



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

9 am - 12 noon & 4 pm - 5 pm

Parish Team:

Parish Priest:

Fr Asaeli Raass SVD

Assistant Parish Priests:

Fr. Oliver Noclam SVD

Fr Prakash Menezes SVD

Resident Priest:

Fr. Vincent Mai SVD

Syro-Malabar Chaplain

Fr. Binesh Naramattathil CST

Secretary:

Mel Buenviaje

Parish Past. Council Chairman

Fred Twohig

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 - 11 am *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.

Marriage:

By appointment only, 6 months' notice required.

The Baptism of the Lord

10th – 11th January 2015

Dear OLSH Parishioners, Benefactors and Friends,

Happy New Year and Warm Blessings!

On this Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, I would like to welcome each and every one of you to our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish especially to the new parishioners. I hope 2015 has started well for all of you.

It is important that before I formally begin this ministry as your new Parish Priest, to acknowledge the traditional custodians of Alice Springs, namely the *Arrenrte* peoples past and present. May I also pay my respect to all those who have built and maintained the OLSH parish according to the vision and mission of our Founder, our Lord Jesus Christ in the teachings and disciplines of the Catholic Church.

For your information, I will be working as a team with two other priests who have been assigned to OLSH Parish and they are Fr Oliver Noclam SVD (Vanuatu) and Fr Prakash Menezes SVD (India). They are still awaiting their immigration visa.

It's tough being a priest these days, especially in the early days of this new parish appointment. Even though I have ministered here from 2003 – 2009 as Aboriginal Chaplain and Assistant Parish Priest to Frs Brian Healy MSC and Jim Knight SVD, to gain your respect and trust is going to be a challenge. You have seen many priests come and go. Some made you happy in their coming, and some in their going!

In the past, you have also seen too many new priests who were determined to put out their own stamp on OLSH parish marking it as their own territory. Some priests including parishioners have unconsciously and consciously tried to build their own personal kingdoms not God's Kingdom in their various pastoral roles and responsibilities. Understandably, over the recent years there has been a preoccupation with the quality of relationships among parishioners and their parish priests, a reaction to previous emphasis on work at the expense of and to the detriment of the parish vision. When it happens we neglect the mind of Christ and the *action* needed to bear fruits of love and service to others.

I am taking on this ministry with a strong yearning for pure, clear water of a scripture text that I hope will embody the central vision of who we are as loved sons and daughters of God in Central Australia:

“So if in Christ there is anything that will move you, any incentive in love, any fellowship in the Spirit, any warmth or sympathy – I appeal to you, make my joy complete by being of a single mind, one in love, one in heart and one in mind. Nothing is to be done out of jealousy or vanity; instead, out of humility of mind everyone should give preference for others, everyone pursuing not selfish interests but those of others. Make your own the mind of Christ Jesus” (Phil 2:1-5).

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Daily Readings: starting 12 January

Mon: Heb 1:1-6 Mk 1:14-20
Tues: Heb 2:5-12 Mk 1:21-28
Wed: Heb 2:14-18 Mk 1:29-39
Thu: Heb 3:7-14 Mk 1:40-45
Fri: Heb 4:1-5,11 Mk 2:1-12
Sat: Heb 4:12-16 Mk 2:13-17
Sun: 1 Sam 3:3-10,19
 1 Cor 6:13-15,17-20 Jn 1:35-42

+ **Pray & read your Bible every day** +

**Please pray for the elderly
and those who are sick**

Mary Hessling, Colleen Matson, Benedicta Turkey, David Woods, Sean Heenan, Mary Dick, Duncan Lynch, Isobel Laverty, Janice Loria Lazo, Margaret McNaught, Rita Knuchel (Gill Dew's mum), Graciano Mercado, Kevin Feed, Penelope Sleming, Hermon Turkey, Tilde Cabantog, Benedicto J Chupungco, Eileen Sanvictores, Manuel Sarangay, Alice Costa, Do Quyen, Paul Rindahl, Kathleen Wil- lia, Dianne McGinn, Georgina Gilbert, Editha Baslot, Ann Vernon, Kevin Edwin, Paul Manard, Heather Cent, Jala Breanna, Singmia Fofung, Colleen Langcake, Cathy Golotta, Marissa Johnston, Allison Burgess, Rose- marie Schnell, Bill Sims, Antonio Mutia, Gill Dew, Mark McGinley, Patricia Wyatt, Peter Strachan, Gary Brenton, Glen Clarke, Imblisa, May Lee Shah, Bill Costa, Maria Lourdes Sacramento.

May the Lord grant them healing

Death Anniversary: Matthew Neck, Amanda

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

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With all our diversity, with disagreement about how, where and when of our lives, we are nevertheless held together by the *why*.

“May they all be one, just as, Father, you are in me and I am in you, so that they also may be in us so that the world may believe it was you who sent me “. (Jn 17:21)

It is my hope and prayer that we increase on a quality of relationships among us in this parish so that it becomes a powerful witness to the vision of Jn 17:21, and hopefully these healthy and life-giving relationships will fuel our commitment to the mission of God entrusted to us in Central Australia.

May I invite all parishioners to share in the work of God in all aspects of parish life in 2015 and beyond, including our ongoing support for the indigenous and prison chaplaincies, OLSH College, Vinnies, St Joseph's Flexible Learning Centre, Migrant communities, Youth and the Elderly, Visitation of the sick and other areas where God is beckoning us to move into this year and the next.

The new team hopes to meet, consult and listen to all parish support groups in the coming months to hear your expectations, needs and ambitions for the parish. Please feel free to share your stories with us and how you want your parish community grow to its full potential. I am a great believer in an open-door and contemplative approach to everything. **THIS IS YOUR PARISH AND LETS MAKE IT A HOME OF HOSPITALITY AND COMPASSION THAT PLACE NO LIMITS ON THE VALUE OF EACH PARISHIONER AND EXCLUDES NOBODY.**

Watch this space!

Fr A.Raass SVD
Newly Appointed Parish Priest



The Year of Consecrated Life 2105

Pope Francis proclaimed 2015 a Year of Consecrated Life, starting on the First Sunday of Advent, the weekend of November 29, 2014, and ending on February 2, 2016, the **World Day of Consecrated Life**. The year also marks the 50th Anniversary of Perfectae Caritatis, a decree on religious life, and Lumen Gentium, the second Vatican Council's constitution on the Church. Its purpose, as stated by the Vatican is to make a grateful remembrance of the recent past ' While embracing' the future with hope.' Please pray for all the religious in Central Australia.

WELCOME!

Fr. Asaeli Raass, svd has arrived to take up his appointment as our new parish priest. A heart felt welcome to you Fr. Raass svd.

We are still awaiting the arrival of the other two assistants Fr. Olivier, svd and Fr. Prakash Menezes, svd.

Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us, whether long time residents or those newly arrived in the Parish. Welcome to all guests and tourists. We pray that you have a lovely stay!

Parish Diary

Sunday 11 January
Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Year B

Monday 12 January

Tuesday 13 January

- Prison Ministry 5:45 -7:30pm

Wednesday 14 January

Thursday 15 January

Friday 16 January

Saturday 17 January

Sunday 18 January
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Thank You

Christmas season is officially over with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Christmas decoration now can be cleared. We thank our volunteers who help to set up and clean the Church. Many thanks and appreciation.

The list of the elderly and the sick who request for our prayer printed in the bulletin needs to be updated. Please write down clearly the name of the person you would like the parish community to pray for. The sheet is provided at the end of the Church.

Volunteers: commentators, readers and communion ministers, are still needed for the January roster. Please sign up your name if you can assist. Thanks.

Did You Know?

- The word 'baptism' comes from the Greek word meaning 'to plunge'. In the early centuries of the Church, baptism was normally for adults and it was practiced by full immersion, that is, being plunged totally under water.
- In early churches, baptismal fonts were often small, deep pools where the catechumens descended steps to full immersion and then ascended steps on the other side. This symbolised entering the tomb of death and rising to new life with Christ. After emerging, they were clothed with a white robe to symbolise this new life.
- In ancient times, the Jordan River was the border that separated the land of Israel from its eastern neighbours. It was the last river to cross before the Chosen People entered into the Promised Land after their escape from Egypt and their wanderings in the desert.

Evangelii Gaudium

“...solidarity must be lived as the decision to restore to the poor what belongs to them...convictions and habits of solidarity, when they are put into practice, open the way to other structural transformations and make them possible. Changing structures without generating new convictions and attitudes will only ensure that those same structures will become, sooner or later, corrupt, oppressive and ineffectual.”

Par 189 from *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis, Nov. 24, 2013



Roster for weekend of 17 / 18 January 2015

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	John Appleby	Sue Bain Margaret McNaught	Marian Maddocks Christine Grant
Sun 7:30 am	Kath McGargill	Sr. Magdalena Patricia Rademaker	
Sun 9:30 am		Sneha Nair Gesheila Cottez	Margaret Lillecrapp
Sun 5:30 pm		Caterina Golotta Alecia Schell	Marietta Ives

Congratulation to Franchesca Fernandez Ives and Dwayne Dwight Schultz who received the sacrament of matrimony on Saturday 10th January. May God bless your life together as a newly married couple.

Cleaning: 17 January **Group 6**
 Jo Black, Colleen Thomas, Kate Kelly

Counters: 18 January 2015
 Margaret-Ann McNaught

Last Week's Collections:
 1st Collection: \$1,001.20
 2nd Collection: \$1,271.75
 Donation to George & Jessie: \$1.72.70

Thank you for your generosity!

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

The Baptism of the Lord Year B

10th—11th January 2015

Entrance Antiphon:

Mt 3:16-17

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

First Reading:

Isa 55:1-11

Come to the waters; listen to my words and you shall have life

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David. See, I have made of you a witness to the peoples, a leader and a master of the nations. See, you will summon a nation you never knew, those unknown will come hurrying to you, for the sake of the Lord our God, of the Holy One of Israel who will glorify you.. Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts. Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Isa 12:2-6 **R/** You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Second Reading:

1 John 5:1-9

The Spirit, the water and the blood give witness

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; that is what loving God is-keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness - since the Spirit is the truth-so that there are three witnesses, the Spirit, the water and the blood, and all three of them agree. We accept the testimony of human witnesses, but God's testimony is much greater, and this is God's testimony, given as evidence for his Son.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Jn 1:29

Alleluia, alleluia! John saw Jesus approaching him, and said; This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. **Alleluia**

Gospel:

Mark 1:7-11



You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well praised.

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved, my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon:

Jn 1:32,34

Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.