

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 5, 2026

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, July 4

4PM MASS: James (Shay)
O'Connor+

SUNDAY, July 5

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

TUESDAY, July 7

9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION:
Ilda Hilario+

THURSDAY, July 9

9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION:
Catherine Hawkins+

CHAPEL

Open 9AM-12PM
TUESDAY - FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY

3:30PM - 4PM

LIVESTREAMING

SATURDAY

July 4, 4:00 PM

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

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)

This Sunday, July 5th, is the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time. In Matthew's Gospel we hear the beautiful and consoling invitation from Jesus. *Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. . . For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.* The words of Jesus are full of compassion and assure us that He is aware that at times we carry heavy burdens. We can tell Him about our concerns but we do not have to, Jesus knows our struggles, troubles and fears. And He promises us respite.

Jesus gives us rest by encouraging us to put down our oppressive loads. When we are stressed about achieving, being the best athlete or salesperson or pastry chef, then Jesus reminds us that He is not expecting us to win awards and glory. If we are worried about our children, the environment, the threat of war, then Jesus asks us to trust that all will be well. When we are paralyzed by fear and anxiety, Jesus asks us not to be afraid. If we are crushed by grief, Jesus is with us and we are never alone. When media and advertisements tell us that we do not have enough, make enough, are enough, then Jesus reminds us that money and power do not bring joy, but community and family do. Let us put down our heavy burdens and reject the pressures and expectations of our secular society. Let us live with the knowledge *that the Spirit of God dwells in [us]* and that Jesus is always at our side.

When we put down these burdens then we are free to embrace and carry the cross that Jesus gives us. His easy yoke is to love our brothers and sisters; His light burden is to take care of the poor and creation. His yoke and burden do not crush us and Jesus is always ready to give us the courage and strength to love and forgive. However, accepting the burden and yoke of Jesus does not mean that there will not be suffering – there will be. But it means that we will receive peace and consolation because we are walking with our God, doing His work, helping the world to evolve into a world of love and peace. Jesus stated that, *I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

The decision to reject the heavy burdens of power and money, and to accept the lighter yoke of being unselfish and humble can be made by anyone. There are no barriers due to age, intelligence, wealth or education. When we meet our Creator face to face, He will not ask how much money we made, how many degrees we achieved, how famous we were. Instead, God will embrace us and remind us of all the love and mercy we added to the world. God knows us and loves us forever.

Tanya Taft



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Pastoral News Corner

Dear Parishioners,

I know many of you are wondering how Father Silvan is doing! Father Silvan said his last mass as Pastor Tuesday morning at Holy Cross. The weekday Mass crowd gathered for coffee and treats and a final good-bye in the hall. In the afternoon a couple of parishioners helped Father Silvan pack his car at Edgelow House (the rectory for Holy Cross Parish) and he headed over to St. Patrick's in the late afternoon. Father Silvan said his first Mass at St. Patrick's Church on Wednesday, and a few Holy Cross parishioners joined the congregation. They said that the Mass went very well and that Father Silvan was in good form! After the Mass, Father Silvan went to coffee with a couple of parishioners from Holy Cross and a couple of parishioners from St. Patrick's. Father Silvan was officially delivered to his new parish.

Our rectory was only empty for one night. Father David Shulist, the UVic chaplain, moved in and is settling into his new home!

Have a wonderful week, Tanya

Solar Panel Presentation Sunday, July 5th, 2026 10:30 am

There is a Diocesan wide initiative to install solar panels on some or all 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. This Sunday, July 5th, 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!



!!! Office Email Update !!!

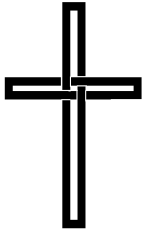
Please note, that our office email has been updated. Please change your contact in your phone to our new emails:

- Office/Reception/Sloane Secord: holycrossvictoria@rcdvictoria.org
- RMSE/Liturgical Scheduling/Joanie Bidlake: holycross-assistant@rcdvictoria.org
- Tanya Taft (Pastoral Assistant) ttaft@rcdvictoria.org - No change to email address

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 hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. And the coordinator will contact you.



QUOTATION OF THE WEEK

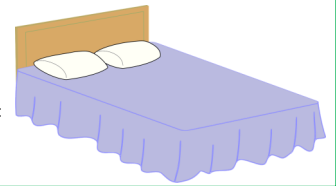
Jesus does not lift the burdens from our life, but the anguish from our heart; he does not take away our cross, but carries it with us. *Pope Francis*

The mercy of God is as accessible as the nearest water tap, and so we, like Isaiah, must proclaim a mercy that has no price tag. *Ron Rolheiser OMI*

We have moved to a level where we have made happiness and contentment largely impossible. We have created a pseudo-happiness, largely based in having instead of being. *Richard Rohr OFM*

Hosts Needed for National Gathering

Seeking Host Family from Oct 23 to Oct 25 for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Association of Canada 2026 National Gathering hosted by the Diocese of Victoria and held at St. Patrick's parish. 4 Host families needed. Humble request for meal provisions as follows: Oct. 23 Friday Lunch / Oct. 24 Saturday Breakfast & Dinner / Oct. 25 Sunday Breakfast. Contact the office if you are able to host.



Two Rooms Available in the Catholic Women's House

Two rooms available starting August 1st or September 1st, in the Gordon Head Catholic Women's House. Seeking women aged 18-35 to who are interested in living in community with other Catholic Women. Rent \$800/per room. Utilities approximately \$35/monthly. Please contact holycrossvictoria@rcdvictoria.org for more information and to get connected to the house manager.

Part-Time Event Hall Coordinator (Short-Term)

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish is seeking someone with marketing experience to help launch and promote our Event Hall and meeting rooms for rentals (events, weddings, community use) as a source of revenue to support parish needs. This flexible side-project role focuses on building awareness through social media, local advertising, and other marketing efforts, along with handling inquiries and coordinating bookings. Approximately 5 hours per week at \$25/hour, with additional commission and earning potential based on successful bookings, for a 6 to 9 month project. Please send your resume to whann@rcdvictoria.org.



New Books to Borrow!



You Visited Me by Dr. Robert Collins, is another new title in our HC Library. In a collection of true stories, Collins, a well-known oncologist, describes how God's presence moves in a modern medical centre through His mercy, peace and healing. As a witness to God's love and healing, Collins goes from being a confirmed atheist to a passionate Catholic.

Apply for Diocesan Awards and Bursaries

Apply for the bursaries and awards offered by the Diocese of Victoria. The deadline for applications is July 15th. For more info go to the Diocese website, under 'Programs' click 'Bursaries & Awards.'

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Vancouver Island: Hearts for Homes Gala

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Vancouver Island warmly invites you to the Hearts for Homes Gala – an evening of compassion, community, and impact in support of affordable housing on Vancouver Island. Join them on October 3 at the Union Club of Victoria (805 Gordon Street, Victoria, BC) for a memorable evening featuring a three-course dinner, musical entertainment, guest speakers, and silent and live auctions. For tickets <https://www.hibid.ca/events/hearts-for-homes>

NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY

1. Graduation Mass and Commissioning Ceremony 2026

In this final week of celebrating our high school graduates, we highlight the Graduation Mass and Commissioning Ceremony held at St. Andrew's Cathedral. See the story

here: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/graduation-mass-and-commissioning-ceremony-2026>

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. Support Earthquake Victims in Venezuela

Many of you are familiar with the catastrophic earthquakes that have hit Venezuela. Following Wednesday's devastating earthquakes, Development and Peace - Caritas Canada has launched an emergency appeal, calling on Canadians to give generously to help the Venezuelan people. To learn about the work being done and how to donate, please see: <https://devp.org/en/venezuela-earthquakes-you-can-help-now/>

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 home, 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.

COLLECTIONS

June 28, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE

Envelopes	\$1,295.00
Loose	\$ 650.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,445.41
Total	\$3,390.41

Thank you

Last Sunday, we said farewell to Father Silvan and celebrated our wonderful Holy Cross community with our Parish Summer Barbecue. It was lovely to sit together, relax, share stories and food, laugh, meet new people and shake Father Silvan's hand. So many people contributed to the success of this event; the set-up crew, the take down crew, the supervisors Trudy Holden and Joan Gagnon, the drink and dessert providers and all the parishioners who participated in this celebration. Thank you to all of you for making this such a special gathering! We are so blessed to belong to such a beautiful faith community!

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

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am

See front page for daily Mass times.

CONTACT US

Pastoral Assistant: Tanya Taft

ttaft@rcdvictoria.org

Administrative Assistant: Sloane Secord

holycrossvictoria@rcdvictoria.org

Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries & RMSE: Joanie Bidlake

holycross-assistant@rcdvictoria.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