



ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

753 Burnside Road West, Victoria, BC V8Z 1M9

Office: 250.479.7413 Fax: 250.479.7619
 Emergencies Only (outside office hours): 1.250.732.7380
 Father Alfredo's Email: amonacelli@rcdvictoria.org
 Parish Email: sjtwparish@rcdvictoria.org
 Website: www.stjosephtheworkerparish.com

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH ACKNOWLEDGES AND RESPECTS THE LƏK'ƏNƏN (LAY-KWUNG-GEN) PEOPLES REPRESENTED BY THE SONGHEES AND ESQUIMALT NATIONS, ON WHOSE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES WE STAND AND WORSHIP, WHOSE HISTORICAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE LAND CONTINUE TO THIS DAY.

News and Features

Liturgical and Mass Schedule
PAGE 2

Bishop's Appeal Sacraments
PAGE 3

Parish Office Hours
Donation Options
Religious Education
Welcome Fr. Shijo
Ottaplackal George
The Rocking Chair Prophet
PAGE 4

2024 Envelopes Are Ready
Anawim Donations
Simbang Gabi
K of C Christmas Tree Chipping
Save Your Empties
K of C Thank You
PAGE 5

From the Diocese
PAGE 6

Contacts
PAGE 7

Advertisers
PAGE 8

The Joy of Christmas



Christmas is a time of peace and joy as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour. The experience of peace and joy can only come through a gesture that contains and expresses love, gratitude and thoughtfulness; a simple gesture such as giving a present.

Our Youth Group participated in choosing and wrapping many presents for people in need. Through Rosalie's Village and St. Vincent de Paul, who provide for families with children in need, our youth were engaged in the experience of a Christmas gesture, the experience of "thinking of another and concretely giving". The experience of thinking of another and concretely giving is a gesture that generates joy.

My blessing for all of you and your families for an experience of true joy and peace in these Holy days in which we celebrate the Good News of the birth of our Salvation, our Lord Jesus.

Fr. Alfie



The Week of December 25 to December 31 in our Community

Monday December 25 Christmas - The Nativity Of The Lord

Parish Office Closed

10:00am Christmas Morning Mass

Tuesday December 26 St. Stephen, The First Martyr Octave Of The Nativity, Feast

Parish Office Closed

No Mass

Wednesday December 27 St. John, Apostle, Evangelist Octave Of The Nativity, Feast

Parish Office Closed

6:30am Mass Fr. Sean Flynn presiding

6:00pm Mass + **Maggie Pires**

7:00pm **Legion of Mary - Church Hall**

Thursday December 28 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs Octave Of The Nativity, Feast

Parish Office Closed

6:30am Mass Fr. Sean Flynn presiding

9:00am Mass **Special Int. Carlo Rella**

Friday December 29 Fifth Day Within The Octave Of The Nativity

Parish Office Closed

6:30am Mass Fr. Sean Flynn presiding

9:00am Mass **Special Int. "In Thanksgiving" Clarence Fernandez / + Dick Alessio**

No Adoration today

Saturday December 30 Sixth Day Within The Octave of The Nativity

6:30am Mass Fr. Sean Flynn presiding

5:00pm Mass + **Sharon Kelland**

Sunday December 31 The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary And Joseph, Feast

10:00am Mass

6:00pm Mass **Special Int. Judy Tarras**

Mass Schedule

Weekday Masses

Monday ~ 6:30am

Tuesday ~ 6:00pm

Wednesday ~ 6:30am & 6:00pm

Thursday ~ 6:30am & 9:00am

Friday ~ 6:30am & 9:00am

Weekend Masses

Saturday ~ 6:30 am

Saturday ~ 5:00pm (livestream)

Sunday ~ 10:00am

Sunday ~ 6:00pm



Christmas Mass Schedule

Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass
Dec. 24
10:00 am

Christmas Eve Family Mass
Sunday, Dec. 24
6:00 pm

Christmas Eve Vigil
Sunday, Dec. 24
8:00 pm (livestream)

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass
Sunday, Dec. 24
12:00 Midnight

Christmas Morning Mass
Monday, Dec. 25
10:00 am

New Year's Eve
Sunday, Dec. 31
10:00 am (Regular Mass)
6:00 pm (Regular Mass)

New Year's Day
(Mary, Holy Mother Of God)
Monday, Jan. 1
10:00 am

WE ARE SO CLOSE TO OUR APPEAL GOAL!

There is less than two weeks left to donate to the **Bishop's Appeal, Tapestry of Faith**. There is still time to make your donation count and receive a tax receipt for 2023. Reaching our parish goal also means that the **parish will retain \$9,200.00** for our own projects.



You can donate by mail, at your parish, and online at: <https://www.rcdvictoria.org/donate-tapestry-of-faith-2023>

Parish Goal: \$46,000.00

Actual: \$42,085.26

%: 91.49%

Pledges: 111

SACRAMENTS



Sacrament of Reconciliation: Fr. Alfie will be available for Reconciliation, in the church, 1/2 hour before evening Masses on Saturday and Sunday, or by appointment. Please call parish office 250-479-7413 to arrange.

Sacrament of Marriage: Inquiries must be made 6 months in advance. Register at the office. Marriage preparation class is compulsory.

Sacrament of Baptism: Celebrated on the **first Sunday** of each month at 11:30am. Please call parish office to register.

Baptism Preparation will be held on the **first Saturday** of each month at 10:00am. Please call parish office to register.

Catechism and Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion: email: ourcatechismjourney@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Visits While in Hospital: We remind the faithful that privacy legislation in BC prevents the release of information regarding hospital admissions. If you or someone you love is admitted to a hospital and would like a visit from your Pastor, Eucharistic or Pastoral Care Ministers - also Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, who are commissioned at the discretion of the Pastor, please let the Office staff know.

For a hospital emergency call Fr. Sean Flynn at:
250-889-3761.

Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound: We are grateful to those who give of their time and care to bring Holy Communion to our parishioners who cannot make it to church each week due to sickness or infirmity. If you know of anyone who would like to receive Communion in their home, please contact Melissa at the parish office by phone or by email:
mhogg@rcdvictoria.org

The parish office regular hours of operation are:
Tuesday through Friday
8:30am to 3:30pm (except Statutory Holidays)

Please Note:
Parish Office will be closed
from Monday, December 25 through
Tuesday, January 2, 2024
We will reopen Wednesday, January 3, 2024
Next Bulletin weekend of January 6-7

Donation Options



CANADA HELPS ONLINE DONATION:
DONATE NOW - ST JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH
(CANADAHELPS.ORG)

(IMMEDIATE ELECTRONIC TAX RECEIPT ISSUED BY CANADA HELPS)

E TRANSFERS:
FOLLOW STEPS OUTLINED ON YOUR ON-LINE BANKING SITE
TO EMAIL: SJTWPARISH@RCDVICTORIA.ORG

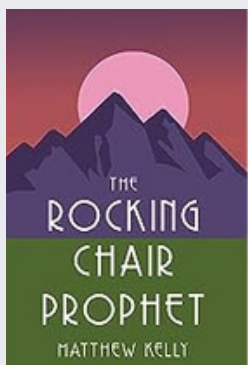
CREDIT CARDS:
Payment Authorization Form for Credit Card Donations.pdf
(parishpal.com)

PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT:
https://000011.parishpal.com/files/docs/PAD_Agreement.pdf

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND LINKS.

Welcome to the Diocese, Fr. Shijo Ottaplackal George

We welcome to the Diocese, Fr. Shijo Ottaplackal George, VC from the Syro-Malabar, Catholic Eparchy of Mississauga. Fr Shijo is a religious priest in the Vincentian Order from Kerala, India. Fr Shijo will serve as Pastor to provide Sacramental and Pastoral Ministry to the Syro-Malabar Catholics living in the Diocese. He has been assigned to St. Joseph the Worker Church in Victoria, as Associate Priest, to work closely with Fr. Alfredo Monacelli. This appointment is effective Friday, December 15, 2023.



Help Yourself to Matthew Kelly's latest book

The Rocking Chair Prophet is a transformational story about reclaiming that voice and the unmitigated joy that comes from following it. After an unspeakable tragedy devastates his life, Daniel, a thirty-three-year-old suburban man, disappears into the mountains. The book is available for free in the church foyer.

Youth Group

All Youth Grades 6 - 12
are invited
to join us on Saturday evenings
following
For more information, please contact
Ruth Real at:
SJTWyouthgroup@gmail.com



Catechism Journey

St. Joseph the Worker Parish
Catechism Program (2023/2024)

Sunday Morning

Grade's 1 to 4
11:15am - 12:00 Noon (following the 10
am Mass)
St. Joseph's Elementary School
757 Burnside Rd. W

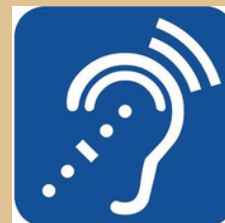
For more information please contact:
OurCatechismJourney@gmail.com

Grade/Level 5 Post Sacrament Class

Saturdays at 6:00pm

For more information or to register please
contact Chris Whiteley at:
whiteley.christopher@gmail.com or
250-886-2407

Our worship area is
equipped with an
Assistive Listening
system. If you
would like to use
this, please contact
the parish office.



Newsworthy and Noteworthy

2024 DONATION ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR PICK UP IN CHURCH FOYER



If you do not have donation envelopes and would like a box, please let the parish office know.



The valuable and free Pastoral Care Outreach Training series will be offered online again this winter. **Nine sessions will be held via Zoom on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – noon, starting on January 20 and running until March 23, 2024** (with no session on March 9 for Spring Break). Participants who attend all sessions will receive a Certificate of Completion. Bishop Gary Gordon feels “it is important to have parishioners trained at the ready to be the hands and face of Christ to others.” A recent participant says “I strongly recommend this Program to all Priests, Brothers, Deacons and Religious, and not only to parish volunteers but also to family members and to Spouse Care Givers.” **Please register through your local parish by January 12.** For further information, please email moiraking@shaw.ca

Anawim Christmas Donations

There is a box in our church foyer to accept donations of **NEW CLOTHING** items such as jeans, jackets, socks, underwear, shirts, raingear or an 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. **Anawim’s Annual Christmas Tree Sale is on at 973 Caledonia Avenue. Click below to read our newsletter.**
[Anawim House Newsletter](#)

Simbang Gabi

Join us in the Filipino tradition of celebrating the devotional Masses in preparation for the coming of the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Diocese of Victoria

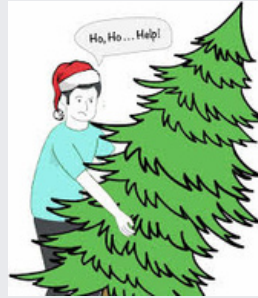
St Andrew's Cathedral 740 View St

Dec. 18 to 22, 7:30 pm Dec. 23, 5:00pm

For more information email:

katesismongpilipino@yahoo.com

Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Chipping



The Christmas tree recycling program this year will take place on **two Saturdays, Dec 30 and Jan 6**

from **10:00 am to 4:00 pm**

Trees may be dropped off at the church parking lot for a donation in support of Knights' fundraising for charities. Bartlett Tree Services will chip the biomass on-site to produce wood chip mulch.

Save Your Empties!

Please support this **St. Andrew's Regional High School fundraiser.** The Spain trip students are having a **bottle drive** to fund raise for their travels. Drop off your empties at St. Andrew's Regional High School on **Saturday, January 13th, between 10am and 2pm** or anytime during school hours the week of Jan 8-12th.



Thank You!

On behalf of your K of C Council 13356, please accept our thanks for your support of the monthly breakfasts, and other charitable projects throughout the year. The purpose of the breakfast is to not only provide a nourishing meal, but to create a safe and peaceful environment where families, friends and those who may be alone can socialize and build community.

The proceeds of all council projects support people in need, i.e., Birthright, Coats for Kids, Comfort Boxes for single mothers and many others.

As the Christmas season approaches, we sincerely hope that you find joy and peace with family and friends. A very safe and pleasant season to all.

Michael O'Rielly, Grand Knight

From the Diocese



Bishop's Christmas Message 2023

Diocese Job Postings

The Diocese of Victoria is now accepting applications for three positions:

- Accounting Clerk (applications must be received by January 5, 2024)
- University of Victoria / Camosun College Chaplain (applications must be received by January 5, 2024)
- Financial Officer (applications will be accepted until the position is filled)

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

CCCB statement on the non-permissibility of MAiD in health organizations with a Catholic identity

The CCCB has released a statement on the non-permissibility of MAiD in health organizations with a Catholic identity. The statement may be read online at this link:

[Statement by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops on the Non-Permissibility of Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide within Canadian Health Organizations with a Catholic Identity](#)

Diocesan Health Care Committee New "Care of the Dying" Webpage

The Diocesan Health Care Committee is pleased to share a new "Care of the Dying" webpage:

<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/care-of-the-dying>. The page include a short video intro to CCCB's "Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care" and a link to download the toolkit, as well as many other valuable resources and links.

Please note: Parishes and communities are encouraged to use the **Horizons of Hope Toolkit** to facilitate gatherings where people can explore palliative care in the context of a prayerful, caring community. For more information and assistance, please contact Joelle Dressler, the Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization, at:

jdressler@rcdvictoria.org or 250-479-1331 ext 230

New IPL Course

Registration is now open for a new Indigenous Pastoral and Lay Leader Ministry Education course: "*Contemporary Effects of Colonization II: Social Justice*". No prerequisites are required for this online course, which will run on Tuesdays in the new year from **January 9 to March 5, 2024 from 2:15 - 3:30 pm PST**. The cost is \$200. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://rcdos.ca/ministries-services/indigenous-ministry-2/indigenous-ministry-education/>.

"The Epiphany of the Liturgy: Welcoming the Closeness of God"

The Diocesan liturgical conference "*The Epiphany of the Liturgy: Welcoming the Closeness of God*" will take place on **January 5 and 6, 2024** at **St. Joseph the Worker Church** in Victoria. This conference is an opportunity to enter into a richer experience of the Trinity in our Eucharistic Celebrations, and will be valuable both for those who serve in liturgical ministries and those who participate in the assembly. The presenters will be Dr. Glenn Byer and Dr. David Pitt, liturgical and musical educators at Catholic colleges in the U.S. Registration is free, and available at:

<https://EpiphanyLiturgyConference.eventbrite.com>

Contacts in the Parish

Pastor

Deacon

Admin Assistant/Secretary/Bookkeeper

Custodian

Responsible Ministry Coordinator

Altar Server Training/Coordinator

Baptism

Contemplative Community

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Religious Education

Eucharistic Ministry Contact

Usher Coordinator

SJTW Pastoral Care Outreach Ministry

Development and Peace

Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)

Youth Group - Grades 6 to 12

St. Joseph's Elementary School

Catholic Women's League (CWL)

Knights of Columbus

St. Vincent de Paul

Legion of Mary

Coffee/Hospitality Committee

Finance Committee Chair

Proclaimer Schedule Coordinator

Proclaimer Training Coordinator

Liturgy Committee

Social and Ecological Justice Committee

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr. Alfredo Monacelli

Deacon Michael Watkins email: mwatkins@rcdvictoria.org

Melissa Hogg/Sandi Duncan/Pat O'Brien

Office hours 8:30am - 3:30pm Tuesday-Friday

Ralph Scheurle email: rbscheurle@shaw.ca

Rosanna O'Higgins email: rosanna.ohiggins@gmail.com

Angela Grohovac

Call parish office (250) 479-7413

Charlie Allen (778) 433-5772 email: charlieballen@gmail.com

(2nd & 4th Saturdays @ 10am)

tbd

Christine Armstrong email: ourcatechismjourney@gmail.com

Jenny Di Castri email: jdicastri@gmail.com

Gerri Erickson (250) 216-5558 email: gerri@shaw.ca

Contact Parish Office (250) 479-7413

Sister Marina Smith SSA email: sandseaandsky@gmail.com

Chris & Carmelle Whiteley (250) 886-2987 email: carmelle.whiteley@gmail.com

Ruth Real email: SJTWyouthgroup@gmail.com

Pre School - Gr. 7 Call school office (250) 479-1232 for more info

President: Gerry Heywood (250) 479-6281

Michael O'Rielly email: mfjeorielly@gmail.com

Stephanie Peters (250) 514-7853 email: stephanie.jm.peters@gmail.com

Meetings every 3rd Wednesday 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Lisa Slegg email: lisaslegg@gmail.com

Meetings every Wednesday following 6:00pm Mass

looking for a coordinator

Mel Evangelista email: mel.evangelista@gmail.com

Bernadette D'Souza email: aberniedsouza@gmail.com

Moira King email: moiraking@shaw.ca

Esmee Rothschild email: rothjones@pacificcoast.net

Sr. Marina Smith email: sandseaandsky@gmail.com

Brian Fox (Chair), Mylinh Trinh, George Flint, Karen Wysiecki, Nancy Zacharias,

Gerry Heywood



The downtown Social Concern Office appreciates donations of:

- high protein soups
- peanut butter
- protein bars
- non-perishable items that are easy to open

Donations gladly taken in the food cart in the church foyer!

Also, any financial contribution allows purchases of dairy products, meat, and other needed items. Approx. 23,000 people, locally, including 4,000 children each year rely on it.

Make your gift at:

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



Our communities need Catholic men to answer the call to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend our values.

As **Knights of Columbus**, we stand up for the church, serve the least among us, and strengthen parishes and families. We always need new members and fresh ideas to be the best we can be.

As a member you join a worldwide community of nearly 2 million men, including 12,000 here in BC and Yukon, who stand together.

Will you answer the call?

Visit kofc.org/joinus to learn more about the many benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus.

Please support our Advertisers

We are accepting advertising

Please call 250-479-7413



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PIPE TECH PLUMBING AND GAS


Gas permits, tankless water heaters
HVAC, reno's and repairs
bbpipetech@gmail.com
250 889 9943




advertising space



advertising space



advertising space

VOLUNTEER WITH A PARISH MINISTRY



We are in a new season as we move forward.

This is an invitation

for you to share your *talent and time*

by joining one of our parish ministries.

Serving is a *WIN* for everyone involved.

Report Sexual Abuse

To report sexual abuse by a clergy member, religious, employee, or volunteer, call 1-800-968-3146

To report sexual abuse or cover-up by a Bishop, click here or call 1-866-892-3737

RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY & SAFE ENVIRONMENT | RCD (RCDVICTORIA.ORG)

NATIVITY PAGEANT & POTLUCK DINNER

SAT 23 DECEMBER | 6:15 PM

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

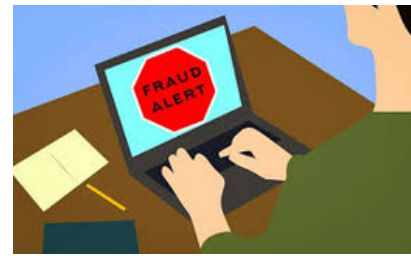
849 OLD ESQUIMALT RD.

Please bring a main dish
to share and enjoy
children bringing
Christ's birth to life in a
beautiful way





Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria
Administration and Finance



1 – 4044 Nelthorpe Street, Victoria BC V8X 2A1 – Tel: (250) 479-1331 – Fax: (250) 479-5423 – Web: rcdvictoria.org

DATE: November 20, 2023
TO: Parishioners, Parishes and Pastors
FROM: Leah MacKenzie, Chief Financial Officer
Re: Gift card and email scams

Recently parishioners have received emails from scammers impersonating their priest, bishop, or key people in the parish.

No priest, nor parish or diocesan employee will ever ask you for a “favour” or to purchase gift cards! The scammers set up a fake email address under the impersonated person’s name. The email appears to be coming from the real person, but upon further scrutiny the scammer is using a different email account. Almost all of these emails are brief and ask for a favour to buy gift cards or send money.

Please act with caution and be prudent when it comes to responding to requests for money, even from someone claiming to be a priest or from individuals within the Church community. Priests and church employees will not request vague favours, payments of gift cards, bitcoin or wire transfers.

All donations for legitimate parish and diocesan activities are made through traditional verifiable methods and are made to the charitable organization, not individuals.

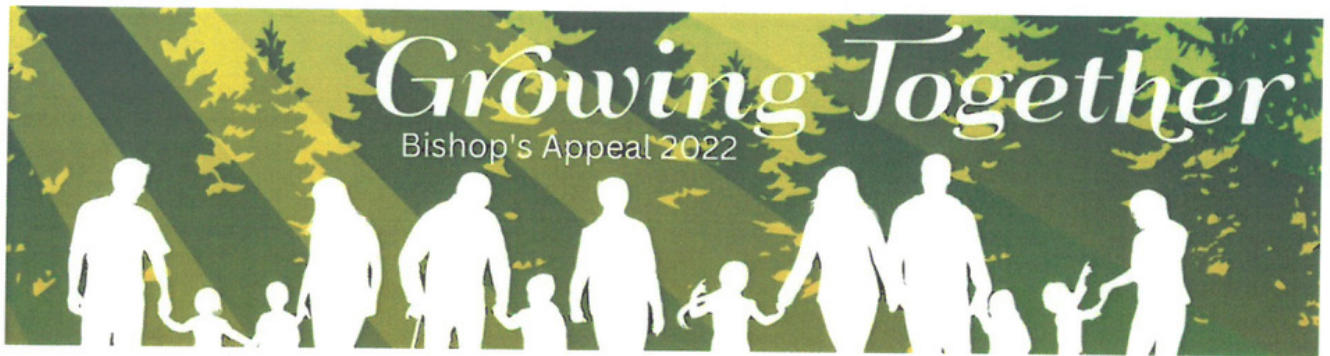
Diocese of Victoria employees and priests have an official @rcdvictoria.org email address and parish emails are well advertised and on their website. The Diocese also uses noreply@myparishcast.com for group email communication.

Before you give money to anyone or any organization; **stop** and talk to a trusted friend or relative to determine the authenticity, appropriateness and validity of the request or call the Diocesan Finance Office 250-479-1331.

If you feel that you have been the victim of a financial scam, you are encouraged to make a report to the police.

Please see the BC government website for a list of common scams and some resources:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/seniors/financial-legal-matters/scams-and-fraud>



**2022 Bishop’s Appeal: *Growing Together*
Final Report**

Growing Together dedicated funds to support Catholics of all generations while striving to heal and grow the Church. Details on how funds from this Appeal were disbursed are below:

2022 Appeal Distribution of Funds	Amount \$
Parish Community and Relationship Building Grants	60,000.00
Catholic Schools Capital Plan	325,000.00
Clergy and Seminarian Support	65,000.00
Indigenous Community and Relationship Building	50,000.00
Twenty Percent Given to Parishes for Local Projects	162,000.00
Overhead fees	65,000.00
Total	727,000

**2022 Bishop’s Appeal: *Growing Together*
Community and Relationship Building Grants - List of Events**

As part of the 2022 Appeal, Parishes can apply for grants from the Diocese to undertake projects that support community and relationship building. Some wonderful events have taken place to date:

- \$12,860.18 was reimbursed to Holy Cross Parish for their Called and Gifted workshop.
- \$10,000 was provided to the Our Lady of the Rosary Parish to assist in the emergency repair and relocation of the parish office, meeting rooms and chapel.
- \$5000 was granted to Christ the King to facilitate the creation of a food hamper plan to support local Ukrainian families.
- \$3000 was given to St. Peter’s Parish to hold a Parish Reorganization Retreat.
- \$2500 was provided to Sacred Heart Parish to host a meal for the Feast of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

More information and images are available on the website at:
<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/2022-appeal-parish-community-building-grants>

New Year's Eve Gala
December 31, 2023-2024

Doors Open at 6:00pm
Dinner Starts at 7:00pm
Dinner by Casanova Catering

Our Lady of Fatima Hall
4635 Elk Lake Drive
Victoria BC

Adults: \$100
Children 5-12: \$40
Contact: 250-888-7720

Ticket #039



Pastoral Care Training

Nine free online sessions

Saturdays from 9:30 am - noon

January 20 - March 23 2024 (no session March 9)

Session 9
**Spouse
Caregiving, Healthy
Boundaries, and
Self-Care**
Mar 23

Session 1
**Basics of
Pastoral Care**
Jan 20

Session 2
**The Healing
Ministry of Christ**
Jan 27

Session 8
**Ministry of
God's Presence
and Compassion**
Mar 16

Session 3
**Active Listening
and
Communication**
Feb 3

Session 7
**Bereavement:
Ministering to
Families**
Mar 2

Session 4
**Elderly Isolation,
Loneliness, and
the Journey with
Dementia**
Feb 10

Session 6
**The Grieving
Process**
Feb 24

Session 5
**Palliative Care
and the Healing
Ministry for the
Dying**
Feb 17

For further
information,
please contact:
Moira King, Chair

Diocese of Victoria Health Care Committee: moiraking@shaw.ca



Community Services

Family Life

Bringing help and hope to marriages
and families
for over 30 years.

A weekly podcast of stories for kids about Catholic Saints, from the creator of Shining Light Dolls, Chantal Baros. Join us each week for a new short story about the lives of the Saints!



The Bible In A Year



The Bible in a Year (with Fr. Mike Schmitz)
Ascension

You are invited to join us in listening to "The Catechism in a Year" podcast. This 365 day podcast will explain all the teachings of the Catholic Church, in a prayerful, engaging, and approachable way with Fr. Mike Schmitz.

Check it out!

The Catechism in a Year – Ascension (ascensionpress.com)