee family.**

**PRAYER REFLECTION**

The beginning of wisdom is to call things by their proper name.  
—Confucius  
Marriage . . . joins bodies and souls; it mingles two spirits and unites two bodies. . . . Both of you are made from the same Earth, from the same clay.  
—Asterius, bishop of Amasea in Asia Minor c. 400  
Your Son went down from the heights of his divinity to the depths of our humanity. Can anyone’s heart remain closed and hardened after this?  
—Saint Catherine of Siena

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

**SUNDAY OCT. 3..... 10:45 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/>.

**WOMEN’S RETREAT**

“Beloved Vancouver Island Catholic Women’s Ministries” invites all Catholic women ages 19+ are invited to a weekend away for rest, spiritual renewal and fellowship November 5-7th at Pioneer Pacific Camp on Thetis Island. Keynote speaker is Fr John O’Brien SJ . Join us for talks, workshops, praise and worship, adoration and much more! Space is limited!

<https://belovedretreat.regfox.com/radiantlove2021>

**ST. PETER’S CEMETERY**

**Attention** all those with a plot reserved, or with family members interred, at St. Peter’s Cemetery in Port Alberni!  
We are currently verifying and updating the names and contact information of our interment rights holders, as part of a digitization of permanent cemetery records. If you or a family member purchased a plot prior to 2019, or if you intend to be interred in a plot purchased by someone else, we need you to contact us **prior to November 6, 2021!** Please call 250-723-8912, or email [rc-portalberni@shaw.ca](mailto:rc-portalberni@shaw.ca).

**First UVic Student Mass is this Sunday, October 3rd at 4pm at Holy Cross Parish. Supper in the parish hall to follow.**

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:**

**SATURDAY, October 2nd**

4pm Mass: Anania Family +

**SUNDAY, October 3rd**

9am Mass: Dan Taft+

**MONDAY, October 4th**

Office Closed/No Mass

**TUESDAY, October 5th**

9am Mass: Eric Qualley (int)

**WEDNESDAY, October 6th**

9am Mass: Lucille & Joe Dubois +

**THURSDAY, October 7th**

9am Mass: Xue Gui Shang (int)

**FRIDAY, October 8th**

9am Mass: Harriet Qualley (int.)

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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 Sept. 12, 2021**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 1,435.00
Loose	\$ 537.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,649.00</b>

**Needs of the Church in Canada**  
**\$ 795.00**

**SUNDAY NIGHT SOCIAL BRIDGE**

The Monthly Sunday Night Social Bridge has been postponed for the time being. More information on the new start date will be available in upcoming bulletins.

## TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION: SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2021

Bishop Gary's letter regarding Truth and Reconciliation Day on Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> has been added to the Diocesan website:

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/special-announcements/bishop-gordons-letter-regarding-truth-and-reconciliation-day>

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A Statement of Apology by the Catholic Bishops of Canada to the Indigenous Peoples of this land. Can be found [here](#).

Please find attached a News Release from the Communications Service of the CCCB which states that the Canadian Bishops have announced a \$30M National Financial Pledge to Support Healing & Reconciliation Initiatives [here](#).

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The Social and Ecological Justice Team at Holy Cross Parish has worked diligently over the last several months to bring us the "Reconciliation Corner". This is a wonderful resource for educating ourselves in an interesting and meaningful way. Previous suggestions from the "Reconciliation Corner" can be found [here](#).

**Indigenous Library:** There is a variety of books about Indigenous issues and by Indigenous authors available to borrow from the Church foyer. We have books available for all ages and on a variety of topics from the cultural to the political and beyond. Please take the opportunity to peruse the options and take a book home to read and return. There are a few new additions in the YA category for our younger parishioners out there as well, including a few time-travel graphic novels. Something for everyone!

*Truth is the road to reconciliation.*

### RECONCILIATION CORNER

11-year-old [Adelyn Sophie Newman-Ting](#) from Victoria has won an international competition organized by UNESCO, of stories about language preservation written by Indigenous children. Adelyn is the daughter of renowned Kwakwaka'wakw and Coast Salish artist and UVic Professor Carey Newman, creator of the monumental Witness Blanket at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Her book, *Finding the Language*, is about two friends searching for terms in the Kwak'wala language, which was forcibly suppressed in residential schools. Be sure to listen to the CBC's interview with Adelyn and her proud father (at the bottom of the webpage). We will be adding Adelyn's book to our Indigenous collection.

Attend Mass on Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, wearing an orange shirt. View this 2-minute video of Phyllis Webstad explaining the [origins of Orange Shirt Day](#). Orange shirts can be purchased at the UVIC Bookstore, and these outlets <https://issuu.com/blackpress/docs/i20210915020005248/33>

### *Did you know?*

Have you every heard of APTN? Aboriginal People's Television Network is a Canadian Specialty channel that airs and produces programs made by, for and about Indigenous peoples in North America. There are a variety of programs for adults and children. Learn more here: <https://www.aptn.ca/>



### **Orange Shirt Day at St. Patrick's Elementary School**

**This Wednesday was Orange Shirt Day at St. Patrick's Elementary. View the photos of the students and what they've been working on [here](#) and [here](#).**