

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 11, 2026

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY,
January 10
4PM MASS: Pro Populo

SUNDAY, January 11
9AM MASS: Ted Bulter+

TUESDAY, January 13
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH
HOLY COMMUNION

THURSDAY, January 15
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH
HOLY COMMUNION

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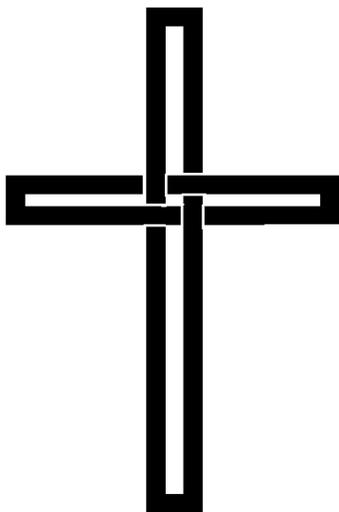
CHAPEL

Open 9am-12pm
TUESDAY-FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION
No Scheduled Events

LIVESTREAMING
SUNDAY,
January 11, 11AM

<https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>



This Sunday, January 11th, is the celebration of the baptism of the Lord. Matthew's Gospel tells us the beautiful story of this event. Jesus went to the Jordan to be baptized. At first John refused to baptize him because he was aware that Jesus did not need to repent. But Jesus replied: *Let it be so for now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.* John accepted this and baptized Jesus. By requesting baptism, Jesus declared His deep commitment to God and was blessed by an unexpected happening. *Suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove . . . a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."* Each phrase revealed something extraordinary. *This is my Son.* God acknowledged Jesus as His son and family, not as a servant. *The Beloved.* Jesus was loved, deeply loved by God. *With whom I am well pleased.* God was delighted and rejoiced in Jesus. In the Acts of the Apostles, Peter described this experience as *how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how [Jesus] went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.*

Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit, knew with certainty that the God of the Jewish people, the God of all peoples, was a loving, merciful God who longed for an intimate relationship with every single person. Jesus wanted to share this wonderful news. He was beloved, and He wanted all people to know that each one of them was beloved. Our human condition makes it difficult for us to accept God's unconditional love. As Bishop Gary recently told us – we do not have to do anything to be loved – we are loved just the way we are. If we understand this and genuinely believe it, then like Jesus we will want to share the good news, we will want to *open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.* Jesus fully accepted that He was loved, and He went to the people, healing their bodies and their hearts, preaching the Good News of God's unlimited love. Eventually, this led to His death on the cross, on which He revealed the great depth of God's love.

How do we follow Jesus' example? Jesus, both divine and human, asked for baptism, offering Himself to God, declaring His willingness to do God's will. And in so doing, Jesus fulfilled prophecy and expectation, bringing God's love and peace to our world. When we start the day, the week or a season, when we start a trip, a project, or an event, we can offer our being and lives to God. We can open our hearts to hear His words. "You are My child, you are My beloved, I rejoice in your existence. Share the good news of My love and mercy wherever you go, for I am with you."

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.rcd.victoria.org/Responsible-Ministry)
or call 1-800-968-3146.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Pastoral Admin Corner

Dear Parishioners,

You have been reading and hearing the announcements about Praying in the Style of Taizé for a few weeks now. Taizé is a small town in the Burgundy region of France, and it was here that Roger Schutz founded the Taizé Community in 1940. Roger was a Swiss Christian leader and was drawn to the monastic life. At this time, the community in Taizé consists of about 90 Christian brothers from different denominations and they host thousands of pilgrims from different Christian faiths every year. Roger welcomed refugees in the 1940's and realized that only through Christian unity would world peace be established. He became known as Brother Roger and encouraged a style of prayer that was inclusive. This style of prayer uses simple chants in different languages that are easy to join.

You know many of these simple chants as we use them in our music ministry here at Holy Cross. We will be hosting Praying in the Style of Taizé for three months. Then another parish will become the host. Our first session is this Friday, January 16th at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome!

Wishing you all a wonderful week, Tanya



Collection Envelopes

2026 Collection Envelopes are ready for pick up in the church foyer. If you don't have collection envelopes, and would like a set, please drop by the office to be assigned a number.

The Bishop's Appeal!



Thank you to all the parishioners who have already made a donation or a pledge to the Bishop's Appeal. We would like to share the wonderful news that **we surpassed our goal!** As of right now we are sitting at \$85,810.10 with contributions from 156 families. This year's Appeal theme, Love & Unity, has truly come to life through the collective spirit of our faith community! Thank you so much for your generosity.

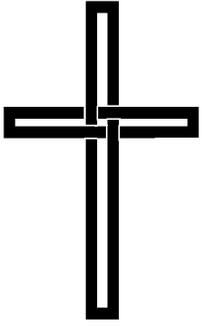
Baptismal Prep

Do you want to have your infant 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 sessions available to take a Baptismal Prep course are Sat, Jan 10 or Sat, Feb 21 (10:00 am - 12 noon). Email hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details.



Pastoral Care Outreach: Winter Series

Pastoral Care Outreach Training series starts in the new year. Nine sessions will be held via Zoom on Sat mornings from 9:30 a.m. to noon, starting on Jan 24 and running until March 28, 2026 (with no session on March 7). A Certificate of Completion is provided to those who complete all nine sessions. Attend classes from home over Zoom or join in person at the Holy Cross Library, where all the technology is provided. Please register through the office at office@holycrossvictoria.org or by phone at 250-477-5321 by January 15, 2026 at 12pm. For further info, please email moiraking@shaw.ca.



QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

The ministry of Peter is distinguished precisely by this self-sacrificing love, because the Church of Rome presides in charity and its true authority is the charity of Christ. It is never a question of capturing others by force, by religious propaganda or by means of power. Instead, it is always and only a question of loving as Jesus did.

Pope Leo XIV



Prayer in the Style of Taizé

The ecumenical Prayer in the Style of Taizé will be held at Holy Cross Catholic Church during the winter of 2026. You are invited to join us on January 16th, February 20th and March 20th at 6:00 pm. There will be scripture, music, prayer and silence. Everyone is very welcome!

Write for Rights: D&P

On Sunday, January 11, 2026, at 10-11 am, the Holy Cross Social and Ecological Justice Committee is sponsoring its annual "Write for Rights" event, part of a letter-writing campaign by Amnesty International. This is an opportunity to change the lives of people and promote human rights around the world, by the simple act of writing letters to governments of countries where human rights have been denied. Come to the Parish Hall after Mass on Sunday, January 11, for an introduction, plus how-to information for those new to Write for Rights. All materials will be provided; including some coffee, tea, and cookies.

Good News from Maryam Raees

Maryam Raees and her family, newcomers from Pakistan, were sponsored by Holy Cross Parish in 2022. Holy Cross parishioners continue to support Maryam's education at Camosun College and she is very grateful.

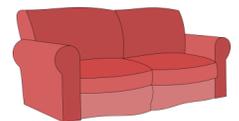
I would like to sincerely thank all the donors who have contributed to my educational funds. Their generosity and support mean a lot to me. God bless you all.

A couple of weeks ago, Maryam was informed that she made the Dean's Honour Roll for the past academic term. Congratulations, Maryam! We are so proud of you!

Furniture for Fr. Silvichan's new home!

In order to prepare for Fr Silvichan's arrival in February, we are refurnishing the rectory. If you have some items you would like to donate, please send a photo and description to the office email. We are only accepting new or nearly new items. Someone from the Furnishing Team will contact you to confirm and arrange pickup/delivery of the item! Here is an idea of what we are looking for:

- Queen Bedframe
- Coffee Table
- Side Tables
- TV & TV Unit
- Armchair
- Lamps
- Cookware
- Dressers or Armoire
- Clothing Hangers
- Desks & Desk Chairs
- Kitchen Table & Chairs
- Dining Room Table & Chairs
- Couch



We are not looking for: *plateware, silverware or linens.*

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS:

If you or someone you love is admitted to hospital and would like a visit from our VGH/RJH hospital chaplain, please call the emergency pager **250-889-3761** and ask for **Fr. Sean Flynn** to make this request.

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.

THANK YOU

Some of you noticed that on December 24th, a couple of elves took away the broken bench that was outside the entrance to the Parish center, and replaced it with a beautiful new bench. It has already been used by a number of people, especially when waiting for their ride. But where did it come from? Ed and Debby Pietraszek noticed that our old bench was broken and not useful. They ordered a new one and donated it to Holy Cross Parish as a Christmas gift! What a lovely surprise! They even took the old bench to metal recycling! Thank you Ed and Debby for your thoughtful and generous gift! It looks so nice and is being used!



COLLECTIONS

December 22, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$5,555.00
Loose	\$ 345.00
PAD	\$1,315.41
Total	\$7,215.41

COLLECTIONS

December 24/25, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 5,495.00
Loose	\$ 1,315.00
Catholic Missions	\$ 10.00
Total	\$6,820.00

COLLECTIONS

December 28, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$1,370.00
Loose	\$ 452.00
Catholic Missions	\$ 20.00
PAD	\$1,315.41
Total	\$3,157.41

COLLECTIONS

December 31, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$1,875.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 110.00
Total	\$1,985.00

COLLECTIONS

January 1, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 825.00
Loose	\$ 225.00
Total	\$ 1050.00

COLLECTIONS

January 5, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$2,190.00
Loose	\$ 350.00
PAD	\$1,354.33
Total	\$1,794.33

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

In Loving Memory of
PEGGY HUGHES

November 13, 1944 - November 22, 2025



Order of Service

<u>Welcome</u>	
Eulogy	<i>Una Babuin</i>
Entrance Hymn	<i>"May the Angels Lead You Home"</i>
Opening Prayer	<i>Father Jose Thomas</i>
Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-11a	<i>Kathy Fadum</i>
Gospel: John 14:1-6	<i>Father Jose Thomas</i>
Prayers of the Faithful	<i>Cathy Johns</i>
The Lord's Prayer	<i>Sung by Choir</i>
Closing Prayer and Final Commendation	<i>Father Jose Thomas and Choir "Song of the Angels"</i>
Recessional Hymn	<i>"May the Road Rise Up"</i>
Video and Song Recording	<i>"Sian Abhaile" (Safe Home)</i>
Vocals:	<i>Ellen Hardiman, Carmel Dempsey</i> <i>Peggy's dearest cousins Carmel and Ellen</i> <i>in Galway, Ireland</i>

Thank you to the CWL and the Holy Trinity Choir especially Peggy's long standing friends who sang for her today and for the choir director Karen Withers-Janssen and Accompanist John Withers.

*When I leave you
I leave my thoughts, my laughter, my dreams
To you whom I have treasured beyond gold and precious gems
I give you what no thief can steal, the memories of our times together
The tender love filled moments, the successes we have shared
The hard times we survived and the roads we walked side by side
I also leave you a solemn promise
That after I am HOME I will still be present
Whenever and wherever you call on me
My energy will be drawn to you by the magnet of our love
Whenever you are in need, call me, I will come to you
With my arms full of wisdom
Be still and know that I am with you
All I take with me as I leave
Is your love and the millions of memories
Of all that we have shared
For my roots and yours are forever intertwined*

