

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 9, 2026

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, August 8

4PM MASS:

Pro Populo

SUNDAY, August 9

9AM MASS:

Helen Charles+

TUESDAY, August 11

9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION

THURSDAY, August 13

9AM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION

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CHAPEL

Open 9AM-12PM

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

LIVESTREAMING

SATURDAY

August 8, 4:00 PM

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

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.

Hearing that John the Baptist had been put to death, Jesus sought solace, time away from the crowds to grieve. But the people followed him. In his compassion Jesus taught them, cured the sick in the crowd and fed the thousands assembled on the hillside. By early evening the disciples had already left in their boat and the crowds had dispersed. Exhausted and burdened by his grief Jesus was alone on the hillside. As night fell Jesus prayed. In deep communion with His Father, Jesus' heart remembered the day's events and He prayed for all the people he'd just been with and for his disciples crossing the Sea of Galilee.

As the disciples pulled away from the shore daylight gave way to night, stars began to appear in the darkening sky and all was well. Conversation took many twists and turns but most everyone was still talking about Jesus' miracle, earlier that day, when he fed more than 5,000 people with only five loaves and two fish. But soon an unexpected storm came up. Choppy seas and gale force winds threw their boat about and they struggled to keep on course and safely reach shore. Using everything their experience and skills had taught them they figured that they were on their own, alone and responsible for their safety. It was then that Jesus came to them upon the water. Although they had been with Jesus for a long time, some from the start of his public ministry, and even though they had been touched by Jesus' teachings and saw His miracles they had come to the limit of their own reasoning, understanding and expectations about Jesus. They could only think that this was a ghost; how could it be anything else. Knowing their confusion, utter fear and doubt Jesus spoke to them. He comforted them and told them it was he and that they need not fear. Peter, a mixture of faith and doubt, yet always seeking God, the Messiah to come, asked Jesus to call him across the water. Jesus simply said, "Come". Peter walked on the water toward Jesus. He faltered only when he took his eyes off Jesus and remembering the stormy seas he began to worry. Jesus reached out and held Peter.

As Jesus and Peter stepped into the boat the seas calmed for Jesus had entered into their lives and was with them. He did not judge or condemn the reactions of the disciples who stayed in the boat or Peter's doubts on the water. He met each one of them where they were and lovingly accepted them as they were. It was in their suffering and amid the storms of their lives that Jesus brought them to deeper level of faith, to a new encounter with God. They worshipped Jesus and proclaimed that He was truly the Son of God. Not only had they crossed the sea but they crossed to a new understanding and love of God. Jesus was not simply a teacher and a miracle worker; He was the God whom they had waited for and hoped for and He was with them.

Jesus invites us to into new encounters with him, to deeper levels of faith and trust as we journey in the joys and struggles of life. He neither judges us nor condemns us. He accepts us as we are and where we are - in the boat, on the water or sinking; He is with us.

Trudy Holden

PS Liz Summers from Victoria wrote the commentary for this Sunday in the Sunday Missal.



!!! Office Email Update !!!

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

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

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 the Holy Cross library is available. Please register with the office by September 17, 2026.

Children's Sacramental Preparation

Is your child aged 7 to 17 yrs old and ready to receive the sacraments? Register for Sacramental Preparation classes by Sept 30. Forms are available on the Religious Education page on the website holycrossvictoria.org. This year all classes take place at Holy Cross. For more details, contact Tanya Taft, ttaft@rcdvictoria.org.

World Youth Day Seoul 2027 Pilgrimage

Calling all youth aged 19 to 35! Are you interested in joining our Diocese on a pilgrimage to attend World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea? Plans are coming together and we would love to hear from you. If you or anyone you know are interested in learning more about this potentially life changing pilgrimage, please fill out this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/dQZVd6EDpZ>

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.

Baptismal Preparation

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 choose one of the next available prep courses below:

Sat, Aug 22 (10 am – 12pm)

Thurs, Sept 10 (6 pm – 8pm)

Sat, Oct 10 (10 am – 12pm)

Please email hcsppbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism and forward you the baptism registration form.

COLLECTIONS

August 2, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$4,205.00
Loose	\$ 415.00
Electronic Giving	\$1,237.53
Total	\$5,857.53

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

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

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 /

250-889-3761

HOLY CROSS PARISH OFFICE

250-477-5321

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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.