

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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Deadline for Bulletin submissions is Wednesday 5:00pm.

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 Noclan 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.



Jubilee Year of Mercy

“Merciful like the Father”

“Without a witness to mercy, life becomes fruitless and sterile, as if sequestered in a barren desert. The time has come to take up the joyful call to mercy once more”. Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*.
Question for Week 6 of Easter: When was the last time we listened to the struggles and bore the weaknesses of our brothers and sisters?

6th Sunday of Easter Year C
30th April - 1st May 2016

Simply Love Jesus and Obey His Teachings

Many years ago before the 2nd Vatican Council (and still today), we Catholics believe that the Catholic Church sees itself as one, holy and apostolic church, founded by Christ himself. We also believe that Christ founded just one Church, not many churches; hence the Catholic Church has as its ultimate hope - that through prayer, study, and dialogue, the historically separated bodies like Anglicans, Lutherans, Pentecostals etc. may come again to be reunited with us – one day. Unity was always a principal aim of the Catholic Church.

When Pope John XXII initiated the Second Vatican Council, one of its aims is to seek renewal from within the Church itself, which would serve, for those separated from Rome, as a "gentle invitation to seek and find that unity for which Jesus Christ prayed so ardently to his heavenly Father", *Ad Petri Cathedram*. Vatican II opened up an era of earnest endeavour not only to explain to other Christian Churches where we stand, but also to understand their experiences of God.

As Catholics progress in knowledge of other Christian churches, they now acknowledge that elements of salvation and truth are found in other churches also. While we still have a long way to go in regards to unity and reconciliation, the movement started by the 2nd Vatican Council or shall we say the Holy Spirit can never be halted.

Paul and Barnabas in the first reading faced this dilemma over the law of circumcision. It was no simple matter for it was a practice related to the covenant for generations and deeply rooted with the very identity of the Jewish people. You simply cannot change the rules of the game. But then if you want new members who bring with them their cultural, spiritual and social contributions, the goal posts might have to be changed or a delicate balance might have to be found without watering down the core teachings of Jesus Christ. *Should we circumcise the Gentiles or non-Catholics who join us?*

This is a legitimate and scary concept. Yes we desire unity but we are also afraid of losing something sacred and Catholics will be lessened if everyone is included.

The Gospel today simply sets out the requirement: *love Jesus and obey his teaching* (Jn 14:23-2). Jesus and the Father will live with us, and they will send the Holy Spirit to us, It is my prayer and hope that we loosen up a bit and allow the Holy Spirit to “take control” or “to take us to the top of the high mountain” (Rev 21:10-14) where there is not temple or church or chapel, for God himself IS the temple. Let's think more creatively about Christian Unity in Central Australia for which Jesus prayed, **“that they all may be one; as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that you have sent me”** (Jn 17:21).

Fr Raass SVD
PP

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.

Daily Readings: starting 2 May 2016

Mon: Acts 16:11-15 Jn 15:26-16:4
Tues: 1Cor 15:1-8 Jn 14:6-14
Wed: Acts 17:15,22-18:1 Jn 16:12-15
Thur: Acts 18:1-8 Jn 16:16-20
Fri: Acts 18:9-18 Jn 16:20-23
Sat: Acts 18:23-28 Jn 16:23-28
Sun: Acts 1:1-11
Eph 1:17-23 Lk 24:46-53

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

May Shah, 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.

Parish Council Meetings, 1st Thursday of Every Month

A significant contribution to the mission and ministry of the Church is being made by our Parish Pastoral Council. One of the functions of the PPC is to be a listening group that searches out and responds to the hopes, ideas, needs and concerns of the parish body. Everyone is always invited to submit any item of concern or advice or recommendation or any aspect that you consider need improving? Next week photos of all councillors will be placed at the back of the Church. Some questions for you:

- * *What three aspects of this parish that you like or dislike?*
- * *What are some things that you consider need improving?*
- * *What are three issues that the PPC might address in this Year of Mercy?*

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

Prevention & Protection Policy for Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

In our recent Diocese of Darwin Clergy Conference, Bishop Eugene and the *Reference Group for the Integrity Office* formally tabled the Diocesan Policy for Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults; its scope, practice and procedures to ensure that ALL MEMBERS OF A PARISH will work together for the protection of children and vulnerable adults. It includes mandatory reporting obligations, roles and responsibilities, risk assessments and management plans, registrations, formal training in Child Safety, protection from civil liability and legal compliance for all church personnel volunteering or ministering at OLSH Parish.

In the light of the above Diocesan Policy, OLSH Parish is looking for a Local Safeguarding Coordinator to make sure that all of the above practices and procedures are attended to and followed. The coordinator will be working with the Parish Pastoral Council, families & pastoral support groups. Please chat with Fr Raass if you believe you have the capacity for this important part of being Church today.

In the meantime, ALL roles listed below **require Positive Ochre Card** checks.

- All priests, brothers, sisters, seminarians and religious
- Liturgy Coordinator
- Sunday School Word Leaders
- Youth Ministry Coordinator
- Altar Servers Trainers
- Bus/Private Drivers who generally take children home after the Mass
- Choir Leaders – where children are included in the general choir
- Nativity or Drama/Play Director
- Retreat Facilitators
- Holiday & Camp Activities Leader
- Care & Concern or Mercy Ministry – those who visit vulnerable people at home including children
- Communion of the Sick Ministers – those who visit and give Holy Communion to people at home where children and grandchildren maybe present.
- All parish Catechists in non-Catholic schools or cultural/religious groups such as the Syro-Malabar group.

Apply for an Ochre Volunteer card ASAP. OLSH Parish will help pay for it and we thank those who have already submitted it. Please understand that this is consistent with Gospel Values following the example of Jesus in respecting the dignity of every child, young person and vulnerable adults.

Mothers' Day Flowers, Help!



When May blooms, you know it's time to find the perfect flowers for Mom. Celebrate Mother's Day this year with a beautiful gift for



mom! Mothers' Day flowers might include lilies, roses and tulips! Every year OLSH Parish hands out *white chrysanthemums* to all mothers, 'mothers-to-be', grandmothers & great mothers during Mass. *Do you have any of these pure and innocent white chrysanthemums which you can donate to our mothers next Sunday?* Please bring them to the presbytery on Saturday 7th May or call us for pick up. Thank you!

God's Hospitality Workshop

The workshop for all members of the hospitality team and any parishioner who is interested to learn more about this important ministry will be on **Saturday, 14th May from 2pm to 4:30pm at the OLSH Presbytery** meeting room. Sr Anne Surtees OSU is the workshop facilitator.

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*



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.



The Ecological Blessing of Mercy Workshop

Sr Veronica Lawson is a Mercy Sister and biblical scholar. After twenty-six years at Australian Catholic University and seven years in Congregation leadership, she now works as a freelance Biblical consultant/educator. She is probably best known for her study tours of bible lands and online weekly reflections on the Sunday gospels. OLSH Parish is privileged to invite her to run a workshop on the theme "The Ecological Blessing of Mercy" on the **21st of May from 9:00am – 4pm at St Francis Centre.** Religious congregations are also invited to attend.

**Feast for the Week:
Sts Philip and James, apostles**

Cleaning: 07 May 2016 **Group 2**
Goury Nair, Biji, Sibi Thampi, Sanila Thomas

Counters: 08 May 2016
Mel & Tinna Buenviaje

Last Week's Collections:

1st Collection: \$1,566.45 (for the presbytery)
2nd Collection: \$1,021.50 (for the parish)
Planned Giving: \$2,309.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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



Now that we have our new Parish Facebook, please submit all Facebook posts, information and photos to olshparishmediateam@gmail.com

"Spread the word...We would love to hear what our Parish community and pastoral/prayer groups are doing. **Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish Alice Spring Facebook** page is our "go to" place.

Our parish Media & Social Communications Team is currently working on a policy. In the meantime, as part of our Social-Networking Protocol for the Catholic Church in Australia, please exercise a Christ-centred love for others and respect for human dignity when posting to any Facebook.

All posts will be censored and monitored by the parish Facebook administrators. The use of photographs or videos or texts will be carefully monitored. Your material should always be appropriate, and the sharing of embarrassing or offensive photos or videos will be removed.



**L'Arche Community in Alice Springs
– God's calling?**

L'Arche is a movement that provides a place where *the gifts of people with an intellectual disability can be revealed in mutually transforming relationships.* This could just be through a friendship, meeting for discussion, regular social gatherings, or in a residential community.

There are currently 5 ecumenical L'Arche communities in Australia and 4 Friends of L'Arche groups, and over 130 communities worldwide. L'Arche seeks to be a sign of hope in a broken world - hope for unity, love, and a society where people of all abilities are welcomed and cherished. Jean Vanier the founder puts it this way, *"I think we can only truly experience the presence of God, in and through our own poverty, because the kingdom of God belongs to the poor, the poor in spirit, the poor who are crying out for love"*

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

WELCOME FR BOB KISALA PhD, SVD

Fr Bob is the Vice-Superior General of the Divine Word Missionaries. He resides in Rome and now visiting his confreres this week...immediately they are at their best behaviour!



Roster for weekend of 07 - 08 May 2016

	Commentator	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6pm pm	Greg Gilbert	Ruth Sexton M McNaught	Rose Sabadin Bryan Weir Anne Chivers
Sun 7:30 am	Fred Twohig	Mike Steller P Rademaker	Ruth Sexton Kath McGargill John Lillecrapp
Sun 9:30 am	Jooby Mani	Elfy Jooby Virginia Loy	Mark Bensted M Lillecrapp H Casseeram
Sun 5:30 pm	Myke Ociones	A Skrzypiec Tinna Buenviaje	Sammy Nobleza Thomas J John Marieta Ives

6th Sunday of Easter Year C

30th April - 1st May 2016

Entrance Antiphon:

Isa 48:20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim it to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading:

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved'. This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders. Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them: 'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us; and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols; from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 66:2-3,5-6,8

R/ O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading:

Apoc 21:10-14, 22-23

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

Jn 14: 23-29

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Jn 14:15-16

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.