



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 5, 2021 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings today paint a picture of God's tender loving mercy and great longing to heal us. They speak volumes of God's miraculous response to bring wholeness, to continue to bring God's plan to fruition for all. God's message remains the same throughout the ages; God continually transforms us through God's healing touch to open our eyes, ears, lips, and hearts so we can respond with single-minded determination and purpose to walk in the newness of life!

Isaiah says that God "*will come with vengeance and terrible recompense. God will come and save*". So rest assured, God will come and save us, and we have experienced that promise through the great love of the Paschal Mystery, but the 'how' sounds scary. *Vengeance* and *terrible recompense* suggests a harsh, swift punishment, yet the Hebrew interpretation of those words paints a picture of a God who *responds*, a God who *deals* with a situation quickly and for the well-being of all. God's *vengeance* is restorative and hopeful, and *terrible recompense* portrays a God who will stop at nothing for swift healing and restoration. Our image of God is being challenged here. The Old Testament God was portrayed as punitive and judgmental. The Incarnation teaches us that our God is personal, present, loving, compassionate, and all encompassing. Let's take some time this week to reflect on our image of God. How has God been present in our lives? Are we taking the time to nurture and deepen our relationship with God?

Mark's gospel points out that others brought the man to Jesus and begged Jesus to touch him. They didn't ask for a healing; they asked for Jesus "*to lay his hand on him*". They were open to God's healing grace, and they expected God's greatness, for God does "*everything well*". Their faith, their trust, their love for God and this man moved Jesus to heal him. Jesus, understanding the man's isolation and pain, was fully present to him. And the man, alone with Jesus, felt the hand of healing Love, the blessing of openness, and the tender hearted gaze of God.

Jesus knows our suffering and our pain; it distresses him to be separated from us, and he responds out of a compassionate love. Jesus wants us to know God's mercy and love, so he touches our ears and our tongue to remove the barriers of fear, prejudice, pride, and lack of forgiveness in order for us to hear the word of God and live into it.

The promise of Divine intervention, a Messianic message of healing and hope calls us to stand strong in our faith, to proclaim that God is here, now, working to make things right, giving voice to the voiceless, being a healing presence to those hurting, listening with empathy, praying for the needs of the world. We know God's love through Jesus Christ; we have experienced the fulfillment of God's promises in our lives. Choose God each and every day and trust that God will do anything for us.

God's vengeance is like a tornado that will remove all the stumbling blocks that separate us from God's love. God continuously opens our hearts so we can live into our Belovedness. No one is excluded from the healing touch of God.

In God's abundance, Mona

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 Holy Cross Parish on Saturday at 4pm: 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. For further information, please email moiraking@shaw.ca

SPONSOR A CHILD IN HAITI

The earthquake in Haiti on August 14th caused extensive damage in communities where Chalice supports more than 480 children. Clinics, rectories, schools, and houses have collapsed. Many residents are sleeping and spending their days in open spaces. You can help now by sponsoring a child from the 82 children who are waiting to be sponsored in Haiti at: https://chalice.ca/sponsor-a-child-now?cck=profile&type=Sponsor&country=Haiti&age=&search=profile_list&task=search

RECONCILIATION CORNER

Over the past nine weeks, you've been invited to watch TED talks and videos, and read books on Indigenous issues. For a more comprehensive overview of Indigenous history, cultures and contemporary issues in Canada, **take "Indigenous Canada," a free open on-line course offered by the University of Alberta.** The 12 modules that make up this course can be completed at your own pace. [Register for the course here.](#) September is a great time to go back to school!

From the Diocese of Victoria: Senator Murray Sinclair, the Chief Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), once famously said of the residential school system: *"It was education that got us into this mess, and education will get us out"*.

The Diocese of Victoria has created a new page on its website with information about residential schools: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/residential-schools>. This "Background for Catholics", adapted with permission from material provided by the Archdiocese of Toronto, includes information on the history of the schools, the recent announcements of unmarked graves, the archives and apologies of Catholic dioceses and religious orders, and past and current financial reparations. You can also download all the information in a single PDF [here](#).



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

If poor people come in . . . make room for them wholeheartedly, O bishop, even if it means that you have to sit on the ground. You must not be a respecter of persons if you want your ministry to be agreeable before God.

—The Teachings of the Twelve Apostles (c. 60-100)

But Satan is wiser than of yore, / And tempts by making rich, not poor.
—Alexander Pope (1688-1744)

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>

COVID-19 Mask Update:

The B.C. government has announced that effective August 25th, face coverings must be worn in all indoor public spaces throughout BC to help slow the transmission of COVID-19. **Worship services are exempt from the provincial mask mandate; however, we strongly recommend that face coverings be worn by all people born in 2009 or earlier during worship services. For all other uses of church buildings (parish social events, meetings of church groups, hall bookings, etc), face coverings must be worn.**

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.

Job Opportunity at Mount St. Mary's: A job posting for a part-time Spiritual Care Provider for Mount St. Mary's Hospital that you are encouraged to share is posted on page 4 of the bulletin. ➡

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, September 4th

4pm Mass: Silvestre Q. Paulino Jr. +

SUNDAY, September 5th

9am Mass: Elvra & Piero Magro +

MONDAY, September 6th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, September 7th

9am Mass: Julie Chupick+

WEDNESDAY, September 8th

9am Mass: Jamie Gallegos Dupuis +

THURSDAY, September 9th

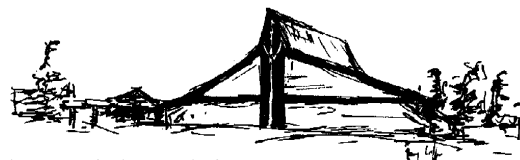
9am Mass: Flora Family Int.

FRIDAY, September 10th

9am Mass: Paul Devlin +

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 strongly encouraged for everyone in the Church and mandatory for the parish centre.



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

COLLECTION for August 29, 2021

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 1,551.00
Loose	\$ 160.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,388.00

MASKS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!

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, we are strongly recommending the use of facial coverings during Mass.





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.