

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:

Phone: (08) 8952 1049
Fax: (08) 8952 9823
Email: olsh_parity_asp@bigpond.com

Website:

www.olshparishalicesprings.org.au

Bulletin: Email:

olsh.parity.bulletin@gmail.com
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

Parish Priest:

Fr Asaeli Raass SVD

Assistant Parish Priests:

Fr Prakash Menezes SVD
Fr Olivier Noclam SVD

Resident Priest:

Fr. Jim Knight SVD

Parish Council Chairman

Mr Manfred Casseeram

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. Matthew Green, FMS

St. Joseph Flexible Centre

Mr. Ben Ebert

Community Liaison Officer

Ms Michele Castagna

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*.

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, 12 months' notice required.

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.



Jubilee Year of Mercy “Merciful like the Father”

“Let us rediscover the *corporal works of mercy*: to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, heal the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. And let us not forget the *spiritual works of mercy*: to counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offences, bear patiently those who do us ill, and pray for the living and the dead”. **Pope Francis, Misericordiae Vultus. Question for Week 5 of Easter: Do we see the poor as having a special place and experience in the heart of God? If our response is “YES” what are we doing about it?**

5th Sunday of Easter Year C
23rd - 24th April 2016

ARE YOU GRATEFUL TO BE AN AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC?

“Witnessing” about one’s faith in the stand-up-and-tell-how-you-met-Jesus style is not as common a practice among us Catholics as among some other Christian denominations like the Pentecostals. Next month May 20th-22nd, Mr Will Graham, grandson of Dr Billy Graham, an American Christian evangelist will join Christian churches for Reality 2016 in Alice Springs at Blatherskite Park. People will hear Will Graham share the Good News of Jesus Christ on a one-on-one discipleship as the Gospel is proclaimed.

Catholics are all encouraged to attend however whether you decide to participate or not, Catholics should not fear the term “witnessing”. In fact, “witnessing” is part of our Catholic faith life. Simply look at the lives of saints, Vinnies volunteers, founders of religious orders, mystics, social justice activists, teachers, doctors, nurses, priests, mums and dads, gardeners, the unknown good Samaritans and the martyrs who are still dying for the Catholic faith we hold and the justice we live. There are many more who witnessed to us about Jesus without uttering a single word. All of these “witnessed” in a true sense of the word the compassionate and merciful heart of God in Christ Jesus. Did you know that of all kinds of “witnessing,” the greatest and most effective is LOVE! Any act of love, then, is an act of “witness”! Isn’t that Jesus commandment today in the Gospel?

Undoubtedly, the Australian Catholics continue to give others an experience of being loved - an experience of “good news” offered & received daily. These are the good news we rarely tell anyone. For example, did you know that the Catholic Church is the largest non-Government employer in Australia: at least 131,000 of which 98,500 are women...and many good news stories like:

- 721,000 students in 1,710 Catholic schools employing 82,000 staff;
- 66 hospitals and 23,200 residential aged care beds;
- Largest welfare provider outside Government with 63 member organisations and approximately 1,000,000 clients cared for annually!
- St Vincent de Paul is the largest and most extensive volunteer welfare network in the country with 18,209 members and 30,910 volunteers;
- Caritas Australia raised \$37m for the poor in 2013 contributing to an average of \$1b worldwide for humanitarian and development mission of the Catholic Church;
- Catholic Mission raised \$20.4m for the poor in 2014 and directly supporting 536,460 children around the world.
- Worldwide Catholic numbers are booming 1.254 billion at the end of 2013;

(cont’d next page)

Daily Readings: starting 25 April 2016

Mon: Wis 3:1-9
1 Cor 1:18-25 Jn 12:23-28

Tues: 1 Pet 5:5-14 Mk 16:15-20

Wed: Acts 15:1-6 Jn 5:1-8

Thur: Acts 15:7-21 Jn 15:9-11

Fri: Acts 15:22-31 Jn 15:12-17

Sat: Acts 16:1-10 Jn 14:18-21

Sun: Acts 15:1-2,22-29
Apoc 21:10-14,22-23 Jn 14:23-29

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Bernadette Dowd, Clare Edwards, Mary Dick, Colleen Matson, Georgina Gilbert, Kathy Golotta, Gesu Golotta, Eufelia Canta and Helena Monaghan

May the Lord grant them healing.



**EARTH DAY 2016
Awakening, Awe and Wonder**

“We will recover our sense of wonder and our sense of the sacred only if we appreciate the universe beyond ourselves as a revelatory experience of that numinous presence whence all things come into being.” “The human venture depends absolutely on this quality of awe and reverence and joy in the Earth and all that lives and grows upon the Earth.” Thomas Berry, *The Great Work*, 49 and 166

Personal reflection

- Recall a time when you sensed nature as a revelation of the divine. What was that experience like for you? What did it teach you; how did it challenge you?
- How can we nurture a sense of awe, wonder and reverence in our relationships with the material world — in ourselves, in others?

Devotional Practices:

Prayers of the Holy Rosary

Monday to Thursday 5pm

Saint Joseph’s Devotion

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

Legion of Mary

Mondays from 6:15pm - 7:15pm

Weekly Bible Sharing

Wednesdays 6:15pm -7:30pm

Mothers’ Praying for Your Children

Thursday night at 6:15pm - 7:15pm

Divine Office—Liturgy of the Hours

Monday to Friday 6:45am

(cont’n from page 1)

- There are 1321 parishes in Australia including 2 belonging to Eastern Catholic Churches, serving 5.4m Catholics of which 666,376 worship every Sunday, which means we could fill the MCG seven times every Sunday with mass- going Catholics!
- In Africa the numbers grew from 45m in 1970 to 176m in 2012;
- In 2013 Census, Catholics added another 300,000 people to remain the biggest in Australia. Many of the major protestant denominations fell, including Anglican (-38,340), Uniting Church (-69,633), Churches of Christ (-5,133) and Salvation Army (-4,044);
- And Pope Francis...a man who wears old shoes, simple robes, pays his own hotel bills, refuses to live in the Vatican palace; he washes the feet of a Muslim woman on a Holy Thursday and drives around with a modest second generation black fuel efficient Ford Focus. Certainly he has his eyes on a bigger prize!!

While Popes John Paul 2, Benedict XVI and Francis 1 have apologized numerous times for 2000 years of violence committed against Jews, women, indigenous peoples, the current sexual abuse and stuff-ups of priests and bishops, please do not let the sins of a few and our dark history dampen the generosity and persevering Catholics who continue to give humble witness to building God’s Kingdom. Yes, many have left the Church and may not return. But believe it or not, the Church’s mission, as Jesus promises, is still being guided by the Holy Spirit to *the Truth* where all will be all in Christ Jesus (Jn 16:13). Hang on in there!!

P.S Statistics of Catholic Good News above are taken from Fr Richard Leonard’s SJ seminar in Darwin last year.

Fr Raass SVD
Parish Priest



Telephone Tree Ministry

“I, Michele Castagna, and the OLSH Parish Council through Fr Raass have agreed for me to be our OLSH Parish Community Liaison and the Telephone Tree Coordinator Ministry. The idea is to provide a listening ear and warm touch to persons who need to tell or to share their story if they are feeling lonely, lost and/or have no one to talk to. I would make myself available for visit contact on a specific day (yet to be decided) by appointment at the presbytery. It has been identified that there is large number of lonely older Catholics and non-Catholics who would welcome an opportunity to share. It will be that telephone contact and links will be made by establishing a telephone tree club that will ring persons in the community for a chat and to reassure persons that the parish does recognise the needs for closer and improved communication specially to those unable to leave their homes and those without transport often called the shut ins.

If you know of anyone who meets these criteria, please contact me with their name and phone number. Be assured all matters will be respected and treated private and confidential. The contact numbers are 89521049 or 89523237. I need the help of the parish to make these a viable and successful ministry. Let make this parish truly inclusive”.

- Ms Michele Castagna

New Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

OLSH Parish is now inviting new readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to come forward. However, it is expected that all volunteers go through at least one session of formal training. At this weekend’s Masses, Sr Anne, our Liturgy Co-ordinator, will brief you on what’s expected and the interior consolation it brings to your life.

WELCOME!

OLSH Parish WELCOMES all new parishioners and their families. Please do not hesitate to introduce yourself to any of the priests or members of the Parish Council. We hope you will enjoy your stay with us and contribute to the reign of God. in Central Australia.

Year of Mercy Adult Workshops & Retreats,
OLSH Parish

This is an opportunity for all parishioners to deepen your Catholic faith, offer an alternative vision to our society and show that the Kingdom of God is possible and attractive as ever before. We are blessed to have top speakers and facilitators in 2016. C'mon, life is too precious to be lived in mediocrity.

Saturday, 21st May, 9am-4:00pm

Workshop: **The Ecological Blessing of Mercy**

All invited at St Francis Centre (*Donations only*) by Sr Veronica Lawson, PhD, RSM, Author & Biblical scholar, taught for 27 years at ACU.

Saturday, 27th August, 9am-4pm

Workshop & Seminar: **What is the Mission of the Church Today in this Jubilee Year of Mercy?** *All invited* at St Francis Centre (*Donations only*) by Professor (Fr) Roger Schroeder PhD, SVD, Professor of Intercultural Studies, Chicago, USA

Friday 7th October (pm) Saturday 8th to Sunday 9th (midday)

Spiritual Retreat: **Parish Retreat In this Year of Mercy:** To be facilitated by Sr Anne Surtees OSU, Spiritual Director, Provincial Ursuline Sisters Leadership Team, Former Director of Center Care Pastoral Ministries, Brisbane. *Venue and Costs: TBA*



Special Visitor from Rome

Next week the Vice-Superior General of the Divine Word Missionaries will be visiting his SVD brothers ministering in Central Australia.

His name is Fr Robert Kisala SVD, born in Chicago, took final vows in 1984 and was ordained in 1985. But in between times, right after his graduation, he took advantage of a program that sent him to Japan to spend two years teaching English in an SVD high school. Based on that experience, his first choice for assignment after ordination was Japan, which was granted. He studied Sociology of Religion at the University of Tokyo, where he received his PhD in 1994 and went on to teach at Nanzan University in Nagoya, Japan. In 1999, Fr. Kisala was named vice provincial of the Japan Province and in 2004 he became Provincial. He served in that capacity until 2006, when he was elected to a six-year term as a member of the General Council of the Divine Word Missionaries.

Welcome to the Red Centre Fr Robert.

Feast for the Week: St. Mark, evangelist

The second Gospel was written by St. Mark, who, in the New Testament, is sometimes called **John Mark**. Both he and his mother, Mary, were highly esteemed in the early Church, and his mother's house in Jerusalem served as a meeting place for Christians there.

Cleaning: 30 April 2016 Group 1

Sammy Nobleza, Mel & Tinna Buenviaje

Counters: 01 May 2016

John & Margaret Healy, Margaret McNaught

Last Week's Collections:

1st Collection: \$1,242.40 (for the presbytery)

2nd Collection: \$ 915.40 (for the parish)

Planned Giving: \$ 1,420.00

Diocesan Youth Ministry Appeal: \$ 441.15

Thank you for your generosity!

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



30th Anniversary Holy Mass of Saint John Paul 2 Visit to the Red Centre

Thirty years ago Saint Pope John Paul 2 visited Central Australia on the 2th November 1986.

Along the *Yepperenye* Dreaming track, he was greeted by 8,000 plus cheering people from all walks of life as well as eight respected indigenous elders. At Blatherskite Park, the late Kumanjaye Rubuntja gifted him with a very special and sacred gift – a massive painting depicting the *Yepperenye* Dreaming which is displayed at the memorial enclave at OLSH Church. The painting is re-presenting an eternal truth of how the Creator God has been with them from the very beginning of existence, that is, before the missionaries arrived. Please make time to learn about the Dreaming theology and spirituality because it influences our indigenous brothers and sisters so strongly and according to Saint John Paul 2, "*their way of touching the mystery of God's Spirit in them and in creation*". May I also invite all parishioners to read the speech/homily of the Saint of the absolute need for inclusion of our indigenous brothers and sisters at all levels of Australian society. Picture above are Josie and M.K, two Arrernte elders who were present in 1986. Josie is holding Saint John Paul's speech.

The reasons why Bishops Eugene of Darwin, Christopher of Canberra/Goulbourn and Sproxtton of Perth gathered last week with 50 lay leaders who are working with indigenous all over Australia. The gathering began with a spiritual retreat with the theme on "*Reconciliation with God, Neighbour and Land*". At the celebration of the 30th Anniversary Mass, Bishop Eugene spoke powerfully of the need "to work together and to respect the ongoing theological and cultural contributions of the indigenous Australians".



Celebrate Mercy Concert, 2nd May, OLSH Church

Fr Rob Galea and our Catholic Youth of Alice Springs will be hosting a night to remember in honour of Mercy next Monday, 2nd May. This is a parish event so bring all your family members and neighbours. The evening will begin with a BBQ at 5:30pm for a 7:00pm start.

L'Arche Community in A/Springs - God's calling?



Do you have experience of a L'Arche community, wish to know more about this movement or would like to help establish a Friends of L'Arche network here in Alice Springs? Contact Carol Muir carolmckc@hotmail.com or via text 0425484821.

Roster for weekend of 30 April - 01 May 2016

	Commentator	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6pm pm	Brendan Heenan	Alf Goody Sue Bain	M Maddocks Darryl Smith Thelma Bowen
Sun 7:30 am	Mike Steller	M McNaught Pushpa Vida	Fred Twohig Rita Steller John Lillecrapp
Sun 9:30 am	Debbie Cook	Precy Taylor Bridget Knight	Cristy Genetti Virginia Loy Bruce Were
Sun 5:30 pm	Mel Buenviaje	Denise Simon Tinna Buenviaje	Sammy Nobleza Thampi Joseph Denise Simon

5th Sunday of Easter Year C

23rd –24th April 2016

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading:

Acts 14:21-27

They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe. They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 144:8-13

R/ I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Second Reading:

Apoc 21:1-5

He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.

I, John saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.' Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

John 13:31-35

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

When Judas had gone Jesus said: 'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. 'My little children, I shall not be with you much longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Jn 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.