

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - September 24, 2023

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

This Sunday, September 24th is the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time. In today's gospel by Matthew, Jesus shares a surprising parable. Jesus tells the story of a landowner who pays a day's just wage to labourers that have worked a whole day in the vineyard and to labourers that have worked just a few hours! The same wage for different amounts of work! Of course, the labourers that worked the full day were not happy and complained! *These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.* But the landowner does not change his mind, he asks the labourers if they are jealous because he is generous. What a challenging parable! How can this be just? Initially, the action of the landowner might appear unreasonable. However, the landowner, who describes himself as generous, is also deeply compassionate. He addresses the last group of workers. *Why are you standing here idle all day?* It is clear to him that these labourers have suffered, waiting to be hired throughout the day. He understands that they have felt useless and concerned about not getting work. So, he hires them for one hour of work in the vineyard. They must have been filled with gratitude!

What about the labourers that worked all day? Shouldn't they be paid more? If we think about their day, we might come to a different conclusion. These workers were hired in the morning and did not have to worry all day whether they would have money to buy food for themselves and their families. Throughout the day they had the satisfaction of contributing to the landowner's vineyard, of feeling useful. Yes, the workers who worked one hour and received a full day's wage were fortunate, but so were the workers who worked all day for the same pay. It is a gift to have work, to feel useful, to contribute to society, to provide for loved ones. We do not just work for money. Certainly, the wage is important so that we can support ourselves. But we also work to contribute to the common good, to make a difference. Those labourers should also have been grateful.

It is true, life is not always fair. But God is! God is generous with his mercy and his love for every single person. He is so generous in fact that we cannot understand it and sometimes find it hard to believe. *My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.* God's idea of fairness is so different than ours. We cannot understand it, but we can trust it. We can trust that we are equal in God's sight and that he will surround each of us with his generous and unlimited mercy and love. The workers complained . . . *and you have made them equal to us . . .* Yes, God has, how wonderful!



Tanya Taft

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed

Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm

Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm

Fr. William Hann, Pastor

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.org/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146

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

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from Holy Cross Parish at 4pm Saturday. 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. Please note that the next session for Baptismal Preparation is Saturday, October 21st (10:00 am – 12 noon). Please email hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will email you a registration form.

Volunteers needed for Sacramental Preparation/RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation for Children)

We are hoping to train new Catechists. If you have a desire to grow in and share faith and an awareness of God's grace and desire to respond to that grace, this opportunity is for you. 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 training resources to understand Catholic teaching, Scripture and Tradition and skills development to teach children/youth and their families. If you are interested, contact Holy Cross or St Patrick's parish office.

Outreach Ministry Requests for Visits

If you or a person you know would like a visit from an Outreach Ministry Volunteer to bring Holy Communion to someone at home who is unable to get to Mass; or - someone in long-term care, please contact the Office at 250-477-5321, or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org

Sacramental Preparation Classes for Children (7+ yrs old)

Registration forms available online:

<https://stpatsvictoria.com/religious-education>

<https://www.holycrossvictoria.org/education.php>

Please attend the Parent Info Session to be held on Sunday Oct 15, 10:15 am (30 min) at St Patrick's. First Reconciliation session begins on Oct 22 and Confirmation & First Eucharist in January. All classes take place at St Patrick's on Sundays.

Celebrate the Feast of St. Francis

The film, "The Sultan and the Saint" will be shown at St. Patrick's Lourdes Hall, 2060 Haultain St. on Wed. Oct. 4 at 7 pm. A remarkable film about Muslim-Christian peace. All are welcome, popcorn provided. This concludes the Season of Creation in which Pope Francis called us to Care for our Common Home.



IT'S ALMOST HERE... CWL Annual Fall Bazaar, Good Used Clothing and Books Sale!!

Friday, October 13th 9:30am -4:00pm & Saturday, October 14th, 9:30am to 2:00pm. Fall would not be same at St. Patrick's Parish without this amazing event that combines great bargains, and warm fellowship for our twinned St. Patrick's and Holy Cross Parish communities. Come and experience it , you won't be disappointed, there will be something for everyone!



Welcome Back BBQ for UVic and Camosun Students

On Saturday, September 30th, there will be a welcome back BBQ for UVic and Camosun Students following the 4pm Mass. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for those able to contribute a salad or dessert for this meal. Thank you!



Prayer Reflection

Our sins are nothing but a grain of sand alongside the great mountain of the mercy of God.

—*Saint John Vianney*

How can we pray to God for mercy if we ourselves have no mercy?

—*Isaac Bashevis Singer*

I suddenly saw that all the time it was not I who had been seeking God, but God who had been seeking me. I had made myself the centre of my own existence God had brought me to my knees and made me acknowledge my own nothingness, and out of that knowledge I had been reborn. I was no longer the centre of my life and therefore I could see God in everything.

—*Bede Griffiths*

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, September 23rd

4PM Mass: Jess+ and Senny Narciso+
Brendan Henry+

SUNDAY, September 24th

9AM Mass: Miriam Li+
Bernice Kobylanski+

MONDAY, September 25th

NO MASS

TUESDAY, September 26th

9AM Mass: Anne Beatty+

WEDNESDAY, September 27th

St. Patrick's School Mass
St. Patrick's Church 10:45am

THURSDAY, September 28th

9AM Mass: Anne Beatty+

FRIDAY, September 29th

NO MASS

The Chapel will be open for private prayers this week from Tuesday to Friday, 9am—noon

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 Mercy Chapel

ADORATION

9am First Friday of the Month in the Chapel - to be held **October 6th**

Masks are no longer mandatory indoors. We do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed. If you are feeling unwell please stay home.

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 24, 2023

“Seek the Lord while he may be found...” While searching, listen; could it be that you are being called to serve as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? If God is calling you, contact Fr. David Hogman or Fr. Harrison Ayre, Directors of Vocations in the Diocese of Victoria.

Fr. David Hogman: dhogman@rcdvictoria.org

Fr. Harrison Ayre: hayre@rcdvictoria.org

Tenant Start-up Kit for Our Place

The Social and Eco Justice Committee appreciates donations that have come in to-date for our tenant start-up kit that will be donated to Our Place. Sign up sheets can be found in the foyer for the last few items not yet provided. Thank you for your generous response to this appeal!

You are invited to attend a **Filipino Mass** on Sunday, September 24th at 7pm at St. Andrew's Cathedral to celebrate the Feast of Saint Lorenzo Ruiz, a first Filipino Saint. The Eucharistic celebration will be held in Filipino and celebrated by Fr. Dino Villadiego.

Please Note: The Mass at St. Patrick's Church on Wednesday, Sept. 27th will be at 10:45 as it is a school Mass. There will be no 12:10 Mass.

LOCARNO

On Sunday, September 24th, from 2 - 4pm, we have the opportunity to hear some amazing music! As part of our 40th Anniversary Celebration, 'Locarno' will be coming! To hear a sample of their music visit this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DiifntG94yQ> Come celebrate with us! The concert will be held in the Church.

COLLECTIONS September 17, 2023

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 1,735.00
Loose	\$ 380.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,370.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,485.00

Thank you!

Thank you to all the amazing volunteers who just make things happen here at Holy Cross Parish! You are appreciated!



News from the Chancery

1) September 30 is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Every year on this day, Canadians are called to commemorate the history and legacy of residential schools and to honour First Nations, Inuit and Métis Survivors and their families and communities. Many activities and events are planned in communities across the Diocese; in Victoria, all are invited to attend the South Island Powwow (<https://www.songheesnation.ca/south-island-powwow>), which the Diocese is proud to help sponsor this year. The powwow runs from 10 am – midnight at Royal Athletic Park (1014 Caledonia Ave, Victoria), and admission is free.

Online, check out the Diocesan Indigenous Relations website (<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/indigenous>). The website archives posts and news from our Diocese on the topic of Indigenous relations, and also includes information on the Diocese of Victoria's responses to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle.

Please note that the parish offices, the Pastoral Centre, and Catholic Independent Schools of the Diocese of Victoria will be closed on Monday, October 2nd as a day in lieu of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

2) On September 30, an ecumenical prayer vigil will take place to entrust the work of Synod 2021-2024 to God. While the main gathering is happening in Rome (<https://together2023.net/>), vigils will be held around the world as a sign of communion. In our Diocese, all are invited to Segher's Hall in St. Andrew's Cathedral (740 View St, Victoria). Doors open at 7:00 am and the program will start at 7:45 am. For more information, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/sep-30-prayer-vigil-for-the-synod>.

3) Information about livestreaming from the diocese is available at: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/dailymasslivestreamed> and <https://www.youtube.com/c/RCDVictoriaLiveOne/about>.

Show Us Your Face, Lord: Catholic Retreat with Fr. Mark Cherry

Fr. Mark Cherry, a retreat and mission speaker from Halifax, will lead a retreat in Victoria with the theme "Show Us Your Face, Lord" to bring us closer to Him. The retreat will take place **September 29 – 30 (Friday evening and Saturday)** at St. Joseph the Worker Parish (753 Burnside Road W) with three talks, adoration and benediction, worship, a healing service and Mass. Confession will also be available. Space is limited. Registration is \$45.. Lunch is not included – bring a bag lunch. To register, please visit our website at www.tinyurl.com/showusyourface2023. For more information, email catholicretreat7@gmail.com or phone 250-383-7746.

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 (after hours)

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: Dan Taft

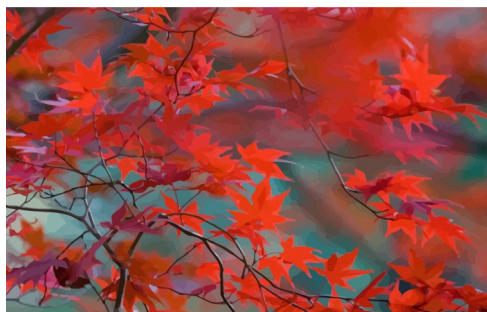
Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow

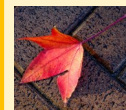
mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk

hcspbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org



**HAPPY
FALL!!
2023**



Hearing Loop System

Holy Cross Parish is equipped with a hearing loop system. If you wear hearing aids, switch your hearing aid to T-Coil and you will be connected to the hearing loop system. Further information can be obtained at www.advancedlistening.ca

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.