



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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



* *Fourth Sunday of Advent* | 24th December 2023 *



Christmas Message from the Pastor

As we all gather this year to commemorate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, I am very grateful to be able to celebrate this event with this wonderful parish. It is a busy season for us all as gifts are bought, homes decorated, food prepared, and liturgies celebrated; but we need to stop for a moment to acknowledge what a tiny child born over 2000 years ago means to us now.

As Catholics, we know that gifts, decorations, and food are not the point. They are simply outward manifestations of our love and gratefulness to God for sending His Son into this world. In the midst of all the busy-ness of Christmas Day, it is easy to forget that the love of God is the reason we need to cultivate grateful hearts.

So, when we gather for Christmas Mass, look around at all the people and appreciate how this parish is such a warm family for our Saviour to be born into. Look at your own family and thank God for the gift of love you see in them. If you have a chance, thank someone from one of the liturgical ministries for making the Mass welcoming.

At the same time, remember that not everyone experiences Christmas as a time of love or abundance. Pray for the grieving, the families in conflict, and for those who are experiencing the stress of not having enough money. Let us envelope them with our care and concern.



To all the families of Sacred Heart:
Błogosławionych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia.
A blessed Christmas to you!

Fr. Jan, SDS

LITURGICAL YEAR B

Saturday:

Reconciliation	3:00 pm
English Mass	4:00 pm

Sunday:

English Mass (streamed)	9:00 am
Polish	1:00 pm
Korean	3:00 pm
Vietnamese (Dec. 25)	5:30 pm

Weekday Masses

English

Mass: Tuesdays to Thursdays	12:05 pm
Mass: Fridays	12:05 pm

Adoration until 3 pm
(Sign-up sheet, in the foyer)

Korean

Mass: Wednesdays	7:00 pm
Mass: Thursdays	10:30 am

Sacred Heart YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzXJfSxennwmYIT4kPyUh6w>

**Fr. Jan Grotkowski, SDS
& the staff of Sacred Heart Parish**
*Wish you a most Blessed Christmas
& a Joyous, Healthy, & Prosperous
New Year!*



*Join us for an
Evening of
Carols*



5 pm, Wednesday, 27 December

*Come and sing Christmas carols
as a parish community and celebrate Christmas
with the ethnic communities of Sacred Heart
singing in their own languages!*

SEE YOU THERE!



We thank the Syro-Malabar Community

for being a part of Sacred Heart Parish since 2016,
and congratulate them on their new home
in St. Joseph the Worker Parish
with Fr. Shijo Ottaplackal George, VC.



**The Parish Office
will be closed
from Sat, 23 Dec. 2023
to Mon, 8 Jan. 2024
for our Christmas Break.**



Please pray for:

Those who have died

*Blanche Dwyer, Joe & Jose de Lima,
Ronald Eison and Bruno Rinaldo.*

Those who are ill

*Thérèse A, Jon A, S. F. Chaves, Patricia C, Darrell C, Cora C,
Ludwik D, Lesley D, Kathleen G, Richard G, Pedrito K,
M Lopez, Derek L, Lisa L, Mike R and Maria T.*

Thank you

for your generous donation of \$240 this past week. Flower Donation envelopes are available at the entrance of the church.



2024 Parish Donation Envelopes



Dear Parishioners,

Donation Envelopes are ready for pick up in the church foyer. Please do not use them until January 1st, 2024.

Please inform the Parish Office if you have moved and have a new postal address, or a new email address or phone numbers.

If you do not have Donation Envelopes and would like a box, or if you wish to discontinue using the Donation Envelopes, please inform the Parish Office. Thank you.

Donation Envelopes are beneficial if you make weekly contributions to the parish. The Donation Envelopes are necessary if you wish to receive an income tax receipt.

PLEASE DO NOT USE ANY ENVELOPES FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR. The number may have been re-assigned and you will not get credit for your donation.

PLEASE DONATE BEFORE 31 DEC 2023 IF YOU WANT THAT DONATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2023 TAX RECEIPT.

Contributions

Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD)

If you are PAD user, please remember to complete your name and address on the Special Collection envelopes, if you would like to receive a tax receipt. Information & links are also available on our website.

Options To Donate

E-Transfer: The email to use is:
sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

Pre-Authorized Debit: Automatic Debit

(click here for the PAD form)

The PAD form is also available from the Parish Office.

Canada Helps: Online through Canada Helps

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!

Dec 16 & Dec 17, 2023

Envelopes \$ 3,201.50

Cash \$ 325.05

Total \$ 3,526.55

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

The Candy Cane



Over 400 years ago, the traditional candy cane was originally white sugar sticks created by mothers to be used as pacifiers for their babies. In 1670, the choirmaster of Cologne Cathedral, Germany, bent the sticks into canes to represent a shepherd's staff and started the tradition of giving out candy cane when he gave them out to young children to last the long Nativity service on Christmas Eve.

In 1847, a German-Swedish immigrant, August Imgard of Wooster, Ohio, introduced the Christmas Tree to America, decorating a spruce with paper ornaments and candy canes. Then in the 1900s, peppermint was added to the mix and a candy maker in Indiana added stripes of red to witness to Christ's sacrifice and love. While the name of that candy maker was not documented, today the Martinsville Candy Kitchen, established in 1919 by Greek immigrant Jimmy Zapapas, is famous for their candy cane.



- * The shape of the candy cane represents "J" for Jesus Christ, or a shepherd's crook representing our Good Shepherd.
- * The red stripes represent the scourging of our Lord, and the blood that was shed in atonement for our sins.

- * The white represents the purification of souls through the blood shed by Jesus on the cross, and the purity of Jesus, and Mary, our Mother.

- * The green is the evergreen unchanging truth of Christ's earthly mission, and the compassionate love that is embodied in the Covenant of God fulfilled through Jesus Christ.



So while we celebrate the joyful birth of our Lord on Christmas Day, the candy cane given out during each Christmas Season also serves to remind us that the Christ Child was born into this world to fulfil the Covenant of God through the Redemption Story that leads to the events of Holy Week and Easter. All from a little candy cane.

(The Legend of the Candy Cane, Walburg, Lori & Bernardin, James, 1997, Zondervan Publishing House, Michigan;
<https://www.martinsvillecandykitchen.com> [accessed: 18 Dec 2023])



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

In 2009, the Order of the Knights of Columbus launched 'Coats for Kids' to give children in need the gift of warmth in the coldest months. This winter marks the one millionth coat to be given. Know that when you support the Knights' lottery, pancake breakfast, you help fund this program.

Your help is appreciated.
"Thank you" from the Knights and the Kids.



Moms & Tots

Come for the company and faith-sharing between mothers. Parents and caregivers are welcome as well. The Parish Hall, Mondays, 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Please contact: Chantal: momstots.shvic@gmail.com

Anawim is asking for assistance.

A collection box is now in the church foyer THIS WEEKEND to accept donations of NEW CLOTHING: items such as jeans, jackets, socks, underwear, shirts, raingear and any new items of clothes that may be used as gifts to the residents of the two houses, and guests from the drop-in program.



Anawim's Christmas Tree Sale

is on at 973 Caledonia Avenue.

Thank you for your support of Anawim.



Mass Schedule: Christmas Season 2023

Sunday, December 24

4th Sunday of Advent

9:00 am – English
1:00 pm – Polish

Christmas Eve Masses

4:30 pm – English (Children's Carolling and Pageant)
5:00 pm – English (Children's Mass)
7:00 pm – English (Carolling)
7:30 pm – English
9:30 pm – Korean
Midnight – Polish

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day

8:30 am – English (Carolling)
9:00 am – English (Nativity of our Lord)
5:30 pm – Vietnamese (Nativity of our Lord)

Tuesday, December 26

12:05 pm – English (St. Stephen)
1:00 pm – Polish (St. Stephen)

Wednesday, December 27

12:05 pm – English (St. John)

Thursday, December 28

12:05 pm – English (Holy Innocents)

Friday, December 29

12:05 pm – English with Adoration
3:00 pm – Chaplet of Divine Mercy & Benediction

Saturday, December 30

4:00 pm – English (Holy Family - Anticipated Sunday Mass)

Sunday, December 31

Feast of the Holy Family

9:00 am – English
1:00 pm – Polish

New Year's Eve Anticipated Mass

3:00 pm – Korean (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)
4:15 pm – English (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)

Monday, January 1, 2024

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 am – English
1:00 pm – Polish
5:30 pm – Vietnamese



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Grateful Thanks to everyone who turned up to support the

Christmas Charity Concert

with the Greater Victoria Concert Band Jr. last Saturday!



Fourth Sunday of Advent:

Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest.

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought light into the darkness surrounding the heart of those living in poverty bringing them the real, lasting, and deep joy of Christmas.

For monetary donations, please specify that it is for the "SCO Food Pantry". Cheques: "Society of St. Vincent de Paul".

Donate online and specify Sacred Heart Parish at:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-of-vancouver-island/>.



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 13, 2024 at St. Andrew's (on McKenzie Avenue) between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Thank you for your support.

Tapestry of Faith

Bishop's Appeal 2023

The Bishop's Appeal, Tapestry of Faith, is accepting 2023 donations until the end of the year. 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.

Reaching our parish goal also means that the parish will retain \$8,800.00 for our own project.

Please give prayerful consideration towards our Appeal and know that you are making a difference

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/bishops-appeal>

Parish Project: *New benches and more lighting in darker areas.* Parish Goal: \$44,000.00 Actual: \$34,924.32 Pledges: 137



From the Diocese

The Epiphany of the Liturgy: Welcoming the Closeness of God

St. Joseph the Worker Church | January 5 & 6, 2024

This conference is for all who serve in liturgical ministries. The presenters are Dr. Glenn Byer and Dr. David Pitt, liturgical and musical educators at US Catholic colleges. The workshops are on: Fri, Jan 5, 7 pm to 9:30 pm, & Sat, Jan 6 from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

For more information and to register please visit:

<https://EpiphanyLiturgyConference.eventbrite.com>

For assistance in registering, please mail

mgwyn@rcdvictoria.org or call 250-479-1331 ext 227.

Pastoral Care Outreach Training



DIOCESE OF VICTORIA
HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

This free, valuable series has nine sessions held via Zoom on Saturday mornings from 9:30 am to noon, January 20 and running until March 23, 2024 (no session on March 9 for Spring Break).

Participants completing all the sessions will receive a Certificate of Completion. A phone number, email address, computer, tablet or Smart Phone with speakers, Internet connection, microphone, webcam, and access to Zoom are required. Please register through your local parish by January 12.

For further information, please email moiraking@shaw.ca

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 2023 / 2024

Marilyn Bojko (Chair) Jim Haffey
Peter Martin Jeremy Côté
Rick Perez de Tagle Edgar Tan Jr.
Samantha Sherman Will Podmoroff

OUR MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, 23 December, 4 pm

Altar Servers : Daisy, Gabby, Elias, Mara
Lectors : Sigrune F, Belle PdT
EMCs : Raul R
Ushers : Miriam P
Music : Arlene S, Rafael O

Sunday, 24 December, 9 am

Altar Servers : Pio, Matthew, Michael
Lectors : Helen M, Kathy W
EMCs : Jeff K, Gilbert S
Ushers : Lynda T, Miriam P
Music : Sacred Heart Choir, Rafael O

Thank you to all our volunteers

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
or call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up
by a Catholic Bishop,
visit BishopReportingSystem.ca or call
1-866-892-3737

Sacred Heart Contacts

Pastor: Fr. Jan Grotkowski, SDS
jgrotkowski@rcdvictoria.org

Korean: Fr. Robert Ryu
youngjinryu0758@gmail.com

Polish: Fr. Jan Grotkowski, SDS
jgrotkowski@rcdvictoria.org

Vietnamese: Fr. Michael Tran
michaeltran@rcdvictoria.org

Hospital Chaplain
Fr. Sean Flynn: 250-889-3761

Parish Administrative Assistant
Katherine 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:
sacredheartrmse@gmail.com

PARISH MINISTRIES & GROUPS



Please contact the
Parish Office:
sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org

PARISH LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parish Liturgy Coordinator
Altar Servers
Extraordinary Ministers

Floral Ministry
Lectors
Music Director
Pastoral Care Ministry
Ushers

Video Streamers

Rafael Oei
Karla Montano
Gilbert Santos
Chay Santos
Ruby Rivera
Stan Dzbik
Rafael Oei
Lynda Tan
Marisa Tinsay
Isme Liem
Peter Liem

PARISH GROUPS

Christian Meditation
C.W.L. / Prayer Line
Knights of Columbus
Led By The Spirit Group
Moms & Tots
Phone-tree
Funeral Receptions
Social Justice/D & P
St. Vincent de Paul

Margie Noonan
Margot McLaughlin
Rick Perez de Tagle
David MacIntyre
Chantal Côté
Elizabeth Olcen
Elizabeth Olcen
Stan Dzbik
Georgina Short

These businesses support our Parish through their advertising, please support them!



Tung Nguyen Watchmaker

Watch, Clock, Jewellery, & Ring Repair

Expert: Rolex, Patek Philippe, Chronograph, Tag Heuer,
Omega, IWC, Breitling, Cartier, Ebel, Movado, Rado,
Accutron, Repeater, ATMOS Clock, Grandfather Clock.

Specialty: Vintage & Contemporary mechanical, quartz watches,
and clock repairs.

Established since 1970: Serving in Victoria since 1980.

I Buy, Sell, Trade all kinds of Clocks and Watches

4244 Carey Road Victoria, BC V8Z 6P9

Phone: (250) 479-2165 Cell: (250) 744-7601

Business Hours: Mon - Fri. 10am to 6pm Sat. 10am to 3pm



250-704-6808

DAVID AUDY

LIFETIME WARRANTY ON ALL LABOUR

4019 Malton Ave
Victoria, BC V8X 4W1

"For perfect electrical work at a great price!"

info@absolutelyelectrical.com
www.absolutelyelectrical.com

BIO COMMUNITY NURSING CARE

SINCE 09182019



02022022



ROWENA B. BIRON
CONSULTING MANAGER

Tel # 236-508-1279 / 778-557-3339

Email: INQUIRY@BIOCOMMUNITYNURSINGCARE.COM

Office add: 300-848 Courtney Street Victoria
British Columbia, Canada V8W 1C4



3121 Steele Street
Victoria, BC V8Z 3N7

Ph: 250-380-7291

E: sales@pacificaudio.com

Fax: 250-380-7292



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Victoria BC, 2023