

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PARISH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 18, 2025

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, May 17
4PM LITURGY OF THE
WORD WITH HOLY
COMMUNION: Pro
Populo

SUNDAY, May 18
9AM MASS: John Calder+

TUESDAY, May 20
9AM MASS: Dorothy &
Alastair MacIsaac+
7PM MASS: Emily
Gabriela Maya+

WEDNESDAY
7PM MASS

THURSDAY, May 22
9AM MASS: Angelo
Rampon+
7PM MASS

—

CHAPEL
Open 9am-12pm
TUESDAY to FRIDAY

RECONCILIATION
No events scheduled.

LIVESTREAMING
SATURDAY, May 17, 4PM
<https://www.youtube.com/@StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

Today's Gospel passage is part of the great farewell speech at the Last Supper. It gets down to basics. This noticeably short passage from John comes from Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper. We might call it "table talk." Jesus does three things: he gives a command, promises an example, and offers a blueprint by which faithful disciples will be judged. Judas has left the table, and Jesus is sharing the sad message that he will not be with them much longer. He has washed the feet of the disciples and told them that they must follow this example of love. Now he repeats the message: "you must love one another." This love will be the seal and imprint of discipleship, and the only sign by which people will recognize the disciples as different. Could they have known that this love would mean that they would be sharing in the same kind of sacrifice that Jesus was about to undergo?

Jesus speaks of his own impending glorification. But there is a twist to it. He speaks of his own glorification, of all things, on the cross. It is indeed a commandment that we need to be reminded of, because it is so difficult to adhere to. However, life-giving love is, we know it goes against the grain. To love one another is not as natural as it is sometimes made out to be. Authentic love, at least when we live it above a sentimental feeling, exacts a price. It includes risk, pain, sweat, and tears. In short, in the Gospel love is always cross-shaped. It is that same love that Jesus wants us to believe in. It is the same love that Jesus wants to see echoed in our lives. It is against this background that Jesus commands us to love each other. This commandment does not stand isolated. He has lived it by himself to the end. And as the risen One he now empowers us to live by that same cross-shaped love, so that we may, like him, pass from death to life. Dante, in *The Divine Comedy*, put it more poetically when he wrote of "the love that moves the sun and other stars." Both have the same message: the ultimate mystery of being is love. And God is love. Every human creature is drawn to give oneself in love, to surrender to the attraction of love.

If we all woke up tomorrow, every person on this planet, with the will to love one another, the old world would pass away in an hour. Imagine loving your enemies instead of hating and killing them. Imagine binding up the wounds of society rather than ignoring or deepening them. Imagine the fruits of the Holy Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—being the universal pattern for human relationships. Being born again makes this "fantasy" a reality, one heart at a time. We do not have to wait for everyone to climb on board. Making things new starts with you and me. How do you love? How do you experience love? And what do you and I do to reflect Christ's commandment "to love one another"? Saint Teresa of Calcutta writes: "Be kind and merciful. Let no one ever come to you without coming away better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting." Saint Thérèse of Lisieux said it best... Love is the vocation that includes all others.

Easter joy
Fr. William

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.rcdvictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Recollections for Men and Women

Come spend some time in conversation with God – guided by meditation and an examination of conscience. A priest of Opus Dei will be available for spiritual direction and/or confession.

- An evening recollection for women will be held on **Monday, May 19th** from **6:15-8pm** at **St Joseph the Worker** Parish, 753 Burnside Road West, Victoria. It will be preceded by Mass at 5:30pm.
- An evening recollection for men will be held on **Tuesday, May 20th** from **6-8pm** at **Sacred Heart** Parish, 4040 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria. It will be preceded by Mass at 5:15pm.

Hope & Belonging Benefit Concert

More than 60 wonderful performers are coming together in support of the Vancouver Island Counselling Centre for Immigrants and Refugees (VICCIR) on Saturday May 24, 2025, 7 - 8:30pm PDT. Full information is available on Eventbrite. Just Google search "Eventbrite Hope and Belonging" or click on: <https://hopeandbelonging.eventbrite.ca>



Holy Cross Job Opportunity: Parish Administrator

As announced at masses last weekend the Parish Executive Committee has reviewed the last year without a priest and determined that our staff, volunteers and community would be better served if we hire a Parish Administrator (PA). This is until a new priest is appointed. Rest assured, the Bishop continues to search. The Executive Committee is seeking feedback and discussion from the parish until May 25. They will be at weekend masses and you can email the parish office, C/O the Executive Committee. Included in the bulletin is the current DRAFT version of the Parish Administrator job posting, which gives a good idea of what the PA will do and be responsible for. The PA will work the equivalent of 3 days a week and we have budget to cover that. We hope to post in late May/early June. Looking forward to hearing from you; David, Catherine and John.

A Call for Volunteers

Holy Cross is looking for various volunteer positions to be filled. If you are interested in any of the following please email the Holy Cross Office: office@holycrossvictoria.org.

- ⇒ Liturgical ministry: 2 Gift Bearers (one for the 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month - 4pm Mass) and a Eucharistic Minister (4th Saturday of the month - 4pm Mass) for questions or to sign up, please reach out to Joanie: officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org
- ⇒ Social Committee Members
- ⇒ Parish Council Members (see below)

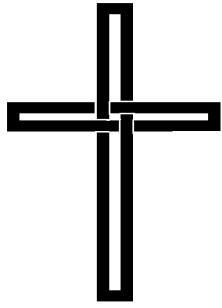


A Call for Parish Council Members!

We are currently seeking new members of the Parish Council starting in June. Until May 20th, Holy Cross Parish is accepting names of those who are interested in serving on the council for a 3-year term. Please extend your interest to the office by email at office@holycrossvictoria.org. The council meets 4-5x yearly. Each member collects updates from their assigned committee for Parish Council meetings. Being on Parish council is an important position, to help identify the needs of the Parish, work with the Executive Committee to make decisions for the good of the Parish. Please consider being a part of our Parish Council. No qualifications are required.

Talize Prayer

All are invited to come pray in the style of Taize resumes at Broad View United Church, 3703 St Amand Street, 6pm on June 20. www.taize.fr



QUOTATIONS OF THE WEEK

Love is the vocation that includes all others.
—Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

You only love God as much as you love the person you love the least.
—Mother Teresa of Calcutta

POPE LEO XIV

We rejoice in the announcement of our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, who has been chosen to lead the Catholic Church as the Successor of St. Peter.

Cardinal Robert F. Prevost, the Chicago-born prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops under Pope Francis, was elected the 267th pope on May 8, 2025. He now takes on the sacred responsibility of shepherding the faithful around the world.

Please keep Pope Leo XIV in your prayers as he begins his ministry, asking the Holy Spirit to guide him with wisdom, compassion, and courage. May his papacy be blessed with peace and unity for the Church and the world.



Dessert Auction Fundraiser Friday, May 30 7:00pm

Beloved Catholic Women's Ministries invites you to a Dessert Auction Fundraiser on May 30, 2025, from 7–9 PM at St. Joseph the Worker Parish (753 Burnside Rd W, Victoria). Proceeds support women in our Diocese who face financial barriers to attending the annual Women's Retreat at Camp Homewood. Reserve your free ticket by May 26 at:



<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/dessert-auction-fundraiser-tickets-1343131946809>. To donate a dessert or make a financial contribution, email: vicatholicwomensretreat@gmail.com

Listening Circles at Holy Cross

We are beginning this year's cycle of Listening Circles at Holy Cross as part of the ongoing Diocesan Permanent Pastoral Synod. These gatherings are safe, respectful spaces where we listen deeply to one another, guided by the Holy Spirit, as we build a community of hope together. You are invited to participate in one of the following sessions. Each session lasts about 1.5 hours.

- Sunday, May 18 at 10:30am (Chapel)
- Thursday, May 22 after 9:00am Mass (Chapel)
- Monday, Jun 9 at 6:30pm (Online)

Please reflect on three questions about your faith journey, experiences with Christ, and signs of hope in your life. Please see the poster for all the detailed information on the Bulletin Board, or check your weekly cover letter email. Sign up at in the Narthex or contact the parish office. Bishop Gary hopes to hear from as many of us as possible!

The Blood of Christ

Letter from Bishop Gary on Reintroduction of distribution of Blood of Christ. This change will come into effect June 22, 2025. Therefore, Holy Cross will be looking for additional volunteers to help with distribution of the Precious Blood at Masses. We welcome new and existing Eucharistic Ministers to serve in this capacity. Training will be provided. Two additional Eucharistic Ministers will be needed for each Mass. For more information, please contact Joanie Bidlake at: officeasistant@holycrossvictoria.org Or phone the Office: 250-477-5321. Thank you in advance.



NEWS FROM THE CHANCERY & ICS

1) Pope Leo XIV's Inauguration Mass will take place on May 18, 2025, in St. Peter's Square, marking the beginning of his papacy and uniting the faithful in prayer and hope for his leadership. All are invited to join the celebration via livestream at 1:00 am PDT (10:00 am Rome time) at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/VaticanNewsEN>.

2) The Most Reverend Richard W. Smith will be installed as the twelfth Archbishop of Vancouver on Friday, May 23rd, at 7:00 pm. All are invited to participate in his Installation Mass via livestream at

<https://rcav.org/>.

3) Frassati Academy, a Catholic elementary school opening in September 2025 at the Campbell Centre of St. Agnes Church in Halifax, Nova Scotia, is seeking a dedicated Principal to lead its inaugural year. To learn more or apply, visit <https://www.frassatiacademy.ca/jobs>.

4) The Serra Club in formation meets on the last Tuesday of each month at different parishes. This month, all are invited to Sacred Heart Parish (4040 Nelthorpe St, Victoria) for a Vocations Mass and information session on Tuesday, May 27th, at 6:00 pm. Fr. Shijo George will share his inspiring journey to the priesthood. For more information, please email victoria@serrainternational.org.

Pastoral Care: Communion Visits

Do you know someone who cannot attend Mass but would like to receive Holy Communion at home or in care? Through our Outreach Ministry, trained volunteers bring the Eucharist to those who are homebound, in long-term care, or recovering from illness or injury. This is a sacred opportunity to share Christ's healing love and spiritual nourishment with those unable to attend Mass. To request a Communion Visit, contact the parish office at 250-477-5321 or email: office@holycrossvictoria.org. For urgent sacramental care for someone who is sick or dying, please contact the Hospital Chaplain at 250-889-3761

Baptismal Prep

Want your child baptized? Please complete a registration form and attend a Baptismal Prep session. Upcoming sessions: Sat, June 7 (10:00 am–12:00 pm). Email hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact info. The coordinator will follow up with details.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Tanya Taft and Bev Pulyk for organizing the listening circles over the next few weeks at Holy Cross, continuing the Diocesan Permanent Pastoral Synod. Thank you to our many liturgical volunteers who have been supporting the Parish with scheduling changes. Thanks for putting your hands up to help!



COLLECTIONS

May 11, 2025

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$1,120.00
Loose	\$ 390.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$1,307.75
Total	\$2,817.75

CONTACT

US

Pastor: Vacant

Executive Team: Catherine Davis, John Bartle-Clar & David Begg

Administrative Assistant: Sloane Secord

250-477-5321 / office@holycrossvictoria.org

Office Assistant: Joanie Bidlake

250-477-5321 / officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

Hospital Emergency Chaplain: Fr. Sean Flynn

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30am-3:30pm

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC V8N 3X7

www.holycrossvictoria.org

250-477-5321

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9AM

Saturday 4PM

Sunday: 9AM



Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria

1 – 4044 Nelthorpe Street

Victoria BC V8X 2A1

Phone: (250) 479-1331 ✆ Fax: (250) 479-5423

www.rcdvictoria.org

Job Posting: *Pastoral Administrator*

The Holy Cross Parish is seeking a 0.6 FTE Pastoral Administrator in order to maintain and grow our community and its service to the people of Gordon Head. While we await the appointment of a Pastor, the administration of the Parish and the promotion of its spiritual life needs the attention of a dedicated individual. The successful applicant will bring a grounded, spiritual life, supported by theological education and practical experience as a community leader. The Pastoral Administrator is accountable to the Bishop and the Parish of Holy Cross.

Holy Cross expects our Pastoral Administrator to provide pastoral care not reserved to a Priest per Canon 528-529. These activities include, but are not limited to, catechesis of young and old, outreach to the broader community including inactive Catholics, ecumenism, and maintaining connections with other local religious organizations. The Pastoral Administrator will leverage the Holy Cross Pastoral vision to continue our spiritual community building work, including our sacramental life and the care of parishioners both at the parish and within the community. In all of this a strong theological foundation and an understanding of Church Law and custom is required.

Holy Cross operations include the care of the grounds and building, community organizations, the volunteer groups that are the life of the Parish, as well as leading administrative staff. The Pastoral Administrator will ensure that the Parish sacramental and non-sacramental activities are planned and executed in the best way possible, supported by the Parish Council. In support of the Diocese of Victoria's commitment to Responsible Ministry and Safe Environment (RSME), the Parish Administrator will ensure all relevant RSME policies are followed. The Pastoral Administrator will also be responsible for ensuring the Parish finances are managed in a transparent and accountable fashion, supported by the Finance Committee.

In summary, Holy Cross Catholic Church is seeking a strong, faith filled community minded team member to lead and participate in the pastoral care of the community and the administration of the Parish's operations. The salary range is \$

Qualifications

- Degree in Theology, Education, or related field
- Active Roman Catholic who participates in the sacramental life of the Church
- Five to 10 years of experience in business management or a supervisory position
- Strong verbal, written and organizational skills
- Ability to work with people in a collaborative and professional manner
- Working knowledge of MS Office suite especially Word, Excel, Outlook, and Publisher
- Proficiency in basic database usage, and willingness to learn new database programs
- Ability to work on weekends, and evenings
- Demonstrated ability in leading multiple direct reports and volunteers by cultivating a team to meet objectives by providing support and drive accountability for team members

- Strong process management skills and capable of independently managing multiple projects
- Exceptional ability to multi-task, with a high degree of flexibility
- Strong interpersonal skills with an interpersonal style that fosters collaborative and productive relationships with a diverse group of people
- Ability to manage project priorities, and adapt to multiple and time sensitive deadlines

Interested applicants are invited to submit a résumé and cover letter by May 16, 2025, to:

Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria

Attention: Bishop of Victoria

4044 Nelthorpe Street

Victoria, BC V8X 2A1

Email: jobs@rcdvictoria.org

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those shortlisted for an interview will be contacted.