

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

June 28, 2026

### OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

**SATURDAY, June 27**

4PM MASS:

David Gassney+

**SUNDAY, June 28**

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

**MONDAY, June 29**

7PM VIGIL SERVICE:

Ilda Hilario+

**TUESDAY, June 30**

9AM MASS:

Catherine Hawkins+

**THURSDAY, July 2**

9AM LITURGY OF THE  
WORD WITH HOLY  
COMMUNION:

Ilda Hilario+

CHAPEL

Open 9AM-12PM

TUESDAY, THURSDAY,  
FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION

**SATURDAY**

3:30PM - 4PM

**TUESDAY**

8:45AM - 9AM

LIVESTREAMING

**SUNDAY**

June 28, 11:00 AM

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

This Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, is the 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time. At the beginning of today's Gospel by Matthew Jesus makes a puzzling statement. *Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.* Have we not been commanded to honour our parents? Are we not expected to take care and watch over our children? In other scripture passages, Jesus asks us to love our enemies and to forgive our brothers and sisters seventy times seven. How do those passages align with today's Gospel? Does our compassionate Jesus require that He be loved more than anyone else? It does not make sense. Jesus knows He is beloved. He knows the purpose of His life.

Jesus recognizes that we imitate and follow what we love! Children imitate their parents and parents become interested in the passions of their children. Imitation helps us learn how to relate to others, to socialize and to evolve and mature. However, as much as we love our parents and our children, they are human and sometimes they make mistakes. Jesus invites us to imitate Him *more* than anyone else. He heals the sick, listens to the lonely and shares His food. He forgives without limits and loves unconditionally. Even on the cross Jesus said: *Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.* (Luke 23:34) Who would not want to follow and imitate Jesus?

Yet, imitating Jesus and His way of love and mercy is exceedingly difficult. If we imitate God who gives us free will, then we will offer our loved ones free will. If we imitate God who loves us unconditionally, then we will love without limits. If we imitate God who forgives everything, then we will forgive all wounds and offenses. This might seem impossible, but Jesus invites us to take up our cross and follow Him. And He assures us that, *whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for [His] sake will find it.* Jesus promises that if we follow Him, we will find our life. We do not have to be another Maximilian Kolbe or Mother Teresa; we can simply give *a cup of cold water to one of these little ones.*

In his letter to the Romans, St. Paul explains that *all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death.* And *if we have died with Christ, we will also live with him.* It is, therefore, Jesus who makes it possible for us to imitate Him. It is the Holy Spirit of Jesus that gives us the strength, the wisdom, the courage, and the love to follow Him. When we fail, Jesus forgives us with tenderness and encourages us to carry on. We can *consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

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://RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry)  
or call 1-800-968-3146.

# PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

## Pastoral News Corner

My Dear Friends,

My time with you as your pastor at Holy Cross Church is coming to an end at the end of this month. Although my stay has been brief, just four months, it has been a meaningful and grace-filled chapter in my life and ministry.

I am deeply grateful for your friendship, support, kindness, and prayers. Each of you will always have a place in my heart and in my prayers. Holy Cross will remain my first home in the Diocese of Victoria, a place that welcomed me warmly and helped me feel part of a family from the very beginning.

One of the things I love most about this parish is your friendliness, which is evident the moment someone walks through the church doors. Your conversations before and after Mass, your visits to one another, and the fellowship shared during coffee time all reveal a community that genuinely loves and cares for people. In a world where many feel isolated and alone, Holy Cross stands as a beautiful witness to Christian hospitality and compassion.

As I move to St. Patrick's Church, I am grateful that I will still be nearby. This is not really a goodbye, but rather a new chapter in ministry. I hope you will keep me in your prayers as I begin this new assignment, just as I will continue to pray for you. Please feel free to come and visit me at St. Patrick's. It would be a joy to see familiar faces and to continue the friendships we have built together.

Thank you for allowing me to journey with you in faith, to celebrate the sacraments with you, and to share in the joys and challenges of parish life. I leave with many cherished memories and a heart full of gratitude.

May God continue to bless Holy Cross Parish abundantly. May He strengthen your faith, deepen your love for one another, and guide you always in His peace.

With gratitude and prayers,

Fr Silvichan Dominic CFIC

### May Your Soul Rest In Peace

It is with sadness that we inform you that Ilda Hilario, Anna Mendonca's mother, passed into eternal life on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. For many years, Ilda lived six months out of the year with Anna and Joe. During the months in Victoria, Ilda would come to Mass and special events at Holy Cross. We got used to seeing her every week, praying the rosary, and often waiting patiently while Anna and Joe took care of church business. Eventually Ilda lived full time in Victoria. These last years she was housebound, cared for by Anna and Joe. Ilda looked forward to the visits of her grandchildren and even last summer had a lovely visit with them. We extend our sincere condolences to her family and friends, especially to Anna and Joe Mendonca and Vera Hilario, her daughter-in-law. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.*

There will be a vigil for Ilda Hilario on Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 7:00 pm at Holy Cross Church. Father Silvan and Father William will be the celebrants. The funeral and interment will be in July in Osoyoos, BC.



### Parish Summer Barbecue: June 28, 2026 11:00 am

Just a reminder for those of you who signed-up: the Parish Summer BBQ is this Sunday, June 28th. Food served at 11am! Some parishioners will be sitting outside, so please bring a hat and sunscreen. We will have lawn games for kids and lots of food and drinks.

### Help Needed at the Soup Kitchen

Are you a morning person? The Soup Kitchen in the basement of St. Andrew's Cathedral is looking for a volunteer to prepare our nutritious soup on Tuesday mornings starting at 5:00 am. If you love to cook, are an early bird ... and want to connect with your community ... we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Kathleen at [operations@thesoupkitchen.ca](mailto:operations@thesoupkitchen.ca) or online at [thesoupkitchen.ca/volunteer](https://thesoupkitchen.ca/volunteer)



### Diocese of Victoria Family Camp and Conference - August 2026

Registration is now open for the 12th Annual Diocese of Victoria Family Camp and Conference. Families are invited to gather for a fun, faith-filled weekend of fellowship, play, and prayer, taking place August 20-23 at beautiful Nanose Bay Camp. Details are at: <https://12thAnnualVictoriaDioceseFamilyCampandConference.eventbrite.ca>



### New Books to Borrow!

The Library has two books we are profiling this week, and they are on the table in the foyer. Both are written by Mark Kelly and recommended by Fr. Silvan. *Rediscover Jesus* is an easy to read discussion about how to be the best person that God wants us to be. I felt as if I were having a spiritual discussion with the author as he addressed questions most people think about. *Rediscovering Catholicism* reminds us of the relevance of Catholicism and what it means to walk with God in the modern world. Check out these great titles and browse some new books on Pope Leo XIV. Enjoy!

### Solar Panel Presentation Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026 10:30 am

Many of you know that there is a Diocesan wide initiative to install solar panels on some of our Catholic churches. Solar panels have been installed on St. Joseph the Worker Parish and Holy Cross Church has been asked to consider doing the same. After an initial discussion with the Parish Council and a representative of the Diocesan Solar Panel Team, Ellis Achtem contacted three solar panel companies and received three quotes. On Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, the Diocesan Solar Panel Team will give a presentation in the church hall at 10:30 am on the requirements, costs, pros and cons of solar panels. There are two reasons that the Diocese is encouraging this project. It is a better option for the environment and solar panels will lower hydro costs. At the presentation you will be able to ask questions and raise any concerns you might have. Everyone is welcome.

### OLOR Parish Raffle Fundraiser

This is the last week of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish's 50/50 raffle fundraiser to support their new childcare and early learning facility. This centre will nurture children, support families, and serve our growing community for generations to come, while helping address gaps created by recent changes to provincial ELCC capital funding.



- Ticket sales end: June 30, 2026 (PDT)
- Draw date: July 4, 2026 (PDT)

Get your ticket here: <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/oltrp>

### Infant Baptism - Baptismal Prep for the Parents

Are you planning to have your child baptized? If so, to prepare for your child's baptism, 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 Sat, July 25 (10:00 am - 12 noon). Please email [hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org) with your name and contact information. And the coordinator will contact you.



# NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY

**1. Passing The Light: A Year End Mass Celebration for St. Andrew's Graduates** - In this second week of celebrating our high school graduates, we reflect on the beautiful tradition at St. Andrews's where Grade 11 students "pass the light" to the Grade 12 students as they step out into the world, with a Catholic education behind them. Read the blog post here: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/passing-the-light-a-year-end-mass-celebration-for-st-andrews-graduates>

**2. Diocesan Family Camp this August** - Calling all families across the Diocese! Join us for the 12th Annual Diocese of Victoria Family Camp and Conference. Families are invited to gather for a fun, faith-filled weekend of fellowship, play, and prayer taking place August 20-23 at beautiful Nanoose Bay Camp. Details are at: [12thAnnualVictoriaDioceseFamilyCampandConference.eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/12th-annual-victoria-diocese-family-camp-and-conference)

**3. Rachels Vineyard Retreat** - Rachel's Vineyard on Vancouver Island is offering a safe and confidential retreat from September 11-13, 2026 for women and men seeking healing and peace after abortion. To learn more or register, please email [rachelsvineyardvancouverisland@gmail.com](mailto:rachelsvineyardvancouverisland@gmail.com). You can also find more information here: <https://www.rachelsvineyardvanisland.org/>

## 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](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org).



### COLLECTIONS

June 21, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$3,340.00
Loose	\$ 539.00
Anawim	\$ 30.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,445.41
Total	\$5,354.41

## Thank you

The 4:00 pm mass this Saturday, June 27th, will be the last mass at Holy Cross for Cherrelyn, Joseph and Shiloh Gonzaga for a while. They will be moving to the Philippines for a year, though Joseph will have to come back to Canada earlier because of work. We are very grateful for all the support and service that they have given our Parish. Cherry (short for Cherrelyn) started as an usher and soon the whole family got involved. Both Joseph and Shiloh stepped in many times when other ushers were absent. The whole family also often helped out as gift bearers. Cherry always provided a vegan and/or interesting dessert for the UVic student suppers. Thank you Gonzaga family for your service and participation. We are going to miss you and wish you many blessings for this next year! Godspeed!

### HOLY CROSS PARISH OFFICE

250-477-5321

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Victoria, BC V8N 3X7

[www.holycrossvictoria.org](http://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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UVic & Camosun Chaplin: Father David Shulist SJ

[dshulist@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:dshulist@rcdvictoria.org)

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