



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Vision Statement:

Holy Cross Parish strives to be a welcoming, dynamic, vibrant, inclusive Catholic community that gathers in unity and reaches out to attend to the needs of others.



SUNDAY December 4th, 2016

The Second Sunday in Advent

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From Fr. William's Desk

Knock, knock who's there? John the Baptist, with some bad news- you have got to change and some pretty good news to—God is coming to help with those changes. Yes, an alternative is possible in this wide landscape called home. A new humanity can be built. There is hope in our world. In Jesus, to whom John points, God's hope entered this world. If



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we go after this Jesus, if we go his path, then it is God's pledge that we do not find ourselves in a dead-end garden cold and alone, but on the wide-open road to a new world where the view and landscape is full of promise.

When we open our door to the Advent prophets, especially John the Baptist, our first reaction is to slam it shut immediately. We don't want our inner and exterior decorum upset by any uncouth words. But advent is a time to take a chance, let the vagabond John in. After all the fuss he makes about changing our ways, we hear, as we always do, that God is coming to our side with Spirit and fire, to help us in the very changes we are attempting.

John, the advent prophet, counsels us to prepare for a coming that will utterly displace the way things are. "Someone is following me, one who is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals." Advent, he tells us, is the season for the new rhythms; it is the season to yearn for a better world and to act as though the New World has already begun. Advent is the season of where we can allow ourselves to be radically transformed by the seed, the mere seed of life within us.

Advent must give rise to Christian communities who truly believe Christ will transform and renew our world. Light shines in dark places. Let us have the courage to build something new and be a light to the wider landscape called the world. Let our advent journey be a time of clarifying, healing and rebuilding. Let us plant bulbs in the wellspring of our own wilderness and let our true potential shine forth as a light to a world so in need of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I hope to see you at our Reconciliation service on Thursday evening at 7pm. The theme is Reconciled from Heaven above. Long is our winter...dark is our night...oh come set us free saving light! Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Repent
Father William

MASS TIMES

SATURDAY	5:00pm
SUNDAY	8:30am 10:30am 4:00pm
Tuesday	9:00am
Wednesday	9:00am
Thursday	9:00am
Friday	9:00am
Confession:	
Saturday	3:45—4:30pm

This week:

- ◆ Thursday
December 8th,
7pm:
Reconciliation
Serve.
- ◆ Sunday December
11th, 7pm: VoX
choir Christmas
concert.

PASTORAL CARE VISITS WHILE IN HOSPITAL

We remind the faithful that privacy legislation in BC prevents the release of information regarding hospital admissions. If you or someone you love are 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.

CONDOLENCES

We offer our condolences to the families of **Gilles Voyer**, and **Dini Bogaert** who passed away this last week. Both were long time parishioners of our parish, and their presence, warmth and friendship will be missed in our community.

Gilles' funeral service was held here last Saturday, December 3rd, and Dini's will be held on Wednesday January 4th, 2017 at 11am. Please keep their families in your prayers over the holidays.

UVIC/CAMOSUN OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The UVic/Camosun Outreach Committee is very grateful for the generous donations of cooked food for our student suppers in October and November. Our list of volunteers for the December 11th supper is full, but sign-up lists are in the church foyer for the monthly January to April suppers. Please show your interest in our hungry student parishioners and sign up for a food item on one or more of the lists. Many thanks! (John Oleson, jpoleson@uvic.ca).

VOX CHRISTMAS CONCERT BENEFIT

Save the Date! Sunday, December 11th at 7:00pm. Our Saturday night VOX choir will be hosting a Christmas benefit concert for Thembaletu—a shelter in Anerely South Africa that takes care of orphans affected by HIV/AIDS. Admission by donation.

WRITE FOR RIGHTS

Write for Rights on International Human Rights Day, Saturday Dec. 10th at 3 pm, Parish Hall. Please sign up in the foyer, so we can have the right amount of coffee, tea and cookies on hand. **All writing materials will be provided**, and instructions given to first-time participants in this campaign. The parish will even pay for postage!

SOCKS FOR ANAWIM

The children from our Religious Education program will once again be collecting unused warm winter socks for Anawim House. This drive will begin on November 27th, the first Sunday of Advent. A box will be present for donations in the foyer of the Church as well as in the Church Hall. Please consider giving.

**BIRTHRIGHT FUDGE SALES**

Birtright will be selling home-made Fudge in the foyer after all Masses on **Dec 10th and 11th** (The packets make great stocking stuffers or gifts for the holiday table and freeze well!) Birtright assists women in difficult or crisis pregnancies, offering hope and encouraging Mothers to give the precious gift of Life to their babies! Please consider supporting this worthwhile cause.

PRAYER REFLECTION

John the Baptist was supposed to point the way to the Christ. He was just the voice, not the Messiah. So everybody's calling has dignity to it and God seems to know better than we do what is in us that needs to be called forth. —James Green Somerville

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **“SAMUEL” A FILM:** The premiere of the short film “Samuel” will be held Saturday, Dec. 10th at 10 a.m. at SilverCity Cinema, Tillicum Centre, as a benefit for four local ministries to the marginalized. Admission is by donation but registration is required at www.livingedge.ngo. The film is the first Christian movie produced by Vancouver Film School.
- **SENIORS CHRISTMAS SOCIAL:** The St. Patrick's youth ministry would like to invite everyone, especially seniors, to a Christmas Party - Dec. 16th, 7:00-8:30pm in the St. Patrick's Parish Hall. The youth will be setting up tables with themes such as: gift wrapping, technology support, cards and board games, etc. Bring your whole family to this festive evening. *The best ugly Christmas sweater will win a prize! For more info- email: stpatsyouthmin@gmail.com
- **BELOVED DISCIPLES:** A five week course for the over 60's on a spirituality for the “Autumn of Life”. Starting Tuesday, Feb 21st from 7-9pm at Holy Cross Parish.
- **COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS:** Struggling with feeling disconnected and/or alienated from the Catholic Church? Please join us for a five week 90 minute dialogue to further explore these questions and others. Starting Tuesday January 10, 17, 24, 31, and Feb, 7th from 7-9pm at Holy Cross Parish Hall. Contact Fr. William at fatherwilliam@shaw.ca to register.
- **JOB OPPORTUNITY:** There is a position as Executive Assistant to the Bishop opening up at the Pastoral Centre. For more info visit <http://www.rcdvictoria.org/employment.php>

AT THE LIBRARY

(in the Parish Centre –Tue- Fri: 9-12:30)

Advent Time—welcome Christ with Nativity reading:

- Christmas sermons from St. Peter's, compiled by P. Celano
- A Mystical Heart, short daily thoughts, by Edwina Gateley
- Poverty and Joy: The Franciscan Tradition, W. short
- That Man is You, by Louis Evely ***
- Advent & Christmas with the Saints, by A Chiffolo (ed.)

Advent Reconciliation

The Advent Reconciliation service will take place at Holy Cross on **Thursday December 8th, 2016 at 7:00pm**. All are invited to attend.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH:

SUNDAY, December 4th

8:30 am Mass: **Libero Medeiros +**
9:30 am Religious Ed classes (hall)
10:30 am Mass: **Amaro Martins +**
4:00 pm Mass

MONDAY, December 5th

OFFICE CLOSED
10:00am Joint Wellness (church)

TUESDAY, December 6th

9:00am Mass: **Mark Vining +**

WEDNESDAY, December 7th

9:00 am Mass: **Eileen Houlihan (int)**
1:00 pm Wednesday Afternoon
Social Group
7:00 pm Duplicate Bridge

THURSDAY, December 8th

9:00 am Mass: **Lynne Dorby +**
10:00 am Joint Wellness (church)
6:30 pm Rosary Prayer Group
7:00 pm Reconciliation Service
(Healing From Heaven Above)

FRIDAY, December 9th

9:00 am Mass: **Sue Vanderstappen
(int)**

SATURDAY, December 10th

3:45—4:30 Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 pm Mass: **Maria dos Santos
Pacheco +**

SUNDAY, December 11th

8:30 am Mass: **Luciana Soares +**
9:30 am Religious Ed classes (hall)
10:30 am Mass: **Jack Anderson +**
4:00 pm Mass
7:00 pm VoX Choir Christmas

THANK YOU CORNER!

Thank you to John Lucas and his team of talented performers who put on a wonderful show last week that was enjoyed by many. The fundraiser for Anawim House was very successful!

CONTACTS

PASTOR: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321 fatherwilliam@shaw.ca

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

Refugees: refugees@holycrossvictoria.org

Care Home Chaplain: Fr. Vince Borre

250-813-3402

HOLY CROSS MINISTRIES

MINISTRY	COORDINATOR	PHONE
Liturgy	Anna Mendonca	250-477-3552
Liturgical Ministers		
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	Alan Bailey	250-721-5339

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.	Cynthia Watson	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 November 27th, 2016

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$4,435.30
Loose	\$ 677.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 900.00
TOTAL	\$6,212.30

Children's Liturgy of the Word	Bobbi Bartle-Clar	250-995-1891
Catholicism	Jona De Jesus	250-858-5924
Library	George Murphy	250-658-6061
Outreach/Visiting	Anna Mendonca	250-477-3552
Bereavement / Funeral / Follow-Up	Pat Protti	250-477-7507
	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	778-265-2134
RCIC	Dan Taft	250-721-0821
Ecumenism	Terry Marner	250-380-0157
Social & Eco. Justice	Yvonne Hsieh	250-385-8322
Anawim	Alan Bailey	250-721-5339
Christmas Project	Coordinated by the Parish Office	
D&P/Share Lent	Sheila Wall	778-265-2134
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