HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 18, 2026

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, October 17
4PM MASS: Pro Populo

SUNDAY, October 18
9AM MASS: Ilda Hilario+

TUESDAY, October 20
9AM LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION:
Hilary Riberio+

WEDNESDAY, October 21
6:30PM LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION:
Denise Jenkins+

THURSDAY, October 22
9AM LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION:
Shirley Bailey+

FRIDAY, October 23
9AM LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION

CHAPEL

Open 9AM-12PM
TUESDAY - FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY
3:30PM - 4PM

LIVESTREAMING

SUNDAY, October 18, 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

United in mission - listening, encounter, reconciliation, and respect

This weekend we observe World Mission Sunday. Pope Leo asks that "**all members of the Church be united in mission**." Mission is not simply one activity among many, nor is it reserved for a few people who travel to distant countries. Mission has long belonged to the Church's deepest identity. Since the beginning, the Church has drawn life and inspiration from the concrete example of Jesus and his apostles, as well as from the witness of countless missionaries through the centuries—from those who initially brought the Gospel to Europe, North Africa and the Middle East to those who later travelled often from Europe to deep Africa, the Americas, and Asia. We know well today that this missionary history has not always reflected the Gospel faithfully. Here in Canada, we are especially mindful of the profound harm experienced by Indigenous Peoples through the Church's participation in colonial systems. Remembering both the courage and the failures of the past calls us to a humbler mission today—one rooted in listening, encounter, reconciliation, and respect.

The missionary attitude is to look beyond expectations. It is to trust that God may already be at work in a stranger, in another culture, or in a situation we would never have chosen. The early Jesuits had a missionary motto: *we enter through their door*. Hence, Jesuits of many generations have adapted to local culture and dress, language, and even rituals.

We may feel that we carry the Gospel into a godless world. At the same time we are told also that this is an 'age of seekers.' In hope and faith, we are called to trust that God always goes before us, that God cracks open the door and is already working in the hearts of those who may have no religious knowledge or affiliation. If given the opportunity, we can ask simple questions such as 'what do you understand by God' or 'what do you mean when you say you are spiritual but not religious?' A missionary Church therefore listens as well as speaks.

The parish gathers to praise God, and praise becomes mission when it sends us to announce God's promise to every people. Worship opens outward into witness: "Sing to the Lord a new song" and "declare God's glory among the nations" (Psalm 96). The psalm imagines many peoples bringing their voices into a harmony of diversity and inclusiveness. The Church receives the gifts of cultures, learns new ways of expressing faith, and discovers that the Gospel can take flesh in places and people that enlarge her own understanding of God.

St. Paul tells the Thessalonians that the Gospel came to them "not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction" (1 Thessalonians 1:5). Mission is more than repeating correct words. The Gospel becomes credible when the Holy Spirit shapes a community whose "work of faith," "labour of love," and "steadfastness of hope" can be seen.

(continued on Page 2)...



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

...(Continued from Page 1: People recognize Christ when faith becomes service. This is how a parish becomes missionary: by welcoming the stranger, listening to those who feel forgotten, accompanying people in difficulty, serving those in need, and labouring for reconciliation.

In the Gospel, Jesus replies to his opponents, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s” (Matthew 22:21). The coin bears Caesar’s image; the human person bears the image of God. If the coin can be returned to Caesar, then our whole selves—our gifts, relationships, choices, resources, outreach—belong to God. Hence, mission is the offering of a life already marked by God’s image. This week, where is God already at work ahead of us? Whom are we being sent to notice, listen to, serve, or welcome? If all members of the Church are united in mission, then each of us can become, wherever we are, a living sign of Christ’s hope and peace.

Fr Erik Oland

Pastoral News Corner

Dear Parishioners,

World Mission Sunday is celebrated by the Church throughout the world each year on the second-to-last Sunday of October. October 18th marks the 100th anniversary of this event. The theme declared by Pope Leo for 2026 is “One in Christ, United in Mission”.

Most of us probably do not know the name Pauline Jaricot. She was born in 1799 in Lyon, France. Pauline was the youngest of seven children and one of her brothers was a missionary in Quang Nam, Vietnam. Though she suffered from poor health at that time, Pauline was determined to help the missionaries. She organized a group of working women to support the missions with prayers and a weekly contribution of one penny from each member of the group. Other groups were inspired and followed the lead of these women, supporting all missions. In 1822 Pauline founded the Society for the Propagation of the Faith to support missions with prayer and financial donations. One hundred years later, Pope Pius XI declared the Society as a pontifical society and this led to World Mission Sunday being celebrated four years later in 1926.

Pauline Jaricot lived her life working for justice and supporting the faith. She died on January 9, 1862, in Lyon and her beatification was celebrated on May 22, 2022. What an inspiring woman of faith!

Have a wonderful week, Tanya

2026 Bishop’s Appeal

The Bishop’s Appeal is off to a wonderful start! The 2026 Bishop’s Appeal theme is "Be the Light". This Appeal is inspired by the words of Jesus who said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life" (John 8:12). The Holy Cross Bishop’s Appeal team will be sharing our choices for local and international missions we plan to support with the money raised, over the next four weeks. A great big Thank You to all who have donated already this year and to all who have in past years.

Religious Olive Wood Carving Sale

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

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

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

QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

The mission of the servants of the Word – bishops, priests, religious and laity – is to allow everyone, without exception, to enter into a personal relationship with Christ.

Once we experience the power of God's love, and recognize his fatherly presence in our personal and community life, we cannot help but proclaim and share what we have seen and heard.

Quotes from Pope Francis

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 10:00 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!

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.



Laundry Ministry Volunteer Needed



The Laundry Ministry is looking for a volunteer to help care for our altar linens. Volunteers take turns every four months, laundering and folding the linens at home and returning them to the sacristy or office. Training and instructions are provided, and the work can be done on your own time. Please contact the office if you are available to volunteer.

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

UVic Food Insecurity Project: Collections for Back to School

The SEJC team delivering food to the UVic Multi-faith Chapel noticed that protein items were scarce in their cupboard, so we are requesting donations of tinned meat, salmon, tuna and beans over the next while. Items donated in October were delivered to students at the Multi-Faith Centre. The green donation bins are back in the foyer. Thank you again to the parish, for your continuing generosity. It is greatly appreciated.

CHANCERY NEWS

1. 100th World Mission Sunday - This weekend marks the 100th annual World Mission Sunday. Watch Pope Leo's video message and find resources on how to celebrate World Mission Month this October here: https://www.rcdvictoria.org/global-catholic-news/100th-world-mission-sunday-message

2. **Support Our Lady of the Rosary in the 50/50 Draw** - The new Our Lady of the Rosary Church and Parish Centre is under construction at 2940 Irwin Road, Langford, BC, where it will serve parishioners and the wider community for generations to come. To help support ongoing construction and development costs, you are invited to support their 50/50 Draw. Every ticket purchased contributes directly to this important project and brings them one step closer to completing their new church. Purchase your tickets today at: https://rafflebox.ca/raffle/oltrp/

3. All Souls Day Mass: 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

4. Prayers for the Holy Father - We ask you to join the faithful across Canada and the world in praying for the swift and complete recovery of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV following his surgery on October 13, 2026. To read the release, including a letter to the Holy Father, from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops on behalf of the Catholic faithful of Canada, visit: https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/prayers-for-the-holy-father-and-letter-from-the-cccb-president/

5. **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 contact info@thesoupkitchen.ca.

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 11, 2026

Envelopes	$ 2,100.00
Loose	$ 460.00
Needs of the Church	$ 20.00
SEJC	$ 315.00
Electronic Giving	$1,712.38
Total	$4,292.38

THANK YOU

The fall Pastoral Care Training Course started on Saturday, September 26, 2026. There are nine sessions and with the direction from Mary-Anne Tinney, the library in the Parish Center is made available for the trainees to gather and share the training sessions. Parishioners take turns to host, set up the technology, provide coffee, treats and a place where people can share ideas and insights. Thank you to Mary-Anne and her team for the many courses that you have organized and supported during the last few years.

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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