



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 September 15, 2019
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

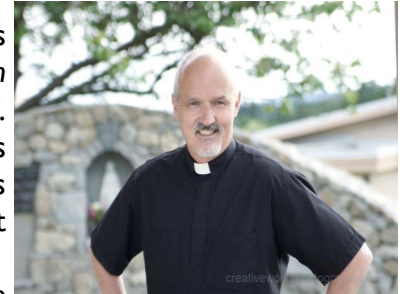
The first reading in this past week's reading was from Colossians. The ideals of Saint Paul rest on the basis that baptized believers really are "God's chosen ones." If that is our core identity, we need our lifestyle to reflect that identity. Generosity and love are not beyond our power as "holy and beloved." God has drawn us into Christ's life, as members of his body, so that divine grace animates us like breath or blood. Because Christ is already alive within us, our lives must be rich in love, kindness, patience and generosity.

For me, the whole spiritual scene comes down to one concept. Theologian Paul Tillich called it, "accepting acceptance". The concept is simple. The idea is that God accepts us (with all our faults and sins) but we do not easily accept His acceptance. The point is that God loves all humans. The job of humans is to accept the fact that God loves us. We simply need to "accept acceptance" Is that not the theme of the Gospel parables today! A god who searches for us and waits for us to come home to him... to accept acceptance! The parables today shine a light on accepting acceptance.

Today we have three parables from Luke. They are lost and found parables. They can help us accept acceptance! Why did Jesus tell these parables? Why do we need to hear them? The Gospel today portrays an image of God so beautiful, so intimate that I am left wondering where we got it wrong or why we don't get it. The image that Jesus gives us of God does not fall into line with the kind of God we are more comfortable with. I mean the kind of God, who in his dealings with us, should go by some clearly established rules and guidelines. We figure that if we live a relatively decent life, God had better take notice. We want to earn our salvation. We figure that our observance of the law must count for something; otherwise why keep the law? We figure that if we have done something wrong and if we have done the appropriate penance, then God owes us his forgiveness.

It is that kind of reasoning that Jesus challenges. Standing before God, we have nothing to show for ourselves; we can lay no claim. That is not to our disadvantage, but to our advantage. If there is one quality that characterizes the God that Jesus reveals, it is that God's dealings with us do not resemble a commercial transaction. It is not at all like that between God and us. And that is the Good News. What comes from God to us is compassion unearned; *is love freely given; is grace gratuitously bestowed, and all this without limits.* It is hard to comprehend that human beings can love so deeply, can forgive. While the poet Alexander Pope observed, "To err is human; to forgive, divine," we know the baptized have enough of a spark of divinity to forgive as we have been forgiven. This story continues to comfort and disturb us because we know Jesus is right. It is good to be home after my annual pilgrimage home to the place that formed me.

Accept acceptance
Father William



Fatherwilliam@shaw.ca

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: 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.

THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY WITH DIARMAID MacCULLOCH

Screenings of his 6 part BBC-TV series with facilitated discussions, plus a live, in-person interaction with Prof. MacCulloch:

Saturday, September 21, 9:00am-Noon– Holy Cross Catholic Parish, 4049 Gordon Head Rd.

Episode 5: Protestantism: The evangelical Explosion

Episode 6: God in the Dock

Saturday, October 5, 9:30am-11:30am– Christ Church Cathedral, Quadra St. & Rockland Ave.

Join Diarmaid MacCulloch in person for conversation on various relevant topics.

*Admission free. Attend as much of the series as you can. More info on the bulletin board or at the office.

The John Albert Hall Lecture Series presents two lectures by Diarmaid MacCulloch,

“Christianity Past, Present, and Future: The Big Picture” - Thursday, October 3rd, 5:30– 7:00pm. Engineering Building (ECS), Room 123

“Christianity and Islam : Drawing the Right Lessons from History” - Tuesday, October 8, 2019, 5:30-7:00pm, Engineering Building (ECS), Room 123

*All lectures are free and open to the public. More info on the bulletin board.

THE SULTAN AND THE SAINT

“**The Sultan and the Saint**” – **Friday Oct. 4, 7 – 9 pm**, Holy Cross Parish Hall. In the year 1219, in the midst of the Fifth Crusade, Francis of Assisi travelled to Egypt to meet with its Sultan. Have you ever heard of this remarkable encounter? To **celebrate the Feast of St. Francis**, the Social & Eco Justice Committee invites all to come watch a short film on this interfaith meeting, which shows Francis’s determination to pursue peace, no matter how difficult. (The film contains some battle scenes.) Discussion and fellowship will follow film. Refreshments served. Sign-up sheet in the church foyer.

SMALL GLORIES CONCERT

A Starfields Speical Event Fund Raiser! The Small Glories will be here at Holy Cross on **Wednesday October 9th at 7:30pm**. The Small Glories, aka Cara Luft and J.D. Edwards from Winnipeg, Manitoba, are indeed second to none musicians. Our Starfields Festival presented the duo in 2018 where they performed within the spirit of the festival to a rapt multigenerational audience who mostly had never heard of them before. This is an exciting opportunity to see them live again! **Tickets are \$20 each** and are available through the Holy Cross Parish office as well as Munro’s Books and Ivy’s Bookstore. For more information call the office: 250-477-5321 or visit the Small Glories website: <https://thesmallglories.com/home>

IN THE LIBRARY (Tues-Fri. 9am-2pm)

The Parish Bulletins of this and last week provide a schedule of the BBC-TV series on Christianity by the acclaimed Oxford historian Prof. Diarmaid MacCulloch. One of these six presentations will be held in our parish on Sept 21 from 9:00 to noon. His great book and others on Christ’s story are on the Suggestion Shelf in our parish library.

- *Christianity: The First Three Thousand Years* by Diarmaid MacCulloch
- *Jesus Through the Centuries (his place in the History of Culture)* by Jaroslav Pelikan
- *The History of the Church (a history of the Church from Christ to Constantine)* by Eusebius (who lived 260-339)
- *The People of Faith; The Story Behind the Church of the Middle Ages* by A Gilles
- *The Unintended Reformation: How a Religious Revolution Secularized Society (a revisionist history)* by Brad Gregory

PRAYER REFLECTION

Mercy is the stuff you give to people that don't deserve it.

—Joyce Meyer

Forgiveness always comes at a cost to the one granting the forgiveness.

—Timothy Keller, The Prodigal God

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE WEEK:** If you deliver care and services to the sick and ailing; are a nurse or doctor; a health aide, pharmacist, specialist, or health care provider; clergy, deacon or religious; or a hospital, extended care, or homebound visiting minister, then join Bishop Gary Gordon as he celebrates a special Mass in honour of health care workers and volunteers on **Wed., Sept. 18, 2019 @ 7 pm at St. Andrew's Cathedral**
- **MEN'S FAITH & FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST:** with Bishop Gary Gordon presenting on Saturday October 5th, 8:00A.M. at the Victoria Horseshoe club (620 Kenneth St, Victoria, BC V8Z 2B9). Please RSVP to info@mfaff.org by September 27 to ensure a seat. \$12.00
- **ADULT FAITH OPPORTUNITY: Credible Christian: Countering the New Atheism** - Five Wednesday evenings starting Sept 25th from 6:30 to 8:00 pm @ Pastoral Center. Register on Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/credible-christian-countering-the-new-atheism-out-there-and-within-tickets-49451107594> **Beloved: Spirituality for the Autumn of Life-** Six Thursday evenings starting Sept 26th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm @ St. Patrick's Parish Victoria. No registration needed. Contact Glen Palahicky for further information. gpalahicky@rcdvictoria.org
- **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; Baptized & Sent. Attend one or both sessions (repeated in 2 locations.) Everyone Welcome! **NO SIGN UP NECESSARY!** **St. Peter's, Nanaimo** ~ SUNDAY, September 29 & October 6 following 7pm Mass **St. Joseph the Worker, Victoria** ~ SUNDAY, October 20 & 29 following 6pm Mass. For more information please email:

SOCIAL BRIDGE

The 37th year of this once a month social gathering at Holy Cross commences **Sunday, October 6th**, in the Parish Centre. The evening starts at 7:00 p.m. with social bridge followed by refreshments. If you enjoy Bridge in a hospitable and non-competitive environment you are invited to join the Group. All levels of Bridge are most welcome! Please contact Tony Southwell for more information at (250) 477-5738 or via e-mail: tsouthwell@shaw.ca or Mike Neal at (250) 477-1309 or via e-mail: mneal49@shaw.ca

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, September 15th

9:00am Mass: **Noel Gantly +**

MONDAY, September 16th

No Mass

TUESDAY, September 17th

9:00am Mass: **Bailey Edwards +**

WEDNESDAY, September 18th

9:00am Mass: **Dana & John Mellis**
Anniversary (int)

THURSDAY, September 19th

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

FRIDAY, September 20th

9:00am Mass: **Margaret Kovacs +**

SATURDAY, September 21st

9am-12noon History of Christianity
4:00pm Mass: **Margaret Kovacs +**

SUNDAY, September 22nd

9:00am Mass: **Mercy & Nickolas+ Patricia Munro +**

THANK YOU CORNER!

Thank you to one and all for your prayers and support as I was snuggled away in Newfoundland for my holiday. It grounds me! I am ready to roll and in this new beginning between SP and HC. Thank you for welcoming Father Thomas.

PARISH SOCIAL LIFE

Wednesday Social group— 1-3pm

Starting Wednesday Sept. 11th.

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

Social Bridge—Start up October 6th at 7pm.

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• **The liturgical ministry is in need of**
• **volunteers at the 4pm Saturday**
• **mass. If you can help or want to**
• **learn more about the various**
• **liturgical ministries please contact**
• **the office.**
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CONTACTS

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321 whann@rcdvictoria.org

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 September 8, 2019

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2,683.45
Loose	\$ 410.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,095.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,188.45

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 Phil / Sheila Wall	250-479-1331 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
Refugees	Trudy Holden	250-472-1079
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