

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 2, 2026

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, August 1
4PM MASS: Pro Populo

SUNDAY, August 2
9AM MASS:
Howie Davies+

TUESDAY, August 4
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION:
Catherine Hawkins+

THURSDAY, August 6
9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION:
Dr. John Lucas+

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CHAPEL
Open 9AM-12PM
TUESDAY - FRIDAY

LIVESTREAMING

SATURDAY
August 1, 4:00 PM
[https://www.youtube.com/
@StPatricksHolyCross-
Church](https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCrossChurch)

Report Sexual Abuse

To report sexual abuse go to
[RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry](https://www.rcdvictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry)

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.

This Sunday, August 2nd, is the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Matthew's Gospel tells the story of one of the most memorable miracles that Jesus performed during His time on earth. The feeding of the multitude is the only miracle that is described in all four Gospels. In Matthew's Gospel, the story started with Jesus being informed about the death of John the Baptist. Jesus was filled with grief and wanted to be alone; *he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself*. But people, unaware of His close connection to John, followed Him *and He had compassion for them and cured their sick*. This one paragraph reminds us powerfully that Jesus was and is both divine and human. He felt the loss of His cousin and yet, He cared for the people who were looking for Him and considered their needs.

We know that Mary visited Elizabeth after the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she was going to bear a child. It is likely that the two women saw each other over the years and that the two boys, John and Jesus, spent time together. We do not know when John began to realize that Jesus was like no other, but we know he did. We know because it was John who called on people to repent and announced the coming of the redeemer. Thus, the grief of Jesus is understandable, and no one would have been surprised if He had gently told people that He needed some time to be alone and grieve His cousin. But Jesus did not – He saw the needs and longing of the people and so He cured them, talked to them, listened to them and at one point realized that they were hungry. So, He fed them!

This miracle is so over the top! Feeding one hundred people from a couple of fish would have been amazing. Why such a completely extravagant happening? Five thousand men, besides women and children; twelve baskets full of leftovers after everyone was satisfied. This event leaves no doubt that God loves us, provides for us, cares for us and understands our needs. *Jesus ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass*. This is not a remote God, watching from a distance! This is a God who notices that people are hungry and tired. This is a God who is intimately close to us, though we do not always realize it. This is a God whose love and compassion have no limits. This is our God who can not be separated from us.

In St. Paul's letter to the Romans, Paul expressed his absolute conviction that we will always be united to our loving Creator. *For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor Angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord*.

There is nothing left to say, except, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Tanya Taft



!!! Office Email Update !!!

Please note, the office email has been updated. Please update our contact info with these new emails:

- Office/Reception/Sloane Secord: holycrossvictoria@rcdvictoria.org
- RMSE/Liturgical Scheduling/Joanie Bidlake: holycross-assistant@rcdvictoria.org

Diocesan Family Camp

Diocesan Family Camp is on August 20-23 at beautiful Nanoose Bay Camp. Details are at: 12thAnnualVictoriaDioceseFamilyCampandConference.eventbrite.ca

Diocese of Victoria Pastoral Care Training Fall 2026

The Pastoral Care Outreach Training series will be Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 12:00, starting Sept 26 and running until Nov 28 (with no session on October 10). Register through the office. Zoom option, or an in-person option at Holy Cross's library is available. Please register with the office by September 17, 2026.

Support Earthquake Victims in Venezuela

Following the earthquakes in Venezuela, D&P has launched an emergency appeal, calling on Canadians to give generously to help. More information here: <https://devp.org/en/venezuela-earthquakes-you-can-help-now/>

Recap from The Cycle of Life Tour

The Cycle of Life Tour event this year raised over \$454,000 in support of Vancouver Island hospices. The *Chartwell Chain Reaction* team raised over \$7,700. Debra Prior raised over \$4,100 with lots of support from her parish community. Thank you very much for your extremely generous donations and support. To see pictures of the event, check out this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=4H8TN7j_6ho&feature=youtu.be

CCCB Launches New National Service

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) has established the Service for Migrant and Refugee Ministry (Human Mobility), a new national initiative and is looking for a coordinator to lead this service. To learn more and to see the job posting see: <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/the-canadian-conference-of-catholic-bishops-launches-new-national-service-for-migrant-and-refugee-ministry-human-mobility-and-begins-recruitment-for-national-coordinator/>

UVic Food Insecurity Project: Collections for Back to School

The SEJC is calling upon the generosity of parish members to donate food to UVic students in need. Items donated in August, will be delivered to students in September at the Multi-Faith Centre. The green bins are back in the foyer to collect food donations. This month we welcome canned fish, meat, beans, pasta or sauce.

COLLECTIONS

July 26, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$1,170.00
Loose	\$ 325.00
Electronic Giving	\$1,237.53
Total	\$2,732.53

HOLY CROSS PARISH OFFICE

250-477-5321
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

Saturday: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am
See front page for daily Mass times.

Rachel's Vineyard on Vancouver Island

Rachel's Vineyard is offering a safe and confidential retreat from Sept. 11-13, 2026 for women and men seeking healing and peace after abortion. Please share with anyone who would benefit from this type of healing. To learn more or register, please email rachelsvineyard-vancouverisland@gmail.com. You can also find more information here: <https://www.rachelsvineyardvanisland.org/>

CONTACT US

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