



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 p.m.

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 (on leave)

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 Michelle 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 *Aboriginally 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”



"Love...can never be just an abstraction. By its very nature, it indicates something concrete; intentions, attitudes, and behaviours that are shown in daily living. The mercy of God is his loving concern for each one of us. He feels responsible; that is, he desires our wellbeing and he wants to see us happy, full of joy, and peaceful", Pope Francis: The Face of Mercy #9. During this Holy Week, what is the 'new thing' that God is wanting to do or bring, into my life and your family or community? Relate it back to God in prayer and see what happens.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year C 19th - 20th March 2016

WELCOME TO HOLY WEEK

There is considerable discomfort in an ordinary parish like ours. From Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday we are faced with long readings, packed church, full length liturgies against our modern culture where attention spans have dropped to the length of a television sound bite. Today priests are constantly reminded by parishioners to keep their homilies short and sweet. Indeed gone are the days when an earlier time in oral cultures like mine, people listened attentively for much longer periods, and expected a reader or story teller to hold their attention. Moreover our hearts are also blocked by a hundred cares, worries, gadget noises and un-freedom.

Today the modern listeners are not sure what to do: Should we stand or should we sit? Should we choose all the nine readings for the Easter Vigil or select readings that are convenient to the parish body? It is even harder for the readers. Today few readers including priests have the capacity to narrate a story like good story tellers. Sometimes readings have to be broken up but it still requires team work. And there are the various readers' accents and intonations that could be a real source of unnecessary frustration for the native speakers.

During Holy Week it is important to note that the Gospel writers or evangelists had no qualms about what we facing today and what is obviously a unified story, from the time of Abraham, Christmas, Good Friday to Resurrection and beyond. At the very heart of all our Gospel stories, parables, useful anecdotes, law and prophets are the stories of a REAL PERSON, FULLY GOD BECOME FULLY HUMAN. This unified story of Jesus the Christ is narrated for us, and it invites a special response.

The first response as we begin this journey with Jesus to Jerusalem is to listen. Thus we listen, with the heart of Jesus in the story speaking to our hearts. This listening precedes any response on our part. Our responses, our decisions, our affirmations, our reflections, come later. Certainly, simple listening during this Holy Week may be enough response and the maybe the best response for this coming week.

When we listen, we might respond to the simple phrase: *'And he went outside and wept bitterly'*, or *'today you will be with me in paradise.'* May this coming week a good way to go back to the basics, and simply listen. That is enough, and it is the best we can do....at least for now and hopefully we will all respond accordingly. I hope this Holy Week will be prayerful and spiritually fruitful for you and your family.

Fr Raass SVD

Daily Readings: starting 21 March 2016

Mon: Is 42:1-7 Jn 12:1-11
Tues: Is 49:1-6 Jn 13:21-33,36-38
Wed: Is 50:4-9 Mt 26:14-25
Thur: Ex 12:1-8,11-14 Jn 13:1-15
1 Cor 11:23-26
Fri: Is 52:13-53:12 Jn 18:1-19:42
Heb 4:14-16,5:7-9
Sat: Multiple Readings for Vigil Mass
Sun: Acts 10:34,37-43 Jn 20:1-9
Col 3:1-4

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Mary Dick, Rose Brand, Colleen Matson, Georgina Gilbert, Kathy Golotta, Gesu Golotta, Eufelia Canta and Helena Monaghan

May the Lord grant them healing.

OLSH Parish Library

Did you know that we have an unutilised parish library located in the presbytery? We are looking for a volunteer OLSH Parish librarian to help bring to life this dead library. We would like to develop, catalogue and order more contemporary books on spirituality, Catechism, theology, biblical, indigenous etc as resources for the various pastoral groups in the parish. Any volunteers?

Holy Saturday Night Light Supper

You're all invited for a refreshment available in the Courtyard Hall after Mass. Come along and celebrate Easter together. Please bring a plate to share....it means with something on it!

Devotional Practices:

Prayers of the Holy Rosary

Monday to Thursday 5pm

Saint Joseph 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

Fiji Cyclone Appeal—Thank YOU

Last Week's OLSH Parish Blue Bucket Fiji Cyclone Appeal amounted to **\$1641.20**. A massive thank you to all parishioners who have donated including those who continue to pray for the victims of Cyclone Winston.

Easter Vigil Candles

Please be informed NOT TO BRING YOUR CANDLES for the Easter Vigil - candles will be supplied by the parish.

Church Clean-Up

We request helpers to clean the church in readiness for **Easter on Wed 22nd between 8.30 and 11.00 am**, even an hour would be very helpful.

Earth HOUR

LIGHTS OFF FOR EARTH HOUR, SATURDAY MARCH 19 8:30 – 9:30 PM. This year go beyond the hour. Commit to making Earth Hour a regular part of your life and help protect the beautiful outdoor places that we love from the threats of climate change.

Sacramental Programme for Catholic Children in Government & Non-Catholic Schools

OLSH Parish Sacramental programme will commence on **Wednesday 23rd March, 3.30 pm at the St Francis Centre** for students wanting to make their *Sacraments of Initiation* (Baptism, 1st Confession, 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation) who don't attend OSLH College. Many thanks to those who volunteered to join our Parish Catechists' Team and many thanks to Sister Anne Surtees who will be guiding and mentoring the Catechists. Please inform any parents sending their children to non-Catholic schools. We don't want any Catholic children to miss out on this opportunity. For further details please contact Jenny Dietrich Ph: 89527910 or email; jennydietrich@hotmail.com

Holy Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

During Holy Week OLSH Parish is conducting two Adult Formation sessions on Holy Tuesday and Wednesday from 7:00pm – 8:00pm (please refer to Holy Week schedule for theme and presenters). However for those who miss out on the 2nd Rite of Reconciliation, please come on Holy Monday at 7:00pm for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This Sacrament is taking on greater relevance in this Year of Mercy.

Palm Sunday Solidarity “Let Them Stay Walk”

Ministers of the Churches across Alice Springs have agreed that it is right to bring to the attention of the Federal Government and the wider Australian Community the plight of the 37 Babies and 267 Adults whom the Australian Federal government is planning to send back to Nauru. The Churches have agreed to sponsor a Community wide Solidarity Walk at 3.00 to 4.00 p.m. on Palm Sunday to support this Just Cause to **LET THEM STAY**. Members of each Church group have been invited to commence their walk from their respective Churches and all will meet at the John Flynn Uniting Church in the Mall at around 4:00 where a short ceremony will occur. Students from OLSH College, St Philips College and other schools in Alice Springs will join the parishioners in solidarity. This is an initiative of our OLSH Parish Social Justice Awareness Group. OLSH Parish pilgrims will meet at 3:30pm in front of the Church before the walk.

Good Friday Holy Places Appeal

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land takes place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to the local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land rely on assistance from the Good Friday collection. The collection is also used to maintain 74 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus, visited by millions of Catholics every year. Details of donations per diocese is at the back of the Church. prepared.

PARISH HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME 2016

20th March – 27th March

PALM SUNDAY

Blessing of Palms at all Masses (including Vigil Mass on Saturday evening)
Masses: 7.30am, 9.30am (procession from Bath St Campus grounds), 11:00am (40 south terrace) & 5.30pm

HOLY MONDAY

2nd Rite of Reconciliation/Confessions – 7:00pm

HOLY TUESDAY

Year of Mercy Reflection & Prayer at 7:00pm-8pm
“Exploring Christian Meditation”: BE STILL +KNOW THAT I AM GOD: Presenter: Sue Woods

HOLY WEDNESDAY

Year of Mercy Reflection & Prayer, “A Prelude to the Passion: The Anointing, The Betrayal: 7:00pm – 8:00pm, Presenter: Sr Helen Kennedy FMM

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HOLY THURSDAY

NO MORNING MASS

The Lord’s Supper +

Washing of the Feet: 7: 00pm (please bring your Project Compassion Offering if possible)

GOOD FRIDAY

NO MORNING MASS

Stations of the Cross-10:00am (Dramatized by Catholic Youth of Alice Springs, all gather at Bath St Campus grounds);

Stations of the Cross -10:00am (Aboriginal Spirituality, Todd River beginning from the Gap on south terrace road)
Veneration of the Cross & Celebration of the Passion of the Lord: 3:00pm, main Church

HOLY SATURDAY

NO MORNING MASS

1st Rite of Reconciliation/Confessions: 11:00am - 12midday

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night -7:30pm (Candles will be provided)

Parish Light Supper for all parishioners afterwards

EASTER SUNDAY

Masses -7.30am, 9.30am, 11:00am (40 south terrace) & 5.30pm

EASTER MONDAY

7:00am Mass only

No Evening Mass

Cleaning: 26 March 2016 **Group 4**
Stephanie King, Jan Jennings, Mary Neck, Joyce Clifford

Counters: 27 March 2016
Walter & Patricia Litvensky

Last Week’s Collections:
1st Collection: \$1,167.70 (for the presbytery)
2nd Collection: \$2,038.80 (for the parish)
Fiji Cyclone Special Appeal: \$1,641.20

Thank you for your generosity!

Congratulations Mr John Gavan Breen AO

Last Thursday our good hearted Mr Breen was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in the General Division. He was invested with his AO Medal by His Honour the Honourable John Hardy OAM, Administrator of the Northern Territory at the Residency. Mr Breen has dedicated his career to preserving Indigenous languages, an independent linguist for the Institute for Aboriginal Development and Principal Researcher for the Arandic Languages Dictionary, and co-authored a range of books and papers. And for many years Gavan has been assisting Arrernte Catholics to attend Mass.

Divine Mercy Sunday, 3rd April

The Octave of Easter will be a time of particular devotion to the divine mercy poured out from Christ through his death and resurrection, the font of the Spirit who forgives sin and restores joy to those who have been saved. This devotion has given rise to the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a devotion practiced by many faithful today as envisioned by St Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938). “Write this: Everything that exists is enclosed in the bowels of My mercy, more deeply than an infant in its mother’s womb. How painfully distrust of My goodness wounds me! Sins of distrust wound Me most painfully” (Diary, 1076). It is possible to make divine mercy our program and mission in life. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited at **3:00pm at OLSH church on Divine Mercy Sunday. ALL WELCOME.**

Feeling Exhausted already? How about a spiritual time-out?

April 10th - 15th *Desert Retreat for Body and Soul* with Susanna Pain; June 12th - 18th *Wide Skies and Open Hearts Retreat One* with Sue and David Woods; September 11th - 17th *Wide Skies and Open Hearts Retreat Two* with Sue and David Woods; September 30th - October 4th *Dancing in the Desert Retreat for Body and Soul* with Betsey Beckman and Susanna Pain . Call Sue or David Woods on 8526607 @ Campfire.

Priest’s Movement

Fr Prakash will take a month’s leave from Easter Monday. We wish him a well deserved break and ...come back!

Roster for weekend of 26 - 27 March 2016

	Commentator	Readers	Ministers
Sat 7.30 pm	Easter Vigil		Darryl Smith R Fernandez David Fernandez
Sun 7:30 am	Pat Gallagher	P Rademaker Jo Molin	John Lillecraap Fred Twohig Kath McGargill
Sun 9:30 am	Debbie Cook	Virginia Loy Colin Marshall	Cristy Genetti M Lillecraap H Casseeram
Sun 5:30 pm	Miguel Ociones	Sue Bain Tinna Buenviaje	Thomas J John Sammy Nobleza Mel Buenviaje

PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME +

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year C

19th - 20th March 2016

Procession Gospel:

Luke 19:28-40

Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethpage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village opposite, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" you shall say this, "The Lord has need of it". So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' And they said, 'The Lord has need of it'. And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt they set Jesus upon it. And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!' And some Pharisees in the multitude said to him, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples'. He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out'.

The Gospel of the Lord

Entrance Antiphon:

Jn 12:1,12-13 Ps 23:9-10

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

First Reading:

Isaiah 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue, so that I may know how to reply to the wearied, he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face from insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So too, I have set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 21:8-9,17-20,23-24

R/ My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading:

Philippians 2:6-11

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus 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:

Phil 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel:

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 22:14 – 23:56

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayer of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Mt 26:42

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.