



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 January 7, 2018
The Epiphany of the Lord

From the desk of Father William

January is the perfect time to look where our lives have taken us and decide whether we're on the right path. Wondrous events are occurring in our universe, and we are all invited to play a part in the drama. Today, the light of the Lord shines upon us and we follow that light, like the magi, and are brought into the brilliant presence of our God made human. And then that light becomes ours to take out into the darkness and share with others.

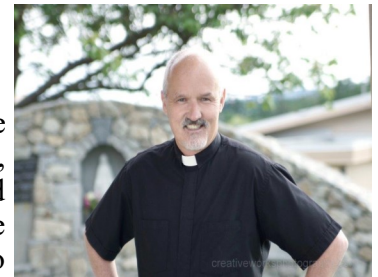
This week, we have the example of the Magi, three wise travelers from a distant land who were adventurous, full of faith, and generous. The device that Matthew uses is the story about a few wise men coming from the East, who inquire about Jesus. The issue for Matthew is that people, of whom you never would have expected it, are inquiring about Jesus. They are open and receptive to him. Of all people, this time it is the pagans who are prepared to acknowledge Jesus for who he is. These spiritual seekers took big risks to follow the light wherever it would take them. The Magi were given a foretaste of heaven. They are the ones who stood in starlight to let the Magi know they had found what they'd always been seeking.

What stars do we follow? The magi were willing to be led by the light of a star; Herod followed nothing but his own dark inner drives. The magi gave generously; Herod hoarded greedily. The magi were willing to be changed; Herod remained hard-hearted to the end. Are we going to be an inward-looking church or are we going to be transformed? The magi were men of means and purpose who preferred to be led by higher authorities than their own. Epiphany invites us to consider how ready we are to take that journey of faith and be surprised by joy as C.S. Lewis so eloquently said.

The way Matthew puts the story together makes it of lasting significance to us. *Are we prepared, like the shepherds and the wise men from the East, to leave the familiar and set out in search of God, in whatever unfamiliar and even unsettling ways he may make himself known to us? Are we prepared to let him change our lives?* Or are we like Herod, the chief priests and the scribes, so protective of our own little world that we do not hesitate to put up "NO TRESPASSING" signs, anxious to keep God effectively out of our lives and our world or church view.

Another wise man Basil the Great in the early church said: words guide us still... stars cross the sky... wise men journey from pagan lands, earth receives its savior in a cave. Let there be no one without a gift to offer, no one without gratitude as we celebrate the salvation of the world, the birthday of the human race!

Happy Awakening
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

Today’s first reading reminds us of the importance of loving one another. As we embark into a New Year, let us grow in Solidarity, putting the needs of our more vulnerable brother and sisters in the global south first! Let us remember that we are all in Christ together! As Development and Peace, we look forward to sharing a year of growth and renewal with you. Be a part of the movement by becoming a member today at devp.org/becomemember!

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.

SONGS FOR UNIITY

As part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Christian communities in the Gordon Head area will gather at Holy Cross to sing together on **Sunday, January 21 at 2pm**. All are welcome!

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.

HEARING LOOP SYSTEM AVAILABLE

A reminder that there are head sets available in the kitchen for anyone with difficulty hearing to use during the mass. Once you put the head sets on you are tapped into the hearing loop system of the church and can easily and clearly hear the service through the head set. There are 2 sets available, first come first serve.

PRAYER REFLECTION

Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, a human being in God, God in a human being, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body.
-Saint Peter Chrysologus

The day on which Christ first showed himself . . . as the savior of the world should be held in holy reverence by us. We should experience in our hearts the same joy as the three wise men felt when the sign of the new star led them into the presence of the king of heaven and earth, and they gazed in adoration upon the one in whose promised coming they had put their faith. —Leo the Great (c. 400-461)

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **ST. ANDREW'S HIGHSCHOOL 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+.
- **WOMEN'S BREAKFAST:** The next women's breakfast is **Saturday, January 20th, 2018 at 8:00am** at the Horseshoe Club (620 Kenneth St.). Guest Speaker is Bishop Gary Gordon. Cost \$12. Please register at <http://bit.do/Womens-Breakfast>. Registration deadline is January 16th.
- **YOUR ALPHA INVITATION:** Curious about faith or know of a neighbour, friend or lapsed Catholic who is 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, January 22nd at 6 pm** in the Church basement OF St. Andrew's Cathedral – to explore these questions. Please contact standrewscathedral@gmail.com for more information and to sign up or phone the parish office.
- **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.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, January 7th

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

MONDAY, January 8th

No Mass

TUESDAY, January 9th

9:00 am Mass: **Jack Ponsoien (int.)**

WEDNESDAY, January 10th

9:00 am Mass: **Pauline Graat +**

THURSDAY, January 11th

9:00 am Mass: **Zach Riley +**
6:30 am Rosary Group

FRIDAY, January 12th

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

SATURDAY, January 13th

11:00 am Funeral Mass **Antonio D'Archangelo**
3:45—4:30 Reconciliation
5:00 pm Mass: **Terry Davis +**

SUNDAY, January 14th

8:30 am Mass:
10:30 am Mass: **Yvonne Taugher +**
4:00 pm Mass

THANK YOU CORNER!

Did you enjoy those beautiful stars above the crèche and in the foyer during the Christmas season? Thank you Pete Vijandre for donating those stunning stars. Thank you Art and Environment / liturgy committee for our festive beauty.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION TIP

Tired of travelling at inconvenient hours and on restricted dates? Simply **donate your Aeroplan miles to Doctors without Borders (Médecins sans frontières)**. You'll be supporting MSF's medical humanitarian work by helping them save on air travel. See <https://www.doctorswithoutborders.ca/donate-aeroplan-miles>.

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 31st, 2017

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 5, 276.00
Loose	\$ 410.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 140.00
TOTAL	\$ 6, 826.00
Jan. 1st Collection:	\$ 1, 740.00
Refugee Donation:	\$ 1, 500 .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 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 Out- reach	John Oleson	250-477-6455