

St. Patrick's Parish

2060 Haultain Street, Victoria BC, V8R 2L7
Phone: 250-592-7391 • Email: StPat190@telus.net
www.stpatsvictoria.com



Mission:

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

DECEMBER 31, 2023 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

This Sunday, is the feast day of the Holy Family. We celebrate the gift of all families but especially the family of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. God gave Mary and Joseph the sacred task of loving, nurturing, and raising the Christ child, the child Jesus who was destined to be healer and savior of the world. A very exceptional family! Yet for many years their lives were quiet and ordinary. The Gospel describes how Mary and Joseph followed the law as every family did, and brought Jesus to the temple when it was time for the purification. When they returned to Nazareth, their hometown, they lived unobtrusively in their community. Where else could baby Jesus grow and become *strong, filled with wisdom*? It had to be in the loving embrace of his family, learning to walk and talk and think and love. He was nurtured and cared for, he was comforted, encouraged, and treasured. We do not know when Jesus understood that he was *the way, the truth, and the life*. But we know that he came to the world as a baby, powerless and completely dependent on his parents. Without this holy family, Jesus would not have grown in strength, wisdom, and faithfulness.

Every parent is given this sacred task of raising a child created by God. Every child will grow in strength, and wisdom, and learn faithfulness as it is loved and treasured. It is with this support of love and caring that young people grow in confidence and faith so that they have the courage to leave their family and find their path in the world. Then they will carry Christ within themselves, and in their own way heal and save a piece of the world.

We all learn to be faithful from experiencing faithfulness in the circle of our families, and then larger communities of friends, parishes, schools, and work. The source of all faithfulness is God. Today's readings emphasize God's fidelity. In Genesis, God's faithfulness to Abraham and Sarah gives them courage to trust that they will have a child in their old age. The Psalm celebrates the everlasting covenant made by God with Abraham. The letter to the Hebrews praises Abraham's and Sarah's great faith in God. And in the Gospel Simeon and Anna express their confidence in God's constancy. They see the baby Jesus and recognize the Messiah in the vulnerable tiny child. They do not question how a small newborn can redeem the world; they trust. Like Simeon and Anna, we can have faith in God. Even in this world of war and destruction we can trust. Our God is faithful until the end of time. *We remember the wonderful works He has done and know that He is mindful of His covenant forever.*



Tanya Taft

Weekend Mass Times

Sunday - 11:00 am

Sunday - 4:00 pm

Weekday Mass Times: - Wednesday & Friday 12:10pm

CONFESSION:

Friday 11:30am to 12:05pm - no appointment necessary

BAPTISM

Please email: hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org

CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION

Please email: 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

EURCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

24/7 Adoration in our side Chapel

Call or visit the office for an entry code

FUNERALS

Please contact the Parish Office

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Mackay

Office: 250-592-7391

Email: stpat190@telus.net

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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

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

COLLECTIONS DEC. 24, & 25 2023

Envelopes	\$6,075.00
Loose Change	\$1,910.10
Capital Fund	\$ 200.00
PAD	\$ 918.00
Canada Helps	\$ 96.00
Grand Total	\$9,199.10

FINANCIAL NEWS

	DEC. 24 & 25	YTD
Received	\$9,199.10	\$267,977.49
Needed	\$4,700.00	\$244,400.00
Difference	\$4,499.10	\$ 23,577.49

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Council Chair:

Mark Redchurch
250-370-0558

Finance Chairman:

Peter Bray
peterbray@telus.net
250-382-4209

Knights of Columbus:

Michael O'Neill
mikepmoinvest@gmail.com
WWW.KofC.org

Catholic Women's League:

Theresa Smith
250-213-3304
theresasmith1225@shaw.ca

St. Vincent de Paul:

Colin Scott
250-995-3227

ST. PATRICK'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 7

For information on registrations for 2023/2024 school year, please contact the school.

Patrick Card - Principal

Angela McLeish - Vice Principal

Phone: 250-592-6713

Email: sp@cisdv.bc.ca

www.stpatrickselem.ca

[Visit the school's Facebook page](#)



FROM OUR PARISH:

Prayer Reflection

If you want to bring happiness to the whole world, go home and love your family.

—Saint Teresa of Calcutta

One light feeds another. One strong family lends strength to more. One engaged community can ignite those around it. This is the power of the light we carry.

—Michelle Obama, The Light We Carry

The family is indeed sacred: It is the place in which life—the gift of God—can be properly welcomed and protected.

—Pope John Paul II in Centesimus Annus

We come to the end of another year, a time to look back in wonder at God's presence and blessings and to look forward in hope to the gifts of life, love, faith, and friendship in 2024. Where does time go? Time past, time present and time future are all God's time, and I assure you of my prayers, and my hope that we shall all grow in faith, hope and love throughout 2024. 2023 has been a full year. I would have to say, though, that the best part of the year has been building Christian community with every one of you. You understand your baptismal call to *be church* and you give of your time, talent and treasure to build up our community of faith rooted in Christ who said: *"I give my body and blood for the life of the world."* (John 6) I need you to know that being a part of both Saint Patrick's and Holy Cross Parishes with a missionary heart is something that gives me boundless joy. Each of you is a source of strength and love to me. Each in your own way, continue to inspire me to be a better pastor and a better human being. So, it is time to wrap it up and carry forth the Good News of Jesus Christ. A whole New Year beckons!

Happy New Year!

Father William



Baptismal Preparation

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 to choose from for Baptismal Preparation are:

- Sat, Jan 13 (10:00 am – 12 noon)
- Sat, Feb 10 (10:00 am – 12 noon)

Please email hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.



A sincere thank you to all St. Patrick Parishioners who have donated to this year's Bishop Appeal. Your generous donations and support is so greatly appreciated.

Parish Goal: \$51,000. Actual to Date: \$66,959.90 Number of Gifts: 135

Hobby Group

After a brief hiatus, the Hobby Group is starting up again in January 2024! Bring your hobby ideas and projects and enjoy some company and faith-sharing at the same time. All ages are welcome. Contact Linda Fodchuk at perogy@telus.net for more information.



MASS INTENTIONS

Wed Jan 3 - 12:10pm	+Serafim, Elmira & Fernando Botelho
Fri Jan 5 - 12:10pm	+Victor McFarlane
Sun Jan 7 - 11:00am	Int. Evelyn & Louis D’Cunha
Sun Jan 7 - 4:00pm	+ Maria Nhung

FROM OUR PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

Diocese of Victoria Job Opportunities

The Diocese of Victoria is now accepting applications for three positions:

- **Accounting Clerk** (applications must be received by January 5, 2024)
- **University of Victoria / Camosun College Chaplain** (applications must be received by January 5, 2024)
- **Financial Officer** (applications will be accepted until the position is filled)

The job postings may be viewed at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment>

On January 5th & 6th, the Diocesan liturgical conference “**The Epiphany of the Liturgy: Welcoming the Closeness of God**” will be held at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Victoria. This free conference is an opportunity to enter into a richer experience of the Trinity in our Eucharistic Celebrations, and will be valuable both for those who serve in liturgical ministries and those who participate in the assembly. The workshop will run Friday, January 5 from 7 - 9:30 pm and Saturday, January 6 from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. For more information and to register please visit, <https://EpiphanyLiturgyConference.eventbrite.com>; for assistance in registering, please email mgwyn@rcdvictoria.org or call 250-479-1331 ext 227.

St. Andrew’s High School Bottle Drive

Save your refundable bottles and cans and support students going to Spain in 2024.

Drop them off on Saturday, January 13th at St. Andrew’s High School on McKenzie Ave., between 10am. and 2pm.

Thank you for your support.



Pastoral Care Outreach

The Diocese of Victoria Health Care Committee is offering its next series of online Pastoral Care Outreach Training sessions in the new year. These free sessions will be held via Zoom on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – noon, starting on January 20 and running until March 23, 2024, and will allow participants to learn more about deep listening and visiting the lonely, sick, injured, elderly, and dying – in hospitals, seniors’ residences, extended health care facilities, and at their homes. This training is also offered for those who wish to learn how to accompany and care for their loved ones, friends, and neighbours, or as a personal undertaking. **Please register through your parish by January 12th.**



LIVESTREAM MASSES

Mass is livestreamed this week, on Monday, January 1st for the Celebration of *The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God*, from St. Patrick’s Church at 11:00 AM. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

NEXT WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday Jan. 1	Tuesday Jan. 2	Wednesday Jan. 3	Thursday Jan. 4	Friday Jan. 5	Saturday Jan. 6	Sunday Jan. 7
<p>St. Patrick’s Church and Parish Office are Closed</p> <p><i>New Year’s Day</i> <i>The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</i> 11:00am Mass - St. Patrick’s Church “Live Streaming”</p> <p>7:00pm AA Peace</p>	<p>9:00am Mass - Holy Cross Church</p> <p>11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open</p> <p>7:00pm AA - CLUE</p>	<p>11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open</p> <p>12:10pm Mass - St. Patrick’s Church</p> <p>7:00pm AA Peace</p>	<p>9:00am Mass - Holy Cross Church</p> <p>11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open</p> <p>7:00pm AA Peace</p>	<p>11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open</p> <p>11:30am Confessions</p> <p>12:10pm Funeral Mass - Jose Fernandez Reception to follow</p> <p>3:00pm Divine Mercy</p> <p>7:00pm CA Meeting</p>	<p>St. Patrick’s Church and Parish Office are Closed</p> <p>4:00pm Mass - Holy Cross Church</p>	<p>9:00am Mass - Holy Cross Church</p> <p>11:00am Mass - St. Patrick’s Church</p> <p>4:00pm Mass - St. Patrick’s Church</p>

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