



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

Parish Team:

Parish Priest (acting):

Fr. John Quang, SVD

Aboriginal Chaplain:

Syro-Malabar Chaplain

Fr. Binesh Naramattathil CST

RCIA Coordinator:

Secretary:

Mel Buenavieja

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.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 27th – 28th December 2014

Feast Of The Holy Family : Jesus, Mary, And Joseph Quang Phan Svd.



Even God can not do without a family! At the Nativity, we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, God's only Son took flesh to be a human among us, in all forms except sins. He was born into a family, a very ordinary working family of Mary and Joseph. To be human is also to belong, especially belonging to a family. We understand family in a wider sense, a group of people interconnected with each other through the bond of loving relationship, as Jesus, Mary and Joseph are.

Thinking of a family, we may immediately associate it with certain values such as: community, companionship, friendship, unity, solidarity, care, protection...and above all relationship, love and happiness. Indeed, we spend our whole life pursuing these good values because we believe they can bring us happiness.

While western philosophy believes 'I think therefore I exist', in many oriental cultures, especially the cultures of our indigenous people, believe 'I belong therefore I exist'. Thus, when a person is 'excommunicated' from a community, he/she is considered as being non-existent. The belonging gives the person the right to exist. One has to be connected to each other in order to exist. This connectedness is what we call relationship. A loving relationship!

What marks out a family as a christian family? Faith in Jesus Christ. The element of faith is mentioned in all readings today. Abraham the Father of the faith community, Mary and Joseph are also known as people of faith for their fear of God. A christian family puts God at the centre of their family life, and only faith can enable this to happen. God is love. When this God is at the centre of our family, then love takes its reign in our family and turns it into a community of love. Love is not about looking at each other, but together looking toward the same direction, that direction is God.

A Christian family is a family that, like the old Simeon, sets its "eyes on the Christ of the Lord", mentioned in the gospel reading today. These are people of faith and it is their faith that enables them to set their hearts their minds on Jesus Christ as if their whole lives revolve around nothing else but Jesus Christ.

We live in a much fragmented world today, marked by violence, division, hatred, discrimination and intolerance. This feast of the Holy Family can help us to reflect on the remedy for this fragmented world. A family community that sets its eye on God, the trinitarian God who exists in a loving relational bond, who reaches out and offers this broken world the possibility of healing. We the christian family community as a whole are called to be witnesses to this possibility. We don't know much about this historical Holy Family, however, we can be certain that they are people of belonging, healing, forgiveness, tolerance and surely people of faith and love. That's what we are called to.

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 29 December

Mon: 1Jn 2:3-11 Lk 2:22-35
Tues: 1Jn 2:12-17 Lk 2:36-40
Wed: 1Jn 2:18-21 Jn 1:1-18
Thu: Num 6:22-27
 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21
Fri: 1Jn 2:22-28 Jn 1:19-28
Sat: 1Jn 2:29-3:6 Jn 1:29-34
Sun: Isa 60:1-6
 Eph 3:2-3,5-6 Mt 2:1-12

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +

Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Mary Hessling, Colleen Matson, Benedicta Turkey, David Woods, Sean Heenan, Mary Dick, Duncan Lynch, Isobel Laverty, Janice Loria Lazo, Margaret McNaught, Rita Knuchel (Gill Dew's mum), Graciano Mercado, Kevin Feed, Penelope Sleming, Hermon Turkey, Tilde Cabantog, Benedicto J Chupungco, Eileen Sanvictores, Manuel Sarangay, Alice Costa, Do Quyen, Paul Rindahl, Kathleen Wilia, 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, Peter Strachan, Gary Brenton, Glen Clarke, Imblisa, May Lee Shah, Bill Costa, Maria Lourdes Sacramento.

May the Lord grant them healing

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

The Feast of the Holy Family



The Holy Family is the name given to the family unit of Jesus: The Divine Son of God Jesus, his mother the Virgin Mary, and his foster-father Joseph. We know very little about the life of the Holy Family through the canonical Gospels. They speak of the early years of the Holy Family, including the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, the flight into Egypt, and the finding of Jesus in the temple. Various non-canonical works, including the [Infancy Gospel of Thomas](#), try to fill in the blanks.

However, even though these apocryphal works may contain some truth derived from oral tradition, they have been deemed unworthy of canonical status because of the way they present Jesus. While the exact details of the day-to-day life of the Holy Family may be unknown, we can still learn a lot from the stories we do have.

Devotion to the Holy Family is a recent development, but one that naturally grows out of a love for Jesus and his family. The cult of the Holy Family grew in popularity in the 17th century, and several religious congregations have been founded under this title. The Holy Family also became portrayed in popular art of the period. On October 26, 1921 the Congregation of Rites (under Pope Benedict XV) inserted the Feast of the Holy Family into the Latin Rite general calendar. Until then it had been celebrated regionally (see History below). Popes before and including Benedict XV (especially Leo XIII) promoted the feast as a way to counter the breakdown of the family unit. Today the Church celebrates the Feast on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's Day (Known as the Feast of Mary Mother of God in the Catholic Church). If both Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Sundays, no Sunday exists between the two dates, so the Church celebrates the Holy Family Feast on December 30th. If the feast falls on the 30th, attendance is not obligatory. Up until 1969, the Holy Family feast was kept on the first Sunday after [the Epiphany](#). It was transferred to its current date in 1969.

Holy Family History, Information, Prayers, Resources, Traditions, & More

New year eve mass, Wed 31st 5.30 pm

New Year Mass, Thursday morning 9.30am (no 7am mass);
 and 5.30pm



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!
MAY 2015 BE AN ABUNDANT GRACE FILLED YEAR FOR US ALL.
STAY SAFE!

WELCOME!

Welcome to the parish community Jasmine Kyla Calilan who will be baptised this Sunday 8th Dec. We congratulate Aileen and Rodolfo Calilan on the occasion of their child's baptism.

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 28 December
Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Monday 29 December

Tuesday 30 December
 • Prison Ministry 5:45 -7:30pm

Wednesday 31 December

Thursday 01 January
 Feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Friday 02 January

Saturday 03 January

Sunday 04 January
Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord



Heart felt farewell to Fr. Jan Szweda who will be leaving the parish next week. We would like to thank Fr. Jan for his years of faithful dedication and contribution to our parish life. We will surely miss his gentle presence among us. Thanks for all that you have been to us. May God bless you and keep you as you embarks your new journey! Thanks
 Fr. Jan. (Fr. John Quang SVD)



We would like to extend our thanks to all who have helped to clean up and prepare the Church for the Christmas celebration. We also thanks the choir, parents who brought their children for the nativity drama and special ministers, readers at Masses.

Ministers Needed for Sundays in January 2015!

There is no roster for Commentators, Readers, and Communion Ministers of the Eucharist for Sunday Masses in January 2015.

We are looking for volunteers to fill these positions. Please write your name down on the roster placed at the church entrance. Thank you.

SVDP Food Van Volunteers

Vinnies are seeking additional volunteers for their weekly food van from Monday to Friday (not including Thursdays) for the 2015 roster. The aim is to distribute sandwiches, fruit, tea, coffee and cordial to the needy each evening between 5:00 and 6:00pm.

Any help either weekly, fortnightly or even monthly would be a great help in spreading the workload.

Please contact Bruce Clifford on 89522172 or by email: brucejoyceclifford@bigpond.com

What is the Christian New Year -Historical and Spiritual Aspects

On the old Roman calendar, March 15 was the day which began the new year. The March date had basically been considered the beginning of spring, a logical time to begin a new year. But for political and military reasons, January 1, 153 B.C. became the day to observe the beginning of the new year. From then on, the Roman year began on January first, and has continued until this day....

History and theology aside, New Year's Eve is a wonderful time for Christians to get together and celebrate the completion of another year of life, and welcome in the New Year with prayer and rejoicing. New Year's Day is an opportunity to rest and relax, and a great time to prayerfully set goals for the year ahead.

"Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I hope in Him! The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord." (Lamentations 3:22-26)

Did You Know?

- According to Jewish Law, after giving birth, a woman had to undergo a purification which consisted of a ritual bathing and the offering of a sacrifice. The offering to turtle doves or pigeons was the offering of the poor.
- Also according to Jewish Law, the firstborn male child of a family was dedicated to God in acknowledgement that all life comes from God. Mary and Joseph were devout and observant Jews.

Roster for weekend of 03 / 04 January 2015

	Commentator	Readers	Special Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	John Appleby		Marian Maddecks
Sun 7:30 am	Kath McGargill	Sr. Magdalena Margaret McNaught	Greg Gilbert
Sun 9:30 am			Mark Bensted Margaret Lillecrapp
Sun 5:30 pm		Biblin Arvis	

Cleaning: 03 January **Group 4**
 Stephanie King, Jan Jennings, Mary Neck, Joyce Clifford

Counters: 04 January 2015
 Margaret-Ann McNaught

Last Week's Collections:
 1st Collection: \$1,104.75 (for the presbytery)
 2nd Collection: \$1938,15 (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 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

27th - 28th December 2014

Entrance Antiphon:

Lk 2:16

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:13 *Your own son shall be your heir.*

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision. 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'. 'My Lord,' Abram relied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir'. And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood'. Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth. The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 104:1-6,8-9 **R/** The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19 *The faith of Abraham, Sarah and Isaac*

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. It was equal by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants that could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore. It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead. The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Heb 1:1-2

Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40 *The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom..*

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected - and a sword will pierce your own soul too - so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.' There was a prophetess also, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty - four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon: Bar 3:38 Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.