

Today—the Fourth Sunday of Easter—is called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus illustrates his teaching by referring to shepherds and sheep, seeing himself as the Good Shepherd foretold by the prophets. It is about the *relationship* between the shepherd and the sheep. Though the imagery is old, the message is topical. It is relevant to us here and now. By faith we accept Jesus, and our relationship is a deeply personal one. The bond of love uniting us is based on the love that unites the Father and Jesus. Our new existence is founded on God's unbreakable love and faithfulness.

With every election, citizens will face an important question together: Who should lead? It has a related, shadow question that gets asked more rarely: Who will follow? Although we ask the first question quite openly during an election year, it arises as well in the more immediate circles we inhabit. Who should lead: in families? In the work environment? In various committees within the parish or neighborhood?

We as church ask the same questions from our own membership each year on Good Shepherd Sunday, which is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. From among those gathered here this weekend we must ask: Who will lead the church into the future? Who will preach the gospel to the assembly that gathers tomorrow, and all our tomorrows? Who will be our teachers, prophets, and healers, our administrators and music-makers and caregivers? If it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a small army to run the average parish.

We dedicate this one day each year to pray for church leaders: those we already have, and those we need for the future. If you love the church, pray for those who lead her. If you do not like the way the church is headed, if you have disagreements with ecclesial decisions and pronouncements, then you may have to pray twice as hard! But more than that: You might consider that your dissatisfaction may itself be a call to service if not to leadership. The church does not need yes-men and -women. In fact, it is calling us to be a synodal church, that is, a listening church where conversations lead to conversion, commitment, and active participation in the mission of Christ.

We all bear the responsibility of growing good leadership. We do it in the home. schools, parishes, and in our communities. People become good leaders based on their experiences, on what life teaches them in

good times and in bad. Look into your heart on this Good Shepherd Sunday: Have you gained in wisdom? Do you have a light you have been tending under a bushel? Are you the leader for whom we have been waiting?



Leadership matters and we all lead together,

Father William

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm **Fr. William Hann, Pastor** 4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC V8N 3X7 Phone: 250-477-5321Fax: 250-721-1844 office@holycrossvictoria.org 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 by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, visit <u>RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry</u> or call 1-800-968-3146 To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit <u>BishopReportingSystem.ca</u> or call 1-866-892-3737

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from Holy Cross Parish at 4pm Saturday. Click the link here: <u>http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch</u>

<u>Baptismal Prep</u> Do you want to have your child welcomed into the family of God through baptism? To prepare you must complete a registration form and complete a Baptismal Preparation course. Please note that the next session for Baptismal Preparation is: Saturday, May 25th (10:00 am - 12 noon).

Please email <u>hcspbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org</u> with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.

Outreach Ministry Requests for Visits

If you or a person you know would like a visit from an Outreach Ministry Volunteer to bring Holy Communion to someone at home who is unable to get to Mass; or - someone in long-term care, please contact the Office at 250-477-5321, or email: <u>office@holycrossvictoria.org</u>

Attention former & current staff / former students - St. Andrew's Regional High School

A Memorial Mass will be held for former SARHS teacher, Mick Goodger (who passed away in early January) on Friday, April 26th, 2024 at 5:00pm – Holy Cross Church; Mass will be followed by a pot-luck supper in the Hall where we will share memories about Mick. Please contact Joanie Bidlake at: <u>officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org</u> for potluck registration: to bring a salad, main dish or dessert. Refreshments will be provided. Thank you – Fr. William Hann and friends of Mick."

Celebrating Spring - Pancake Breakfast

This is the weekend! The **St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus** will be firing up the griddle on Sunday from 10am to 1pm. Come and enjoy fluffy golden pancakes with sauteed sausages, steaming scrambled eggs and tastiest golden hash browns. Fresh Coffee, tea, and juice. \$30 per family or \$10 per person. Lady of Lourdes Hall, St. Patrick's Church. All are welcome!

The flowers are bursting and the hanging baskets are more than half sold out!

ELLIS has a GREENHOUSE full of great things for SPRING PLANTING CALL NOW, 250-477-6754 to order plants, veggies and of course, HANGING BASKETS.

As usual **all proceeds to MT.ST.MARY HOSPITAL** First 100 callers get a **FREE SUNFLOWER** (what a deal !)



KNIGHTS

If you are tired of planting your own patio pots, bring your empty patio pots to Ellis by April25th and they'll be ready for your patio by May 15th.



GVAT Civic Academy on Vacancy Control, Sun. May 5, 1 – 4:30 pm, Fernwood Community Centre (1240 Gladstone Avenue)

Have you ever wondered why rents in Greater Victoria keep rising well beyond the rate of inflation, despite provincial rent control policies which limit annual increases for a continuing tenant? This is because BC has no Vacancy Control (which limits rent increases for a rental unit in between tenants). Join <u>GVAT</u> (Greater Victoria Acting Together) for an afternoon of learning and planning about Vacancy Control. You will find out what vacancy control is, where it is currently in place, and how it could work in BC. Spread the word to anyone who is a renter living in fear of receiving an eviction notice! The housing crisis affects us all, even if we ourselves enjoy housing security. **RRSP at this LINK.** For more info, email Yvonne Hsieh at yvonneh@gvat.ca.

Prayer Reflection

Evangelizers take on the "smell of the sheep" and the sheep are willing to hear their voice. —*Pope Francis, Evangelii Guadium*

We are all **evangelists**, but we almost always **evangelize** about the wrong things. —*Matthew Kelly*

Know the difference between a good and a bad shepherd: the good shepherd cares for the welfare of his flock, but the bad shepherd cares only for his own welfare.

—Šaint Thomas Aquinas

Word of the Week: Evangelist

One who announces Good News, particularly the message of the gospel. Often refers exclusively to the four gospel writers Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John. Evangelist translates from Greek as "messenger of good tidings." All baptized persons are called to be such messengers. Isaiah speaks of the "beautiful feet" of those who bring Good News. Ephesians describes apostles, prophets, and evangelists as central players in the church. Biblically, evangelist is not an exclusive term. All Christians are summoned to the role of evangelists, a term first used in reference to the gospel writers in the third century. As followers of Jesus, our common vocation is to bring Good News to the poor, sick, lonely, imprisoned, and socially marginalized. The words of the four primary evangelists-Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John-instruct us in the mission we're invited to share. FEAST OF MARK, EVANGE-LIST (APRIL 25) Mark was an evangelist, one who brings Good News. He was also one of the four evangelists who are credited with writing the gospels. Mark's gospel is the shortest, but it packs a punch with its message of the suffering servant Jesus who endured defeat and death so that we all might be saved.

Planet Positive tips



Conserving Water!

Check for leaks

- Repair any leaky fixtures. Water leaks can account for 14% indoor water use due to leaky faucets, toilets, and showerheads. Simple and inexpensive repairs can prevent our drinking water from being wasted.
- Check your toilet with a dye tab once a year for undetected leaks.
- Also check your water bill for abnormal consumption.
- ♦ To learn more and get OneNote, visit <u>www.onenote.com</u>.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, April 20, 2024 4PM Mass: Jessica Marie (Int)

SUNDAY, April 21, 2024 9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, April 22, 2024 NO MASS

TUESDAY, April 23, 2024 9AM Mass: Jean Forest+

WEDNESDAY, April 24, 2024 NO MASS

THURSDAY, April 25, 2024 9AM Mass: Christopher Pomeroy+

> FRIDAY, April 26 2024 5PM Mass: Mick Goodger+

Adoration is held on the first Friday of the month.

The Chapel will be open this week Tuesday to Friday 9am—noon.

Masks are no longer mandatory indoors. We do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed.

COLLECTIONS, April 14, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 2,240.00
Loose	\$ 605.00
Canada Helps	\$ 1,321.88
Charitable Impact	\$1,500.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	<u>\$ 1,048.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 6,714.88



holy cross church gordon head rd. Uschorie, b.

<u>Thank you!</u> Thank you to the kitchen clean-up lead - you know who you are. And thanks to Pat Malcolmson for helping clean and update the kitchen linen drawer.



News from the Chancery

1) After prayerful discernment, Bishop Gary Gordon, in collaboration with the Diocesan Personnel Committee, has announced new pastoral appointments to take effect June 15, 2024. The appointments may be viewed online at <u>https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/2024-pastoral-appointments</u>

2) A "Love and Respect" marriage retreat will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Victoria (753 Burnside Rd W) in May. Come and embark on a wonderful adventure - as we spend time viewing and discussing videos, we will be answering three major questions: Why do we negatively react to each other in marriage? How do I best motivate my spouse? What if my spouse does not respond to me? The retreat will be held over five Thursday evenings from 7 – 9 pm, starting on May 2nd. Please register in advance at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/IFAIpQLSeO3axTZQ5GDP4ycAM3u2KLQOxbAIMJUPyp0kr546fZV_6-Fg/viewform

3) All are invited to "Winds of Change", a presentation by Daniel Elliot, Stz'uminus First Nation Artist, on Wednesday, May 8 from 7 – 9 pm at Vancouver Island University. Part of the series of Truth & Reconciliation events sponsored by Holy Trinity Catholic Parish, this presentation with discussion takes us on the journey of an Indigenous artist who transforms his experience and life into a body of artwork that shares his vision of Reconciliation: A Path Forward. For more information and to reserve your free ticket, please visit https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/winds-of-change-truth-art-reconciliation-tickets-878768459117 or call 778.269.0090. Donations will be accepted on Eventbrite and at the door.

St Andrews Cathedral is offering a Summer faith Course beginning 12th June to 31st July. This 8-week course consists of facilitated weekly group sessions based around the Catholic Company Series "Nunc Coepi: Now I Begin". This course is ideal for anyone seeking to deepen their spiritual life. It explores the benefits of an authentic Christian lifestyle of starting anew every day without giving up. It provides insights, helpful examples, and the opportunity to develop deeper trust and confidence in God's love and grace. The course facilitator is Bernadette O'Connor. Classes will be offered weekly on Wednesdays at 2pm in-person at the Cathedral Parish Office and at 6pm online with Zoom. Course cost is \$20. A subsidy is available however, if you need it. Please register at the Cathedral Parish Office.

<u>Hearing Loop System</u> Holy Cross Parish is equipped with a hearing loop system. If you wear hearing aids, switch your hearing aid to T-Coil and you will be connected to the hearing loop system. See: <u>www.advancedlistening.ca</u>

<u>Pastor:</u> Fr. William Hann 250-477-5321 250-294-9615 (after hours)

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistants: Phil & Sheila Wall 250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

Office Assistant: Joanie Bidlake 250-477-5321 officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

University Chaplain:

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

<u>Sacramental Preparation</u>: Michele Bristow <u>mbristow@rcdvictoria.org</u>

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk hcspbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Mass times - Holy Cross Parish: 4pm Saturday, 9am Sunday 9am Tuesday and 9am Thursday Mass times - St. Patrick's Parish: 11am Sunday, 4pm Sunday 12:10pm Wednesday and 12:10pm Friday Confessions are at 3:00pm on Saturdays at Holy Cross Parish and at 11:30am on Fridays at St. Patrick's Parish.

HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CALLS:

If you or someone you love is admitted to hospital and would like a visit from our VGH/RJH hospital chaplain, please call the emergency pager **250-889-3761** and ask for **Fr. Sean Flynn** to make this request.