



# 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 October 14th, 2018**  
**Twenty-Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time**

## Reflections from the Gospel Gals

The rich man who approaches Jesus in today's Gospel must have been feeling pretty confident. Before even asking Jesus what he must do to obtain Eternal Life, the man is aware that he observes all the Commandments and has done so since his youth. It was a great shock to him to be told that that was not enough. He was required to sell all his possessions and give the money to the poor.

Mark, I have come to understand, really packs the teaching into his Gospels. Today's reading has many deep and valuable messages starting with the opener, above. When we come to God feeling like we haven't broken any of the rules we might think we've done okay too. At some point in my life I felt like this was true *and* that that was enough. But I have come to know that this was the understanding only of my immature Christian self. Thankfully, as I have grown in my Faith I have become aware that I am continually being drawn forward; I am called to more. I will *always* be called to more just as this rich man is. Jesus is asking him to give up his worldly passion, his possessions, and grow his faith to include a loving relationship with his fellow man. Then he was to follow Jesus as we are called to follow Jesus, to walk with those in need – the marginalized, the poor, the lonely, the sick, the hungry, the grieving. This is the cornerstone of Catholic social justice.

The rich man went away grieving because of what Jesus asked of him; he could not let go of his material things. Jesus responds by telling the perplexed disciples how hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the Kingdom of God. Jesus continues, addressing the disciples as 'Children', to emphasize that this is the most basic of teachings; he reiterates his message. And the disciples counter with the question, then who can be saved? They don't get it.

And now, we get lesson number two. 'For humans it is impossible, but not for God.' On our own we will flounder. There are too many competing, enticing worldly interests. We need the grace of God. In my own life I understand that I did not grow in my faith by myself; it was only by the grace of God. I am blessed to have had people who have prayed for me, been an example for me and who have made a personal invitation to 'come and see'. That was the grace of God acting in my life. Being invited to the Alpha Course in my Parish in Kingston was a turning point in my faith life. There, I found community and deep, profound witness. The Grace of God flooded into my life. God gives us all the grace we need, freely and without measure. We only need to be open to it and accept it. And we are called to be conduits of this grace: pray for others, be a Christian witness and make that personal invitation to someone who needs it.

There are blessings for those who lose attachment to things and adopt a spirit of loving those around us says Jesus. We will be rewarded here on earth – lesson three. But, we will face persecution – lesson four. It is not easy to live out a Christian life, as it is so counter-cultural. To stay the course depends on our humility of Spirit and our perseverance, possible through the grace of our loving Father.

Best lesson of all? Lesson five: We will gain Eternal Life!

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** and ask for **Fr. Ian Stuart** to make this request.

**OUR PLACE BREAKFAST—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

On **Saturday Oct. 20**, Holy Cross will be sponsoring another **breakfast at Our Place** (919 Pandora). We are looking for volunteers to constitute a team of 10-12, to be there from 8 to 10:30 am. No heavy work is involved. Serving a nutritious meal to the hungry is a wonderful way to start the weekend! Please contact Yvonne Hsieh at 250-385-8322 or at [yhsieh@uvic.ca](mailto:yhsieh@uvic.ca).

**KAIROS BLANKET EXERCISE**

**Kairos Blanket Exercise – Sat. Nov. 3, 1:30 – 4:30 pm, Holy Cross Parish Hall**  
The Holy Cross Social & Eco Justice Committee invites all parishioners to participate in the Kairos Blanket Exercise. This is a deeply moving, participatory history lesson – developed in collaboration with indigenous Elders and educators – that fosters truth, understanding, respect, and reconciliation among indigenous and non-indigenous peoples. For more information: <https://www.kairosblanketexercise.org/>. **Limited to 60 participants. Sign-up sheet** in the lobby from Oct. 13 onwards.

**RCIA**

**WISH TO BECOME A CATHOLIC?** Also suitable for adult Catholics seeking Confirmation. Are you searching for a Church to call your own? Are you interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process that begins to explore these and other faith issues for those who may be considering following the Catholic Christian way of life. If interested, please contact the parish office at 250-477-5321, contact Phil or Sheila Wall by phone at 250-385-7007 or by email [walls\\_in\\_holland@hotmail.com](mailto:walls_in_holland@hotmail.com) or email Father Karam [rev.karam@gmail.com](mailto:rev.karam@gmail.com).

**SOCIAL BRIDGE**

The 36<sup>th</sup> year of this once a month social gathering at Holy Cross commences **Sunday, November 4th** in the Parish Centre. The evening starts at 7:00 p.m. with social bridge followed by refreshments. If you enjoy Bridge in a hospitable and non-competitive environment you are invited to join the Group. All levels of Bridge are most welcome! Please contact Tony Southwell for more information at (250) 477-5738 or via e-mail: [tsouthwell@shaw.ca](mailto:tsouthwell@shaw.ca) or Mike Neal at (250) 477-1309 or via e-mail: [mneal49@shaw.ca](mailto:mneal49@shaw.ca)

**UPCOMING ECUMENICAL SERIES**

Don't miss out, all are welcome and encouraged to attend the November ecumenical morning retreats. They will take place each Saturday in November from 9:30 AM – 12 Noon, with a coffee/community time from 10 -10:30 AM

Schedule is as follows;

Nov. 3 – **Holy Cross; Mona Goodman** will speak on the gifts of the Holy Spirit “Filled with the Fire of Love.”

Nov. 10 – **Knox Presbyterian Church; Centres of Spiritual Practise.**

Nov. 17 – **Lutheran Church of the Cross; TBA**

Nov. 24 – **St. Luke Anglican Church; TBA**

Sign up sheets are in the foyer. Come and meet your Christian brothers and sisters.

### PRAYER REFLECTION

All through our life Christ is calling us. He called us first in Baptism, but afterwards also, whether we obey his voice or not, he graciously calls us still. If we fall from our Baptism, he calls us to repent; if we are striving to fulfill our calling, he calls us on from grace to grace, and from holiness to holiness, while life is given us.

—John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

It is asked of Christians that they let go of riches and many other things, but this is only a gesture of welcome, a preliminary condition to a rebirth that makes us over, renders us able to receive the salvation coming from God alone.

—J. Delorme

### 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 Saturday, November 24, 2018 at St. Edward the Confessor Parish, Duncan. To register, and for more information, please visit the Diocesan website: <http://www.rcdvictoria.org>.
- **AN EVENING WITH ANDRE REGNIER:** Spend an evening with André Regnier, Co-Founder of the Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO) and author of *Clear and Simple: Conversations that lead to Conversion*. Sunday, November 4, 7:00 pm – Holy Cross Parish in the Church. **All are welcome.**
- **JOB OPPORTUNITY:** The Diocese of Victoria and Island Catholic Schools is seeking a **full-time accounting clerk**. Candidates should have an accounting diploma or equivalent and have at least two year’s practical experience. This position would suit an individual with prior experience in maintaining Accounts Receivable & Payable ledgers and account reconciliations. Interested applicants are invited to see further details on the notice on the bulletin board.
- **MEN’S BREAKFAST:** “Divorce and The Catholic Church” **Saturday, November 3, 8:00am- Men’s Faith and Fellowship Breakfast** (\$12.00 at V H Club) - Presentation by Mr. Louis Melendez, M.Ed., assistant to the Judicial Vicar, Diocese of Victoria. Louis will guide us through the little-known processes of the Marriage Tribunal. His presentation will answer questions such as **a) I got divorced. I remarried. What are my options?; b) How will getting divorced change my life within the church? c) What is an annulment? Who needs one?; d) How long does it take? How much does it cost?; etc.** Email to [Info@mcaff.org](mailto:Info@mcaff.org) to Register by **October 29<sup>th</sup>**.

### OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

#### SUNDAY, October 14th

8:30 am Mass: **Sam Moisey +**  
10:30 am Mass: **Amaro Martins +**  
4:00 pm Mass

#### MONDAY, October 15th

No Mass

#### TUESDAY, October 16th

9:00 am Mass: **Humberto Simas & Family**

#### WEDNESDAY, October 17th

9:00 am Mass: **Willie Jeffries +**

#### THURSDAY, October 18th

9:00 am Mass: **Al Knapik +**

#### FRIDAY, October 19th

9:00 am Mass: **Tom Lemrey +**

#### SATURDAY, October 20th

3:45pm to 4:30pm Reconciliation  
5:00pm Mass: **Garth Davidson**

#### SUNDAY, October 21st

8:30 am Mass: **Bradley Graham +**  
10:30 am Mass: **Hilary Ribeiro +**  
4:00 pm Mass

## THANK YOU CORNER!

Many thanks to the Gospel Gals for their inspiring, insightful and hopeful front page reflections of the weekly Gospel. We look forward to your writings every week!

### 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**

<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>COORDINATOR</b>	<b>PHONE</b>
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 October 7, 2018**

### **WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$ 4, 379.80</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$ 475.00</b>
<b>Pre-Authorized Debit</b>	<b>\$ 1, 107.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5, 961.80</b>



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	Sheila Wall	250-385-7007
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