



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.



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Deadline for Bulletin submissions is Wednesday 5:00p.m.

Facebook Page: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish

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's Flexible Centre

Mr. Ben Ebert

Safeguarding Officers: Mr George Tetteh, Ms Pane Komene & Mr Manfred C.

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*.

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.

Year of the Family in the Diocese of Darwin based on Pope Francis'



Amoris Laetitia
On Love in the Family

Bishop Eugene is inviting all families, newly married couples, expectant mothers, young people in love, in-laws, priests, teachers and for those engaged in the family apostolate to read, pray and ponder on the latest post-synodal document, The Joy of Love, Amoris Laetitia. "It is my hope that, in reading this text, all will feel called to love and cherish family life, for families are not a problem; they are the first and foremost an opportunity", Pope Francis. Copies are available at the presbytery.

1st Sunday of Advent Year A
26th - 27th November 2016

Welcome to the Holy Season of Advent.

During these four weeks of preparation, the Gospel urges us to "Be Awake, Be watchful, Be alert" In fact we could also add "be aware, be alive, be attentive, be responsible, be decent! (see Romans 13:11-14).

When it gets darker and colder in the night, it gets more difficult to stay awake. Sleepiness is good at night but not when you should be awake. Today Christ tells us to stay awake and keep watch for the Master's unexpected return. Indeed, it gives us a good idea of why wakefulness is important for the spiritual life—because wakefulness is watchfulness. Being attentive to God is symbolized in being awake and watchful.

A Dominican hymn says "Let my eyes take sleep/ but let my heart ever keep vigil to thee." This is a reference to the Song of Songs where the bride says, "I slept, but my heart was awake." In her great desire for her lover, the bride "watches" for him, even as she sleeps on her bed. This usage emphasizes that watchfulness is primarily spiritual—it is a wakefulness of desire for God. It is being attentive to the movements of God within and without. It is being sensitive to the whispers of the Holy Spirit and to the will of God in one's life. It is being alert to those things that take us away from God.

Remember the story when Jesus rebuked His apostles, weighed down with sleep at the Garden of Gethsemane: *could you not stay and watch one hour?* A good question might be, how can I be watchful? How can I stay awake until the day I die?

Bodily tiredness can be put off by a cup of coffee, a nap, or some exercise. But what of spiritual tiredness? How do we keep our souls' drooping eyelids open?

In a surprising passage, Thomas Merton characterizes the contemplative life as being nothing other than life "fully awake." This is perhaps strange, because the word "contemplation" brings up lurid images of mystical phenomena—visions, locutions—to us. But at its heart the contemplative life is simply living in God's presence fully aware and fully awake. Perhaps then this is the answer: living a contemplative life is the answer to being "awake" to God. The way constantly to desire God is—constantly to desire God. And so there is no "trick"—just faithfulness.

Fr Raass

We acknowledge the original custodians of this land and pay our respects to the Elders both past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Indigenous Australia. As we share our faith within our Catholic family we also acknowledge those that paved the way to give us our Church and Parish and welcome all into our community.

Daily Readings: starting 28 November 2016

Mon: Is 4:2-6 Mt 8:5-11
Tues: Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24
Wed: Rom 10:9-18 Mt 4:18-22
Thu: Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21,24-27
Fri: Is 29:17-24 Mt 9:27-31
Sat: Is 30:19-21,23-26 Mt 9:35-10:1,6-8
Sun: Is 11:1-10
Rom 15:4-9 Mt 3:1-12

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Penelope Fleming, Joan Brenton, Pauline Cardozo, Shiroma Bulner, Anne Tobin, Anne Courtney, Eric Rooke, Margaret McNaught, John Gaces, Thomas Andrew Jackson, Joyce Komene, Vera De Silva, May Shah, Bernadette Dowd, Clare Edwards, Mary Dick, Georgina Gilbert, Kathy Golotta, Gesu Golotta, Eufelia Canta, Helena Monaghan, Clare Lorkin and Rose Almanza.

May the Lord grant them healing.

R.I.P.

Patricia Whayatt, died today 26th Nov

The Colour of Advent

As we begin the new Church year, Year A, with the first Sunday of Advent we notice that the colour of the season changes from green to a light purple or lilac. It is not the deep purple of Lent which is a penitential time. In the Advent season we wait in hope-filled expectation and anticipation of Jesus becoming one with us; sharing our humanity.

Devotional Practices:

Prayers of the Holy Rosary

Monday to Thursday 5pm

Prayers of Devotion to St. Joseph

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

Weekly Bible Sharing

Wednesdays 6:15pm -7:30pm

Mothers Praying for Your Children

1st and 3rd Wednesday night at 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Children's Sunday Liturgy of the Word

Every Sunday from 9:20am

Divine Office - Liturgy of the Hours

Monday to Friday 6:45am

Sharing the Tradition

The celebration of a feast to honour the birth of Jesus did not emerge in the West until the fourth century. Scholars generally note that by 336 AD such a feast was in place and celebrated in Rome on 25 December. This comparatively late development of a feast to celebrate the birth of Christ may seem surprising to contemporary Christians for whom Christmas is so central. However, we must remember that the early Christians expected the glorious return of Christ in their own lifetimes. It was only with time and an obvious delay to the Second Coming that such a feast could emerge. Furthermore, time provided the opportunity for a greater and more mature theological reflection on the mysteries of the Incarnation and the Second Coming.

Advent, as a period of preparation for the feast of Christmas, developed later still. There is no evidence of such a preparatory time in Rome until well into the sixth century. It was Pope Gregory the Great (590-604 AD) who established until the Middle Ages—*from the Summit*

LITTLE SISTERS IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

Recently, OLSH Parish celebrated the Centenary celebrations of the death of Blessed Charles de Foucoud, Founder of the Little Brothers and Little Sisters of Jesus with more than 1000 members all over the world. Central Australia also celebrates 60 years of the Little Sisters' presence in the Red Centre. Thank you Srs Magali & Claire for the gentle inspiration and commitment to God's people especially to the indigenous peoples.

OLSH Parish Advent Programme

Please take your bulletin insert home and place it somewhere visible. Advent, as a period of preparation for the feast of Christmas, demands some spiritual time-out to focus on the birth of Jesus into our lives. All families are invited to gather as a family at home and follow the Four Weeks of Advent reflection, readings and prayer. Please also take note of what we are offering at OLSH church during the four weeks before Christmas. The programme is devised in such a way that we all stay awake and be alert to the movements of the Spirit within and without.

Advent 2nd Rite of Reconciliation

The parish will hold a 2nd Rite of Reconciliation (communal preparation & confession) this coming Tuesday 2th November at 7:00pm. This is a beautiful and grace-filled way of staying focus as we prepare for Christmas. If you have not been to Confession for a long time, please come forward. The priests are here to help you.

Annual OLSH Parish Seniors Lunch

If you are a senior in the parish, we love to host you to our annual senior's lunch this coming Saturday 3rd December at the Bath Street Hall. Please call the presbytery for catering purposes. Other parishioners are invited to contribute a special gift worth \$10.00 to a senior parishioner at the lunch. Please your gift in the box or at the presbytery.

Year 12 Graduation Mass, OLSH College

Last Friday our Year 12 Graduation Mass was held at the Marian Centre. It was yet again a prayerful celebration to farewell our graduating students. With only 40% Catholics, OLSH College embodies so much diversity, multiculturalism and upholds the highest values of respect, justice and love. I appreciate Br Mathew, Tony, the RE team and the rest of the staff standing united in teaching from a moral compass, which includes a routine of praying, campus Mass, staff Mass and days of recollection, sacramental preparation and more. On top of all of that is the exceptional education. As Parish Priest of OLSH Parish, I highly recommend you send your children to OLSH College. It is not too late to enrol. – *Fr Raass*

MONDAY ADULT FAITH, CULTURE & SPIRITUAL FORMATION
A Bible Study and Sharing on the Parables of Mercy

Monday 28th November	God Is Looking For Us	Finding the Lost Sheep and Lost Coin (Luke 15:1-10)
Monday 5th December	Who is forgiven More Loves More	The Two Debtors and their Creditors (Luke 7:36-50)
Come, Learn, Share & Celebrate from 7:00pm-8:30pm		

Social Justice Awareness Planning Day
 Parishioners who are constantly challenged and affirmed by the social justice issues are invited to attend a planning day next Sunday 4th December from 3-5pm at the JP2 Hall. *“There are sinful social and economic inequalities which affect millions of human beings. These inequalities are in open contradiction to the Gospel and are contrary to justice, to the dignity of persons, and to peace”,* Catechism 412.

Ecumenical Christmas Carols by Candlelight
 All Catholics are invited to attend our annual ecumenical Christmas Carols by Candlelight at the ANZAC Oval next Saturday 4th December. The gates will open at 5:00pm. Bring your bottled water, mat etc. Come and meet your fellow Christians and celebrate our oneness in Christ.

30th Anniversary of Saint John Paul Visit to Alice Springs
 The anniversary Mass will be held this coming Tuesday 28th November at 5:30pm, Blatherskite Park. There will be no evening Mass at the church. Please join the Arrernte Catholics at the park. The liturgy has been provided by the Bishop’s Conference.

Cleaning: 3 December 2016 **Group 7**
 Merivon Tolentino, Rommel Pacion, Mark Hosiller
Counters: 4 December 2016
 Mel & Tinna Buenviaje
Last Week’s Collections:
 1st Collection: \$ 1,254.75 (for the presbytery)
 2nd Collection: \$ 892.65 (for the parish)
 Planned Giving: \$ 1,390.00
Thank you for your time and generosity!

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

FINAL PARISH ACTIVITIES (NOV-DEC)	DATE & VENUE
OLSH Parish Pre-Xmas Seniors Luncheon	Saturday 3 rd December, 12 noon & Bath St Hall
Social Justice Awareness Group Future Planning	Sunday 4 th December, 3-5pm @ the JP2 Hall
Ecumenical Xmas Carols for all Churches	Sunday 4 th December, 5-11:00pm @ ANZAC Oval
ALL PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE ABOVE PARISH ACTIVITIES & PLEASE LEND A HAND	

CHRISTMAS DRIVE



The Giving Tree will be set up at the back of the Church for three weeks from 26 November to 16 December. If you'd like to donate, please take a tag and return your gift, wrapped with the tag attached, to the Vinnies Shop at 38 Railway Tce

On the weekend of December 16/17 the Conference will do the annual Christmas blue bucket appeal. Monies raised will be converted to food vouchers for the Emergency Relief program.

Christmas Hampers

We are now accepting donations of pantry goods for our Christmas Hampers - tinned hams, canned veggies, soups, and fruits, boxed long-life milk, and Christmas desserts are great items to donate. Donations can also go to the Vinnies Shop. On Sunday 18th Dec at 3pm we will be putting them together, if you are free we would appreciate any extra hands to help!

Parish Pastoral Council Monthly Meeting
 Our final PPC meeting falls next Thursday 1st December. Feel free to propose, suggest or make an input to our Agenda. We love to hear from you. NEW ELECTIONS for outgoing councillors will be held early next year.....adios!

Roster for weekend of 03 - 04 December 2016

	Commentator	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6:00	Brendan Heenan	Sr Anne Surtees Sr Mary Wicks	Rose Sabadin Bryan Weir Anne Chivers
Sun 7:30	Jenny Montefiore	P Rademaker Jo Molin	Ruth Sexton Kath McGargill Fred Twohig
Sun 9:30 am	Bro. Matthew Green	Hilda Reeder Pauline Otieno	Cristy Gennetti Virginia Loy Bruce Were
Sun 5:30	Myke Ociones	Pat Monaghan Tinna Buenviaje	Sammy Nobleza Mel Buenviaje Thampi Joseph

1st Sunday of Advent Year A
26th - 27th November 2016

Entrance Antiphon:

cf Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading:

Isaiah 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

R/ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord

Second Reading:

Romans 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ. The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. **Alleluia!**

Gospel:

Matthew 24:37-44

Stay awake, so that you may be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the house-holder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Ps 84 :13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

PASTORAL MINISTRIES & MEETINGS

Adult Faith & Culture Formation (Mondays)
Theme & dates - refer to bulletin

Prison (Correctional Centre) Ministries
Tuesdays from 6:00pm-7:30pm &
on these Sundays: 9th Oct, 27th Nov, 2016 and
15th Jan 2017.

Ministers' Ecumenical Fellowship
1st Tuesday of the month from 8:30am-9:30am
at Desert Life Church

Bread Delivery to Town Camps
Wednesdays from 7:00pm-7:30pm

Yuendumu Aboriginal Mission (5hrs drive)
2nd Wednesday of the month

Children's Sunday School
Every Sunday from 9:20am except on school holidays

Jay Creek Aboriginal Mission (20m drive)
3rd Wednesday of the month from 5:30pm-
7:00pm

Telephone Tree Ministry TBA
Thursdays from 10:30am-11:45am

Old Timers Aged-Care Ministries
Thursdays from 2:00pm-3:30pm

Parish Council Meetings
1st Thursday of the month from 5:00pm-7:00pm

Catholic Youth of Alice Springs
Fridays from 6:30pm at JP2 Hall

Hetti Perkins Aboriginal Ministry
3rd Friday of the month from 10:00am-11:00am

Harts Range Aboriginal Mission (3hrs drive)
4th Friday of the month

Finance Team Ministry
1st Saturday of the month from 8:30am-9:30am
CAAAPU (Drugs & Alcohol Rehabilitation)
2nd & 4th Sundays from 6:00pm-6:45pm
Social Justice Awareness Group: 4th Sunday
of the month from 3:00pm-4:30pm

Sunday Mass Pick-Up: Every Sunday if you
can help those who wish to attend Mass at 40
South Terrace and the main Church.

*Is God calling you to any of the above
ministries and more? Call the presbytery and partici-
pate in God's Mission.*