



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
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 Surtrees 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 Flexible Centre

Mr. Ben Ebert

Community Liaison 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”



“From the heart of the Trinity, from the depths of the mystery of God, the great river of mercy wells up and overflows unceasingly. It is a spring that will never run dry, no matter how many people approach it”, Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*. Question for week 5: Which “room” in the *House of Mercy* will you visit this week – empathy, trust, tenderness, acceptance, forgiveness, compassion or understanding?

5th Sunday of Lent Year C
12th - 13th March 2016

USING A WOMAN TO ENTRAP JESUS

She stood there surrounded by them, trembling with shame and fear and expecting to die a horrible death. To them this woman did not matter. She was a woman of no importance. She had broken a commandment and in their hands she was no more than a means to find an accusation against Jesus. Her reasons why she had slept with another man was of no importance.

At first Jesus did not look at her; he bent down and started writing something in the dust with his finger. In the heavy silence the disciples must have thought: How is he going to escape from this trap. It's simple: if Jesus states that he approves of having this woman stoned, he denies the mercy that he is preaching and practicing. But if he speaks out against it, he will be accused of opposing the Law of Moses and therefore the Law of God! Finally Jesus looked up, “*Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to start throwing a stone at her.*” There was again dead silence, but now another kind of silence, for now everyone is making a self-examination, looking into one's deepest self.

OLSH Parishioners, we sometimes take upon ourselves to be dispensers of justice. Lets not forget that we are like anyone else, very ordinary people with our won share of weaknesses and faults. ***Who would dare assert never to have sinned?***

In the silence Jesus had changed the Pharisees' role of accusers into that of people accused by themselves. For Jesus was interested in them too. Jesus had disarmed them with silence with one single question. They were now people who had to face the truth about themselves as human beings, and once they had recognised this they left the self-chosen battlefield, “beginning with the eldest”. I wondered why. Perhaps, the eldest were the most street smart ones and humble enough to understand their own weakness, or was it their longer past life as sinners that made them react faster. They all left except Jesus with the woman.

I am sure that since the beginning of this story/scene she was at the heart of his thoughts, at the heart of his heart. No condemnation. No anger. No judgement just merciful gaze that immediately restored her dignity, “*Neither do I condemn you. Go away and don't sin any more.*”

Whatever we have done, God still loves us, warts and all! For if today you have experienced the love of God has for you, from now on it will not be possible for you to betray that love again. But even if you fall again...rise up!

What happened to that woman after the encounter? Well, that morning I am sure the air smelled fresher for her. She was no longer the same because she had encountered Jesus. *Would she now be capable of becoming to her husband a witness that forgiveness is possible and that married life can be a life of love and fidelity?*

Fr Raass

Daily Readings: starting 14 March 2016

Mon: Dan 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62 Jn 8:1-11
Tues: Num 21:4-9 Jn 8:21-30
Wed: Dn 3:14-20,24-25,28 Jn 8:31-42
Thur: Jer 1:4-9
Acts 13:46-49 Lk 10:1-12
Fri: Jer 20:10-13 Jn 10:31-42
Sat: 2 Sam 7:4-5,12-14,16
Rom 4:13,16-1 Lk 2:41-51
Sun: Is 50:4-7
Phil 2:6-11 Lk 22:14-23;56



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.

Movements of Parish Priests

Frs Raass, Prakash and Olivier will be away in Darwin next week from Monday 14th – Thursday 17th for their annual Clergy Conference and Chrism Mass.

OLSH Parish Blue Bucket Fiji Cyclone Appeal

This Weekend **12th/13th March**, OLSH Parish will have a blue bucket Fiji Cyclone Appeal. Two people will stand at the back of the Church to collect your kind contribution. Any small amount can go a long way to alleviate the victims. Money collected will be sent directly to those affected in Fiji.

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

Clergy Conference and Chrism Mass, Darwin

Most Rev. Eugene Hurley together with the Priests & Deacons of the Diocese Invites all Parishioners from across the Diocese to join the Diocesan Family in Celebrating the Chrism Mass on **TUESDAY 15th MARCH AT 7.00 P.M. IN ST. MARY'S STAR OF THE SEA**

NO HOLY MASS

Please be informed that there will be NO HOLY MASS next week from *Monday evening 14th March to Thursday morning 17th March*. However there will be the **LITURGY OF THE WORD & COMMUNION SERVICE**.

Programme of Liturgies for Holy Week and Easter 2016

Our Liturgies for this upcoming Holy Week beginning next Sunday, Palm Sunday is across the page. During this grace-filled week and most hopeful season of the Church year, let's take to heart the words of Pope Francis, *"Do not let yourselves be robbed of hope! Do not let hope be stolen!.. the hope that Jesus gives us."* - Pope Francis. May this sense of New Hope engage your spirit and make your own profound difference in the world.

Earth HOUR

LIGHTS OFF IN 1 WEEK FOR EARTH HOUR, SATURDAY MARCH 19 8:30 – 9:30 PM. This year go beyond the hour. Commit to making Earth Hour a regular part of your life and help protect the beautiful outdoor places that we love from the threats of climate change.

Diocesan Family to Meet in Darwin

Bishop Eugene has invited 2-3 lay representatives and all priests from parishes to be part of a workshop on "Re-Imaging our Catholic Community" in the Diocese of Darwin. OLSH Parish is sending Mr Manfred Casseeram, Parish Council Chairperson and Ms Beblin L Arvis as our Youth representative. The time will be a chance to:

- Empower people to share their vision
- Contribute ideas on what makes a good parish
- Work on priorities for our own parish communities for the year ahead

RCIA news

Let us remember in our prayers our RCIA Elect, Jayden Tha, who will be traveling to Vietnam this week, together with his wife, where he will receive the Easter sacraments in the Parish of his wife's family - Quy Quang Le Parish, HUE City, Vietnam. We look forward, then, to Jayden and Angela's return to OLSH. *Sr. Helen Kennedy FMM RCIA Director.*

Palm Sunday Solidarity "Let Them Stay Walk"

Ministers of the Churches across Alice Springs have agreed that it is right to bring to the attention of the Federal Government and the wider Australian Community the plight of the 37 Babies and 267 Adults whom the Australian Federal government is planning to send back to Nauru. The Churches have agreed to sponsor a Community wide Solidarity Walk at 3.00 to 4.00 p.m. on Palm Sunday to support this Just Cause to **LET THEM STAY**.

Members of each Church group have been invited to commence their walk from their respective Churches and all will meet at the John Flynn Uniting Church in the Mall at around 3.30 where a short ceremony will occur. This is an initiative of our OLSH Parish Social Justice Awareness Group. Students from OLSH College, St Philips College and other schools in Alice Springs will join the parishioners in solidarity. All members of every congregation are encouraged to participate.

OLSH PARISH HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME 2016

20th March – 27th March

“Let us pass through the Holy Door of Mercy knowing that at our side is the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Mother of God, who intercedes for us. .” - Pope Francis

PALM SUNDAY

Blessing of Palms at all Masses (including Vigil Mass on Saturday evening)
 Masses: 7.30am, 9.30am (procession from Bath St Campus grounds), 11:00am (40 south terrace) & 5.30pm

HOLY MONDAY

2nd Rite of Reconciliation/Confessions – 7:00pm

HOLY TUESDAY

Year of Mercy Reflection & Prayer at 7:00pm

HOLY WEDNESDAY

Year of Mercy Reflection & Prayer, “A Prelude to the Passion: The Anointing, The Betrayal: 7:00pm – 8:00pm, Presenter: Sr Helen Kennedy FMM



HOLY THURSDAY

NO MORNING MASS

The Lord’s Supper +
 Washing of the Feet: 7: 00am (please bring your Project Compassion Offering if possible)

GOOD FRIDAY

NO MORNING MASS

Stations of the Cross-10:00am (Dramatized by Catholic Youth of Alice Springs, all gather at Bath St Campus grounds);
 Stations of the Cross -10:00am (Aboriginal Spirituality, Todd River beginning from the Gap on south terrace road)
 Veneration of the Cross & Celebration of the Passion of the Lord: 3:00pm, main Church

HOLY SATURDAY

NO MORNING MASS

1st Rite of Reconciliation/Confessions: 11:00am - 12midday
 Easter Vigil in the Holy Night -7:30pm (Candles will be provided)
 Parish Light Supper for all parishioners afterwards

EASTER SUNDAY

Masses -7.30am, 9.30am, 11:00am (40 south terrace) & 5.30pm

Cleaning: 19 March 2016 **Group 3**
 Fred & Lyn Twohig, Jim & Clare Lorkin
Counters: 20 March 2016
 John & Margaret Healy, Margaret McNaught
Last Week’s Collections:
 1st Collection: \$1225.00(for the presbytery)
 2nd Collection & Planned Giving: \$1820.10 (for the parish)

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

Palm Sunday & World Youth Day

Palm Sunday 2016 also marks the XXX World Youth Day to take place in Krakow, Poland (July 25th – 31st, 2016) with the theme taken from St Matthew’s Gospel ‘*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God*’. Please encourage youth involvement within your OLSH Catholic Parish and the surrounding Arrernte Catholic camps/communities. We have an active CYAS’ group. Do pray for the youth of the parish including our OLSH College & St Joseph’s students.

Next Sunday the **9:30am Mass only** will begin from Bath Street Campus grounds for the Blessing of the Palms.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS...1 more to go

Mary’s Way of the Cross, Friday 18th March, 6:15pm

Ecumenical Lenten Service...1 more to go

Wednesday 16th March, 7pm, Lutheran Church, Gap Rd

Feeling Exhausted already? How about a spiritual time-out?

These spiritual retreats are being offered at our local Campfire in the Heart, Lot 8204, Alice Springs. Call Sue or David Woods on 8526607.

April 10th - 15th *Desert Retreat for Body and Soul* with Susanna Pain; June 12th - 18th *Wide Skies and Open Hearts Retreat One* with Sue and David Woods; September 11th - 17th *Wide Skies and Open Hearts Retreat Two* with Sue and David Woods; September 30th - October 4th *Dancing in the Desert Retreat for Body and Soul* with Betsey Beckman and Susanna Pain

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to help at the St Francis Center with the Religious Education classes for the students from the public schools who are wanting to make their Sacraments. It is only for a couple of hours a week between mid March to mid August and not during the school holidays.

Please contact the Parish office if you can help
 PH: 89521049 Email: olsh_parity_asp@bigpond.com OR
 AH: Jenny Dietrich 89527910

Roster for weekend of 19 - 20 March 2016

	Commentator	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	Greg Gilbert	Leonie Smith Binu Katherine	Marian Maddocks Darryl Smith
Sun 7:30 am	Jenny Montefiore	Joanne Pulsford Tony Whitlum	Mike Steller Rita Steller Kath McGargill
Sun 9:30 am	Bro Tony Caddy	Lennie Sumang Anthony Hay	Cristy Genetti Virginia Loy Bruce Were
Sun 5:30 pm	Amelito Buenviaje	David Genetti Denise Simon	Sammy Nobleza Cristina Buenviaje

5th Sunday of Lent Year C

12th - 13th March 2016

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 42:1-2

Give me justice, O God, and plead my case against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading:

Isaiah 43:16-21

I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 125

R/ The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading:

Philippians 3:8-14

Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for is the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Joel 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

Gospel:

John 8:1-11

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her'. Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Jn 8:10-11

Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.