



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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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 Priest:

Fr. Vincent Mai SVD

Fr. Jim Knight SVD

Syro-Malabar Chaplain

Fr. Binesh Naramattathil CST

Secretary:

Mel Buenviaje

Parish Past. Council Chairman

Fred Twhig

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.

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, 6 months' notice required.

1st Sunday of Lent Year B

21st - 22nd February 2015

Discerning Wild Beasts from Good Angels

Welcome to Week 1 of Lent.

Today Jesus is presented as the Master of Spiritual Discernment (Mark 1:12-15) negotiating temptations and exercising his choices toward the direction of his Father's Will. We are told he was with the wild beasts as well as angels in the desert for forty days.

The meaningful way of negotiating temptations is what is called discernment. Discernment of spirits is the interpretation of what St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, called the "motions of the soul." These interior movements consist of thoughts, imaginings, emotions, inclinations, desires, feelings, repulsions, and attractions. Spiritual discernment of spirits involves becoming sensitive to these movements, reflecting on them, and understanding where they come from and where they lead us.

During this Season of Abstinence, Fasting, Prayer and Good Works, we will be tempted as always by the wild beasts to take us away from the silent whispers of the good angels. When temptation happens, start reflecting on your feelings and ask yourselves some simple questions:

What is God saying through these feelings/emotions/though patterns? If I give in to this particular temptation where will it lead me at the end of the day? To life or away from life? TRUST YOUR MOVEMENTS.

God will most likely show you some ways that you fell short. Take note of these sins and faults. But look deeply for other implications. Does a feeling of frustration perhaps mean that God wants you consider a new direction in some area of your work?

DO NOT BE AFRAID, the good angels are there to minister to you. You will succeed because Jesus has conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.

Fr Raass SVD

Parish Priest

New Apostolic Nuncio to Australia

His Holiness Pope Francis has appointed as Apostolic Nuncio to Australia **His Excellency Most Reverend Adolfo Tito Yllana** titular Archbishop of Montecorvino, until now Apostolic Nuncio to the Republic of Congo. He was born in Naga City, Phillipines and holds and Doctorate in Civil and Canon Law. He has served successfully in Apostolic Nunciatures in Ghana, PNG, Solomons, China, Pakistan and Congo. Archbishop Adolfo Tito speaks fluent English, Spanish, Italian, French and his native Tagalog.

Parish Priest's Movement

Fr Raass will be away in Brisbane from 22nd - 25th Feb to facilitate a local SVD Assembly.

Daily Readings: starting 23 February

Mon: Lev 19:1-2,11-18; Mt 25:31-46
Tues: Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:3-7-15
Wed: Jonah 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32
Thur: Esther 14:1,3-5,12-14;Mt 7:7-12
Fri: Ezek 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26
Sat: Deut 26:16-19; Mt 5:20-26
Sun: Gen 22:1-2, 9-13,15-18
 Rom 8:31-34 Mk 9:2-10

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +

Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Carmen dfelix 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.

“Let us ask ourselves: how do I follow Jesus? Jesus speaks in silence in the Mystery of the Eucharist. He reminds us every time that following him means going out of ourselves and not making our life a possession of our own, but rather a gift to him and to others.” Pope Francis. Corpus Christi 2013.

The **Parish Social Justice Awareness Group** begins 2015 with a meeting at the Presbytery on Sunday 22nd February commencing 4pm. We invite anyone interested in seeing what the Group is planning for 2015 to come along. Kathleen. OLSH.

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

Spiritual Direction Available at OLSH Parish

Let me inform you what it is not! Spiritual direction is not counseling. Spiritual direction is not therapy. Spiritual direction is not financial advice. Spiritual direction is an interpersonal relationship in which we learn how to grow as adult Christians, live, and deepen our love in the spiritual life. It involves a process through which one person helps another person understand what God is doing and saying. Discernment is a crucial gift in the work of spiritual direction. Simply put, spiritual direction is helping people tell their sacred stories every day as well as an opportunity to take God seriously through the various ‘movements’ within oneself. While it may be appropriate at times to discuss personal and relational struggles in the context of spiritual direction, a spiritual director is not a psychotherapist, nor does the spiritual director provide such services. Spiritual Direction lasts approximately an hour on a monthly basis. OLSH Parish is fortunate to have three Spiritual Directors for this special ministry. Arise and call if this is what you and God want for your life:

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

Ecumenical Lenten Wednesday Services

“May they be one as we are one”, Jesus prays to the Father. On the second day of his trip to Turkey, Pope Francis delivered a strong message of unity that was ostensibly about the first sort of ecumenism, meaning the press for better relations among churches and rites. **Diversity, Francis said, “may seem to create disorder,” but that’s where faith in the Holy Spirit enters the picture. “Under his guidance, [differences] constitute an immense richness,” he said, “because the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of unity, which is not the same thing as uniformity.”**

The four Christian denominations in town namely, the Lutheran, Anglican, Uniting and Catholic Church are coming together again this Holy Season of Lent to meet and pray. All OLSH parishioners are highly encouraged to attend the various services scheduled below.

Wednesday, Feb 25 th	Lutheran Church, 49 Gap Road
Wednesday, March 4 th	Anglican Church, 18 Bath Street
Wednesday, March 11 th	Uniting Church, 52 Todd Mall
Wednesday, March 18 th	Catholic Church
Wednesday, March 25 th	To be announced

ALL SERVICES START AT 7:00PM

World Day of Prayer, Friday 06 March 2015, 7pm, The Salvation Army Stuart Tce.

This is an annual ecumenical service, in which Christians around the world affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world. This years’ service has been prepared by the Women of The Bahamas and all are invited to share a common message with others in more than 170 countries on the same day. Should you require further details please contact Rita Steller, the Alice Springs Catholic Church representative on 89595397 or 89520868. Thank you.

An Invitation to Christian Meditation

Meditation, also known as contemplative prayer, seeks God in the silence and stillness beyond word and thought. It is a prayer of silence. This is the aim given by the Psalmist. Meditation is about coming to stillness of spirit and body.

Mondays: 5.30 - 6.30 at Campfire in the Heart, (Lot 8204 Ragonesi Rd)
Thursdays: 12.00 - 12.30 at the Catholic Presbytery Chapel.(4 Hartley St)

The meetings for Christian Meditation include some quiet music, prayer and 20 - 30 minutes of silence. For further information call Sue Woods 0438 811 742.

Stations of the Cross, Friday 27th, 7:30pm

On this coming Friday OLSH Parish will focus on the “**The Migrant and Refugee**” written by Michael Heinz, SVD, in solidarity with those who leave their country and their family in order to protect their lives and to seek better living conditions elsewhere. The Stations will be led by Fr Prakash. All Welcome.

“Rules Make Us Harsh Judges”, Pope Francis

In The Joy of the Gospel (Apostolic Exhortation, 'Evangelii Gaudium) Pope Francis has restored to prominence a number of virtues we had largely forgotten: “joy”, “beauty”, “warmth”, “mercy” and “tenderness”. With his emphasis on mercy he has rescued for us the virtue which in the Old and New Testaments defined God. From the time of the Exodus, our God is "a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" (Exodus 33:19). Francis reminds us that “rules make us harsh judges” and that mercy is the greatest of the virtues, since all the others revolve around it and, more than this, it makes up for their deficiencies (#37) . What **“the church needs most today are the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle.”** We are to heal wounds not to exacerbate them with our criticisms and demands. *Is there a call to conversion in this parish in terms of how we understand and celebrate the Sacraments?*

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 Bennet 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 3:00pm	8952 1974
Ruth Sexton	Bath St Campus (for teachers but anyone is welcome)	Thursday from 3:30pm	89508617

Tuesday Prayer Group

The *community building seminar* held at the OLSH Parish culminated in the formation of a prayer meeting group. The group meets **every Tuesday night at the presbytery from 6:15 to 7:15pm**. We aim to grow as a community in Christ through Bible reading, reflection/sharing, praise, worship and songs. Anyone who is interested to join us in this fellowship is most welcome. Thank you, contact, Tinna C. Buenviaje on (08) 8951 9138.

Sacramental Formation in State and Private Schools

If you have a child in State and Private Schools in need of receiving their First Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation in 2015, formation classes will be starting on Wednesday 18th March at the St. Frances Centre at 3:30pm. Please contact the presbytery to fill out your paperwork. Carmela Guthart and Sr Mary RSM will contact the families the first week of March to answer any questions. Do pass on this message to any Catholic parents whose children are studying in State and Private Schools.

Cleaning: 28 February Group 4

Stephanie King, Jan Jennings,,Mary Neck, Joyce Clifford

Counters: 01 March 2015

Scott Lonard, Margaret-Ann McNaught

Last Week's Collections:

1st Collection: \$1,173.10 (for the presbytery)

2nd Collection: \$1,897.50 (for the parish)

Thank you for your generosity!

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

PROJECT COMPASSION “FOOD FOR LIFE”

Welcome to Project Compassion 2015. “As we begin the season of Lent, I draw your attention to the tradition we have in the Catholic Church in Australia of promoting and supporting Project Compassion, especially during Lent. Project Compassion is the main source of income for Caritas Australia. Caritas Australia is a member of Caritas Internationals, which is the welfare and development arm of the Catholic Church throughout the world. Caritas Australia is essentially an overseas aid and development agency, that allows the church to work with the poor and disadvantaged in such a way that they might become self-sufficient. Caritas also has partners here in Australia working with the most disadvantaged, including our Diocese. Whilst there are many agencies that make public appeals, Caritas Australia depends upon the Catholic Community for its support. I urge our parishes, schools and our other agencies to support Project Compassion generously. It would be good to make that part of our Lenten discipline. Let us pray for one another during this special season”, In Christ, Bishop Eugene Hurley.

Pick up a Sharepack and/or Caritas box for your donations. Please submit all donations of Caritas Australia on Easter Sunday or Divine Mercy Sunday before 30 June 2015.

Roster for weekend of 28 Feb / 01 Mar 2015

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	John Appleby	Walter Litvensky Patricia Litvensky	RoseSabadin Leanne Dieckmann Anne Chivers
Sun 7:30 am	Pat Gallagher	Mike Steller Patricia Rademaker	Greg Gilbert Rita Steller Kath McGargill
Sun 9:30 am	Beth Madden	Elisha Odhiambo Josephat Odhiambo	Margaret Lillecrapp Helena Casseeram Bruce Were
Sun 5:30 pm	Mel Buenviaje	Denise Simon Andrzej Skrypiec	Cristina Buenviaje Thomas J John Marietta Ives

1st Sunday of Lent Year B

21st - 22nd February 2015

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 90:16-16

When he calls to me, I will answer; I will rescue him and give him honour. Long life and contentment will be his.

First Reading:

Genesis 9:8-15

I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.' God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9

R/ Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant.

Second Reading:

1 Peter 3:18-22

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels of the Dominations and Powers his subjects

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Mt 4:4

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

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

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

Gospel:

Mark 1:12-15

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon:

Mt 4:4

One does not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God