

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 19, 2025

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, October 18

4PM MASS:

Rosa Martins+

SUNDAY, October 19

9AM MASS: Mark Poy+

MONDAY, October 20

7PM MASS

TUESDAY, October 21

9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH

HOLY COMMUNION:

Hilary Riberio+

7PM MASS

WEDNESDAY, October 22

7PM MASS

THURSDAY, October 23

9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH

HOLY COMMUNION

7PM MASS

FRIDAY, October 24

7PM MASS

—

CHAPEL

Open 9am-12pm

TUESDAY-FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION

No Scheduled Events

LIVESTREAMING

SUNDAY, October 19, 4PM

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

This Sunday, October 19th, is the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings of today remind us that justice, help and salvation can be found in turning to God. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus uses a parable to remind us that we can depend on God in our need and that He will answer our prayer and petitions because we are loved. This is one of the essential understandings that Jesus wants all people to grasp. Jesus hopes that each one of us will grow in awareness that we are deeply loved by God. Therefore, He uses a great contrast in His parable. On the one hand is the judge who does not respect God nor *any human being*. This judge only cares for himself and so he finally grants the widow justice because he is tired of her persistent demands on his time. On the other hand, there is God! God, who created us, loves us, delights in us, and wants us to be full of joy. *Will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, God will quickly grant justice to them.* Jesus points out that if even the selfish judge eventually grants the widow justice because of her persistence, how much more quickly and compassionately God will respond to His people.

This leaves us with a question, what does Jesus mean that God responds quickly? We all know that from our point of view, prayer is often not answered immediately. Many of us know the story of St. Augustine. As a young person, he rejected Christianity. His mother Monica prayed for his conversion for years and her constant prayers were eventually answered. She lived to witness her son's conversion to Christianity. Therefore, what is Jesus' message? He wants us to know that we are not praying to an inconsistent, capricious God. We are praying to a God who loves us, understands us and cares about our troubles no matter how small they might be. When we pray and ask for help and justice, we are praying to a God who is faithful and unendingly forgiving and loving.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus also invites us to be persistent. It is the perseverance of the widow that finally persuades the judge to grant her justice. This tells us something about our God. Our God is steadfast, constantly inviting us to be with Him, constantly forgiving, always waiting for us to turn to Him. God never gives up on trying to convince us that He loves us. Even when we find it difficult to accept this unconditional love, God surrounds us with His care, gently encouraging us to embrace Him and accept all He offers. *The Lord will keep you from all evil: he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forever more.*

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,

There is only one quote this week in the bulletin, and it is a long one. It is one of the well-known quotes by Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. Teilhard was both a Jesuit priest and a paleontologist. He was born in Orcines, France in 1881 and died on Easter Sunday in New York in 1955. His contribution to our understanding of the relationship between science, especially evolution, and theology is substantial. It is Teilhard's influence, among others, which has made us aware that we are deeply connected to each other and to all of God's beautiful creation and that all God's creation, including humanity, is evolving towards unity with God.

In this week's Gospel we are encouraged to pray and Teilhard reminds us to trust that God hears all our prayers.

May God bless us all, Tanya



Carols of Hope – Together We Build

On Saturday, Nov 22nd, Our Lady of the Rosary parish will be hosting a Fundraising Music Concert to support the building of our new church. This special event will bring together choirs and musicians from parishes across our diocese, uniting us in song, fellowship, and faith. Please buy tickets at <https://carolsofhope.com/> or call 250-885-8546. Please feel free to forward to family and friends.

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.



Comedy for a Cause – Oct 19, 2 PM

Join Saanich Peninsula Parish 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.



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.

What's New In Our Library

Several issues of *Near Eastern Archaeology Magazine*, which discusses archaeological excavations around the Holy Land, have been donated to the HC Library. For those who wish to read something a bit different, you will find the magazines under Periodicals.



Library Corner

Theological Dialogue

The Diocese of Victoria is proud to host this year's in-person meeting of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Theological Dialogue/Anglican-Roman Catholic Bishop's Dialogue (ARC/ARC-B). As part of the meeting, all are invited to the launch of ARC/ARC-B's "Theology of Apology" resource on Thursday, October 30 at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Victoria (4635 Elk Lake Drive). The evening will start at 7:00 pm with prayer, followed by a panel discussion on the resource. A wine and cheese reception will follow.

Baptismal Prep

To prepare for the baptism of your child, you must complete a Baptismal Prep course, which includes the registration form and a 2 hour in-person course. The next courses are Sat, Nov 15 or Sat Dec 13 (10 am – 12 noon). Contact the office to register.

QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

...Above all, trust in the slow work of God.

We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay.

We should like to skip the intermediate stages.

We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new.

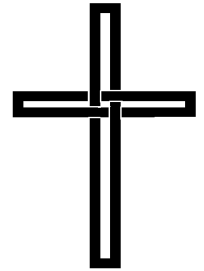
And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability—and that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you; your ideas mature gradually—let them grow, let them shape themselves, without undue haste.

Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time (that is to say, grace and circumstances acting on your own good will) will make of you tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be. Give Our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you, and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.

—Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ
excerpted from *Hearts on Fire*



All Soul's Day Mass

All are welcome to attend a Mass for All Souls on November 1, 2025, at the Royal Oak Mausoleum (Royal Oak Burial Park, 4673 Falaise Drive, Victoria). Fr. Eduardo da Silva Santos will celebrate Mass at 9:30 am, preceded by the rosary at 9am.



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 leaven 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



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.

NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY & ICS

1) On 9 October 2025, Pope Leo XIV released his first Apostolic Exhortation, *Dilexi te* ("I have loved you"), a reflection on the Church's call to care for the poor. In this document, Pope Leo XIV invites the faithful to recognize the love of Christ made visible through love for the poor—by caring for the sick, opposing slavery, defending women who face exclusion and violence, ensuring access to education, accompanying migrants, practicing generous charity, and working for equality in all its forms. Read the full *Dilexi te* here: https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20251004-dilexi-te.html

Read Pope Leo XIV's accompanying letter to the Bishops of the world here: <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2025/10/09/251009i.html>

2) Religious and public leaders will gather on October 21 at the Pontifical Patristic Institute Augustinianum in Rome for the global presentation of the Religious Freedom Report 2025, prepared by the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN). Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State, will deliver the inaugural address, and the day will conclude with a celebration of Mass. The full event, beginning at 12:30 am PST (9:30 am in Rome) and ending at 8:00 am PST (5:00 pm in Rome), will be livestreamed on the Vatican News YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@VaticanNews>

Find more details about the Religious Freedom Report Conference here: <https://acninternational.org/religiousfreedomreport-launchconference/>

3) The 2025/2026 seminary prayer calendar is now available. This year features 41 seminarians from nine Western Canadian dioceses—including two from the Diocese of Victoria—whom we invite you to keep in your prayers as they discern the Lord's call. A printable copy of the calendar is available here: <https://stjoseph-seminary.com/2023-24-seminarian-prayer-calendar/>

COLLECTIONS

October 12, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$2,425.00
Loose	\$ 520.00
SEJC	\$432.00
Evan. Of the Nations	\$10.00
Needs of the Church	\$20.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,227.90
Total	\$4,634.90

THANK YOU

Pete Vijandre and the Funeral Reception Team outdid themselves on Wednesday. What a beautiful gift for the family and friends of Sister Doreen Trautman! After the funeral family and friends could gather, share coffee and food, remember and tell stories about Sister Doreen and celebrate her life. Thank you, Pete and Reception Team, for all your efforts!



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