

# St. Patrick's Parish

2060 Haultain Street, Victoria BC, V8R 2L7  
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[www.stpatsvictoria.com](http://www.stpatsvictoria.com)



## Mission:

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

## MARCH 10, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The days are getting longer. March is flying by and already there is light. We have longer daylight to look forward to, especially when the clock went forward this weekend. With the increase in light, there is also an increase in growth. The blossoms of spring have already come out. Nature is coming to life after a time of hibernation. Today's gospel echoes what is happening in nature, for 'light has come into the world.' The light refers to God's revelation brought into the world by Jesus. Both St. Paul and the gospel declare that God's light is the light of love. God's love is on full display in today's readings.

We are well into Lent. You could call it our journey through the desert, our journey to Easter, the light and the new life. We Christians go this path like everyone else, like ordinary people; like men and women who are marked by everything that happens in our world. There is a lot of misery, a lot of sin, a lot of powerlessness, a lot of hostility, a lot of not knowing where we are going. We do indeed live in a world where it is so easy to be a cynic and despair about what is truth. I guess it is all part of our life story. Of course, we have our good times as well. We have moments of happiness, of peace, of love, of a sense of purpose. But, as Christians, we are not protected from the disillusionment of life. We see dreams being shattered; if not in ourselves, then in others as is the case in the Middle East, Ukraine, Haiti, Sierra Leone. Closer to home, we are all edgy about politics on the North American continent. It is moments like these that we can hear ourselves say: "where is our God? Does he really care?" Perhaps we would not dare to say it, but don't we often think: "what is the use of being Christian in a world where you have to fend for yourself, where you should not get your expectations too high, because you are bound to get hurt and disillusioned?"

Jesus himself appears on our path today and he points us to the cross on which he will be lifted up. The cross signifies for us that God's entire existence is one of being given for us. With that kind of God in our lives, we will not have to go under.. Jesus wanted the example of his commitment to inspire us to believe in God's love and allow it to touch and transform us. Jesus on the cross is the exemplar par excellence of a life of commitment; his example gives us the courage to imitate him in our own lives. The cross is the ultimate example of God's love for the world.

When Nicodemus sought out Jesus, he was in the dark " both really and symbolically. He could not see clearly. In the years that followed this late-night conversation, Nicodemus became a follower of Jesus and, step by step, was drawn to see things differently. At last, he finally *did* see. When at the end, Jesus was really and truly lifted up, Nicodemus was not too far away. When we meditate on the crucifix and participate in the Eucharist we also see Jesus lifted up. Today as we lift our eyes to see him, I might ponder on the mystery of suffering and exaltation and wonder at the love that is lifted up and draws us ever closer, uplifting us as well. Rebbe Nachman of Breslov, The Empty Chair writes...I believe that I can return, no matter how far I have strayed. I believe that I have the inner strength to change. I believe that I can become truly devoted and close to God.

Lift high your cross,

Father William

### 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](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

### 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](mailto: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 MAR. 3, 2024

Envelopes	\$ 1,885.00
Loose Change	\$ 568.00
Building & Maintenance	\$ 3,236.00
PAD	\$ 4,202.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,891.00</b>
Refugee Fund	\$ 70.00

## FINANCIAL NEWS

	Mar. 3	YTD
Received	\$ 9,891.00	\$56,475.24
Needed	\$ 4,775.00	\$42,975.00
Difference	\$ 5,116.00	\$ 13,500.24

## 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](mailto:sp@cisdv.bc.ca)

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

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



## FROM OUR PARISH:

### Prayer Reflection

**Joy** is a net of love by which we catch souls.

—*Saint Teresa of Calcutta*

**Joy**, with peace, is the sister of charity. Serve the Lord with laughter.

—*Saint Pio of Pietrelcina*

The gospel is a proclamation of **joy**. Ideologies don't make people smile, but the gospel is a smile. It makes you smile because it touches your soul with the Good News.

—*Pope Francis*

### **WORD OF THE WEEK - JOY**

A fruit or mark of the activity of the Holy Spirit in the life of the faithful. While pleasure comes through the senses and happiness from human interaction, Christian **joy** is experienced in loving God and neighbour. Venerable Fulton J. Sheen once divided the world into those who have found God and those who are still hungering, thirsting, and seeking. Religious practices in themselves may or may not bring a person to genuine holiness. But the life that exhibits true **joy** proves to be radiant with the life of God. From *Gaudium et spes*, the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World: "The Lord is the goal of human history, the focal point of the longings of history and of civilization, the center of the human race, the **joy** of every heart and the answer to all its yearnings." Most of us aren't crazy about being told to "cheer up." Yet today is called Laetare ("rejoice") Sunday because even though it's Lent, the church urges us to cheer up in the words of Isaiah 66:10: "Rejoice with Jerusalem all you who love her." We may feel affection for the memory of biblical Jerusalem or concern for the current sorrows of the city. But it's the heavenly city, where justice and peace reign, that gives us reason to rejoice.

### 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 session for Baptismal Preparation is Saturday, April 13 (10:00 am – 12 noon). Please email [hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbaptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org) with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism.*

### **Prayer for the Children Preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at St. Patrick's and Holy Cross Parishes:**

*Lord Jesus Christ, bless the children preparing to receive Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Come Holy Spirit and rest upon them. May it be the beginning of a life-long love of the Eucharist. Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance, and wisdom as they grow into full discipleship. May their hands, extended in anticipation of your body and blood, inspire all of us to cherish the Blessed Sacrament. Amen.*

We have 27 children who are catechumens and candidates. The RCIC group will celebrate at the Easter Vigil at Holy Cross, and the Year 2 group will celebrate at Pentecost at St Patrick's. Thank you for keeping the children of St Patrick's and Holy Cross in your prayers! *Michele*

### **A Date To Remember**

Father William invites all St. Patrick's and Holy Cross Parishioners to attend The Diocesan Reconciliation Service that will take place at St. Joseph The Worker Parish, **Wednesday March 20th at 7pm**. Several priest will be in attendance.

His Holiness Pope Francis Prayer Intention for the month of March 2024, is for the Martyrs of our day, witnesses to Christ.

**Video link click here:** <https://youtu.be/ov49Rpt2ii8?si=Gh6B3RwpaPWlg1My>

The parents of the St. Andrew's High School's graduation class are having an Auction to raising funds for a "Dry Grad" Celebration. Their goal is to make this important milestone unforgettable experience for the youth and families involved while keeping the students safe. The Auction takes place March 1 - 9, 2024. Happy Bidding! <https://www.32auctions.com/SARHS2024>

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sun Mar 10 - 11:00am + Joseph Leung  
+ Joseph Lo

Sun Mar 10 - 4:00pm + Damien Cody

Wed Mar 13 - 12:10pm + Dennis & Roberta  
McCarthy

Fri Mar 15 - 12:10pm + Edi Di Bella

St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus are requesting donations of large soup bowls. So if you do have large soup bowls that are just taking up space your cupboard, please consider donating them. Donations may be left in the cloakroom area off the lobby.



Your support is appreciated!



**Blossoms are appearing in gardens reminding us it is indeed time to "Spring Ahead"! Remember this weekend to turn your clocks one hour ahead.**

## FROM OUR PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

Bishop Gary Gordon will celebrate a Special Mass at 4:00 pm on Saturday, March 16th in honour of the dedication of those who work or volunteer in health care. Everyone is invited to participate, either in person at Sacred Heart Church in Victoria or via livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pFqxWFAvwJE>. A reception will follow in the parish hall for those attending in person.

All people of the Diocese of Victoria are invited to join in the celebration of the Chrism Mass on Thursday, March 21 at 7:00 pm. At this yearly liturgy, sacred oils are blessed and given to representatives from each parish in the diocese. These will be presented in each church on Holy Thursday and used during the coming year for Baptisms, Confirmations, and Anointing's of the Sick This year's Chrism Mass will be celebrated at St. Andrew's Cathedral, also livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?>



### VICTORIA DIOCESAN BURSARY - IN MEMORY OF FREDA SMITH

The Victoria Diocesan CWL Council is offering a \$750 bursary to a graduating Catholic student within the Diocese of Victoria. This bursary will be awarded to a student proceeding on to a form of higher education. Criteria and applications are available at the Parish Office, online at [cwldov.org](http://cwldov.org) or from Audrey Thom, CWL Education Chair at [aethom@uvic.ca](mailto:aethom@uvic.ca) by March 31, 2024.


Registration is now open for the Diocesan Youth Retreat. Since 2003, the DYR (formerly the Diocesan Youth Conference) has been the premier youth ministry event in the Diocese of Victoria. Grade 8-12 students and their chaperones are invited to the faith and fun-filled event, to be held on Friday, May 10 and Saturday, May 11 at Camp Imadene. For more information and to register, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/dyr> or see poster on our parish bulletin board.

**Development and Peace – Caritas Canada** projects address the root causes of poverty, oppression, and inequality by working with partners in the Global South and by mobilizing Canadians in the common struggle for justice and dignity. We champion women and social movements as key agents of lasting change. Watch these videos to learn more about our work. <https://www.youtube.com/user/DevPeaceTV> Share Lent collection will be taken up on Sunday March 17. Please give generously to continue to support our Development and Peace partners and projects.

## LIVESTREAM MASSES

**Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week, on Sunday March 10th from St. Patrick's Church at 4:00 PM. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>**

## NEXT WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday Mar. 11	Tuesday Mar. 12	Wednesday Mar. 13	Thursday Mar. 14	Friday Mar. 15	Saturday Mar. 16	Sunday Mar 17 
St. Patrick's Church and Parish Office are Closed	<b>9:00am Mass - Holy Cross Church</b>	11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open	<b>9:00am Mass - Holy Cross Church</b>	11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open	St. Patrick's Church and Parish Office are Closed	<b>9:00am Mass - Holy Cross Church</b>
12:10pm Liturgy Of The Word With Communion	11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open	<b>12:10pm Mass - St. Patrick's Church</b>	10:30 Support Staff Meeting - via Zoom	<b>11:30am Stations of the Cross and Confessions</b>	<b>Knights of Columbus</b>	<b>9:45am Sacramental Prep - Class</b>
7:00pm AA Peace	3:00pm Librarians Meeting	7:00pm AA Peace	11:00am to 3:00pm Church Open for Prayer & Visitation Parish Office Open	<b>12:10pm Mass - St. Patrick's Church</b>	<b>4:00pm Mass - Holy Cross Church "Live Streaming"</b>	<b>11:00am Mass - St. Patrick's Church</b>
	7:00om Toastmasters		7:00pm <b>SEJC - Meeting</b>	3:00pm Divine Mercy		<b>12:00pm RCIC - Sacramental Class</b>
	7:00pm AA CLUE		7:00pm AA Peace	7:00pm CA Meeting		<b>4:00pm Mass - St. Patrick's Church</b>
						<b>5:00pm St. Patrick's Irish Dinner</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

March 5, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we continue our journey through Lent, I wish to draw your attention to the 2024 Share Lent Campaign. Share Lent is a time to highlight the mission of *Development and Peace – Caritas Canada* (DPCC), the official international solidarity organization of the Catholic Church in Canada. It provides an opportunity for the faithful to learn about the causes of poverty and injustice in the world, to pray and get involved for peace, and to give generously so DPCC may continue its work with the poorest and most marginalized in our human family.

This year's campaign, "Reaping our Rights", aims to build solidarity with small-scale farmers and peasant communities worldwide, recognizing their crucial role in global food production and rural development. Peasant communities face numerous challenges such as armed conflicts, land grabbing, and climate change, threatening their rights to land, water, justice, and a safe environment. The campaign seeks to raise awareness and advocate for the protection of these rights.

In line with Pope Francis' message of interconnectedness, Canadians are called to support peasants' rights globally. I encourage you to learn more about the Share Lent campaign at <http://www.devp.org/lent>, and to donate as you are able on Solidarity Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

DPCC relies on your support for the success of the Share Lent campaign, which is vital to our ability as the Church in Canada to raise much needed funds to support those who suffer from poverty and injustice in the global south. Let us embody Christ's love through our generosity and solidarity, working towards righteousness and justice for all.

In Communion,

Most Reverend Gary Gordon  
Bishop of Victoria



**FROM OUR DIOCESE**

- \* March 17th is Solidarity Sunday, an opportunity to support *Development and Peace – Caritas Canada* in its work with the poorest and most marginalized of our human family. Bishop Gary has written a letter to the people of the Diocese of Victoria, introducing this year's focus on small-scale farmers and peasant communities, and encouraging all to embody Christ's love through generosity and solidarity. To read Bishop Gary's letter, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/bishop-gary-gordons-message-for-share-lent-2024>. His letter is also included in the week's bulletin.
- \* Our Garry Oak Ecosystem Restoration project has begun! A small but hardy band of volunteers have started the work of removing invasive plants from the properties of St. Andrew's Regional High School, Sacred Heart Parish, and the Diocesan Pastoral Centre. For more information and some great pictures, please visit <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/diocesanblog/restoring-our-garry-oak-ecosystem>. The project will continue through the spring, summer, and fall - all are welcome to join us on any Saturday morning from 10 am – noon, rain or shine.
- \* World Wide Marriage Encounter will be offering a virtual WWME experience April 19-21st, 2024. Even when a marriage is going smoothly, there are always opportunities to make it work better. The Marriage Encounter experience helps you listen, share, and connect more deeply in order to uncover the secrets to a lasting, supportive, transformational marriage. Any questions can be directed to Doug and Candice Chappell at 778-479-7900 or [Doug.candice.chappell@wwme.org](mailto:Doug.candice.chappell@wwme.org). To apply, please visit <https://wwme.org/>
- \* The Diocese of Nelson is recruiting for a Diocesan Financial Administrator to be based at their Catholic Pastoral Centre in Kelowna. The Financial Administrator is responsible for oversight of all financial operations of the Diocese and provides strategic financial guidance and effective advisory support to the Bishop. For more information and to apply, please visit [https://www.nelsondiocese.org/apps/jobs/show\\_job.jsp?REC\\_ID=1550](https://www.nelsondiocese.org/apps/jobs/show_job.jsp?REC_ID=1550).

## Lenten Mission

### Forgiveness & Reconciliation

**March 23 to 27, 2024**

Conducted by Rev. David Reilander

**SATURDAY 23 March 4:00 pm Mass**

**SUNDAY 24 March 9:00 am Mass**

#### **MONDAY, 25 MARCH**

The Anatomy of Reconciliation

12:05 pm & 7:00 pm



#### **TUESDAY, 26 MARCH**

Offering Forgiveness

12:05 pm & 7:00 pm



#### **WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH**

Asking for Forgiveness

12:05 pm & 7:00 pm

From 6:00 pm Reconciliation Service



**Rev. David Reilander**

President, Catholic Missions In Canada

Fr. Reilander was born in Hamilton, 1960, and ordained in 1986 in the Diocese of Hamilton, Ontario. He volunteered for the Diocese of Whitehorse in 2015, and was hired as President of Catholic Missions in Canada in 2015.

He currently resides in St. Anslem, Toronto.

### Lenten Mission

Sacred Heart Parish Lenten Mission "**Forgiveness and Reconciliation**" being held from Monday, March 25 to Wednesday, March 27, led by Fr. David Reilander, President of Catholic Missions in Canada. Though the Lenten Mission is scheduled for 7 pm from Monday to Wednesday, Fr. Reilander will also be speaking at the 4 pm Mass on Saturday; the 9 am Mass on Sunday; and at the 12:05 pm Masses from Monday to Wednesday. All are most welcome to attend.

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