

# The Anglican Parish of Holy Cross

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## Happenings around Holy Cross ~ November 2019

### From the Rector's Desk: The Rev. Dr. Kyle Norman

Ignatian Spirituality is often credited as the source of the spiritual exercise known as the Examen. The Examen is a prayerful exercise through which we review the past day in light of their relationship with God. How have we acted faithfully during these last 24 hours? Where did we notice the presence of the Lord? Where did we turn a blind eye or a deaf ear to God's call on our lives? The point of the Examen is not to be downcast or critical of our possible failings or inconsistencies in the life of faith, but to notice the opportunities we have to act out of our relationship with God. We notice the places where we can increase our relationship with the Lord, so ultimately it is a hope-filled exercise, one designed to immerse us more deeply in the presence of our Saviour.

Stewardship is not a financial transaction between the Church and us. Rather, it is a spiritual exercise expressing our faithful relationship with our Lord. Stewardship is a displaying of our faith – our faith in God, and our faith shared in the community. In this light, here are a few questions, through which you can examine your stewardship commitments for the next year of our life together.

*TIME: How do I engage in Christian Fellowship? How can I increase my Christian Fellowship?* It can be easy for Christian Fellowship, either at church or at things like Bible studies or book clubs, to feel like it is what we do when we have the time. Life can get so busy with other plans that before we know it, we may have missed several weeks of life in the church. Ask yourself, "Am I a constant presence in Christian fellowship? Do I feel like I am always playing catch-up with what is happening with the Christian community?" Now this is not about eliminating all other obligations, however, if you find that you have been averaging attendance only one Sunday a month, what would it look like to increase that to two Sundays per month? If you are at church every Sunday, are you called to join a book club or a study of some kind? Can you meet for coffee with someone from the church?

*TALENT: What skill do I offer to the Lord?* The church runs on volunteers, from readers to Sunday School, to the Altar Guild to the Candy Cane Bazaar. Sometimes stepping forward to take on a ministry can feel nerve-wracking. Yet our life in the community of faith is to be an active life. We all have talents and skill through which God wishes us to bless our brothers and sisters in community. So if there is not a current ministry that you are a part of, perhaps it is time to consider a deeper involvement. Could you read the lessons on Sunday? Could you offer to be a coffee host? Where is God gently inviting you to take a leap of faith and express your faith through a talent or skill?

*TREASURE: How do I express the importance of Holy Cross in my financial giving?* We are all in different places financially, so the question of our financial giving goes beyond how many pennies we can put in the plate. For example, Alicia and I have set up our PAD so that our donation to Holy Cross is the first transaction coming out of our account. We like the thought that our tithe to the church is first amongst our financial obligations. What does your tithe indicate for you? Is it a bill amongst all other bills? Does the amount of your tithe signify its importance? Understanding our financial gift as a spiritual exercise may change how we go about making our offerings at the Church.

May God continue to bless you in your stewardship deliberations, as God continues to bless this community through your presence. Amen.



Ronald McDonald  
House Charities'  
Alberta

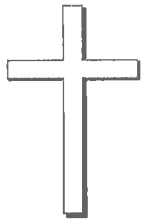
Ronald McDonald House provides a home-away-from-home for hundreds of families travelling to Calgary for their child's medical treatment. They rely on donation of items from their Wish List to help to keep costs low. You can pick up a copy of the Wish List in the narthex and place donated items in the

playpen. This Mission Drive will last until the end of December.

We continue to accept the donation of non-perishable items for the St. Edmund's food bank. The collection box is also in the narthex.

**Lectio Divina:** on Tuesday, November 12th at 6:30 PM in the St. Michael room. Lectio Divina, i.e. divine reading, is a practice deeply rooted in Christian history. In Lectio Divino, we sit with a Biblical text for the purpose of discerning the voice of Jesus as He speaks into our lives. For more information, please speak to Rev. Kyle.

**ACW:** next meeting after the 10:00 AM service on November 3. All ladies are welcome to join us.



**All Souls** service on Saturday, November 2 at 7:00 PM. You are invited to light a candle in remembrance of a loved one at this quiet service of reflection and remembrance.

*I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.  
John 11:25-26*

**Check out our website:** [www.holycrosscalgary.org](http://www.holycrosscalgary.org). We are also on Facebook and Twitter.

**Going to the hospital?** Please identify your religion as Anglican as this places your name on the Anglican list at Spiritual Care Services. Please let the church office know if you are in hospital. If you do not inform the office or the clergy, we will not know that either you or your loved one is in the hospital.

Please submit articles for the **December newsletter** by November 15.

### **Curate's Corner: The Rev. Dr. Carmen Maier**

Easter happens and then it seems we only have a few weeks of Ordinary Time before we head into summer with all kinds of vacation plans and transitions in family life, and then fall starts with all sorts of new beginnings, and by the time we get to this time of year there's only a few weeks of Ordinary Time left. I happen to like Ordinary Time, and it's not just because I like the colour green. Our culture teaches us to seek the extraordinary, the next new thing, another thrill. But whenever do we get to soak in the ordinary?

Ordinary Time is such a long season in the church calendar that it gives us plenty of opportunity not to overlook it. Our ordinary routines and habits are what form us far more than highlights of life. Those have their place for sure, just as the other seasons of the church calendar suspend us long enough from the ordinary so that we can return to it refreshed and with renewed perspective. Yet the ordinary grounds us.

In ordinary time we revisit the story of Jesus in his day to day meetings with people from sunrise to sunset and his need for rest and prayer and friends. So let's take some time to treasure the ordinary of our own lives: the ordinary faithfulness; the beauty of the unspectacular; our everyday routines of work, rest, and play. Until Advent, let's open our eyes to the beauty of our ordinary lives, lived in fellowship with one another, in the presence of our loving God.

**Book Club: "The Tattooist of Auschwitz" by Heather Morris**

"I tattooed her number on her left hand, and she tattooed her number in my heart." Lale Sokolov, in an interview with Heather Morris. Heather Morris is a writer and native of New Zealand, now residing in Australia. In 2003 she was introduced to Lale Sokolov, who intrusted her with the innermost details of his life during the Holocaust.

All book club members present at the meeting were in agreeance that this book was a good read especially considering the subject matter. In Lale's accounting of his life (a Slovakian Jew) in the concentration camp at Auschwitz-Birkenau we are reminded of the horrific atrocities and barbarism that took place but also we are told of the incredible acts of bravery and compassion that occurred. This was a book that we could not put down. Even in the darkest hours of one's life we can witness a remarkable love story as it unfolded. This is his story of endurance of love and humanity and hope.

Book club highly recommends this book for all to read and it will be in our church library shortly. Respectfully submitted by Sandi.

**Candy Cane Tea and Bazaar on Saturday, November 23, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

The Candy Cane Tea & Bazaar's fast approaching.  
Dear volunteers, you may need some coaching?  
*But I've done this before, maybe I've done my part?*  
*I'm really quite new here I don't know where to start?*  
Whether you're new or quite an old hand  
Volunteers are the key to an event that is grand.  
Our guests love to find one-of-a-kind, hand-made treasures  
Knitted or quilted – unique shopping pleasures.  
Baking and kitchen delights quickly fly  
Shortbread and pickles, muffins and pie.  
Find dust-gathering tea cups and gently used books  
Jewellery and ornaments are all worth second looks.  
The halls will need trimming; the tea room needs squares  
So pitch in today for this right jolly affair!



The CANDY CANE COUNT DOWN is on. As this little poem describes, volunteers are the key so please sign up on the poster by the kitchen or speak to the conveners. Donations of crafts, gently used treasures, and books can be dropped off at the church during the weekly office hours. Call ahead on the day you are coming to confirm someone is in the office to open the doors; tel: 403-289-8497. Volunteers will be on hand at the church on Friday, November 22 from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM to receive your donations.

Some donations do not lend themselves to early arrival, baking for example. Donations of fresh baking for the tea room and the baking and deli table can be delivered to the church from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Friday, November 22 or early Saturday morning by arranging with the conveners.

Please note: Donations of items for the treasures table cannot be received on the day of the bazaar.

Questions? Contact one of the conveners: Margaret Peyto at 403-289-1261, Linda Peyto at 403-286-6791.

# November 2019

November 2019							December 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
							29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 27	28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2
8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist 12:00pm ACW	9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt 7:00pm Book Study	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	9:30am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	9:30am Morning Prayer	7:00pm All Souls service
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist	Remembrance Day 7:00pm Book Club 7:00pm Book Study	9:30am Morning Prayer 6:30pm Lectio Divina 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	9:30am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	Newsletter deadline 9:30am Morning Prayer	Southern Alberta Art Alliance
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist 12:00pm Theology	9:30am Morning Prayer 10:00am PDWA 1:30pm Craft & Quilt 2:00pm H of Newport 6:30pm Craft & Stitch 7:00 pm Book Study	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	9:30am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Scouts (library)	9:30am Morning Prayer 1:00pm Bazaar set up	10:00am Candy Cane Tea & Bazaar
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 1:30pm Craft & Quilt 7:00pm Book Study	9:30am Morning Prayer 10:15am Fanning Centre 7:00pm Tone Chimes 7:30pm GTAA	9:15am Statesman 9:30am Holy Eucharist	9:30am Morning Prayer 10:00am Boardwalk 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm AA	9:30am Morning Prayer	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30