

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

April 5, 2026

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, April 4
8PM EASTER VIGIL MASS

SUNDAY, April 5
9AM EASTER MASS
11AM EASTER MASS

TUESDAY, April 7
6:30PM MASS

WEDNESDAY, April 8
5:30PM-6:30PM
ADORATION
6:30PM MASS

THURSDAY, April 9
9AM MASS: Emma
Resurreccion+

FRIDAY, April 10
9AM MASS
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CHAPEL
Open 9AM-12PM
TUESDAY-FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION

WEDNESDAY
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

FRIDAY
8:30AM - 9AM

LIVESTREAMING

SATURDAY
April 4, 7PM

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

My dear brothers and sisters in the Risen Lord,

The question posed by the messengers at the tomb "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" is more than a gentle rebuke to the grieving women; it is the ultimate pivot point of human history. It marks the transition from the "logic of the tomb" to the "logic of the Resurrection." When the followers of Jesus approached the sepulcher, they were acting on the only logic they knew: the finality of death. They came with spices and linens, prepared to honour a memory.

We often fall into this same trap. We "seek the living among the dead" when we:

- Define our lives by past failures or "dead" regrets.
- Look for lasting fulfillment in material things that are destined to decay.
- Assume that the current state of the world marked by division or suffering is the final word.

The angel's question invites us to look up. To seek the "Living One" is to recognize that God is not a historical figure to be studied, but a presence to be encountered. The Resurrection isn't just a miracle that happened to Jesus; it is a reality that happens to us.

The stone was rolled away not to let Jesus out, but to let us in to see that the space where we expected to find a corpse is instead filled with light and promise.

If we are no longer seeking the living among the dead, how do we live?

- In Hope: We stop treating our challenges as dead ends. In the light of Easter, every "tomb" in our lives is potentially a "womb" for something new.
- In Action: We seek Christ where He said He would be: in the poor, the marginalized, and the broken-hearted. These are not "dead" causes; they are the places where the living God is most active.
- In Joy: Easter reminds us that the worst thing is never the last thing. Death has been swallowed up in victory.

This Easter, let us leave the graveyard of our fears behind. We do not worship a memory; we follow a Master who is alive, walking beside us on our own Emmaus roads. "He is not here; He has risen." The search is over, and the new life has begun.

Happy Easter!

Fr Silvichan Dominic CFIC

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

From the Pastor's Desk

My dear people,

Greetings of peace and love in the name of the Risen Christ!

This year, the joy of the Resurrection carries a very personal resonance for me. On this same Easter Sunday, I am humbled to celebrate the 18th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. To serve at the altar of the Lord for nearly two decades has been the greatest blessing of my life. It is a profound grace to reach this milestone while journeying in faith with all of you here at Holy Cross Church. Thank you for your prayers, your support, and for allowing me to serve as your pastor.

The Easter Vigil is the most sacred and solemn celebration in the life of the Church. Often called the “mother of all vigils,” it marks the night we keep watch for the Resurrection of the Lord. It is not merely another Mass; it is a profound journey from darkness into light, from death into life. The celebration begins in darkness with the Service of Light. The new fire is blessed, and the Paschal Candle is lit, symbolizing Christ, the Light of the world. As the flame is shared, the church gradually fills with light, reminding us that the risen Christ overcomes all darkness. At the Gloria, the church lights and altar candles are lit, bells are rung, and you are most welcome to bring your own bells to join in this joyful moment.

This year, the Easter Vigil will be especially meaningful as we welcome five new members into the Church through Baptism and Confirmation. Fr. David and I will have the joy of celebrating these sacraments. Let us keep these candidates in our prayers and support them as they begin their journey of faith. I sincerely thank all who have accompanied them through the RCIA process. It is a moment of great joy for our entire community as we witness new life in Christ. The faithful will also renew their baptismal promises by lighting their candles and reaffirming their commitment to live as children of God.



Please note that incense will be used during the Easter Vigil. If you have health concerns, you are welcome to join us for the Easter Sunday celebrations. On Easter Sunday, Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all our volunteers especially the sacristans, music groups, readers, ushers, Liturgy Committee, Parish Council, Finance Committee, office staff, Floral team, and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Your generous service and dedication have made our celebrations truly prayerful and meaningful.

Wishing you and your family a blessed and joyful Easter.

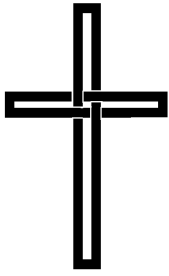
Stay blessed.

Your Pastor,

Fr. Silvichan Dominic, CFIC

Social & Ecological Justice Ministry Project: UVIC Food Insecurity

Thank you for your generous donations to the UVIC Food Insecurity Project over the past 8 months. We are pausing our project over the summer and will start collecting donations in August 2026 to stock the shelves for the student's return in September. Once again, thank you for your donations!



QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.
-*Saint Pope John Paul II*

Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in the books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.
-*Martin Luther*

All those who put their hope in God place their feeble hands in His strong and mighty hand; they let themselves be raised up and set out on a journey. Together with the risen Jesus, they become pilgrims of hope, witnesses of the victory of love and of the disarmed power of Life.
-*Pope Francis, Easter 2025*

St Patrick's Parish CWL Bazaar



The CWL will be holding the Spring Good Used Clothing, Jewelry & Books Sale on April 17th & 18th in the Lourdes Hall. We are now gratefully accepting donations of men's, women's, children's clothing and shoes along with household linens, jewelry, books & jigsaw puzzles. Items can be left on the marked carts in the hall closet area. Please note we are NOT accepting any other items at this time. Contact Theresa Smith at tgsmith1225@outlook.com

Anawim Board Recruiting

The Anawim Companions Society is seeking members to join the Board of Directors. We are currently looking to fill three roles: (1) Financial Governance & Treasurer, (2) Chair and (3) Fund Development and Major Gifts Director. If you are interested in learning more about the positions or how to apply, please email president@anawimsociety.ca or check out the website: www.anawimsociety.ca.

BASKETS ARE NOW BEING PLANTED FOR MT. ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL

Last year proceeds from 75 baskets and other plants helped the hospital care for many people. While all costs (except labour) have increased, prices remain the same. Of course extra \$ are accepted. In addition to baskets we have lettuce, squash, tomatoes, geraniums, lemon-scented pelargoniums and daisies available. PLEASE ORDER ASAP, as we sold out last year. Call Ellis, to order at 250-477-6754. Thank you for supporting the hospital! PS. Yes, we (I) will plant your pots and containers. PPS. If you prefer, \$ will be delivered to Ukrainian Church for war effort support.



Community Storytelling and Art Event: Peace Dancer on Saturday, April 19, 2-4 pm

Join us on Saturday April 19th, from 2-4 pm for an all-ages community storytelling art event, featuring Robert "Lucky" Budd at the Oak Bay United Church Sanctuary. Budd will be sharing about Peace Dancer, a recounting of the traditional Northwest Coastal Legend of the great flood. Afterwards, all are invited to the downstairs Community Hall for hands-on art activities for all ages. All art materials will be provided, and light refreshments will be available. Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted. More info: www.oakbayunitedchurch.ca/events/lucky-budd-peace-dancer

Baptismal Preparation for the Parents

Is it your hope to have your child welcomed into the family of God through baptism? If so, to prepare to have your child baptized, parents must participate in a Baptismal Prep course and complete a baptism registration form. Please note that the next session available to take a Baptismal Prep course is Saturday, April 25 (10:00am-12pm noon). Please email hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org - the coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism and forward you the baptism registration form.



NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY

1) Bishop Gary Gordon has written a message to the people of the Diocese of Victoria for the occasion of Easter 2026. The message may be read online at: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/bishop-gary-gordons-message-for-easter-2026>

2) Would you like to help restore an important Garry Oak ecosystem? On April 12 and running every 2nd and 4th Sunday from 1–4 pm, all are invited to come rain or shine to build community and help remove invasive species from our property on the slopes of Christmas Hill. Please meet in the Sacred Heart parking lot (4044 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria). For more information and to sign up, email jseale1234@gmail.com or visit: <https://garry-oak-ecosystem-restoration-2026.eventbrite.ca>

3) Island Catholic Schools warmly invite you to their annual Joy of Music Concert at the UVic Farquhar Auditorium on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 6 pm. This special evening showcases the musical talents of students from St. Patrick's, St. Joseph's, and St. Andrew's, bringing our communities together in celebration through choir, band, and musical theatre performances. Join us for an inspiring night as our young musicians share their dedication, creativity, and passion for music while honouring the spirit of our Island Catholic Schools community. Purchase tickets by calling the UVic Box Office at (250) 721-8480 or online at: <https://purchase.tickets.uvic.ca/EventAvailability?EventId=12601>

Pastoral Care Telephone Visits

Are you feeling lonely or know someone who would appreciate a friendly conversation? Our Pastoral Care volunteers are available to telephone those who are lonely, homebound, isolated, or simply in need of a listening ear. These calls are a gentle reminder that no one is ever alone and that our parish community is here to accompany, encourage, and support one another. To request a telephone call for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office at 250-477-5321 or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org.

COLLECTIONS

March 29, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$1,575.00
Loose	\$ 415.00
Anawim	\$ 30.00
D&P	\$1,010.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,362.91
Total	\$4,392.91

Thank You

As we move through Holy Week and the beautiful and meaningful services, let us thank the many people who contribute their time and talents to make the celebrations possible and special. Thank you to our liturgical ministers, our volunteers for extra jobs, our musicians, our environment and flower team, our laundry team, our caretakers, our administrative assistants and coordinators, our Chaplain Father David and our Pastor Father Silvan. Your contributions to these significant services is greatly valued. May Easter joy be with you!

HOLY CROSS PARISH OFFICE

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Victoria, BC V8N 3X7

www.holycrossvictoria.org

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Saturday-Monday: closed

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am

See front page for daily Mass times.

CONTACT US

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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



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Office of the Bishop

1-4044 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria, BC V8X 2A1 - Tel: 250-479-1331 - Fax: 250-479-5423 - Web: redvictoria.org

Easter 2026

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Eastertime comes to us all with the glorious announcement of the women who are first to witness to the empty tomb, early in the morning. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary are the first to be sent by the Risen Jesus: “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.” (Matthew 28:10).

Yes, He is Risen! The Prince of Peace, with the Cross’ painful effects still visible on his body, and his last words echoing for all time from the cross: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46). This desperate cry, which is the prayer of millions of people today in the wars and conflicts of our times, is heard by our God.

Pain and death do not have the final word. But rather, the final word is the love and mercy that is alive in the person of Jesus, who greets us at each encounter: “Peace be with you” (John 20:21). This encounter with the Risen Jesus is the inspirational hope of the newly baptized this Easter, and the hope of all the faithful around the world who bear Christ’s peace with persevering confidence.

Happy Easter,

Most Reverend Gary Gordon
Bishop of Victoria