

# 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.

## MARCH 8, 2026 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

1st Reading: Exodus 17.3-7 †    2nd Reading: Romans 5.1-2, 5-8 †    Gospel: John 4.5--42

### THEME: COME TO CHRIST, THE ETERNAL LIVING WATER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Water is an essential requirement for the sustenance of all lives. The first reading of today tells us of the ordeal of the Israelites in the wilderness. After four hundred and thirty years of slavery in Egypt, God came to deliver them

(Ex 12, 40). Nevertheless, they grumbled against God because they were thirsty. God instructed Moses to strike the rock. From it, water came forth. The Israelites drank and were satisfied. On this third Sunday of Lent, we also need a spiritual drink from the living water that flows from Christ, the Rock of Ages. Hence, we must: "draw water from the well of salvation" (Is. 12:3) to quench our spiritual thirst this Lenten season.

In today's gospel, Jesus presents himself to the Samaritan woman as the Eternal Living Water. This underscores the importance of Christ in our life. By breaking the silence and going against the social customs and prejudices between Jews and Samaritans, Jesus becomes the gift of God to this woman and her people. It is by breaking down walls that exclude people and opening possibilities to others that they can experience Christ.

Dear friends in Christ, if we are connected to the Eternal Living Water (Christ), we shall know who He is.

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 March 7 - 7:00pm (Int) Mary Kennedy  
Sun March 8 - 11:00am + Ethel Grier  
Sun March 8 - 4:00pm (Int) Sister Judi Morin  
Tues Mar 10 - 12:10pm + Elizabeth John  
Wed Mar 11 - 12:10pm + Shawn Jeffrey  
Thurs Mar 12 - 12:10pm (Int) Ellen McMillan  
Fri March 13 - 12:10pm + Gary Mitchell

### St. Patrick's Irish Dinner

**Ticket buyers needed!**



On Saturday, March 14th at 5:00pm, St. Patrick's parish will host their annual Irish Dinner. Proceeds of this annual fundraising event will go toward the Church roof repair. Tickets are **\$25/person** and are available for purchase at the St. Patrick's Parish office or after Sunday Masses.

## PARISH CONTACTS

### Parish Council Chair:

Mark Redchurch  
250-370-0558

### Finance Interim Chair

John Shenton  
250-595-0828

### Pastoral Care Coordinator

Barbara Shenton  
bjeens958@gmail.com

### Knights of Columbus:

Serge Sabourin  
brothersergegk7934@gmail.com

### Catholic Women League:

Kathleen  
greytpats@gmail.com

### St. Vincent de Paul:

Colin Scott  
250-995-3227  
cljsscott@telus.net

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

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

Patrick Card - Principal  
Angela McLeish - Vice Principal  
Phone: 250-592-6713  
Email: [sp@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:sp@cisdv.bc.ca)



## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

### IMPORTANT Change in Mass time on Saturday, March 14th

On Saturday, March 14th, Mass will be **held at 4:00pm**, and not at 7:00pm. This is to accommodate the guests who will be attending the Irish Dinner that evening. In addition, **Confessions will be held at 3:15pm** on that Saturday, March 14th.

### Stations of the Cross & Lenten Meagre Meals

The groups/ministries providing meatless meagre meals at 6:00pm and leading Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm are as follows:

- March 6th - St. Patrick's School
- March 13th - Knights of Columbus  
(NO MEAL, only Stations of the Cross)
- March 20th - Development & Peace and St. Vincent de Paul
- March 27th - Parish Council and Staff



The Divine Mercy group will host Stations of the Cross at 3:00pm on Fridays during Lent but not on Good Friday.

### Infant Baptism - Baptismal Prep for the Parents

Is it your hope to have your infant welcomed into the family of God through baptism? Is so, to prepare to have your child baptized, parents must participate in a Baptismal Prep course and complete a baptism registration form. Please note that the next sessions available to take a Baptismal Prep course are Saturday, March 28 or Saturday, April 25 (10:00 am – 12 noon).

Please email [hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:hcsbp baptismalprep@rcdvictoria.org) with your name and contact information. The coordinator will then contact you with more details about baptism and forward you the baptism registration form.

### Our heartfelt congratulations to Mona Houle

St. Patrick's Parish would like to extend our sincere congratulations to active parishioner, Mona Houle!

Mona's artwork of St. Joseph, patron of the Church and Canada, was featured on the cover of the March 2026 cover of Living with Christ. It is outstanding and beautiful!

 MARCH 2026  
LIVING WITH CHRIST  
A MONTHLY OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR, AND LIVE, THE GOSPEL



### Knights of Columbus St. Patrick's Council 7934 Food Drive for St. Vincent de Paul Society

After each Mass next weekend, **March 21st and 22nd**, the Knights of Columbus will be distributing paper grocery bags for a Food Drive to be held on the following Palm Sunday weekend.

The Knights are looking for donations of canned items including: **proteins (chicken, tuna, beans), vegetables, and fruits; hearty soups, stews, pasta, rice, and sauces; peanut butter and spreads; cereals and oatmeal.** All food donated will be given to the St. Vincent de Paul food bank Choices Pantry, at 833 Yates Street, which serves individuals and families in our community who are experiencing food insecurity. Monetary donations are also welcome and any cheques should be made out to: St. Vincent de Paul Society.



**COLLECTIONS MARCH 1, 2026**

Envelopes	\$	2,960.00
Loose Change	\$	834.65
Tiptap	\$	200.00
Bldg. Maint. Fund	\$	435.00
PAD	\$	633.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,062.65</b>

**FINANCIAL NEWS**

	Mar 1, 2026	YTD
Received	\$5,062.65	\$54,247.54
Needed to cover expenses	\$7,685.00	\$76,850.00
Difference	-\$2,622.35	-\$22,602.46

**Change of date for Penitential Service at St. Joseph the Worker**

The Lent Penitential Service at St. Joseph the Worker Parish has been changed to **Thursday, March 24th at 7:00pm.**



All are invited to attend a **Lent Reconciliation Service** at St. Patrick's Parish on **Tuesday, March 17th at 7:00pm.** In attendance there will be priests from various parishes from the Diocese of Victoria to hear confession. Please mark this date on the calendar for it is your opportunity to *reflect* and *renew* your hearts for your Lenten journey with Christ. Click here to [view the POSTER.](#)



**PASTORAL CARE**

Barbara Shenton has been asked to assist Fr. Benson and the Parish Council with coordinating visits of trained Eucharistic Ministers to parishioners who are unable to come to Mass because they are homebound, in hospital, or in long-term care. We are looking for new volunteers to this ministry. Please contact **Barbara Shenton** at [bjeens958@gmail.com](mailto:bjeens958@gmail.com) for more information on how you too can become a bearer of the Eucharist.

**DIOCESAN PERMANENT PASTORAL SYNOD**

We are now into the second full year of this ongoing journey. Bishop Gary has said that this is a new way of being church – a church that listens, learns and walks together! SYNODALITY continues here at St. Patrick's and in the Diocese! All are welcome!

Through "**Conversations in the Spirit**" parishioners meet in a small group (4 – 6) to pray, listen to, reflect/pray about, and share their thoughts on a focus question that Bishop Gary and the Diocesan Synodal Team has developed. Notes taken on the consensus of what the Holy Spirit may be saying, are forwarded to a diocesan plenary session (Spring and Fall). Then the next focus question comes from the collective sharing and discernment the diocesan wide 'Conversations in the Spirit.' Bishop Gary is inviting us to be in Communion with, to Participate and to walk with him as he guides the church this Diocese.

Keefer Pollard and I will arrange and facilitate Conversations in the Spirit in the coming months. Please contact Barb Shenton at [bjeens958@gmail.com](mailto:bjeens958@gmail.com) if you and/or a few people from your group/organization would like more information. It is your chance to anonymously have your say!

- Barb Shenton

Facilitators: Diocesan Synod

**LIVESTREAM MASSES**

**Live Mass broadcast this weekend! Mass is livestreamed this week on Sunday, March 8th at St. Patrick's Parish at 11:00am. Click the link here: <http://www.youtube.com/c/StPatricksHolyCrossChurch>**

**NEXT WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

Monday March 9	Tuesday March 10	Wed, March 11	Thursday March 12	Friday March 13	Saturday March 14	Sunday March 15
Church & Parish Office CLOSED	11am to <b>2:30pm</b> Church & Office Open <i>Office closing early</i>  12pm Angelus 12:10pm Mass  7pm AA-Clue  7pm Toastmasters	11am to 3pm Church & Office Open  11:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary 12:10pm Mass  7pm Parish Council Meeting  7pm AA-Peace	11am to 3pm Church & Office Open  12pm Angelus 12:10pm Mass  1pm CWL Spring Sale Planning Meeting  6pm Couples for Christ Choir Practice  7pm AA-Peace	11am to 3pm Church & Office Open  11:30am Confessions  12pm Angelus 12:10pm Mass  3pm - Divine Mercy Devotion  7pm Stations of the Cross  7pm - CA Meeting	Church & Parish Office Closed  3:15pm Confessions  4pm Saturday Mass  5pm <b>St. Patrick's Irish Dinner</b>  	11am Sunday Mass & Children's Liturgy Coffee After Mass  4pm Sunday Mass

**CWL Donations:** The CWL will be holding the Spring Good Used Clothing, Jewelry & Books Sale on April 17th & 18th in the Lourdes Hall. We are now gratefully accepting donations of men's, women's, children's clothing and shoes along with household linens, jewelry, books & jigsaw puzzles. Items can be left on the marked carts in the hall closet area. Please note we are NOT accepting any other items at this time. Thank you for your support! Contact Theresa Smith at [tgsmith1225@outlook.com](mailto:tgsmith1225@outlook.com)



### On Track for Justice – Development and Peace walk in Solidarity with the people of Brazil

Lives in the village of Piquiá de Baixo in Brazil began being disrupted in the 1980s, with the arrival of several polluting industries in their backyard. Last year, after a 20-year struggle, 312 families affected by this industrial pollution moved to the new, cleaner, safer village of Piquiá da Conquista. The support of Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's partner, Justiça nos Trilhos made this relocation possible for 1,300 people. This week our mini-magazine will be handed out after mass. Read about our work around the world and please support our Lenten collection which will be taken up on March 22nd. You can also give online or become a monthly donor at [devp.org](http://devp.org)



**HOSTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:** The St. Andrew's International Student Program is very much in need of additional host families for the upcoming school year starting September 2026/27 for **male students**. If you would be willing to support a young person on their international high school journey, please consider welcoming one of our international students into your family. Host families receive \$1,350 per month to cover costs. Please contact Nina Timm at: [homestay@cisdv.bc.ca](mailto:homestay@cisdv.bc.ca) / Tel: 403-771-2519

### HELP WELCOME A STRANGER THIS LENT

Housing needed for a REFUGEE expected in Victoria in March or April. A single female refugee from an Oriental Orthodox tradition is arriving soon in Victoria via sponsorship that Pat Smit's family is involved in. We are looking for reasonably affordable housing for her in the greater Victoria area. This could be a 1 bedroom suite or apartment, or a two bedroom suite or apartment. A 1 bedroom would be for the newcomer alone. If we could find a two bedroom suite or apartment, her very hard working brother, who arrived here via sponsorship in 2018, would love to be able to have her arrival in Canada eased by living with him, his wife, and the baby they are expecting in March. Her brother and his pregnant wife are living in a one bedroom apartment so cannot invite the newcomer to live in their home. A rental opportunity available for several months to a year or more would be most appreciated.

Thank you and bless you,

Beth and Jason Smit  
250-580-4595



### Early Learning Operator Opportunity – Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Langford, BC is seeking expressions of interest from qualified Early Learning / Child Care operators for a long-term lease of newly built space within our parish facilities. The successful proponent will operate a high-quality, licensed early learning program that is consistent with Catholic values and supports families in need in our community.

The leased area will include dedicated indoor classrooms, support spaces and an outdoor play yard, designed to meet current licensing and accessibility standards. Operators must demonstrate experience in early childhood education, a strong record of regulatory compliance, sound financial management, and a commitment to welcoming and inclusive services rooted in Christian compassion and respect for the dignity of every child and family. Interested organizations are invited to request the full Request for Proposals (RFP), which outlines space details, lease expectations, and submission requirements. Please contact the pastor, **Fr. William Hann** ([whann@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:whann@rcdvictoria.org)) and include: **"Early Learning Operator RFP – Request"** in the subject line.

The deadline for proposals is **March 31, 2026** at 4:00 pm PST. Read the [full RFP here](#).





***LENT***  
***Reconciliation***

***reflect & renew***

**Tuesday, March 17, 2026**  
**Confessions at 7:00 pm**

**St. Patrick's Parish**  
**2060 Haultain Street**  
**Victoria, BC V8R 2L7**

## Building Bridges Through Understanding the Village

Saturday March 14th, 9 am to 4 pm, Oak Bay United Church will host Kathi Camilleri's "**Building Bridges Through Understanding the Village**," an experiential workshop that helps us explore our own, personal role in supporting the revival of the values that worked so beautifully in indigenous villages for thousands of years. As a group, we also explore in-depth the effects of Residential Schools and Canada's Policy of Assimilation on Indigenous communities.

Cost is \$30 with lunch and refreshments included. The lunch will be provided by Songhees Catering, owned and operated by Songhees First Nation. If the cost is a barrier, please let the hosts know at the time of registration.

To register, either contact Felicite Stairs ([felicite.stairs@gmail.com](mailto:felicite.stairs@gmail.com)) or contact the Oak Bay United Church office at the email below. Payment may be made by cash or cheque to the OBUC office during regular office hours. Payment may also be made by e-transfer. You may e-transfer at [treasurer@oakbayunitedchurch.ca](mailto:treasurer@oakbayunitedchurch.ca) AND then please e-mail the office at [admin@oakbayunitedchurch.ca](mailto:admin@oakbayunitedchurch.ca) or call 250-598-5021.

The full-day workshop takes place in the downstairs Community Hall at Oak Bay United Church at the corner of Granite St. and Mitchell St. in Oak Bay.

## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

The **KAIROS Blanket Exercise** that was to be held this Saturday, March 7th, has been **postponed** due to the death of the facilitator's mother. The new date will be shared when it is available.



**Would you like to help restore an important Garry Oak ecosystem?** Beginning on March 8, and running every 2nd and 4th Sunday from 1–4 pm, all are invited to come rain or shine and help remove invasive species from our property on the slopes of Christmas Hill. Please meet in the Sacred Heart parking lot (4044 Nelthope Street, Victoria).

For more info and to sign up, email [jseale1234@gmail.com](mailto:jseale1234@gmail.com) or visit <https://garry-oak-ecosystem-restoration-2026.eventbrite.ca>

All are invited to participate in an online "**Conversation in the Spirit**" on Saturday, March 21 from 10:30 – 11:45 am. In this safe, respectful, and non-judgmental session, we will be exploring questions about how to bring the Good News to our communities. Our thoughts will help Bishop Gary and other leadership discern and direct the future of our diocese. If you would like to have your voice heard, please register by noon on March 20 at <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/cits>

This week's videos are now available in the Journey through Lent video series. This series was designed by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops to help the faithful prepare for the Church's celebration of the **Resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday**. To view the videos, please visit: <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-lent/>

Lenten Prayer in the style of Taize will be held on Friday, March 20 at 6:00 pm at St. Joseph the Worker in Victoria (753 Burnside Road West). Stations of the Cross will follow at 7:00 pm. Everyone welcome.

The **Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops** has issued a statement inviting the faithful to **pray for peace in the Middle East**. A copy of the statement is attached; for more information, or to read the statement online, please visit: <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/statement-calling-for-prayer-for-peace-in-the-middle-east/>

[Click here to read the letter in PDF form.](#)



CONFÉRENCE DES ÉVÊQUES CATHOLIQUES DU CANADA  
CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS



St. Patrick's Parish

# Irish Dinner

A FUNDRAISING EVENT\*

Saturday, March 14<sup>TH</sup>

Enjoy a dinner of Irish Bread, Salad, Guinness Stew, Dessert, Coffee/Tea & Entertainment.

**TICKETS:**

\$25 per person

Available at St. Patrick's Parish Office or after Sunday masses.

Cash Bar

\* Proceeds to go towards the Church roof repair



\* A Special 50/50 Draw will be held to support fundraising efforts.

Doors open 5:00pm • Our Lady of Lourdes Hall  
St. Patrick's Church, 2060 Haultain St.

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