



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 18th, 2018
Thirty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

Reflections from the Gospel Gals

The discourse in today's Gospel reading from Mark takes place between Jesus and his disciples. They were speaking about the "end, which is to come". Following some description of the cataclysmic events that will precede this event, we are told, "Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place." It is difficult to understand what Jesus meant unless we go back in this Chapter and get some context. The disciples and Jesus had been sitting and admiring the Temple; Jesus' comment refers to its impending destruction. As we approach the end of the Liturgical year we also read into Jesus' words a description of the end of time, the Second Coming. We are told there will be warnings. We are to be watchful and we are to *be prepared*.

Last weekend a group of our neighbours got together to discuss the level of earthquake preparedness in the households on our street. This was prompted by the recent large quakes reported off of the coast of the Island. It turns out we're not all that ready to deal with 'the big one' when it hits, individually or collectively. We put forth a plan to be followed up in six months: prepare for your household and help put together a neighbourhood kit that may help those who have not prepared well. That may or may not be adequate. Time will tell and it will depend on how diligent each of us is in filling the gaps of our current level of preparedness. It will depend on us focusing and keeping the goal in our line of sight.

When it comes to our Spiritual life what does preparedness look like? We're not necessarily talking about the Second Coming. Each of us will probably face our own mortality before that event comes to pass. What do we need to do to truly feel ready to meet our Judge? What if the things of life like finances, status, job security, personal success or family issues distract us? Our Faith life will take a 'back seat' and there may be little Spiritual preparedness.

Every year at this time we get a nudge. It is meant to be encouragement from our loving Saviour who walked this earth, who was tempted as we are tempted. Jesus understands and he has our ultimate welfare at heart. *"For I know well the plans I have in mind for you – plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope. When you call me, and come and pray to me, I will listen to you. When you look for me, you will find me. Yes, when you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me ..."* Jeremiah 29: 11 – 14

Don't be distracted. Establish a relationship with your Lord; you will be heard. Pray. Seek the Lord with all your heart. Then you will be closer to fulfilling the First Commandment. Fulfill your tasks here on earth. We each have been provided special talents and God had a plan when he gave us those specific talents. 'Unwrap' those gifts and use them for the greater good. Love your neighbour as yourself.

Fill in the gaps of the current level of preparedness in your Spiritual life. Focus and keep the goal in sight. We do not know the day or hour. Embrace the words of Jesus; have hope. Fulfill your mission.

And pray for those who cannot pray for themselves. We're in this together!

Blessings on your week, Sheila Wall

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**.

COME TOGETHER WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

We invite you to join us for this final opportunity to participate in the Ecumenical mini-retreats this Saturday from 9:30 am– 12 Noon.

Nov. 24 – St. Luke Anglican Church; Leslie Flynn “A Reflection on Homelessness”

Sign up sheets are in the foyer.

SOCKS FOR ANAWIM

It is time for our annual warm sock drive for residents of Anawim House. Our gift wrapped bin will be present in the Church foyer to collect your much needed donations of warm unused socks - a gift to warm toes and hearts of those in need. Please give generously. Thank you.

**ECUMENICAL SERVICE**

Come join our fellow ecumenical brothers and sisters on **Sunday, December 2nd at 7pm** for service at St. Luke's Anglican church. The churches involved in the mini retreats over the last month will all be represented. All are invited to come together on this first Sunday in Advent to join this ecumenical service followed by coffee, tea, cookies and fellowship.

FUNDRAISING CONCERT FOR ADAEA SMART

Adaea Smart is a grade 1 student at St. Patrick's elementary school,. Last year she was diagnosed with leukemia, she has been undergoing treatment and is currently in Vancouver with her mother waiting for a bone marrow transplant. Adaea's teachers at St. Patrick's (who are parishioners of Holy Cross) have organized a benefit concert for Adaea on **Friday, November 23rd at 7:30pm** in our parish hall. Tickets are \$20 and available through the parish office. All proceeds go directly to the Smart family. There will also be a silent auction and refreshments. Local musicians and details are on the poster in the foyer of the church.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

The Advent Reconciliation service will be held at Holy Cross Catholic church on **Thursday December 6th at 7pm**. All are invited to take part in this sacrament as we prepare our hearts for Christ.

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

What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from. —*T. S. Eliot*

I observe, then, that though Christians may be mistaken in what they took to be signs of Christ's coming, yet they were not wrong in their state of mind, they were not mistaken in looking out, and that for Christ. —*John Henry Newman (1801-90)*

All those who hold to true faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and show proof of their faith by good works . . . will rise again to hear the king of heaven himself saying to them: "Come, my Father's blessed ones, inherit the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world." —*Saint Gregory Palamas (1296-1359)*

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. The conference will begin with Mass at 8:45am on **Sat., Nov. 24, 2018** at St. Edward the Confessor Parish, Duncan. To register go to: <http://www.rcdvictoria.org>.
- **ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL CHOIR SPECIAL:** St. Patrick's School Primary Choir is singing with the Tenors When: November 26 & 27 @ 7pm Where: Glad Tidings Church 1800 Quadra Street Tickets: \$10 @ eventbrite.ca, Ivy's Bookstore, Christian Book Store.
- **ST. ANDREW'S POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER:** St. Andrew's Regional High School is hosting their annual library fundraiser selling poinsettias. The order form is available through the Holy Cross Parish office.
- **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:** 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 **asap**: Hilary Parker, E-mail: hparker@cisdv.bc.ca Tel: 250-886-5596
- **ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:** Saturday, December 1st from 9am-2:00pmat St. Rose of Lima Parish, 2191 Townsend Road, Sooke. There will be seasonal baking, crafts, refreshments and raffle. Free admission! Please come support this parish's biggest annual fundraiser.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, November 18th

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

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

4:00 pm Mass

MONDAY, November 19th

No Mass

TUESDAY, November 20th

9:00 am Mass: **Robert Farrell +**

WEDNESDAY, November 21st

9:00 am Mass:

THURSDAY, November 22nd

9:00 am Mass: **Angela Murphy +**

FRIDAY, November 23rd

NO MASS/OFFICE CLOSED

Annual Diocesan Staff Faith Day

SATURDAY, November 24th

3:45pm to 4:30pm Reconciliation

5:00pm Mass: **Manuel Resendes +**

SUNDAY, November 25th

8:30 am Mass: **Georg Beisner +**

10:30 am Mass: **Florito & Petra
Allaigan +**

4:00 pm Mass

There will be a **Good-Bye Tea** for Janita and Steve McHugh between Sunday morning masses on Nov. 25th. Come bid adieu to the McHugh's!

THANK YOU CORNER!

Thank you to Joe Mendonca for clearing all the leaves off the property. Your hard work makes Holy Cross as beautiful on the outside as it is on the inside.

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.

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
Children's Rel. Ed.	Giacinta Bewley	250-652-0204



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

COLLECTION November 11, 2018

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2, 280.80
Loose	\$ 432.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 095.00
TOTAL	\$ 3, 807.80

SVPD	\$ 1, 235.00
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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	250-477-5321
RCIA	Glenn Palahicky	250-479-1331
	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