



# Sacred Heart Catholic Church

60  
Years at  
Nelthorpe

4040 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria, BC V8X 2A1  
250-479-1611 | sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org | sacredheartvictoria.com

\* **Passion / Palm Sunday | 13 April 2025** \*



## Going From Low to Lower

By Jean Allen

It always feels like Passion Sunday starts out on such a triumphant high note and quickly descends into sadness and

grief. But the high note wasn't terribly high, nor was it very triumphant – for Jesus. Scripture says, "See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." (Zechariah 9:9) But the praises accompanying Jesus on his ride into Jerusalem were the praises of a people who really had no idea who they were acclaiming or what was coming. It isn't included in the Palm Sunday narrative but it was right after this 'triumphant' ride that Jesus wept over Jerusalem, wept because they could not recognize the salvation and peace he brought. Even during the Last Supper, the disciples were arguing over who was the greatest! Despite the 'triumphant' ride, nobody really got it, even his chosen twelve. No idea at all!

The fact that Jesus chose the foal of a donkey should have given them a clue that he did not come as a conquering Messiah. Donkeys in the Jewish culture were considered useful and noble animals often associated with peace, whereas horses were associated with warfare and power. Jesus deliberately did not make his triumphal ride on a horse. The donkey was his holy ride, holy because animals that hadn't been used for work and had been set aside for a sacred purpose were considered holy in that culture. That donkey's sacred purpose was to nobly transport a lowly king, a king whose brand of victory was going to shock everyone to their core.

On this Passion Sunday and on Good Friday, allow yourself to be shocked to your core. Be aware that a good number of the people waving palm branches and shouting acclamations were most likely part of the crowd later yelling, "Crucify him!" This tells us that even when we think we get who Christ really is, we can still get caught up in crowdthink, unhealthy desires for power and status and those tendencies to get entangled in violence.

Those...you know...low points.

## LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

(Good Friday, April 18.)

**Abstinence is observed from age 14 and older. Fasting is to be observed from age 18, and those who have not yet celebrated their 60th birthday.** The faithful and catechumens undertake these practices of penance seriously in preparation for baptism and the renewal of baptismal vows at Easter.

No meat is allowed. Catholics may substitute an act of charity. Some form of penitential discipline must be undertaken. On a Fast, one full meal is allowed. Eating between meals is not permitted. Plain water is allowed at any time. **When health or ability to work are seriously affected, the law does not oblige.** When in doubt, consult the parish priest.

**Please remember to bring your bells to ring during the singing of the *Gloria* on Holy Thursday, Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday.**



## LITURGICAL YEAR C

### Saturday:

**Easter Vigil, April 19** 7:00 pm  
Syro-Malabar Rite (April 19) 11:59 pm

### Sunday:

English Mass 9:00 am  
Syro-Malabar Rite No Mass on April 20  
Korean 3:00 pm  
Vietnamese (1st and 3rd Sundays) 5:30 pm

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm  
Sunday 8:15 am to 8:45 am

## Weekday Masses English Masses

Tuesday 11:00 am  
Wednesday 11:00 am  
Holy Thursday, April 17 7:00 pm  
Friday Stations of the Cross 2:30 pm  
Good Friday Service 3:00 pm

## Korean Masses

Wednesdays 7:30 pm  
Holy Thursday, April 17 7:00 pm

## Parish Office Hours

Tuesdays to Fridays  
9:30 am to 3:00 pm

Closed: Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays.

If you would like to register or volunteer for a Ministry, please send an email to sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

## For Baptism, Marriage, Funerals, and Anointing of the Sick

Please contact:  
E. sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org  
P. 250-479-1611  
Sacred Heart Parish Website >

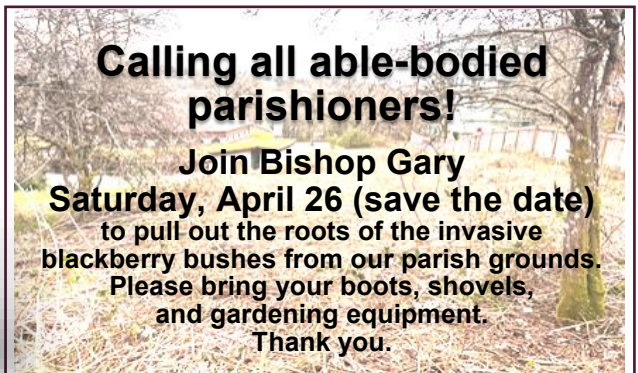
For your convenience, QR codes are now located around the church.



## Calling all able-bodied parishioners!

Join Bishop Gary

**Saturday, April 26 (save the date)**  
to pull out the roots of the invasive blackberry bushes from our parish grounds. Please bring your boots, shovels, and gardening equipment.  
Thank you.





### Please pray for:

#### **Those who have died**

Mary-Lee Alexander, Joe Snr. & Joe Jnr. Delima, George and Regina McLaughlin, and Vince Short

#### **Those who are ill**

Skarlet, Jon A, Patricia C, Cora C, Lesley D, Kathleen G, Gwen J, Derek L, Lisa L, Diane L, Edvige P, Will Pontes, Dino R, Davide R, Gaspar S, Valerie S, Cathy T, Maria T, and Ornella T.

### *Fr. Shijo's Homilies* are available on our Parish Website

<https://sacredheartvictoria.com/sacred-heart-homilies.html>



## **“Hosanna” on Palm Sunday**

The original word, “Hoshi’ana”, is Hebrew and Aramaic that means “save us, we beseech thee.” The simplified spelling, “Hosanna”, is based on a Greek transliteration of this Hebrew expression. In the gospel accounts, we read of Jesus arriving in the temple portico, through the gate called “Beautiful”. He approached Jerusalem from the east, walking over the Mount of Olives before entering the city. He arrived on a donkey (Matt 21:1-7), fulfilling the prophetic words of Zechariah 9:9:

“Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

The crowds shouted: “Hosanna!”, as they waved palm branches to greet him. Imagine yourself among the crowd of people. As you look around at the desperate faces around you, the true meaning of this Hebrew word pierces through your soul. “Hoshi’ana, save us!” Suddenly, “Hosanna” no longer sounds like an expression of praise. You feel the weight of your humanity crushing you: “Save me, God! I need you!”, you feel the magnitude of these words as you wave your palm branch towards the Messiah.

In Matthew’s account of the triumphant entry, the throng of people gathered shouted “Hosanna in the highest!” The prophets and psalmists frequently cry out for the Lord to take note, hear and remember. Just like them, we hope that our prayers are received at the throne of God. So, “Hosanna in the Highest”, while it appears to mean “praise in the highest”, is a cry for help to highest heaven; a petition for salvation sent directly to the throne room of God.

[Online accessed, 9 April 2025: <https://firmisrael.org/learn/hosanna-meaning-in-hebrew-what-does-this-word-mean/>]

## **The Holy Triduum**

Triduum means “three days”, referring to the **three-day celebration that begins with Holy or Maundy Thursday and ends with Easter Sunday**. The Triduum during Holy Week is also known as the “paschal triduum” or “Easter triduum.” As you attend the three-day celebration, you will notice that each day ends in silence to indicate that the celebration continues, until the celebration of the Easter liturgies.

The word “paschal” comes from the Greek word “pascha,” which comes from the Hebrew word “pesach,” which means Passover. Jesus’ passion, death, and resurrection, which is connected theologically to the Passover feast, is referred to as the paschal mystery.

## **Maundy or Holy Thursday**



The word “Maundy” is originated from the Latin word “mandatum,” which means “commandment.” “A new commandment, I give to you,” Jesus said: “to love one another as I have loved you.” Dating back to the First Century AD, this is why English speaking countries call this day “Maundy Thursday”

and why churches re-enact the foot washing Jesus performed at the Last Supper to demonstrate the importance of humility and spirit of selfless service.

The institution of the Holy Eucharist during the Last Supper, the Body and Blood of Christ through transubstantiation, is also celebrated today. Then, on the night of Holy Thursday, Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place where the faithful remain in the presence of the Eucharist just as the Disciples kept a vigil with Christ.

Over the centuries, various traditions have also emerged, including the stripping of altars, no candles burning in church, and sharing of a special meal. In some cultures, Catholics spend the night of Holy Thursday visiting as many churches as they can in their diocese. Some parishes even extend the vigil overnight.

## **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**



Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life. Please make a gift and know that you are a sign of God’s love to those who carry their cross of suffering and pain.

Donate online: specify “Sacred Heart Parish”  
[https://give-can.keela.co/ssvp\\_donation\\_form](https://give-can.keela.co/ssvp_donation_form)

All cheques: “Society of St. Vincent de Paul”.

To join the Society, please contact Georgina:  
[mgvshort@telus.net](mailto:mgvshort@telus.net) or call 250-727-2615



## **Thank you for giving from the heart to Share Lent 2025!**

Development and Peace, Caritas Canada thanks you for supporting the Turn Debt into Hope campaign. Thanks to your generosity, your donations will help support our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. You can still donate online at [devp.org/give](http://devp.org/give).



## **Options to Donate**

### **E-Transfer:**

The email to use is [sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org)

### **Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD)**

Automatic Debit Form:

<https://sacredheartvictoria.com/docs/PAD%20form%202020.pdf>

The PAD form is also available from the Parish Office.

If you use the Special Collection Envelopes, please remember to complete your name and address on those envelopes to receive a tax receipt. Information and links are also available on our website.

### **Canada Helps**

Donations through Canada Helps.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/47781>

This is the new QR code for donations: also on display around the church for your convenience.

If you have any questions on the available options, or would like to make a change in how you donate, please contact the parish office.



**Thank you.**

## **Thank you for your contributions!**

### **April 5 & April 6, 2025**

Envelopes \$ 2,842.00

Cash \$ 416.80

**Total \$ 3,258.80**

### **March 2025**

Canada Helps \$ 992.43

PAD \$ 5,970.00

E-Transfer \$ 1,280.00

Donations through PAD, Canada Helps, & e-Transfer will be reported after the end of the month.

## Good Friday



On Good Friday, the church is empty of many of its symbols. It is adorned like a church in mourning. At 3 p.m., the Church offers the Celebration of the Lord's Passion. It is not a Eucharistic Celebration of Holy Mass. Scripture is read that recounts Christ's passion. We are invited to venerate or reverence the cross. "Behold the wood of the cross," the priest proclaims. It is a day of reflection and should noticeably be different from other days of the year.

## The Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday

The Easter Vigil is one of the most beautiful liturgies in the Church's calendar. It is full of Catholic symbolism. The vigil starts with a fire that is blessed and from which is lit the paschal candle. A beautiful Easter proclamation, the "Exsultet" is sung. The whole of salvation history is proclaimed through, normally, seven Readings. Men and women are welcomed into the Church: Some baptized, some confirmed. The Lord's resurrection is what Easter is all about.

The Holy / Paschal Triduum ends on the evening of Easter Sunday. But the "octave" of Easter lasts for eight days, and the liturgical season of Easter lasts for 50 days; bringing us to Pentecost.

[Online accessed, 9 April 2025: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/41064/before-easter-comes-the-triduum-whats-that-a-cna-explainer>]



Donation for  
*Easter Flowers*

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Street Catholic Church  
Victoria BC

**Flowers for  
Easter Decorations**

Donations toward our Flower Fund are now welcome.

Donation envelopes are available in the church foyer.

## Adoration at the Altar of Repose

Thursday, 17 April  
After Holy Thursday Mass until Midnight



Everyone is welcome to spend time at the Altar of Repose. Come and spend some time with the Lord in quiet prayer and meditation.

# Holy Week 2025

**Saturday, April 12 | Passion (Palm) Sunday**  
4:00 pm – Anticipated Mass (English)

**Sunday, April 13 | Passion (Palm) Sunday**  
9:00 am – English  
11:00 am – Syro-Malabar Rite  
3:00 pm – Korean



## The Holy Triduum

**Thursday, April 17 | Holy (Maundy) Thursday**  
7:00 pm – Mass (English / Korean)  
9:00 pm – Syro-Malabar Rite

**Until Midnight:  
Adoration at the Altar of Repose (Parish Hall)**

**Friday, April 18 | Good Friday**

9:00 am – Syro-Malabar Rite  
**2:30 pm – Stations of the Cross**  
3:00 pm – Good Friday Service (English)  
6:30 pm – Korean Stations of the Cross  
7:00 pm – Korean Good Friday Service



**Saturday, April 19 | Holy Saturday**

7:00 pm – Easter Vigil (English)  
9:30 pm – Easter Vigil (Korean)  
11:59 pm – Syro-Malabar Rite

**Sunday, April 20 | Easter Sunday**

9:00 am – English Mass  
3:00 pm – Korean Mass  
5:30 pm – Vietnamese Mass

## 60th Anniversary Photo Directory

Appointment times are available for the next session, from April 28 to May 3. Please sign up at the table at the back of the church before and after the Saturday 4 pm and Sunday 9 am Masses, or phone Marilyn at 250-361-4393 or 250-880-1442.



## From the Diocese

### Employment Opportunity ~ Chancellor ~

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



St. Andrew's High School Presents

### How to Get Away with a Murder Mystery

Spectrum Theatre, 957 Burnside Rd W,  
Tickets at [Eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca) | scan the QR >

April 24, 25, 26 2025, from 7:00–8:00 pm\*  
April 26, 2025, from 2:00–3:00 pm\*

\*Doors open 30 minutes before start time  
Bring cash for concession and merchandise!



Victoria, BC  
**MARCH for LIFE** 



**Thursday, May 8**

12:00 pm Mass at St. Andrew's Cathedral  
1:45 pm March from Centennial Square to the BC Legislature  
2:15 pm Rally at the BC Legislature

March for Life Dinner: Guest Speaker, Gabrielle Raymond, CCO  
5:00 pm at St. Joseph the Worker Parish (\$55 per person)  
To purchase tickets: Gary Skabeikis, [garys235@outlook.com](mailto:garys235@outlook.com).

Supported by Knights of Columbus



NET Ministries presents  
**Illuminate 2025:  
The Underlying Truth**  
For Youth in Grades 4-7

**May 3, 2025, St. Joseph's School, Victoria**

This retreat will deepen faith, build community, & encounter Jesus.  
Cost: \$75 (includes snack, lunch, activities, and t-shirt)

To Register, please complete the Google Form by April 14:  
<https://bit.ly/4ioAujB> To Pay: <https://bit.ly/4hs3RAR>

More info: Joelle Dressler: 250-479-1331 / [jdressler@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:jdressler@rcdvictoria.org)



NET Ministries presents  
**2025 Diocesan Youth Retreat:  
Living for Greatness**

For Youth in Grades 7-12, May 9 to 11  
Camp Imadene, Mesachie Lake

Cost: \$199 (includes meals, activities, accommodations, and t-shirt)  
Transport: Complimentary from St. Andrew's High Sch & Langford  
Complimentary Mother's Day Brunch for families, Sunday 11:15 am

To Register, please complete the Google Form by April 15:  
<https://bit.ly/4kErwki> To Pay: <https://bit.ly/3WWGvGj>

More info: Joelle Dressler: 250-479-1331 / [jdressler@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:jdressler@rcdvictoria.org)

## Pastor, Fr. Shijo George

sgeorge@rcdvictoria.org

## Korean, Fr. Marco Park

dkpark@rcdvictoria.org

## Syro-Malabar, Fr. Shijo George

sgeorge@rcdvictoria.org

## Vietnamese, Fr. Michael Tran

michaeltran@rcdvictoria.org

## Hospital Chaplain, Fr. Sean Flynn

250-889-3761

## Parish Administrative Assistant

Katherene Newton: sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

## Children's Religious Ed. Coordinator

Lidia Moodie: sacredheartreled@rcdvictoria.org

## Parish Liturgy Coordinator

Rafael Oei: sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

## RMSE Coordinator

Sindhu Merwin: sacredheartmse@gmail.com

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 2024 / 2025

Marilyn Bojko

Jeremy Côté

Jim Haffey

Peter Martin

Samantha Sherman

Will Podmoroff

Rick Perez de Tagle

Edgar Tan Jr. (Chair)

Andy Pak

(Korean Representative)

Sonny Huynh

(Vietnamese Representative)

Anjali Aniyan

(Syro-Malabar Representative)

## PARISH MINISTRIES & GROUPS



Parish Office: sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES & POSITIONS

### Parish Liturgy Coordinator

Rafael Oei

Altar Servers

Karla Montano

Extraordinary Ministers

Marilyn Turner,  
Mae Tan

Floral Ministry

Eduardo Bautista

Lectors

Stan Dzbik

Music Director

Rafael Oei

Pastoral Care Ministry

Lynda Tan

Ushers

Marisa Tinsay

Lynda Tan

Video Streamers

Peter Liem

Sacristan

Sylvain Leclerc

Denise Owen (Asst.)

## PARISH GROUPS

Christian Meditation

Margie Noonan

C.W.L. / Prayer Line

Denise Owen

Knights of Columbus

Stan Dzbik

Led By The Spirit Group

David MacIntyre

Moms & Tots

Genevieve Vuksic

Phone-tree

Elizabeth Olcen

Funeral Receptions

Marilyn Turner

Social Justice/D & P

Stan Dzbik

St. Vincent de Paul

Georgina Short

## TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE TO AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY

To report sexual abuse by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, visit [RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry](https://RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry) or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop, visit [BishopReportingSystem.ca](https://BishopReportingSystem.ca) or call 1-866-892-3737

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Victoria BC, 2025

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