

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 4, 2020 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Creating a vineyard takes a great deal of money, time, patience, and perseverance. Vineyards are a long-term capital investment. Money is needed for land, vines, machinery, fencing, irrigation, buildings, personnel, permits, licensing, marketing, and taxes. The start-up costs are huge with little or no return for the first few years. It takes 2 years for the vineyard to produce and 4 years for the first bottle of wine!

Having the knowledge to design the land and the spacing required to plant the vines; to figure out what type of wine to produce - whites, reds, rosé, sparkling, dessert, Pinot Noir, Chardonnays, Rieslings, Shiraz, Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Port; to understand soil, nutrients, pH levels, micro climates, wind, extreme temperatures that can cause freezing or scorching; to control pests, disease, wild pigs, rabbits, starlings, pesticides; to market, navigate licensing and permits, create a budget, and get funding. Only someone who is committed, dedicated, steadfast, generous, and faithful will succeed.

Our God is that someone who does all of this and more for each one of us! Our God creates a variety of grapes each with their own unique flavor, bouquet, and hue. God spares no expense! God created us out of love, chose us, formed us, nourished and nurtured us, led us to the Promised Land, provided laws, prophets, kings to guide us. God established an everlasting covenant, a covenantal relationship of love with us. We have been given every possible opportunity to live in right relationship with God.

The readings today speak of God's vineyard. In Isaiah, God is the owner; the house of Israel is the vineyard; the vines are the people of Judah. In Matthew, the landowner is God, the vineyard is not a plot of land, but God's chosen people, all of us, the tenants are the temple leaders, the slaves are the prophets, God's messengers, and the son is Jesus.

Isaiah speaks of a righteousness that has more to do about being in right relationship with God and others than an adherence to the law. We are called to live righteous lives, to care for the lonely, poor, and vulnerable within our communities. When we turn away from God, when we think we can do it on our own, we leave God's protection, and the sin of pride, envy, greed, ambition, selfishness cause destruction. God wants a harvest of justice and righteousness; we are called to be living witnesses of God's love.

In Matthew's gospel, Jesus is speaking to the 'tenants', the chief priests and elders in Jerusalem. The temple leadership served their own god of power, so Jesus speaks of a transfer of leadership: "the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom". So hardness of heart will be replaced with repentance, unbelief with faith, indifference with love, idleness with work, and impurity with holiness. Those who follow Jesus Christ, 'the stone that the builders rejected', will become the new vineyard, the new tenants.

We are God's vineyard; we are God's wine - our families, our communities, our world. The rent? holy, faith-filled, full-bodied fruitful lives, who trust and rest in God's loving kindness, living according to God's will, building up the kingdom of God here...now. Jesus was disrespected, thrown out and killed, yet His Divine Love reconciled all with God. We are called to act in kind.

In God's abundance,

Mona Goodman

OFFICE HOURS

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

Fr. William Hann, Pastor

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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 3rd at 4pm on the YouTube page.**

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

SOCIAL ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

For next Sunday (Oct. 11), there is a new offering envelope marked "Social Eco Justice Committee" in your box. Your contributions will help the parish fund events organized by the Social and Eco Justice Committee. For instance, they will pay for breakfast sponsorships at Our Place, postage for the Amnesty International Write for Rights, or honoraria for invited speakers/facilitators to our workshops. Our activities will resume as soon as the pandemic restrictions are lifted. **Please give generously!** Those of you not using envelopes could send your contribution to the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity!

ANAWIM HOUSE DONATIONS

With the colder weather approaching Anawim House is looking to re-stock it's depleting shelves. They are in particular need of: canned goods (for example, pork and beans, tuna, canned pasta, etc), dried pasta, jarred pasta sauce, cereal, peanut butter for sandwiches, are in very high demand right now.



Feeding the Community

There is also always a constant need for new men's underwear and warm socks. At this time, because of Covid precautions and limitations on who can access the house, women's clothing donations are *not* needed. Donations can be dropped off at the parish centre, or left in the Anawim Grocery cart in the foyer of the church. The donations are collected weekly from the church by Anawim volunteers. *Taking care of our brothers in need.*

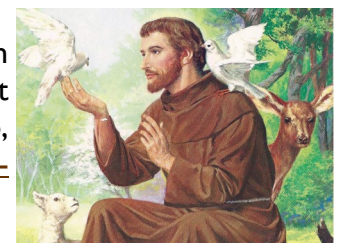
CALL FOR VOLUNTEER CALLERS!

As the days get darker and colder, several of our parishioners are feeling increasingly more isolated, alone and sometimes fearful of the future. To this end, Fr. William is hoping to start a community calling group that reaches out by phone on a weekly or bi-weekly basis to check in on those of our parishioners who would appreciate that little extra outreach.

We are looking for about 8 or 9 volunteers to help with this. If you are interested please call or email the parish, and if you are a parishioner who would like a weekly phone call, or knows someone who would, please inform Valentina at the office. We're in this together.

LIBRARY CORNER

October 4th and 11th celebrates the feast days of St Francis of Assisi and Pope John XXIII --- two kindred spirits: St Francis fleeing affluence to found the mendicant (begging) Franciscan order; St John, born in poverty and continuing to live so, initiating Vatican II in 1965. <https://www.cnn.com/2014/04/25/world/europe/five-things-pope-john-xxiii/index.html>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_of_Assisi



PRAYER REFLECTION

Men are like wine—some turn into vinegar, but the best improve with age.
—Pope John XXIII

To be spiritually weeded means to have renounced the love of material things and attachment to possessions . . . Freed from the profitless burden of earthly aspirations, that person can breathe again.
—Basil the Great

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: Beginning in the month of October, Bishop Gary Gordon will invite all the faithful across the Diocese of Victoria to consider making a gift to the Bishop’s Appeal, Horizon of Hope. When you donate to the Bishop’s Appeal you are truly making a difference in the lives of so many people in our communities, and for this, we are grateful. Through your generosity, children and youth are discovering Jesus in our Catholic schools and spiritual formation programs; we are inspired through faith formation and evangelization; we care for our retired clergy; and small parishes and missions are able to survive through difficult times.

To access the Bishop’s Appeal website and watch Bishop Gary’s inspiring message of hope click here: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/horizonofhope2020>
God bless you for your generosity and kindness!

NOTE FROM THE CATHEDRAL

During the current COVID-19 restrictions and provincially-mandated occupancy limits for Mass attendance, parishioners of the Catholic Churches in the Victoria region are respectfully requested to attend Masses at their home parishes only, which will allow Cathedral parishioners the opportunity to attend Mass at their home parish. If you are finding it difficult to register for Mass at your home parish, please speak with your pastor about your situation. The Cathedral does remain open to everyone for private prayer Monday to Friday from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm and on Saturdays from 10:45 am - 3:00 pm. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, October 3rd

2:30-3:15pm Reconciliation
4:00pm Mass: **Eric Qualley (int)**

SUNDAY, October 4th

9:00am Mass: **Mary McKeever +**

MONDAY, October 5th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, October 6th

9:00 am Mass: **Mr. Kim Marshall +**

WEDNESDAY, October 7th

9:00am Mass: **Ron Tinney +**
7:00pm Mass: **No Intention**

THURSDAY, October 8th

9:00am Mass: **Harriet Qualley (int)**

FRIDAY, October 9th

9:00 am Mass: **John Walker +**

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

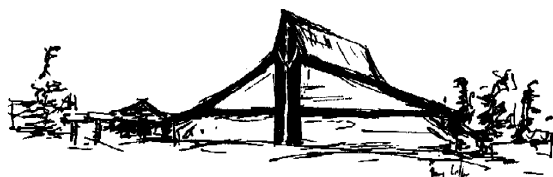
Wednesday: 7pm

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 gordon head rd. victoria, b.c.

COLLECTION for September 27, 2020

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes/Canada Helps	\$ 2,025.00
Canada Helps	\$ 192.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,452.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,669.00