



# Holy Cross Catholic Parish

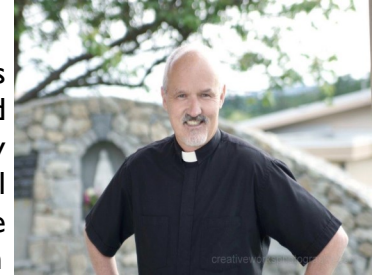
## Mission Statement

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 February 4, 2018**  
**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## From the desk of Father William

The days for Ordinary Time are numbered as Ash Wednesday overtakes us mid-month (14) - which turns Valentine's Day into a day of fasting and abstinence. Plan ahead, lovers: Make dinner reservations for Shrove Tuesday (Mardi Gras) instead. Time flies! Before I know it, June 1 will arrive and I will begin my 8 month sabbatical and that will fly too. Season in ... season out we keep our eyes on Jesus! We need to keep our eyes on Jesus, don't we? Life can be tough, just ask Job. Here is a man who has had enough of it. He has had too many beatings. So many, in fact, that he cannot make any sense of life anymore, and through it all, he cannot make any sense of God either. And the beauty of it is that he dares to say so. Indeed, he does so in a language that may shock us, a language that religious people consider improper for believers.



Fatherwilliam@shaw.ca

The beauty of Scripture is that there is room for people like Job in it. The few verses that we see in today's first reading are only a sample, and a mild one at that, of the way Job, in all his suffering and in all his honesty, pours his heart out. He does not know where to go with his pain, with the stupidity and the senselessness of life that he experiences. So he brings it all before God, and not in very pretty or pious language. In his screaming out to God, he curses the day he was born and he challenges God to see whether he can make any sense of the misery that he is enduring. When his religious friends, with the best of intentions, come to console him, Job is not very impressed. When they suggest that he suffers as a punishment for his sins, then he declares his innocence. When they suggest that in his misfortune, God is putting him to the test, he boldly says that he has no use for that kind of God. And you know something: at the end of the book of Job, the author has God appearing on the scene. And contrary to what we expect, God does not back up the arguments of Job's friends. No, God takes the side of Job. He does not accuse Job of a lack of faith. In fact, he commends him. The Job who has protested, who has rebelled, who has cursed the day he was born, is declared to be God's friend. And that is what brings Job's healing, because he has experienced God in a new way.

What Job has discovered is that when we bring our pain and suffering before God, then the true God will not leave us out in the cold; he will not turn a deaf ear to us. A faith that in the tragic circumstances of life can only speak to God in tears, in lamentation, and in complaint is not a weak faith; it is an authentic faith. What are the alternatives? Give up on God or trust that God is on your side and will carry you through? May our journey use the bumps and potholes of life to discover God's will for us. May our way lead us to joy in doing God's work. May our path discovery harmony with the heart and mind of the Father and there discover a banquet of peace and joy.

February blessings,  
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.

**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”. The *final* session is on **February 7th at Grace Lutheran**. The study starts at 6:00pm with a soup supper, followed by round table discussions and worship. Please register for these free sessions by signing up on the sheets provided in the foyer.

**MONDAY BIBLE STUDY**

Fr. Karam will be hosting a bible study on **Monday, February 5th** from 10-11am. There are limited spots available so registration is required. The study will be hosted in the parish centre. For more information please feel free to email Fr. Karam at: **rev.karam@gmail.com**

**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. Submission deadline **February 28th, 2018**.

**ATTENTION BAKERS AND CHEFS!**

Do you like to bake or cook? We are looking for people who would be willing to Bake or Cook on an intermittent basis for parish events. If this sounds like something you would be interested in please contact Valentina in the office, Thank you!



**AT THE LIBRARY**

**(in the Parish Centre –Tue- Fri: 9am-2:00pm)**

*Some complementary readings for the 5 week session on Dr. Nuala’s The Art of Dying commencing Saturday Jan 27<sup>th</sup>*

- The Journey Home by P Berman
- A Short Span of Days by L Freeman
- Do Not Be Afraid: Overcoming Fear of Death by J Arnold
- Peace at Last by N Autton

**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.

**NOTES AND REMINDERS**

There are six 2018/2019 missals left in the office. They are \$5 each. If you would like one please come by during office hours.

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For those who may have the occasional diabetic sugar lows, please know that there are juice boxes in the kitchen set aside specifically for this purpose.

### PRAYER REFLECTION

We know how to make beautiful speeches on suffering. I myself have spoken of it with enthusiasm. Tell the priests to say nothing about it; we don't know what suffering is. I weep to think of it.

—Cardinal Pierre Veillot, when he was dying from cancer

So Jesus took her hand, and the fever left her. Here you see how fever loosens its grip on a person whose hand is held by Christ's; no sickness can stand its ground in the face of the very source of health. Where the Lord of life has entered, there is no room for death.

—Saint Peter Chrysologus (c. 400-450)

### AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **BLANKETS NEEDED:** Blankets are needed for the Stolen Sisters March on **February 17, 2018**. A group is collecting blanket donations for the Stolen Sisters March in February to keep Elders warm at the Legislature! Please contact [hopes@uvic.ca](mailto:hopes@uvic.ca) if you have a blanket to spare, any size, new or used (in decent shape) washed with unscented laundry soap. All donations greatly appreciated, and we can pick up! contact Shannon Hope - [hopes@uvic.ca](mailto:hopes@uvic.ca)
- **PASTORAL CARE SESSIONS: Saturday, February 24 – Session 1:** *The Healing Ministry of Christ*. Fr. William Hann is the morning presenter. **Saturday, March 10 – Session 2:** *Listening & Communication and Mental Health*. Sessions 1 & 2 will be held at St. Patrick's Parish. **Bring a bag lunch. To register: call at the parish office at 250. 592-7391 or [stpat190@telus.net](mailto:stpat190@telus.net)**
- **IT'S ALMOST PARTY TIME:** *Save the Date!* We're looking forward to welcoming you on **May 5, 2018**, at the third annual Bishop's Gala. Prepare to mix and mingle at Our Lady of Fatima parish hall in Victoria: catch up with friends, browse the silent auction, and prepare to bid on some exciting new live auction items—all in support of West Coast Missions. Mark your calendars now: tickets will be available on line beginning March 15. We can't wait to see you there!

### SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION TIP

The ongoing National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls reminds us that the consequences of past injustices are still playing out. In solidarity with the First Nations peoples of Canada, let us all read the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's *Calls to Action*.

[http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls\\_to\\_Action\\_English2.pdf](http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf). *The Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada* (Volume One: Summary) is also available in book form at Munro's, Bolen Books, Chapters and other bookstores.

### OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

#### SUNDAY, February 4th

8:30 am Mass: **Fr. Ronan Drury +**  
10:30 am Mass: **Helen Ash +**  
4:00 pm Mass

#### MONDAY, February 5th

9:00 am Mass: **Joseph Albert Gagnon+**  
2:00pm **Funeral for Deirdre Kelly**

#### TUESDAY, February 6th

9:00am Mass: **Patricia Morrison +**

#### WEDNESDAY, February 7th

1:00 pm **Funeral for Bernice Sheenan**

#### THURSDAY, February 8th

9:00 am Mass: **Jack Dillon (int)**  
6:30 am Rosary Group

#### FRIDAY, February 9th

9:00 am Mass: **Hilary Ribeiro +**

#### SATURDAY, February 10th

3:45—4:30 Reconciliation  
5:00 pm Mass: **Paul Kovacs +**

#### SUNDAY, 11th

8:30 am Mass: **Lisa Gonsalves +**  
10:30 am Mass: **Agustin & Gus Medina +**  
4:00 pm Mass

## THANK YOU CORNER!

Thank you to all of our hospice volunteers during these difficult times. Congratulations to Alatsair McIssac who was recognized by hospice for his 22 years of dedicated service.

### WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT

**Save the Date!** Our **Paschal Reflections: Life's Ebb & Flow** — Retreat day for women. March 24th, 2018 at Holy Cross Parish Centre. Stay tuned for more details!

## **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**

| <b>MINISTRY</b>                 | <b>COORDINATOR</b>                 | <b>PHONE</b>                 |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Liturgy<br>Liturgical Ministers | Anna Mendonca                      | 250-477-3552                 |
| Usher / Greeter                 | Maria Arruda                       | 250-477-5526                 |
| Altar Server<br>Music           | Fr. William Hann<br>Various Choirs | 250-477-5321<br>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<br>Janita McHugh | 250-477-6455<br>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 January 27, 2018**

### **WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:**

|                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Envelopes</b>            | \$ 2, 422.00        |
| <b>Loose</b>                | \$ 492.00           |
| <b>Pre-Authorized Debit</b> | \$ 1, 107.00        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>\$ 4, 021.00</b> |

|                                   |                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 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<br>Glenn Palahicky | 250-477-5321<br>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                 |