



Holy Cross Catholic Parish

Mission Statement

Rooted in the community of Gordon Head and the University, in communion with the Roman Catholic Church, Holy Cross Parish serves the people of God by sharing, teaching and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY December 31st, 2017 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

From the desk of Father William

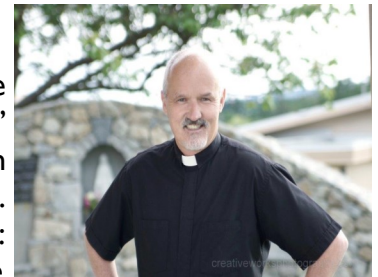
Today's readings ask us to recognize that God's desire is to make the entire world into one family. We call Jesus, Mary, and Joseph the "Holy Family," not the "Perfect Family." Little is recorded about the three of them together. Simeon's prophecies promise that Jesus will be able to unite all. Families are holy in the intimacy of authentic encounter. Pope Francis writes that: *the family that prays, and keeps the faith is a family that experiences joy.* I think the invitation of all families is to play their part and do it well. That, I think, is what Simeon and Anna did in their part of salvation history. They have only small parts to play in the story of salvation. But they played them well, as well as they could.

What constitutes a family? It is more than blood; it's also commitment to a cause. Each successful family is a unique mystery of affirmation, negotiation, compromise, and forgiveness. Sustaining one is demanding work, and that needs to be acknowledged and praised. It is ordinary moments of life unfolding that families experience that is holy and true. It is the whispers of the heart that cry to God in praise, longing and hope that speak to what is holy in all of us. The mission of the family is identical to that of the whole Church: to give tangible witness to the vision of Christ for the world. But it is up to us to translate this Christian vision in ways that are appropriate to our time.

There is no perfect family. Some can give help; others need help. We all long to live in a community of peace, unity, reconciliation, and acceptance and with a sense of purpose. It can only happen when we all work together under the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The Holy Family lived through tensions and survived, so can we. Pope Francis writes: How do we keep our faith as a family? Do we keep it for ourselves, in our families, as a personal treasure like a bank account, or are we able to share it by our witness, by our Christian families are missionary families? We must be missionary in everyday life, in our doing everyday things, as we bring to everything the salt and the leaven of faith!

Simeon was clear that the great news contained its own share of pain: for Mary and Joseph, for the child's bitter enemies, and also for his devoted friends. As old Abraham might remind us, you have to commit your faith to the bargain. *Impossible* is just not a word God recognizes.

Abundant love family of faith
Father William



Fatherwilliam@shaw.ca



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.

GIFTS FOR ANOTHER WAY

Five congregations are hosting a five-week study in January 2018 that invites us to explore the possibility of “another way” during the season of Epiphany. This ecumenical journey will start on **January 10th** at Knox Presbyterian Church, and follows for five consecutive Wednesdays at a new location. The study starts at 6:30pm with a soup supper, followed by worship at 7:30pm. Please register for these free sessions by signing up on the sheets provided in the foyer. For more information call 250-477-5321.

REDISCOVER THE ART OF DYING—A 5 WEEK SESSION

Fr. William will be hosting a five week book study on Sr. Nuala’s book starting **Saturday, January 27th from 1-3pm**. The program will run 5 weeks (Saturday Jan. 27th, Feb. 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th), exploring 2 chapters per week. *Sign up sheets are in the foyer, please register for this program.*

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

God breathes new life and performs miracles daily. We call upon His name as we give glory to the Lord, seeking strength and wisdom. Let us pray for peace and prosperity in the coming year, and that God might work through our households to build a world of justice. Thank you for your support and generosity towards Development and Peace throughout this past year. A Happy New Year to you and your loved ones!

ENVELOPE REMINDER

Please do not use envelopes from previous years. Also note any address changes so that we can update our records. If you would like envelopes please contact the office, and remember that our parish also offers convenient Pre-Authorized Debit options. If you are interested in more information please contact the office. Thank you!

To receive a 2017 tax receipts, donations must be received or postmarked 2017. Donations received at the masses on December 31st will be treated as a 2017 donations unless otherwise dated.

SOCIAL LIFE AT HOLY CROSS

Joint wellness: Resumes **Thursday January 4th, 2018 at 10am**

Wednesday Afternoon Social Group: Resumes **Wednesday, January 3rd, 2018 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

It is necessary to go back to seeing the family as the sanctuary of life. The family is indeed sacred: It is the place in which life—the gift of God—can be properly welcomed and protected against the many attacks to which it is exposed, and can develop in accordance with what constitutes authentic human growth.

—Pope John Paul II in Centesimus Annus, 1991

Jesus is the only person in recorded history whose parents thought he was a child of God rather than their own creative project and possession.

—Polly Berrien Berends in Gently Lead

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY:** The Canadian Conference of Bishops Office of Evangelization has produced a Webinar and Study-Guide on *Amoris Laetitia* to help all the faithful in growing and living the one gift that was not forfeited by original sin: marriage and family. These resources can be found through the following link: <http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/office-for-evangelization-and-catechisis/4848-amoris-laetitia-webcast-series-english>
- **ST. ANDREW'S FUND RAISER:** "Celebration of Elvis' Birthday & Fundraiser for a new Sports Field for St. Andrew's High School. **Friday, January 12** at 7pm. Come out for fun, live entertainment by Iconic Tributes, Elvis and DJ Marilyn Montroe. Auction, wine, beer, light refreshments and birthday cake. \$50 a ticket, available at the parish office. Adults only, 19+.
- **FAITH FORMATION:** Consider coming out to our *Diocesan Foundations of the Faith Formation Program* to deepen and renew your faith. Part I of this free program begins Wednesday evening on January 17 and runs for 8 consecutive Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m. at the Pastoral Center 4044 Nelthorpe. Part II will be offered March 19 & 20—day sessions. Registration through Eventbrite (www.eventbrite.com) or contact Glen Palahicky via email: gpalahicky@rcdvictoria.org
- **ST. FRANCIS XAVIER RELIC PILGRIMAGE:** Saturday, January, 27, 2018 at 5pm at St. Andrew's Cathedral. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to venerate the incorrupt first class relic of one of the greatest missionaries and evangelists since St. Paul the Apostle. Poster with more info in foyer.
- **PASTORAL CARE SESSIONS:** The 2018 dates for the Pastoral Care sessions in Victoria are out! Session 1: The Healing Ministry of Christ, **Sat. Feb. 24th**. Session 2: Listening, Communication & Mental Health, **Sat. March 10th**. Session 3: The Grieving Process & Ministering to Families, **Sat. April 14th**. Session 4: Who Am I as a Pastoral Visitor? **Sat. May 26**. *Session 1 & 2 will be at St. Patrick's Parish, and Sessions 3 & 4 will be at St. Joseph the Worker parish.*



OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, December 31st

8:30 am Mass
10:30 am Mass

MONDAY, January 1st OFFICE CLOSED

10:00am New Year's Day Mass

TUESDAY, January 2nd

No Mass

WEDNESDAY, January 3rd

9:00 am Mass: **Tess Dennis +**

THURSDAY, January 4th

9:00 am Mass: **Mary Campbell (int.)**
6:30 am Rosary Group

FRIDAY, January 5th

9:00 am Mass: **Norman Gregg +**

SATURDAY, January 6th

3:45—4:30 Reconciliation
5:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, January 7th

8:30 am Mass: **Martinho De Medeiros+**
10:30 am Mass: **William Malcomson +**
4:00 pm Mass

THANK YOU CORNER!

Thank you to the liturgical ministry, music ministry, the flower/arts ministry, Fr. William and Fr. Karam, and everyone else who put in the extra time over the holidays to make our Christmas masses both special and beautiful.

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. Sun. Coffee, 8:30	Ann Francis Darlene Southwell	250-477-8650 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 Annual Shed Clean	Loretta MacDonald Jack Ponsioen	250-477-6682 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 December 24th, 2017

4th Sunday in Advent

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 7, 930.00
Loose	\$ 605.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 140.00
TOTAL	\$ 9, 675.00
Christmas Masses:	\$4, 920.00

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 RCIA	Fr. William Hann Glenn Palahicky Phil / Sheila Wall	250-477-5321 250-479-1331 778-265-2134
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	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 Out- reach	John Oleson	250-477-6455