

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 - September 12, 2021
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The gospel reading today is very powerful. It touches on the central meaning of our Christian faith. Jesus asks who do people say that I am? We follow Peter as he recognizes Jesus as the Christ then to a moment of struggle, questioning and doubting and finally, Jesus affirming the need for surrender. Peter and his disciples thought they knew Jesus, but they had to accompany him some more to discover who Jesus the Christ really was. Jesus wants his disciples to know him fully! Jesus' question, "who do people say that I am?" is not only addressed to the original disciples but to us as well. Each of us must answer this question, not just once but throughout our lives.

Jesus suggests to Peter that it is going to get difficult; the journey is going to have moments and times of great suffering. Peter balks at this. How do we balk at times of suffering in our lives? Jesus, in the last part of today's reading, is encouraging us to persevere, to surrender. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

Dear friends, to live is to suffer! That is why there are no parents whose family life is scot-free of trouble. Nor are there beautiful bodies out there that never break down, never know pain. Nobody loves their job so much that it doesn't cost them sacrifices large and small. No one is spared the betrayals of friendship or gives their heart to another person without experiencing the anguish of losing the beloved to death over time. The way of love is not simply the way of pain; these are not precisely identified routes. But the path of love will inevitably involve suffering. Jesus needed only to know love, and not the future, to know that.

The letter of James describes the how of love. What the Letter of James lacks in length, it makes up for in content. At only five chapters long, the Letter, presumed to have been written by James the Just, an early leader of the church in Jerusalem and martyr, is one of the earliest guides to the moral aspects of discipleship. In no uncertain terms, it declares that faith is something to be lived out. Christian witness is embodied in behavior. Just as God is generous, so should we be. No one is perfect, but James reminds us to keep trying. Love your neighbors. To follow Jesus involves self-denial. What crosses do you take up? What do you "lose" for the sake of Christ and the gospel? What good works bring your faith to life? How?

Love in word and deed
Father William

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 *St. Patrick's Parish on Saturday at 6pm*: Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

PASTORAL CARE OUTREACH TRAINING

The Pastoral Care Outreach Training series will again be offered online this Fall. Nine free sessions will be held via Zoom on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – noon, starting on September 25th and running until November 20th, 2021 (with a break on October 9th for Thanksgiving). Through our Baptism we are called to be loving brothers and sisters to all, and to care for the vulnerable, the sick and the marginalized. These sessions will help participants gain the knowledge and skills to actively live this calling, either as volunteer visitors to the sick and shut-ins, or as caregivers for their family members.

Participants will require a phone number and email address; a computer, tablet or smartphone with speakers, microphone and webcam; and a reliable internet connection. **To register, please contact your parish office before September 17th!** For further information, please email moiraking@shaw.ca



SIMBAYANA - 500 YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

Join the Filipino community as they celebrate 500 years of Christianity in the Philippines. A special Mass will be held at St. Andrew's Cathedral on September 28th, 2021 at 7pm (the Feast Day of San Lorenzo Ruiz - the first Filipino Saint). Bishop Gary Gordon will preside over Mass, along with the Filipino clergy in our Diocese.

LIBRARY CORNER

The feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on Tuesday, September the 14th celebrates two historical events: the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the Emperor Constantine, in 320 under the temple of Venus in Jerusalem, and the dedication in 335 of the basilica and shrine built on Calvary by Constantine, which mark the site of the Crucifixion.

Note: Two new additional books in the Indigenous Collection in the church foyer

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/exaltation-of-the-holy-cross>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feast_of_the_Cross

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/True_Cross



RECONCILIATION CORNER

For the past nine weeks, we have suggested a variety of learning opportunities (watching a TED talk, a short video, a documentary film; reading a news article or a book; enrolling in a course), to help us on our journey towards Reconciliation with our Indigenous brothers and sisters. You can **revisit all of these suggestions** by going to the [webpage of the Social & Eco Justice Committee](#), and clicking on the "Reconciliation Corner" link. (While you're there, you may also be interested in revisiting the "Green Tips" we've brought you in the past.)

Seeking Accommodation: Quiet, non-smoking, middle aged female parishioner with no pets, is looking for a place to rent in the area. If you have a basement suite, or rental apartment available please contact the parish office for more information.

PRAYER REFLECTION

The Eucharist is not the reward of saints, but the bread of sinners. —Pope Francis
Crucified inwardly and outwardly with Christ, you will live in this life with fullness and satisfaction of soul, and possess your soul in patience. —John of the Cross
Faith and charity are the beginning and the end of life: the beginning is faith and the end is charity. The two together are God, and everything else that leads to human perfection is only a consequence of faith and charity. —Ignatius of Antioch

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. Celebrate Mass on-line with Bishop Gary.

SUNDAY 10 AM
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 7 PM

Two new posts have just been added to the Diocesan website:
Reflections on an evening of truth, reconciliation, healing, and affirming the path of friendship, held at Our Lady of the Rosary: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/special-announcements/truth-reconciliation-healing-and-affirming-the-path-of-friendship>
Information and resources for the celebration the Season of Creation 2021, which begins today: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/season-of-creation-2021-renewing-the-oikos-of-god>

**CATECHIST RETREAT:
LISTENING TO INDIGENOUS VOICES**

Come. Listen. Learn. This retreat is encouraged for catechists but all who can benefit are invited. **Saturday, September 25, 2021 8:30am -3:00pm** At St. Peter’s Church hall in Nanaimo. Lunch is provided. Registration is limited and required. Email: gjahelka@rcdvictoria.org
Participants will take part in a KAIROS blanket exercise and be introduced to “Listening to Indigenous Voices: A Dialogue Guide on Justice & Right Relationships”. **All current COVID protocols will be followed.*

MOUNT ST. MARY’S BOTTLE DRIVE

Mount St. Mary Hospital is holding a no contact bottle drive to raise funds to purchase mattresses and ceiling lifts for residents. Everyone is invited to bring their refundable beverage containers for a no contact, drive and drop, outdoor bottle drive on Saturday, September 18th from 9am – 3pm in the front drive-through at Mount St. Mary Hospital (861 Fairfield Road.) For more info., or if you have returnables but can’t attend the event, contact Jane at jbowers@mountstmary.ca or 250-480-3138. Thank you for supporting our community’s frail, vulnerable, and elderly.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, September 11th

4pm Mass: Tony Hann +

SUNDAY, September 12th

9am Mass: Christel Pasman +

MONDAY, September 13th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, September 14th

9am Mass: Donna Garside +

WEDNESDAY, September 15th

9am Mass: Ming Ming Jian (int)

THURSDAY, September 16th

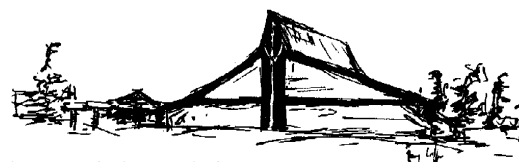
9am Mass: Xue Gui Zhang (int)

FRIDAY, September 17th

9am Mass: Tony Hann +

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 or everyone in the Church and the parish centre.



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

COLLECTION for Sept. 5, 2021

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 3,085.00
Loose	\$ 210.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,972.00

MASKS ARE MANDATORY!

For the general health and safety of our congregation, especially and including those who are not yet eligible for vaccination or unable to receive a vaccine, masks have been made mandatory during the Mass. Thank you for your support!





Spiritual Care Provider

Mount St. Mary Hospital is a 200 bed long-term care facility located in downtown Victoria, BC. We are seeking an experienced individual to provide spiritual care in a Regular Part-time position of 0.5 FTE, approximately 18.75 hours per week. Regular work is scheduled over the weekend. Reporting to the Leader, Spiritual Care & Volunteer Services, the Spiritual Care Provider provides spiritual and emotional support to inspire hope to residents and their families, assists with facility wide celebrations such as Worship and Memorial Services. Plans faith and spiritual groups, study of sacred text and sacred music.

Qualifications include a relevant Degree (Theology, Pastoral Studies, Spirituality) from an accredited theological institution, and one advanced unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). Master's degree is preferred. One to three years recent related experience. Endorsement by a recognized faith tradition and/or group and membership with the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care (CASC). Equivalency of education, training and experience will be considered.

Please apply to:

Resumes should be forwarded to:

**Human Resources
Mount St. Mary Hospital
861 Fairfield Road
Victoria, BC V8V 5A9**

**Email: hr@mountstmary.ca
Fax: 480-3106**

For more information regarding Mount St. Mary Hospital and this position and the job description, please visit our website at www.mountstmary.ca.

We thank all applicants, however, only those shortlisted will be contacted.