



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish

4 HARTLEY STREET, P.O. BOX 9, ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871

Guided by the Holy Spirit, OLSH Parish in Central Australia is a family of God actively engaging in Jesus' love bringing justice, compassion and charity to all creation.



Parish Contacts:

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Deadline for Bulletin submissions is Wednesday 5:00p.m.
Facebook Page: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish
Parish Office Hours:
Monday to Friday
8:30 am - 12 noon
Saturday and Sunday - Closed



Year of Youth in the Diocese of Darwin

“115. This trust enables a relationship to be free. It means we do not have to control the other person, to follow their every step lest they escape our grip. Love trusts, it sets free, it does not try to control, possess and dominate everything. This freedom, which fosters independence, an openness to the world around us and to new experiences, can only enrich and expand relationships. The spouses then share with one another the joy of all they have received and learned outside the family circle. At the same time, this freedom makes for sincerity and transparency, for those who know that they are trusted and appreciated can be open and hide nothing. Those who know that their spouse is always suspicious, judgmental and lacking unconditional love, will tend to keep secrets, conceal their failings and weaknesses, and pretend to be someone other than who they are. On the other hand, a family marked by loving trust, come what may, helps its members to be themselves and spontaneously to reject deceit, falsehood, and lies. “Pope Francis, Ch.4#115, *Amoris Laetitia*.”

Parish Priest:

Fr Asaeli Raass SVD
Assistant Parish Priests:
Fr Alejandro de la Sotta SVD
Fr Olivier Noclam SVD
Syro-Malabar Chaplain
Fr Binesh Joseph CST
Parish Council Chairman
Mr Manfred Casseeram
Contact: chairpersonppc@gmail.com
Liturgy Coordinator
Sr. Anne Surtees OSU
Sacristan
Ms Sue Bain
RCIA Director
Sr. Helen Kennedy FMM
Parish Secretary:
Mel Buenviaje
Safety & Health Officer
Mr Fred Twohig
Parish Treasurer
Mr Kevin Hickmott
OLSH College Principal
Br. Tony Caddy FMS
St. Joseph's Flexible Centre
Mrs. Sitinder Bahia
Sunday School Catechists
Anileen and Mark Bensted
Hospitality Coordinators
Losana Hay and Ruth Sexton
Safeguarding Officers:
Mr George Tetteh, Ms Pane Komene & Mr Manfred Casseeram
Contact: olshsafeguard@gmail.com

1st Sunday of Lent Year B
17th - 18th February 2018

WE MUST DECIDE NOW

The gloom and doom of another season of Lent is upon us with extended days of fasting (Ash Wed – ending today, acts of reparation, penance, days of recollection, confessions, penitential rites, 2nd etc). It's time to cover ourselves with sack-cloth and ashes on our foreheads. And then there is the list of things we need to give up as part of fasting like ALL SINS! But then if we were listening carefully and come of age, we can all draw up a list of all the positive things we will do for the poor, prisoners, sick and disabled. One thing is clear – we can't do business as usual.

Even our good Lord must venture into the desert and be tested by the Evil One. This entity has many names and whose works are so subtle that many of us fall daily. If you and I think our neighbours are bad, pity poor Jesus. He was surrounded by wild beasts! The message of Jesus is certainly worth a closer examination, “The time has come and the Kingdom of God is close at hand” (Mark 1:12-15). God is doing a new thing in Jesus. Jesus' presence announces the fullness of his Father's love. Jesus is his Father's kairós time. What the prophets longed to hear, see, touch and feel, is here in Jesus. “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life”, Jesus reiterates.

One thing is clear from our readings of the parables that, nowhere in scripture is the Kingdom of God defined. The reign of God cannot be limited to a geographical area or equated with any military power of any other kingdoms of this world. What we do know is that the reign of God is the transforming presence of God in the hearts of all peoples and God's rule is now. You and I cannot delay nor postpone God's rule or God's reign. In Jesus, the definitive reign or rule of God is NOW, and WE MUST DECIDE.

“Repent and believe the Good News”, Jesus' utters his first homily after saying NO TO TEMPTATION. This is the time if you have not started to a fundamental reorientation of one's whole life and being. Today calls for new values, new way of doing things that brings life, love & justice – in & through Jesus. Obviously, a first step in this direction is to believe that JESUS IS THE GOOD NEWS OF THE FATHER. “Believe the Good News” (Mark 1:15), says Jesus. Believe that Jesus is the God's saving love and kindness of his Father. Be grasped by Him who is REALLY REAL during this Lenten season. Let's examine our grim faces and ashes this week. They have a place but eventually they must give way to good works and social change. I told you Lent wasn't easy.

Fr Raass

Parish Mass Schedule

Monday to Friday: 7am & 5:30pm;
Saturday 11am & (Sun Vigil) 6 pm,
Sunday 7:30am, 9:30am & 5:30 pm;
Ngkarte Mikwekenhe Community
11am Indigenous Community Mass
Syro-Malabar Rite Mass
3rd Sunday of every month

We acknowledge the original custodians of this land and pay our respects to the Elders both past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Indigenous Australia. As we share our faith within our Catholic family we also acknowledge those that paved the way to give us our Church and Parish and welcome all into our community.

+ PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME +

Daily Readings: starting 19 February 2018

Mon: Lev 19:1-2,11-18 Mt 25:31-46
Tues: Is 55:10-11 Mt 6:7-15
Wed: Jonah 3:1-10 Lk 11:29-32
Thu: 1 Pet 5:1-4 Mt 16:13-19
Fri: Ezek 18:21-28 Mt 5:20-26
Sat: Deu 26:16-19 Mt 5:43-48
Sun: Gen 22:1-2,9-13,15-18
 Rom 8:31-34 Mk 9:2-10

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Dilushi Fonseka, Gerry Miles, Eric Robinson, Marie Liedwinger, James Harvey, Carmel Leonard, Grace Boog, Coleen Langcake, Carapiet Shafraz, Felisa Sara, Garry Smith, Dwayne Schultz, Rob Dominquez, Betty Rawson, Ellen Gunner, Latai Mailau, Penelope Fleming, Joan Brenton, Pauline Cardoz, Shiroma Bulner, Anne Tobin, Eric Rooke, Margaret McNaught, Thomas Andrew Jackson, Joyce & Duncan Komene, May Shah, Bernadette Dowd, Georgina Gilbert, Clare Lorkin, Rose Almanza, Luigia Sabadin, Lennie & Will Arthur,

May the Lord grant them healing

Reconciliation:

Saturday 11:30 am & 5:15 pm

Baptism: By appointment: one month's notice required. Formation of parents falls on the 1st Monday of the month. 7:00 pm -8:00 pm

Marriage:

By appointment only, 12 months' notice required.

Devotional Practices:

Prayers of the Holy Rosary

Monday to Thursday 5pm

Prayers of Devotion to St. Joseph

First Wednesday of the month 9am

Contact: Cathy Golotta 8952 1991

Syro-Malayalam (Indian) Fellowship

Sunday 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm (Home Based)

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Fridays from 6-7pm and every second Saturday of the month from 3-4 pm at Missionaries of Charity Convent, 12 Standley Crescent.

Christian Meditation (Presbytery Chapel)

Thursday 12:00 - 12:30pm

Weekly Bible Sharing

Wednesdays 6:15pm -7:00pm

Mothers Praying for Your Children

Contact: Ruth Sexton 0487 860 283

Children's Sunday Liturgy of the Word

Every Sunday from 9:20am

Divine Office - Liturgy of the Hours

Monday to Friday 6:45am



Ecumenical Lenten Services

The time has come to gather again with the Lutherans, Anglicans and Uniting Church during this Ecumenical Lenten services at 7pm on Wednesday evenings.

Wednesday 21 st Feb	Anglican Church
Wednesday 28th Feb	Lutheran Church
Wednesday 7th March	Uniting Church
Wednesday 14th March	Catholic Church
Wednesday 21st March	Lutheran Church

OLSH PARISH ANNUAL STATISTICS 2017

- Number of Baptisms = 91 (4 adults plus babies and older children)
- Number of Confirmations = 51
- Number of First Communions & First Reconciliation = 58
- Number of Church Weddings = 1
- Anointing of the Sick = 100+



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR KIDS IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

OLSH Catholic Parish will be commencing their Religious Education classes again in March at the St Francis Centre on Adamson Ave. Any parents who are sending their children to government or non-Catholic schools and want their children to receive the Sacraments for Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation can contact the Parish Centre for further details PH: 89521049 between 9am – 12pm - email: olsh_parity_asp@bigpond.com or AH: Jenny Dietrich 89527010 or Joyce Clifford.



The Order of the Catholic Mass

New booklets with the Order of the Mass are to be found at the back of the church. You are most welcome to use them during mass. These new booklets are to replace the large cards that are currently available for your use. On completion of the mass please return the books to the box as you leave the church. All parishioners are invited to familiarise themselves with the structure of the Mass and as far as possible internalize the responses where required.



Readers Preparation

As a way of offering support and ongoing formation for our readers, we will be trialling a weekly process of reading preparation. Readers for the coming weekend are invited to come for reflection on the readings at 6.15 on Tuesday evening in the church. It is anticipated that sessions will be around 30 mins. We will be using the parish copies of Break Open the Word as our resource. So, if you are reading on the coming weekend we would welcome your participation in these sessions.

WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS!



The Priests and Parish Pastoral Council welcome all parishioners back from their holidays. A special welcome is extended to new parishioners. Please do not be shy to introduce yourself to the priests. A hearty welcome back to all students and teachers of OLSH College and St Joseph's Flexible Learning Centre. May this Year of Youth be a fruitful one and may you be filled with God's blessings.



A Golden Jubilee Church Project: The Ramp

Dear Parishioners, please find below and at the back of the church a draft 3-D pictures of our proposed Accessibility Ramp from the pews to the sanctuary. We have a few members with mobility issues and so simple changes to the top-left hand side of the church and pews can offer assistance to people with mobility difficulties. It will be a permanent ramp with good looking hand rails and wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs and walking frames. We are blessed by having provided two disability car-parks, a wheel-chair friendly ramp in-front of the church and accessibility toilet via a well-constructed ramp from the church to the courtyard. The parish is willing to take up the challenge to enable greater participation by people with all kinds of disabilities in the life of the church. Yes, we also have resources inside the church for parishioners with hearing impediment.

There is a story in the Gospel of Luke in which the friends of a paralysed man could not find a way to bring him into a crowded building where Jesus was. So they climbed onto the roof and lowered him on a stretcher. These friends worked hard to ensure that their friend did not miss out on meeting Jesus. The Parish is taking a cue from this example, by ensuring we also bring people with injury, illness, impairment or disability to the heart of our worshipping Catholic communities.

If you are willing to partly sponsor this project, please see the Parish Priest. The very generous Michele Castagna (R.I.P) had already given \$10k for this purpose but it may not be sufficient.

Please think through the design and talk to others about it. Parishioners with mobility issues are highly requested to voice your ideas. Write your suggestions/recommendations and place it in the suggestion box provided or email. – *Fr Raass, PPC & Finance/Works Team*



Cleaning: February 24, 2018 **Group 7**
Margaret Lillecrapp, Virginia Loy, Rosalie Nankivell

Counters: February 25, 2018
John & Margaret Healy

Last Week's Collections:
1st Collection: \$1,726.25 (for the presbytery)
2nd Collection: \$1,035.45 (for the parish)
Planned Giving: \$1,245.00

Thank you for your time and kind generosity!

Groups please remember to keep the Bulletin Team informed if you change your days/times etc.



50th Golden Jubilee Spiritual Pilgrimage

Spiritual Pilgrimage to the Holy land and Rome. 1st Oct 2018 to be led by our Parish Priest. It could alter your perspective, fuel your purpose or simply offer a level of deeper understanding.

“How happy are those ... who are eager to make the pilgrimage to Zion; they will grow stronger as they go”. More info at the back of the church or see Fr Raass.

NO PRIESTS AVAILABLE

There will be NO HOLY MASS celebrated from Monday 19th Feb (except morning Mass) – Saturday 24th Feb (except 2nd Sunday of Lent Vigil Mass). All priests are expected in Sydney to attend their Provincial Assembly & Chapter. However, there will be Communion Service and Liturgy of the Word available on weekdays. Please do not fall seriously sick or die that week!

TROPICAL CYCLONE GITA

Recently, the Pacific country of Tonga has been flattened after a powerful cyclone battered the main island, causing extensive damage. With destructive winds of 230 kilometres per hour, category four Cyclone Gita ripped roofs from houses, brought down trees and caused widespread flooding. Across Tongatapu around 1,400 houses were either damaged or destroyed and several thousand people are still in evacuation centres. **OLSH Parish will have a special Collection next weekend for the above cause.**



Roster for weekend of 24 –25 February 2018

	Commentator	Readers	Communion
Sat 6:00pm	Brendan Heenan	David Genetti Cindy Decosta	David Fernandes Rosalia Fernandes Anne Chivers
Sun 7:30am	Mike Steller	Tony Whitelum Ruth Sexton	Greg Gilbert Fred Twohig Kath McGargill
Sun 9:30am	Br Tony Caddy	Bridget Knight Jenny Dietrich	Oria Chiwariro Mark Bensted M Lillecrapp
Sun 5:30pm	Mel Buenviaje	Pat Monaghan Aileen Batimana	Debbie Cooke Pauline Otieno Thomas J John

1st Sunday of Lent Year B
17th - 18th February 2018

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 90:16-16

When he calls to me, I will answer; I will rescue him and give him honour. Long life and contentment will be his.

First Reading:

Genesis 9:8-15

I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.' God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.' The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9

R/ Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant.

Second Reading:

1 Peter 3:18-22

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels of the Dominations and Powers his subjects. The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

Gospel:

Mark 1:12-15

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon:

Mt 4:4

One does not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God

PASTORAL MINISTRIES & MEETINGS

Adult Faith & Culture Formation (Mondays)

Prison (Correctional Centre) Ministries

Tuesdays from 6:00pm-7:30pm & on this Sunday: 25th March 2018

Ministers' Ecumenical Fellowship

1st Tuesday of the month from 8:30am-9:30am at Desert Life Church

Bread Delivery to Town Camps

Wednesdays from 7:00pm-7:30pm

Yuendumu Aboriginal Mission (5hrs drive)

2nd Wednesday of the month

Children's Sunday School

Every Sunday from 9:20am except on school holidays

Jay Creek Aboriginal Mission (20m drive)

3rd Wednesday of the month from 5:30pm-7:00pm

Old Timers Aged-Care Ministries

Thursdays from 2:00pm-3:30pm

Parish Council Meetings

1st Thursday of the month from 5:00pm-7:00pm

Catholic Youth of Alice Springs

Fridays from 6:30pm at JP2 Hall

Hetti Perkins Aboriginal Ministry

3rd Friday of the month from 10:30am-11:30am

Harts Range Aboriginal Mission (3hrs drive)

4th Friday of the month

Finance Team Ministry

1st Saturday of the month from 8:30am-9:30am

CAAAPU (Drugs & Alcohol Rehabilitation)

Sundays from 5:50pm-6:30pm

Social Justice Awareness Group: 4th Sunday

of the month from 3:00pm-4:30pm

Sunday Mass Pick-Up: Every Sunday if you can help those who wish to attend Mass at the main Church.

Is God calling you to any of the above ministries and more? Call the presbytery and participate in God's Mission.

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8