

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 10, 2025

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, August 9
4PM MASS: Harry
Heemskerck+

SUNDAY, August 10
9AM MASS: Pro Populo

TUESDAY, August 12
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION

THURSDAY, August 14
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION

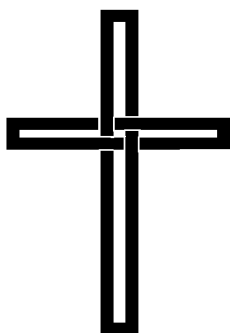
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CHAPEL
Open 9am-12pm
TUESDAY-FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY, August 9
3:30PM

LIVESTREAMING
SATURDAY, August 10,
11AM

[https://www.youtube.com/
@StPatricksHolyCross-
Church](https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCross-Church)



Scripture may offer no better definition of faith than Hebrews does: the realization of what is hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. It's something of a paradox that what we hold most dear is at the same time "invisible." Ancestors in faith such as Abraham trusted in the promises of God to lead them to a place they could not yet see. God saw in Sarah and Abraham what they at first could not: a people for the Lord. What are the "invisible" things faith gives you the eyes to see? The readings this week describe the basic disposition of a person who claims to be a believer, a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Jesus uses the metaphor of the thief in the night to remind us that some crucial events in our lives are not invited or especially welcome. We cannot predict or prevent these intrusions, but at the same time we must be prepared to receive them into our reality. Loss, illness, and ultimately our own end are among the forms the thief will take. The reign of God and the return of the Son of Man may also come with the stealth of the thief. Is the thief good news, or bad news, or both? Certainly, a lot depends on whether or not "be prepared" is a motto we take seriously. Being prepared, Christian style, has nothing to do with planning your escape route, laying in provisions, or carrying a purse full of gold. In fact, Jesus repeatedly instructs his followers not to take a purse or an extra coat, not to worry about where they will sleep or what they should say—in summary, to trust in God as flowers and birds do. All they need to carry with them is a peace blessing, which will be returned to them in homes that refuse to receive it in the proper spirit.

On the other hand, Jesus does not preach the gospel of "whatever" when he urges us to place our trust in God. Those who build on sand instead of rock will lose everything. Those who bring no oil for their lamps will wind up spending the long night in the dark. Those who didn't take care of their sisters and brothers in need will discover they missed every chance to honor their Lord come Judgment Day. Jesus insists that his disciples learn to read and accurately interpret the signs of their generation so that they *will* be ready for what is coming. He tries to persuade them to pray with him three times in the garden, so that they will have the grace to endure what is coming.

In perhaps the most clarifying analogy, Jesus delivers a triple-punch. The one who builds a tower without estimating its cost, as well as the one who heads into battle without ample troops, will both end up humiliated in their efforts. They are like disciples who do not renounce all their possessions before they pledge to follow in the way of Jesus. What most of us consider "extreme discipleship" is actually what Jesus means by being prepared. Emily Dickenson so eloquently said: *not knowing when the dawn will come, I open every door*.

Open every door and dawn will come.
Fr. William

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 at
[RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry](https://www.rcdvictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry)
or call 1-800-968-3146.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Celebrating Our New Pastoral Administrator, Tanya Taft!

Holy Cross Parish will be celebrating the newly appointed Tanya Taft next weekend after each Mass (Saturday August 16 at 4pm and Sunday August 17 at 9am). Please stay after Mass to congratulate Tanya and enjoy some coffee/tea and goodies. We are so grateful and blessed to have Tanya lead our community!



Tanya will be working in close collaboration with our parishioners, staff, and diocesan leadership to provide strong and loving pastoral care to our community. As Pastoral Administrator, Tanya will oversee several key areas of parish life including evangelization, Responsible Ministry & Safe Environment (RMSE), Liturgy, Religious Education and Parish Finances and Administration. To reach Tanya on about Parish business, email her at ttaft@rcdvictoria.org.

Diocese of Victoria Pastoral Care Training Fall 2025

"God calls us to touch the lives of our aging, lonely, ill, palliative and dying sisters and brothers with accompaniment, kindness and compassion as the hands and face of Christ. In these sessions, you learn basic tools necessary to accompany those who are in need of the healing ministry of Christ." – Most Reverend Gary Gordon, Bishop of Victoria

The valuable and free Pastoral Care Outreach Training series will be offered online this fall. Nine sessions will be held via Zoom on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – noon, **starting on September 27 and running until November 29, 2025** (with no session on October 11 for Thanksgiving). Missed session can be made-up, and a Certificate of Completion is provided to those who complete all nine sessions. Participants will require a phone number and email address, a computer, tablet or smart phone with speakers, microphone and webcam, a reliable Internet connection, and access to Zoom.



Members of Holy Cross Parish, can attend the virtual training session from the Parish Library as a group (all technology & wifi will be provided)! **Please register through your parish by September 16, 2025.** For further information, please email moiraking@shaw.ca.

"I feel so graced to have been "called" to participate in these learning sessions. I feel wrapped in God's arms as He leads me to grow in compassion and awareness of the opportunities to serve as Jesus served." – A participant

Holy Cross Library

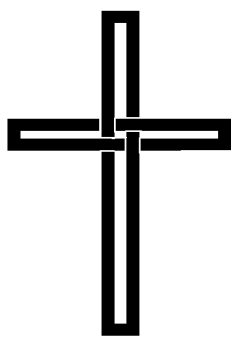
The Holy Cross Library, located in the Parish Centre, contains approximately 1800 books concerning all aspects of our catholic faith, liturgy, and church history. The collection can be browsed during office hours, unless the room is booked for a meeting, and books can be signed out (except for the reference collection). We will try to keep some books on display in the church foyer that relate to themes in the liturgical year and can also be signed out right there. Please let us know if there are recently published books you feel should be added to the collection. We also welcome the donation of recently published books in good condition that are relevant to the collection and its purpose. Contact John or Martha Oleson for information by emailing the office.



Library Corner

Taize Prayer

All are invited to come pray in the style of Taize resumes at 6pm at the Esquimalt United Church, 500 Admirals Road on the following Fridays: September 19, October 17, and November 21. All are welcome to come pray. www.taize.fr



QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

Start being brave about everything, driving out darkness and spreading light as well. Don't look at your weakness, but realize that in Christ crucified you can do everything.

—Saint Catherine of Siena

The people follow the example of those above them.

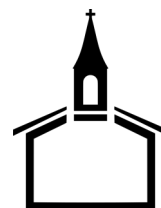
—Chinese proverb

If you forget your roots, you've lost sight of everything.

—Walter Payton

Help Us Build Our Lady of the Rosary Church

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Langford is nearing completion—but rising post-COVID construction costs have left us \$2.8 million short. Father William Hann has written a letter inviting your support. Please take a moment to read it in the emailed bulletin cover-letter or in the Narthex. Prayerfully consider helping complete this vital space for worship, learning, and community. Donations can be made at www.buildmychurch.ca. One-time or monthly contributions are welcome. Tax receipts will be issued. Thank you!



Job Opportunity: Administrative Assistant

St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral is seeking a full-time Office Assistant to provide comprehensive administrative and clerical support to the parish in a professional, courteous and efficient manner. This will be for a 1-year term, with the possibility of moving into a permanent position at the end of the term. A detailed job description can be viewed here:

<https://www.standrewscathedral.com/post/office-assistant-position>

Salary: \$26.36 – \$27.88

Sacramental Preparation Classes for Children (7-17 yrs old)

Please attend the 11AM Mass at St Patrick's on Sunday September 14th. A Parent Info Session will follow after mass in the St Ann Library for both Holy Cross and St.Pat's parents. Registration form 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



Pastoral Care: Communion Visits

Do you know someone who cannot attend Mass but would like to receive Holy Communion at home or in care? Through our Outreach Ministry, trained volunteers bring the Eucharist to those who are homebound, in long-term care, or recovering from illness or injury. This is a sacred opportunity to share Christ's healing love and spiritual nourishment with those unable to attend Mass. To request a Communion Visit, contact the parish office at 250-477-5321 or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org. For urgent sacramental care for someone who is sick or dying, please contact the Hospital Chaplain at 250-889-3761

Ryder Hesjedal's Tour de Victoria

Cyclists worldwide are riding in Victoria's largest one-day cycling event! On Saturday, August 16th, 2025, up to 2,500 cyclists participating in the 14th annual Ryder Hesjedal's Tour de Victoria will affect some of the streets in our neighbourhood including Gordon Head rd. Read about closures here: <https://tourdevictoria.com/traffic/>



NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY & ICS

1) Final weekend to register for the 11th Annual Diocesan Family Camp and Conference! Families across the Diocese of Victoria will gather once again for a fun, faith-filled weekend of fellowship, play and prayer all in a beautiful West Coast setting. Join us! All types, ages and sizes of families are welcome. The 2-3 night camp is held at Nanoose Bay Camp (2531 Nanoose Beach Road, Nanoose Bay, BC) where you can choose to stay in a dorm, camp in a tent or bring your camper! The price includes meals, activities and your choice of dorm, tent, or RV spot. ALL FAMILIES are invited to enjoy this weekend full of fellowship, faith and fun! The weekend is sure to strengthen your family's connection with Christ, with one another, and with other families. For more information, please email familycamp@rcdvictoria.org. Learn more and register here: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/family-camp>

A Call for Volunteers

Interested in volunteering, email us at office@holycrossvictoria.org! Check out the open positions:

- ⇒ Liturgical ministry: 2 Gift Bearers (one for the 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month - 4pm Mass) and Eucharistic Ministers (Body and Blood)
- ⇒ Social Committee Members
- ⇒ Building Maintenance Coordinator

Register for RCIA to become Catholic

Adults wishing to learn more about the Catholic faith or wishing to complete all or some of their Sacraments of Initiation are invited to sign up for a series of classes known as The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Please contact the office at office@holycrossvictoria.org to express your interest and to sign up for these classes with the Diocese. Classes this year will be held in-person on Thursday evening, starting, September 18, 2025. Location TBD.

THANK YOU

Thank you to our Social & Ecological Justice Committee for their constant dedication to making a difference in our community. From working to improve food security in our city to exploring how our parish can reduce its environmental footprint, your active participation and deep care for others is very inspiring!



COLLECTIONS

August 3, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$1,425.00
Loose	\$ 320.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,110.13
Total	\$2,855.13

CONTACT US

Pastor: Vacant

Pastoral Administrator: Tanya Taft

Administrative Assistant: Sloane Secord

250-477-5321 / office@holycrossvictoria.org

Office Assistant: Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 / officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

Hospital Emergency Chaplain: Fr. Sean Flynn

250-889-3761

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30am-3:30pm

4049 Gordon Head Rd Victoria, BC V8N 3X7

www.holycrossvictoria.org

250-477-5321

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9AM

Saturday 4PM

Sunday: 9AM