



# 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:

**Phone:** (08) 8952 1049

**Fax:** (08) 8952 9823

**Email:** olsh\_parish\_asp@bigpond.com

### Website:

www.olshparishalicesprings.org.au

### Bulletin: Email:

olsh.parish.bulletin@gmail.com

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

## Parish Team:

### Parish Priest:

Fr Asaeli Raass SVD

### Assistant Parish Priest:

Fr Prakash Menezes SVD

### Resident Priest:

Fr. Vincent Mai SVD

Fr. Jim Knight SVD

### Syro-Malabar Chaplain

Fr. Binesh Naramattathil CST

### Secretary:

Mel Buenviaje

### Parish Past. Council Chairman

Fred Twhig

### 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

1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> (and 5<sup>th</sup>) Sundays of the

month - 11am *Aboriginal*

*Community Mass at South Terrace.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. Formation of parents falls on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month. 7:00 pm—8:00 pm

#### Marriage:

By appointment only, 6 months' notice required.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> February 2015

### “Touching the Lepers of Today”

Can we name some people today whom the world considers ugly or unattractive? Would we be game enough to reach out and touch them with our love and mercy? The list is a long one but allow me to name but a few.

We do have the bodily leper: those with AIDS, or those whose illnesses are so long-lasting that few want to care for them. The psychological lepers: those with mental illness or mental disabilities, about whom others make jokes, but for whom they make no time. The spiritual or moral lepers: pedophiles, drug addicts, prostitutes, transvestites, death-row inmates — those who have committed very public and embarrassing sins, and those who think that their sins cannot be forgiven. The economic lepers: the homeless or the very poor, who are shut off from society and the things most of the rest of society take for granted. The racial lepers: depending upon where one lives, those of a particular skin colour, be it black, or brown, or yellow. The emotional lepers: those who feel completely alone and abandoned, the divorced and remarried, grieving families.

The common thread here is simple: these kinds of ‘leprosy’ have cut off the sufferer from any contact with other people. They have no one with whom to associate or to care for them, except ‘other lepers’. They are cut off from their families, from their jobs, from the synagogue and the temple, from love and mercy (Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46).

What was Jesus’ reaction today when just such a miserable, nauseating creature fell on his knees before Him? Most of those around Jesus likely ran away from him lest they catch the contagion. Jesus moved in the opposite direction. **He stretched out His hand and touched the leper.**

As we begin the Holy Season of Lent this Ash Wednesday, let us be reminded that this is the Jesus we’re called to imitate (Mark 1:40-45). Most of us are not gifted with the Lord’s divine power to work stupendous miracles of healing, so we’re not called to imitate Christ that way. But what Christ is calling us to do is to truly love the outcasts with the same tangible love that He does, the love which would make Him go to the Cross again for us if He needed to. **The path to sanctity begins with our loving those whom the world finds unlovable.**

Fr Raass SVD

Parish Priest

### Bishop Eugene’s Installation of Fr Raass SVD

A big word of appreciation to all who attended and contributed to the Installation Mass of Fr Raass SVD as the proper pastor of OLSH Parish. A big thank you to Tina, Mel, Christie, Michele, Sami, Fred, Precy, Hilda, Hospitality Team, Choir members and Pastors from other Christian churches in town. The new Parish Priest asks your ongoing support and prayers as he carries out the offices of teaching, sanctifying and governing the people of this parish. Congratulations and welcome back Fr Raass!

**ARISE' Lenten Program 2015**

'Arise' is the name given to our Lenten program this year carefully crafted and published by the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong, NSW. It invites us to deepen our understanding of Jesus' love unto death and grasp anew the hope his Resurrection brings us. Today Pope Francis is challenging ALL CATHOLICS to arise from our spiritual lethargy and complacency, grasp Jesus' hand and accompany Jesus on his journey through passion to death and resurrection.

OLSH Parish encourages ALL PARISHIONERS to JOINING A LENTEN SHARING GROUP for **six sessions only**, each of **approximately 90 minutes**. Each session comprises of the *Gospel reading* for the upcoming Sunday, *Prayers, Reflection & Questions, Silence, Music, Guided Meditation and Spiritual Direction by Sr Hilda Scott OSB and Fr Michael Fallon MSC (on CD)*. Group facilitators of these Lenten groups have been identified and are ready to host you at various locations. The list below will also be displayed at the back of the Church. Please **arise and call** any of the Lenten group facilitators.

Lenten Group Facilitator	Where to Meet	When to Meet	Phone Numbers
Fr Prakash Menezes SVD	4 Hartley Street (Presbytery)	Saturdays from 2:30pm (start date 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb)	8952 1049
Sr Mary Bennet Bennett RSM	58 Memorial Avenue (St Francis Centre)	Mondays from 2:00pm (start date: 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb & few spaces available)	8953 8726
Sr Helen Kennedy FMM	58 Memorial Avenue (St Francis Centre)	Mondays from 7:00pm (start date 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb)	8952 4151
Sue Marshall/ Berni 'O Grady	38 Railway Terrace (Vinnies Centre)	Sundays from 3:00pm (start date 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb)	8952 1974

OLSH College and St Joseph's might also want to invite teachers to form some Lenten groups.

**Stations of the Cross: Every Fridays During Lent, Starting February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 @ 7:30pm**

It was the Franciscan friars who popularized the devotional series of meditations known as the "Way of the Cross" in its earliest years because of the in ability of pilgrims to make a physical trip to the Holy Land during the shameful and devastating years of the crusades. Walking the "Way of the Cross" in one's local church allowed Christians to enter into the experience through imagination, meditation, and prayer. Traditionally, each station included the (real) prayer of St. Francis, also known as St. Francis's prayer before the crucifix:

*We adore You, Most Holy Lord,  
Here and in all of your churches throughout the world,  
And we bless You, Because by Your Holy Cross  
You have redeemed the world.*

Our five (5) weeks of Lent excluding the Good Friday Meditations on the Cross will focus on different themes. The theme this Friday 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm is "**The Face of Christ, the Face of Man**" MEDITATIONS by H.E. Msgr. Giancarlo Maria Bregantini, Archbishop of Campobasso-Boiano, led by Fr Raass SVD

**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 and tourists. We pray that you have a lovely stay!

**Daily Readings: starting 16 February**

**Mon:** Gen 4:1-15,25      Mk 8:11-13  
**Tues:** Gen 6:5-8;7:1-5,10      Mk 8:14-21  
**Wed:** Joel 2:12-18  
           2 Cor 5:20-6:2      Mt 6:1-6,16-18  
**Thur:** Gen 9:1-13      Mk 8:27-33  
**Fri:** Gen 11:1-9      Mk 8:34-9:1  
**Sat:** Heb 11:1-7      Mk 9:2-13  
**Sun:** Isa 43:18-19,21-22,24-25  
           2 Cor 1:18-22      Mk 2:1-12

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

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

Bodhi Allen, Jamie Hampton (Melbourne), Sr. Don Maria, Thimas, May Lee Shah, Herman and Benedicta Turkey, Philip Ponodo, Tiffany Doughty, Loraine Gory, Do Quyen, Sunil Menon, Ben Pereira, Mary Dick, Alice Costa, Sean Heenan, Eileen Madden, Ruth Barney, Edna Madden, Mary Hessling, Georgina Gilbert, Alfredo Agbayani, Sylvia Xccall, Muriel L'Aiguille, Fay Hawkins, Colleen Matson, David Woods, Collen Langcake, Hilla Casseeram, Nod & Harold Rioux.

**May the Lord grant them healing.**

**Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday!**

Jim Brown is turning 90 this week. Happy Birthday Jim and may your celebration be filled with joyous memories and all the things you love so much. Have a marvelous day, and may it be filled with those you love singing, "Happy Birthday!"

**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

**Sacramental Formation in State and Private Schools**

If you have a child in State and Private Schools in need of receiving their **First Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation in 2015**, formation classes will be starting on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at the St. Frances Centre at 3:30pm**. Please contact the presbytery to fill out your paperwork. Carmela Guthart and Sr Mary RSM will contact the families the first week of March to answer any questions. Do pass on this message to any Catholic parents whose children are studying in State and Private Schools.

**Ash Wednesday Mass, 18<sup>th</sup> February**

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the **40 Days of Lenten discipline, fasting, prayer and good works** for many Christian churches. Lent is also a time to think about life and death, as well as reflect on life's choices and possible life directions. It is also a time of goodwill for many people and good works for the poor in our midst. There are also those who chose this time of the year to donate to charities or take part in charity events as a way to get close to God. Whatever we do this season let us do it for the glory of God and His reign. Ashes will be distributed during the **7:00am and 5:30pm Masses this Wednesday**. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast (18yrs – 60yrs) and abstinence (14<sup>th</sup> year up!) **What might be God's invitation for you this Lenten season?**

**Planned Giving for OLSH Parish 2015**

Please collect your planned giving envelopes from the back of the Church. Again if you are new in the parish we encourage you to contribute via Credit Card/other Account, it is safe, reduces (cash)risk and work. However if you prefer to receive a set of envelopes, feel free to contact the parish office during work hours. We are appreciative of your ongoing generosity and commitment to the pastoral works and maintenance of OLSH parish. planned Giving Envelopes.

**Cleaning:** 21 February **Group 3**  
Fred & Lyn Twohig, Jim & Clare Lorkin  
**Counters:** 22 February 2015  
Walter & Pat Litvensky  
**Last Week's Collections:**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection: 1,536.85 (for the presbytery)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: \$2981.00 (for the parish)

*Thank you for your generosity!*

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

**Thank you Fr John, Bon Voyage!**

Fr John Quang SVD will say farewell to OLSH Parish on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February** to take up his new mission assignment at Wainuiomata, Archdiocese of Wellington, New Zealand. We are grateful to Fr John for giving up his time to help out during the transition period between Fr Jan and Fr Raass. OLSH Parish wishes him all the best in the 'Land of the Long White Cloud'. The parish will farewell Fr John after the 9:30am Mass this Sunday. All welcome.

"Let us ask ourselves: how do I follow Jesus? Jesus speaks in silence in the Mystery of the Eucharist. He reminds us every time that following him means going out of ourselves and not making our life a possession of our own, but rather a gift to him and to others." Pope Francis. Corpus Christi 2013.

The **Parish Social Justice Awareness Group** begins 2015 with a meeting at the Presbytery on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February commencing 4pm. We invite anyone interested in seeing what the Group is planning for 2015 to come along. Kathleen. OLSH.

**Christian Meditation**

This Christian Meditation has already begun last Thursday from **12:00noon to 12:30pm at the presbytery** chapel with eight participants. Great start! Spare 30 minutes of your lunch hour **every Thursday** to "seek the person you are called to be". The meditation is facilitated by Sue Woods from the Campfire in the Heart ministry, Alice Springs.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE**

To any new members of our Parish, whose hearing is not as good as it used to be, we wish to advise that our church is equipped with state of the art hearing assistance. We have light weight headphones and personal magnetic hearing loops for those who have appropriate hearing aids. For more information contact Fred Twohig on 89523162.

**DRIVING US BATTY**

We have a small colony of bats in the ceiling of our church, making a mess on some pews. In order to drive them out, two devices have been installed. These devices are equipped with a strobe light and an ultrasonic frequency that is supposedly irritating to bats. We hope that this will not cause any inconvenience.

**Roster for weekend of 21 / 22 February 2015**

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
<b>Sat 6:00 pm</b>	Greg Gilbert	Sue Bain Margaret McNaught	Marian Maddocks Darryl Smith Christine Grant
<b>Sun 7:30 am</b>	Kath McGargill	Joanne Pulsford Tony Whitelum	Rita Steller Greg Gilbert Fred Twohig
<b>Sun 9:30 am</b>	Pauline Otieno	Lennie Sumang Anthony Hey	Beth Madden Mark Bensted Carmela Guthard
<b>Sun 5:30 pm</b>	Miguel Oicones	Franchesca Ives Cristina Buenviaje	Thomas J John Marietta Ives Thampi Joseph

**6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

**14th - 15th February 2015**

**Entrance Antiphon:**

Ps 30:3-4

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

**First Reading:**

Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46

*As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.*

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.' The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Ps 31:1-2,5,11

**R/** I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

**Second Reading:**

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

*Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.*

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Lk 7:16

**Alleluia, alleluia!** A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel:**

Mark 1:40-45

*The Leprosy left him and he was cured*

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Prayers of the Faithful:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Communion Antiphon:**

Ps 77:29-30

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.