

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 23, 2018 Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Reflections from the Gospel Gals

The world tells us to seek success, power and money; God tells us to seek humility, service and love. -Pope Francis

This week's Gospel reading, Mark 9. 30 – 37, is a well-known story oft-repeated on humility, sacrifice, and the first being last.

I think it is important to place these verses within in the larger story that Mark is offering us. At this juncture in Mark's Gospel we are about half way through the story, the easier half. It is about to get much more difficult, even shocking. Jesus knows this and wants to teach his disciples, to prepare them for the more difficult story, to prepare them for the cross. The disciples are in no position, however, to understand this, focusing not on Jesus, but on themselves.

For me, what is important, is that they are all on a journey. The story tells us that they are moving through Galilee to Capernaum. But more importantly, they are on a spiritual journey, and such journeys are never simple. Like the disciples, we too are on a spiritual journey. And on our own journey we may struggle and wrestle with our own basic truths. Moving from self-absorption to self-awareness, to wholeness, and perhaps eventually taking on the far more difficult journey of following Jesus. How often do we understand the best way forward without getting distracted along the way?

We are like the disciples in that sometimes we don't hear the message. Jesus has two lessons for us in this gospel. The first is "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."

The second lesson, "Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

Sometimes we think that the most important thing is to be the first, to be the most beautiful, the smartest, the greatest. This isn't what Jesus said. He said that the most important thing was to think of others first and ourselves last. There are two kinds of ambition. There is the ambition to be approved and applauded by people, and the ambition to be approved and applauded by God. The measurement of the ambition to be great before people is how many serve me? How wide is my influence? How much power do I have? But Jesus points out that true greatness is never found there. The measure of true greatness is, How many do I serve? How many can I help? This is the mark of greatness in the eyes of God. Greatness in God's Kingdom is equated with humility, and the attitude that puts the good of others ahead of one's own preferences.

The disciples had a long way to go on their journey. I have a long way to go on my journey.

Let us never forget that authentic power is service. A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just. -Pope Francis

Journeying with you,
Debby Pietraszek

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


FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS MASS AND SUPPER

It takes a community to serve 200 people a homemade lasagna supper. We are truly grateful to all the people who helped in any way to make this evening of celebration a great success—planners, lasagna bakers, those who helped put up and take down canopies, those who set and cleared tables, and those who did the muscle building task of setting up chairs and tables and putting them back into storage. The rain stayed away and everyone enjoyed a wonderful supper inside and outside. Thank you one and all!

SOCIAL BRIDGE

The 36th 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 or Mike Neal at (250) 477-1309 or via e-mail: mneal49@shaw.ca

FALL BAZAAR AT HOLY CROSS

We are hoping to have a Fall Craft Fair at Holy Cross in late October. Let us know if you might be interested in renting a large (\$25) or small (\$15) table to sell your hand made crafts and wares. Proceeds from table sales and other donations would go directly to help the Fine Arts Department at St. Andrew's High School. If you are interested in taking part in something like this please call the office by October 2nd to reserve your table or to inquire about more details. Thank you. 

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 250-4775321, contact Phil or Sheila Wall by phone at 250-385-7007 or by email at walls_in_holland@hotmail.com or email Father Karam at rev.karam@gmail.com.

ANNUAL "SHOP FOR CHRISTMAS" SALE

Saturday, October 13th at Holy Cross Parish, 9:30 – 2:30pm. Sale includes fine jewellery (pearls and semi-precious stones) costume jewellery, scarves, handbags, and silver jewelry from Nepal. Items for children, babies and much more. Fantastic prices! Proceeds go to benefit children in Canadian Families Orphanages in S. India and Bangladesh. Cash/Cheques only. Free coffee, tea and goodies. For more information: www.familiesforchildren.ca or call Tiffany Begg at 250-881-8121.

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

PRAYER REFLECTION

To follow Christ by bending down to our brothers and sisters . . . to be everything to everyone, to undervalue nothing that pertains to Christ; to be thirsty for only one thing, to be concerned with only one thing when dealing with the One Christ.

—Isaac de l'Etoile (d. ca. 1167)

The whole world cannot rob of its peace the soul who really rests in God's love; no attack . . . will disturb it, even so slightly, because genuine love of God in God is for the soul a rampart that no violence can break down. Christ's peace is a rock

—Blessed Paul Giustiniani (1476-1528)

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **ST. PATRICK'S FALL BAZAAR:** Good Used Clothing Sale and Bazaar! Sept. 28-29th. 9:30-2:00pm in the St. Patrick's Parish Hall. Many stalls, treasures, quality silent auction and tombola.
- **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. Saturday Sept 29th – 8:00—10:00 AM (at Victoria Horseshoe Club) To register: email us at info@mfaff.org
- **ADULT FAITH FORMATION:** 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
- **JOB OPPORTUNITY:** The Pastoral Centre for the Diocese of Victoria is hiring a full time accounting clerk. More information is on the bulletin board or available in the office. Application deadline: Sept. 28, 2018
- **LIFE CHAIN 2018:** Though Life Chain will be held on Sunday, September 30 from 2 - 3 pm at the corner of Blanshard Street at Finlayson Street. This simple, peaceful witness provides an opportunity for young and old to remind their fellow community members of the inherent dignity of every human being, and our duty to defend the vulnerable. Please join us in this effort, and promote this event amongst friends and family members.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, September 23rd

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

MONDAY, September 24th

No Mass

TUESDAY, September 25th

9:00 am Mass: **Frank Lindsay +**

WEDNESDAY, September 26th

9:00 am Mass: **Winnie Doyle +**

THURSDAY, September 27th

9:00 am Mass: **Darrell Wick (int)**

FRIDAY, September 28th

9:00 am Mass: **Frank Lindsay Jr. +**

SATURDAY, September 29th

3:45pm to 4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass: **John James &
Katherine Glavin (+)**

SUNDAY, September 30th

8:30 am Mass: **Adeesh's Birthday
(int)**
10:30 am Mass: **Mike Caputo +**
4:00 pm Mass

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. Giacinta Bewley, Religious Education Coordinator

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 16, 2018

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 2, 890.00
Loose	\$ 345.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 107.00
TOTAL	\$ 4, 342.00



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	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