

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 31, 2025

### OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

**SATURDAY, August 30**  
**4PM MASS: Eileen Knapik+**

**SUNDAY, August 31**  
**9AM MASS: Pro Populo**

**TUESDAY, September 2**  
**9AM LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

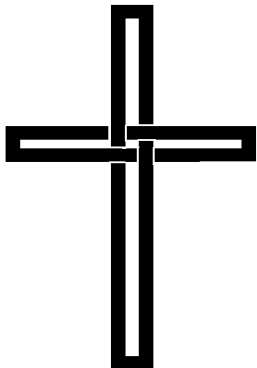
**THURSDAY, September 4**  
**9AM LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

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**CHAPEL**  
**Open 9am-12pm**  
**TUESDAY-FRIDAY**

**RECONCILIATION**  
**SATURDAY, August 30,**  
**3:30PM**

**LIVESTREAMING**  
**SUNDAY, August 30, 4PM**  
<https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCross-Church>



This Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, is the 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Gospel by Luke describes Jesus' visit to a Pharisee's house to share a meal. After observing the other guests, Jesus decided to speak. At first, Jesus appeared to be giving His listeners lessons in etiquette. *When you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.'* In other words, choose the humble seat so that you will not be embarrassed. But the implications are far deeper than avoiding a little awkwardness. Jesus is letting all of us know that being humble within our hearts and souls is essential to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. To be truly humble is to be aware that all we accomplish and contribute is from God. If we forget this and start believing that we are more important than other people and that our opinion is more valuable than the opinion of others, we will lose the ability to listen, to connect, to encounter. The consequences will be much more serious than being asked at a gathering to sit at a lower place – we will forget the reason we were created, we will cut ourselves off from community, family and even God. So, what can we do to remain humble? How can we genuinely remain grounded and rooted in God? We can pray for the gift of humility and remember to thank God every moment of every day for everything – plums, music, oxygen, smiles, life – the list is endless! It is as infinitely long as the generosity of God is infinitely great.

But Jesus was not finished! After talking to the guests, Jesus had something to say to the Pharisee, the host. And it was quite surprising! *When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return and you would be repaid.* We know that Jesus shared meals with His friends and disciples, so what do His words mean? Jesus is not telling us to avoid having dinner with our loved ones. But He is asking us to remember the people that are left out, the marginalized, the poor. Do we recognize the person who is suffering from poverty of friendship or poverty of employment? Father Leo Roberts (a former Pastor of Holy Cross Parish) was asked by some young people: "How can we be Christians in the 20<sup>th</sup> century when we have so much education, freedom and wealth." Father Leo responded: "You share!" You share with family, friends, neighbors, colleagues. You share with the sick, the hungry, the homeless, the refugees, the immigrants. You share your wealth, your time, your attention. You share your country, your space, your resources. You remember that it all comes from God. You remember that at the end of your earthly life only love and friendship can be carried into the eternal life with God.

Tanya Taft

*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

## Pastoral Admin Corner

Dear Parishioners,

We have arrived at the last weekend in August. For many of us the next week will bring a return to school, work and routine. As we leave the summer months behind and move into our ordinary and regular time, may God bless us with joy, peace and appreciation for the many gifts we have. We have food, water and shelter. We have work and studies. We are so blessed to live in Canada. We pray for all those people looking for work, looking for shelter and looking for a place to call home. May God bless them and give them courage!

For those of you who have been asking, I'm usually in the office Tuesday to Friday 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. I will try to keep Thursday and Friday free of meetings from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. You are very welcome to drop by and say hello.

Wishing you all a wonderful start to September, Tanya



## 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 9:30AM – noon, **starting on September 27 and running until November 29, 2025** (with no session on October 11 for Thanksgiving). Missed sessions 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](mailto: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



## Taizé Prayer Group

TOGETHER AGAIN! Prayer in the style of Taizé resumes FALL 2025 at Esquimalt United Church, 500 Admirals Road, 6pm on Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, October 17<sup>th</sup> and November 21<sup>st</sup>. 'Prayer gives strength to stand firm in the face of the most complex situations.' [www.taize.fr](http://www.taize.fr)

## ISLAND AWAKEN - VICTORIA

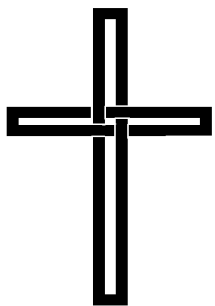
You're invited to 'Island Awaken', a three day evangelistic festival where Christians from across Victoria gather for worship, gospel preaching, prayer, and community outreach in the heart of the city. It's going to be a time of unity, revival, and harvest—and we'd love for you to be there.

**Dates:** August 29–31, 2025

**Location:** Centennial Square, Downtown Victoria

**Special Guests:** BC Prays & BURN Canada

**Website:** <https://sites.google.com/view/islandawaken/home>



### **QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK**

It is the greatest shame in the world to see that our Creator bears so many insults from His creatures, and that we resent even a little word that is contradictory.

—Saint Teresa of Ávila

Humility exists only in those who are poor enough to see that they possess nothing of their own.

—Blessed Angela of Foligno

If there is no humility, love remains blocked.

—Pope Francis

### **Baptismal Prep**

Do you want to have your child welcomed into the family of God through baptism? To prepare you must complete a Baptismal Prep registration form and participate in a Baptismal Prep course. Please note that the next session available to take a Baptismal Prep course is Sat, Sept 27 (10:00 am – 12 noon). Please email [hcsbpbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbpbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org) with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism and forward you the baptism registration form.

### **Register for RCIA to become Catholic**

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Parishes in the city of Victoria are collaborating to offer an opportunity to come together to learn more about our faith through the RCIA program. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm, accepting setting. Sessions will be held on Thursday evenings at St. Joseph the Worker Parish beginning in the fall, starting September 18th. For more information or to register for the 2025–2026 year, please contact the parish office at 250-477-5321 or [office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org).

### **Social & Ecological Justice Ministry Project: UVIC Food Insecurity**

With the rising costs in academic studies and accommodations, media and on campus sources have reported that managing to survive as a student at UVic is becoming increasingly difficult. Education is essential but costs for purchasing basic food and personal care items can be prohibitive on a student budget.

With the assistance of our new UVic/Camosun Catholic Chaplain, Fr. David Shulist, S.J., our Social Justice committee (SEJC) has identified how our Holy Cross parishioners can help provide some basic relief for those students. At the Interfaith Chapel, nonperishable food and personal care items that have been donated from various sources are made available free to students in need. The need is growing.

Starting in September at Holy Cross, the SEJC will be organizing a collection of items in support of Food Security at UVic and will be appealing to the amazing generosity of our parishioners to purchase and donate these items by the last Saturday and Sunday of each month. Collection bins will be made available in the foyer at the entrance of the church. Delivery to the Interfaith Chapel will be arranged at the end of each month. Each new month will bring appeals for different items. The first appeal in September will be for nonperishable protein items. In consecutive months, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday and Sunday, requests for new items will be made in the bulletin and included in the announcements at the Masses. Thank you in advance for your help and generous response as we minister together to our larger community.



# NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY & ICS

1) The CCCB has released a Statement Regarding the Urgent Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza, addressed to the faithful. The Statement invites prayer and fasting for an end to the war, echoing the call of Pope Leo XIV. Read the statement here: <https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/2025-08-25-Statement-by-the-Permanent-Council-Humanitarian-Crisis-in-Gaza.pdf>

2) September 1st marks the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and the beginning of the Season of Creation (Sept 1–Oct 4). In this Jubilee Year, the theme is Seeds of Peace and Hope—a reflection taken up by Pope Leo XIV in his message for the occasion, which you can read in full here: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/creation/documents/20250630-messaggio-giornata-curacreato.html>. Find more resources for World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and the Season of Creation here: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/sept-1-oct-4-season-of-creation-2025>

3) Please join us in congratulating Sacred Heart Parish in Victoria as they celebrate their 60th anniversary the weekend of September 5–7. Parishioners, friends, and visitors are warmly invited to share their memories of the parish from the past 60 years by emailing [communications@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:communications@rcdvictoria.org)

## 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](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org). For urgent sacramental care for someone who is sick or dying, please contact the Hospital Chaplain

## COLLECTIONS

August 24, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$1,150.00
Loose	\$ 305.00
Anawim	\$ 25.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,110.13
Total	\$2,590.13

## THANK YOU

Thank you to our team of seven Liturgy of the Word leaders. We value your time, effort and reverence as you guide us Tuesday and Thursday and sometimes on the weekend in appreciation and understanding of the Word of God. Thank you for helping our community continue to pray and worship together!

## HOLY CROSS PARISH OFFICE

250-477-5321

[office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

4049 Gordon Head Rd

Victoria, BC V8N 3X7

[www.holycrossvictoria.org](http://www.holycrossvictoria.org)

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Saturday-Monday: closed

## WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 am

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am

## CONTACT US

Pastoral Administrator: Tanya Taft

[ttaft@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:ttaft@rcdvictoria.org)

Administrative Assistant: Sloane Secord

[office@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries & RMSE: Joanie Bidlake

[officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org)

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

UVic & Camosun Chaplin: Father David Shulist SJ

[dshulist@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:dshulist@rcdvictoria.org)

Hospital Emergency Chaplain: Father Sean Flynn / 250-889-3761

Pastor: Position not filled at this time