



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.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 11th - 12th October 2014

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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

Saturday: 9:30 am - 10:30 am

"INVITE EVERYONE TO THE BANQUET"

From Sunday Reflection by Fr. Eugene Lobo, SJ



The parable in today's gospel is about the kingdom of God and about the people who will eventually belong to it. Jesus here gives the picture of a marriage feast arranged for the king's son. In the parable, the king sends out his servants, referring to the long line of prophets sent to the people of Israel inviting them to love and service of God. But they would not come, says Jesus. The king sends out another batch of servants to tell those who have been invited that

he has his banquet all prepared... Everything is ready. They have to come to the wedding. When this special call is given there is always a sense of urgency. They are called upon to respond immediately. The person invited is expected to be always on the watch. What takes place is totally different. We are told that those invited were simply not interested. They reacted in two ways. Either they were too involved in their own worldly interests to be bothered or they seized the king's messengers, maltreated them and killed them. We are reminded of the parable we heard last Sunday about the absentee landlord sending messengers to collect the produce and the reception they got. They did not treat the servants well and they finally killed the son.

With the refusal of those originally invited the servants are now sent out, not to the houses of the wealthy and respectable, but to the crossroads, to ordinary people. This reflects the invitation Jesus gave to the marginalized people such as the tax collectors, sinners and the prostitutes. No exceptions are made. All are invited, good and bad alike, until the wedding hall is filled.

A strange and even shocking aspect of the parable emerges after the diverse guests have been summoned from the highways and byways. The king sees a man not properly dressed with the wedding garment and questions him as to why he was not wearing the garment. But he was silent. Then the king has him bound up and cast outside into the darkness. Many are puzzled with such attitude of the master and we have the hint for this rejection from the last verse, namely, many are called and only a few are chosen. The fact that the person is invited into the wedding banquet is not a guarantee that he or she will be able to stay there. The wedding garment in the parable symbolizes that the wedding guest, whatever his past may have been, has put on Christ and is converted to him. Such a person, through Baptism, the sacrament by which one is given access to the wedding banquet of the Lord, has grown to be clothed in the spirit and teachings of Jesus. This is shown by the gradual transformation of his life through the influence of Jesus he experiences in the Christian community.

Secondly, we might reflect today on just how clean our wedding garment really is. It tells us to consider as to what extent we have really offered ourselves in love and service to Jesus and to his people. It tells us of the extent to which we give clear witness of our values and beliefs both inside and outside the community. It invites us to manifest the values of Christ we are called upon to live.

Thirdly, we must never forget that, while as Church members we are expected to contribute actively to its life and witnessing, the forgiveness of God and of the community is always available whenever we betray its ideals. The Gospel tells us that mere physical presence is not sufficient. Without the proper conversion one will be rejected.

Parish Team:

Parish Priest:

Fr. Jan Szweda, SVD

Aboriginal Chaplain:

Syro-Malabar Chaplain

Fr. Binesh Naramattathil

cstnariman@gmail.com

(08) 8985 1238

RCIA Coordinator:

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 - 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.

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.

Daily Readings: starting 13 October

Mon: Gal 4:22-24,26-27, 31-5:1 Lk 11:29-32
Tues: Gal 5:1-6 Lk 11:37-41
Wed: Gal 5:18-25 Lk 11:42-46
Thu: Eph 1:1-10 Lk 11:47-54
Fri: Eph 1:11-14 Lk 12:1-7
Sat: 2 Tim 4:10-17 Lk 10:1-9
Sun: Is 45:1,4-6 Mt 22:15-21
 1 Thess 1:1-5

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



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Mary Dick, William (Ted) Power, Maurie Johns, Duncan Lynch, Isobel Laverty, Janice Loria Lazo, Margaret McNaught, Rita Knchel, Graciano Mercado, Kevin Feed, Penelope Sleming, Hermon Tirkey, Tilde Cabantog, Benedicto J Chupungco, Eileen Sanvictores, Manuel Sarangay, Alice Costa, Do Quyen, Paul Rindahl, Gwyneth Allwright, Kathleen Williams, Lafie Saanga, 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, Rosemarie Schnell, Bill Sims, Antonio Mutia, Gill Dew, Mark McGinley, Patricia Wyatt, Lorraine Gore, Peter Strachan, Gary Brenton, Glen Clarke, Imblisa, May Lee Shah, Bill Costa, Maria Lourdes Sacramento.

May the Lord grant them healing.

Recent Death: Gaudencio Mauleon

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

‘May all Christians be found worthy of either the pure white crown of a holy life or the royal red crown of martyrdom.’ - St Cyprian

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

FROM THE SYNOD ON FAMILY IN ROME

In the fifth General Congregation of the Synod on Family, on 8 October 2014, the debate continued on the theme: “The Pastoral Challenges of the Family”. First and foremost, the debate focused on Church in the Middle East and in North Africa. Both exist in difficult political, economic and religious situations, with serious repercussions on families. Where there are laws that impede the reunification of families, poverty leads to migration, where there is religious fundamentalism and Christians do not enjoy equal rights with Muslim citizens, there are often difficult problems for families resulting from mixed marriages.

Indeed, in these contexts, interreligious or so-called “mixed” marriages are present and on the increase. It was said that the challenge of the Church is therefore to understand what form of catechesis may be offered to children born of such a union and how it is possible to respond to the unknown situation of those Catholics who, united in mixed marriages, wish to continue to practice their religion. Such couples, it was said, must not be neglected and the Church must continue to take care of them. A further challenge is also represented by those Christians who convert to Islam in order to marry: also in this case, suitable reflection is necessary.

With regard to the question of divorced and remarried persons, it was highlighted that the Synod must certainly take the issue into consideration, with the prudence required for important matters, but must also combine the objectivity of truth with mercy for the person and for his or her suffering. It is necessary to remember that many faithful find themselves in this situation through no fault of their own.

The Assembly went on to reflect on the indispensable contribution of the lay faithful to the proclamation of the Gospel in the family: in particular, the young, ecclesial movements and new communities provide a service of vital importance, carrying out a prophetic mission that runs counter to the current of our times. Listening and believing in the laity, therefore, is shown to be essential, as it is in them and with them that the Church may find the answers to the problems of the family.

Another theme taken into consideration was that of the instability of work and unemployment. The distress caused by the lack of a secure job creates difficulties within families, along with the poverty that often prevents families from having a home. Furthermore, a lack of money often leads to it becoming “deified” and to families being sacrificed on the altar of profit. It is necessary to re-emphasise that money must serve rather than govern.

There was further reflection on the need for greater preparation for marriage, also with special attention to emotional and sexual education, encouraging a true mystical and familiar approach to sexuality. The great contribution of grandparents to the transmission of faith in families was then recalled and it was highlighted how important it is for the family unit to welcome the elderly with solidarity, care and tenderness. The same care must be reserved to the sick, to overcome the “throwaway culture” that Pope Francis frequently warns against.

Did You Know?

- The wedding banquet is a commonly used image for the kingdom of God in the Hebrew and the Christian Scriptures. The feast was a symbol of the abundance to be provided by God for those who have faith.
- A Jewish wedding celebration often lasted for as long as a week, which may explain why some were reluctant to attend. Like living in the kingdom, it was demanding!

WELCOME!

Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us, whether long time residents or those newly arrived in the Parish. Welcome to all guests.

Parish Diary

Sunday 12 October
 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday 13 October

Tuesday 14 October
 • Prison Ministry 5:45 -7:30pm

Wednesday 15 October

Thursday 16 October

Friday 17 October

Saturday 18 October
 St Luke, evangelist

Sunday 19 October
 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Mission Sunday

Social Justice Awareness Group

Following on from last week's introduction to the Ten Steps Towards Being a Good Sport:

Step 4: Research and support sports clubs in your local area. You may be surprised at how many clubs and associations are in your local area. Play, coach, mark lines, umpire/referee, cheer from the sidelines, help with catering.

Step 5: Help challenge bullying, racism and sexism in sport. We can let club managements or media organizations know that we have no respect for people whose actions betray instead of strengthen the ideals of sport and the society around it.

Step 6: Who's on the edge? Build inclusiveness. Sport has a role to play in inclusiveness and reconciliation, working to prevent youth suicide, and promoting reconciliation. Research some stories that show how sport has helped achieve these goals.

Step 7: Challenge the high costs. You may not be able to influence the oversized fees some sportspeople are paid, but you can influence local and even national clubs. Ask yourself if the new equipment being bought for clubs or personal use was manufactured under fair trade conditions. Look for Fairtrade products, which do not use child or exploited labour.
 - Kathleen Leahy OLSH SJAG

Prayer to the Holy Family for the Synod

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendour of true love, to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
 grant that our families too
 may be places of communion and prayer,
 authentic schools of the Gospel
 and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again
 experience violence, rejection and division:
 may all who have been hurt or scandalized
 find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth,
 may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us
 once more mindful
 of the sacredness and inviolability of the family,
 and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.
 Amen.

The Associates of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart will be holding their October meeting on Saturday 25th October. Please bring Fr. Kwakman's book as we will be sharing on Session 5. All are welcome.
 - Kathleen Leahy OLSH - Chairperson.

WYD 2016 Poland

Plans are underway for a Diocesan Pilgrimage to WYD 2016 in Krakow, Poland. It looks to be a three week experience from 13 July to 4 August, 2016. If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage, you can email your interest to youth@darwin.catholic.org.au

Campfire in the Heart

Meditation Retreat 17th - 19th October 2014.
 Come, Listen, Learn, Live
 Led by Kath Houston and Sue Woods
 Contact: Sue Woods 0438811742
 For more information phone Sue Woods 043 88 11 742

Mission Sunday Collection

Next Sunday, 19 October, is World Mission Sunday. We are invited to support the missionary work of the Church through prayer and financial assistance.

A special collection will be taken up next Sunday. Envelopes for donations +are available on the table at the back of our church.

Cleaning: 18 October **Group 1**
 Sammy Nobleza, Mel & Tinna Buenviaje

Counters: 19 October
 Walter & Patricia Litvensky

Last Week's Collections:
 1st Collection: \$1,377.00 (for the presbytery)
 2nd Collection: \$2,580.10 (for the parish)

Thank you for your generosity!

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

Roster for weekend of 18 / 19 October 2014

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	John Appleby	Matthew Smith Sue Bain	Rose Sabadin Leanne Dieckmann Anne Chivers
Sun 7:30 am	Pat Gallagher	Charles Gamon Carmel Leonard	Rita Steller Margaret Lillecapp Fred Twohig
Sun 9:30 am	Beth Madden	Josephat Odhiambo Elisha Odhiambo	Helena Casseeram Virginia Loy Carmela Guthart
Sun 5:30 pm	Miguel Ociones	Denise Simon Andrzej Skrzypiec	Thomas J John Thampi Joseph Marieta Ives

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

11th - 12th October 2014

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 129:3-4

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away tears from every cheek.

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; The Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22 **R/** I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:12-14.19-20

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfill all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: cf Eph 1:17.18

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding". So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth". For many are called, but few are chosen.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 33:11

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.