



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - September 15, 2024
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's gospel reading is the central turning point of the Gospel of Mark. Thus far in the story Jesus has appeared as a healer and exorcist, a wonderworker, displaying an "authority" that throws the Pharisees, upholders of a conventional orthodoxy, into disarray. The meaning of his activities is far from clear and produces a host of conflicting interpretations. Now Jesus turns to his disciples, and to us, the readers of the Gospel, with the question: "Who do you say that I am? In this touchy moment between Jesus and Peter, our sympathies lie with the disciple who does not want to see his teacher and friend harmed. Consider the context: Peter just professed Jesus as the Messiah and had high hopes for doing so. The Anointed of God historically held a position of leadership in the community that was sometimes priestly, other times kingly, but always powerful. In his ministry Jesus was demonstrating an authority greater than priests and kings of Israel had enjoyed.

Today, Jesus tells us "No cross, no crown." There can be no Easter without Good Friday. We want to get to Easter, and bypass Good Friday, but this cannot be done. Everything that happened to Jesus had been foretold by the prophets long before. He came for a purpose, and, as his life unfolded, it became clearer to him what that purpose was. Jesus could accept his own failure, his own brokenness, because he trusted in God as one who would make him whole. Because he could accept his own failure, his own brokenness, he was at home with the failure and brokenness of others. The broken, the failures of this world, flocked to him, and in his presence they came alive. We will more easily accept our own brokenness and failures if we know in our heart of hearts that we too can approach the Lord as one who can make us whole.

The Eucharist has been described as bread broken for a broken people. The Lord who was broken on the cross for us is present in the Eucharist as our Life-Giver. We approach the Lord in the Eucharist in our own brokenness asking to be made whole and asking also for the grace to be able to sit with others in their brokenness. 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. Today's readings say demonstrate your faith. Even if, especially if, you're reluctant. It's going to be hard, but you've got to show what you know. Prove it. Take up your cross. Do the work. 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?

Take up your Cross and carry on

Father William



OFFICE HOURS

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

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC
V8N 3X7
Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844
office@holycrossvictoria.org

***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.***

Report Sexual Abuse

To report sexual abuse by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, visit [RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry](https://www.rcd.victoria.ca/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit [BishopReportingSystem.ca](https://www.bishopreporting.ca) or call 1-866-892-3737

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from St. Patrick's Parish at 4pm Sunday. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

Baptismal Prep

Do you want to have your child welcomed into the family of God through baptism? To prepare you must complete a registration form and complete a Baptismal Preparation course. The next session to choose from will be held on Saturday, September 28 from 10 - 12. Please email hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details and forward you the baptism registration form.

. 2024/25 Sacramental Preparation Programs for Children/Teenagers of St Patrick's and Holy Cross

Journey of Faith for Teenagers: Learn about the Catholic Faith, what it means to follow Jesus, and how to receive the graces needed to live the Way, the Truth and the Life. This program is designed for teenagers to venture on a faith journey and enter new life in right relationship with God. Students may prepare to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Communion and Reconciliation, as appropriate. ALL STUDENTS AGED 13+ YEARS OLD ARE WELCOME. Each student must participate with a sponsor.

Journey of Faith for Children: Does your child want to learn more about the Catholic Faith? This program is designed for children to venture on a faith journey and enter new life in relationship with God. Candidates may prepare for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Communion and Reconciliation, as appropriate. ALL SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN AGED 9-12 YEARS OLD ARE WELCOME. Each student must participate with a parent.

Together in Jesus First Reconciliation for Grades 2 and 3: Children who are baptized are ready to prepare for First Reconciliation in the Year 1 group when they reach the minimum age of 7 years old. This program is suitable for children 7-9 years old. Lessons edify their imagination and sense of wonder through storytelling, interactive learning, and prayer rituals. Each student must participate with a parent.

Together in Jesus Confirmation and First Communion for Grades 3 and 4: Children who have received the sacrament of First Reconciliation are ready to prepare for Confirmation and First Communion in the Year 2 group. Candidates who were in the First Reconciliation Year 1 group at St Patrick's/Holy Cross are automatically registered into the Year 2 group. If your child is not registered and wishes to join this group, please contact the Sacramental Prep Coordinator - Michele Bristow mbristow@rcdvictoria.org.

Please attend one of the Parent Info Sessions to be held on **Saturday Sep 14 at 3pm or Sep 21 at 5:15pm (30 min) at Holy Cross**. The First Reconciliation session for baptized candidates begins on Oct 5. Preparation for Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion begins in January. This year all classes take place at Holy Cross Parish (4049 Gordon Head Rd) before or after the Saturday 4pm mass. For more information, contact the Sacramental Prep Coordinator - Michele Bristow mbristow@rcdvictoria.org. Registration forms are available online: https://s3.amazonaws.com/media.cloversites.com/cf/cf43cd4b-2408-4957-a83c-d18c6511d74a/documents/Registration_Form_2020_SP_-_Yrs_I_II_-_FILLABLE.pdf

Become a Volunteer Catechist 2024-2025

Grow in and share your faith with children and youth of St Patrick's and Holy Cross parishes. Effective catechists are patient, responsible, confident and creative. You bring a generosity of spirit, respect for diversity and a habit of hospitality and inclusion. We provide you with training in Catholic teaching, Scripture and Tradition to teach students and their families. Complete a [Ministry Volunteer Application Form](#) and submit it to the parish office. For more information contact the Sacramental Prep Coordinator Michele Bristow mbristow@rcdvictoria.org. For volunteer screening procedures go to: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/responsible-ministry>

Development and Peace

The Victoria area **Development and Peace - Caritas Canada's** Fall campaign workshop will be held at **Holy Cross Parish, 4049 Gordon Head Rd., on Sat. Sep. 28, 9:00am - 12pm**. We continue our theme Create Hope: Reaping our rights and will discuss the rights of rural farmers and the need for mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence legislation. Join us and find out how you can help these communities who care for the Earth and feed the world. More info: 250-580-4444.

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

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Or perhaps were you baptized Catholic as a child, but have not yet celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist? Parishes in the city of Victoria are collaborating to offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions will be held on Thursday evenings, at St. Joseph the Worker Parish, beginning September 19th. For more information or to register for the 2024–25 year, please contact the parish office.

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.



Voices in Motion is an intergenerational choir for adults with memory loss, their caregivers, friends and students.

We foster joy and well-being, recognizing the power of choral/group singing and its benefits for people of all ages.

No previous singing or choir experience is required!

The music we sing includes golden oldies, jazzy favourites, popular contemporary songs and much more! VIM's Music Director Christine Chepyha provides inspirational leadership that is warm and welcoming.



VOICES IN MOTION™

Welcoming new 'DUETS' for Fall 2024
Our 2024 season begins September 17th & 18th in two locations. A 'duet' is made up of a person experiencing memory loss and their care partner. Through weekly rehearsals, public performances and social gatherings, 'duets' find a supportive and caring community.

For more information:

Web: voicesinmotionchoirs.org
Email: info@voicesinmotionchoirs.org
Mobile: 250-882-5668



Info & Reg'n



OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, September 14, 2024
Feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

4PM MASS: Brendan Henry+

SUNDAY, September 15, 2024

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, September 16, 2024
NO MASS

TUESDAY, September 17, 2024
9AM Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Joao Cabral+, spouse+ and son+

WEDNESDAY, September 18, 2024

Liturgy of the Word with Communion

THURSDAY, September 19, 2024

9AM MASS: Fernando Diaz+
Melania Dapat+

FRIDAY, September 20, 2024

9AM MASS: Joe Hilario+

The Chapel will be open this week Tuesday to Friday 9 - 12

Masks are optional at this time

The Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 3 - 3:45pm

COLLECTIONS , September 8, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 1,765.00
Loose	\$ 435.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,286.25
	\$ 3,486.25



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

Thank you!

Thank you to Father Edward who has been saying Mass for parishioners on Thursday and Friday mornings, bringing his abundant JOY!

News from the Chancery

1) In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year, Pope Francis has announced that 2024 will be a Year of Prayer. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops is offering a webinar series as one way for the faithful to participate in this Year of Prayer. Part two of the series, "Mary, the Saints and Scripture", will be offered on Thursdays in October, starting on October 3. For more information and to register, please visit https://cccb-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Y6d9S5rIT5uIkGHCb9_IWw#/registration. Part one of the series, "The Our Father as a Programme of Life", ran in April and is now available online at <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/a-great-symphony-of-prayer-the-our-father-as-a-programme-of-life/>.

2) World Wide Marriage Encounter is offering a weekend marriage retreat on the mainland this fall from October 25 -27, 2024. Rekindle the romance, remind yourselves why you fell in love, and learn how to make a good marriage even better – you both deserve it! For more info and to register, please visit <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/couple-retreat-by-worldwide-marriage-encounter>. Registration closes on October 14.

Volunteers Needed

Birthright is seeking out women willing to volunteer in our Victoria office for a three hour shift no more than one day per week. Training will be provided. Whether you are a student, a mother or a grandmother, or just interested in helping, please take few moments to discern whether you might be called to assist in this rewarding vocation which supports women to choose life. If so, please contact Peggy Chapeskie at 250.478.5372.

IT'S ALMOST HERE...CWL's *Fantastic FALL BAZAAR* being held on Saturday, October 5th from 9:30am to 2pm, at St. Patrick's Church, 2060 Haultain Street. Come and experience all the fun of a CWL Bazaar with this year's large variety of Kiosks, Quality Silent Auction, Tombola Raffle and so much more!

GET YOUR TOMBLA TICKETS! On sale until Oct. 5th – BAZAAR Day!

Don't miss this steal . . . \$1.00 could get you \$100, \$200, OR \$300. Tickets are available before and after weekend Mass at St. Patrick's and on September 28th after the 4pm Mass at Holy Cross Church, from CWL members or through Barb Shenton at bjeens958@gmail.com. All proceeds go towards St. Vincent de Paul – Rosalie's Village, Mt. St. Mary's Hospital, and The Oak Bay Volunteers Society.

110th World Day of Migrants

The 110th World Day of Migrants and Refugees will be celebrated on Sunday, September 29, 2024. This year's theme is "God walks with his people". For more information, please visit <https://www.humandevelopment.va/en/news/2024/giornata-mondiale-migrante-e-rifugiato-2024-tema-messaggio-papa.html>. at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?>

Pastor: Vacant

Executive Team:

Catherine Davis, John Bartle-Clar, Dave Begg

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistants: Phil & Sheila Wall
250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

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

University Chaplain: Vacant

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow
mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk
hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Mass times - Holy Cross Parish:

4pm Saturday,

9am Sunday;

9am Thursday and Friday,

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

9am Tuesday and Wednesday

Mass times - St. Patrick's Parish:

11am Sunday, 4pm Sunday;

12:10pm Wednesday and 12:10pm Friday

Confessions: 3:00 - 3:45pm Saturdays, Holy Cross Parish; 11:30am Friday St. Patrick's Parish