

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 19, 2026

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, July 18

4PM MASS:

Bruni Family+

SUNDAY, July 19

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

TUESDAY, July 21

9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION:
Henry Family+

THURSDAY, July 23

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

FRIDAY, July 24

10AM FUNERAL MASS:
Catherine Hawkins+

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CHAPEL

Open 9AM-12PM
TUESDAY - FRIDAY

LIVESTREAMING

SATURDAY

July 18, 4:00 PM

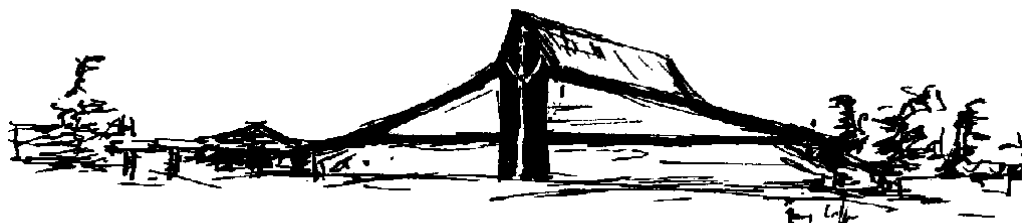
[https://www.youtube.com/
@StPatricksHolyCross-
Church](https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCrossChurch)

In the scripture reading from Matthew's gospel today, Jesus talks about the kingdom of heaven. He compares the kingdom of heaven to good seed struggling to grow in the midst of weeds until harvest, to a mustard seed the smallest of seeds growing into "the greatest of shrubs", and to yeast mixed into flour "until all of it is leavened". In all of these comparisons, the good seed which is the Word of God, the mustard seed given to extend God's love to all of creation and the yeast to enliven the hearts of everyone, God's Kingdom, when accepted, leads to life, love and salvation now and in eternity.

In today's gospel Jesus uses the idea of good seed and weeds to encourage us, and to give us cause to pause along our life's journey. Jesus knows that we are a complex mix of good seed and weeds; we are not either 'all good' or 'all bad'. He knows and sees all of who we are, 'the goods and bads' of us, our brokenness and weaknesses as well as our strivings to live 'good lives', acceptable and pleasing in His sight. He also sees us as we suffer bouts of self-criticism, regret and guilt – we think, how could God ever love us or accept us; we are just too unworthy. At other times we deny the lesser than admirable parts of ourselves, we believe that our views and opinions are actually fact and that those who hold different views are wrong. We put them outside our circle of acceptance and inclusion; they are excluded and rejected. We become self righteous and judgmental. There are times when our beliefs are true and correct. We witness harm, malice, hate spoken and acted out and we are tempted to arrogance, legalism and unyielding calls for punishment and shame.

Jesus sees it all and accepts us just as we are, not as we could be or as we should be, but as we are. This is Jesus' unconditional love for each of us and *nothing can ever separate us from that love*. Jesus calls us to accept ourselves and others as he accepts us. He teaches us to be gentle, kind, compassionate, and patient with ourselves and with others. The patience that He calls us to, is to pray, to withhold judging ourselves and others, to trust Him and to wait. It is in waiting that God's love unfolds and directs our paths. He encourages us to pause and to reflect on our weeds, our separation and distance from Him, to repent and to grow into holiness. This is God's Kingdom.

Trudy Holden



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.

!!! Office Email Update !!!

Please note, the 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

Recollections for Men and Women

Join us for a recollection! A priest of Opus Dei will be available for confession and/or spiritual direction.

- **Women:** Monday, July 20th from 6:15-8 p.m. at St. Joseph the Worker parish, 753 Burnside Road West, Victoria. It will be preceded by Mass at 5:30 p.m.
- **Men:** Tuesday, July 21st from 6-8 p.m. at Sacred Heart parish, 4040 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria. It will be preceded by Mass at 5:15 p.m.

Diocesan Family Camp

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

Mount St. Mary Hospital's 6th Annual Summer Fair 10 am - 3 pm

Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 25. The fair is a free, family-friendly community event featuring live music, a BBQ, pop up boutiques, a silent auction, kids' activities, free trishaw rides, and more.

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 the Venezuelan people. To learn more please see: <https://devp.org/en/venezuela-earthquakes-you-can-help-now/>

Infant Baptism - Baptismal Prep for the Parents

To prepare for your child's baptism, parents must participate in a Baptismal Prep course (next session July 25, 10-12) and complete a baptism registration form. Email hcsbpbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact info. The coordinator will contact you.

Report Sexual Abuse

To report sexual abuse at
rcdvictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry

COLLECTIONS

July 12, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$4,904.00
Loose	\$ 465.00
Electronic Giving	\$1,445.41
Total	\$6,814.41

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.

Diocesan Permanent Pastoral Synod (DPPS) Spring Plenary Report

This past June, Over 40 people gathered in a day of prayerful discernment and collaborative discussion for the Diocesan Permanent Pastoral Synod - Spring Plenary. The Synod leadership team has prepared a 2026 Spring Plenary Report, summarizing the discussions and outcomes of the day. Bishop Gary Gordon has also written a pastoral message reflecting on the importance of this plenary in our ongoing diocesan synodal journey. Please see both of these here: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/bishop-gary-gordons-message-for-the-2026-dpps-spring-plenary>

CONTACT US

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Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Pastoral Care Outreach Team Coordinator: Mary-Anne Tinney

mtinney@shaw.ca

UVic & Camosun Chaplain: Father David Shulist SJ

dshulist@rcdvictoria.org

Hospital Emergency Chaplain: Father Sean Flynn /
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