



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish

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



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, strengthened by the Word of God, is united by our Sacramental Life into a Covenant to make Jesus the Christ known and loved in Central Australia.

Parish Contacts:

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Website:

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Bulletin: Email:
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Deadline for Bulletin submissions is
Wednesday 5 p.m.

Parish Office Hours:
Monday to Friday
9 am - 12 noon & 4 pm - 5 pm
Saturday: 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Parish Team:

Parish Priest:
Fr Asaeli Raass SVD
Assistant Parish Priest:
Fr Prakash Menezes SVD
Fr. Jim Knight SVD
Resident Priest:
Fr. Vincent Mai SVD
Syro-Malabar Chaplain
Fr. Binesh Naramattathil CST

Secretary:
Mel Buenviaje
Parish Past. Council Chairman
Fred Twhig
OLSH College Principal
Br. Matthew Green, FMS

Parish Mass Schedule:

Monday to Friday: 7 am & 5:30 pm
Saturday 11 am & (Sun Vigil) 6 pm
Sunday 7:30am, 9:30 am & 5:30 pm
Ngkarte Mikwekenhe Community
1st, 3rd, 4th (and 5th) Sundays of the
month - 11am *Aboriginal*
Community Mass at South Terrace.
2nd Sunday of the month—11 am
Aboriginal Community Mass at
Amoonguna, Southeast of Alice
Springs, off the Ross Highway.

Sacraments:

Reconciliation:
Saturday 11:30 am & 5:30 pm
Baptism: By appointment: one
month's notice required.
2nd Sunday of the month. Formation
of parents falls on the 1st Monday of
the month. 7:00 pm—8:00 pm
Marriage:
By appointment only, 6 months' no-
tice required.

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B
7th - 8th February 2015

“EVERYONE IS LOOKING FOR YOU”

Many years ago a perceptive parishioner challenged me to look after myself, eat well and exercise! Fair enough, I was feeling exhausted from the many pastoral demands of parish and chaplaincy ministry. It felt as if everyone wanted a small piece of me and I had nothing else to give at the end of the day.

The experience was quite similar to a niece of mine whose three young children needed a lot of motherly attention. The youngest had been crying non-stop, the middle-child was of ill health and the first-born constantly clinging to her mum like she was a moving piece of playground equipment – jumping, hanging and climbing. I remember her totally stressed out at the end of the day and gradually losing her sense of modesty.

Let's face it. Parenthood takes a physical toll on mums and dads. I am sure every part of their body is pushed, pulled, looked at, and touched in ways they would never have imagined possible.

When our good Lord lived on this earth, it seemed that everyone wanted a piece of him. Today's Gospel reads “**Everyone is looking for you**” (Mar 1:29 -39). In other words they desperately wanted his time and presence 24/7. “**The whole town was gathered at the door**”, Mark reported. Jesus was like a music rock star in high demand, just like mothers who are constantly attending to their children's needs.

In order to handle the demands that are placed upon us, the Gospel invites everyone to **consciously make time for quiet contemplative moments** in the midst of chaos and endless activities. When the people most sought him, Jesus intentionally removed himself to a “deserted place of prayer” to remain united to the Father and fight against the temptations of popularity, fame and prestige. This week Jesus is presented to us as someone who makes a great effort to have the time and the adequate environment to pray. Through deep prayer Jesus maintains alive the awareness of his Mission (Mt 14:22-23; Mk 1:25; Lk 5:15-16). What about us? **Is your prayer-life making you conscious of who you are and your sense of mission?**

Fr Raass SVD

Parish Priest

Welcome Fr Prakash Menezes SVD



It is with great pleasure that we welcome Fr Prakash SVD to our parish to take up his ministry as one of the assistant Parish Priests. He will arrive on Wednesday 11th February from India via Melbourne. Please make him feel welcome.

Daily Readings: starting 09 February

Mon: Gen 1:1-19 Mk 6:53-56
Tues: Gen 1:20-2:4 Mk 7:1-13
Wed: Gen 2:4-9,15-17 Mk 7:14-23
Thur: Gen 2:18-25 Mk 7:24-30
Fri: Gen 3:1-8 Mk 7:31-37
Sat: Gen 3:9-24 Mk 8:1-10
Sun: Lev 13:1-2,44-46
 1 Cor 10:31-11:1 Mk 1:40-45

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +

**Please pray for the elderly
and those who are sick**

Jamie Hampton (Melbourne), Sedon Maria, Thimas, May Lee Shah, Herman and Benedicta Tirkey, Philip Ponodo, Tiffany Doughty, Loraine Gory, Do Quyen, Sunil Menon, Ben Pereira, Mary Dick, Alice Costa, Sean Heenan, Eileen Madden, Ruth Barney, Edna Madden, Mary Hessling, Georgina Gilbert, Alfredo Agbayani, Sylvia Xccall, Muriel L'Aiguille, Fay Hawkins, Daphne Dilleen, Colleen Matson, David Woods, Collen Langcake, Hilla Casseeram, Nod & Harold Rioux.

May the Lord grant them healing.

Evangelii Gaudium

“We may not always be able to reflect adequately the beauty of the Gospel, but there is one sign which we should never lack: the option for those who are least, those whom society discards.”
 Par 195 from *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis, Nov. 24, 2013

Devotional Practices:

Divine Office & Morning Prayer

Monday to Friday 6:45am

Prayers of the Holy Rosary

Monday to Friday 5pm

Saint Joseph Devotion

First Wednesday of the month 9am

Contact: Cathy Golotta 8952 1991

Malayalam (Indian) Fellowship

Sunday 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Adoration

Adoration every second Saturday of the month at Missionaries of Charity Convent 12 Standley Crescent, from 3-4 pm

Christian Meditation

“In Contemplative Prayer we seek to become the person we are called to be, not by thinking of God but by being with God. Simply to be with God is to be drawn into the person God calls us to be” John Main. OLSH Parish will once again revive this Christian Meditation Sessions on every Thursday from **12:00noon to 12:130pm at the presbytery Chapel**. The sessions will be facilitated by Sue Woods from the Campfire in the Heart Ministry, Alice Springs. Your first session falls this coming **Thursday on the 12th February**. Thirty minutes could change your life forever!

“Stronger Relationships Trial” Closing Soon

Please be informed that this program designed to encourage couples to invest in relationship education and protect families from marriage breakdown is terminating soon. The new Minister for Social Services has announced the early termination of it but couples can still apply for a \$200 subsidy before midnight on Sunday, February 8. Then you have until June 30 to do a relationship education course of your choice. As for Catholics we do have course available at CatholicCare.

International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against

Human Trafficking

The Vatican has presented plans for a first-ever “International Day of Prayer and Reflection against Human Trafficking” to be this **Sunday, 8th February 2015**.

“Trafficking in human beings is an illegal industry estimated to affect 36 million people around the world and to generate \$150 billion in annual profits. It’s been a matter of concern for Francis from his time in Argentina, and has emerged as a core preoccupation of his papacy”, Vatican News.

On this feast of St. Josephine Bakhita, considered a patron saint for trafficking victims. Born in 1868 in Darfur, Sudan, she was kidnapped at the age of nine and sold into slavery, first in her country and later in Italy. She died in 1947 and was declared a saint by Pope St. John Paul II in 2000.

Today there are women and men in religious orders and lay social justice groups who have long been on the front lines of the anti-trafficking fight. This prayer day is a mobilization on a global scale.

Please offer a prayer today, write a letter to the editor, raise your voice against this illegal and inhuman industry.



**Feast Day of the Week
St Scholastica, virgin (February 10)**

WELCOME!

Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us, whether long time residents or those newly arrived in the Parish. Welcome to all guests and tourists. We pray that you have a lovely stay!

OLSH College Opening Mass

The Most Revered Bishop Eugene will celebrate the OLSH College Opening Mass on **Thursday 12th February at 10:00am** at the Senior Campus. Our 17 Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Darwin play a crucial role in the overall human development of Aussie kids. Do remember Br Mathew FMS and his staff, students and benefactors of the College in your prayers.

Installation of Fr Raass as Parish Priest: Change of Date

Please be informed that Fr Raass will be officially installed as Parish Priest of OLSH Parish on **Friday 13th February at the 5:30pm Mass by Most Reverend Bishop Eugene Hurley**. Our apologies for the wrong date advertised last week. Again there will be no morning Mass on this day except the 6:45am morning prayer. **ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.**

Sacrament of Confirmation 2015

Confirmation is a true sacrament instituted by Christ and different from baptism. It is administered by laying-on of hands and anointing with chrism accompanied by prayer. The chrism is blessed by the Bishop of Darwin and he administers the sacrament. All baptized Catholic parishioners should be confirmed. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on **Sunday 26th July 2015 at the 9:30am Mass.**

OLSH Parish Malayalam-Syro Rite Spiritual Retreat

Fr Binesh and a Retreat Director will conduct the Malayalam Spiritual Retreat at OLSH Church on the 17th Tuesday, 18th Wednesday and 19th Thursday March from 6:00pm – 9:30pm. All members of the Malayalam-Syro Rite are highly encouraged to attend.

Nungalingya College, Darwin

Mrs Carol Muller, Catholic Dean at Nungalingya Theological College, Darwin, will be arriving this weekend to visit former graduates of the College and recruit more Arrernte students from Central Australia. For your information, the College is an ecumenical theological college administered by the Lutherans, Uniting Church and Catholic Church.

 * **OLSH Associates Meeting** which will be held at
 * the **OLSH Convent on Saturday 14 February at**
 * **2 p.m.**

Upcoming Season of Lent and Lenten Program 2015

“Arise Lenten Programme”

The Holy Season of Lent will begin on **Ash Wednesday, 18th February**. In order to spiritually prepare for this season of fasting, prayer and good works, OLSH Parish will be inviting all parishioners to gather into sharing groups from 6 to 8 if at all possible. Expressions of interest to run these groups will be displayed at the back of the Church next week. Your only expectation is to commit to six sessions, each approximately 90 minutes. Please seriously consider facilitating a Lenten sharing group leading up to Easter or joining a group yourself. You may wish to combine two or three families/college staff together. Group facilitators will be provided an information session prior to Ash Wednesday. More details next week.

Planned Giving for OLSH Parish 2015

A set of envelopes are ready to be collected by those generous parishioners who have committed themselves and their families for this planned giving programme. Please pick up your set of envelopes from the back of the Church. We also highly encourage all parishioners, visitors and anyone to contribute via Credit Card/other Account, it is safe, reduces (cash)risk and work. However if you prefer to receive a set of envelopes, feel free to contact the parish office during work hours. We are appreciative of your ongoing generosity and commitment to the pastoral works and maintenance of OLSH parish.

Roster for weekend of 14 / 15 February 2015

Cleaning: 14 February **Group 2**
 Goury Nair, Babu Joseph, Sibi Thampi, Seena
Counters: 15 February 2015
 John & Margaret Healy, Margaret –Ann McNaught
Last Week’s Collections:
 1st Collection: \$1,293.70 (for the presbytery)
 2nd Collection: \$1,807.15 (for the parish)
 Total Planned Giving donations, made direct to our bank account, by various individual donors, for the Sept 2014 & Dec 2014 quarters amounted to \$5,274.00 & \$4,194.00 respectively.
Thank you for your generosity!

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	Mike Gibney	Margaret McNaught Binu Katherine	Rose Sabadin Leanne Dieckmann Anne Chivers
Sun 7:30 am	Fred Twohig	Carmel Leonard Charles Gamon	Kath McGargill Rita Steller Mike Steller
Sun 9:30 am	Debbie Cook	Col Marshall Rodea Aplaon	Carmela Guthard Margaret Lillecraap Mark Bensted
Sun 5:30 pm	Mel Buenviaje	Mike Williams Pat Monaghan	Thomas J John Marietta Ives Cristina Buenviaje

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

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

07th - 08th February 2015

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading:

Job 7:1-4.6-7

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy. The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 146:1-6

R| Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 9:16-19.22-23

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the gospel.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing. The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Mt 8:17

Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

Gospel:

Mark 1:29-39

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils. The Gospel of the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon:

Ps 106:8-9

Let them thank the Lord of his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.