



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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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”



“Be merciful just as your Father is merciful”, Luke 6:36. Question for Week 2: ‘In order to be capable of mercy, therefore, we must first of all dispose ourselves to listen to the Word of God. This means discovering the value of silence in order to meditate on the Word that comes to us’, *Pope Francis, The Face of Mercy #12,13.* **How do these words of Pope Francis challenge me in my personal life-style? Is the gift of silence something you are afraid of and why? Do you make time to sit quietly with a text from the Bible?**

2nd Sunday of Lent Year C
20th - 21st February 2016

Keeping the Memory of Jesus Alive

For several years before my dad died I would observe him sitting on his bed praying his rosaries. The rosary beads were a source of faith and strength of a simple man with very little belongings. I used to watch him pray, imagining the years of faithful prayer that relied on God through Mary to his very last moments. He was still saying the rosary when God called him to rest and I have wondered: if the rosary beads enabled dad to “hang in over the long haul” especially during his time of sickness and pain.

Today’s readings are about that very question, about “keeping the faith.” Given the ups and downs of life and the ordinary struggles that consume human energy, how do any of us manage to live in faith? What nurtures our faith and moves it forward? **What can we do to increase our love for Jesus during mountain-top experiences that will sustain our love for him when we are down and out?**

The disciples’ intense experience on Mount Transfiguration was an encounter with the Presence, God’s Son in all his glory. They heard the voice of God together with two Old Testament liberators, Moses (Exodus 3) and Elijah (1 Kings 21), ‘This is my Son...listen to him’.

But Luke reminds us that a life following Christ is lived in the market-squares of our life-style, the valley of desolation and the way of the Cross. Our Christian exodus might eventually lead to martyrdom – to give our life for others. In a world torn apart by revenge, indifference and violence, the God of Mercy invites all people who have heard his voice and felt his divine touch, to shine the face of mercy experienced on the ‘mountain-top’ of ones life. In the words of Pope Francis, we need your face, “the face that reawakens people to new life and instils in us the courage to look to the future with hope” (The Face of Mercy#10).

Friends, the reach looks worthwhile and encouraging simply because the vision of transfiguration is an inspiring one. As my dad used to say, “Our true homeland is only a grave-hard away!” Let’s not be afraid to come down to the plain of everyday life but **always remember to carry with you the memory of Jesus** and what he has done for you – **alive in your heart.**

Fr Raass SVD

OLSH Parish Ecumenical & Interfaith Dialogue Teams

The priests and your Parish Pastoral Council is calling for interested parishioners or Spirit-filled evangelizers who are open and willing to work with the Holy Spirit on two movements of the Church’s work in evangelisation, and as mandated by the 2nd Vatican Council, namely, *ecumenism and interfaith relations/dialogue.* The priests will provide some formation for interested parishioners so do not be afraid to go beyond your little vegetable garden.

Daily Readings: starting 22 February 2016

Mon: 1 Pet 5:1-4 Mt 16:13-19
Tues: Is 1:10,16-20 Mt 23:1-12
Wed: Jer 18:18-20 Mt 20:17-28
Thur: Jer 17:5-10 Lk 16:19-31
Fri: Gen 37:3-4,12-13,17-28 Mt 21:33-43,45-46
Sat: Micah 7:14-15,18-20 Lk 15:1-3,11-32
Sun: Ex 3:1-8,13-15
1 Cor 10:1-6,10-12 Lk 13:1-9

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Mary Dick, Rose Brand, Colleen Matson and Georgina Gilbert.

May the Lord grant them healing.

World Day of Prayer

This is an annual ecumenical service, in which Christians around the world, come together on the first Friday of March each year, to observe a common day of prayer focusing on one country, their lives and challenges. In central Australia it will be held at **the Lutheran Church 49 Gap Rd Alice Springs on Friday 4th March, 7pm.** This is a time for the world to unit through all our diversity, in the belief 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 Cuba and all are invited to share with others in more than 170 countries on the same day. Should you require further details, please contact Rita Steller, on 89595397 or 89520868. Thank you.

Mothers Prayers has resumed on **Thursdays at 6.15pm** at the Presbytery. Come join us as we pray for those children in our lives. They will also speak briefly at this weekend's Masses.

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

24 Hours for the Lord

Pope Francis has recommended that every diocese/parish implement the initiative of 24 Hours for the Lord, to be celebrated on the Friday and Saturday preceding the 4th Week of Lent, the **4th and 5th of March** (The Face of Mercy #17). This will involve a 24 hour prayer from 6pm on Friday to 6pm, Saturday. It would consist of the Holy Mass, deep silence, meditation, reflections, scripture readings, exposition, confessions, and concludes with Benediction.

This will be linked, first and foremost, to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and therefore all priests will be available and on call for 24hrs. The priests highly suggest that every Catholic family in Central Australia or individuals choose different time slots from midnight on Friday to Saturday evening.

"Let us not underestimate the power of so many voices united in prayer! Pope Francis. Please see a Roster and program at the back of the church and make an hour or two with the Lord.

New OLSH Parish Hospitality Coordinator

We have a new OLSH Parish Hospitality Coordinator.



My name is Mel Masani. My family and I joined the OSH Parish Catholic Church in May 2014 having left New Zealand to explore new opportunities. I will be taking over from Helena and Manfred Casseeram as your 2016 Hospitality Coordinator for the OLSH Parish Catholic Church. I am very excited about the role and put my trust in GOD, knowing through him all things are possible. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Helena & her support team for all their support and leadership throughout the time they have been in this role and it is an inspiration to us all. I am enthusiastic about joining the Hospitality Group and look forward to the support we can provide for each other.

OLSH College Inaugural Mass, Thursday 18th February

Last Thursday our OLSH College student body with parents, friends, staff and Marist Brothers, started off the Academic Year with a 'Big Bang'! Everyone was reminded of the gospel truth with the Mass theme, "God's name is Mercy". From Year 1 to 12 the students sang and danced to 'My Lighthouse', binding OLSH College together in a strong spirit of communion and tradition of St Marcellin Champagnat. "I won't fear what tomorrow brings...you are the peace in my troubled sea", what a special way to begin a new year with trust in God and renewed faith and pride in OLSH College. In fact I was greatly impressed and much appreciation to the Brothers and staff for the students' display of reverence and respect during the Holy Mass'.
- Fr Raass

CARITAS PROJECT COMPASSION 2016

Please pick up a box or donation envelopes at the back of the church and put your compassion into action. Forward all donations by Easter Sunday or before 27th May 2016. You can also donate by Electronic transfer, call CARITAS on 1800 024 413 for details or post a cheque to to GPO Box 9830, Sydney, NSW 2001. Donations are tax deductible. We also need someone to help promote Project Compassion in OLSH Parish every year. Any volunteers?

New OLSH Parish Media & Social Communications Team

A team is now working on a Social Media Policy, setting up a new OLSH Parish Facebook Page and updating our parish website www.olshparishalicesprings.org.au In this Year of Mercy lots of activities will be happening in the parish and the Catholic world hence the desire to reach as many Catholics as we possibly can through social media communications. This is an exciting adventure!

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.

| 1 st & 2 nd Rite Jubilee Penitential Celebrations | |
|---|---|
| Every Saturday throughout the Jubilee Year (1 st Rite) | 11:30am & 5:15pm |
| Monday 22 nd February (2 nd Rite) | 7:00pm, OLSH Church |
| Friday 4 th /Saturday 5 th March (1 st Rite), "24 Hours for the Lord", urged by Pope Francis for the whole world | 7:30pm on 4 th March – 5:45pm on 5 th March |
| Monday 21 st March (2 nd Rite) | 7:00pm, OLSH Church |

| STATIONS OF THE CROSS | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Stations of the Cross with Pope Francis | Friday 26 th Feb, 6:15pm |
| The Face of Christ, the Face of Man | Friday 4 th March, 6:15pm |
| My Wounded Hands | Friday 11 th March, 6:15pm |
| Mary's Way of the Cross | Friday 18 th March, 6:15pm |

Billy Graham Christian Life & Witness Course at OLSH Church

In a spirit of good ecumenical relations, OLSH Parish will host a Christian Life & Witness Course at OLSH Church on the **3rd March at 10:00am**. This is a basic four-part study that prepares members of participating churches to serve in outreach/mission. All followers of Jesus Christ I am sure can benefit from this CLWC. No, you don't have to change your denomination but go and be inspired, renewed and equipped to share your Catholic faith. You will need to attend four sessions to complete the course. Morning sessions are similar to evening sessions so you don't have to attend both sessions in one day. A short video will be played at post-Communion. Feel free to take a brochure at the back of the Church and registration is free. No pressure whatsoever.

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| Feb 23, 10am Christian Family Church, 16 Kidman St | 7 pm Baptist Church, 1 Crispe St |
| Feb 25, 10 am Anglican Church, 18 Bath St | 7 pm Desert Life Church, 32 Undoolya Rd |
| Mar 1, 10am Christian Family Church, 16 Kidman St | 7 pm Baptist Church, 1 Crispe St |
| Mar 3 10am Catholic Church, 4 Hartley St | 7 pm Desert Life Church, 32 Undoolya Rd |

Ecumenical Lenten Service, OLSH Church

OLSH parish will host an Ecumenical Liturgy of the Word for Christian churches in central Australia this **Wednesday 24th February at 7:00pm**. All parishioners are invited to attend. Tea/Coffee will be provided afterwards. Remember, all baptized Catholics are called to search for unity.

Cleaning: 27 February **Group 8**
Margaret Lillecrapp, Virginia Loy, Kathleen Epelde

Counters: 28 February 2016
Eric & Kath McGargill

Last Week's Collections:
1st Collection: \$ 1,495.30 (for the presbytery)
2nd Collection: \$ 2,308.45 (for the parish)

Thank you for your generosity!

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

Lenten Sharing Groups

Recently OLSH Parish received complimentary copies of the Archdiocese of Brisbane's Lenten program for the Jubilee of Mercy: *Being Lost...Being Found – Gospel Reflections for Lent*. The book is available at the back of the Church *free of charge*. Please take one for yourself or for your family or someone you know. The program is easy to follow and who knows, it may just be the way to be 'found' again in the loving and merciful embrace of our God. C'mon, it's not too late to join a parish Lenten group or start one yourself at home or workplace – share the mercy!

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|---|---|
| (Frs) Raass & Prakash SVD - MERCY | Presbytery, Saturdays @ 9:00am-10:30am, start Saturday 13 th Feb, call 89521049 |
| (Sr) Helen Kennedy FMM - MERCY | St Francis Centre, Mondays @ 7pm-8:30pm call 89524151 |
| Sue Marshall - MERCY | Traegar Campus, start 9 th Tuesdays 4:45pm or call 0408453061, |
| **Patrick Monaghan "Prayer & Mysticism" | 1 Lakes Court, Wednesdays @7pm-8:30pm, start 10 th Feb, call 8521042 |
| Ruth Sexton - MERCY | Bath Street campus staff room, Thursdays 4:20pm-6:00pm, start Thursday 11 th Feb |

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

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| Catholic Church, Hartley St | Wednesday 24 th February, 7pm |
| Uniting Church, Todd Mall | Wednesday 2 nd March, 7pm |
| **Catholic Church, Billy Graham Christian Life Witness Workshop, Catholic Church | ***Thursday March 3 rd , 10:00am-12midday |
| **World Day of Prayer, Lutheran Church | Friday 4 th March, 7pm |
| Anglican Church, Bath St | Wednesday 9 th March, 7pm |
| Lutheran Church, Gap Road | Wednesday 16 th March, 7pm |

The Social Justice Awareness Group

The SJAG will be holding its regular meeting on **Sunday 28th February at 3:30pm** at the Parish House. We happily welcome anyone who would like to come along to see what we do at our Meetings and maybe find time to join with us every four weeks throughout the year. Kathleen Leahy OLSH

Roster for weekend of 27 - 28 February 2016

| | Commentator | Readers | Special Ministers |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Sat 6:00 pm | John Appleby | Alf Goody Patricia Litvensky | Darryl Smith Rosalia Fernandes David Fernandes |
| Sun 7:30 am | Kath McGargill | Ruth Sexton M McNaught | John Lillecrapp Greg Gilbert Rita Steller |
| Sun 9:30 am | Bro Tony Caddy | David Genetti Col Marshall | Mark Bensted Margaret Lillecrapp Helena Casseeram |
| Sun 5:30 pm | Miguel Ociones | Sue Bain Andrezejs Skrzypiec | Sammy Nobleza Marieta Ives Thomas J John |

2nd Sunday of Lent Year C

20th - 21st February 2016

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

First Reading:

Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18

God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants, he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. 'I am the Lord he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off. Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 26:1,7-9,13-14

R/ The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading:

Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. **Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Gospel:

Luke 9:28-36

As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah'. - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Mt 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.