

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY

August 29

4PM MASS:

Pro Populo

SUNDAY

August 30

9AM MASS:

Catherine Hawkins+

TUESDAY

September 1

9AM MASS

Marguerite Strand (INT)

WEDNESDAY

September 2

6:30 PM MASS

THURSDAY

September 3

9AM MASS

FRIDAY

September 4

9AM MASS

RECONCILIATION

WEDNESDAY 6-6:30 PM

SATURDAY 3:30-4 PM

CHAPEL

Open 9AM-12PM

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

LIVESTREAMING

SATURDAY

August 29, 4:00 PM

<https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

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.

August 30, 2026

This Sunday, August 30th, is the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. In today's Gospel by Matthew, Jesus tells His disciples *that he must undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised*. Peter is shocked and tries to persuade Jesus to avoid these terrible events. Most people would understand Peter's reaction. But Jesus strongly rejects Peter's outburst and explains that God's thinking is different from human's thinking. Why does Jesus have to suffer? Even two thousand years later the awful and humiliating death that Jesus endured is hard to understand. Only if we look at the significance of Jesus' death can we comprehend it a little. Jesus' suffering led to our growing realization that God loves us with a love that is beyond anything we could imagine. God's love is infinite!

By telling His disciples about His future suffering, Jesus showed that He was aware and accepting of His future. But we know that in the Garden of Gethsemane, He was troubled and asked, *My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will*. (Matthew 26:39) Jesus did not ask for the suffering, but He trusted God, even in His anguish. We, too, have to face that suffering is part of this beautiful life. And we, too, have to trust God.

Almost everyone ponders the existence of suffering at some time. If God is a loving God, why is there suffering? At times we might observe benefits of suffering, but we wrestle with finding a satisfying answer to this question all our lives. This can not possibly be God's will, that everyone suffers at times in their lives. No, it is not God's will that we suffer, but He wants us to love, truly love in complete freedom. That is only possible if we have free will. Therefore, we must trust, even though like Peter we do not understand, especially the suffering of children, innocents, and our loved ones. We must trust that God made the best possible world, the best possible universe. We find it difficult to accept the suffering in the world, the suffering of Jesus on the cross. But we were created out of love and freedom, we were made to love in freedom. Therefore, suffering will also exist.

Let us remember the last line of Jesus' words, *and on the third day be raised*. Did Peter and the disciples comprehend this? Jesus knew He was going to suffer and He knew that He was loved and would be raised from the dead. With God's grace we accept suffering as part of our lives and ask God to give us courage and strength to face our individual and collective challenges. Like Jesus, we know that we are loved and will be raised from death to new life. Like Jesus, we trust!

Tanya Taft



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.

New Course on Beginning Apologetics

You're invited to join a 10-week apologetics program at the St. Andrew's Cathedral from Sept 23 to Nov 25, facilitated by Bernadette O'Connor. The course is entitled: "A Catholic Perspective of Steadfast Hope expressed with Gentleness and Respect." The 1.5 hour sessions will be held Wednesdays at either (1) in person at 2pm or (2) 6:30pm on Zoom. Please contact St Andrew's Cathedral office to register.

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.

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

September 1 marks the beginning of the Season of Creation, a special season of ecumenical solidarity where Christians come together in prayer and action to protect our common home. Learn more about this season, read the Holy Father's message, and see how you can get involved at: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/season-of-creation-2026-living-water>

Festival of Senhor Bom Jesus da Pedra

Our Lady of Fatima Parish invite you to the Festival of Senhor Bom Jesus da Pedra, from Sept 4 to 6. A procession and social gathering in our hall will follow after the 12pm Sunday Mass on Sat Sept 6 at 12pm. Traditional Portuguese food and Portuguese and Columbian folklore dancers.

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 for. The next courses are *Thurs, Sept 10 (6 pm - 8pm)* OR *Sat, Oct 10 (10 am - 12pm)*. Please email hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your contact information. The coordinator will return your email with resources and instructions.

Synchronous Marriage Preparation Courses are now available over Zoom. For details or to register please check our website: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/marriage-prep>

Colombia Earthquake Relief Efforts - To learn more about what they are doing to help and to donate visit: <https://devp.org/en/colombia-earthquake-how-to-help/>

COLLECTIONS

August 23, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 850.00
Loose	\$ 385.00
Electronic Giving	\$1,237.53
Total	\$2,472.53

Thank you

I am very grateful to Trudy Holden, who made it possible for me to have a restful vacation. She came in every Friday and prepared the Prayers of the Faithful, the commentator notes, proofread the bulletin and shared beautiful reflections on our Sunday readings. I enjoyed visiting with my family, knowing that all was in Trudy's capable hands. Thank you, Trudy, for all your time and support! - Tanya Taft

CONTACT US

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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.