

# St. Patrick's Parish

2060 Haultain Street, Victoria BC, V8R 2L7  
Phone: 250-592-7391 • Email: [stpatricks-vic@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:stpatricks-vic@rcdvictoria.org)  
[www.stpatsvictoria.com](http://www.stpatsvictoria.com)

## Mission:

We gather as a welcoming community to worship,  
grow in faith and serve as Jesus served.



## DECEMBER 21, 2025 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

1st Reading: Isaiah 7.10-14 † 2nd Reading: Romans 1.1-7 † Gospel: Matthew 1.18-24

### THEME: JOSEPH, A VERY SPECIAL FATHER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. Our expectations shall be fulfilled in a couple of days, and the birth of the Messiah will justify our efforts and patience. The role of Mary in the unfolding of God's plan of salvation is one of the great themes of the Advent season. In today's Eucharist, however, it is the role of Joseph that takes centre stage. His yes to the message of the angel plays a vital role in the great story of the incarnation, God's coming to dwell with us. His yes is not uttered in words but expressed in action. As today's gospel reading from Matthew states, 'he did what the angel of the Lord told him to do: he took his wife to his home' (Mt 1:24).

St Matthew describes Joseph 'as a man of honour' (Mt 1:18), but, as the gospel reading shows, he is much more than that. He is a man of faith, obedience and courage. Unlike King Ahaz, in our first reading, who refuses to ask the Lord for a sign of the coming of the Messiah (Is 7:12), Joseph's response is one of unhesitating obedience. Taking to heart the words of the angel not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife, he commits himself unreservedly to doing what the Lord had asked of him. He brings Mary to his home and takes care of her and her precious child.

As each Christmas comes and goes, the Church continues to proclaim that in Jesus, God is with us, and that Jesus will be with us until the end of time. As we expect the coming of the Messiah, each of us must make himself/herself available as a worthy instrument. We must be ready to cooperate with God as Joseph did so that the promises of God might be fulfilled through us.

I wish you all Merry Christmas

Our Lady of Perpetual help, pray for us.

Father Benson Asuming



#### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday - 7:00pm

Sunday - 11:00 am

Sunday - 4:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES: Tuesday to Friday 12:10pm

#### CONFESSIONS:

Friday 11:30am to 12:00pm

Saturday 6:15 - 6:45pm

#### BAPTISM

Please email: [hcsbpaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbpaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org)

#### CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION

Please email: [mbristow@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:mbristow@rcdvictoria.org)

#### HOSPITAL VISITS - RJH/VGH

Hospital Emergencies: 250-889-3761

Chaplain - Fr. Sean Flynn

Other health concerns, non-emergency: call 811

After hours Parish Emergencies ONLY: 250-294-9615

#### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

24/7 Adoration in our side Chapel

Call or visit the office for an entry code

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday to Friday from 11:00am to 3:00pm

FUNERALS: Please contact the Parish Office

#### PARISH STAFF

Office: 250-592-7391

Pastor: Father Benson Asuming

Email: [sppastor@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:sppastor@rcdvictoria.org)

Office Manager: Deborah Mackay

Email: [stpatricks-vic@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:stpatricks-vic@rcdvictoria.org)

Communications Assistant: Holly Hatch

Email: [assiststpats@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:assiststpats@rcdvictoria.org)

#### Responsible Ministry:

Please Email: [stpatsrmse@gmail.com](mailto:stpatsrmse@gmail.com)

Custodian: Dean Riches

*We acknowledge and respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory St. Patrick's Parish stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.*

Report Sexual Abuse

Sexual Abuse Reporting to an Independent Reporting Agency 1-800-968-3146

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sat Dec 20- 7:00pm + Loretta Lennon  
Sun Dec 21- 11:00am + Kevin D'Cunha  
Sun Dec 21- 4:00pm + Fr. Frank Franz  
Tues Dec 23- 12:10pm + Emma Doyle  
Wed Dec 24- 5:00pm Children's Nativity Pageant  
Wed Dec 24- 8:00pm + Rev. Sr. Teresa Ho  
Thurs Dec 25- 10:00am Christmas Day  
Fri Dec 26- 12:10pm No Mass

*May God Bless you with  
His ~  
Peace,  
Joy  
and Love*



## PARISH CONTACTS

### Parish Council Chair:

Mark Redchurch  
250-370-0558

### Finance Interim Chair

John Shenton  
250-595-0828

### Knights of Columbus:

Serge Sabourin  
brothersergegk7934@gmail.com

### Catholic Women League:

Kathleen  
greytpats@gmail.com

### St. Vincent de Paul:

Colin Scott  
250-995-3227

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

### *Happy Anniversary to Father Benson!*

His Fifth Anniversary of Ordination is December 19th.  
Father Benson was ordained in 2020.



## 2025 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

### WEDNESDAY, December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve

12:10 pm Mass Canceled  
5:00 pm Children's Nativity &  
Family Christmas Eve Mass  
7:00 pm Christmas Carols  
8:00 pm Christmas Eve Evening Mass



### THURSDAY, December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Nativity of the Lord

10:00 am Christmas Day Mass  
12:10 pm Mass Canceled

### SATURDAY, December 27<sup>th</sup> The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

6:15 pm Confessions  
7:00 pm Mass

### SUNDAY, December 28<sup>th</sup> The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

11:00 am Mass  
4:00 pm Mass

### TUESDAY, December 30<sup>th</sup>

12:10 pm Mass

### WEDNESDAY, December 31<sup>st</sup> Vigil Mary, the Holy Mother of God

12:10 pm Mass Canceled  
5:00 pm Mass

### THURSDAY, January 1<sup>st</sup> The Solemnity Mary, The Holy Mother of God

### A Special Christmas Invitation

Father Benson would like to extend a special invitation to all parishioners, family and friends to attend the **Christmas Carols** being led by Couples for Christ on **Wednesday, December 24th at 7:00pm**. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. 8pm Mass to follow.



### *In Loving Memory*

On behalf of Father Benson and the parishioners of St. Patrick's Parish we wish to extend our sincere condolences and prayers to the family and friends of *Maria Hendrix and Carmela Romano* who recently passed away.

*May they rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon them.*



## ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 7

For information on registrations for  
2025/2026 school year, please contact:

**Patrick Card** - Principal  
**Angela McLeish** - Vice Principal

Phone: 250-592-6713

Email: [sp@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:sp@cisdv.bc.ca)

[www.stpatrickselem.ca](http://www.stpatrickselem.ca)



## COLLECTIONS DEC 14, 2025

Envelopes	\$	3,455.00
Loose Change	\$	773.50
Bldg. Maint. Fund	\$	110.00
Canada Helps	\$	91.42
E-Transfer	\$	500.00
PAD	\$	1,308.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,237.92</b>

<b>Catholic Mission in Canada</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>
<b>Anawim House For Women</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>

## FINANCIAL NEWS

	Dec 14, 2025	YTD
Received	\$6,237.92	\$ 276,380.46
Budgeted	\$ 4,945.00	\$ 252,195.00
Difference	\$ 1,292.92	\$ 24,185.46

## A Very Merry Christmas & Happy New

**Note that there will be no Bulletin published for Sunday, December 28th. Next Bulletin is Sunday, January 4th, 2026**



## CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

- \*Wednesday, December 24th - Christmas Eve - Parish Office open 11am - 1pm**
- \*Thursday, December 25th - Christmas Day - Parish Office Closed**
- \*Friday, December 26th - Parish Office Closed**
- \*Tuesday, December 30th - Office Open from 11am-3pm**
- \*Wednesday, December 31st - New Year's Eve - Office open 11am - 1pm**
- \*Thursday January 1st - New Year's Day - Parish Office Closed**
- \*Friday, January 2 - Normal Parish Office Schedule Resumes**

## THANK YOU NOTE

The Christmas season is a time for gratitude and giving, and we are deeply thankful for all who have generously supported the Bishop's Appeal 2025, "Love & Unity." With the end of the year fast approaching, there is still time to make a meaningful impact. Donations received or postmarked before December 31 will receive a 2025 tax receipt. We sincerely appreciate your decision to share the abundance that God has blessed you with to help serve others in your faith community on Vancouver Island.

**Parish Goal: \$50,000    Actual to Date: \$57,861.00    Number of Gifts: 121**

## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

**Bishop Gary Gordon** has written a message to the people of the Diocese of Victoria on the occasion of Christmas 2025. The message may be read online at:

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/bishop-gary-gordons-message-for-christmas-2025>

On Sunday, December 28, the Diocese of Victoria will join the worldwide Church in celebrating the **Rite of Closing of the Jubilee Year**. The Rite of Closing will happen at the **11:00 am Mass** at **St. Andrew's Cathedral** in Victoria, with Bishop Gary Gordon presiding. All are invited to participate in person or via the livestream at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BBaull-9vo>

We're getting close to our goal for the **2025 Bishop's Appeal: Love & Unity** campaign—thank you to everyone who has generously donated so far! **If you've been waiting to give, now is a wonderful time to participate.** To receive a 2025 tax receipt, donations must be received by the Diocese before December 31, 2025. To learn more or give online, please visit:

The recap blog of the **2025 Diocesan Faith Day**, held on November 22, 2025, is now available on the Diocesan website. A handout from speaker Dr. Erin Barisano on "The Active Silence" can also be found at the bottom of the recap page <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/faith-days-recap-finding-renewal-through-the-active-silence>

## LIVESTREAM MASSES

**Live Mass broadcast this weekend!** Mass is livestreamed this week on Saturday, December 20th at Holy Cross Parish at 4:00pm. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

## NEXT WEEK IN OUR PARISH

<u>Monday Dec 22</u>	<u>Tuesday Dec 23</u>	<u>Wednesday Dec 24</u>	<u>Thursday Dec 25</u>	<u>Friday Dec 26</u>	<u>Saturday Dec 27</u>	<u>Sunday Dec 28</u>
Church & Office CLOSED	11am to 3pm Church & Office Open	11am to 1pm <b>Office closes at 1:00pm</b>	Office CLOSED	11am to 3:00pm Church & Office CLOSED	Church & Office Closed	<b>11am Sunday Mass Children's Liturgy Coffee After Mass</b>
6:00pm Christ Choir Practice	<b>12:00pm Angelus &amp; Mass</b>	<b>12:10 Mass Canceled</b>	<b>Merry Christmas</b>	<b>12:10pm Mass Canceled</b>	<b>6:15pm Confessions</b>	<b>4pm Sunday Mass</b>
	6:00pm - Couples For Christ Choir	<b>5pm Eve Mass &amp; Children's Nativity Pageant</b>	<b>10am Mass Christmas Day</b>		<b>7pm Saturday Evening Mass</b>	
	7pm AA-Clue	<b>7pm Christmas Carols</b>				
	7pm Toastmasters	<b>8pm Christmas Eve Mass</b>				



# Catholic Diocese of Victoria

Office of the Bishop

1-4044 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria, BC V8X 2A1 - Tel: 250-479-1331 - Fax: 250-479-5423 - Web: [redvictoria.org](http://redvictoria.org)

December 2025

Dear People of God,

Christmas is the feast in which God offers a response and remedy to the fears and anxieties of every age, including our own. It is the feast of hope in the darkness, when the ancient promise is fulfilled once again: *"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined."* (Isa 9:2)

How great the darkness can feel today. Our streets and buildings glow with dazzling lights—even our places of worship are adorned with a brightness meant to lift the spirit. Yet so often these lights are only passing distractions, brief attempts to soothe the heart and mind amid the turmoil of fear. We know there are reasonable, practical responses to the darkness of our time, but human solutions alone rarely reach the deeper places of vulnerability and fragility in our earthly journey. One wonders: would the Magi themselves have been able to find and follow the star if its gentle glow were competing with the flashes of bombs or the glare of spotlights?

And yet, Christmas comes. It returns each year with the still, small light of a star and the quiet voice of our God. In the warm glow of a humble stable, we hear again the divine message: "I love you." "I am with you."

Perhaps this Christmas is an invitation to seek something more than temporary relief from fear and anguish; an invitation not to distraction, but to encounter. For in the single greatest gift God gives us—His Son, Jesus—we receive a peace "not as the world gives," and the tender assurance that God listens with the attentive heart of a newborn child.

Jesus' birth is that still, small light of truth and life, revealing the Way of peace and justice through the seeming weakness of infancy and the homelessness of a young couple giving birth to their firstborn child and laying him in a manger—a humble place where "we came to know him in the smallness of a child laid in a manger." (*Dilexi te*, (2025), 16) In Him, God shows us the path of listening with open hearts and of good will toward all, with "the preferential choice for the poor [that] is a source of extraordinary renewal both for the Church and for society, if we can only set ourselves free of our self-centeredness and open our ears to their cry." (*Dilexi te*, (2025), 7)

Come let us adore Him.

Come let us listen to the poor and humble Jesus.

Come let us listen to the Creator's plan for peace.

My prayer for you and your families this Christmas is that the light of Christ will calm your fears, renew your hope, and guide your steps as we journey together in faith.

Christmas blessings, and the peace of Christ be with you in the New Year.

Most Reverend Gary Gordon  
Bishop of Victoria



We Teach Driving Like  
**Your Life Depends on It.**



**Joan Wallace DRIVING SCHOOL**

Call: 250-383-7483 office@wallacedrivingschool.com



**Tony Joe**  
Personal Real Estate Corporation

Helping home Sellers  
and Buyers Since 1991

Agent for St. Clare Villa

**250-419-7439**

tony@PrimeTeam.ca  
www.PRIMETeam.ca

RE/MAX Sabre Realty



**BERWICK**  
HOUSE  
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

**JOIN US FOR LUNCH & A TOUR**

We would love to see you!

Linda MacDonald & Kathy Ajas

Berwick House Community Relations

250-853-5492

berwickhouse@berwickrc.com

**2:18RUN**

**FAIRFIELD PLAZA**

**"Sav'er of Soles"**

**Phone: 250 595-2378**

www.218run.com

**More Flooring In Stock, More Prices You'll Love.**

Hardwood | Sheet Vinyl | Area Rugs | Tile  
Laminate | Vinyl Plank | Carpet | & **More!**



**Victoria** 601 Boleskine Rd Unit #10  
250.386.8883 endoftheroll.com



**McCALL  
GARDENS**

HONOURING LIFE

FAMILY OWNED FOR FOUR GENERATIONS

NO FEE FOR  
PREARRANGEMENTS

250-385-4465

4665 FALAISE DRIVE

www.mccallgardens.com



**GET MOTIVATED!**

Certified Personal Trainer at your door.

**Get into shape from the comfort  
& safety of your home!**

We provide In Home Visits & Online

Personal Training for any age & fitness level.

- Weight Loss Programs
- Increased Strength
- Core Programs
- Flexibility Programs
- Meal Plans

**Anastasia Pearse**

1 888 905 8724 • pearse.anastasia@gmail.com • www.inhometrainer.ca

**Advertise your  
Business here**

**CARE**  
Funeral Services

2676 Wilfert Road  
carefuneral.com

**Phone: (250) 391-9696**  
bill@funeral-care.com



**T.T. DRAPERY**

- SHEERS
- DRAPERIES
- BEDSPREADS
- ALTERATIONS
- RE-LINING
- BLINDS

**Thuy-TRAN**

918 ALSTON ST.  
VICTORIA, BC V9A 3S4  
TEL/FAX: 250-386-5994



**KIM E. JOHNSON**

**CREASE HARMAN LLP**

Barristers and Solicitors, Notaries Public

800-1070 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C., V8W 2C4  
Tel: (250) 388-5421 • Fax: (250) 388-4294  
Emails: kjohnson@crease.com