

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

SUNDAY - November 24, 2024 *Thirty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

This Sunday, November 24th, is the last Sunday of the liturgical year and we celebrate Christ the King. We honor Christ, who has always been and always will be and who loves us *to the end of the age* (Matthew 28:20). The kings of earth pass away and are remembered in history. They are wealthy and set apart from the common person. But Christ the King does not pass away, and Christ does not set himself apart from us. In the Gospel according to Mark, Jesus told Pilate, "*My kingdom is not from this world.*" Jesus was not telling Pilate that his kingdom was in a different space or time, far removed from our earth. Jesus was talking about a kingdom that was not about wealth, power, and control. He was talking about the kingdom of life, of spirit, of being, of love; a kingdom where everything and everyone is united and connected into one body, the body of Christ. This was and is and ever shall be the realm of which Jesus is King. This is the kingdom in which the King gave his life for all so that they may recognize the faithful love of God. This kingdom is here, right now, in this space and time. Christ is with us, at this moment, and forever. *For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.* We belong to the truth and every one of us belongs to the kingdom, of which Christ is King.

In our everyday life, how do we recognize the presence of this kingdom, not of this world, but of God's world? We see with eyes of faith and love. When a stranger smiles at a family, when a youth stands to give his seat to an elder on a train, when a busy woman takes time to reassure a child, when a man on his way to work buys a sandwich for a homeless person, when friends greet each other with hugs and laughter, when parishioners pray and sing together; we recognize the reality of God's kingdom, the kingdom of life, spirit, being and love.

Today's readings affirm the wonderful existence of the eternal kingdom of Christ. In the first reading, Daniel states that *His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.* In the second reading in Revelation, Jesus Christ is described as the *faithful, firstborn* and ruler of all. He is the one *who loves us, freed us*, invites us into his kingdom of love. Psalm 93 declares, *He has established the world; it shall never be moved.* Though the universe and everything it contains is moving and evolving, we will never be moved from God's love, attention, and care. It is only through the gift of faith that at times we comprehend the truth that God is eternal and will love us forever. *You are from everlasting . . . O Lord, forevermore.*

Tanya Taft

Would you like to receive the bulletin by email? Please email office@holycrossvictoria.org to be added to the list.

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday-Friday: 8:30am-3:30pm

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC
V8N 3X7
Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844
office@holycrossvictoria.org
www.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 on Sunday at 4pm. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

Bishop's Appeal Update

The Bishop's Appeal, Sharing God's Gifts, is still accepting 2024 donations. Please consider making a financial commitment to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Not only are you helping our parish, but you are making a real difference to our greater Diocesan faith community, our religious leaders, and Local Mission Parishes. To receive a tax receipt for 2024 please ensure your donation is dropped off at the parish office in plenty of time to get to the Diocese for processing. Donations may be made on-line at: www.rcdvictoria.org/bishops-appeal. Our parish project is supporting Anawim House and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (locally & internationally). Parish Goal: \$ 70,000

Prayer for the Children of St Patrick's and Holy Cross Preparing for First Reconciliation

Merciful God, help us to ask forgiveness when we need to. Help us to forgive others who have wronged us. And let us be peacemakers in our school and in our family. We thank you for the gift of your forgiveness and love. Amen.

We have 16 children preparing for their First Reconciliation to be held on Saturday December 7, 2024 at 11am at Holy Cross Parish with a reception to follow in the parish hall. All are welcome. Feel free to bring a potluck dish to share. Thank you for keeping the children of St Patrick's and Holy Cross in your prayers!

FUDGE SALES

Birtheright will be selling specialty Fudges this weekend after both Masses on Nov 23/24 (The packets make great stocking stuffers or gifts for the holiday table and freeze well!) Birtheright assists women in difficult or crisis pregnancies, offering hope and encouraging Mothers to give the precious gift of Life to their babies - how fitting as we prepare for the birth of the Christ Child! Please consider supporting this worthwhile cause.

CWL Christmas Luncheon Saturday, December 14th

CWL Christmas Luncheon tickets are now available for Members at \$30, & Non-Members at \$36. Purchase tickets at St. Patrick's Parish office, open Tuesday to Friday, 11am to 3pm. Last day to buy is Wed Dec 4th. Come and join your CWL sisters for some good food, conversation, and a few laughs to celebrate this Advent & Christmas season. Call or email St. Patrick's Parish for more information: stpat190@telus.net / (250) 592-7391

BUILDING TOGETHER! - LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION FOR NEW OLOR CHURCH

Save the date: Friday, November 29th from 6pm to 9pm at Royal Colwood Golf Course, 629 Goldstream Avenue (enter on Fairway Avenue off Goldstream Avenue). This silent auction will raise funds to build our new church. Admission: \$50.00 a ticket which includes appetizers and a drink. To purchase tickets, contact Cynthia at 250-478-3482/ olorchurch@rcdvictoria.org. If you would like to purchase tickets via e-transfer instead, please contact Bob and Judy at 250-474-2119, e-transfer: bob.sicotte@gmail.com

Mount St Mary's Hospital's Christmas Market

Mount St. Mary's Hospital is hosting a Christmas Market on November 30th from 10am-2:30pm. Featuring unique gifts for all, handmade quilts, knitting, Christmas décor, jewelry, terrariums, baking table, raffle and so much more! Refreshments and a turkey lunch will be available. For more information call 250-480-3138. *Free admission.*

November Indigenous Book Fair

In support of Truth and Reconciliation, a book fair showcasing books authored by Indigenous people from our library. Please sign out books in the notebook provided. Return the books to the table or the box in the foyer.

THE

Looking for a good read over the upcoming Advent Season? Holy Cross has a well stocked library with books available for all. Come take a look over the selection. No strict timelines for returns or late fees!

LIBRARY CORNER

WORD OF THE WEEK

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (NOVEMBER 24)

When Pope Pius XI established the feast of Christ the King in 1925, he wrote that “it must be clear that not one of our faculties is exempt from Christ’s empire.” Jesus must reign in our hearts, minds, wills, and bodies. Whatever love and loyalty we have for our country, the values we ultimately choose to espouse must be those of the kingdom of God. The church is a global family that unites people beyond national borders. As Saint Paul reminds us in his Letter to the Philippians: “Our citizenship is in heaven.” Before Italy became a nation in the late 1800s, popes governed geographical territory (the papal states) for centuries. These were erased with the fall of Rome in 1870, leaving then-Pope Pius IX a prisoner of the Vatican. Four popes later, the “Italian Question” of what territory, if any, the church could claim remained unresolved. In 1922, with Mussolini in power, Pope Pius IX emerged on St. Peter Basilica's balcony to offer his first urbi et orbi (“to the city and to the world”) address, the most solemn blessing of the church, which no pope had offered in 50 years. It signaled Pius XI’s engagement in world affairs, and negotiations resulted in the Lateran pacts of 1929, defining the Holy See’s independence from Italy and creating the tiny state of Vatican City. Celebrating the Solemnity of Christ as King further clarified the relationship between the church and temporal affairs. Though Mussolini, Stalin, and Hitler ascended to world domination in that generation, the throne of Christ superseded them all. Worldly princes have but a season of greatness. Christ reigns forever.

Holy Cross Parish’s Christmas Mass Schedule

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Christmas Eve | Tuesday December 24, at 6pm |
| Christmas Day | Wednesday, December 25, at 9am |
| New Year’s Eve | Tuesday, December 31, at 4pm |
| New Year’s Day | Wednesday, January 1, at 9am |

Confession Availability and Clergy Support

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|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Confession Times: | Clergy Consult: |
| St. Patrick’s: Friday 11:30 – 12:00 | Please call the Parish offices. |
| St. Joseph’s: 1/2 hour before Mass | St. Patrick’s: (250) 592-7391 |
| Sacred Heart: Saturday 3:00 – 3:45 | St. Joseph’s: (250) 479-7413 |
| Our Lady of Fatima: Saturday 4:00 | Sacred Heart: (250)-479-1611 |
| | Our Lady of Fatima: (250) 658-1587 |

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: www.advancedlistening.ca

Francophone? Est-ce que vous êtes au courant qu’il existe la Paroisse Française St.Jean-Baptiste a 307 Richmond, Victoria? Chaque Dimanche a 13 :30 hrs. nous célébrons en Français l’Eucharistie/la Messe avec notre cure le Père Rolf Hasenack, OP et avec des chants et accompagnement au piano et au guitar.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE

SATURDAY, November 23, 2024

4PM MASS: Frank Lawrence+

SUNDAY, November 24, 2024

9AM MASS: Pro Populo

MONDAY, November 25, 2024

NO MASS

TUESDAY, November 26, 2024

9 AM MASS: Romey Simas+

WEDNESDAY, November 27, 2024

NO MASS

THURSDAY, November 28, 2024

9 AM MASS: Romy Pritchard+

FRIDAY, November 29, 2024

NO MASS

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

Reconciliation is available on Saturday, November 23, at 3:30pm

COLLECTIONS, November 17, 2024

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Envelopes | \$ 5080.00 |
| Loose | \$ 430.00 |
| Pre-Authorized Debit | \$ 1332.90 |
| Canada Helps | \$ 525.75 |
| Catholic Missions | \$ 10.00 |
| Total | \$ 7378.65 |

Thank you, Sloane! What an Amazing Ministry Fair you put together. Every aspect was superb and showered your hard work. Lots of ministries to choose from with helpful descriptions and yummy treats as well. We appreciate your attention to detail and your thoroughness. Very well done.
- Grateful H.C Parishioner (T.H)

Supporting Anawim

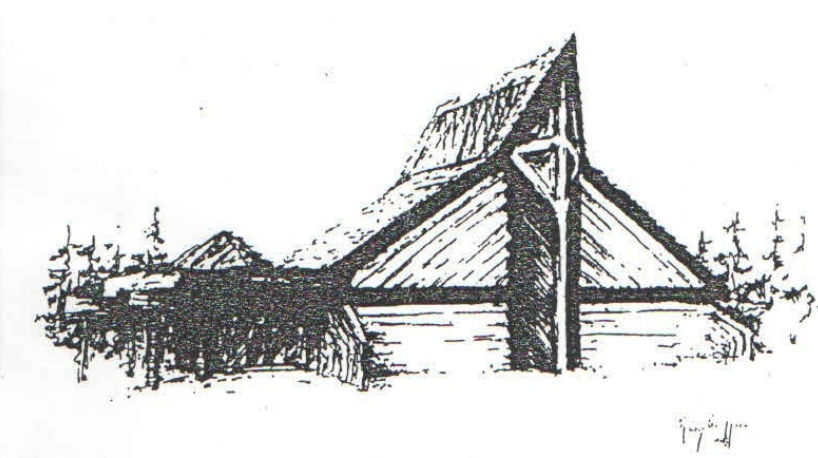
We ask for your help with donations of new and gently used warm winter clothing – from socks and underwear to parkas and pants, our community is in desperate need. There will be a decorated donation box at the entrance to the church.

Anawim's Annual Christmas Tree Fundraiser!

Tree sales will run from **Monday, November 25th to Monday, December 23rd**, or until we sell out. For those in the know, trees tend to go quickly, so be sure to get yours early! Tree prices range from \$15 to \$120 for extra-large selections.

Address: 973 Caledonia Avenue

Hours Weekdays: 10am – 7pm / Saturdays: 10am – 3pm / Sundays: Closed



Thank you to all those Holy Cross Parishioners who signed up to volunteer for a new ministry this past weekend at the Ministry Fair. The support of our volunteers is so greatly appreciated. We could not do it all without you.

We are still in need of a few positions. The posters will be left up until Sunday Nov 24. If you have not signed up for a volunteer position yet, please prayerfully consider how you could support!

Missing a Missal? 2024/2025 Sunday Missal are still be available for \$5 in the office.

The Monthly Sunday Night Bridge

Monthly Sunday Bridge in the Parish Hall will continue on December 1st. Please contact the office at office@holycrossvictoria.org to be connected to Tony Southwell for further information.

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.

Pastor: Vacant

Executive Team:

Catherine Davis, John Bartle-Clar, David Begg

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistant: Sloane Secord
250-477-5321 / office@holycrossvictoria.org

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

Parish Council Chair: Catherine Davis

Sacramental Preparation: Michele Bristow
mbristow@rcdvictoria.org

Baptismal Preparation: Beverly Pulyk
hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

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

REGULAR MASS TIMES

Mass times - Holy Cross Parish:

4pm Saturday,

9am Sunday;

9am Tuesday and Thursday

Mass times - St. Patrick's Parish:

11am Sunday, 4pm Sunday;

12:10pm Tuesday-Friday