

Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Vision Statement

Holy Cross Parish strives to be a welcoming, dynamic, vibrant, and inclusive Catholic community that gathers in unity and reaches out to attend to the needs of others.

SUNDAY November 11th, 2018
Thirty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

Reflections from the Gospel Gals

In today's gospel we hear that people of affluence, power, prestige and influence gave generously to the treasury. By contrast a woman, a widowed woman, the epitome of the marginalized in her society, gave all she had, which was pretty much nothing. Amidst the swagger of those who reviled her, she courageously gave everything she had to God. Jesus said she had given more than the others! It is in this context that 'giving' becomes the backdrop to a radical invitation, to a way of living, an imperative.

In this comparison then, what is the radical invitation, the imperative that is given to us? Stated simply, it is to give our very being to God, our every thought, desire and decision, *everything* without hesitation or reservation. Jesus is asking us to detach ourselves from the things that the world values, that they not rule our lives, that they not define us and not be our identity; that we know that everything we have is from God. Jesus is asking us for a radical change of attitude and a radical change of heart, a total surrender to God, in trust and belief. The change is from 'self' to 'life'.

When we give ourselves to God as those of affluence did, we give only part of ourselves to God and on our terms. We are hesitant and we hold back in our relationship with God. We may see our abundance in life, our achievements, skills, talents, time and treasures as blessings, but too often we believe we are the ones largely responsible for what we have and who we have become. We believe our efforts, hard work and judicious stewardship gave us these things. Basically, we believe that we are the 'makers', that we are in control and in such we risk becoming arrogant, exclusive and judgemental.

When we give ourselves to God as the widow did, we hold nothing back. We start each day humbly offering ourselves to God for we know that we are of God, the Almighty One. We know that apart from God we have nothing and we can do nothing. We know that everything we have and who we are, whether great or small by human standards, is God's free and generous gift to us having nothing to do with merit or deserving for our part. We, in turn, generously re-gift ourselves in service to others as Jesus did.

When we choose to live in total surrender to God, doing God's will becomes our life and in doing so we know that we are faithful to the second of God's two great commandments – 'we love one another as we love ourselves'. When we give ourselves completely, "unhindered in mind and body", to God we seem to begin a new journey to a new place. We begin to get but the smallest glimpse of the eternal God. We begin to see the greatness and vastness of God, an incomprehensible understanding of God and we bow before him in awe and worship. We may have no words but we know we are in the company of God, Pure Love. It is then and there that the first commandment, 'love the Lord our God with our whole heart, with our whole mind and with our whole strength' takes form and becomes our life. We, like the widow, love God simply and above all because He is God, beyond what words can convey, yet the very Magnificence that loves us first.

"Unstintingly to give to God Not part, but all of what they had." Stella Whelan

Trudy Holden

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:30pm
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:00pm

Fr. Karam Alraban, Parish Administrator


4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC V8N 3X7
Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844
office@holycrossvictoria.org
www.holycrossvictoria.org

PASTORAL CARE VISITS WHILE IN HOSPITAL

If you or someone you love is admitted to hospital and would like a visit from your pastor or Eucharistic Minister, please call your parish office or VGH/RJ hospital emergency pager **250-889-3761**.

REMEMBRANCE DAY MASS

The **Remembrance Day Mass** will be held on **Monday, November 12th at 7pm**. 100 years have passed since the signing of the armistice that officially ended WWI. As a tribute to all Canadians who served in this horrific struggle, as well as to commemorate and honor the veterans among us at Holy Cross Parish we invite all to attend this special mass.


COME TOGETHER WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

We invite you to join us for this wonderful opportunity to participate in the Ecumenical mini-retreats. Four consecutive Saturdays in November from 9:30 am– 12 Noon.

Nov. 17 – Lutheran Church of the Cross; Nathan McDonald and Brian Wismath “Singing together; a song for everyone.”

Nov. 24 – St. Luke Anglican Church; Leslie Flynn “A Reflection on Homelessness”
Sign up sheets are in the foyer.

UNIVERSITY DINNERS—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please note the sign-up sheet in the foyer for volunteers to provide a dish for the Holy Cross monthly supper for UVic Catholic students. The supper takes place at 5:00 pm on Sunday November 18th. The food can be dropped off between 4:00 and 4:30 pm. Many thanks for your help with this outreach! John Oleson.

NEITHER WOLF NOR DOG

This movie adaptation of the award winning Native American novel will be playing at Cinecenta Theatre on November 13th at 7pm and 9:10pm. All are encouraged to go see this thought provoking film. More information is on the movie poster in the church foyer and parish office.

NOVEMBER GREEN TIP

Take unused or expired medication back to the pharmacy. Don't throw it in the garbage or flush it down the toilet – this will harm the marine life.

IN THE LIBRARY

(Library is open Tuesday to Friday from 9am-2pm)

A potpourri of great reading --- books most often signed out.

-**Mere Christianity** by C S Lewis (famed popularly for the Chronicles of Narnia). On Right and Wrong, the meaning of the universe, belief & behaviour. Lewis, ranking with Chesterton as a great apologist for Christianity.

-**Becoming Human** by Jean Vanier; the founder of l'Arche reminds us of what the “examined life” means.

-**A Daughter's Love** by John Guy, a foremost British historian tells us how Thomas More's daughter, Meg, bravely supported him during his imprisonment and eventual execution by Henry VIII.

-**In the Steps of St. Paul** by H V Morton (in 1934-35 with Paul's letters in hand): the paths taken, and the villages and cities visited --- Corinth, Athens, Antioch, Ephesus, Jerusalem etc. --- barely thirty lifetimes ago. A remarkable travelogue, by a famous travel writer.

-**Cities of God** by Rodney Stark tells us, and with evidence, how Christianity became an urban movement and conquered Rome within three centuries. How and why did Christianity spread so quickly.

PRAYER REFLECTION

There is no higher calling, no loftier dream, and no greater goal than to live, breathe, and be poured out for Jesus Christ.

—From Brother Andrew's *The Calling*

The poor widow cast only two pennies into the treasury; yet because she gave all she had it is said of her that she surpassed all the rich in offering gifts to God.

—Saint Jerome (347-419)

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONFERENCE:** "By His Wounds We Are Healed" Sr. Nuala Kenny SC, OC, BA, MD, FRCP(C) In light of the clergy sexual abuse, Sr. Nuala Kenny SC reminds us that we are called to be agents of healing. The conference will begin with Mass at 8:45am on **Sat., Nov. 24, 2018** at St. Edward the Confessor Parish, Duncan. To register, and for more information go to: <http://www.rcdvictoria.org>.
- **DIOCESAN MASS FOR REMEMBRANCE:** A Diocesan Mass, with Bishop Gary Gordon presiding, will be celebrated at the Cathedral on Thurs., Nov. 15th at 12 noon for all deceased priests, bishops and religious of the diocese. A reception will follow.
- **ST. ANDREW'S COFFEE HOUSE:** St. Andrew's Regional High School Music Dept. is having its annual Coffee House on Friday, Nov. 16th at 7pm in the school gym, featuring performances by St. Andrew's Singers, Concert and Jazz Bands, in addition to solo performances by students. Coffee and Dessert will also be served. Tickets are \$10 at the door.
- **MNT. ST. MARY'S CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER:** Purdy's donates 25% of your order back in cash to Mount St. Mary when you order through <https://fundraising.purdys.com/login.aspx> (customer # 33785) or call Jane at 250-480-3138 to order by phone. Please place your order **by Sunday, November 25** and you can pick up your chocolates at 861 Fairfield Road (MSMH) between Dec. 3—5.
- **ST. ANDREW'S HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PROGRAM:** *Host Families needed for Male International Students* *The St. Andrew's International Student Program* is currently seeking families in the central Victoria area interested in hosting male students for the up-coming semester (end January – end June 2019). Remuneration \$975 per month. Please contact the Host Family Coordinator **as soon as possible:** Hilary Parker, E-mail: hparker@cisdv.bc.ca Tel: 250-886-5596

SOCIAL LIFE AT HOLY CROSS

Joint Wellness—Monday and Thursday 10am

Wednesday Social group—1-3pm: cards, tea and cookies!

Duplicate Bridge—Wednesday 7pm.

Social Bridge—First Sunday of every month. Starting November 4.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, November 11th

8:30 am Mass: **Intentions for the family of Alfred Simas**

10:30 am Mass: **Maria Mendonca +**

4:00 pm Mass

MONDAY, November 12th

7:00 pm **Remembrance Day Mass**

TUESDAY, November 13th

9:00 am Mass: **Joao & Ermelinda Paiva +**

WEDNESDAY, November 14th

9:00 am Mass: **Joao & Armenia Medeiros +**

THURSDAY, November 15th

9:00 am Mass: **Rita Anderson +**

FRIDAY, November 16th

9:00 am Mass: **Holy Souls in Purgatory**

SATURDAY, November 17th

3:45pm to 4:30pm Reconciliation

5:00pm Mass: **Yolanda Bonato +**

SUNDAY, November 18th

8:30 am Mass: **Joe & Romy Simas, int.**

10:30 am Mass: **Hilary Ribeiro +**

4:00 pm Mass

THANK YOU CORNER!

Thank you to Linda Boomars who baked and donated 7 dozen delicious cookies for the mini retreat we had last weekend. This generosity of giving was much appreciated.

Thank you also to the Kitchen Cleaning Crew, who spent most of Wednesday morning scrubbing both kitchens, and making the coffee cups shiny and stain free once more!



CONTACTS

Administrator: Fr. Karam Alraban

250-477-5321 rev.karam@gmail.com

250-294-9615 after hours

Hospital Chaplain: Fr. Ian Stuart

250-889-3761

Pastoral Assistant: Anna Mendonca

250-477-5321 pastoralassistant@holycrossvictoria.org

Administrative Assistant: Valentina Boyd

250-477-5321 office@holycrossvictoria.org

Parish Council: Esther Sangster-Gormley

egorm@uvic.ca

University Chaplain: Fr. Dean Henderson

250-721-8339 (office) 250-882-2151 (cell)

catholic@uvic.ca

HOLY CROSS MINISTRIES

MINISTRY	COORDINATOR	PHONE
Liturgy	Anna Mendonca	250-477-3552
Liturgical Ministries:		
Usher / Greeter	Maria Arruda	250-477-5526
Altar Server	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Music	Various Choirs	250-477-5321
Altar Linens	Marg McDonnell	250-477-6332
Flowers/Art Envir.	Ann Francis	250-477-8650
Sun. Coffee, 8:30	Darlene Southwell	250-477-5738
Sun. Coffee, 10:30	Yvonne Hsieh	250-385-8322
Bulletin Folders	Vicki Ponsioen	250-383-0654
Sacramental Wine	John Bartle-Clar	250-995-1891

SERVING OUR HOLY CROSS PARISH COMMUNITY

Responsible Min.	Martha Oleson	250-477-6455
	Janita McHugh	250-220-4778
Parish Council	Esther Gormley	250-360-0107
Finance	David Begg	250-658-0870
Maintenance/Bldg.	Ed Boomars	250-881-8124
Cleaning Kitchens	Loretta Macdonald	250-477-6682
Annual Shed Clean	Jack Ponsioen	250-383-0654
Parish Grounds	Joe Mendonca	250-888-8930
Social/Comm. Life		
Baptism Prep.	Anna Mendonca	250-477-5321
Marriage Prep.	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Mom's/Tots	Partnership with St. Patrick's	
Children's Rel. Ed.	Giacinta Bewley	250-652-0204



holy cross church garden head rd. victoria, b.c.

COLLECTION November 4, 2018

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 4, 495.00
Loose	\$ 305.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 107.00
TOTAL	\$ 5, 907.00



Children's Liturgy of the Word	Bobbi Bartle-Clar/ Valentina Boyd	250-995-1891 250-813-0230
Catholicism	Fr. Karam Alraban	250-477-5321
Library	George Murphy	250-658-6061
Outreach/Visiting	Anna Mendonca	250-477-3552
Bereavement / Funeral / Follow-Up	Fr. William Hann	250-477-5321
Funeral Reception	Barb McKrow	250-477-8322

SERVING COMMUNITIES BEYOND OUR DOORS

Diocesan Appeal	Ed Chwyl	
Franciscans and Friends Youth	Maritza Chouza	778-533-1736
Could You Ever Come Back To The Church	Fr. William Hann Glenn Palahicky	250-477-5321 250-479-1331
RCIA	Phil / Sheila Wall	250-385-7007
RCIC	Dan Taft Jr.	250-721-0821
Ecumenism	Terry Marner	250-380-0157
Social & Eco. Justice	Yvonne Hsieh	250-385-8322
Anawim	Parish Office	250-477-5321
Christmas Project	Coordinated by the Parish Office	
D&P/Share Lent		
Refugees	Trudy Holden	250-472-1079
St. Vincent De Paul	Martin Fletcher	250-592-9297
Univ/Camosun Bursaries	Tony Southwell	250-477-5738
Uvic/Camosun Outreach	John Oleson	250-477-6455