



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

Sick Call: 0400 469 540

Email: olsh_parish_asp@bigpond.com

Website:

www.olshparishalicesprings.org.au

Bulletin: Email:

olsh.parish.bulletin@gmail.com

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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Social Justice Sunday
27th - 28th September 2014

NEVER TOO LATE FOR GOD'S MERCY

From Sunday Reflection by Fr. Eugene Lobo, SJ



The parable of the Two Sons in today's Gospel is unique to Matthew. We are presented with the actual situation in the early church regarding the response to Jesus by religious groups. It is a straight forward parable and the issue proposed presents clear choices. It opens the mind of the listener and reader to judge what is right: whether it is good to say something you will do and later not do it or to promise someone that you will not do something and later regret the action and do it. In fact both of them seem to be no good sons in their response to their father. Both of them were imperfect. But it is far nobler to change the mind and do good than to remain set in the direction of evil.

We are not saved by belonging but by becoming. In our relationship with God actions speak louder than words. Thus in the context of the parable the son who actually did what his father requested fulfilled his father's will. This supports a strong point that Matthew makes throughout the gospel that doing the will of God is far superior to just talking about it.

This parable however, does not end with the point it already made. Matthew provides specific references to tax collectors and prostitutes entering the kingdom of God before the religious leaders to whom Jesus is speaking. He recalls here how earlier in the Gospel he referred to the Sadducees and Pharisees when they came to be baptized at Jordan. He called them a generation of vipers that has come to flee from the wrath to come. As it turned out this group had gone through the motions of repentance but obviously did not believe and therefore did not change. They are similar to the son who said he would go out to work in his father's vineyard but did not go. Since Jesus presented the parable in terms of characters, the leaders were almost obliged to respond without realizing that they were condemning themselves.

What is clear from this Gospel and from the First Reading is that God is primarily concerned with our present relationship to him. As far as the past is concerned, God has a very short memory. In fact, we might say he has none at all. This is the "injustice" of God that Ezekiel mentions.

We remember the man who was crucified with Jesus on Calvary. He was a major criminal, a brigand, a robber, perhaps a murderer. There, in the very last moments while hanging on the cross he asks pardon and forgiveness — "Jesus, remember me when you enter into your Kingdom." The reply comes instantly, without any qualifications whatsoever, "Today, you will be with me in Paradise." The forgiveness he receives is immediate and total. The readings tell us that it is never too late for God's mercy. No sin is greater in the power of God to forgive. His mercy waits patiently and he wants all to turn towards him and be with him. Jesus calls us today to make our own personal choices. In those choices we are free and individually responsible for our own actions.

Parish Team:

Parish Priest:

Fr. Jan Szweda, SVD

Aboriginal Chaplain:

Syro-Malabar Chaplain

Fr. Binesh Naramattathil

RCIA Coordinator:

Secretary:

Mel Buenviaje

Parish Past. Council Chairman

Fred Twohig

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.

Marriage:

By appointment only, 6 months' notice required.

Daily Readings: starting 29 September

Mon: Dan 7:9-10,13-14 Jn 1:47-51
Tues: Job 3:1-3,11-17,20-23 Lk 9:51-56
Wed: Job 9:1-12 Lk 9:57-62
Thu: Ex 23:20-23 Mt 18:1-5,10
Fri: Job 38:1,12-21, 40:3-5 Lk 10:13-16
Sat: Job 42:1-3,5-6,12-17 Lk 10:17-24
Sun: Is 5:1-7 Phil 4:6-9 Mt 21:33-43

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +

Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Isobel Laverty, Janice Loria Lazo, Margaret McNaught, Rita Knchel, Graciano Mercado, Kevin Feed, Penelope Sleming, Hermon Turkey, Tilde Cabantog, Benedicto J Chupungco, Eileen Sanvictores, Manuel Sarangay, Alice Costa, Do Quyen, Paul Rindahl, Gwyneth Allwright, Kathleen Williams, Lafie Saanga, Dianne McGinn, Georgina Gilbert, Editha Baslot, Ann Vernon, Kevin Edwin, Paul Manard, Heather Cent, Jala Breanna, Singmia Fofung, Colleen Langcake, Cathy Golotta, Marissa Johnston, Allison Burgess, Rosemarie Schnell, Bill Sims, Antonio Mutia, Gill Dew, Mark McGinley, Patricia Wyatt, Lorraine Gore, Peter Strachan, Gary Brenton, Glen Clarke, Imblisa, May Lee Shah, Bill Costa, Maria Lourdes Sacramento.

May the Lord grant them healing.

Death Anniversary: Desmond Vida - 1 Oct

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

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

Social Justice

A Crown for Australia: Striving for the Best in our Sporting Nation. This year's Australian Bishop's Social Justice Statement begins 'we the Catholic Bishops of Australia want to celebrate the gifts that sport brings to our country and to encourage all that is best in it. Those gifts are gifts from God. But we also need to look at another reality: the times when sport and sports people abandon their ideals, when other interests turn people into commodities, or when sections of our community are excluded from opportunity and joy'.

Using the analogy of sports, which many of us can understand, the Bishops remind us that sport is a 'wonderful socialiser' including whole communities as well as sportsmen and women aiming to be best at their particular sport. This year's Statement is a wonderful read and worth the time taken to read, reflect and share one's point of view. We, the Social Justice Awareness Group (SJAG), offer to everyone an invitation to do just this. At this Sunday's meeting we will be discussing how and when this could possibly be set up and will let you know next week of the possibilities we, as a Parish Community, may have doing just this in 2014.

Today, the SJAG has a table at the back of the Church, offering you information and directions for finding information on social justice issues in today's world.
 - Kathleen Leahy OLSH Chairperson.

SYNOD ON THE FAMILY

Family life will be the focus of an Extraordinary Synod of Bishops that will meet at the Vatican from 5 to 19 October 2014. Around 150 delegates will take part in the meeting to discuss the "pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelization". The Australian Catholic Bishops invite all to observe **Friday the 10th of October as a special day of prayer and fasting** for the success of the Synod.

LITURGICAL NOTES

HOLY COMMUNION: The more complete form of participation in the Mass by which the faithful... receive the Lord's body from the same sacrifice is strongly endorsed.
Vatican II, SC55

It is most desirable that the faithful... receive the Lord's body from hosts consecrated at the same Mass and that, in the cases where this is foreseen, they partake of the chalice so that, even by means of the signs, communion may stand out more clearly as a participation in the sacrifice actually being celebrated.
GIRM 85

DID YOU KNOW?

The chief priests and elders were the leaders of the Jewish religious community. They were the ones with training and were learned in Scriptures. They should have known and recognised what is from God but instead were like the son who says "yes" and fails to carry out God's will.

Prostitutes and tax collectors are often bracketed together because both were considered "sinners": prostitutes for their sexual behaviour and tax collectors because they cooperated with the Roman authorities and cheated their own people.

WELCOME!

Welcome to GRACE ELIZABETH LEONARD daughter of Daniel and Tiffany Leonard to be baptized after 9:30 am Mass.

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!

Parish Diary

Sunday 28 September
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday 29 September
Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Archangels
Nat. Police Remembrance Day Service 10:00am

Tuesday 30 September
 • Prison Ministry 5:45 -7:30pm

Wednesday 01 October

Thursday 02 October

Friday 03 October

Saturday 04 October

Sunday 05 October
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thank You

Sincere THANK YOU to Helena Casseeram and members of the Hospitality Ministry, to members of the Social Justice Awareness Group, and to all parishioners who prepared and participated in the Parish Picnic at the Old Telegraph Station last Sunday. Thank you to David Labastida for the sound system. It was a wonderful event and we had a great fun. Thank you for turning up in such a great number, for sharing food and laughter, and for participating in the games. A community that prays and plays together, stays together! - Fr. Jan

FROM THE YOUTH OFFICE

Australian Catholic Youth Ministry Convention
 A group of 9 people from across the diocese will travel to Adelaide in early October for the Convention. It brings together over 300 people involved in Youth Ministry across Australia for formation, workshops and conversation.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2015 Announced
 After an incredibly successful event in 2013 in Melbourne, the ACBC's National Office for Youth have announced that the next Festival will be held 3-5 December in Adelaide. The Festival is for young people in the Church, to gather to learn, celebrate and share their faith. It is for Year 9 to 25 year olds. More information will be released in early 2015 about how to organise a group from your school or parish to attend the Festival. 77 Territorians went to the Festival in Melbourne last year.

Cleaning: 4 October **Group 7**
 Rommel Pacion, Eli Sabuero, Merivon Tolentino
 Mark Hosiller

Counters: 05 October
 Mel & Tinna Buenviaje

Last Week's Collections:
 1st Collection: \$1,482.95 (for the presbytery)
 2nd Collection: \$3,312.40 (for the parish)

Thank you for your generosity!

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

A prayer for Sport

God of all sports (and none):
 From our small minds, how amused you must be
 when our prayers about sport are about our own success or our team's.
 Whose side are you on?
 How do you choose when supporters from both sides
 implore your divine intervention?
 Remind us that in prayer our hearts are opened to you
 and our minds lifted beyond ourselves.
 Just as prayer changes us, not you, O God,
 so sport too, can lift us beyond ourselves.
 So, we pray:
 We give thanks for the gift of our bodies,
 For the ability to run, walk, jump, swim, catch and throw.
 We pray for patience and discipline,
 that we may learn the joy of mastering new skills:
 achieving success, and cheerfully bearing failure
 in the company of others.
 We pray that our relationships be enriched
 through the friendships we form.
 May we learn to include others across borders
 of language, colour, gender and religion.
 We pray that we care for others.
 May we especially look out for those who are differently abled,
 and those often left on the boundaries.
 Through our vigilance
 may we always play fair,
 and ensure that no one is abused or exploited.
 We ask this through Jesus your son. Amen.



Today, we have the Assist a Student Appeal. You may give your donations as you exit the church.
 - David Reilly OLSH Conference President.

Campfire in the Heart

Meditation Retreat on 17th - 19th October 2014.
 Come, Listen, Learn, Live
 Led by Kath Houston and Sue Woods
 For more information phone Sue Woods 043 88 11 742

Roster for weekend of 04 / 05 October 2014

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	John Appleby	Matthew Smith Binu Katherine	Christine Grant Darryl Smith Mary Dick
Sun 7:30 am	Mike Steller	Pushpa Vida Jo Molin	Margaret Lillecrapp John Lillecrapp Greg Gilbert
Sun 9:30 am	Kevin Hickmott	Innocent Madamombe Col Marshall	Helena Casseeram Virginia Loy Carmela Guthart
Sun 5:30 pm	Miguel Ociones	Andrzej Skrzypiec Denise Simon	Thampi Joseph Thomas John Mel Buenviaje

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

27th - 28th September 2014

Entrance Antiphon: Dan 3:31,29,30,43,42

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgment, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: You object, "What the Lord does is unjust". Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 24:4-9 **R/** Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, So that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today". He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon: 1 John 3:16

By this we came to know the love of God: that Christ laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for one another.