



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - May 12, 2024

Ascension of the Lord

At the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles Jesus did not ascend immediately; he spent a highly symbolic 40 days—reminiscent of his 40 days in the wilderness at the beginning of his ministry—speaking to the apostles “about the kingdom of God.” We can assume he was not telling them anything about the Kingdom he had not during his earthly life, but it is intriguing to wonder what he said. The difference was not in the message but in the way the disciples heard it. Now there was no more wondering. All the promises had been fulfilled; the doubts erased.

It would be a horrible misunderstanding to think that the Ascension is an event in which Jesus makes it safely home, a happy conclusion about which you need trouble yourself no further. It would indeed be a serious mistake if we thought of Jesus ascending into heaven as leaving our world and exchanging this world for a safer and holier place: heaven. The way Jesus shaped his life in obedience to God and in service to others made of his life an open door to heaven. That is what the story of Jesus ascending into heaven wants to convey. And as a result, for us as disciples of Jesus, what it takes is standing with both our feet on the ground without running from our everyday reality. *The ground on which we stand, the place where we live is holy ground. All that it takes is shaping our own life after that of Jesus.*

It is still very much Easter. Our very dignity as people is to be called to live in communion with God. When we say Jesus ascended into heaven, we are saying that it has happened to one of our own kind. In Jesus, our own vocation and dignity have been accomplished. His mission can only be accomplished now in and through us. That is the reason resurrection stories and ascension stories turn into mission stories. We as his disciples are sent forth. Even if peace, love, justice, freedom, forgiveness of all seems humanly unattainable they are within our reach when we let ourselves be guided by the Spirit of the Risen Jesus. The Easter Season is long—longer than the 40 days the risen Christ walked the Earth!—and you may wonder how to sustain Easter joy all the way to Pentecost. One thing to do: Go back and look at the scripture readings for Mass for the Sundays of Lent. With a “post-Resurrection” point of view, what do you hear? The liturgical year is not a pageant of historical episodes in the life of God, which all work out to our mutual satisfaction in the end. The next wave of this arc involves you and your being “sent” to continue the story for the age to come. Saint Augustine wrote...*for although He ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in Him by grace.*



Ascension glory

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: 250-477-5321 Fax: 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 RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit BishopReportingSystem.ca or call 1-866-892-3737

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from St. Patrick's Parish at 4pm Sunday. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

Baptismal Prep 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 hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org 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: office@holycrossvictoria.org

Prayer for the Children Celebrating Confirmation and First Communion at St Patrick's at Pentecost:

Lord Jesus Christ, bless the children ready to receive Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Come Holy Spirit and rest upon them - the Spirit of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Might, Knowledge, Reverence, and Fear of the LORD. Lord Jesus, welcome them to your sacred table to nourish their bodies and souls with Yourself, true bread of eternal life. Amen. The Year 2 group will celebrate the sacraments on Sunday May 19, 2024 at the 4pm Pentecost Sunday Mass at St Patrick's with the Bishop's visit and reception to follow. All are welcome to bring a favourite food and share a potluck meal in Our Lady of Lourdes Hall. Sign up [here](#). Thank you for keeping the children of St Patrick's and Holy Cross in your prayers! Potluck Sign up sheet: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cbTzjXXntfiA7MYBj583v3UsL4TsZGjHXt7jK9M9978/edit?usp=sharing>

MAY – MARY'S MONTH!

You are invited to join the CWL of St. Patrick's Parish as we honor our Blessed Mother Mary with a Rosary Procession on Sunday May 26th following the 11am Mass. Bring your rosary and journey with us through the five glorious mysteries. We will begin at the side entrance to the church shortly after Mass. Two of the newly Confirmed students will carry and crown our Lady at the end in the Grotto. Single stem flowers are always welcome. We will finish with refreshments and tea in Our Lady of Lourdes Hall.



FORMED is a beautiful, comprehensive Catholic Faith Formation resource! It is for everyone!

Check it out! It has Home Programs (The Sacraments, Daily Reflections, Book Club, Bible Studies . . .); Movies (Movie Night, Kids Documentaries, Saints . . .) Audio Books (Kids and Teens, Being Catholic, Exploring the Faith) Family (Marriage, Parenting, Kids).

This is your Diocese in partnership with the Augustine Institute on your behalf. Here's how to take advantage of this fabulous resource. How to:

Go to: <https://formed.org/> (it will ask you to sign in or create a new account)

Click on create a new account

Type in: St. Patrick's Parish & School (make sure it is in Victoria)

Type in your name and your personal email address

Click on 'watch now & enjoy'.

Barb Shenton, FAITH chair of Parish Council & CWL on behalf of Fr. William

HOSTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The St. Andrew's International Student Program is in need of additional host families for September 2024 for female students for the full school year.

If you would be willing to support a young person on their international high school journey/experience, please consider welcoming one of our international students into your family.

Host families receive \$1,275 per month to cover costs.

Please contact Nina Timm **ASAP** at : homestay@cisdv.bc.ca / Tel: 403-771-2519

Prayer Reflection

In the Scriptures, many ancient holy figures were said to be taken up to heaven, especially Enoch and Elijah.... Thus, **ascension** to the heavens came to be expected of holy and great persons; it indicated divine approval of them as well as their accession to heavenly power.

—Father Jerome Neyrey, S.J.

The **ascended** Christ, far from being absent, fills the whole cosmos in a new way.

—Sister Brid Long, S.S.L.

His **ascension** is our glory and our hope.

—Saint Augustine

My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together.

—Desmond Tutu

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, May 11, 2024

4PM Mass: Arturo Colangeli+

SUNDAY, May 12, 2024

9AM MASS: Mary Hann+

MONDAY, May 13, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, May 14, 2024

9AM Mass: Franca Bombase+

WEDNESDAY, May 15, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, May 16, 2024

9AM Mass: Ethan Stone+

FRIDAY, May 17, 2024

NO MASS

Adoration is held on the first Friday of the month.

The Chapel will be open this week Tuesday to Friday 9 - 12

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

Word of the Week:

Ascension!

The act of **ascending** or rising upward. The final earthly manifestation of the Risen Lord after the Resurrection. Jesus is lifted up and taken from view, transferred to the realm of the divine. The **Ascension** establishes the Christ's universal rule and the church as the visible Body of Christ, equipped with the power and courage for mission. It assures us of our destiny to be with Christ now and on the last day. As Saint Augustine says, "While in heaven, he is also with us; and while on earth, we are with him." From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 667): Jesus Christ, having entered the sanctuary of heaven once and for all, intercedes constantly for us as the mediator who assures us of the permanent outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Saint John Chrysostom insisted **Ascension** simply conveys the final exaltation of Christ after the humiliation of the cross. Saint Augustine viewed the **Ascension** as the glorification of us all: where Jesus went, we too might go. I was ordained a deacon on this feast day 20 years ago! Time flies!

COLLECTIONS, May 5, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 2,735.00
Loose	\$ 460.00
Anawim for Men	\$ 20.00
Pope's Pastoral Works	\$ 405.00
Pre-authorized Debit	\$ 1,293.75
TOTAL	\$ 4,913.75

June 8th 'Going-Away' for Father William

Plans are underway for the Saturday, June 8th 'Going Away' event to be held following the 4pm Mass (to be said at St. Patrick's Parish that day). We hope that you will be able to join the crowd for a reception, with finger food and refreshments, and a chance to say your good-byes to our dear and respected Pastor of nine years.

The event will be held at Holy Cross Parish, and parishioners from both Holy Cross and St. Patrick's are invited. Attendees will **need to register**. There will be sign-up sheets in the foyer until May 26. For planning purposes, we ask that you take the time to sign-up early so that we will get a good idea of numbers.

We expect a large crowd, and ask that you make arrangements to **carpool**.



holy cross church garden head rd. victoria, b.c.

Thank you!

On this Mother's Day weekend, we remember all mothers and mother-figures for their dedicated love and care.

Have a blessed day!



News from the Chancery

- 1) The planning committee for the 10th Annual Family Life Conference and Camp is looking for volunteers to assist with the camp. If interested in volunteering, please email familycamp@rcdvictoria.org for more information.
- 2) Applications are now being accepted for bursaries and awards offered by the Diocese of Victoria to outstanding students and educators. The deadline for applications is July 15th. More information and application forms are available at the following links:
[The Jawl Bundon LLP Bursary](#) (\$2500): for a grade 12 Catholic student who has been accepted to a post-secondary institution. Preference will be given to Indigenous students, and to students who live outside of Greater Victoria and Nanaimo.
[The Blessed Marie Anne Blondin Bursary](#) (\$1000): for a lay woman who is accepted or enrolled in a program or course for ministry in the Church, such as religious education, social justice, liturgy, social action, care of the sick, etc.
[The Char Deslippe Memorial Award](#) (\$500): for a teacher working in Island Catholic Schools or a parish catechist serving in children, youth or adult ministry.
- 3) The Victoria Chapter of El Shaddai welcomes all to their 20th anniversary celebration on Sunday, May 19th from 10 am – 4:30 pm at the Mary Winspear Centre in Sidney (2243 Beacon Ave). Bishop Gary Gordon will celebrate Mass at 11:00 am. For more information, please call Flor Cadiz at 250-415-7720.

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.

Mount St Mary Fundraiser

Plants and hanging baskets will be ready for pickup on May 15! Ellis: 250-477-6754



Yarn is still being collected in the office for Judy Begg's baby-sweater-making efforts for the gift shop at the Royal Jubilee Hospital. If you have any spare yarn left-overs, Judy would love to put them to use!



Pastor: 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

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow

mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk

hcsbaptismalprep@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.