

The Social & Eco Justice Committee
(2017-2018, annual report submitted by Yvonne Hsieh)

Between September 2017 and April 2018, the eleven members of the SEJC met seven times and organized the following activities:

- a **mini-workshop on restorative justice** with Sr. Judi Morin, Nov. 18, 2017.
- a **Write for Rights** session on behalf of Amnesty International, Dec. 10, 2017.
- a **St. Patrick's Day "Green" Dinner** on the theme of answering Pope Francis's call to protect our planet, March 17, 2018. A simple, eco-friendly dinner was served to over 80 people, followed by a team presentation, a raffle draw, and a sing-along to traditional Irish songs. The dinner generated \$425 towards a breakfast sponsorship at Our Place.
- two **breakfast sponsorships at Our Place**, Oct. 14, 2017 and April 14, 2018. Fr. Karam led the team on Oct. 14.
- a series of monthly **social justice action tips** (published in the bulletin) from November 2017 to April 2018.

In addition, a SEJC member participated in a workshop of the GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together) in Sept 2017. The Chair of SEJC represents Holy Cross at the Capital Region Social Justice Action Committee, created by Bishop Gordon in January 2017. Two SEJC members met with Fr. William and other Holy Cross parishioners in October 2017, to work towards a "greener" parish. Clearer signage was put up to direct "garbage" into compostable, recyclable and landfill bins in parish kitchens and washrooms. Almost 2000 used creamers from the parish kitchen have been recycled since then.

For **2018-2019**, we plan on:

- promoting greater understanding of the First Nations Peoples on whose territories our church stands;
- continuing to work towards a greener parish, so as to lead by example within the community;
- sponsoring two more breakfasts at Our Place (fall 2018 and spring 2019).