



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 p.m.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday to Friday

9 am - 12 noon & 4 pm - 5 pm

Saturday: 9:30 am - 10:30 am

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

30th - 31st August 2014

The Messiah Must Suffer

From: Sunday Reflections by Fr. Eugene Lobo, SJ



Today's Gospel passage tells us that immediately after the confession of Peter that Jesus is the promised Messiah, Jesus starts speaking openly about his death. He tells them that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. This is the first passion prediction given in the Gospel of Matthew.

By this time the disciples had grasped the fact that Jesus was God's messiah but they had not grasped what it really meant. Their idea of a messiah was a conquering messiah, a warrior king, who would sweep the Romans from Palestine and lead Israel to power. Hence when Jesus tells them of his sufferings and death, this undoubtedly comes as a terrible shock and was not part of the scenario for the coming of the Messiah. What is worse, the agents of Jesus' humiliation and death will not be some hostile outsiders but the leaders and most distinguished people of their own community. Furthermore, it would happen in Jerusalem, the holy city, the site of the Temple where God dwelt among his people. There is no reason given here as why this must happen. What is surprising is Peter's reaction to the prediction of Jesus. Apparently Peter's knowledge of Jesus as Messiah and the son of the living God does not include him being killed. Matthew tells us that Peter rebuked Jesus for saying this. He took Jesus aside and said: "Heaven preserve you, Lord. This must not happen to you." How this could happen to the Messiah-King of Israel. Peter's strong response is understandable given the traditional characteristics associated with the coming Messiah. No one would be able to comprehend a messiah who would die.

Having already given a divinely inspired response about the identity of Jesus, Peter now gives a fully emotional human response and he was also speaking on behalf of his companions. His love for his master is such that he cannot bear him suffering and dying a humiliating death. The disciples looked on Christ as a man with divine power, sent to set up a new kingdom of David which would overcome all enemies. They could not understand the spiritual nature of his kingdom. Therefore Peter vehemently opposed this prediction about Jesus. He was confronting Jesus and advising him to move away from the cross which the Father had planned for him. The angry reaction of Jesus must have come as somewhat unexpected, to say the least. Turning to face Peter, Jesus says: "Get behind me, Satan!" Jesus responds to Peter in a language that indicates Peter has aligned himself more with Satan than with Jesus. Satan literally means the adversary and in this case it is someone who influences him to move away from the divine ways.

Our Christian life is a constant following of our Leader, a constant obedience in thought, word and action to Jesus. A Christian walks in the footsteps of Christ and goes wherever Jesus leads him/her. To this Jesus adds that the person who plays for safety loses his life. But he advises that the person who risks his/her life to find Jesus will discover him always and find life.

Parish Team:

Parish Priest:

Fr. Jan Szweda, SVD

Aboriginal Chaplain:

Fr. Mikhael Loke, SVD

Syro-Malabar Chaplain

Fr. Binesh Naramattathil

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 01 September

Mon: 1 Cor 2:1-5 Lk 4:16-30
Tues: 1 Cor 2:10-16 Lk 4:31-37
Wed: 1 Cor 3:1-9 Lk 4:38-44
Thu: 1 Cor 3:18-23 Lk 5:1-11
Fri: 1 Cor 4:1-5 Lk 5:33-39
Sat: 1 Cor 4:6-15 Lk 6:1-5
Sun: Ezek 33:7-9
 Rom 13:8-10 Mt 18:15-20

+ Pray & read your Bible every day

Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Isobel Laverty, 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, Charlotte Langdon, 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 Deaths: Peter Smith who died on 17th August while in Ireland and Honorio Evangelista (Cristy Evangelista's father who passed away in the Philippines).

May their souls rest in peace.

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

EXPLORING THE WORD

This gospel contains the first of three predictions made by Jesus of his passion and death, as he journeyed towards Jerusalem. Matthew tells the story of that journey across the next four chapters of his gospel.

Peter, highly disturbed by the predictions of Jesus' suffering, is soundly rebuked.

The contrast between this text and the gospel of the previous week is stark! In the immediately prior episode, Peter is praised and rewarded for his sublime affirmation of faith: *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God*. In this text, Peter's lack of understanding of what that means and of the mission of Jesus, causes him to be ridiculed as an obstacle to the divine mission.

While we may have some sympathy for Peter in wanting to spare Jesus the pain and suffering he predicts, what is at issue is Peter's failure to see the cross is part of the plan and that discipleship will also involve the cross.

Taking up the cross will result in great reward and ultimate vindication when the time of judgement comes.

- What cross do you bear?
- How well or otherwise do you cope with this?
- Is the cross and the suffering of Christ an obstacle for you?

Christians can choose one of two Diverging Roads

'Jesus compared two ways of life, the way to true life and the way to death. This analogy was popular in the early Church. As one of the first Christian catechisms ever written, the Teachings of the Twelve Apostles (circa 110 A.D.) painted the Christian life in these terms. One road led to self-giving, light, and life. The other road led to selfish sin, darkness, and death... To follow [Jesus] meant looking beyond what the disciple possessed at the present moment, even at the risk of losing it all.

Yet, how many cling vainly onto the power, possessions, and relations they have today, in mistaken hope they will have them forever? Jesus played these two focal points (today vs. forever) against each other in the word "life." "If someone only wants to keep their life (i.e., everything they possess today), they will lose it. But, if someone loses their life (everything they possess) because of me, they will find it (i.e., true or eternal life)." [16:25]

Finally, Jesus wove the notion of the Christian life with the ethical life. The Christian life was based upon sacrifice, just as the Master sacrificed himself on the cross. Such self-giving also grounded the ethical life. In other words, Matthew held one's righteousness can only be measured by sacrifice made for others, in the name of Jesus. As the Son of Man would die, rise, and return to repay everyone for their deeds, the Christian would suffer and even die (through self-giving), only to be raised and receive his/her reward. [16:26]

<http://www.word-sunday.com/Files/a/22-a/A-22-a.html>

WELCOME!

Welcome to Fr. Edgar Boglosa, PACEM, who is conducting a Community Building Seminar this weekend.

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 31 August**
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday 01 September**
- Tuesday 02 September**
 - Prison Ministry 6 -7:30pm
- Wednesday 03 September**
- Thursday 04 September**
- Friday 05 September**
 - First Friday of the Month
 - School Mass 9.00 am
- Saturday 06 September**
- Sunday 07 September**
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



OLSH parish will always be blessed.

Heartfelt thanks for the farewell morning tea, all of your prayers and thoughtful words of appreciation. Our lives have been blessed by you, the wonderful people who make up our multicultural parish. We leave Alice Springs with special memories and pray Dan and Mona



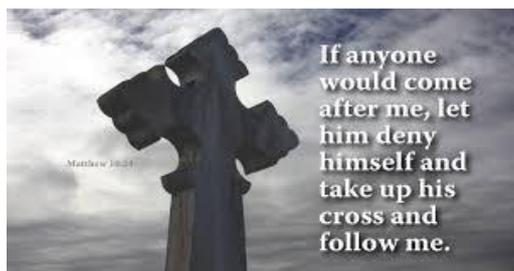
The Parish picnic will be held on **21 September 2014** at the Telegraph Station. Please mark your diary and come along with your family to make this event a success. More details in the next Bulletin.

Volunteers willing to help in organising this event are invited to attend a meeting on Wednesday, 3 September 2014 at 6.00PM in the presbytery.

What is Freedom?

“Freedom is the power given by God to act or not to act, to do this or to do that, and so to perform deliberate actions on one’s own responsibility. Freedom characterises properly human acts. The more one does what is good, the freer one becomes. Freedom attains its proper perfection when it is directed toward God, the highest good and our beatitude. Freedom implies also the possibility of choosing between good and evil. The choice of evil is an abuse of freedom and leads to the slavery of sin.”

From: *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Paragraph 363* (Catholic Enquiry Centre www.catholicenquiry.com)



Words of Wisdom – St Gregory of Nyssa

“May we never risk the life of our souls by being resentful or by bearing grudges.”

Cleaning: 06 September Group 3

Fred & Lyn Twohig Jim & Clare Lorkin

Counters: 07 September

Scott Lonard, Margaret –Ann McNaught

Last Week’s Collections:

1st Collection: \$1,478.70 (for the presbytery)

2nd Collection: \$2,007.35 (for the parish)

Thank you for your generosity!

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

The **OLSH Parish Social Justice Awareness Group** would like to introduce its members: George Tetteh, Chris Hawke, Conny Dandy FMM, Louise Patell, Alan Houveling, Miguel Ociones and Kathleen Leahy OLSH.

Our aim is to provide information regarding current social justice issues, so everyone has access to more in-depth knowledge upon what are sometimes contentious issues. This will be done by providing websites and publications on any topic, or organizations and activities one may wish to participate in.

We meet on the 4th Sunday of the month at 4pm, meeting last an hour. We invite Parishioners who would like to join us as we embark upon an exciting 12 months of exploring social issues in our local community and the world. Kathleen Leahy - Chairperson

Did You Know?

- The word ‘Satan’ originally meant adversary or accuser. Later, it came to mean personified evil. Here, Jesus uses it figuratively of Peter who does not yet understand the meaning of Jesus’ mission.

Roster for weekend of 06 / 07 September 2014

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	John Appleby	Walter Litvensky Patricia Litvensky	Rose Sabadin Leanne Dieckmann Anne Chivers
Sun 7:30 am	Fred Twohig	Patricia Rademaker Mike Steller	Rita Steller Carmel Leonard Margaret Lillecrapp
Sun 9:30 am	Pauline Otieno	Elisha Odhiambo Josephat Odhiambo	Mark Bensted Virginia Loy Helena Casseeram
Sun 5:30 pm	Miguel Ociones	Denise Simon Andrzej Skrzypiec	Thomas J John Thampi Joseph Marieta Ives

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

30th - 31st August 2014

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 85:3-5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 62:2-6.8-9

R/My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: 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 16:21-27

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you'. But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon: Ps 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.