



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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Website:
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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 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

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



Year of Youth in the Diocese of Darwin

“Love hopes all things. Panta elpizei. Love does not despair of the future.

Following upon what has just been said, this phrase speaks of the hope of one who knows that others can change, mature and radiate unexpected beauty and untold potential. This does not mean that everything will change in this life. It does involve realizing that, though things may not always turn out as we wish, God may well make crooked lines straight and draw some good from the evil we endure in this world. “Pope Francis, Ch.4#116, Amoris Laetitia.

2nd Sunday of Lent Year B
24th - 25th February 2018

GOD'S WAYS ARE NOT OUR WAYS

Many of us would regard Abraham's response to sacrifice his only son Isaac an absurdity. But today God calls it fidelity. “Now I know you fear God”, Mark 9:2-10. How does one begin to understand God's ways with this kind of request to kill a human being as a burnt offering?

Abraham, by contrast, presumes that God knows what God is asking, and though it might be tearing him apart inside, he steadfastly obeys God's command. This message is repeated in the second reading today where St Paul reminds his audience that no matter what the adversity, they can be assured of providential care. “If God is for us, who can be against us” (Rom 8:31-34). It sounds paradoxical.

The ongoing war in Iraq and Syria might cause one to question whether or not God is awake, let alone on our side. In the midst of terrorism and young people shooting other young people in the USA, it seems as though there is much to prevail against us. That is another judgment of “our way” in contrast to “God's way”.

Peter's way is to make three tents on top of Mount Transfiguration. God's way is to take the spiritual mountain-top experience and use its power to carry us into the rest of life – to go down the mountain (Mark 9:2-10).

How many times do we attempt at boxing or packaging our spiritual experience as if it is the norm for all Christian life? Abraham trusted God's way, because Abraham had experienced God's fidelity in other seemingly absurd circumstances. Our father of faith was able to respond on the basis of his total experience of God, not isolating God's command from any of the others.

Catholics do understand this concept from another angle. It's called sacred tradition where the old and the new spiritual experiences of the Church are held consistently with the apostolic succession and the doctrinal and spiritual authority of the Christian Church and of the Bible. Contemporary and private revelations on other mountain-top experiences are therefore discerned carefully so that they too affirm the truth of the Word handed down for 2000 years.

Let's not isolate the Transfiguration experience. It's full meaning comes only after the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Follow the entire experience and allow it to unfold. Without the judgement of ‘my way’ or ‘our way’. Remember true Catholicism, authentically lived, is counter-cultural.

Fr Raass SVD
Parish Priest

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 26 February 2018

Mon: Dan 9:4-10 Lk 6:36-38
Tues: Is 1:10,16-20 Mt 23:1-12
Wed: Jer 18:18-20 Mt 20:17-28
Thu: Jer 17:5-10 Lk 16:19-31
Fri: Gen 37:3-4,12-13,17-28 Mt 21:33-43,45-46
Sat: Micah 7:14-15,18-20 Lk 15:1-3,11-32
Sun: Ex 20:1-17
1 Cor 1:22-25 Jn 2:13-25
+ 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



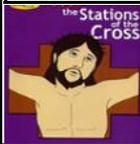
Ecumenical Lenten Services

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

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

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Stations of the Cross with Pope Francis | Friday 2nd March, 6:15pm |
| The Face of Christ, the Face of Man | Friday 9th March, 6:15pm |
| My Wounded Hands | Friday 16th March, 6:15pm |
| Mary's Way of the Cross | Friday 23 rd March, 6:15pm |



** Syro-Malayalam Stations of the Cross will follow immediately afterwards. And there will be NO BENEDICTION AND EXPOSITION OF THE EUCHARIST during the Stations of the Cross.

Readers (Lectors) 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.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR KIDS IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



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

TROPICAL CYCLONE GITA

Recently, the Pacific country of Tonga has been flattened after a powerful cyclone battered the main island, causing extensive damage. 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 this weekend for the above cause. Please place donation in the blue bucket at the back of the church. Our donation will send via CARITAS International.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LAMENT, REFLECT & ACT

Our OLSH Parish Pastoral Council is working towards an appropriate time for people to come together in a prayerful way to focus, reflect and have conversation around how we feel about what has emerged through the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse, We encourage people to have conversation with each other. If you would like to share your reflections send them to the parish office: olsh_parity_asp@bigpond.com

A Golden Jubilee Church Project: The Ramp



Dear Parishioners, please find here and at the back of the church a some 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. 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. 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 their ideas. Write your suggestions/recommendations and place it in the suggestion box provided.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

After a series of weekly Catechetical Gatherings with their Sponsors and Sr. Helen, our Catechumens, **Douglas Baillie and Peter Martin** have expressed their readiness for the next stage of their RCIA Journey.

Their **Rite of Election** took place **at 7.30am Mass 18/2/'18**.

Their Period of Purification and Enlightenment will be as follows:

- 1st Rite of Strengthening: at 7.30 am Mass 4/3/'18 Presentation of the Creed*
- 2nd Rite of Strengthening at 7.30am Mass 11/3/'18;*
- 3rd Rite of Strengthening : at 7.30am Mass 18/3/'18*
- Presentation of the Lord's Prayer*
- Sacraments of Initiation Easter Vigil 31/3/2018*

All parishioners are invited to support our new members of OLSH Parish by your prayers and faith witness. *Sr. Helen Kennedy FMM RCIA Directress*

Cleaning: March 03, 2018 **Group 1**
Mel & Tinna Buenviaje, Sammy Nobleza

Counters: March 04, 2018
Mel & Tinna Buenviaje

Last Week's Collections:
1st Collection: \$1,844.10 (for the presbytery)
2nd Collection: \$1,149.15 (for the parish)
Planned Giving: \$1,370.00

Thank you for your time and kind generosity!

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

LENTEN GROUPS HAVE BEGUN

All parishioners are invited to join two Lenten Groups or start one with your family. Take to heart what it means to be saved, redeemed, forgiven and graced by the Holy Spirit, because God in his mercy send His Son Jesus to be our Saviour and Redeemer.

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|----------------------|--|
| Sr Helen Kennedy FMM | Wednesdays 7:00pm, St Francis, 1 Adamson Ave. |
| Fr Raass SVD | Saturdays, 9:00am, Presbytery |



A CHARISMATIC RETREAT "Healing and Deliverance"

The Agape International Ministry, based in India, will facilitate a healing retreat through praise and worship at OLSH Parish. The retreat has Charismatic elements of worship and prayer. Fr Sabu Joseph Chenackal will lead the retreat. **Friday 16TH March 5pm—9:30pm Saturday 17th March 1pm—9:30pm Sunday 18th March 11am—8pm** Venue: Bath St Hall Contact Gigimon 0402652646 or agapeteam7@gmail.com

FORMER MARIST RESIDENCE



Heritage renovation works have already started at the former Marist Residence at 10 Hartley Street. Catholic Church Insurance (CCI) has also approved to cover the 2016 storm damage at the Marist Flat or former uniform shop next to the old presbytery car port. Our sincere apologies for the inconvenience that may arise for those kids and parents accessing the Bath Street campus from Hartley St before and after school.



Bath Street Campus 1st Friday Mass Begins

The First Friday Mass for Bath Street Campus resumes this Friday 2nd March at 9:00am. All parents and benefactors welcome to attend at the main church.



RE-LAUNCH OF YOUTH MINISTRY: YEAR OF YOUTH

OLSH PARISH will re-launch the **Year of Youth on Sunday 18th March 2018** at all Masses. Many activities have been suggested by CYAS however we will need a **Year of Youth Action Team** to assist our current Youth Coordinators and Chaplain set a new direction with clear vision & mission goals. The parish is now calling for parishioners to step forward and drive this important & exciting ministry. Please submit your names to Maria, Fr Alex or Dean.

Roster for weekend of 03 – 04 March 2018

| | Commentator | Readers | Communion |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Sat 6:00pm | Greg Gilbert | Sr Mary Wicks Sr Anne Surtees | Marian Maddocks Rose Sabadin Thelma Bowen |
| Sun 7:30am | J Montefiore | Denise Simon Bill Rainnie | Ruth Sexton John Lillecrapp Rita Steller |
| Sun 9:30am | Pauline Otieno | Precy Taylor Mary McPhee | Cristy Genetti Virginia Loy Mel Buenviaje |
| Sun 5:30pm | Mel Buenviaje | Debbie Cooke Hilda Reeder | Losana Hay Marieta Ives Cindy DeCosta |

2nd Sunday of Lent Year B
24th - 25th February 2018

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord that I seek; hide not your face from me.

First Reading:

Genesis 22:1-2.9-13.15-18

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 115:10,15-19

R/ I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading:

Romans 8:31-34

God did not spare his own Son.

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us-he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel:

Mark 9:2-10

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi', he said it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon:

Mt 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

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