



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 September 16, 2018
Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Reflections from the Gospel Gals

In today's Gospel, Jesus leads the disciples into unfamiliar territory, into a land where foreign gods are worshipped. It is here that Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" The question is not difficult, and we, like the disciples, would be quick to respond. But then Jesus asks, "But who do you say that I am?" Only Peter responds, "You are the Christ." For a moment all is good, until Jesus teaches them about the suffering he must go through; His death on the cross and His rising up on the third day. What they were hearing made no sense. Peter takes Jesus aside and tells Him, these things can not happen to their Messiah. Poor Peter, one second God reveals to him who Jesus is and in the next second Peter's human nature kicks in; he is not ready to follow Jesus.

How about us, how do we answer Jesus when he asks us, "But who do **you** say that I am?" Jesus reveals himself to us in stages. The Jesus we knew as a child is very different from the Jesus we know as an adult.

Not that Jesus changes; we do. Sixteen years ago, my sister was in a coma and on a respirator in ICU. For a week I pleaded with God to heal my sister. One day while I was sitting alone in the quiet room, I noticed a bible on the table and when I picked it up, it opened to the gospel where Jesus raises Lazarus. I was filled with hope and I was convinced God was going to cure her. Two days later my sister passed away. Like Peter, I too had a conversation with Jesus. All these years later, I see that opening the Bible to the story of Lazarus was not about opening my sister's eyes, but it was meant for me to open mine.

Why is it that when all is well in our lives we are more than happy to follow Jesus? But during the times we are struggling we once again want to take control and let Jesus know what we need from Him.

In Isaiah our Lord says, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are my ways your ways," And yet, like Peter in today's gospel we try redirecting the will of God to our own limited understanding. We must remember that God loved us first; he loves us now exactly as we are. We are children of God. Jesus says follow him and He will take us to God.

Like a small child on their first day of school they know that their destination is school, but to get there they must take their parent's hand and follow. We, as Christians know our destination is Eternal Life. Jesus is waiting for us to give Him our hand, He will lead us there, all we must do is follow Him. But, like Peter, we will have times in our life when we too will pull our hand away. Jesus is always there to pull us back and when needed, He carries us.

So this week in our conversations with Jesus let us pray for total trust. Let us bring our prayers and our worries to Jesus and then let them go. Let's hand them over confidently, knowing we have a Father who loves us. And then let us go out, reach for our sisters' and brothers' hand and walk them to Jesus.

Following,
Anna Mendonca

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

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Welcome to a new year of religious education at Holy Cross! Classes will start on Saturday, September 23rd at 9:30 in the parish centre. If you have a grade 1-3 student who needs to prepare for the sacraments please contact the office to register. Fees once again are \$30 for the year. You can bring cash or check made payable to Holy Cross Parish. Refreshments will be on hand! See you then!
Giacinta Bewley, Religious Education Coordinator

SOCIAL BRIDGE

The 36th year of this once a month social gathering at Holy Cross commences Sunday, October 7th, 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 or Mike Neal at (250) 477-1309 or via e-mail: mneal49@shaw.ca

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SOCIAL GROUP

The Wednesday Afternoon Social group is up and running every Wednesday from 1-3pm in the parish hall. New members are always welcome. Come join the fun playing bridge, and other games and enjoying coffee/tea and baked goods afterwards. Contact Angie Speller (250 382 - 3908) or Veronica Rampon (250 477-1963) if you have inquiries.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

There is a need for ushers and Eucharistic Ministers, especially at the Saturday 5:00pm Mass. Your participation as a liturgical minister is a valuable addition to our Eucharistic gatherings. If you are interested in joining the team please contact Anna at the office Tuesday-Friday 250-477-5321.

COMMISSIONING SUNDAY

The ceremony of Recommitment and Commissioning will take place at all masses on the weekend of September 22nd and 23rd. All catechists and liturgical ministers are invited to attend one of the masses at which you will be called upon to renew your commitment to your ministry. This will also be the weekend that catechism for the children begins in the parish hall at 9:30am.

IN THE LIBRARY

*The Jewish Testament ("The Old Testament") was what Jesus grew up with and had in his heart and at his finger tips when teaching in the synagogues and debating with the Pharisees and Sadducees. Taste and feel the wisdom of that remarkable and inspired anthology in our books on the **Suggestion Shelf**.*

Man's Destiny in the (6) Books of Wisdom E. Beaucamp O.F.M.

The Great Poems of the Bible by J. Kugel

The Woman's Guide to the Bible by I. Bundesen

Let God be God (the Book of Job) by R Stedman

The Jewish Book of Why (things are done this way) by A Kolatch

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE—VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The Development and Peace group at Holy Cross needs a new co-ordinator. If you are interested or have any questions about the position please feel free to contact Sheila Wall at 250-385-7007, or the office at 250-477-5321.

PRAYER REFLECTION

Crucified inwardly and outwardly with Christ, you will live in this life with fullness and satisfaction of soul, and possess your soul in patience.
—John of the Cross (1542-1591)

Faith and charity are the beginning and the end of life: the beginning is faith and the end is charity. The two together are God, and everything else that leads to human perfection is only a consequence of faith and charity.
—Ignatius of Antioch (d. c. 110)

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Calling Men of Faith, Hope and Charity. Come Join us for breakfast (\$12.00) and a presentation by Mr. Greg Beattie- Director of Responsible Ministry and Safe Environments in the Diocese. He will share on his work in the Diocese. Saturday Sept 29th – 8:00 -10:00 AM - - (at Victoria Horseshoe Club) To register: email us at info@mfaff.org
- **ADULT FAITH FORMATION:** Foundations of the Faith Part I, Eight Wednesday evenings beginning September 19th from 7-9 pm at Pastoral Center, Victoria Topics: Evangelization, Human Person, Introduction to the Bible. Foundations of the Faith Part II, Eight Wednesdays beginning September 19th from 7 -9 at Queen of Angels, Duncan Topics: The Creed, Christian Morality, Sacraments & Prayer. Credible Catholic: Countering the New Atheism, Six Tuesday evenings beginning Sept 25th from 7-8:30 pm at St. Andrew's High School, Victoria. Register FREE online. Links on Diocesan website www.rcdvictoria.org or contact Glen Palahicky gpalahicky@rcdvictoria.org or Gwen Jahelka gjahelka@rcdvictoria.org
- **ISLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:** will be accepting applications for Teachers on Call for all schools. Application forms and details are posted at: <http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>
- **JOB OPPORTUNITY:** The Pastoral Centre for the Diocese of Victoria is hiring a full time accounting clerk. Candidates should have an accounting diploma or equivalent and 2 years practical experience. More information is on the bulletin board or available in the office. Application deadline: Sept. 28, 2018

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, September 16th

8:30 am Mass: **Sid Joss +**
10:30 am Mass: **Agustin Medina +**
4:00 pm Mass
5:00 pm Welcome Back BBQ for
UVic/Camosun Students

MONDAY, September 17th

No Mass

TUESDAY, September 18th

9:00 am Mass: **Catherine Holmes (int)**

WEDNESDAY, September 19th

9:00 am Mass: **Manuel Craveiro +**

THURSDAY, September 20th

9:00 am Mass: **Maria Mayemba +**

FRIDAY, September 21st

9:00 am Mass: **Mercy & Nicholas +**

SATURDAY, September 22nd

3:45pm to 4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass: **Mary Moran(+)**

SUNDAY, September 23rd

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

THANK YOU CORNER!

Thank you to Martha Oleson and Janita McHugh, who have done so much work as our Responsible Ministry Coordinators, particularly with the online training programs that are beginning soon. We also welcome Muna Haddad to the team. Thanks for coming on board!



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.

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 September 9 2018

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 3, 256.00
Loose	\$ 512.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 107.00
TOTAL	\$ 4, 875.00
Refugee Family Support	\$1, 798.20



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	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