



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 August 12, 2018
Nineteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Reflections from the Gospel Gals

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever.”

In today's Gospel the people are all complaining about what Jesus is saying to them. They know where Jesus comes from; they know his parents...how can Jesus be the bread that has come down from heaven?

Jesus tells them all to stop complaining. He tells them that He is telling the truth and he who believes has eternal life. But they are not prepared to accept this, and they do not believe.

But we do, because we are drawn to Jesus; this is our gift from God and the Eucharistic is Christ's promise to remain with us always. This is our faith. But are we open to being transformed so we become more like Jesus when we receive Communion? Are we prepared, are our hearts open?

A few Sundays ago, I painted my first painting. I had a large canvas, acrylic paints and my brush, so I started. Like a kid I wanted to use as many different colors as I could. Let's say my painting was very colorful! The colors were vibrant and bold. But the next day my colors had faded and I found out that I missed a very important step, a canvas needs to be prepped before it is used so that the colors glow.

Our hearts are like a canvas; it too needs to be prepared for receiving the Eucharist.

God's brush strokes upon our hearts are love, acceptance, forgiveness and mercy; there are times when our hearts may not be open to receive His gifts. I am thinking of the times when I am complaining and arguing with Joe about something or other on our way to church, and after mass I hop in the car and pick up on our argument exactly where I left off. Why, because I was not fully present in the moment in Mass and my heart was not prepared to receive, and in this I hurt Jesus. Jesus wants us to receive Him and He wants us to receive Him well. Jesus wants a relationship with us; the more we invest in our friendship with Jesus, the more we come to Him in the union of the Eucharist.

If I can spend weeks cleaning and preparing my home for visitors why am I not spending the time to consciously prepare myself to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, opening my heart and cleaning out those hurts and wounds that sit in the corner like dust bunnies. By going to reconciliation, praying to the Holy Spirit for a good heart, believing God's word and listening to the Eucharistic Liturgy as though I was hearing it for the first time, I can now confidently pray “Oh Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.”

Holy Communion is God Himself. It is really Jesus Christ the Bread of Life. Jesus is the food of eternal life. When we pray the Eucharist prayer we are asking God to unite us closer to himself and to all those in heaven who have gone before us and who pray with us at Mass. Like Elijah, we to must listen to the Angel's message “Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you”

So, let us prepare the canvas of our hearts. Let Jesus create masterpieces with each one of us. May we be so bright and shiny that those we meet will see the Jesus within.

Receive well,
Anna Mendonca

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

RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT—UPDATE

The Office of Responsible Ministry & Safe Environment is pleased to announce that Holy Cross Parish has been selected to pilot an exciting new online training program. This fall *all* clergy, religious, employees and volunteers in the Diocese will be required to complete the Armatus Learn To Protect program. Staff and volunteers will learn to protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse from an organization with decades of experience in organizational abuse prevention.

The organization for the Holy Cross Pilot has begun and more information can be provided through the parish office. Just call Valentina at 250-477-5321 if you want to learn more.

God Bless,

Greg Beattie

Diocesan Responsible Ministry & Safe Environment Coordinator

PARKING LOT PIZZA PARTY --- PIZZA ROMEO'S PIZZA BROADMEAD

Everyone is talking about it —our parking lot pizza party was a whooping success, due in no small measure to **ROMEO'S PIZZA, BROADMEAD**. 48 large size pizzas, delivered on time, hot and ready to serve. The pizzas were absolutely delicious and even die-hard one-piece pizza eater's came back for more. Thank you Romeo's Broadmead.

To show our appreciation we would be delighted if, the next time you have a hankering for pizza, please order from Romeo's Broadmead or go to their restaurant and enjoy in good-old Italian style! Either way let them know how much you enjoyed their pizza that was served at the Holy Cross Pizza Party.

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children's Religious Education at Holy Cross will be starting up again in the Fall.

Stay tuned for the date and time of our information meeting for parents interested in registering their children.

All the details regarding classes offered this year will be presented...along with light refreshments!

See you in September.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Our church floors are getting polished. We need volunteers to remove all the chairs from the church floor and place them on the Sanctuary following the 10:30 mass next week, August 19th.

FILM ABOUT POPE FRANCIS

Wim Wender's film "Pope Francis: A Man of His Word" (96 mins., 2018) will be shown at the Uvic Cinecenta on Sunday August 19 (4:45 pm, 7 pm), and on Monday August 20 (7 pm, 9 pm).

AND THE AUTHOR IS ???

-"Lord make me chaste, but not just yet"

-"Love and do as you will"

-"Too late have I loved thee"

-"Restless till we rest in you"

St Augustine (354-430 --- five lifespans from Christ!), --- *bishop, philosopher, theologian*, author of Confessions, *arguably, the most read autobiography of all time*. Feast day is August 28th. His life, books and wisdom are on our Library Suggestion Shelf.



PRAYER REFLECTION

I long to understand in some degree thy truth, which my heart believes and loves. For I do not seek to understand that I may believe, but I believe in order to understand. —Anselm of Canterbury

Yes, the time has come for conversion, for personal transformation, for inner renewal. We must get used to thinking in a new way, of humanity, of common life among humans, of the roads of history and the destiny of the world. —Pope Paul VI (1897-1978)

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **DIOCESAN FAMILY CONFERENCE:** Families will gather together once again for a fun, faith filled weekend of fellowship, play and prayer time all set against a beautiful West Coast backdrop for 6th Annual Diocesan Family Conference. Join us! **August 23-26, 2018 at Nanoose Bay Camp.** For registration follow the link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/6th-diocesan-family-conference-august-2018-tickets-44556665185?aff=es2>. For info email Reine at: familycamp@redvictoria.org or visit www.rcdvictoria.org
- **OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH:** pot-luck dinner on **Sat. Sept. 1st** after the 5pm Mass on the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of the Designated Shrine site of the Infant of Prague. Please RSVP by Wed. Aug. 29th to Shirley Deidrick – 778-440-4672
- **A SPECIAL MASS:** this special mass is in honour of the dedicated work of those in Health Care. **Saturday, September 2nd, 2018 at 5pm** at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 2060 Haultain Street Victoria BC. A reception will follow in the parish hall. *All are welcome to attend!!*
- **ALPHA!:** Know of a neighbour, friend or lapsed Catholic who is curious about faith or wants to learn about the big questions of life? Invite them to Alpha! Alpha is a place where faith is explored in an open and non-judgmental atmosphere. All are welcome to join us each week – beginning Monday, September 17th at 6 pm in the Church basement – to explore these questions. Wherever you are at with faith you are welcome to join us. Please contact standrewscathedral@gmail.com for more information and to sign up.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, August 12th

8:30 am Mass: **Jose Garcia +**
10:30 am Mass **Hilary Ribeiro +**

MONDAY, August 13th

No Mass

TUESDAY, August 14th

9:00 am Mass: **Bryce Currie +**

WEDNESDAY, August 15th

9:00 am Mass: **Paul Gawthrop +**

THURSDAY, August 16th

9:00 am Mass: **Paul Gawthrop +**

FRIDAY, August 17th

9:00 am Mass: **John Brooke +**

SATURDAY, August 18th

1:00pm Funeral Mass - Richard Bogaert

5:00pm Mass: **Ben Gaudet +**

SUNDAY, August 19th

8:30 am Mass: **Eileen Knapik+**
10:30 am Mass **Ann Sinclair +**

Pizza Party Thank You!

Thank you to all those who decorated, set up all tables and chairs, directed traffic, served, cleaned up, helped with putting all the tables and chairs back again and to all who were great sports in participating in the games. And to our super MC Fr. Karam, THANK YOU!

FUNERAL MASS

Funeral Mass for our long time parish-ioner Richard Bogaert will take place at 1pm on Saturday, August 18th. Please come and support the family.

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 August 5, 2018

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 4, 000.00
Loose	\$ 625.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 107.00
TOTAL	\$ 5, 732.00

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