

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 21, 2025

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

**SATURDAY,
September 20**

4PM MASS: Pro populo

**SUNDAY, September 21
9AM MASS: Joan Eldner
(INT)**

**TUESDAY, September 23
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION**

**THURSDAY,
September 25
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION**

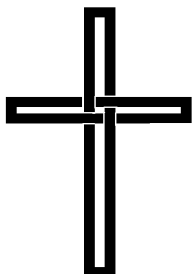
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**CHAPEL
Open 9am-12pm
TUESDAY-FRIDAY**

**RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY
September 20
3:30PM**

**LIVESTREAMING
SUNDAY, September 21,
4PM**

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



The ways of the world are very much on trial in the readings this week. Today's Gospel is all about money and nobody likes money homilies. Money is one of those things that most of us would like to have more of. As Voltaire said, when it's a question of money, everybody is of the same religion. It is also one of the most difficult things to handle in a human way. I imagine that is the reason why, in several places in Scripture, we are put on our guard against it. Especially in the prophetic tradition, people with lots of money are subjected to some stinging criticism. The prophets were fearless in social critique. They lived and died for it. We benefit today from their honesty. Money has and continues to do much good in the world and it will, God willing, lift up the poor in many nations; only if we want it to and have the will to act justly. Money has not always been used for good in history and oftentimes was gained at the expense of the poor. In history, money was the blood of the poor. Jesus himself is not very complimentary about money. He speaks about it as that thing, money, that tainted thing. He knew what he was talking about. He knew that he would be sold for it; he knew that his blood would be bought for it.

And yet, Jesus does not say do away with it. He says not to make it our idol, because in that case we would be tainted too, and corrupt and rotten. He says to use it well, in such a way, that, though it will make our hands dirty, we will be able to continue to lift those very same hands to God up in prayer. The issue scripture puts before us today is how we use it. Which master do we serve? Do we devote ourselves to matters of money in such a way that it rules our lives, makes us exploiters of others, and gets between us and God? Or do we use our resources to assist the needy, not grasping money but letting it pass through our hands, which we keep open in prayer and service? When Jesus suggests we use our money to befriend the Kingdom of God, it means that we should invest it wisely in the Kingdom of God here on earth, a kingdom that is nothing else but human life. That is already an important yardstick that we could profitably use to assess whether we spend our money wisely: does it serve and enhance the authentic dignity of us and the people around us? The greater our gifts, the greater our responsibility to share them with those who have less!

And so, the Gospel speaks about stewardship. A steward is a person who is made responsible for handling the goods and property of his employer. The steward in the Gospel today was a bad steward because he was wasteful of his master's property. He was going to be fired so he took steps to guarantee his future employability. And "the master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness." Jesus obviously told this story not to encourage dishonesty but to draw attention to the foresight of the steward. "And so, I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity." Jesus' choice of a "steward" in today's passage is altogether to the point. ... [Continued on page 3]

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.

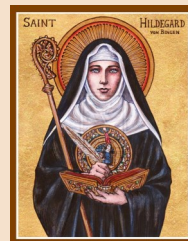
PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Pastoral Admin Corner

Dear Parishioners,

Last Wednesday the Church celebrated the Feast Day of Saint Hildegard of Bingen. She lived during the 11th century and is described as a mystic and visionary. When Hildegard was a young child of three, she received several visions. She joined the Benedictine Monastery at the age of 18 and became known for her writing on theology, medicine, physiology and her music compositions. Hildegard is a wonderful example of somebody who studied and appreciated science and was a person of deep faith. She was canonized in 2012 and named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Benedict XVI. He said: "Let us always invoke the Holy Spirit, so that he may inspire in the Church holy and courageous women like Saint Hildegard of Bingen who, developing the gifts they have received from God, make their own special and valuable contribution to the spiritual development of our communities and of the Church in our time."

In gratitude for all holy and courageous women who inspire us,
Tanya Taft



Join us for 7pm Mass in the Chapel! Back on limited days:

Masses with Bishop Gary continue on the following dates this month:

- Mon, Sept 29, 7pm
- Tues, Sept 30, 7pm

Updates will be included in the Liturgical Life Ribbon on the front page of our bulletin. Any last minute cancellations will be emailed out to the congregation. Not on our email list? Call or email the office to request to be added.

CWL Bazaar: Get your tickets!

IT'S ALMOST HERE...CWL's Fantastic FALL BAZAAR being held on Saturday, October 4th, 2025, 9:30 am—2:30 pm at St. Patrick's Church, 2060 Haultain Street. Come and experience all the fun of a CWL Bazaar with this year's large variety of kiosks, Quality Silent Auction, Kids Zone, and Tombola Raffle and so much more! Something for everyone!



Social & Ecological Justice Ministry Project: UVIC Food Insecurity

Our Social & Ecological Justice Committee invites parishioners to bring **nonperishable protein items** and place them in the collection bins in the foyer. Donations can still be dropped off throughout the month. In consecutive months, on the 1st Saturday and Sunday, requests for new items will be made in the bulletin and included in the announcements at the Masses. Thank you for your generosity!

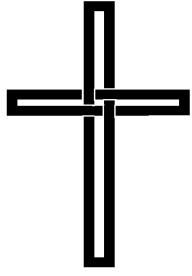


Attention Students at UVic and Camosun!

Students who want to connect with the Catholic community at UVic or Camosun College should contact Fr. David Shulist, S.J., the Diocese of Victoria Campus Chaplain. Fr. David Shulist can be reached at dshulist@uvic.ca or 778-350-1002, or at the UVic Multifaith Centre at 250-721-8338.

Pastoral Care Home Visits

Would you or someone you love benefit from a friendly visit? Our Pastoral Care Ministry offers in-person visits to those living at homes, in care facilities, or in hospitals. These visits provide the comfort of companionship, a listening ear, and the ministry of presence, bringing warmth and encouragement to those who may be feeling alone or disconnected. When requested, Holy Communion and time for prayer can be included as part of the visit. To arrange a visit, please call 250-477-5321 or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org.



QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

The bread that you have stored up belongs to the hungry; the cloak that lies in your chest belongs to the naked; the gold that you have hidden in the ground belongs to the poor.

—Saint Basil the Great

Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need; the remainder is needed by others.

—Saint Augustine

The first thing is to be honest with yourself. You can never have an impact on society if you have not changed yourself.

—Nelson Mandela

Garry Oak Restoration: Rescheduled

Please note that the Garry Oak Restoration scheduled for Saturday, September 27th has been moved to Sunday, September 28th from 1:00–4:00 pm. All are welcome to join! The work party will meet in the Sacred Heart parking lot (4040 Nelthorpe Street). Find more information about the project here:

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/garry-oak-ecosystem-restoration-project>

Serra Club

The Serra Club in formation meets every last Tuesday of the month in different parishes. Their September meeting will be on Tuesday, September 30th at St. Joseph's the Worker Parish (753 Burnside Rd W, Victoria). Mass for vocations will start at 6:00 pm, and will be followed by a talk by Fr. Alfie Monacelli. For more information about Serra Club, please email: victoria@serrainternational.org

SVDP Needs Donations!

We desperately need your help and support! The Saint Vincent de Paul Thrift Store on Cloverdale Avenue in Victoria was the victim of an arson attack that resulted in the loss of a significant amount of inventory. Our thrift stores are an important source of revenue for the Social Concern Office - the food pantry in downtown Victoria. Our stores also provide household goods and clothing distributed for free to our neighbours in need.

We urgently need gently used household items and clothing to restock our inventory. Donations can be dropped off at the store:

Location: 735 Cloverdale Avenue, Victoria

Call: [250.590.8390](tel:250.590.8390)

Hours: Monday to Saturday 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

Got a large truck load? The store may be able to offer a pickup service. Contact the Retail Manager, Al Cox, at 250.590.8390 for arrangements.



SOCIETY OF
**SAINT
VINCENT
DE PAUL**
VANCOUVER ISLAND

[Continued from page 1] ... We need to be constantly reminded that we are the stewards and never the owners of what we possess. We have no absolute right to anything we have. Let us reflect on how much God has given us and from it take what we need; the remainder is needed by others. The first thing is to be honest with yourself. You can never have an impact on society if you have not changed yourself.

We are God's currency,
Fr. William

NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY & ICS

- 1) Next week (22-26 September 2025), the members of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) will gather in Montreal, Quebec, for the annual meeting of the Plenary Assembly. This meeting is focused on how the Bishops of Canada can serve the Church's mission at the national level. Learn more about the topics that will be covered here: www.cccb.ca/media-release/catholic-bishops-of-canada-gather-for-the-annual-meeting-of-the-plenary-assembly-2/
- 2) The Diocese of Charlottetown, PEI, is seeking a Director of Mission and Pastoral Services. This is a full-time position (37.5 hours/week) reporting directly to the Bishop (or his delegate) and requires both managing ongoing pastoral services and stewarding a program of renewal. Learn more about the role and how to apply here: dioceseofcharlottetown.com/employment-opportunity-director-of-mission-and-pastoral-services/
- 3) The Diocese of Prince Albert, SK, is seeking a Diocesan Financial Officer. This position is responsible for the financial administration and management of the diocese. For further information, please see www.padiocese.ca/employment-opportunities or contact Fr. Michael Fahlman at (306) 922-4747 ext. 226. To submit a resume and pastor letter of recommendation, please email chancellor@padiocese.ca.
- 4) The Catholic Register, Canada's oldest Catholic newspaper, is taking its next step into the digital age with the launch of its first podcast, REGISTERED. Hosted by Editor Mickey Conlon with Reporters Quinton Amundson and Luke Mandato, each episode will feature a roundtable discussion on the headlines and events making waves in the Catholic community. New episodes will be released weekly at podcast.catholicregister.org/
- 5) Katesismong Pilipino (KP), a non-profit registered society known as the Filipino Catechism of the Catholic Church, would like to invite everyone to a Filipino mass on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at 7:00 pm at St. Joseph the Worker Parish (753 Burnside Rd W, Victoria). This service is in celebration of the Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz, the first Filipino Saint, on September 28—all are welcome to attend!

COLLECTIONS

September 14, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$3,099.00
Loose	\$ 420.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,307.90
Total	\$4,826.90

THANK YOU

Today let us thank the anonymous, behind the scenes and quiet volunteers whose existence many of us don't even know about. They slip into the church and arrange the flowers, they take the used linens, towels and tablecloths home and wash them, they appear in the Holy Cross gardens and help the gardening team weed and plant, they count the money from collections and donations and post the totals, they quietly pick up communion and visit our homebound parishioners, they set up tables and chairs and make coffee and cookies so that parishioners can visit, they repair and fix anything that is broken or needs replacement, they are always ready to help and their quiet, faithful and persistent volunteer work helps our family of Holy Cross to be a light of Christ. Thank you!

HOLY CROSS PARISH OFFICE

250-477-5321

office@holycrossvictoria.org

4049 Gordon Head Rd

Victoria, BC V8N 3X7

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

Administrative Assistant: Sloane Secord

office@holycrossvictoria.org

Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries & RMSE: Joanie Bidlake

officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

UVic & Camosun Chaplain: Father David Shulist SJ

dshulist@rcdvictoria.org

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

Pastor: Position not filled at this time