



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish

4 HARTLEY STREET, P.O. BOX 9, ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871

Guided by the Holy Spirit, OLSH Parish in Central Australia is a family of God actively engaging in Jesus' love bringing justice, compassion and charity to all creation.



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Deadline for Bulletin submissions is Wednesday 5:00p.m.

Facebook Page: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish

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

Parish Council Chairman

Mr Manfred Casseeram

Liturgy Coordinator

Sr. Anne Surtees 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's Flexible Centre

Mrs. Sitinder Bahia

Safeguarding Officers:

Mr George Tetteh, Ms Pane Komene & Mr Manfred C.

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.

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.



Year of the Family in the Diocese of Darwin based on

Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation

Amoris Laetitia: on Love in the Family

“The Bible also presents the family as the place where children are brought up in the faith. “All that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us, we will not hide from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders which he has wrought...” Psalm 7:3-6. (Amoris Laetitia, Ch.1, #16) Question: the family is the place where parents become their children's first teachers on the faith. How have you passed down this “trade” to your children and grandchildren?

1st Sunday of Lent Year A
4th - 5th March 2017

The Temptation to Kill or RU4Life

With great tenderness God creates Adam and Eve in his own image and makes them capable of loving and creating. But they do not know everything about life. So they start to imagine that God must be hiding some things from them, so they start to free themselves so that they will no longer depend on him and can know everything and do everything by themselves. They fall into the trap to refashion God in their own image, or rather the image of what they would like to be: all powerful or to have power over life. They want to become their own god, and so they discover that they are victims of their own pride.

Late last year the Northern Territory Government did introduce an abortion bill which will allow abortions up to 23 weeks of pregnancy (6 months). The bill will be debated on 21 March 2017. The bill allows a doctor to make a judgment as to the “appropriateness” of an abortion, based on current and future economic and social circumstances. Protests against abortuaries will be illegal with a 150 metre exclusion zone around abortuaries, outlawing pregnancy help counsellors. For your information, there are 600-900 surgical abortions annually in the NT and the new Bill will allow medical or chemical abortions to occur. This would mean the approval of RU486 as an abortifacient along with some other drugs.

The Catholic Church has always condemned abortion as a grave evil. Even pregnancies that result from rape, incest, and present a danger to the life of the mother aren't reasons for abortion. The circumstances by which that life was conceived are considered irrelevant. Christian writers from the first-century author of the *Didache* to Pope John Paul II in his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* ("The Gospel of Life") have maintained that the Bible forbids abortion, just as it forbids murder (Psalm 139:13; Ex 20:13; The *Didache*, c. 80 AD).

Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception - among which is the inviolable right of every unborn baby. “Abortion is an unspeakable crime”, (Australian Catholic Bishops, August 1972). “I wish to restate as firmly as I can that abortion is a grave sin, since it puts an end to an innocent life”. Pope Francis. Please speak to your MP or write to vote NO! Parliamentarians should be informed of all views of this important issue before they debate these changes. Please do not be afraid to express your Catholic view.

However in the light of the above, Catholics do not pretend to judge the subjective guilt of women who have abortions. No, we do not judge. They too are so often victims of a cop-out by men and an exploitative industry, victims of an evasive, aborting society which provides women with little real freedom and information on this issue, and offers abortion as an ‘easy way out’ with no alternatives.

Let's not forget Bishop Eugene's strategy called “Walking With Love”. He says that “*this program was initiated in order to care for women contemplating abortion and providing them with real and safe alternatives*”. Catholics are not only lobbying for the legal protection of human life, but of efforts to create a more just and compassionate society in which couples and single women distressed by pregnancy are supported in every way possible through their pregnancy and the years of child-rearing ahead; a community in which pregnancy is not a source of disadvantage and distress to women, and in which resources are directed toward helping the distressed rather than killing their children.

Fr Raass SVD

We acknowledge the original custodians of this land and pay our respects to the Elders both past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Indigenous Australia. As we share our faith within our Catholic family we also acknowledge those that paved the way to give us our Church and Parish and welcome all into our community.

+ PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME +

Daily Readings: starting 6 March 2017

Mon: Lev 19:1-2,11-18 Mt 25:31-46
Tues: Is 55:10-11 Mt 6:7-15
Wed: Jonah 3:1-10 Lk 11:29-32
Thu: Esther 14:1,3-5,12-14 Mt 7:7-12
Fri: Ezek 18:21-28 Mt 5:20-26
Sat: Deut 26:16-19 Mt 5:43-48
Sun: Gen 12:1-4
 2 Tim 1:8-10 Mt 17:1-9

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +



Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Rob Dominquez, Betty Rawson, Ellen Gunner, Latai Mailau, Penelope Fleming, Joan Brenton, Pauline Cardozo, Shiroma Bulner, Anne Tobin, Eric Rooke, Margaret McNaught, Thomas Andrew Jackson, Joyce Komene, Vera De Silva, May Shah, Bernadette Dowd, Clare Edwards, Mary Dick, Georgina Gilbert, Kathy Golotta, Gesu Golotta, Clare Lorkin, Rose Almanza, Luigia Sabadin, Barbara Palmer, Mona Irwin,

May the Lord grant them healing

Lenten Soup Suppers

Join your parish in this Year of the Family for Lenten Soup Suppers, every Friday AFTER Stations of the Cross. Bring your family's favourite soup* to the JP2 Hall to share this simple meal of bread and soup with your parish family – all are welcome. *Please bring soup in a serving crock pot, microwavable dish or pot that can be reheated.



Our parish **Adult Faith & Culture Formation** will resume on Monday 27th March on "The History of Christianity" and will run for five consecutive Mondays from 7:00am – 8:30am. More details later.

Devotional Practices:

Prayers of the Holy Rosary

Monday to Thursday 5pm

Prayers of Devotion to St. Joseph

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

Weekly Bible Sharing

Wednesdays 6:15pm -7:30pm

Mothers Praying for Your Children

1st and 3rd Wednesday night at 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Children's Sunday Liturgy of the Word

Every Sunday from 9:20am

Divine Office - Liturgy of the Hours

Monday to Friday 6:45am

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse: Week 3 & 4

Finally, after creating a space where victims tell their story; and be believed, the Royal Commission hearings into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse have come to an end. The evidence gathered will be used to make recommendations to improve policies and practices in the many years to come. Some main observations and findings:

- Catholic Church authorities had paid a total of \$276.1 million to thousands of claimants who came forward between 1980 and 2015;
- 36,649 calls heard and 4000 institutions asked to give information;
- Many support a national redress scheme in which all states to participate;
- Contributing factors identified were "poor formation, clericalism, unprofessional administration, hierarchical model of decision making, structural and cultural issues, poor psychological analysis, lack of supervision of people in power, inability to talk about sexuality; tyrannical sense of leadership; the culture of the day etc.
- "priests found guilty of child sexual abuse are encouraged to seek dismissal from the order and possible for Bishops to be removed if sufficient evidence" (Vatican Rep)
- "individuals need to take responsibility for the scandal but that the Catholic Church should hang its head in shame" (Archbishop Fisher)
- "the intersection of sex, power and religion led to the abuse scandal" (Archbishop Fisher)

Year of the Family "Raising Great Kids" Workshops



OLSH Parish and the Multicultural Community Services of Central is once again supporting a parenting programme for Culturally and Linguistically diverse families in Central Australia. This programme will be delivered by Relationship Australia and uses a lot of mindful and reflective parenting exercises. It will run for six consecutive Saturdays from 9:30am – 11:30am at the JP2 Hall. Young parents and Carers from all backgrounds and cultures are highly encouraged to attend and it's FREE. Please contact Anileen on 8528776 or Fr Raass on 8521049. Parents have nothing to lose. Do it for your children. The dates are 18th & 25th March, 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd April.

Formation Sessions

Repeat formation sessions will be conducted on the following dates for new ministers who were unable to be participate in earlier sessions. There will be a practical formation session for **readers** In the church on Sunday 12th March after the 9.30 Mass. New readers are strongly encouraged to participate in this session before you begin your new ministry.

For new **communion ministers** there will be a practical formation session In the church on Sunday 19th March after the 9.30 Mass. Again all new ministers are strongly invited to participate in this very important session before you begin your new ministry.

Thank you for your generosity in becoming involved in these vital liturgical ministries.

THE SEASON OF LENT is the most appropriate time for celebrating the **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERVICE (Service of the Word with other Christian Churches)

Catholic Church	Wednesday 8th March	7:00pm
Lutheran Church	Wednesday 15th March	7:00pm
Uniting Church	Wednesday 22nd March	7:00pm
Catholic Church	Wednesday 29th March	7:00pm
Anglican Church	Wednesday 5th April	7:00pm

All parishioners are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to attend. Try it out.

Facilitators	Day of the Week	Date	Venue	Time
Priests	Saturdays	11 th , 18 th , 25 th March & 1 st & 8 th April	Presbytery	Start 9:30am
Sue Marshall	Tuesdays	7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th March & 4 th April	Treager Campus	Start 4:45pm
Sr Helen Kennedy FMM	Tuesdays	7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th March & 4 th April	St Francis Centre	Start 7:00pm
Sr Helen Kennedy FMM	Thursdays	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th March & 6 th April	St Francis Centre	Start 7:00pm

All parishioners are invited to join a Lenten Group or start one with your family. There are six sessions, each of approximately 90 minutes. Take to heart what it means to be saved, redeemed, forgiven and graced by the Holy Spirit, because God in his mercy send His Son Jesus to be our Saviour and Redeemer.

Stations of the Cross During Lent	
The Face of Christ, the Face of Man	Friday 10th March, 6:15pm
My Wounded Hands	Friday 17th March, 6:15pm
Mary's Way of the Cross	Friday 24th March, 6:15pm
Stations for Families	Friday 31st March, 6:15pm
Stations With Refugees & Asylum Seekers	Friday 7th April, 6:15pm

In preparation for Lent...

Living in Central Australia, we are very aware of how, in the dry times, the earth can become very packed down and hardened. Life is seemingly scorched out of it. It seems almost impossible for the earth to bring forth new life. Yet all the soil needs is to be loosened and softened by rain. Then it can bring forth new shoots.

Sometimes in the busyness of our lives we too can be weighed down and feel hardened and dry. The demands of our busy lives can stretch us and make us feel packed down.

When we see Lent as positive time for growing in our willingness to deepen our love for God, we could take time to loosen the soil of our lives so that we can be ever more responsive to the touch of God. Each Sunday as we enter the church there will be tubs of soil at the doors. *You are invited to loosen the soil as a symbolic action showing our willingness to loosen the soil of our lives; so that we can renew our desire to grow ever more closely in union with God.*

Thank you from Sr Anne

2nd Rite of Reconciliation

The Parish will put on two Rites of Reconciliation of several penitents with individual confession and absolution. The dates are 20th March & 10th April, 7:00pm... *Come and loosen the soil of your life and trust in God's forgiveness.*

Cleaning: 11 March 2017 **Group 7**
Merivon Tolentino, Rommel Pacion, Mark Hosilier

Counters: 12 March 2017
Eric & Kath McGargill

Last Week's Collections:

1st Collection: \$ 1,719.95 (for the presbytery)

2nd Collection: \$ 1,172.45 (for the parish)

Planned Giving: \$ 1,075.00

Thank you for your time and generosity!

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

Sunday Mass Collections... a more dignified way

The parish is trying to engender a sense of dignity in the collection of the offertory gifts. Instead of Commentator asking for collectors, people will be asked before mass. The process is meant to give people time. Not to rush the collection but give it some dignity. This is a reminder that as we offer the monetary offering we are joining this with the offering of ourselves and the mission of the Church.

- Immediately after the Prayers of the Faithful, please come before the altar with your bags and *bow down together*;
- Proceed to the four (wall) end of the pews and WAIT for about 30 seconds for parishioners to prepare themselves;
- Issue the 1st Yellow bag first until it reaches the end of the 2nd pew then;
- Issue the 2nd Green bag. PLEASE DO NOT ISSUE BOTH BAGS CONCURRENTLY.

Project Compassion 2017



Project Compassion began on 1st March in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities, to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Boxes and envelopes are available. Please take one for your family and return it during the Holy Week. Our theme this year is "Love Your Neighbour".

THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE is better celebrated *before* rather than during the **EASTER TRIDUUM**.

Roster for weekend of 11 - 12 March 2017

	Commentator	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	Greg Gilbert	Leonie Smith Sr Jennifer Farrell	M Maddocks Rose Sabadin Thelma Bowen
Sun 7:30 am	Pat Gallagher	M McNaught Pushpa Vida	Fred Twohig John Lillecrapp Rita Steller
Sun 9:30 am	Debbie Cook	Prey Taylor Bridget Knight	Cristy Genetti Virginia Loy M Lillecrapp
Sun 5:30 pm	Mel Buenviaje	David Genetti Sue Bain	Sammy Nobleza Marieta Ives Thomas J John

1st Sunday of Lent Year A
4th - 5th March 2017

Entrance Antiphon:

When he calls me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

cf. Ps 90:15-16

First Reading:

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under the pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ez 36:26

R/ Grant to us.

Second Reading:

Romans 5:12, 17-19 (Short form)

When sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Ps 19:8-11

Your words are spirit and life - to be sung

Gospel:

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Mt 4:4

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

PASTORAL MINISTRIES & MEETINGS

Adult Faith & Culture Formation (Mondays)
Resume 27th March 2017. Details on page 2.

Prison (Correctional Centre) Ministries
Tuesdays from 6:00pm-7:30pm & on these
Sundays: 23rd April 2017, 11th June 2017

Ministers' Ecumenical Fellowship
1st Tuesday of the month from 8:30am-9:30am
at Desert Life Church

Bread Delivery to Town Camps
Wednesdays from 7:00pm-7:30pm

Yuendumu Aboriginal Mission (5hrs drive)
2nd Wednesday of the month

Children's Sunday School
Every Sunday from 9:20am except on school holidays

Jay Creek Aboriginal Mission (20m drive)
3rd Wednesday of the month from 5:30pm-
7:00pm

Old Timers Aged-Care Ministries
Thursdays from 2:00pm-3:30pm

Parish Council Meetings
1st Thursday of the month from 5:00pm-7:00pm

Catholic Youth of Alice Springs
Fridays from 6:30pm at JP2 Hall

Hetti Perkins Aboriginal Ministry
3rd Friday of the month from 10:00am-11:00am

Harts Range Aboriginal Mission (3hrs drive)
4th Friday of the month

Finance Team Ministry
1st Saturday of the month from 8:30am-9:30am

CAAAPU (Drugs & Alcohol Rehabilitation)
2nd & 4th Sundays from 6:00pm-6:45pm

Social Justice Awareness Group: 4th Sunday
of the month from 3:00pm-4:30pm

Sunday Mass Pick-Up: Every Sunday if you
can help those who wish to attend Mass at 40
South Terrace and the main Church. Need LR
Licence.

*Is God calling you to any of the above
ministries and more? Call the presbytery and partici-
pate in God's Mission.*

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom
shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said,
"Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8*