

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, October 10
4PM MASS: The Deceased
Members of the Mazza
Family+

SUNDAY, October 11
9AM MASS: Pro Populo

TUESDAY, October 13
9AM MASS:
Bill Wehinger+

WEDNESDAY,
October 14
6:30PM MASS:
Frank Ewer+

THURSDAY, October 15
9AM MASS:
Margaret & John Gormley+

FRIDAY, October 16
9AM MASS

CHAPEL
Open 9AM-12PM
TUESDAY - FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION
WEDNESDAY
6PM-6:30PM

SATURDAY
3:30PM - 4PM

LIVESTREAMING
SATURDAY October 10,
11:00 AM

[https://www.youtube.com/@
StPatricksHolyCross
Church](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](https://www.rcd.victoria.org/Responsible-Ministry)

October 11, 2026

Today's gospel is one we could happily call a 'rejoice and be glad' gospel. It bodes well for everyone. It is an invitation to life in the heart of God, given repeatedly, constantly and relentlessly by our loving and inclusive God, God who never gives up on any of us.

Jesus says the kingdom of heaven is like a wedding banquet given by a king, a great feast where everyone becomes a welcomed guest. The king invites those closest to him, his friends. They are the people with whom he shares beliefs, values, opinions and general outlook. They talk and get together often. His friends are among the first invited to this most joyous event.

The guest list is expanded and the king invites everyone else to the wedding. People who are called good and those known to be bad are included. They are outside the king's circle; they don't know him but they are invited just the same. No one is left out.

The good on the list, we would probably agree, include the well-to-do, those who live on the margins and those lacking in one way or another. They live trying to do what is good for themselves and for their neighbours. We could probably say they are walking in Jesus' footsteps. If asked, they might simply say that they believe it is their responsibility to help their fellow man. About the bad being invited, what can we say, except maybe 'why?'. If we were drawing up the list they would be nowhere to be found. After all they are the criminally bad, corrupt, not bound by the truth, would do anything to further their own interests. But the king invites them!

Both the good and the bad accept the king's invitation. Utterly surprising, however, the king's friends refuse to come. It turns out their friendship with the king is superficial at best. They want to be to be part of the king's circle and to be seen in this light expecting that it would afford them privilege and advantage. They care about important things like family and making a living. But, when it comes down to it, they care more about themselves, their prosperity and the things the world offers. They don't want to be inconvenienced in any way and certainly do not want to take time away from business or other interests to be part of the wedding banquet.

This gospel about the wedding banquet is not just about a feast. It is about 'the heart of God', His kingdom come to earth, His reign present and working in the world today. God's reign is love, mercy, justice, compassion. Whenever and wherever we see these operating we know that God's kingdom is alive and well.

Today, God invites all of us, no exceptions, into His kingdom reign on earth. For those of us who are His friends the world does not claim us because we have our 'eyes on Jesus'. Our life in God's kingdom is not stagnant and not the same now as it has always been. With God's grace we come to know Him and his ways ever more deeply and to live His reign in the world when it's easy and when it's not. We allow ourselves to become vulnerable, to step outside the ways we usually live and to trust God's guidance. As we become imitators of Jesus in our every thought, opinion, decision, word and in action, it is then that we really 'put on the mind and heart of Christ'. Pope Francis said, "It is not enough to accept the invitation...we must be open to a journey of conversion which changes the heart." He added, "The wedding garment of mercy, which God offers unceasingly, is the free gift of His love...to be welcomed with astonishment and joy."

Everyday we wake to find another 'You Are Invited' envelope waiting for us - invited into God's reign, into God's love on earth, the only thing worth organizing our whole lives around. Amen

Trudy Holden



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Pastoral News Corner

The Trinity

The Christian doctrine of the Trinity—one God in three persons—is as beautiful as it is mysterious. Water, a tree, and warmth are familiar images from nature that can help us approach the extraordinary mystery of the Trinity. Three analogies attributed to St. John of Damascus (7th century) offer a helpful starting point:

Think of the Father as a spring of life, begetting the Son like a river, and the Holy Spirit like a sea. The spring, river, and sea remain distinct in the image, yet all share the same nature of water.



Think of the Father as a root, the Son as a branch, and the Spirit as fruit. Each is distinguishable, yet the same life and substance flow through all three.

The Father may also be compared to the sun, the Son to its rays, and the Holy Spirit to its warmth. Light and heat proceed from the sun and cannot be separated from it, while each is encountered in a distinct way.

Ultimately, water, a tree, and warmth draw us back to the mystery introduced at the outset: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct yet perfectly united in the one divine life.

Blessings, Father Erik SJ

Employment Opportunity

The Diocese of Nelson is seeking a full-time Financial Administrator. For full details and application information, please visit <https://www.nelsondiocese.org/apps/jobs/>

2026 Bishop's Appeal

This year's theme is **Be the Light**. There is more information on the Diocesan Website (choose Diocese and then Bishop's Appeal), including a video by Bishop Gary. All registered parishioners will have received brochures with the details this past week in the mail and updates on our projects and progress will be published in future bulletins.

Men's Seminar at St. Andrew's Cathedral

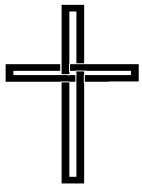
St. Andrews Cathedral is hosting a seminar on Saturday, October 17 (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) called, Discovering the Strength and Mission of Masculinity. Be there for a day of inspiring talks and fellowship exploring authentic Catholic masculinity, service, and leadership. Cost is \$15, including lunch. Registration required. Contact standrewscathedral@gmail.com or 250-388-5571 for details.

Religious Olive Wood Carving Sale

In the foyer, after Mass on October 17 & 18, olive wood carvings are available for purchase. These carvings were made by Christians in the Holy Land. The Christians of the Holy Land face severe and escalating hardships. The sale of these carving help the community of brothers and sisters overseas. Please note that ONLY cash and etransfer will be accepted as payment.

Vocation Live-In

From Nov 14-15 at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission, BC, young men, grades 7-11 are invited to experience seminary life. For more info, or to register, call [604.826.8975](tel:604.826.8975) or email at rector.minors@sck.ca to register online: <https://forms.gle/hJPj6gCRMDU6nsBY9>



QUOTATION OF THE WEEK

We are in good hands, all the time. A gracious, all-powerful, loving God is solidly in charge and nothing will happen in the world and nothing will happen to us that this Lord is indifferent to.

-Ron Rolheiser OMI

May Your Soul Rest In Peace

It is with sadness that we inform you that Irene Snow, a former long-time member of the Holy Cross Family recently passed into eternal life. Irene and her husband Bill attended Holy Cross until Bill passed into eternal life in 2010. At that time Irene moved to White Rock to live closer to her children and grandchildren. Their daughter Leslie Ann Hebb wanted to be sure that Holy Cross Parish knew of her mother's passing. She wrote: *With gratitude for all that Holy Cross meant to Mum and Dad, I (on behalf of their descendants) wanted to let you know that Mum passed to join Dad in heaven with Our Lord on September 5th.* Attached is her obituary: arbutusfuneralservice.com/tribute/irene-snow
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.



Soup Kitchen In Need of Volunteers

The Soup Kitchen, operating in the basement of St. Andrew's Cathedral in Victoria, is looking for volunteers, Monday to Friday from 7:30 am to 10:30 am. Please consider volunteering just one morning a week Monday through Friday. Lots of ways you can help out - making sandwiches, serving soup, offering coffee and tea, dishwashing, etc.

D&P Invites You to a Presentation on Margins at the Centre

Canadian Jesuits International are hosting a guest speaker, Brex Arevalo from the Philippines. He is an environmental planner and climate justice advocate. He will speak on destructive impacts of waste-burning facilities and supporting safe and just energy transition in the Global South. His talk is entitled: Margins at the Centre: Navigating a Just Transition in the Wild Waste. Sunday, Nov. 1, 2026, 10:15a.m. (after 9a.m. mass) Holy Cross Church, 4049 Gordon Head Rd.



LIBRARY CORNER

In relation to Thanksgiving and gratitude, we have put out a wide variety of Devotional Books in the foyer for you to checkout and enjoy. There are stories of famous pilgrimages, books on prayer and healing, reflections by famous spiritual authors, and books on Pope Leo. There is something for everyone. Enjoy!

Glorious Mysteries Art Auction Fundraiser

Join Coram Deo Artist Collective for the Glorious Mysteries Art Auction on October 23, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's the Worker Parish Hall. Catholic artists from across the Diocese have created original works inspired by the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, which will be available through a silent auction. Proceeds will support both the participating artists and Our Lady of the Rosary Parish. Enjoy an evening of faith, community, and sacred art. More info at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-glorious-mysteries-art-auction-tickets-2001036794920>

Katesismong Pilipino (KP) – 3rd Quarter Filipino Mass

Filipino Catechism of the Catholic Church here in Victoria are inviting the Diocese community to their 3rd Quarter Filipino Mass on Saturday, October 17, 2026, at 7:00 PM, at St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Victoria. In loving devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and in celebration of the month of the Holy Rosary, we will gather for a Living Rosary at 6:00 PM, followed by the Holy Mass at 7:00 PM, to be celebrated by Fr. Dino Villadiego.

CHANCERY NEWS

1. World Mental Health Day - October 10 is World Mental Health Day, an opportunity to pray for those experiencing mental health challenges and to learn about resources that support mental wellness in our communities. Explore faith-based resources that promote mental wellness, hope, and accompaniment at: <https://catholicmhm.org/canada-chapter> and <https://sanctuarymentalhealth.org/catholics/>

2. 2027 Zoom Marriage Preparation Course Dates- Couples preparing for marriage are invited to attend an online Zoom Marriage Preparation course. Both the Friday evening and Saturday sessions are required to receive a certificate of completion.

January 8-9, 2027 – Friday, 7-10pm PT; Saturday, 9am-4pm PT

April 9-10, 2027 – Friday, 7-10pm PT; Saturday, 9am-4pm PT

Questions? Email marriageprep@rcdvictoria.org.



3. St. Andrew's High vs St. Peter's Parish Friendly Soccer Match - A soccer match between St Peters Parish and St Andrew's High School on Tuesday, October 13th at 4pm at St Andrew's High School in Victoria. All are invited to come to this diocesan community event.

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 4, 2026

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 1,955.00
Loose	\$ 380.00
Electronic Giving	\$1,712.38
Total	\$4,047.38

THANK YOU

This past Thursday, the Social/Eco Justice Committee delivered boxes and boxes of food to the UVic Multifaith Center. Thank you, Holy Cross Parish, for your wonderful generosity and thank you Social/Eco Justice Committee for continuing your work in reaching out to our brothers and sisters who need assistance! We are blessed!

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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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