

The Social & Eco Justice Committee
(2018-2019, annual report submitted by Yvonne Hsieh)

Between August 2018 and April 2019, the eleven members of the SEJC met eight times and organized the following activities:

- the **Kairos Blanket Exercise**, Nov. 3, 2018. 40 people participated in this moving reconciliation event.
- Amnesty International **Write for Rights** session, in collaboration with the Development and Peace letter-writing group, Dec. 10, 2018. 11 participants collectively wrote 51 letters in defense of human rights.
- **Tour of Level Ground** Trading Company, April 2, 2019. 12 parishioners toured the premises of this fair-trade, zero-waste local company.
- **Fair-Trade Coffee Launch**, to celebrate our parish's decision to use Level Ground fair-trade coffee, May 5, 2019. About 60 parishioners attended the event.
- two **breakfast sponsorships at Our Place**, Oct. 20, 2018 and April 13, 2019. 10 volunteers from Holy Cross (including members of the SEJC) served breakfast on each occasion.

In addition, we published a series of monthly **green tips** in the bulletin between September 2018 and May 2019.

With input from the parish custodian, we improved **the signage for landfill/recycling/composting** bins in the kitchen and washrooms of the church and parish centre.

The Chair of the SEJC attended all four meetings of the **Capital Region Social Justice Action Committee**.

Four members of the SEJC attended the Discernment Day meeting of the **GVAT** (Greater Victoria Acting Together for the Common Good) on Nov. 18, 2018. One member serves on the Steering Committee of the GVAT. She and the Chair represent Holy Cross on the Action/Research Teams for Affordable Housing, and for Mental Health and Addictions.

Two members participated in the **Coldest Night of the Year** Walk (fundraising for the Mustard Seed Food Bank) with the Holy Cross team, Feb. 23, 2019.

For **2019-2020**, we plan on:

- setting up a webpage for the SEJC;
- continuing to promote reconciliation with First Nations Peoples;
- continuing to work towards a greener parish;
- sponsoring two more breakfasts at Our Place (fall 2019 and spring 2020).

The Social & Eco Justice Committee thanks Fr. William and all Holy Cross parishioners for their support throughout this year.