

AGM Committee Report 2026:

Committee Name: Social & Ecological Justice Committee

Submitted by: Yvonne Hsieh, Chair; **Date:** June 1, 2026

Overview: The SEJC currently has 10 members and associates (6 from Holy Cross, 3 from St. Patrick's, and the UVic/Camosun Catholic Chaplain). We met 9 times between June 2025 and May 2026.

Purpose of Committee: Called by Pope Francis's urgent message in *Laudato Si'* to care for creation and for the poor, the SEJC sees itself as a resource and catalyst for social and climate justice work at HC and SP. We also work with other groups within our parishes, the diocese, and the Greater Victoria community – towards the Common Good.

Notable Activities in June 2025- May 2026:

– Organization of a **Food Collection for UVic students**, delivered to the UVic Multifaith Centre each month (Sept. 2025 to April 2026).

– **Write for Rights sessions** held at both parishes (Jan. 10, 2026), as part of an international letter-writing campaign organized by Amnesty International in defense of human rights. 29 participants collectively wrote 110 letters.

– Activities related to **Reconciliation:** a) Introduction to an educational **Boardgame Truth in Truth and Reconciliation** (created by James Darin Corbiere, Anishinaabe) (Feb. 12, 2026); b) tour of the **Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC)** (April 24, 2026); c) participation in the **Moosehide Campaign walk and rally** (May 14).

– The SEJC continues to serve as the “core team” representing HC and SP at **GVAT (Greater Victoria Acting Together)** events and assemblies, notably at the GVAT **Let's Keep Cool Civic Academy** focused on climate action at the municipal level (May 28). Saanich Councillors Karen Harper and Zac de Vries attended the event and pledged their support for the GVAT climate action platform. 9 HC and SP parishioners were among the 133 participants.

Accepting New Members?: Yes

Money / Items Raised (if applicable): HC has a special donations collection for the SEJC twice a year.