

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 12, 2025

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, October 11

4PM MASS: Margaret
Mary Gormley+

SUNDAY, October 12

9AM MASS: Ken Carroll+

MONDAY, October 13

7PM MASS

TUESDAY, October 14

9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH
HOLY COMMUNION

WEDNESDAY, October 15

10:30 FUNERAL MASS for
Sr. Doreen Trautman

7PM MASS

THURSDAY, October 16

9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH
HOLY COMMUNION

7PM MASS

FRIDAY, October 17

9AM MASS

7PM MASS

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CHAPEL

Open 9am-12pm

TUESDAY-FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION

No Scheduled Events

LIVESTREAMING

SUNDAY, October 11, 4PM

[https://www.youtube.com/@
StPatricksHolyCrossChurch](https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCrossChurch)

This Sunday, October 12th, is the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Luke's Gospel tells the story of ten lepers who approached Jesus and from a distance asked Him to *have mercy on them*. Jesus responded by sending them to show themselves to the priests. *And as they went, they were made clean*. How happy and relieved the ten lepers must have been. Having leprosy was a terrible thing! Not only did this disease lead to nerve damage and disfigurement, but lepers were completely ostracized from their families and communities. Jesus' healing of the ten lepers was an act of compassion and love. Surprisingly only one of the lepers returned to thank Jesus and praise God for the miraculous cure. *Jesus asked: "Were not nine made clean? But the other nine, where are they?"* Jesus was not asking for thanks for himself but for *praise for God*. At first it is hard to believe that only one healed person returned to glorify God. But, maybe in their joy, the other nine rushed home to see their families and show them that they were healed. Considering their suffering, their behaviour was quite understandable! Nevertheless, by not taking the time to express their gratitude, the other nine lepers missed out.

Jesus said to the healed leper who *prostrated himself at Jesus' feet*, "*Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.*" It was the leper's faith that initially gave him the courage to cry out to Jesus for mercy. And Jesus healed him. Then it was the healed leper's faith that led him to thank Jesus and praise God. And Jesus healed him from bitterness, fear, and resentment. Jesus healed him from attitudes that he could have developed from his suffering as a leper. Jesus opened the heart of the healed leper to joy, forgiveness, understanding and acceptance. Because of gratitude! Being grateful, being appreciative, taking the time to praise God brings healing and peace. God does not need our praise, but we need to praise and thank God. When we remember that everything we have, everything we do and create and everything we love, comes from God, then we find deep peace and joy.

Luke's Gospel had one more key point. The leper that returned to praise God was not a Jew. He was a foreigner, a Samaritan! The Jewish people considered the religious practices of the Samaritans appalling. They believed that the Samaritans were impure and treated them with hostility. But it was the Samaritan who returned to praise God, and he received the additional healing that Jesus offered because he expressed his gratitude. After thanking Jesus, the healed Samaritan went on his way to see his family. This is a valuable reminder to all of us that we can not judge the hearts of anyone, including people of different faiths, cultures, lifestyles, and ethnicities. Instead, with God's grace we open our hearts to every person, no matter who they are and discover that they, too, carry Jesus within their being.

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,

This Monday, October 13th, is Thanksgiving and how fitting that our Sunday's Gospel reading by Luke is in large part about gratitude. Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to spend some quiet time reflecting on our many blessings. We have so much to be grateful for! One of things that I thank God for is my faith. I'm so grateful to my parents for introducing me to the Catholic Faith and supporting my growth as a Catholic. I'm also deeply grateful to belong to this beautiful community of Holy Cross which nurtures and supports the faith of all of us. We are so blessed that we journey together in this challenging and beautiful world.

May God bless our Thanksgiving weekend, Tanya



Comedy for a Cause – Oct 19, 2 PM

Join Saanich Peninsula Parish's Melanie Ehrlich and *The Peninsula Players* for a fun afternoon of sketch comedy at St. Elizabeth's Church, 10030 Third St., Sidney. Admission is free (donations welcome) with proceeds supporting Sandy Merriman House Women's Shelter. Enjoy laughter, music, and community!

Beat the Fraudster

You're invited to Holy Cross Parish on Thursday, October 23rd at 10 a.m. to attend a presentation on the prevalent frauds and scams currently coming at us given by Constable Berle Zwaan. With AI, fraud attempts have increased. Learn how to recognize and escape these crimes. For more information and to register please call the Holy Cross office at 250-477-5321 or Darlene Southwell at 250-477-5738.



The Bishop's Appeal!

The 2025 Bishop's Appeal theme is Love and Unity, inspired by Pope Leo's words, "I would like that our first great desire be for a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a haven for a reconciled world". This year our parish projects will support a remote parish and the Jesuit Refugee Service. Every gift strengthens our parishes and reaches far beyond, bringing the love of Christ to our communities and the world. Watch Bishop Gary's video and learn more about the 2025 Appeal here: www.rcdvictoria.org/bishops-appeal
Parish Financial Goal: \$70,000. Parish Participation Goal: 250 participants.



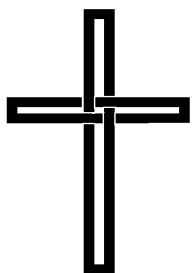
Diocesan Pastoral Synod Invites you to Mass

On Friday, October 17, Listening Facilitators from across the Diocese will gather for the Diocesan Permanent Pastoral Synod 2025 Fall Plenary. Together with the Bishop's Advisory Council and the Council of Priests, they will discern the questions to be explored in the next cycle of Listening Circles. All are invited to participate in the opening Mass at 9:00 am, either in person at Holy Cross Parish in Victoria (4049 Gordon Head Rd), or via livestream. For more information and the livestream link, please visit: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events/october-17-dpps-2025-fall-plenary-mass>

Our Harvest Blessings Dinner: Building Fund of OLOR

Join us for our Harvest Blessings Dinner on Friday, October 17 at 6:00 PM at St. Patrick's Parish Hall—an evening of food, friendship, and thanksgiving celebrating will all go towards raising money for the building of Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Langford. To purchase a ticket, come to the Holy Cross office, or call / email to reserve a ticket. Holy Cross has been reserved 20 tickets!





QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

If the only prayer you said was 'thank you,' that would be enough.

- Meister Eckhart

Above all, let us not forget to thank: if we are bearers of gratitude, the world itself will become better, even if only a little bit, but that is enough to transmit a bit of hope. The world needs hope. And with gratitude, with this habit of saying thank you, we transmit a bit of hope. Everything is united and everything is connected, and everyone needs to do his or her part wherever we are.

- Pope Francis

SEJC Collections!

For Oct. 12, you will find a special collection envelope marked "Social Eco Justice Committee Offering." Please support generously the work of the Social & Ecological Justice Committee, active since 2016. Please visit our webpage to learn more about the mission and actions of this committee.

New Session Coming: Register for Horizons of Hope

The Holy Cross Facilitators invite you to participate in learning sessions on Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care. The program will help parishioners, caregivers, and family members who may be facing a terminal illness to learn more about palliative care. Throughout the four modules, the learning and discussion sessions address themes such as understanding the dying process, discernment and decision-making at the end of life, accompaniment, and the importance of building Compassionate Communities. The four-module program will take place Wednesdays Oct. 22, 29th, Nov. 5th and 12th. We will either run a morning session from 10 am to noon, OR afternoon sessions 2 to 4 pm, based on preferences of the registrants. To register, call or email the parish office by Oct 17th. Please provide your name, email address, and preferred time.

Give Old Jewelry New Life

If you have earrings, brooches, pendants that you do not wear please consider donating them to African Aids Angels. These items will be used to beautify hand crafted angels which are sold to raise funds for an orphanage in South Africa. Jewelry can be dropped off at the office or placed in the labeled box in the foyer. Thank-you.



Carols of Hope – Together We Build

A Christmas Music Festival in support of building our new parish church at Our Lady of the Rosary, Langford Date: Saturday, November 22, 2025 / Time: 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM / Venue: Coastline Church, 845 Caledonia Ave, Victoria, BC V8W 1S9 / Join us for an afternoon of joyful Christmas music and community celebration, with all proceeds going directly toward the construction of our new church. By purchasing tickets, inviting friends, or helping spread the word, you are making a lasting contribution to the future of our parish family. For details and tickets, [visit carolsofhope.com](http://visit.carolsofhope.com).

Development and Peace Fall Campaign Workshop,

"Turn Debt into Hope" will be held at **St. Patrick's Parish Hall**, 2060 Haultain St. on **Sat. Oct. 18 from 9:30-1:30**. We will be offering a light lunch at the end of the workshop, to give time to socialize and exchange ideas for your parish activities. Our animator, Raphael Freston, will lead the workshop. All are welcome to attend. Please contact Nancy Stuart at nancystuart7@gmail.com if you plan to attend.



Roommates Wanted – Catholic Women's House near UVic

A Catholic Women's House in the Gordon Head area (close to UVic) is seeking two new roommates to move in December or January. Rent: \$775/month + hydro and utilities. Women aged 18–35 are welcome to apply. The house accommodates five women (individual rooms) and fosters a supportive, faith-centered environment, with active involvement in the Catholic community of Victoria. If you're interested in joining, please contact the Holy Cross Parish Office at office@holycrossvictoria.org.

NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY & ICS

- 1) The Diocese of Victoria is offering a two-day, in-person marriage preparation course on November 15 and 22, from 10:00 am–4:00 pm at Holy Trinity Parish in Nanaimo. Open to all, this course provides essential guidance for couples preparing for marriage. A joint Certificate of Completion will be issued upon completion of both sessions. Please register by October 26 here: <https://in-person-marriage-prep-nov-2025.eventbrite.ca>
- 2) We are pleased to share that the solar panel installation at St. Joseph the Worker Parish is now complete and officially went online on September 19, 2025. The new solar system is expected to generate approximately 44,000 kWh of clean energy each year—covering nearly 90% of the parish's electrical needs. Read more about this sustainable solar project here: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/completion-of-solar-panel-project-at-st.-joseph-the-worker-parish>
- 3) The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has released a new video series on Family Catechesis titled "Called to Witness and Proclaim." Building on last October's Pastoral Letter on Family Catechesis, the series offers accessible and engaging content for parish formation, family ministry, or personal reflection. Find the complete video series here: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?app=desktop&list=PLKPm9ivAroOMLZw5PQYsBcXXDWbARAD4N>
- 4) Sacred Heart's Catholic Women's League is holding their Annual Community Garage Sale Event on Sat, October 18, 2025, from 9:00 am–1:00 pm at Sacred Heart Church Hall (4040 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria). Find new and used treasures, CWL baking, KofC BBQ, tea/coffee. Free admission, wheelchair accessible. Proceeds will support CWL charities.
- 5) The Soup Kitchen, operating in the basement of St. Andrew's Cathedral in Victoria, is looking for a Treasurer to join its Board of Directors. Working with the organization's bookkeeper, the Treasurer oversees financial operations and provides monthly reports to the Board. If you're interested in learning more, please email the Chair Teri Hustins at info@thesoupkitchen.ca. For over 44 years, as the city's oldest volunteer-run food resource, The Soup Kitchen has been a comfort and a lifeline for the downtown community. Consider joining this dedicated team of volunteers and becoming part of this rewarding work.
- 6) L'Arche Comox Valley will host an information session on October 16 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the I Belong Centre. Everyone is welcome to come and learn more about L'Arche Comox Valley, their work, and their impact in the community. Please RSVP to Rita at communitylifecoord@larchecomoxvalley.org

COLLECTIONS

October 5, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$6,805.00
Loose	\$ 345.00
Needs of the Church	\$10.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,227.90
Total	\$8,387.90

THANK YOU

On Wednesday, October 8th, an amazing team of Holy Cross parishioners cleared out, sorted, cleaned, and organized the parish shed. It was a fun and successful work party! Thank you to Joanie Bidlake, Ed Boomars, Ann and Bob Francis and their granddaughter Serena, Trudy Holden, Allan Job, Joe Mendonca, Debby and Ed Pietraszek, Leslie Saxon, Sloane Secord, Carol Tyshynski, Pete Viandre and Trish Westwood! Your remarkable effort, wonderful cheerfulness and patience were greatly appreciated. It was a joyful time to work and celebrate together. 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 Chaplin: Father David Shulist SJ

dshulist@rcdvictoria.org

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

Pastor: Position not filled at this time