



# Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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**\* 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 28th January 2024 \***

## True Authority

By Jean Allen



Twice in this week's Gospel it says that people were astounded and amazed at Jesus because he taught and acted with authority. In this text it doesn't say what he taught that day but the people were asking if this was a new teaching – because of his authority. He was much different than the scribes who, one would assume, did not teach with the same authority. So, where does authority come from? It can't be just from belief because the scribes would have believed what they were teaching.

The dictionary says, "Authority implies the power of winning devotion or allegiance or of compelling acceptance or belief." Another word closely related to authority is 'authentic' and besides displaying a power to win devotion, Jesus was truly authentic. He transparently lived out what he taught and there was no hypocrisy in him. The original meaning of hypocrite was someone who was acting out a part like an actor on stage.

One of the most consistent parts of our human nature is hypocrisy. We hide who we are and we often act out roles that we feel are expected of us and aren't a true reflection of who we really are. Jesus had no need to be a hypocrite. His authenticity came from being deeply in relationship with the Author of all goodness and love. Jesus knew what God had written from the beginning of time and he was intimate with far more than human interpretation of the Author's laws. This made him spectacularly unique. He had no need to be an authoritarian. He left people astounded and amazed.

This is the one whom we follow and on whom we model ourselves. If we wish to influence those around us, we must become familiar with the authority of Christ and learn what it means to be authentic. That means that we search our hearts for hypocrisy, the places where we are acting a role instead of being intimately connected to the Author of our life and being. Relationship with Jesus is far more than just belief. Belief is a beginning but belief alone lacks authority and authenticity. On its own it can lead to authoritarianism.

It certainly won't cause others to be amazed and astounded!

## LITURGICAL YEAR B

### Saturday:

English Mass 4:00 pm

### Sunday:

English Mass **(streamed)** 9:00 am

Polish 1:00 pm

Korean 3:00 pm

Vietnamese **(28th Jan)** 5:30 pm

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00 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 7:30 pm

Mass: Thursdays 10:30 am

## Sacred Heart YouTube Channel

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

## Congratulations!



*We welcome the newest member  
to our Catholic Family  
with the Baptism of*

**Nico Kokelj**

*on Sunday, 28 January at the 9 a.m. Mass.*



## First Friday Mass

**Friday, February 2nd at 12:05 pm**

*Adoration until 3 pm, when we pray the  
Chaplet of Divine Mercy.*

*It is also the Feast of  
the Presentation of the Lord,  
please bring your candles to be blessed!*

*Please bring your candles,  
clearly labelled with your name,  
and leave them on the table  
in front of the Altar BEFORE MASS.*



**There is  
no 9 am Mass  
Saturday, February 3rd.**

**The next  
Saturday  
Marian Mass  
is at 9 am on  
Saturday,  
February 10  
in honour of our  
Blessed Mother**





### **Please pray for:**

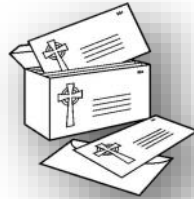
#### ***Those who have died***

*Sergio Campos, Marian Cook, Jill Coupe,  
Katherine and Anthony Deck, Bella Leonel,  
and Souls in Purgatory.*

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

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

## **2024 Parish Donation Envelopes**



### **A few donation envelope boxes are left for pick up in the church foyer.**

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 would like to have Donation Envelopes box assigned to you, or if you wish to discontinue using the Donation Envelopes, please inform the Parish Office. Thank you.

Donation Envelopes are beneficial and necessary for weekly contributions to the parish, 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.

To ensure that the names and assigned numbers tally,  
as the new year begins, please kindly write  
your name and address  
on your envelopes for the next few weeks.  
It would be greatly appreciated.

## **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!**

### **Jan 20 & Jan 21, 2024**

Envelopes \$ 2,776.00

Cash \$ 499.85

**Total \$ 3,275.85**

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



## **Memorial of St. John Bosco**

Wed. 31 January

Known as Don Bosco, John Melchior Bosco was born on August 16, 1815. He was an Italian Catholic priest, educator, and writer. In Turin, where the population suffered the ill effects of industrialization and urbanization, he dedicated his life to the betterment and education of street children, juvenile delinquents, and other disadvantaged youth. He formed the *Salesian Society* named after St. Francis de Sales, and developed teaching methods based on love rather than punishment; a method that became known as the *Salesian Preventive System*. His rule was to remove temptation, treat youth with dignity and kindness, and enrich them with skills to lead them to productive lives. With the help of St. Mary Mazzarello, he also established the Salesian Sisters to do similar work among girls.

John Bosco died in 1888 and was canonized in 1934. He is the patron saint of apprentices, editors, publishers, students, young children, magicians, and juvenile delinquents.

In honour of  
**St. Blaise**  
the blessing of throats  
will be administered on:

**Friday, February 2nd**  
at the 12:05 pm Mass

**Saturday, February 3rd**  
at the 4 pm Mass

**Sunday, February 4th**  
at the 9 am Mass



## **During LENT**

16 February to 22 March

Please note, there will be  
**NO 12:05 pm Mass on Fridays**

**Mass on Fridays will be at 7 pm**

Spend time with the Lord  
in Adoration from 3 pm

**Benediction is at 6:15 pm followed by the  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
and MASS after.**

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



In the Gospel today, Jesus spoke with authority and his reputation spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. As his disciples, we can also speak with authority when we put our faith into actions by helping the poor and suffering.

Have you considered answering the call to serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

If you are interested, please email Georgina:  
mgvshort@telus.net

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/](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/society-of-st-vincent-de-paul-of-vancouver-island/).



## Blessing of the Candles February 2<sup>nd</sup>

*"Let us celebrate the feast (of the Presentation) in a solemn way, illuminating the mystery of the day with lights."*

-St. Cyril of Alexandria



The *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord* commemorates the Blessed Mother's obedience to the Jewish law of presenting herself for purification 40 days after the birth of a male child. St. Joseph offered the redemption of the firstborn male according to the law of Moses. Together, they were in the Temple (Luke 2:22-38) at the same time as the old priest, Simeon, and prophetess, Anna as well. Upon seeing Our Lord in Mary's arms, Simeon recited the canticle that has become known as the *Nunc Dimittis*. "Now Thou dismiss Thy servant, O Lord... because my eyes have seen Thy salvation... a light of revelation to the Gentiles..."

The oldest written account of the *Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord* was from the fourth century, by a Spanish Nun, Egeria, who kept a diary of her pilgrimage to the Holy Land. At that early date, the Feast was simply called *The Fortieth Day After the Nativity*. Later it was called *The Encounter of Our Lord* (Gr. Hypapante; O. Sl. Stritenije), referring to the encounter of St. Simeon with Jesus in the Temple; the theme of the oldest homily on the Feast, ascribed to Hesychius of Jerusalem (d. after 450). The term "Presentation" was eventually adapted since Jesus was presented to God in the Temple on that day (Lk. 2, 22). Elsewhere, the Feast was called *The Candles*, since on that day the solemn blessing of candles was prescribed.

The Mass for the day speaks of light, and candles used in the home are blessed. The blessing of candles represents Christ, whose birth illuminates a darkened world. The custom of blessing candles on the Feast of the Presentation began in the 17th century, to fill the "needs of the people" (I Prayer of the Blessing). Recorded in *The Chronicle of St. Theophanes*, Emperor Justinian I issued an order in 541 A.D. on the Feast of the Presentation for a candle-light procession to implore Divine Protection against pestilence and earthquakes that plagued the city. The Church's blessing of the candles includes the bees, wax and the faithful. "This liquid comes from the labour of bees (symbol of purity) to the perfection of wax, and then goes on to bless the faithful."

St. Epiphanius (d. 403) in his letter to the monk John of Jerusalem, mentioned that passing through the country around Anablatha, he noticed a building with a "lamp burning." He later learned that the building was a "Christian Church" with a vigil-light illuminating the presence of the Lord. Today, the presence of a burning vigil-light still indicates the Real Presence of Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist in the Tabernacle, and on the Altar.

It is interesting that on the following day, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, for the Feast of St. Blaise, candles are used in the blessing of throats.

## Collection of Palms

As the Liturgical Year continues, it's time once again to collect palms to be burned for Ash Wednesday, 14 February. Please bring in your palms and leave them in the container in the church foyer.

**Deadline: Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> February**



## Canada's Stand for the Land campaign.

Communities are being displaced.

Rights are violated. Access to water is denied. All this to give priority to the extraction and pillaging of resources. D&P is collecting signatures on a petition to the Honduran ambassador in Canada to support the defenders of the land in Guapinol. Please sign the petition in the entrance of the parish.

For more information, please see our website: <https://devp.org/en/campaign/stand-for-the-land/>

## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

**Thursdays, 1 pm | Parish Hall**

We welcome all newcomers.

This ancient tradition is also known as contemplative prayer; a prayer of silence and stillness beyond word and thought.

For more information, please contact Margie Noonan  
250-589-6313 or [margielnoonan@gmail.com](mailto:margielnoonan@gmail.com).



## Moms & Tots

**Parish Hall, Twice a month  
on Mondays 9:30 am to 11:30 am**

Come for the company and faith-sharing between mothers. Parents and caregivers are welcome as well.

Please contact Chantal: [momstots.shvic@gmail.com](mailto:momstots.shvic@gmail.com)



## The Bishop's Appeal.

Contributions will be accepted until 29 February. This will allow more parishes to reach and surpass their goal.

All donations received in 2024 will receive a 2024 tax receipt next year.



## From the Diocese

### Let Your Speech Always Be Gracious

CCCB Pastoral Letter on Social Media

The CCCB Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace has released its Pastoral Letter on the use of social media: **"Let Your Speech Always Be Gracious."** The release is timed with the memorial of St. Francis de Sales, known for his graciousness in speech and is the patron saint of writers and publishers.



Acknowledging the prominent role social media has at an individual and societal level, this timely Pastoral Letter considers the benefits and dangers of social media from the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching. It provides tools for moral reflection and self-examination, and suggests seven commitments by which to be guided for a more ethical use of social media. Read the Letter at:

<https://www.cccb.ca/announcement/>

[bishops-release-a-pastoral-letter-on-the-use-of-social-media](#)



SEMINARY OF  
CHRIST THE KING

## Vocation Live-In

**Feb 10 to 11**

**Are you interested in the priesthood or religious life as a brother? What is seminary life like?**

Come for our Vocation Live-In for Grades 6 to 11, at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission, BC. For more information:  
604-826-8975 or [rector.minors@sck.ca](mailto:rector.minors@sck.ca)

Forms are also available from the Parish Office.



## Diocesan Bursary Catholic Women's League

**"In Memory of Freda Smith" Deadline: March 31**

This \$750 Bursary is awarded to a Catholic student graduating from a secondary school or home schooling program in the Diocese who plans to pursue education at a post secondary institution.

For more information, and for the application form, please visit  
<https://cwldov.org/bursaries>

## 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, 27 January, 4 pm

Altar Servers : Daisy, Gabby, Elias, Mara  
Lectors : Sigrune F, Belle PdT  
EMCs : Sigrune F  
Ushers : Don M  
Music : Arlene S, Rafael O

#### Sunday, 28 January, 9 am

Altar Servers : Pio, Matthew, Michael  
Lectors : Connie H, Mary K  
EMCs : Rey H, Gilbert S  
Ushers : Heidi, Karla, Angie  
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](http://RCDVictoria.org/Responsible-Ministry)  
or call 1-800-968-3146

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

## Sacred Heart Contacts

**Pastor: Fr. Jan Grotkowski, SDS**  
[jgrotkowski@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:jgrotkowski@rcdvictoria.org)

**Korean: Fr. Robert Ryu**  
[youngjinryu0758@gmail.com](mailto:youngjinryu0758@gmail.com)

**Polish: Fr. Jan Grotkowski, SDS**  
[jgrotkowski@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:jgrotkowski@rcdvictoria.org)

**Vietnamese: Fr. Michael Tran**  
[michaeltran@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:michaeltran@rcdvictoria.org)

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

**Parish Administrative Assistant**  
**Katherine Newton:**  
[sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org)

**Children's Religious Ed.**  
**Coordinator**  
**Lidia Moodie:**  
[sacredheartreled@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:sacredheartreled@rcdvictoria.org)

**Parish Liturgy Coordinator**  
**Rafael Oei:**  
[sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org](mailto:sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org)

**RMSE Coordinator**  
**Sindhu Merwin:**  
[sacredheartmse@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartmse@gmail.com)

## PARISH MINISTRIES & GROUPS



Please contact the  
Parish Office:  
[sacredheart@rcdvictoria.org](mailto: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  
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Georgina Short

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**ROWENA B. BIRON**  
CONSULTING MANAGER

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

Email: [INQUIRY@BIOCOMMUNITYNURSINGCARE.COM](mailto:INQUIRY@BIOCOMMUNITYNURSINGCARE.COM)

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**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Victoria BC, 2024