



# 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\_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

## Parish Team:

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Asaeli Raass SVD  
**Assistant Parish Priest:**  
Fr Prakash Menezes SVD  
**Resident Priests:**  
Fr. Vincent Mai SVD  
Fr. Jim Knight SVD  
**Syro-Malabar Chaplain**  
Fr. Binesh Naramattathil CST  
**Liturgy Coordinator (New Role)**  
Sr. Mary Bennett RSM  
**Secretary:**  
Mel Buenivaje  
**Parish Past. Council Chairman**  
Mr Fred Twohig  
**Parish Treasurer**  
Mr Kevin Hickmott  
**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**  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> (and 5<sup>th</sup>) Sundays of the  
month - 11am *Aboriginal*  
*Community Mass at South Terrace.*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month—11 am  
*Aboriginal Community Mass at Amoonguna,*  
*Southeast of Alice Springs, off the Ross High-*  
*way.*

## Sacraments:

**Reconciliation:**  
Saturday 11:30 am & 5:30 pm  
**Baptism:** By appointment: one  
month's notice required.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. Formation  
of parents falls on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of  
the month. 7:00 pm—8:00 pm  
**Marriage:**  
By appointment only, 6 months'  
notice required.

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Year B  
14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> March 2015

## 'People Preferred Darkness to Light'

Recently two devices were installed in our OLSH Church by the Finance and Works Committee. They are meant to drive away the night-flying bats from entering the church building. The white flickering strobe light facing the ceiling is constantly sending an ultrasonic frequency to irritate them. We think it is working. This small colony of bats is so accustomed to the dark that their body is comfortable in it and in any shadowy parts of the church building. This is why bats live in dark caves. They hate the light. Their eyes would literally be hurt if they are dragged out of dark caves to the quiet regions of light and the brightness of day.

It can happen that we become like bats. We oftentimes prefer the false safety of darkness to the light of Christ that exposes, for example, our selfish, racist, sexist, or violent selves. We all have our own caves that we need to name. Lent, ladies and gentleman, is meant to 'drag' us out of our darkness into the Easter light of Christ through prayer, fasting, and the "almsgiving" of the gift of ourselves as well as the offer of material assistance to our sisters and brothers in many kinds of need.

In today's Gospel (John 3:14-21) Jesus does not come to judge, but to simply turn on His light of merciful love upon us to expose both good and evil. Whenever we feel weak and vulnerable, fragile and unstable or unable to sing the Lord's song in a foreign land (Psalm 37), may we pledge ourselves to remember that **God's enduring light will never fail us.** You and I have the assurance of God's steadfast love that, in the fullness of time, has been revealed to us in the crucified Jesus the Christ.

Fr Raass SVD  
Parish Priest

## Evangelii Gaudium

"No-one must say that they cannot be close to the poor because their own lifestyle demands more attention to other areas. This is an excuse commonly heard in academic, business or professional, and even ecclesial circles. While it is quite true that the essential vocation and mission of the lay faithful is to strive that earthly realities and all human activity may be transformed by the Gospel, none of us can think we are exempt from concern for the poor and social justice."

Par 200 from *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis, Nov. 24, 2013

**'I have seen you at Mass for years, I am sorry I never met you!'**

Please be nice to people. The people next to you in Church are fellow Catholics and, probably like you, a bit shy about leaving their comfort zone. Reach out and say hello. Introduce yourself. None of us in this parish is ever worse off for a bit of neighbourliness. There are times when a simple gesture with a smile can be a life-saver to the one next to you. OLSH Parish believes we can be in touch, still respecting each other's space, yet ready to be real people. Don't be afraid to unearth the best in you!

+ PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME +

### Daily Readings: starting 16 March

**Mon:** Is 65:17-21            Jn 4:43-54  
**Tues:** Jer 1:4-9  
          Acts 13:46-49        Lk 10:1-12,17-20  
**Wed:** Is 49:8-15            Jn 5:17-30  
**Thur:** 2 Sam 7:4-5,12-14,16  
          Rom 4:13,16-18,22    Lk 2:41-51  
**Fri:** Wis 2:1,12-22        Jn 7:1-2,25-30  
**Sat:** Jer 11:18-20        Jn 7:40-52  
**Sun:** Jer 31:31-34  
          Heb 5:7-9            Jn 12:20-33

**+ Pray & read your Bible every day +**

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

Colin Evers, Helena Monaghan, Lafi Sa'anga, Tony Rilocapro, Carmen Felix Dela Cruz, Bodhi Allen, Jamie Hampton (Melbourne), Sr. Don 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, Colleen Matson, David Woods, Collen Langcake, Hilla Casseeram, Nod & Harold Rioux.

*May the Lord grant them healing.*

### Ecumenical Lenten Wednesday Services

March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Catholic Church
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	To be announced

**ALL SERVICES START AT 7:00PM**

### Devotional Practices:

#### **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 (Home Based)

#### **Adoration**

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

#### **Prayer Fellowship**

Tuesday from 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm

#### **Christian Meditation (Presbytery Chapel)**

Thursday 12:00 - 12:30 pm

#### **Divine Office—Liturgy of the Hours**

Monday to Friday 6:45am

### “Stations of the Cross With Pope Francis” this Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm

On this Fourth Friday of Lent at 7:30pm, we will focus our attention on Pope Francis' meditations on the Passion of the Christ, not only a deeply prayerful journey along the via dolorosa, but valuable insight into the mind and heart of the recently elected Holy Father. Turn off the TV & come this Friday if you are missing out on this classic devotion. Allow Pope Francis to guide you to follow the way of the Cross in our daily lives, **‘Let us walk together along the Way of the Cross and let us do so carrying in our hearts this word of love and forgiveness. Let us go forward waiting for the Resurrection of Jesus, who loves us so much. He is all love!’**

Pope Francis

### Welcome Home

“This is the greeting I received last night at OLSH Parish when I attended the **2nd Rite of Reconciliation**. What a wonderful phrase! What a wonderful feeling when one is going for confession. Fr. Raass provided a venue to come home during Lent and it will be offered again on Monday, March 30th. Come home and **“have a little talk with Jesus.”** Come join our parish at **6.30pm, on the 30<sup>th</sup> March**. It's a quiet affair where you can come and have time with just your thoughts, prayers and God. Fr. Raass began with a song (he played the guitar and sang), prayer, reading and the Gospel and then a quiet period of private contemplation. We finished with a closing prayer and sang Amazing Grace, Fr. Raass style – very beautiful”, It's Lent. Open your heart and be Welcomed Home.

- Ruth Sexton, Bath Street

### Ecumenical Service – Catholic Church

OLSH Parish will host an ecumenical Lenten prayer service this week on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00pm.**

**ALL PARISHIONERS ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.** Remember the words of our good Master, “May they be one as we are one”. Come with open hearts and minds.

### Sacramental Preparation Begins

If your kids are not at OLSH College and are missing out on the Sacramental preparation (First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation), it is not too late to enroll them. Sacramental Formation for children of catechetical age including children with an intellectual disability will begin this **Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March at the St Francis Centre at 3:30pm.** Contact Carmela or Sr. Mary to discuss the readiness of your child. Please take note that for full initiation - first Holy Communion and Confirmation will be celebrated together on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> of July at the 9:30am Mass. Bishop Eugene will be the main celebrant as the ordinary Minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please pass it on to families in your neighbourhood.

### Saint of the Week – ST PATRICK, bishop (March 17)

### WELCOME!

Welcome to the parish community **Violet Mary May Bindle**, daughter of Alexander Bindle and Katie Miles, **Reena Elise Molina**, daughter of Edwin and Rowena Molina, and **Madelyn Judith Cadan**, daughter of Shane and Aimee Cadan, who will be baptised this Sunday, 15 March.

### Spiritual Direction Available at OLSH Parish

OLSH Parish is fortunate to have three trained **Spiritual Directors** to cater for your religious experience and discernment. Arise and call a Spiritual Director if this is what you and God want for your life. Remember – LIFELINES are available if you need further professional assistance.

Fr A Raass SVD	89521049
Br Tony Caddy FMS	0407301474
Mr David Woods (Campfire in the Heart Ministry)	0416641521



**Would you like to make a real difference?**

The Vinnies Conference is seeking interested people to join its proactive group. We meet monthly for spiritual renewal and to oversee several Vinnies initiatives to assist the needy. These include:

- Home and hospital visitations
- The Vinnies shop
- Emergency Relief (Mon & Wed)
- Food Van (Mon – Fri) - sandwich making
- Vinnies Appeals - Assist A Student Winter & Christmas
- Brumby's bread collections

If you would like to be involved in the Conference please call Bernie on 0400663483 for further information. We would love to hear from you.

### Syro-Malabar Retreat

A reminder to all our Syro-Malabar parishioners that your Lenten Retreat begins on the **17<sup>th</sup> March - 19<sup>th</sup> March** from 6:00pm – 9:30pm at OLSH Church. Please note that on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March your retreat venue will change to Bath Street Campus Hall. All the best.

### A Well-Trained Tongue: Formation in the Ministry of Reader (Lectors)

OLSH Parish is looking for new lectors (readers) to assist at the **6:00pm** and **5:30pm Weekend Masses**. ALL new lectors MUST receive some training or formation provided by the parish team. If you are a regular worshipper at these times please do not hesitate to volunteer and be part of this sacred ministry of proclaiming God's word. Please contact any of the priests directly or Sr Mary so we could arrange a suitable time for training.

**Cleaning:** 21 March **Group 7**  
Rommel Pacion, Merivon Tolentino, Mark Hosiller  
**Counters:** 22 March 2015  
Carmel Leonard

**Last Week's Collections:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Collection: \$1,309.75 (for the presbytery)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: \$2,187.60 (for the parish)

*Thank you for your generosity!*

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

### JOIN A LENTEN GROUP OR START ONE YOURSELF

OLSH Parish Lenten Sharing Groups have already started. It is not too late to call any of the facilitators at various locations. Otherwise you are free to start a group yourself around your family members and acquaintances. Contact the parish office for a copy of the Arise programme and CDs.

Lenten Group Facilitator	Where to Meet	When to Meet	Phone Numbers
Fr Prakash Menezes SVD	4 Hartley Street (Presbytery)	Saturdays from 2:30pm	8952 1049
Sr Mary Bennett RSM	58 Memorial Ave (St Francis Centre)	Mondays from 2:00pm	8953 8726
Sr Helen Kennedy FMM	58 Memorial Ave (St Francis Centre)	Mondays from 7:00pm	8952 4151
Sue Marshall/ Berni 'O Grady	38 Railway Tce (Vinnies Centre)	Sundays from 1:00pm	8952 1974
Ruth Sexton	Bath St Campus (for teachers but anyone is welcome)	Thursday from 3:30pm	89508617

### OLSH PARISH INTER-CULTURAL FORMATION WORKSHOP

#### **"Intercultural and Interpersonal Relations"**

OLSH Parish will not be tempted to live in mutual indifference or avoid enriching intercultural and interpersonal experiences. Fr Tim Norton SVD, former Provincial Superior of the Divine Word Missionaries and Director of NEMI Renewal Programmes, Rome, Italy, will run a **WORKSHOP** on **INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE** that includes skills for interpersonal communication, conflict management and fraternal correction on **Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> April from 9:00am – 4:00pm**. Representatives from various cultural and language groups, members of the Parish/Finance Council and leaders of various parish support groups are highly encouraged to attend. Otherwise all parishioners are invited to participate. RSVP Mel at the office 89521049 by 10<sup>th</sup> April. Donations only at the door to cover lunch and biscuits.

The **OLSH Associates** will celebrate Mass together on Saturday, 21 March at 11am followed by the Stations of the Cross. A priest will conduct the Stations. The Associates will meet at the Convent for a shared lunch. Thank you.

- Paula Thornton (on behalf of Sr. Margaret & Sr. Kathleen)

### **Roster for weekend of 21/22 March 2015**

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
<b>Sat 6:00 pm</b>	John Appleby	Sue Bain Binu Katherine	Rose Sabadin Leanne Dieckmann Anne Chivers
<b>Sun 7:30 am</b>	Fred Twohig	Carmel Leonard Charles Gamon	Kath McGargill Rita Steller Mike Steller
<b>Sun 9:30 am</b>	Kevin Hickmott	Rodea Aplaon Col Marshall	Helena Casseeram Margaret Lillecrapp Mark Bensted
<b>Sun 5:30 pm</b>	Miguel Ociones	Mike Williams Pat Monaghan	Thomas J. John Cristina Buenviaje Marieta Ives

**4th Sunday of Lent Year B**

**14th - 15th March 2015**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Rejoice, Jerusalem!, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at here consoling breast.

**First Reading:**

2 Chronicles 36:14-16.19-23

*The wrath and mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.*

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy. Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.' And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfill the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Ps 136

**R/** Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

**Second Reading:**

Ephesians 2:4-10

*When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.*

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus. This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The Word of the Lord

Jn 3:16

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

God loved the world so much he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Gospel:**

John 3:14-21

*God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, For ever they are praising you everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**Prayers of the Faithful:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Communion Antiphon:** Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.