

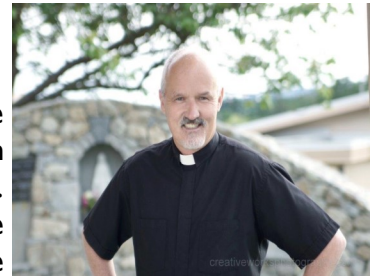
Holy Cross Catholic Parish

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 April 8th, 2018
Divine Mercy Sunday

From the desk of Father William



Fatherwilliam@shaw.ca

The story of Thomas is standard during the Easter season, the time dedicated to remembering the early church. We kick off the post-Resurrection narrative with Thomas because he's the "twin." Whose twin? Ours, most likely. Thomas is like us, ready to believe, but only if you pull out all the stops and give him a dramatic example of why he should. If he can touch Jesus with his bare hands, he'll show you all the faith you want! Much is made of Thomas's doubt; little is said about Thomas's grief. Like the rest of the disciples, he'd lost his teacher, Lord, and friend in that terrible week. When the others brought him words, he dismissed them impatiently. The only thing that would make his experience real is to see—no, *to touch*—the wounds of Jesus. Apparitions and affidavits wouldn't do. He had to see the cross in the Christ or it would never be real for him. Perhaps this is why the most profound profession of faith in scripture—"My Lord and my God!"—belongs to Thomas. If the cross does not reveal the mercy of God, nothing can. "*Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.*"

If you ever are in a "Thomas state of mind"—doubting your faith, doubting God's love, doubting our hope for redemption—consider all the great Christians who have gone before you who have experienced similar doubts: Mother Teresa, Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint John of the Cross, Saint Thomas Aquinas, to name but a few. Doubt isn't the opposite of faith. In one of its forms, doubt is a recurring stage of faith. As we grow, change, and experience setbacks, our certainty may be shaken. Doubt sets in and forces us to review, update, and strengthen our core beliefs. Don't be afraid to confront your doubts today. Dear friends, no one comes to faith in isolation. No one plucks Christianity off the shelf of potential world religions and decides intellectually it's right for them. Christianity is an incarnate religion, all about what happens when God gets flesh and blood and dwells in our midst. People come to the church because they see something they haven't seen outside of it. We all say "My Lord and my God!" because somewhere, in a place we can touch, the glory of God was concretely proven to us.

The readings this week serve to remind their hearers that the Easter season is about both celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus and doing something about it: they are full of messages about call, sending, mission. And in the gospel Jesus sends out his disciples with his Spirit in a ministry of forgiveness. How do you testify to the presence of the risen Christ in your life? How do you love as God wants you to love? How do spread peace and forgiveness in the world around you? Well, it all starts right here... right now when we gather in his name. God's abundant mercy for us is worth reflecting on these days. We live in a world that chooses condemnation over mercy, but that choice is always ours to make. *Forgive us, O Lord, for our doubts and fears. Help us to be your witnesses to the ends of the earth. Keep us always in your love. And lead us to your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.* Believers are those who are of one mind and body, know Jesus Christ to be the Son of God, and love God by keeping God's commandments.

Mercy within mercy

Father William

OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday/Wednesday: 9am—2:30pm
Thursday/Friday: 9am—2:00pm

Fr. William Hann, Pastor
Fr. Karam Alraban, Associate Pastor

4049 Gordon Head Road Victoria, BC V8N 3X7
Phone: 250-477-5321 Fax: 250-721-1844
office@holycrossvictoria.org
www.holycrossvictoria.org

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 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.

STARFIELDS: A FESTIVAL OF HOPE

Starfields is a multifaceted arts festival, bringing together music, poetry, storytelling and so much more in a supportive and open atmosphere to promote hope, understanding and cross spiritual dialogue. What unites us is greater than what divides us! **April 13-15, 2018:** Three mainstage concerts, 2 days of workshops, poets, authors, visionaries, open mic and more! **Workshops are FREE, concert tickets are only \$20 each!** To purchase a ticket see Valentina in the office. *You can follow Starfields news on Facebook or Instagram and www.starfields.ca*

BREAKFAST AT OUR PLACE

On **Saturday April 14**, Holy Cross will be sponsoring another **breakfast at Our Place**, as part of the Starfields Festival of Hope. There is still room for a couple of volunteers to join the team. If you're interested, please contact Yvonne Hsieh at 250-385-8322 or yhsieh@uvic.ca. No heavy work is involved, but we'll need to remain on our feet for about two hours.

HERE IS YOUR 2018 WORD ASSOCIATION TEST

Phone number 250-477-6754==Ellis==**HANGING BASKETS==\$\$** for **MOUNT ST. MARY HOSPITAL==happiness for all!!!!** **ONLY 30 BASKETS LEFT. Geraniums and tomatoes in good supply. GET WITH IT !!!!!!!**

BISHOP'S GALA

The Bishop's Gala is on **May 5, 2018**. The tables designated for Holy Cross are now full. Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket. For people who are still interested in purchasing a ticket for the evening, there are still some available through the Diocese. Tickets are \$100 per person and are available through EventBrite (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-bishops-gala-tickets-42924482282>), or by phoning the Pastoral Centre at (250) 479-1331.

RELIGIOUS ED CO-ORDINATOR POSITION AVAILABLE

Holy Cross will need a new Religious Education Coordinator for our Children's Religious education program. This is a paid 20 hours per month position. Weekly presence at the Sunday morning children's religious education classes is required. A full and detailed job description is posted in the foyer bulletin board. For more information call the office at 250-477-5321. Resumes can be dropped off at the office.

SOCIAL LIFE AT HOLY CROSS

Joint wellness: Mondays and Thursdays at 10am

Wednesday Afternoon Social Group: Wednesdays at 1pm.

Men's Duplicate Bridge—Wednesday 7pm.

Social Bridge—First Sunday of every month.

HC Walking Group—Every Saturday morning at 10am for one hour.

PRAYER REFLECTION

Blessed is everyone who believes the message of the holy apostles who . . . were eyewitnesses of Christ's actions and ministers of the word. If we desire eternal life and long for a dwelling place in heaven, we must listen to them. —Saint Cyril of Alexandria (376-444)

Doubt is the skeleton in the closet of faith, and I know no better way to treat a skeleton than to bring it into the open and expose it for what it is: not something to hide or fear, but a hard structure on which living tissue may grow.

—Philip Yancey, Reaching for the Invisible God

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **CARITAS CANADA: Development and Peace - Caritas Canada** is holding a big garage sale on Saturday Apr. 14, at St. Patrick's Church Hall, 2060 Haultain St. from 9:00-1:00.
- **LITURGICAL WORKSHOP:** Want to understand the Mass in a deeper way? Are you involved in liturgical ministries? If yes, this Liturgical Workshop is for you. Why Liturgy Matters Workshop, **Saturday, May 12th**, from 9:30-3:00 at St. Edward's Church in Duncan. Free registration on Eventbrite. Bring your own lunch. Facilitated by the Diocesan Liturgical Commission Team. Contact: Glen Palahicky 250 479 1331 for further questions.
- **BOOK SALE:** Huge Book Sale Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Hall 798 Goldstream Ave. Langford Sat. April 14; 8:00 am – 7:00 pm and Sunday April 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.
- **SUPPORT THE SOUP KITCHEN:** It costs only \$2.25 for **The Soup Kitchen** in the basement of St. Andrew's Cathedral to provide a nutritious meal to one of our guests. This season help us serve soup to the hungry with a financial donation. \$25 feeds 10 diners; \$225 a 100 of our guests. The Soup Kitchen, 740 View Street, Victoria, BC V8W 1J8. Thank you for your generosity and support to help those in need in our city.
- **JOB OPPORTUNITY:** Island Catholic Schools will be accepting applications for the position of Vice-Principal, St. Patrick's School, Victoria. Application forms and details are posted at: <http://cisdv.bc.ca/employment-opportunities.php>
- **GRAD FASHION SHOW:** SARHS Grad 2018 Fashion Show and Silent Auction! Come out to the show on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at St. Andrew's Regional High School gym. The show starts at 7:00 pm and doors open at 6:30 pm. Come support our graduates! There will also be a Silent Auction with all proceeds from both the show and the auction going to the Dry After Grad event. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and can be purchased at the door.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, April 8th

8:30 am Mass: **Maureen Horan +**
10:30 am Mass: **Hilary Ribeiro +**
4:00 pm University Mass

MONDAY, April 9th

9:00 am Mass: **Tessy O'Brien (int)**
10:00 am Bible Study

TUESDAY, April 10th

9:00 am Mass: **Mary Hann +**

WEDNESDAY, April 11th

5:00 pm Mass: **Ann Nixon (int)**

THURSDAY, April 12th

9:00 am Mass: **Regina De Jesus +**

FRIDAY, April 13th

9:00 am Mass: **Elizabeth McCarthy (int)**

SATURDAY, April 14th

5:00pm Mass: **Thanksgiving intention for Daniel**

SUNDAY, April 15th

8:30 am Mass: **Bradley Graham +**
10:30 am Mass: **Filomena & Gaspar Fernando +**
4:00 pm University Mass

THANK YOU CORNER!

Thank you to the music ministry at Holy Cross. We are so blessed to have voices united at Holy Cross that give glory to God.

NOTES

Please note that the mass on Wednesday April 18th will be at 12noon. There will be no 9am mass that day—mass will be at 12pm. Thank you.

The Annual General Meeting will be held ON Sunday June 3rd between the 8:30 and 10:30 masses.

CONTACTS

Pastor: Fr. William Hann

250-477-5321 after hours: 250-294-9615

Associate Pastor: Fr. Karam Alraban

250-477-5321 rev.karam@gmail.com

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

HOLY CROSS MINISTRIES

MINISTRY	COORDINATOR	PHONE
Liturgy Liturgical Ministers	Anna Mendonca	250-477-3552
Usher / Greeter	Maria Arruda	250-477-5526
Altar Server Music	Fr. William Hann Various Choirs	250-477-5321 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 Janita McHugh	250-477-6455 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 April 1st, 2018

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 8,070.00
Loose	\$ 1,272.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1,107.00
TOTAL	\$ 10,449.00
Good Friday	\$1,585.00
D&P	\$625.00

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	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	Alan Bailey	250-721-5339
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