



# 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 30, 2018**  
**Twenty-Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time**

## Reflections from the Gospel Gals

*Jesus teaches that whoever is not against him is for him.*

The journey to Jerusalem continues as Jesus teaches his disciples along the way. Last week's gospel stated that the greatest among them will be those who serve the least ones. Now, John offers Jesus another opportunity for further teachings. John seems to be jealous of an exorcist that has successfully healed a man. Unlike the disciples, Jesus did not make a negative judgement about this exorcist, just because he was not a follower of Jesus. The unknown healer recognized the power of Jesus' name. Jesus simply tells the disciples not to be reluctant to share His healing powers with others. Jesus saw in this healer's action, the beginnings of faith. Thus, we see Christ's words in the gospel, "For he that is not against us is for us". Jesus went on to talk about how important it is not to hinder a person's growth in faith.

Now, Jesus escalates his teachings. He warns the disciples of the perils of acting scandalously towards 'the little ones', {they who trust or believe in Jesus}. Jesus, God's Son, is our Master teacher. He uses repetition to drive home this warning. Inattention to the little ones imperils one's life eternally. I am certain that his teachings of the warning of harming others were purposefully and vividly stated. These are: It would be better drowning by weight of a great millstone around the neck and lastly... hands, feet and eyes are lost so that one's self is not.

Today's gospel narrates how Jesus masterfully communicated truth in a creative way. His disciples would understand and remember His teachings. We can see that Jesus knew how much to present to the disciples based on their readiness to learn. Alone with the disciples, He taught them and prepared them with the wisdom, discretion and diplomatic skills needed to teach the people.

It would be very difficult to find a more ecumenical affirmation than these teachings of Jesus. Children are portrayed as those who practice the key marker of discipleship: they trust or believe in Jesus. Christ declared the child a sacrament of God's presence and His own: Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me' {Mark9:37}

What is it about the Word of God that touches my soul?

I have always been thrilled with the Ecumenical Movement. Every once in awhile I have seen people's healing and transformational experiences that seemed to emerge outside the formal boundaries of Christianity. We are community. And God wants us to appreciate the good deeds of others. As Thomas Moore says, "There is no way toward divine Love except through the discovery of human intimacy and community. One feeds the other."

God Bless you.

Marian Duke

## 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

**THANKSGIVING MASS**

There will be a special mass on Thanksgiving Day Monday October 8th at 7:00pm.

**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)

**FALL BAZAAR AT HOLY CROSS**

We are hoping to have a Fall Craft Fair at Holy Cross on **Saturday, November 10th from 9:30-2pm.** If you are a crafter who makes beautiful handmade goods and would like to rent a table to sell your wares, or if you are a great baker who is willing to bake a loaf or some cookies for our “bake table” please give the office a call. Proceeds from craft table rentals and the bake table will go to support the new St. Andrew’s fine arts building.

**SPECIAL NOTE**

Fr. William has written a letter to us all. It is posted up on the bulletin board along with a few pictures from the last few months of his sabbatical. Please take a moment to read it.

**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](mailto:walls_in_holland@hotmail.com) or email Father Karam at [rev.karam@gmail.com](mailto:rev.karam@gmail.com).

**CHILDREN’S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Welcome to a new year of religious education at Holy Cross!** Classes have started and are held on Sundays at 9:30 in the parish centre. It is not too late. 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

**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**

The cry of the oppressed is God's voice. . . . The cry of the voiceless and the hopeless is God's voice. . . . The protest of the poor is God's voice. . . . And the voice of the countries who are victims of these injustices is God's voice.  
—*Dom Helder Camara*

The church is not in charge of God. It is a sacrament of God's reign in the world, sustaining us to live and love the way Jesus of Nazareth did. Our faith is not in the church as a human institution, but rather in God, in Jesus, in the gospel . . . .  
—*Educator Thomas Groome*

### **AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE**

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **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:** The 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.
- **GARAGE SALE:** Location: St. Rose of Lima, 2191 Townsend Road, Sooke. October 13th, 9am-1pm. Rain or Shine!!
- **OPEN HOUSE:** The Croatian Cultural Society and St. Leopold parish invite us to join them on Saturday October 6th from noon until 5pm in an exploration of culture—music, dance, costumes, artifacts, food & family fun! No charge to attend.

### **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](http://www.familiesforchildren.ca) or call Tiffany Begg at 250-881-8121.

### **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 LITURGICAL LIFE:**

#### **SUNDAY, September 30th**

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

#### **MONDAY, October 1st**

No Mass

#### **TUESDAY, October 2nd**

9:00 am Mass: **Lawrence & Josephine Formosa +**

#### **WEDNESDAY, October 3rd**

9:00 am Mass: **Emmanuel Formosa +**

#### **THURSDAY, October 4th**

9:00 am Mass: **Carmen Formosa +**

#### **FRIDAY, October 5th**

9:00 am Mass: **Rev. Emmanuel Cardona +**

#### **SATURDAY, October 6th**

3:45pm to 4:30pm Reconciliation  
5:00pm Mass: **Al Knapik +**

#### **SUNDAY, October 7th**

8:30 am Mass: **Eileen Knapik +**  
10:30 am Mass: **Jose Pacheco +**  
4:00 pm Mass

#### **MONDAY, October 1st**

7:00pm Thanksgiving Mass

## **THANK YOU CORNER!**

Thank you to the Refugee Committee for all they have done this week to help our Refugee family feel welcome and get started on the right foot here in Victoria. A special thanks also to Fr. Karam who has done a lot of translating this week.

## **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 September 30, 2018**

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

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$ 2, 845.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$ 337.00</b>
<b>Pre-Authorized Debit</b>	<b>\$ 1, 107.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4, 289.00</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