

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 3, 2023 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The beautiful season of Advent is upon us! Our Church, in her wisdom, begins a new liturgical year on this First Sunday of Advent, gifting us with an opportunity to begin anew, to renew our relationship with Christ, to prepare our hearts in a more profound way for Christ's indwelling. We are called to enter into a time of waiting and watching, longing and desiring, anticipating and expecting. By placing our advent wreath in a prominent place in our home and setting aside time for silence, prayer, and reflection on sacred scripture when lighting the first candle, we make a conscious effort to focus our attention on our relationship with Christ.

Isaiah's prayer of lament reminds us that we continually walk away from our relationship with God. We rebel then blame God for abandoning us! If we insist on going down the wrong path, God will not force us to do what is right. That's the freedom God gave us! God hopes that we will see the error of our ways; God nudges us; God waits and watches for us; God desires that we come home.

Advent is a time to reflect on our relationship with God and see our patterns of behavior concerning God. God continually calls us to live in hope, to see beyond our present circumstances to a future blessed by God, filled with restoration and transformation. God desires our whole being and wants what is good and beautiful and true for us personally and collectively as a whole.

Paul blesses us with God's grace and peace. The word grace is rooted in the Hebrew word *hesed*, which speaks of God's loving kindness, mercy, and faithfulness. Who we are and everything we have is because of God's grace. Are our hearts open to this grace? Do we live in the belief that God works with us, strengthens us, and continually invites us into a deeper relationship?

Mark clearly calls us to *beware, keep alert, watch, keep awake* at the start of this Advent season. He doesn't want us to be left behind; he doesn't want us to miss these opportunities to surrender our hearts to Christ. Christ is here yet he wants to be closer. He encourages us to keep awake so we will fling open the doors of our heart with reckless abandon, trusting in God's goodness and grace. Let us wake up to the active presence of God permeating every single moment of our days.

Jesus asks us to light this first Advent candle so warmth and welcome will flow from our heart homes as we shine God's grace into the world, lighting the way for others to enter God's kingdom. Let the Holy Spirit be our doorkeeper. May we be ever watchful and alert as the light from each of our candles scatter the darkness and infuse the world with God's grace and peace.

In grateful abundance, have a blessed Advent,
Mona



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: hcsbpaptismalprep@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 NOV. 26, 2023

Envelopes	\$2,395.00
Loose Change	\$ 539.00
PAD	\$ 918.00
Grand Total	\$4,017.00
Anawim House	\$ 125.00
Catholic Missions in Canada	\$ 690.00

FINANCIAL NEWS

	NOV. 26	YTD
Received	\$4,017.00	\$239,858.14
Needed	\$4,700.00	\$225,600.00
Difference	-\$ 683.00	\$ 14,258.14

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 Face-book page](#)



FROM OUR PARISH:

Prayer Reflection

Advent increases our hope. A hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down.

—Pope Francis

Life is Advent; life is recognizing the coming of the Lord.

—Henri Nouwen

Advent: the time to listen for footsteps—you can't hear footsteps when you're running yourself.

—Bill McKibben

Video link to His Holiness Pope Francis Prayer Intention for the month of December - <https://youtu.be/CqCUxQytms?si=5NliImkOFONWO2PN>

An **Advent Reconciliation Service** for St. Patrick's and Holy Cross Parishes will be held at St. Patrick's Church on **Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 7:00pm**. There will be several priests will be in attendance.

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. Next Preparation Course is **Saturday, December 9th from 10am - 12pm**. Please email hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org with your name and contact information.



Prayer for the Children Preparing for First Reconciliation at St Patrick's:

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 25 children preparing for their first reconciliation to be held on Saturday, December 9, 2023 11am at St Patrick's with a reception to follow in the Parish Hall. All are welcome. Sign-up [here](#) or email Michele Bristow mbristow@rcdvictoria.org to contribute a potluck dish. Thank you for keeping the children of St Patrick's and Holy Cross in your prayers!



CWL Christmas Luncheon tickets are now available. They will be sold in the foyer this Sunday, December 3rd, after each Mass. They can also be purchased in the parish office Tuesday to Friday 11am to 3pm. Members \$30, Non-Members \$36. **Last day to buy is Wed Dec 6th**. Come and join your CWL sisters for some good food, conversation, and a few laughs to celebrate this Advent and Christmas season.

For more Information: theresasmith1225@shaw.ca or 250-213-3304.



The Knights of Columbus will be having their pancake breakfast from 10:00 am until 1:00 Pm on Sunday Dec 3rd at St. Patrick's Church. All parishioners, families and friends are invited to come and enjoy a deluxe breakfast. Gluten Free pancakes will be available and cash and credit cards will be accepted.

Knights of Columbus

If you're interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith, or obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then joining St. Patrick's Council 7934 of the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. St. Patrick's Council will conduct a membership drive after each Mass on Dec 3rd (11:00 am and 4:00 Pm) Please consider joining our council. For more information, visit kofc.org, or contact Grand Knight Mike O'Neill

Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 17th at 2pm. There will be a very special concert at Holy Cross Parish featuring South Island Harmony. Stay tuned for the complete details.

*****Advent Devotion booklets** will be available in the foyer, donations gratefully accepted.***

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun Dec 3 - 11:00am + Dylan Kerby
 Sun Dec 3 - 4:00 pm + Tim Roche
 Wed Dec 6 - 12:10pm + Serafim, + Elmira & + Fernando Botelho
 Fri Dec 8 - 12:10pm + Ann Reilly
 Sun Dec 10 - 11:00am + Catherine Lo
 Sun Dec 10 - 4:00 pm + Ilda C. Carreira

FROM OUR PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

The 2024 numbered collection envelopes will be available SOON for those currently using these donation envelopes. If you're new to the parish or would like to start using these collection envelopes, please contact the parish office have a box set aside for you.

The Diocese is pleased to announce the winners of this year's Char Deslippe Memorial Award: Christine James, from St. Joseph's School in Victoria; and Carmelle Whiteley, from St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Victoria. Christine and Carmelle received the award for their outstanding dedication and commitment to religious education, and the handing on of our faith. For more information about the Char Deslippe Memorial Award, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/char-deslippe-award>

Development and Peace invites you to sign the letter to the Honduran ambassador at the D&P display at the entrances to the church. It asks the Honduran government to better protect environmental and human rights defenders and to act for justice. You can also sign online at devp.org.



Arbutus Singers

Arbutus Singers Christmas Concert is this Wednesday, December 6th at 7:30 pm to 8:30pm here at St. Patrick's Parish, tickets are \$20 each or \$50 Family Pack. Come join Jack Boomer and the 70 members of Arbutus Singers for a fun filled start to the Christmas season. You won't want to miss this fun evening. Proceeds to support Choir Kids. Refreshments will be served afterwards in Our Lady of Lourdes Hall.

Anawim House

There is now box in each of our foyers to accept donations of NEW CLOTHING items such as jeans, jackets, socks, underwear, shirts, raingear or any other new items of clothes which we use as gifts to the residents of the two houses and to our guests from the drop in program. Thank you for your long-term support of Anawim.



The Bishop's Appeal, **Tapestry of Faith**, is still accepting 2023 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. Donations may be made on-line at: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/bishops-appeal>. Our parish project is to update our antiquated audio-visual system in the Church.

Parish Goal: \$51,000. Actual to Date: \$55,810. Number of Gifts: 110

LIVESTREAM MASSES

Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week, Saturday, December 2nd, from Holy Cross Church at 4:00 PM. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>

NEXT WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday Dec 4	Tuesday Dec 5	Wednesday Dec 6	Thursday Dec 7	Friday Dec 8	Saturday Dec 9	Sunday Dec 10
St. Patrick's Church and Parish Office are Closed	9:00am - Mass Holy Cross Church 11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open 6:30pm Horizons of Hope 6:30pm Arbutus Singers - Rehearsal 7:00pm Toastmasters 7:00pm AA Peace	11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open 12:00pm Mass - St. Patrick's Church 7:30pm Arbutus Singers Christmas Concert 7:00pm AA Peace	9:00am - Mass Holy Cross Church 10:45pm St. Patrick's School Advent Mass 11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open 7:00pm Advent Reconciliation Service 7:00pm Knights of Columbus General Meeting 7:00pm AA Peace	11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open 11:30am Confessions 12:10pm Mass - St. Patrick's Church 3:00pm Divine Mercy 5:30pm Sacramental Preparation - First Reconciliation Rehearsal 7:00pm CA Meeting	St. Patrick's Church and Parish Office are Closed 11:00am Children's First Reconciliation Reception to follow in Lourdes Hall 4:00pm Mass - Holy Cross Church	9:00am Mass - Holy Cross Church 11:00am Mass - St. Patrick's Church "Live Streaming" 4:00pm Mass - St. Patrick's Parish 5:00pm Knight's of Columbus - Exemplification Ceremony for new Knights Reception to follow

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