



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 25th, 2018

The Feast of Christ the King

Reflections from the Gospel Gals

“His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.” *Daniel 7. 14.* That’s God’s promise to us. It should awaken such a sense of awe and wonder.

How loved are we that God would send his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe to share God’s love with us? A love given freely; a love we know we don’t deserve; a love so great we will never fully understand it. This love is what we are celebrating today on this Feast of Christ the King.

Jesus is a king like no other, “Jesus isn’t a king who lives in a palace. He lives in our broken and wounded hearts.” He is a King who came not to rule but to set us free from sin. He is a King, who had his sandals on the ground, walked with the lonely and the poor, and exposed God’s heart for all the world to see. He is a king who teaches us to love God with all our heart and to love our neighbor as our self. He is a King whose throne is the cross.

We were brought into this kingdom on the day we were baptised. When the priest traced the sign of the cross with chrism oil on the crown of our heads and said, “As Christ was anointed priest, prophet, and king, so may you live always as a member of his Body, sharing everlasting life.” This is our story.

In the very last line of today’s Gospel, Jesus says, “Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” I have been thinking about these words and what they mean to me. Do I listen, or am I like James and John in Mark’s Gospel? They listened to Jesus’ voice and yet got the message wrong? In my daily life, do I pick and choose my own version of His truth as I see fit?

On this Feast of Christ the King, let’s ask ourselves how we live His truth. Do we keep Jesus in the corner of our lives and only bring him, front and center on Sundays, or when we need his help? Or, do we live our days as a prayer giving thanks for all our blessings, listening to Jesus’ voice within and being moved, by the Holy Spirit, to take that love out to our brothers and sisters. Jesus modelled for us how we are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, visit the sick and those in prison. This was his ‘to do’ list, and He has passed that list on to us. So, how are we doing with His list? We can’t say we forgot it, or it’s sitting on the kitchen counter, because His list is stamped on our hearts. In the bible it says, “We are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” God has a plan for us, all of us! How do we find out about that plan? We ask His Son.

As we celebrate today’s feast let’s nourish our souls with prayer, with community, with reconciliation, with the Eucharist. And as we enter our Advent Season next week, let us remember that our Lord sits as King, forever. Jesus’ Kingdom is all about love, truth, compassion and peace. If we truly understood how much God loves us, our lives would be transformed, our hearts would be overflowing with joy through the power of Christ the King.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come.”

God’s love,

Anna Mendonca

OFFICE HOURS

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

Fr. Karam Alraban, Parish Administrator

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Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844
office@holycrossvictoria.org
www.holycrossvictoria.org

HOLY CROSS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Join us at 12 noon on December 7th for our Christmas Luncheon. All are invited to attend this parish luncheon. Sign up sheets are in the foyer and registration is required. You can also call the office to register.



NEWCOMER FAMILY

It is good to report that the newcomer family is happily settling into their new life in Canada. Martin and Sandra are busy learning English and Aneeta and Aytala are enjoying school. The family's apartment is furnished and their needs have been largely met. We are happy to let you know that, at this time, they do not need apartment things or clothing. So, donations are not needed right now. We thank you for your support and generosity. Refugee Cttee.

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WELCOMEFEST — Please come and meet our newcomer family — Martina, Sandra, Aneeta, and Aytala on **Saturday, December 1st** in the parish hall, 2:30—4:30. Light refreshments will be served.

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.

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. Please bring a baked good to share.

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.

BIRTHRIGHT FUDGE SALE

Birthright Victoria, which has been helping women facing unplanned pregnancy for more than 20 years, is having their annual fundraising fudge sale! Their delicious fudge (Macadamia Madness, Black Forest, and midnight Mint to name a few) will be for sale after all masses on the weekend of December 8 and 9th.

*** Volunteers are still needed to help sell fudge after 5pm mass on Dec. 8 and 10:30 mass Dec. 9th. If you can help please call or email Connie McKenzie at: 250-658-1415 or connietmckenzie@shaw.ca**

IN THE LIBRARY

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

Santa is just 29 sleeps away! Readings for the Advent of Christmas:

"He's making a list and checking it twice --- So --- is it naughty or nice?"

- Advent and Christmas by A Chiffolo
- Meditations on the Incarnation: Advent Readings by B Groeschel
- Illuminated Life by Joan Chittister
- Meditations with Hildegard of Bingen by G Uhlein
- Through the Years with Francis of Assisi by M Bodo

PRAYER REFLECTION

Therefore, distrust every claim for truth where you do not see truth united with love; and be certain that you are of the truth and that the truth has taken hold of you only when love has taken hold of you and has started to make you free from yourselves. —Paul Tillich

What is in fact Christ's kingdom? It is simply those who believe in him Everyone who is reborn in Christ becomes the Kingdom which is no longer of the world. —Saint Augustine (354-430)

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **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. ROSE OF LIMA CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:** Saturday, December 1st from 9am-2:00pm at St. Rose of Lima Parish, 2191 Townsend Road, Sooke. There will be seasonal baking, crafts, refreshments and raffle. Free admission!
- **UKRANIAN FOOD AND CHRISTMAS FAIR:** Saturday, Dec. 8 from 11 am to 2 pm at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic hall, 1110 Caledonia Ave. Featuring sale of Baba's best perogies, cabbage rolls, borscht, sauerkraut, Ukrainian breads & pastries, preserves, kobassa rings, AND hot Ukrainian lunch. Free admission, wheelchair accessible. To pre-order for pick up before Friday, Dec. 7 call 250-384-2255.
- **ST. ANDREW'S HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PROGRAM:** The St. Andrew's International Student Program is 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
- **CELEBRATE A FRENCH CHRISTMAS:** at St. Jean-Baptiste Parish! Join Fr. Rolf Hasenack O.P. on Christmas Day, beginning with Caroling at 1pm followed by Christmas Mass at 1:30pm. Then stay and enjoy a Christmas Potluck after Mass. Continue the festivities on January 1st, 2019 at 1:30pm with a New Year Mass, followed by another sumptuous potluck. Will you join us? Venez nous voir et partager un repas avec nous.

Going into Hospital? If so, please be certain that when registering you tell the registration staff that you are Catholic so your pastor and hospital visitors will know how to find you. Or, have someone call the parish office and share the necessary information. For those up island and transferred to a hospital in Victoria this is especially important. The VGH/RJ hospital emergency pager is **250-889-3761**.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, November 25th

8:30 am Mass: **Georg Beisner +**
10:30 am Mass: **Florito & Petra**
Allauigan +

4:00 pm Mass

MONDAY, November 26th

No Mass

TUESDAY, November 27th

9:00 am Mass: **Bob Tabaka (int.)**

WEDNESDAY, November 28th

9:00 am Mass: **Hilary Ribeiro +**

THURSDAY, November 29th

9:00 am Mass: **Arturo Costa +**

FRIDAY, November 30th

9:00 am Mass: **Mary Newton +**

SATURDAY, December 1st

3:45pm to 4:30pm Reconciliation

5:00pm Mass: **Karl Huber & Isabelle**
Maclsaac +

SUNDAY, December 2nd

8:30 am Mass: **Lina Fedrigo (int.)**

10:30 am Mass: **Mary & Cliff**
Anderson +

4:00 pm Mass

THANK YOU CORNER!

Thank you to Ed Boomars who worked together with a CRD rep this week to ensure our water and water system are kept safe and clean. Thank you also to Brendan for taking care of that drip from the washroom faucet. Together we work towards our mandate to respect and care for our planet.

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.

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 18, 2018

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2, 297.00
Loose	\$ 370.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 095.00
TOTAL	\$ 3, 762.00



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