HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, October 31
4PM MASS: Pro Populo

SUNDAY, November 1
9AM MASS: All Saints' Day

MONDAY, November 2
9AM MASS:
All Souls' Day

TUESDAY, November 3
9AM MASS: Bob Das+

WEDNESDAY, November 4
6:30PM MASS:
Fr Frank Franz+

THURSDAY, November 5
9AM MASS: Natalie (INT)

FRIDAY, November 6
9AM MASS:
Margaret McDonnell+

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CHAPEL
Open 9AM-12PM
TUESDAY - FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION
WEDNESDAY
6PM-6:30PM

SATURDAY
3:30PM - 4PM

LIVESTREAMING
SUNDAY, November 1
11:00 AM
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.

Report Sexual Abuse
To report sexual abuse at RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry

ALL SAINTS' DAY

November 1, 2026

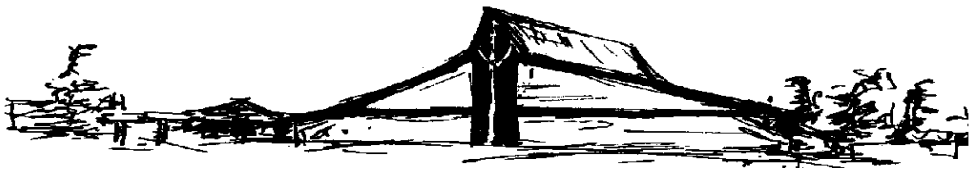
The Feast of All Saints' and the *Te Deum* prayer of the Church

You are God: we praise you; You are God: we acclaim you; You are the eternal Father: All creation worships you. To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you: Father, of majesty unbounded, Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship, And the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide. You, Christ, are the king of glory, The eternal Son of the Father. When you became man to set us free You did not spurn the Virgin's womb. You overcame the sting of death, And opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. You are seated at God's right hand in glory. We believe that you will come, and be our judge. Come then, Lord, and help your people, Bought with the price of your own blood, And bring us with your saints To glory everlasting. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance. Govern and uphold them now and always. Day by day we bless you. We praise your name forever. Keep us today, Lord, from all sin. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy. Lord, show us your love and mercy; For we put our trust in you. In you, Lord, is our hope: And we shall never hope in vain.

The *Te Deum* is one of the Church's most exuberant hymns of praise. Once sung frequently at great celebrations of thanksgiving, coronations, and major feasts, it has inspired composers from Palestrina and Handel to Charpentier and Verdi. As a musician, I have come to know many of these settings. The prayer gathers the whole heavenly court—the angels, apostles, prophets, martyrs, and saints—in praise of God. I have always imagined it as an occasion when all the faithful join that chorus, expressing their faith and trust in the saving power of the Resurrection.

The *Te Deum* is a fitting prayer for the Feast of All Saints because it gives voice to the great communion we celebrate: the saints who have gone before us, the Church gathered on earth, and the heavenly hosts united in praise of God. The reading from Revelation echoes this same song of worship: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." On this feast, we are reminded that holiness is not reserved for a distant or exceptional few. The saints represent all manner of women and men who allowed the grace of God to shape their lives, often in hidden and ordinary ways, and who now share fully in the life of God. Their witness encourages us to recognize that we, too, are called to holiness.

...(Continued on Page 2)



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

(Continued from Page 1)... The first letter of St. John invites us to contemplate the promise at the heart of that call: "When he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is." Heaven is not simply a place beyond this life. Heaven is the fulfillment of our deepest vocation to taste the union with God in the here and now. The Beatitudes show us the path toward that fulfillment. Jesus calls blessed those who are poor in spirit, merciful, pure of heart, hungry for justice, and committed to peace. Lives may include hardship, misunderstanding, and sorrow, yet the kingdom of heaven is already taking root. Indeed, the saints show us that the Beatitudes can be lived, and that lives offered in love can become signs of hope for the world.

This feast is therefore not only a remembrance of holy people from the past; it is a celebration of what God is doing among us now. When we pray the *Te Deum* together—or listen to one of its magnificent musical settings—we join our voices to the prayer of the whole Church across every time and place. We give thanks for the saints whose witness has guided us, for the faithful people whose quiet goodness sustains us today, and for the grace that continues to draw each of us toward holiness. May their example help us to trust God more deeply, to seek peace and justice with courage, and to become more attentive to the presence of Christ in those around us. With the saints and with all God's people, we make the hymn's final words our own: "For we put our trust in you. In you, Lord, is our hope, and we shall never hope in vain." Saints of God – Pray for us.

Fr. Erik SJ

Pastoral News Corner

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend, as we begin the month of November, we remember the people we have loved that have passed into eternal life. On November 1st we honour and celebrate our Saints and on November 2nd we pray for the dead, our family members, friends and those who have no one to pray for them. The practice of praying for the dead goes back to the very beginning of our Church and eventually All Souls' Day was established on November 2nd, 998 A.D. by St. Odilo of Cluny. He established this feast day at the Benedictine monastery of Cluny, and it was soon adopted by the whole Western Church.



The opportunity to say prayers for our loved ones is a gift from our loving God. You are invited during the month of November to record the names of your loved ones that have passed on to eternal life in the black binder on the stand next to the votive candle stand.

Have a peaceful week, Tanya



Universal Prayer Service Friday November 6th, 2026, 7:00 pm

Please join us for an hour of universal prayer at the Holy Cross Parish on **November 6th, 2026, 7:00 pm**. There will be readings, music and chants, candles, silence and prayer. Everyone is welcome!

Sunday Bridge Starts Back Up

If you have already registered for Sunday Social Bridge, the first session is scheduled for November 1st, 2026, at 1:30pom in the parish hall.

QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

To be a saint is to be fueled by gratitude, nothing more and nothing less.
- *Ronald Rolheiser*

Do not be afraid to be holy. Embrace your call to holiness; that is the only way to true happiness. - *Pope Francis*

The way to become a saint is to love God and neighbor with all one's heart and soul and strength. - *Mother Teresa*

Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire. - *St. Catherine of Siena*

All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.
- *St. Francis of Assisi*

Baptismal Preparation

To prepare for your child's baptism, parents must participate in a Baptismal Prep course and complete a baptism registration form. The next sessions available to take a Baptismal Prep course are Sat, November 7 and December 12 (10:00 am – 12 noon). Please email hcspbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org to register.



May Your Soul Rest In Peace

It is with sadness that we inform you that Margaret McDonnell, a long-time member of the Holy Cross Family passed into eternal life on Friday, October 16th, 2026. Though Margaret has not been able to join us at mass in recent years because of poor health, many of us remember her gentle and faith filled spirit. Margaret and her good friend Cam Dunphy made a number of pilgrimages to Medjugorje, Bosnia. Their radiant joy and peace when they returned inspired a number of us to make similar pilgrimages. We extend our sincere condolences to her family and many friends. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.*

Margaret's funeral mass will be on November 12th, 2026, at 11:00 am at Holy Cross Church.

UVic Food Insecurity Project: Collections for Back to School

The SEJC is asking for food donations for UVic students in need. Items donated in October will delivered to students at the Multi-Faith Centre. The green donation bins are back in the foyer. This month we will focus on canned stews, canned fish and meats, pastas and sauce.



Bishop's Appeal

Bishop's Appeal: Be the Light. Many thanks and gratitude to all of you that have already contributed to this year's Appeal. Information about the Diocesan Appeal is at www.rcdvictoria.org/bishops-appeal. Our parish goals are to support Foie et Joie in Haiti and the Cridge Center's Acquired Brain Injury program here in Victoria. More about these projects will be shared at Mass and in the foyer. **PLEASE NOTE**: If you are donating online or with an e-transfer please indicate, where appropriate or possible, that you are a Holy Cross parishioner so that the funds are attributed to our total.

Free Public Talk Sunday, November 1st, 2026, 10:15 am Holy Cross Parish Center

The UVic chaplaincy has arranged for Brex Arevalo to speak on some of his work as an advocate for environmental and social justice in the Asia-Pacific region. He will be speaking at UVic Friday evening and on Sunday at Holy Cross Parish Center after the 9:00 am mass. His talk is entitled: *Navigating a just transition in the Wild Wild Waste*. The talk is sponsored by the Canadian Jesuits International and by Holy Cross Church. Everyone is welcome!

CHANCERY NEWS

All Souls' Day Mass **November 7th** **Royal Oak Burial Park**

On Sat, Nov 7, Our Lady of Fatima Parish will hold a Mass in honour of All Souls' in the Mausoleum at the Royal Oak Burial Park. Rosary will be at 9:00 am, followed by Holy Mass. Celebrant will be Father Eduardo da Silva Santos from Our Lady of Fatima. Everyone is welcome.

CISDV – AGM

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Catholic Independent Schools Diocese of Victoria (CISDV) Society will be held on **Tuesday, November 17, 2026.** There will be a private ballot election for a position to the CISDV Board of Directors at this meeting. The position is for a three-year term. Nomination forms may be requested from schools@cisdv.bc.ca and must be completed and sent to the Nomination Committee at schools@cisdv.bc.ca **no later than Tuesday, November 10th**. Potential Board Members must meet the following requirements for nomination:

1. Be a practising Catholic and an active member of a Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Victoria.
2. Not be an employee of the CISDV, an immediate relative of an employee of the CISDV, nor a student of a school under the jurisdiction of CISDV.
3. Read and understand the constitution and bylaws, policies 200 and 201 and the method of election.
4. Have a signed nomination form which includes two sponsors and Parish Priest.

For further information, contact Island Catholic Schools office at 250-727-6893 ext 240.

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

October 25, 2026

Collections form the October 25th weekend will not be published due to the closing of the office from October 26-30th. For questions about collections, please email the office.

THANK YOU

Wednesday, October 21st, seven wonderful volunteers descended onto the parish center and within thirty-two minutes the hall, the offices, the library and the hallways were cleared of tables, chairs, benches, boxes and any other furniture. Amazing! We all agreed, everything is easier and so much more fun when accomplished by a team! Thank you to our wonderful volunteer team, Sheila, Phil, Anna, Joe, Trudy, Ed, and Pete. Thank you also to Sloane who had the move thoroughly planned and organized!

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.

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 / 250-889-3761