



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning 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 26, 2021
Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel suggesting that we cut off various body parts if they cause us to sin, always stops me in my tracks. These seem like very harsh words from Jesus, but what they are really meant to do is grab our attention. Sin is serious – get rid of whatever causes a rift in your relationship with God. There are many other lessons in the readings this week - from Moses in the first reading, David in the psalm, James in the second reading, and more from Mark in the Gospel.

Moses despaired of fulfilling his leadership role – the people were complaining, and he was *tired*. In his wisdom he approached the God of Israel and asked for help. God responded by spreading the responsibility for the people around to seventy elders. Two of those on the list did not show up for their investiture but despite this still received the Spirit and were prophesying. Joshua objected because they 'weren't part of the group.' Moses replied that he wished the Lord would give *all* the people the spirit. *If you need help, ask for it. God will respond generously. Even if you are a reluctant receiver of God's gifts, have confidence when you are prompted to use them (because you will be). Do not form exclusive groups. Think big.*

In his psalm, David ponders the ordinances of the Lord and declares them true and just. In his heart he wants to diligently keep them, but he understands he might not recognize his own failings. He prays: 'cleanse me of my unknown faults.' Then he begs, keep me from deliberate sin and do not let it rule me. *Point out my failings, Lord, those I cannot see and those I can, if I take the time to look. Help me to change.*

James' writing to the rich oppressors warns that the Lord will hear the cries of those who have been treated unjustly. Accumulated wealth will mean absolutely nothing in the end. *Always deal with others in fairness. When you die your money no longer has influence, but what you did with it when you were living does. Be generous.*

Jesus' response to John in today's Gospel of Mark echoes that of the first reading. Don't worry that 'others' are proclaiming my word and acting in my name. Jesus' mission was to spread the Word of God and I imagine he rejoiced at the news that he had influenced this one person who was healing in his name. He goes on to say that he values every act of kindness done in his name, even as little as offering a cup of water. Finally, Jesus instructs that we must shed all that causes us to sin. The wording, "cut off", indicates the importance of ridding us of anything that breaks our relationship with God. There is an imperative to know where we have gone wrong and to reform. *Heal in my Name. Love others and always show them kindness. Recognize and remove barriers to a right relationship with God because a right relationship with God is a treasure.*

All these lessons are timeless. Which ones resonate with you today? All these teachings are rooted in love, love for neighbour and self, love for God. It is as simple as that. Let it shine!

Back to the basics, Sheila Wall

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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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>

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT THE DIOCESE OF VICTORIA

The Diocese of Victoria is seeking a **full-time Computer Technician** to assist and support Island Catholic Schools and the Roman Catholic Diocese by installing, maintaining and repairing computers and networks. **detailed info available from parish office on request.*

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria is also seeking an **Administrative Assistant (part-time 15 hours per week)** to act on behalf of the Judicial Vicar and the Marriage Tribunal (in all matters pertaining to marriage) in a confidential and professional manner. **detailed info available from parish office on request.*

LIFE CHAIN 2021

This year's Life Chain will take place on Sunday, Oct. 3 from 2 pm to 3 pm at the intersection of Blanchard and Finlayson Streets. Posters will be provided. This silent, prayerful witness of the evils of abortion and euthanasia will inform our society that life issues will never be a "Settled Matter" while these evils continue to exist. We will refrain from engaging the public in debate. Please arrive 20 minutes earlier to sign for your poster and get into position. This event is co-sponsored by Choose Life Victoria and the Knights of Columbus. For more information contact Glenda Wilmot at 250-661-2613 or Joe Cavin at 250-381-3969.

UVIC STUDENTS

UVIC Students: The first student Mass and meal will take place at Holy Cross Parish (4049 Gordon Head Rd) on Sunday October 3rd, with Mass at 4pm, and supper following in the hall, along with a guest speaker. An opportunity to serve the homeless on the same day has also been arranged, from 11:45am-2:00pm at the Salvation Army. Students will be fed after serving. Four spots are available. Students must be over 19 years of age and show proof of vaccinations. Future opportunities to serve the marginalized will be organized on a monthly basis. Please contact Lydia at floch@rcdvictoria.org if interested. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to live out Matthew 25:35-36.

UNIVERSITY SUPPERS: CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

I have been planning with the new Catholic Chaplain at UVic and Camosun, Lydia Foch, with Maria Arsenault of CCO, and with Fr. William the renewal of the monthly student suppers that had to be suspended when the pandemic began. The first one is planned for Sunday, October 3 at 5:00 pm in the parish hall. We will need volunteers to drop off chili, or salad, or garlic bread by 4:30 pm on that day. I will put sign-up sheets in the church foyer this Sunday with details, but if you are not attending mass in person and wish to help, just e-mail me. This outreach to university students has been very popular in past years, prior to the hiatus caused by the pandemic, and it is a good way for our parishioners to show community with them. We are planning suppers for November and December as well, details to follow in a subsequent Bulletin. Many thanks! John Oleson (jpoleson@uvic.ca)

MONTHLY SUNDAY NIGHT SOCIAL BRIDGE

You are invited to join our Monthly Sunday Night Social Bridge which is held at Holy Cross the first Sunday of the month. All levels of Bridge are welcome. The evening runs from 7:00 p.m. with goodies to follow and out by 9:00ish. Please contact Tony Southwell at: tsouthwell@shaw.ca or telephone (250) 477-5738 for more information.

PRAYER REFLECTION

I believe in that great love, that comes, or should come, from our heart, should start at home: with my family, my neighbors across the street, those right next door. And this love should then reach everyone.

—Mother Teresa

The whole world cannot rob of its peace the soul who really rests in God's love . . . because genuine love of God in God is for the soul a rampart that no violence can break down. Christ's peace is a rock

—Blessed Paul Giustiniana

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**

Bishop Gary's letter regarding Truth and Reconciliation Day on Thursday, September 30th has just been added to the Diocesan website:

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/special-announcements/bishop-gordons-letter-regarding-truth-and-reconciliation-day>

ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL

First Friday adoration in the mercy chapel will be next held on Friday, October 1st, from 1-2pm in the Mercy Chapel. Any questions? Please call Trish Westwood 250-477-6032.



MORNING ROSARY AT HOLY CROSS

Please join the rosary group that gathers in the Church every **Tuesday to Friday morning at 8:45** (before morning Mass) to pray the rosary together. All are welcome. It's a great way to start off your day!

RECONCILIATION CORNER

Thursday Sept. 30 is the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Please take the time to watch this powerful 1989 film "Where the Spirit Moves." Set in 1937 in Western Canada, it tells the story of a young Blackfoot girl taken from her home and sent to an Indian residential school run by Anglicans. It illustrates the inhumanity of a system that seeks to forcibly erase the cultural identity of Indigenous children.

Attend Mass on Thursday, September 30th, wearing an orange shirt. View this 2-minute video of Phyllis Webstad explaining the origins of Orange Shirt Day. Orange shirts can be purchased at the UVIC Bookstore, and these outlets <https://issuu.com/blackpress/docs/i20210915020005248/33>



OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, September 25th

11am: Funeral for Bernice Kobylanski

4pm Mass: Mama Senn Narciso +

SUNDAY, September 26th

9am Mass: Mike Caputo +

MONDAY, September 27th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, September 28th

9am Mass: Mike Caputo +

WEDNESDAY, September 29th

9am Mass: Ming Ming Jian (int)

THURSDAY, September 30th

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

OFFICE CLOSED

9am Mass: Anna & Maria Flora +

FRIDAY, October 1st

9am Mass: Adesh & Family Int.

1-2pm: First Friday Adoration in the Mercy Chapel

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 for everyone in the Church and the parish centre.



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

COLLECTION for Sept. 12, 2021

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 1,400.00
Loose	\$ 285.00
Canada Helps	\$ 57.90
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,419.90

Thanksgiving Bake Sale at St. Patrick's Parish!

Sun. Sept. 26 before & after 11am Mass at St. Patrick's Parish.

Poster

ST. PATRICK'S
CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Celebrate the season

THANKSGIVING BAKE SALE

NOTE!

ALL
ATTENDEES
must wear a
mask and show
proof of two
vaccines.

*Connecting and supporting for
a stronger community*



Sun. Sept. 26 before & after **11 a.m. Mass**

St. Patrick's Parish Centre 2060 Haultain St.

**BAKING
DONATIONS**

Baking can be donated and delivered to the church Friday during office hours, Saturday 1:00-4:00pm and before and after the Saturday Mass, and before the Sunday mass.

The Local Charities St. Patrick's CWL Support Are:

African Eloquence Society, Anawim House, Birthright, Compassionate Warehouse, Development and Peace, Missions in Canada and abroad, 9/10 Club (Soup Kitchen) Oak Bay Volunteers, Sandy Merriman House, Single Parent Resource Centre, St. Vincent de Paul (Rosalie's Village), Bursaries to St. Andrew's School and St. Patrick's School