



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Twinning with St. Patrick's Parish

Mission Statement: Rooted in the community of Gordon Head and the University, in communion with the Roman Catholic Church, Holy Cross Parish serves the people of God by sharing, teaching and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY - November 28, 2021
First Sunday in Advent

It is hard to compete with the consumer culture of celebrating Christmas before entering Advent, but I will try! Why do we light an advent wreath? Why do I buy advent resources each year? Dear friends, faith preparation for Christmas is especially important! The Advent season deals with an aspect of the Christian life that none of us can do without. In fact, if that aspect were missing from our lives, we might wonder whether we could still call ourselves Christians. That aspect is *hope*. One of the greatest blessings of Advent is its insistence that we as a Christian community, and as individual Christians, expose ourselves to hope. In whatever way it is described, whether it is with the help of some strange images, as in the reading of today, or whether it is with the help of the prophets of the Hebrew Scriptures, or with such personalities of *John the Baptist* or the *Virgin Mary* during the next few Sunday's, everything can be pulled together under the theme of a summons to hope. We watch, hope and wait!

What does that Jesus who waits for us to return to him say this advent? So, I share this question with you this year: What are we waiting for? Is it the "joyful hope of the coming of our savior, Jesus Christ," as we say at Mass? Are we waiting for a baby to be born, a king to come, a world to end and a new one to take its place? Are we waiting in joyful hope for the reign of God at the end of human history, a time of justice and peace, a future where the meek shall inherit the Earth and the poor will have good news delivered to them at last? How do we live until then? With hope—the hope of a prophet who still hopes though he is sitting in prison amidst the siege of his holy city. With watchfulness and prayer, undistracted by the false certainties of the pleasures and "anxieties of daily life." And with confidence, heads held high like a people ready for a new Exodus to freedom, because they know what they have to do and that their "redemption is at hand."

Jean Allen writes there is mystery and freedom in waiting, in being entwined with the Lord in longing, hope and trust and expecting him in eager stillness or still eagerness. "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord." (Psalm 27:14) Wait for him to come. Watch for him. To do otherwise is utter futility. Be still. Advent is the pilgrimage of waiting. Make quiet your anxious heart. Can you hear it? Someone is coming... Thomas Merton writes...the Advent mystery is the beginning of the end of all in us that is not yet Christ.

Let us wait in hope!
Father William



OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:30pm
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:00pm

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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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.

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week from *Holy Cross Parish on Saturday at 4pm*. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

SCAM ALERT

There is a scam going around using the Bishop of Victoria's name, and more recently a scam involving the Diocesan Chief Financial Officer's name, Leah McKenzie. There has also been a resurgence of the scam involving Fr. William's name. If you get a text message or an email from "Fr. William" asking for a "favor" which usually leads to gift cards and/or cash please **IGNORE** this message. Often the initial message is an invitation to call or email him back. **IGNORE** that also. *Fr. William has never, will never and would never contact parishioners with this kind of request.* If you get an email, look carefully at the email address, and report all suspicious emails and texts to the office. A memo from the Diocese can be read [here](#). **Stay vigilant!**

WRITE FOR RIGHTS

Write for Rights on Sun. Dec. 12 (10 – 11:30 am, Parish Hall)

The Holy Cross Social and Eco. Justice Committee is inviting all parishioners and friends to join the **annual Amnesty International letter-writing campaign**. Come over right after 9 am Mass for refreshments, and write a letter or two in defense of human rights. Writing materials, instructions and postage will be provided at the session, first time participants welcome! Covid-19 protocols will be observed. Visit www.writeathon.ca to learn more about this world-wide event. Please sign up (sheet in foyer) so we can anticipate the number of people coming.

ANAWIM HOUSE DONATIONS

With the colder weather approaching Anawim House is looking to re-stock it's depleting shelves. They are in particular need of: **canned goods (for example, pork and beans, tuna, canned pasta, etc), dried pasta, jarred pasta sauce, cereal, peanut butter for sandwiches**, are in very high demand right now.

There is also always a constant need for new men's underwear and warm socks. Please remember that Anawim House often helps women who come by the house as well, so items for women are also accepted. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Centre, or left in the Anawim Grocery cart in the foyer of the church. The donations are collected weekly from the church by Anawim volunteers. *Taking care of our brothers in need.*



Feeding the Community

LIBRARY CORNER

Advent readings: the Divine becoming Human --- on our Parish Library Suggestion Shelf and on the internet websites

Advent and Christmas by A Chiffolo

Illuminated Life by Joan Chittister

Sister Wendy's Book of Meditations

<https://padrepiodevotions.org/prayers-of-padre-pio/>

http://www.thischurch.com/prayer_worship/intercession/advent3yearb2008.htm

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advent>



PRAYER REFLECTION

The Advent mystery is the beginning of the end of all in us that is not yet Christ.

—Thomas Merton

No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There's too much work to do.

—Dorothy Day

You . . . must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

—Luke 12:40

The church asks us to understand that Christ, who came once in the flesh, is prepared to come again. When we remove all obstacles to his presence he will come, at any hour and moment, to dwell spiritually in our hearts.

—Saint Charles Borromeo

A NOTE FROM THE DIOCESE

To access the live stream link from the Diocese of Victoria website simply google: Diocese of Victoria or go to www.rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream. Celebrate Mass on-line with Bishop Gary.

SUNDAY 10 AM

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 7 PM

A DECEMBER SCHEDULE CAN BE FOUND [HERE](#).

A new article has just been posted on the Diocesan website about the CCCB's series of Advent reflections on healing and reconciliation. The text of the article is copied below, or you can find the article online at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/special-announcements/journey-through-advent-2021-towards-healing-reconciliation>.

REMEMBERING YOUR LOVED ONES AT CHRISTMAS

As in past years we have welcomed donations for the Christmas floral display. Let us remember a loved one by contributing towards a Poinsettia that will bear their name.

Please pick up an envelope in the foyer of the church or in the Parish Office. Once you have filled it out, please drop it off at the office or in the Sunday Collection. **Deadline will be December 19th.**

RECONCILIATION CORNER

This is a [heartwarming story](#) from Charla Huber, one of the *Times Colonist's* weekly columnists. Read about Premier Horgan singing "Happy Birthday" in Hul'qumi'num to an elder of the Beecher Bay First Nation, having just learned the words. The article encourages cultural sharing and a willingness to step out of one's comfort zone. Please note that the Indigenous Books Collection has been moved to a new location in the church foyer, just beneath the bulletin board.

The Parish Reconciliation service will be held on Monday, December 6th at 7pm at Holy Cross parish.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SATURDAY, November 27th

3:00pm-3:45pm: Confession

4pm Mass: Karl huber, Isabelle Mclsaac +

SUNDAY, November 28th

9am Mass: Joe Laturus+

MONDAY, November 29th

Office Closed/No Mass

TUESDAY, November 30th

9am Mass: Greg Blonde +

WEDNESDAY, December 1st

9am Mass: Ron tinney +

THURSDAY, December 2nd

9am Mass: Bill Vanderstappen +

FRIDAY, December 3rd

9am Mass: Kerry Keilty +

In-person Masses have resumed now with no restrictions on numbers.

Masks are now mandatory for everyone in the Church and the parish centre.



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

COLLECTION for Nov. 21, 2021

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 3,3395.00
Loose	\$ 265.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,677.00
TOTAL	\$ 5,337.00

FUNERAL FOR JOHN CALDER

There will be a funeral Mass for Dr. John Calder on **Saturday, December 11th at 11am**. There will be a reception to follow in the church. Please rsvp if you plan on attending the reception: calderoola.ca@shaw.ca

First Sunday in Advent

CONTACTS

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321

250-294-9615 *after hours*

Hospital Chaplain: 250-889-3761

Administrative Assistant: Valentina Boyd

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: Debra Prior

250-661-0250 debroussel@hotmail.com

Children's Religious Education: Barbara Shenton

bshenton@rcdvictoria.org

NOTE FROM THE UVIC/CAMOSUN CHAPLAIN

There is always lots going on for University and College students! From game nights to movie nights to book clubs. Gatherings are social and fun and a great opportunity to consider Christ in all things.

Bonus: Shared snack are usually provided! For more information on what's coming up next please contact Lydia Foch: lfoch@rcdvictoria.org



ADORATION IN THE CHAPEL

First Friday adoration in the mercy chapel will be next held on **Friday, December 3rd** from 1-2pm in the Mercy Chapel.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - REQUEST FOR ACCOMMODATIONS

Rental Accommodation needed for Catholic Family from the Philippines:

A Catholic husband and wife from the Philippines will be attending UVic and will arrive in Victoria on December 18th. They are looking for rental accommodation for themselves and their two children. They need a 2 bedroom condo, townhouse, or house, to rent for over a year. Please contact by E-mail to: edpkofc@gmail.com

CHALICE CHRISTMAS GIFT CATALOGUE



We invite you to share the blessings of Christmas with children in the developing world. Chalice's Christmas Gift Catalogue allows you to purchase a gift for someone in need in honour of a friend or a loved one. A beautiful handwritten card will be sent to the recipient, telling them of the gift that is given. Any gift purchased through the catalogue will receive an official tax receipt.

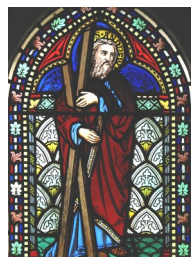
<https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TicketingCatalog.aspx?eventid=148817&langpref=en-CA&Referrer=https%3a%2f%2fadmin.e2rm.com%2f>

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Fr. Harrison Ayre is hiring an office manager/coordinator for his parish, St. Peter's, in Nanaimo. A full job description is available upon request from the Holy Cross parish office. The competition will remain open until the position is filled. For specific questions regarding the job or to apply please contact: hayre@rcdvictoria.org

Island Catholic Schools is also hiring for several positions. Find out more details at: <https://www.cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>

FEAST OF ST. ANDREW



On Tuesday, November 30th, St. Andrew's Cathedral will celebrate our Patronal Festival with Mass at 12:00 pm and at 7:00 pm and all are welcome. For the evening Mass, entry to the Cathedral is via our View Street door.

MORNING ROSARY

Please join the rosary group that gathers in the Church every **Tuesday to Friday morning at 8:30** (before morning Mass) to pray the rosary together.

All are welcome.

