



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_parity_asp@bigpond.com

Website:
www.olshparishalicesprings.org.au

Bulletin: Email:
olsh.parity.bulletin@gmail.com
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

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”



“I have often thought how the Church may render more clearly her mission to be a witness to mercy; and we have to make this journey. It is a journey which begins with spiritual conversion”, Pope Francis. Question for Week 2 of Easter: *How have we experienced a shift in our relationship with Jesus during the Easter celebrations? Have we consciously made a decision to turn away from sin, go to Confession and received God's mercy?*

2nd Sunday of Easter Year C 2nd - 3rd April 2016

“Nobody Dared To Join Them” - Fr Raass



Today's first reading presents a positive picture of the early Christian community: they met regularly, they were apparently miracles and wonders which enhanced their beliefs, many were healed by their faith, and, to top it off, non-believers spoke highly of them.

It strikes me as rather curious, then, that the writer of Acts of the Apostles 15: 12-16 records the fact that “nobody dared to join them.” With all the good features of this Christian community, why would no one join them? Was it the memory of what happened to the founder who had first gathered this group? Was it the threat of persecution by the Romans? Upon reflection on their situation, I find instances in my own life when I spoke highly of groups which I, nonetheless, did not dare to join.

I have often spoken positively amongst friends of those who work for Pro-Life, yet I do not formally join them for they face persecution by unbelievers and by fellow Christians as well. I have often praised ecumenical leaders, yet often at times reluctant to join in some common activities because I fear it might affect my own Catholic community. I have often been relaxed and open about Charismatics, yet I do hold back sometimes, perhaps out of fear of God himself and what his Holy Spirit might ask of me.

So, I too stand at a distance from ‘Christian’ groups as they meet on contemporary counterparts of Solomon's portico. Yes I must admit that it is so much easier to speak highly of others, to admire goodness and compassion from afar than it is to join, to be part of the struggle to keep the dangerous memory of Jesus alive, to be a responsible parishioner and risk-taker in the thick of activity and often in the midst of controversy. Like those who wanted Peter's shadow to fall on them, to be close enough to benefit from the goodness and faith of the community, but *‘please don't ask me to commit myself to the community or parish!*

“Don't be afraid”, says the Book of Revelation in the second reading today. “Don't be afraid” to become a miracle-worker, a healer, a carer, a friend of the poor, a soul-mate, a bus driver to carry the sick to church, a listener and an activist. Don't be afraid to step out and work on your sainthood and don't just lean against the shadow of the past Saints.

A tempting invitation but nonetheless, one that demands a risk of faith and costly grace. So, when will we finally have the courage to join the various pastoral groups in the parish such as our *Ecumenical & Interfaith Ministries, Mercy Ministry, Vinnies, Indigenous Support Team, SJAG, Hospitality* etc and know the joy of having cast our lot with Jesus himself.

Daily Readings: starting 4 April 2016

Mon: Is 7:10-14,8:10
 Heb 10:4-10 Lk 1:26-38

Tues: Acts 4:32-37 Jn 3:7-15

Wed: Acts 5:17-26 Jn 3:16-21

Thur: Acts 5:27-33 Jn 3:31-36

Fri: Acts 5:34-42 Jn 6:1-15

Sat: Acts 6:1-7 Jn 6:16-21

Sun: Acts 5:27-32,40-41
 Apoc 15:11-14 Jn 21:1-19

+ 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, Bernadette Dowd

May the Lord grant them healing.

Ecumenical Relations

The Reality Will Graham event is coming up soon and there are rehearsals for Choir and Musicians coming up. If you are interested in being a part of the event feel free to attend rehearsals commencing on **Wednesday 9th April at 7pm** for both band and choir, and this will be every week up until the event 20-22nd May.

Wanted : A Helping Hand

Dear Parishioners, next Saturday the 9th of April, there will be a working bee to clean up the front yard of the "Old" presbytery in Hartley Street. We will kick off at 0800 and be finished by 1100. Please bring gloves, pruning gear, rake, mattock, shovel and a ute/ trailer if you have one. Or simply come as you are for however long you can.

We also have a Hills rotary clothes line to give away. Please contact Fred Twohig (89523162) for more information. Thank you.

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

EASTER TIME



The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one 'great Sunday'. These are the days above all others in which the *Alleluias* is sung. The Sundays of this time of year are considered to be Sundays of Easter. Singing *ALLELUIA!* St Augustine says rightly, 'Singing is for one who loves', and there is also an ancient proverb: "Whoever sings well prays twice over".

Divine Mercy Sunday, This Sunday

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.

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS SICK OR LONELY

From time to time the parish office receives requests for information about the wellbeing of parishioners who attend a particular mass regularly but has been absent for several weeks. Questions asked are: Have we heard anything about?

Are they ill? Do you know of a parishioner who would appreciate a call. As OLSH Parish is growing in numbers and geographically challenging, it is vitally important in this Year of Mercy that we respond to all sick calls and attend to people who are feeling lonely at home. While we invite you as parishioners to contact the Parish Office if you know of someone in this situation, we are contemplating starting a *Mercy Ministry* which includes care and concern for the sick, lonely and depressed or just a chat with someone. Please think and pray about it and see whether God is calling you to this ministry and...step forward.

Saint John Paul II Visit Anniversary Mass

NATSICC (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Catholic Council), along with six Catholic Bishops, will soon be hosting a 3 day retreat in the heart of Australia (April 1th - 21st)...retreat is still open. Designed to build the capacity and networks of those working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministry, it will give attendees an opportunity to recharge, share and learn from one another. The Bishops have informed OLSH parish of their intention to celebrate with us the 30th Anniversary of Saint John Paul II visit to Alice Springs.

The 30th Anniversary Mass will be held at on **Thursday 21st April at 4:00pm, BLATHERSKITE PARK, Alice Springs**, where he gave his most quoted speech ever to all Australians. ALL WELCOME.

CAAAPU

OLSH parish has begun reaching out to the Central Australian Aboriginal Alcohol Programmes Unit (CAAAPU) to assist Aboriginal people with alcohol and drug rehabilitation, and to provide ongoing treatment and education. Feel free to join the team if you want to exercise some corporal works of mercy.

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

The Parish Pastoral Council with the support of SVD priests are ready to 'rock n roll' with our adult formation programme. 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.

Monday, 2nd May, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Liturgical Concert : **'Singing for Mercy'**. *All invited* At OLSH Church. (*Donations only*) by Fr Rob Galea, songwriter, Founder of Stronger Youth Programme, Eight musical projects, Maltese priest.

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:** *Venue and Costs: TBA*

To be facilitated by Sr Anne Surtees OSU, Spiritual Director, Provincial Ursuline Sisters Leadership Team, Former Director of CenterCare Pastoral Ministries, Brisbane.

MARK THESE DATES

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to Fr Jim Knight SVD from his holiday break in Sydney.

Cleaning: 09 April 2016 **Group 6**
Jo Black, Colleen Thomas, Kate Kelly

Counters: 10 April 2016
Mel & Tinna Buenviaje

Last Week's Collections:
1st Collection: \$2,141.20 (for the presbytery)
2nd Collection: \$1,580.00 (for the parish)
Planned Giving: \$916.35
Holy Thursday : \$687.15
Good Friday: \$992.90 (for the Holy Land)
Easter Offering: \$659.00
Caritas Australia: \$1,593.40 (for Caritas Australia)

Thank you for your generosity!

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



Vinnie's Food Van – Volunteers Needed

St Vincent de Paul operates a food van each week - Mondays to Fridays. The Food Van service provides a light meal, soup, tea, coffee and cordial from Monday to Friday between 5.30pm and 6.30pm. It also provides an opportunity to build an understanding with people, who are experiencing homelessness or isolation. Currently there have been groups such as Central Land Council, Dep't of Children and Families, Mission Australia and others who have undertaken a responsibility for a particular week day and have organised their own roster accordingly. We again are in need of additional volunteers or, ideally, groups such as the above.

This is an opportunity for volunteers (particularly government or service organisations) to do something more for the community, and understand other people's lives more personally. Individual volunteers are also very much welcomed.

For those interested please contact Bruce Clifford on 8952 2172, mob 0498 097 480.

Email: brucejoyceclifford@bigpond.com or Beth Madden on 89534955, mob 0458581258.

Email: ejmadden@internode.on.net

Alice Springs Sporting Community: Chaplain

Local sports clubs are often the hubs of their communities. They are made up of people from all walks of life. When so many people come together on a regular basis there are inevitably issues of life to deal with. Sports Chaplaincy Australia's primary concern is to help sports clubs address the immediate and long term wellbeing of players, coaches, admin and support staff and their families. The focus of our chaplains is to support the 'whole' of a person. Our care transcends background, gender, nationality, and belief system. If you are interested in becoming a chaplain in one of our local sports clubs, simply call Roger Johnson on 0429356601 or email: roger.johnson@sportschaplaincy.com.au. Training Days are Wednesday June 1st, Thursday, June 2nd and Friday, June 3rd 2016 from 9.00am — 4.30pm, Anglican Church.

THANK YOU SO MUCH

A massive thank you to everyone who helped prepared our Lenten and Easter liturgical celebrations especially to Sr Anne and her Liturgy Team, Choirs & Musicians, Sacristan, Altar Servers, Cleaners, Lectors and Ministers, Lenten Group Facilitators, Hospitality Team, Prayer Warriors, Missionaries of Charity, Campfire in the Heart and many more. What a Team!

Roster for weekend of 09 - 10 April 2016

	Commentator	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6pm pm	B Heenan	M McNaught Ruth Sexton	M Maddocks Darryl Smith Thelma Bowen
Sun 7:30 am	Kath McGargill	Tony Whitelum Joanne Pulsford	John Lillecrapp Fred Twohig Rita Steller
Sun 9:30 am	Kevin Hickmott	Lillian Labastida Aileen Batimano	Cristy Genetti Virginia Loy Bruce Were
Sun 5:30 pm	Myke Ociones	Denise Simon Tinna Buenviaje	Sammy Nobleza Mel Buenviaje Marieta Ives

2nd Sunday of Easter Year C

2nd - 3rd April 2016

Entrance Antiphon:

1 Pet 2:2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading:

Acts 15:12-16

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 117:2-4,22-27

R/ Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading:

Rev 1:9-13, 17-19

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! **Alleluia!** Jn 20:29

Gospel:

John 20: 19-31

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.' As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Jn 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.