

# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twining with St. Patrick's Parish

**SUNDAY - February 25, 2024**

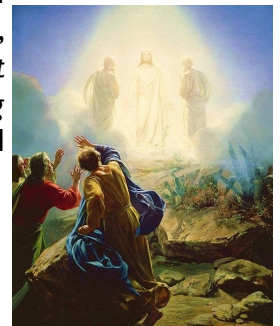
**Second Sunday of Lent**

This Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent. The Gospel of Mark tells the story of Jesus taking Peter, James, and John to a high mountain. *And [Jesus] was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.* It must have been an astonishing sight. No wonder Peter, James, and John were terrified. Not only was something supernatural happening to their friend, but Moses and Elijah appeared and began to talk to Jesus. Many of us would have collapsed to the ground and hidden our faces. Amazingly Peter was able to speak, though maybe not rationally. However, he was aware enough to hear the voice of the creator. *"This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"* What a tender, loving phrase – *my Son, the Beloved.* These are the words of a loving and appreciative parent. It is reminiscent of what happened when Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist at the beginning of his ministry. *Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."* (Mark 1:10–11)

It is as if the three years of Jesus' ministry were framed by God's love, support, and approval. God blessed Jesus and his ministry. God blessed all the love, healing, compassion, and words of Jesus. And this time, at the transfiguration, God spoke to Peter, James, and John. After declaring Jesus as the beloved son, it was followed by the simple and powerful directive – *listen to him!* Two thousand years later we too can hear these words. We too are urged to listen to Jesus. And the words of Jesus are life giving! Words on how to live: *Love one another! As I have loved you, so you must love one another.* (John 13:34) Words of inspiration: *Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.* (Luke 23:34) Words of comfort: *And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.* (Matthew 28:20) So many precious words to fill our hearts and minds!

After almost three years of sharing the good news, healing and leading, it was clear that Jesus was more than a prophet. Jesus was divine, united with God the Father, showing everyone how to live in love. Jesus was our redeemer. Even after the transfiguration, the apostles who had witnessed the happening were not sure *what this rising from the dead could mean.* We, too, cannot understand it completely. But Paul assures us in his letter to the Romans that nothing can *separate us from the love of Christ,* absolutely nothing, including death! *If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? We are the sons and daughters of God. Let us listen to the words of love and mercy.*

Tanya Taft



## 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](https://www.rcdvictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit [BishopReportingSystem.ca](https://www.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 11am 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 sessions for Baptismal Preparation are: Saturday, March 9 (10:00 am - 12 noon) and Saturday, April 13 (10:00 am - 12 noon). Please email [hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbp baptismalprep@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](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

### SHARE LENT

This year, Development and Peace - Caritas Canada's **Create Hope: Reaping our Rights** campaign calls us to stand with small-scale farmer and peasant communities who feed the world while caring for the Earth. Read about our partners and projects in Nigeria, Indonesia and Bolivia in the Mini-magazine available at the entrances to the church and online at: [devp.org/lent/resources](http://devp.org/lent/resources)



- Thank you, Barb McKrow

### Prayer for the Children Preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at Holy Cross and St Patrick's Parishes

*Lord Jesus Christ, bless the children preparing to receive Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Come Holy Spirit and rest upon them. May it be the beginning of a life-long love of the Eucharist. Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance, and wisdom as they grow into full discipleship. May their hands, extended in anticipation of your body and blood, inspire all of us to cherish the Blessed Sacrament. Amen.*

We have 27 children who are catechumens and candidates. The RCIC group will celebrate at the Easter Vigil at Holy Cross and the Year 2 group will celebrate at Pentecost at St Patrick's. Thank you for keeping the children of St Patrick's and Holy Cross in your prayers!



### A Canadian Pastoral Letter on Ukraine, Canada, and the Church

February 24 marks the second anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. National representatives of Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant communities, in collaboration with the World Evangelical Alliance's Peace and Reconciliation Network, the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, and the [Canadian Council of Churches](#), have signed a [Pastoral Letter on Ukraine, Canada, and the Church](#), inviting all to join in praying for peace.

*"Without in any way minimizing or ignoring the suffering and sorrow caused by war and violence in other areas of the world, we stand together in inviting Christians and all people of good will to prayerfully consider how we are all called, and might contribute to, the achievement of peace in and for Ukraine."* – excerpt from the Pastoral Letter.

Endorsed by 45 leaders, the Letter identifies six meaningful ways by which to foster peace: Pray, Support Ukrainian Refugees, Urge diplomatic steps towards a just and sustainable peace in Ukraine, Seek cooperative relationships of humanitarian support, Remember February 24, 2022, Hope for reconciliation

The President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Most Rev. William T. McGrattan, Bishop of Calgary, supported by the CCCB's Executive Committee, is one of the aforementioned signatories to the Letter, now available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Ukrainian](#). You are invited to share these links to pray and work together for peace.

### Prayer Reflection

The address to the Lamb of God does not refer to Christ simply, but rather to Christ present in the Eucharist as a sacrificial offering.  
—*Joseph A. Jungmann, S.J.*, The Mass of the Roman Rite

The cross is the school of love.  
—*Saint Maximilian Kolbe*

God had one son on Earth without sin, but never one without suffering.  
—*Saint Augustine of Hippo*

### **Word of the Week:**

#### **Agnus Dei**

Latin term for "Lamb of God." A title given to Jesus by John the Baptist (John 1:29); the litany sung or said by the assembly at Mass before Communion ("Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world . . .") introduced into the Roman Rite in the seventh century by Pope Sixtus; an image of a lamb often with a halo and a banner and cross used as a symbol of Christ; a wax disc sacramental. The Passover lamb is the symbol of God's people passing over from slavery and death to freedom and life (Exodus 12). A "lamb led to slaughter" is Isaiah's prophesy of God's faithful servant (Isaiah 53:70). The victorious Lamb in Revelation is the light of God's holy city (Revelation 21:9-22:5). With all of salvation history as its backdrop, the Agnus Dei epitomizes the sacrifice of Jesus who achieves our freedom from sin and death. "It is love to the end," says the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "that confers on Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction (616). Make a Lenten practice of repeating "God loves me," and share the Good News of God's love with others. In doing so, Saint Paul declares that we will all be transfigured if we keep our sights trained on Christ.

#### Stations of the Cross

Lectors will be leading the Stations of the Cross after the 9am Mass on Thursday, February 29th. Please join us after Mass.



#### Upcoming Lenten Mission: an Invitation

A Lenten mission will be held at St. Andrew's Cathedral February 26 - 28, led by Fr. Mark Cherry. This mission is free to attend, and offers both day-time and evening sessions. For the detailed schedule, please visit the Diocesan Events Calendar at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/events-calendar>.

#### Diocesan Lenten Reconciliation Service

Please note that our Diocesan Lenten Reconciliation Service will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Parish on Wednesday March 20th at 7pm.

#### Income Tax Receipts!

Income tax receipts for donations made in 2023 are now available for pickup in the foyer.

**Thank you!** To the tax receipt 'folding and stuffing' team of Mary Stonnell, Judy and Dave Begg!



### **OUR LITURGICAL LIFE**

#### **SATURDAY, February 24, 2024**

4PM Liturgy of the Word with  
Communion - Deacon Dion  
Joseph Szikora+

#### **SUNDAY, February 25, 2024**

9AM Mass: Pro Populo

#### **MONDAY, February 26, 2024**

9AM Liturgy of the Word with  
Communion

#### **TUESDAY, February 27, 2024**

9AM Mass: Ethan Stone+

#### **WEDNESDAY, February 28, 2024**

NO MASS

#### **THURSDAY, February 29, 2024**

9AM Mass: Brian Wall+  
Stations of the Cross 9:30am  
Lectors

#### **FRIDAY, March 1, 2024**

NO MASS

**The Chapel will be open for  
private prayers this week Tuesday  
to Friday, 9am—noon**

#### **RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 Mercy Chapel

#### **ADORATION**

Adoration will be held on Friday,  
March 1, at 9am in the Chapel,  
preceded by the Rosary at 8:30am.  
Please enter by the Chapel door.

**Masks are no longer mandatory  
indoors. We do encourage those  
who feel more comfortable to  
wear them as needed. If you are  
feeling unwell please stay home.**

#### **COLLECTIONS, February 18, 2024**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$1,635.00
Loose	\$ 465.00
Social Eco. Justice	\$ 65.00
Canada Helps	\$ 231.31
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,310.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,706.31</b>

## News from the Chancery

1) Would you like to help remove invasive plants and restore the properties of St. Andrew's High School, the Pastoral Centre, and Sacred Heart Parish? On Saturday, March 2, all are invited to the first weekly Garry Oak Meadow Restoration Project work party. Please meet in the Sacred Heart parking lot (4044 Nelthope Street, Victoria); the event will run from 10 am – noon, rain or shine. Pruners and shovels will be provided, but please bring your own gloves, safety glasses, and water. For more information and to sign up, please email [jsedale1234@gmail.com](mailto:jsedale1234@gmail.com)

2) The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Vancouver Island is seeking a volunteer Treasurer to join their Board. "Jesus spoke with authority and his reputation spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee." As his disciples, we can also speak with authority when we put our faith into action. If you are a CPA and are ready to answer the call, please send your expression of interest to Brian Mann, Board Chair at [brian.mann7@gmail.com](mailto:brian.mann7@gmail.com)

3) Salt and Light Catholic Media Foundation is searching for a new Chief Executive Officer to oversee their organization. This unique position offers an exciting opportunity for a motivated, mission-based executive to make a significant and positive impact on the Roman Catholic faith, Canadians, and people around the world. For more information and to view the job description, please visit <https://slmedia.org/job-opportunity-ceo>

### Thank you from the Coldest Night of the Year Team!

Father William wishes to extend his and the team's deep gratitude for the amazing response received in support of the Coldest Night of the Year event! Your donations provide support to the most vulnerable at a time of year when we are reminded of the significance of almsgiving.



### Get your ticket !

The Irish Dinner to be held at St. Patrick's Church on Sunday, March 17th at 5pm will be the place to be! Tickets are available from the office at Holy Cross Parish at a cost of \$20.



### VICTORIA DIOCESAN BURSARY IN MEMORY OF FREDA SMITH

The Victoria Diocesan CWL Council is offering a \$750 bursary to a graduating Catholic student within the Diocese of Victoria. This bursary will be awarded to a student proceeding on to a form of higher education. Criteria and applications are available at the Parish Office, online at [cwl dov.org](http://cwl dov.org) or from Audrey Thom, CWL Education Chair at [aethom@uvic.ca](mailto:aethom@uvic.ca). The deadline for applications is March 31, 2024.

#### **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](mailto:office@holycrossvictoria.org)

**Office Assistant:** Joanie Bidlake  
250-477-5321 [officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org](mailto:officeassistant@holycrossvictoria.org)

**University Chaplain:**

**Parish Council Chair:** Catherine Davis

**Sacramental Preparation:** Michele Bristow  
[mbristow@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:mbristow@rcdvictoria.org)

**Baptismal Preparation:** Beverly Pulyk  
[hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org)

### REGULAR MASS TIMES

#### **Holy Cross and St. Patrick's Parishes**

##### **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

### 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.