

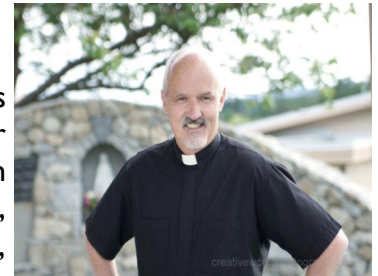
Holy Cross Catholic Parish

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 May 13th, 2018 The Ascension of the Lord

From the desk of Father William



Fatherwilliam@shaw.ca

The term ascension is susceptible to unintended comic imagery of Jesus waving good-bye from a balloon gondola or being lifted on a wire. Another unfortunate connotation is that heaven is somehow “up,” while we are left down here. Perhaps such imagery does help us to imagine that in the resurrected Lord, God (heaven) and we (on earth) are united. Having become incarnate in Jesus, God is never only watching from some great distance. “I am with you until the end” are the simplest words, but the most profound. There is no need to stand looking at the sky with our jaws hanging open. For Christ is here, as close as our own breath, keeping us alive to carry his presence into our world.

That is what the story of Jesus ascending into heaven is really all about. We do not have to look into the sky nor do we have to go to distant places to see Jesus. If we look around and are attentive, then we will discover enough traces of Jesus; if we care for our brothers and sisters, then we will taste something of heaven; we will stumble upon God. Heaven is not far away for those who look for it closely. We can shape our lives in such a way that we keep the door to heaven open. **Heaven and earth can be lived at the same time.** That is in the final analysis the significance of Jesus Ascension into heaven. It would indeed be a serious mistake if we thought of Jesus ascending into heaven as leaving our world and exchanging this world for a supposedly safer and holier place: heaven. That is what the story of Jesus ascending into heaven wants to convey. And as a result, for us as disciples of Jesus, what it takes is standing with both our feet on the ground without running from our everyday reality. *The ground on which we stand, the place where we live is holy ground. All that it takes is shaping our own life after that of Jesus.*

When we say Jesus ascended into heaven, we are saying that it has happened to one of our own kind. In Jesus our own vocation and dignity have been accomplished. I REPEAT Jesus has not turned his back on us or departed from our world. Jesus has not left our world in search of a better world beyond the stars. No, he is powerfully present and active among us to accomplish the task for which he was sent: the bringing about of love peace, forgiveness, justice freedom, humanness.

That still remains his task, his mission, but it is a task and a mission he can only accomplish through us. That is the reason resurrection stories and ascension stories turn into mission stories. We as his disciples are sent forth. Even if peace, love, justice, freedom, forgiveness of all seem humanly unattainable they are within our reach when we let ourselves be guided by the Spirit of the Risen Jesus. So we pray: Risen and Ascended Jesus, send forth your spirit and renew the face of the earth so that we may become transformed men and women. On another note, Happy Mothers Day to all mothers on earth and in the realm of God !



Risen Jesus we seek thee
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.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year's Annual General Meeting is **Sunday June 3 9:00-10:15**. The 8:30 mass on June 3rd is cancelled and we hope everyone will join us for the AGM and a pot luck lunch after 10:30 mass. We wanted more time for this year's AGM because, after visiting with Fr. Joe and members of St. Ann's parish and learning of their children's ministry we wanted Holy Cross parishioners to also learn of the ministry a small group of women at St. Ann's are undertaking to bring God's work to the children in St. Ann's parish.

The pot luck lunch is a way to meet our brothers and sisters from St. Ann's and for them to meet more of us and for us to continue to build a relationship with the good people at St Ann's. It will also give everyone an opportunity to say good bye to Fr. William who begins his sabbatical June 4th. Please watch for the sign up sheets in the foyer and sign up to bring your dish. We look forward to seeing you at the AGM and pot luck.

FATHER LEO ROBERTS BURSARY

Eligibility requirements:

Individual facing family difficulties / financial hardship.

Strong academic marks with experience in community involvement and volunteer work.

Full time student at Post Secondary institution/ college or trade school.

A practicing catholic involved in their parish community.

Scholarship: \$2000 per year. Scholarship will be renewed for up to three additional years based on financial hardship and need.

Essay: Write a one page essay (maximum 200 to 250 words) stating your career objectives, your accomplishments, your community and volunteer involvement. Tell us why you need financial assistance.

Deadline: Friday, May 18, 2018

How to apply: email essay to Father William Hann at fatherwilliam@shaw.ca or send in mail to Father William Hann, Holy Cross Parish 4049 Gordon Head Road, BC V8N 3X7

AT THE LIBRARY

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

Since Easter and beyond to the Ascension and Pentecost, our Mass Readings include those taken from the ACTS (of the Apostles). Our parish library further details those very early days of the Apostles and the early church community life.

-The Didache: A reconstruction of the faith, practices and rituals of the earliest Christian communities (50 to 70 AD) --- short with commentary

-The Beginnings of the Church by F. Cwieckowski: The death of the Apostles, admission of the gentiles and separation of Christianity and Judaism; the spread of Christianity in the eastern Mediterranean.

-In the Steps of St Paul by H V Morton. This remarkable travelogue of the author in 1935-36 (well before statehood of Israel recognized) tracing St Paul's journeys through Palestine, Israel, Syria, Turkey, Greece and Rome.



PRAYER REFLECTION

As sign and wonder this exaltation is a pointer to the revelation . . . of Jesus Christ as the heart of all powers in heaven and earth.

—Karl Barth (1886-1968)

I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life.

-Abraham Lincoln

AROUND THE PARISH AND DIOCESE

More information and details on bulletin board or parish office

- **ST. ANDREW'S SPRING FLING:** St. Andrew's High School Music Department will be hosting its annual Spring Fling Concert featuring its award winning Choir, Concert and Jazz Bands on Wednesday, May 30th at Holy Cross Parish, at 7:00pm. Tickets cost \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and children under 12 and are available at the door. Refreshments will be served after the concert. Don't miss this opportunity to hear these talented students before the year is over!!
- **DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE:** The DYC this year is May 25-27th. For more information or to register please contact Glen Palahicky at the Diocese: 250 479 1331
- **GRAD CAR WASH AND SHRED EVENT:** May 12th from 10 am – 2 pm at St. Andrew's Regional High School. \$6 for a bankers box and \$5 for a grocery bag. Come have your car washed while watching your documents be shredded. Minimum \$5 for a car wash.
- **ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE:** On Saturday, July 28th at 10:30 am. at the Cathedral we will celebrate the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of four candidates. With their wives, these four candidates Philip Yuson (Marie), Michael Watson (Cynthia), John Dawson (Heather) and Dion Pomponio (Kerry) have spent the past 4 ½ years in prayerful discernment, study and ministerial apprenticeship preparing for this moment when they will offer their lives in service to the diocesan Church of Victoria. All are welcome to attend and a reception will follow at St. Patrick's Church Hall.
- **DIOCESAN FAMILY CONFERENCE:** Register for the 6th Annual Family Conference at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/6th-diocesan-family-conference-august-2018-tickets-44556665185?utm_medium=discovery&utm_campaign=social&utm_content=attendeeshare&aff=esfb&utm_source=fb&utm_term=listing

CATHOLICISM: STUDY SESSIONS

Fr. Karam has started a new study session called "Catholicism" which runs every **Monday at 10am**. This program is made up for 10 sessions that will cover the powerful words of Jesus Christ, the Apostles, Church Fathers, popes, bishops, saints and martyrs. The sessions will include videos and discussion.

OUR LITURGICAL LIFE:

SUNDAY, May 13th

8:30 am Mass: **Regina DeJesus +**
10:30 am Mass: **Hilary Ribeiro +**

MONDAY, May 14th

9:00 am Mass: **Eilish O'Brien (int)**

TUESDAY, May 15th

9:00 am Mass: **Gertrude Kuhne +**

WEDNESDAY, May 16th

9:00 am Mass: **Keith Hawkins +**

THURSDAY, May 17th

9:00am Mass: **Sylvia Rice +**

FRIDAY, May 18th

9:00 am Mass: **Adesh & Vanessa +**

SATURDAY, May 19th

3:45—4:30 Reconciliation

5:00pm Mass: **Char Deslippe +**

SUNDAY, May 20th

8:30 am Mass: **Louis Hofstetter +**
10:30 am Mass: **Joe Mendonca Sr. +**

THANK YOU CORNER!

I would like to sincerely thank the kind folks who came to my assistance after Mass on April 28, when I fell on my way to our car. They were: Joanie Bidlake, Terri and Tom Siemens, Dr. Bob Das and Esther Sangster-Gormley. I hope I haven't missed anyone. (If you see me sometime, and I don't recognize you, please give me a poke!) —Marlene Strudwick

REMINDER: the Steve Wallace Driving seminar "Prepare, Beware, Don't Despair!" will take place this Tuesday **May 15th at 2pm** in the parish hall.



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.	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 May 6, 2018

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE GIFTS:

Envelopes	\$ 3, 435.00
Loose	\$ 335.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 1, 107.00
TOTAL	\$4, 877.00

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 Out- reach	John Oleson	250-477-6455