



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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Website:
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Bulletin: Email:
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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 OMSC

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

Inclusive 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”



"For Mercy has a human heart, Pity a human face. And Love, the human form divine, And Peace, the human dress", William Blake, *The Divine Image*. **Questions for Week 4: Are you convinced that the work of mercy, though tough and messy, is part of any Christian home? How have you become the face of mercy for your children, neighbour and work colleagues? How does it make you feel when you are the face of mercy to your loved ones?**

4th Sunday of Lent Year C
5th - 6th March 2016

MY FATHER HAS TWO SONS

You are familiar with this story from Luke 15:1-32. Generally we call it the Parable of the Prodigal Son. Perhaps you call it the Parable of the Merciful Father. You can also name it after the elder son, and then it becomes the Parable of the Jealous Brother, the ‘good fellow’.

If we cannot stomach people who offend our moral standards, we will easily identify with the elder son.

If we have to admit to our self that our life is far from what it should have been and that we are far from the Father's home, then the younger son will be the person to identify with.

If we ourselves have a son or daughter who turns his or her back to all that is holy, good and beautiful to you as a parent or carer, the Father's attitude will greatly appeal to you.

As we listen to this story, a play in three acts, we can react in different ways to it. This is why we should listen to it with all sincerity and openness, so as to give a personal, adequate response to it.

I am personally drawn to the Father's response. He plays a very active role. He does not say: If this young man wants to come back like a dog with his tail between his legs, let him come, he knows where the entrance is. The Father does not let him cool his heels in the porch. He does not wait sitting in his chair until the younger son has presented all his excuses. No, he runs to meet him, embraces him and kisses him. The Father does not need clear proof that he is sorry nor does he ask for all the receipts of his expenses. He shows his love with all the means his heart and soul give him.

The Father is always ahead of us in mercy, goodness and kindness. He will do the same to us if we too are willing to return, to be reconciled with God (2 Cor 5:17-21). God will raise us up to be his children once again, pressing you closer to his heart, and wrapping you with the cloak of his unfathomable love.

Fr Raass, PP

Daily Readings: starting 7 March 2016

Mon:Is 65:17-21 Jn 4:43-54
Tues:Ezek 47:1-9,12 Jn 5:1-3,5-16
Wed: Is 49:8-15 Jn 5; 17-30
Thur:Ex 32:7-14 Jn 5:31-47
Fri:Wis 2:1,12-22 Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30
Sat:Jer 11:18-20 Lk 7:40-52
Sun:Is 43:16-21
 Phil 3:8-14 Jn 8:1-11
+ 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 Patrick Monaghan.

May the Lord grant them healing.

Bon Voyage

The OLSH Parish wish Diane Desmond and Scott Brodsky farewell, after 4 years in Alice Springs. May God Bless their future life on their return to the U.S.

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
Stations of the Cross (During Lent only)
Fridays from 6:15pm

Divine Office—Liturgy of the Hours
Monday to Friday 6:45am

OLSH Parish Blue Bucket Fiji Cyclone Appeal

Next Week on **Sunday 13th March**, OLSH Parish will have a blue bucket Fiji Cyclone Appeal. The damage bill has already reached \$650 million, with 45,000 people still living in 875 evacuation centres and 43 reported dead. Any small amount can go a long way to alleviate the suffering victims. Money collected will be sent directly to those affected in Fiji.

Another invitation is extended to all parishioners from the Fiji Community in Alice Springs to an **Island Night Disaster Relief Fundraiser** at the Marian Centre, Saddeen Campus on **Saturday 12th March at 6:00pm**. Ticket will be sold this weekend at the back of church. \$50 for 3 Course Meal; \$15 per child with the best of island entertainment.



Year of Mercy Workshop, OLSH Parish

OLSH Parish is blessed to invite one of Australia's leading biblical scholars namely, Sr Veronica Lawson, a Sister of Mercy, to conduct a full-day workshop on **Saturday May 21st**. Her recent book *The Blessing of Mercy* is an ecological exploration of mercy in the Bible, connecting intentionally with Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si* and his proclamation of an Extraordinary Year of Mercy. Mark this date on your diary. More details later.

Formation and Spiritual Retreat

NATSICC, along with the Bishops Commission or relations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, are hosting a 3 day retreat in Alice Springs from **Tuesday, 19 April 2016 at 10:00 AM - Thursday, 21 April 2016 at 6:00 PM**. 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. Form invaluable relationships and networks with others working alongside you from all corners of Australia. Presenters Include Archbishop Christopher Prowse - Archbishop of Canberra Goulburn, Aboriginal Theologian Evelyn Parkin, Bishop Saunders - Bishop of Broome, John Lochowiak - NATSICC Chairperson, Bishop Eugene Hurley, Bishop Don Sproxtton, Bishop Joseph Oudemann and Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green. It will be held at the Alice Springs Resort, 34 Stott Terrace, Alice Springs. Costs \$280 includes all meals and workshops except breakfast. Contact Fr Raass for more information.

Lenten Sharing Groups

(Frs) Raass & Prakash SVD - MERCY	Presbytery, Saturdays @ 9:00am-10:30am, Saturday call 89521049
(Sr) Helen Kennedy FMM - MERCY	St Francis Centre, Mondays @ 7pm-8:30pm call 89524151
Sue Marshall - MERCY	Traegar Campus, Tuesdays 4:45pm or call 0408453061,
**Patrick Monaghan "Prayer & Mysticism"	1 Lakes Court, Wednesdays. Suspended until further notice. Call 8521042.
Ruth Sexton - MERCY	Bath Street campus staff room, Thursdays 4:20pm-6:00pm.

New OLSH Parish Media & Social Communications Team

OLSH Parish will launch her new Face-Book page and a more user-friendly parish website on Palm Sunday 2016 (www.olshparishalicesprings.org.au).

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.

2nd Rite Penitential Celebrations

Monday 21 st March (2 nd Rite, Holy Week)	7:00pm, OLSH Church
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STATIONS OF THE CROSS, 6:15pm Fridays

My Wounded Hands	Friday 11 th March, 6:15pm
Mary's Way of the Cross	Friday 18 th March, 6:15pm

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

OLSH Catholic Parish will be commencing their Religious Education classes again in mid-March at the St Francis Centre on Adamson Ave. Any parents wanting 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.

OLSH COLLEGE, ALICE SPRINGS

"Founded in 1938, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (OLSH) has a long established commitment to educating the people of Alice Springs. The College has a proud history and a reputation for community involvement and academic achievement in an environment where the pastoral care and wellbeing of students is paramount. For over 75 years, our College has educated students to become confident, intelligent and compassionate young men and women, capable of making a valuable contribution to their world. As a Catholic school in the Marist tradition, the Gospel is central to the mission and vision of this learning community. We provide students with varied learning opportunities within a caring, compassionate and highly supportive Christian environment", Br Mathew Green FMS, School Principal.

While OLSH Parish respects the parent's freedom in their choice of schools, the Church also teaches that parents have an obligation for seeing to holistic Catholic education of their children. FYI, OLSH College was established as a request made to the OLSH Sisters and MSC Fathers & Brothers by the parishioners of this parish. OLSH College is a comprehensive Catholic School where your children can become good citizens and contribute to making Jesus Christ known and loved wherever they go and live - Fr Raass.

Unity Magazine, March 2016

Please pick up your copy at the back of the Church. Deadline for June Edition is Friday, April 18th 2016.

Cleaning: 12 March 2016 **Group 2**
Goury Nair, Babu Joseph, Sibi Thampi, Seena
Counters: 13 March 2016
Mel & Tinna Buenviaje

Last Week's Collections:

1st Collection: \$1453.50
2nd Collection: \$1004.95
Planned Giving: \$1626.00

Thank You for your Generosity

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

Ecumenical Lenten Service (Service of the Word with other Christian Churches)

Wednesday 9 th March, 7pm	Anglican Church, Bath St
Wednesday 16 th March, 7pm	Lutheran Church, Gap Road

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

If you know any adult man or woman in Central Australia who, after hearing the mystery of Christ proclaimed, consciously and freely seek the living God and enter the Catholic faith, please let them know that we will run the RCIA again in 2016. At the proper time they will receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) and all rites belonging to the Catechumenate. This programme is also for those who want to convert to Catholicism from another Christian denomination. If you know of any adult out there who are seeking to become Christians please request their name and contact number otherwise they may call the presbytery or Sr Helen Kennedy FMM – our parish RCIA Director.

New Sacristan



OLSH Parish wishes to inform parishioners that Dr Sue Bain is our new OLSH Parish Sacristan. The Sacristan Ministry is first and foremost responsible for assuring proper treatment of the Holy Species, namely that of the Sacred Blood and Blessed Sacrament during and after the celebration. She will also be responsible for assisting the priests and Liturgy Committee for Mass set up, clean up and preparing all the books, vessels, offertory, altar cloth, decorations, and incense when appropriate. The sacristan in consultation with the priest also makes sure that the vestments, church furnishings, liturgical vessels and decorative objects are kept in good condition. She will need one or two assistant Sacristans to assist in this special ministry. Any takers? Please liaise with the Sacristan if you wish to change the décor of the sanctuary. However your ideas are welcome.

Roster for weekend of 12 - 13 March 2016

	Commentator	Readers	Communion Minister
Sat 6:00 pm	John Appelby	Sr. Mary Weeks Sr. Anne Surtees	Rose Sabadin Bryan Weir Anne Chivers
Sun 7:30 am	Mike Steller	Margaret McNaught Pushpa Vida	Rita Stellar Fred Twohig Greg Gilbert
Sun 9:30 am	Pauline Otieno	Precy Taylor Bridget Knight	Cristy Genetti Margaret Lillecraap Helena Casseeram
Sun 5:30 pm	Miquel Ociones	Andrezejs Skrzypiec Cristina Buenviaje	Thomas J John Marietta Ives Mel Buenviaje

PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME +

4th Sunday of Lent Year C

5th - 6th March 2016

Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Isa 66:10-11

First Reading:

Joshua 5:9-12

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord

Ps 33:2-7

Responsorial Psalm:

R/ Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading:

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I will rise and go to my father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. **Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Gospel:

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners, meanwhile, were all seeking his company to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them. So he spoke this parable to them: 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me". So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening." The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.

Lk 15:32