



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - January 15th, 2023

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we transition from the Christmas season to Ordinary time, we have six weeks of "ordinary time" before the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday, on Feb 22nd. This is the time in the church's calendar that orients us--"orders" us--to our mission. The mission of Jesus is also our mission. Two thoughts are prompted by today's readings. The first is John's dramatic declaration, Behold the Lamb of God. The second is an invitation to do some personal stock-taking during this first month of the new year and make some resolutions to improve the quality of our lives. The Baptist urges us to ask what are we fundamentally about and then seek to reset our lives. And St Paul reminds us that we are "called to be saints together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The description of Jesus in today's Gospel by John as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world suggests that with this Jesus, we hear something new. What then is the issue in that so familiar line: "*Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world?*" I would suggest that this is an impossible combination, an utter contradiction. What do you suppose can a lamb do in the face of evil in the world? In no way is that an adequate match. A lamb, of all things, that gentle innocent animal that we want to hug; it is not prepared nor is it capable of violent resistance, and even less of attack. Over and against the lamb stands the sin of the world.

And yet, John the Baptist and the entire Christian tradition after him have insisted on identifying Jesus as the Lamb that takes away the sin of the world. By identifying Jesus in these terms, we give a most unlikely character sketch of him. But it is a character sketch of Jesus his own conduct forces on us. These terms sum up the entire life project of Jesus, and leave us, who are baptized in his name, with quite a program. Jesus broke that chain of violence; he put an end to the law that you must get even. Jesus indeed takes away the sins of the world, when with him and in his power, we refuse to get even and to strike back, even with him we snap out of the vicious circle of self-interest, of revenge, and retaliation.

Saint John the Baptist stands between the Old and New Testaments like a "pivot man", he was a key figure announcing a time of radical change. He didn't know Jesus; he tells us twice. He was simply doing his job, preparing the way and sweeping off the littered path of an approaching dignitary. His great grace was that, though he knew he wasn't "the one" to bring about the needed changes, he took what steps he could. That included naming the truth about his times from God's perspective. It also meant calling people to prepare their hearts by repenting. And it included actively seeking "the one" who was to come. We, too, live in a time of great change. We can learn from John the Baptist by seeing our world with God's eyes, repenting and preparing our own hearts, and recognizing Jesus in our midst--in the Eucharist, in the community of believers, and in the poor and needy that we meet.

Eyes on Jesus

Father William



OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:00pm
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:30pm
Fr. William Hann, Pastor

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.

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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>

CWL NEWS: Annual Membership Renewal/Registration Time: Holy Cross ladies are invited to join or renew their membership in St. Pat's Catholic Women's League. Forms have been mailed to current members. There is also a form and more information in the link found in this week's bulletin letter or in handouts located in the foyer. Please return forms by Jan 31st. Whether returning or new members, we are happy to welcome all ladies! Meetings held 1st Wednesday of the month at 1pm after daily Mass. We hope you will join us. Questions? Call Theresa Smith 250-213-3304.

Pastoral Care Training Sessions

The valuable and free Pastoral Care Outreach Training series will be offered online again this winter. Nine sessions will be held via Zoom on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – noon, **starting on January 28, 2023, and running until April 1** (with no session on March 18 for Spring Break). Participants who attend all sessions will receive a Certificate of Completion. Participants will require a phone number and email address, a computer, tablet or Smart Phone with speakers, microphone and webcam, a reliable Internet connection, and access to Zoom. Please contact Moira King at moiraking@shaw.ca for more information.

Coldest Night of the Year Walk. Fr. William and Nancy Stuart have started a Holy Cross/St. Patrick's - walking together Team for this year's walk on Feb. 25. Please consider either walking with us or donating to this worthy cause. Click here to join or donate <http://walk.w-ith.us/twinparishes> Proceeds go to Our Place and your support will help the homeless and hungry in our community.

University Supper January 21, 2023

There will be another supper for UVic and Camosun Catholic students on Saturday January 21, in the church hall after the 4:00 pm mass. Volunteers are needed to provide a main dish in the Asian tradition, or rice, or salad. Please see the sign-up list in the foyer after mass. Thank you for your generous help in this very successful outreach. John and Martha Oleson.

IT'S A SPECIAL YEAR!

Throughout 2023 Holy Cross will celebrate 40 years as a Parish. We've chosen a theme, "Past, Present and Future". Throughout the year several events will be planned. The first will honour our Past with a meal on Sunday, February 26th. Stay tuned for more information.



Bishop Thomas J. Lobsinger, OMI Memorial Bursary Program The annual British Columbia and Yukon Bursary program known as the Bishop Thomas J. Lobsinger, OMI Memorial Bursary Program is underway. The 2023 program is now receiving applications. We are privileged to offer fourteen bursaries of \$1,000.00 each to Catholic students across the Province of British Columbia. These bursaries are made available on a one-time only basis to young practicing Catholic students who are in post secondary education at a recognized institute of higher learning within the Province of British Columbia. Applications are accepted from January 1, 2023 until June 30, 2023 with the bursaries being awarded in the fall. The Terms of Reference may be found on our web site (kofcbc.org) after Jan 1, 2023. **Requests for application should be addressed to:** Knights of Columbus BC & Yukon, 2809 Mara Drive, Coquitlam, BC V3C 5T9 Attn: Herb Yang, Bursaries Chairman Or email: herbykofc@gmail.com
Deadline for requests for application is June 1, 2023.

Prayer Reflection

The Lord was baptized . . . to cleanse waters, so that those waters . . . might have the power of Baptism.

—*Saint Ambrose of Milan*

Service which is rendered without joy helps neither the servant nor the served. But all other pleasures and possessions pale into nothingness before service which is rendered in a spirit of joy.

—*Mahatma Gandhi*

The essential thing is always to begin again, despite everything and against everything, and never to be discouraged.

—*Blessed Maurice Tornay*

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - January 15, 2023

St. Paul tells us that we have been sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be a holy people. Could it be that you or someone in your family is being called to be a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Contact Fr. David Hogman or Fr. Harrison Ayre, Directors of Vocations in the Diocese of Victoria.

Fr. David Hogman: dhogman@rcdvictoria.org **Fr. Harrison Ayre:** hayre@rcdvictoria.org

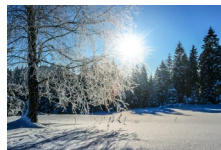
Called and Gifted Workshop

Thank you to all who expressed interest in attending the Called and Gifted Workshop to be held on Saturday, February 4th at Holy Cross Parish.

The Catherine of Siena Institute will be contacting registrants by email with pre-conference resource materials. There are still some seats available for this workshop. Please contact the office at 250-477-5321 or by email at office@holycrossvictoria.org if you would like to register.

SAVE THE DATE! 2023 Share Lent workshop, Sat. Jan. 28 from 9:30-2:00 at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 2060 Haultain St. Our Development and Peace animator, Jeremy Laurie, will be presenting the Share Lent campaign and time for local parish planning. Morning coffee and muffins will be available. Please bring a brown bag lunch. Bring a friend. Questions or more info at 250-477-6952.

THANK YOU TO LITURGICAL MINISTERS: to all those who signed up for our various ministry roles for our Christmas and New Year's Masses, we offer a big **Thank you!!!** Your commitment of service, and your flexibility of time are so much appreciated. We have the best volunteers! Blessings for a Happy New Year! Joanie Bidlake



Thank you to all of the team serving at the Funeral of and reception for Lourdes Celeste: Julia Vlaszaty, Trudy Holden, Trish Westwood, Muriel Davies, Pete and Evelyn Vijandre, Mary-Lynne Britt, Barb McKrow, Monica Liefhebber and Mary-Anne Tinney. Your many talents are valued!

**OUR LITURGICAL LIFE
SATURDAY, January 14th**

3-3:45pm: Confession

4pm Mass: Bill Malcolmson+

SUNDAY, January 15th

9am Mass: Noreen Oldridge+

MONDAY, January 16th

NO MASS

TUESDAY, January 17th

9am Mass: Dan Taft+

Dorothy Maclsaac+

WEDNESDAY, January 18th

NO MASS

THURSDAY, January 19th

9am Mass: Mary Kay Clark+

Bob Ruggles+

FRIDAY, January 20th

NO MASS

The Church will be open for private prayers from Tuesday to Friday 9am - noon

Adoration in the Mercy Chapel - 9am First Friday of the Month

Masks are no longer mandatory indoors, though we do encourage those who feel more comfortable to wear them as needed. As always, if you are feeling unwell or symptomatic please stay home.

COLLECTION for January 8, 2023

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

Envelopes	\$ 4,230.00
Loose	\$ 480.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,345.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,055.00

Thank you Corner

A sincere THANK YOU to the many Holy Cross parishioners who so generously donated to the Christmas display. You helped to celebrate the spirit of Christmas as well as remember our loved ones who have gone before us. Many thanks and blessing for the New Year. Ann Francis

A Message from the Catholic Students' Association

Happy New Year to all students as we begin a new semester and enter our Liturgical Season of Ordinary Time. We wish all students a smooth transition back into school routine. CSA offers ongoing opportunities to enjoy fellowship, community, and a chance to incorporate faith into our lives in many diverse ways. Food is always provided. Follow our website; <https://cathovic.wordpress.com/> . and visit our updated calendar of events. Check us out on Instagram; csa_vic and Fakebook; Csa Victoria. Please contact Lydia at lfoch@rcdvictoria.org for any questions. Drop by and say hello at Clubs Days, January 18th and 19th to see what we have scheduled and enter a raffle for a \$60 valued gift basket. Campus masses begin on January 17th, at 11:30, confessions are offered at 11:15 at Multi-faith. CSA provides a shared meal for students who have time following mass. Save the date: January 21st, for our return mass and meal at Holy Cross. Mass is at 4pm, followed by a parishioner provided meal in Asian style. A guest speaker will attend after which interactive entertainment will be offered. Don't miss this faith, food and fun filled event. See you there! ALL ARE WELCOME. *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus", (Philippians 4:6-7).*

ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Are you looking for a work environment that makes for a great day? Look no further ~ Island Catholic Schools is recruiting! We are in search of enthusiastic people who are certified, talented, love what they do and wish to work in vibrant school environments!

If **YOU** are interested in joining one of our teams, please use this link:

<https://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities/>

Interested in becoming part of the Knights of Columbus? We are seeking Catholic men age 18 to join our Saint Patrick's chapter. The Knights of Columbus is a family orientated organization, striving to unite, and strengthen family bonds through faith, fun and community service. For more information contact Mike O'Neill at mikepmoinvest@gmail.com

Dishes, many of them, are still in the kitchen from the last University supper. You can retrieve these during office hours, 9am - 2pm, Tuesday - Friday. Thank you.

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: Lydia Foch

lfoch@rcdvictoria.org

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation:

Simona Stramaccioni-Bailey

sphcsacramentalprep@rcdvictoria.org

10 Missals for 2023 are still available for purchase in the office. These are \$5.00 each.

2023 Envelopes are now being held in the office for pickup if you have not yet done so.

Sunday Social Bridge is held on the first Sunday of the month from 7 - 10 pm in the Parish Hall.

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.



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