



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 Surtees OMSC

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

Inclusive 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”



“At times how hard it is to forgive! And yet pardon is the instrument placed into our fragile hands to attain the serenity of heart. To let go of anger, wrath, violence, and revenge are necessary conditions to living joyfully”, Pope Francis: The Face of mercy # Question for Week 3: Become aware of a time when fear led you to paralysis and loss of purpose. What, or who, found you and led you home?

3rd Sunday of Lent Year C
27th - 28th February 2016

Vulnerability, Patience & Resilience

TODAY is day eighth since a severe mega storm Tropical Cyclone Winston struck our nation, the Fiji Islands. Cyclone Winston assaulted Fiji at Category 5 with sustained winds of 325 km/h. Recently Fiji's Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama said, "Almost no part of our nation has been left unscarred and a terrible trail of destruction in its wake".

For your information, my family is fine and our house is still standing. I am not sure about the other Fijian families at OLSH parish. I was especially worried about my mother since last week because she was all alone in the northern part of Fiji when the cyclone struck. It was so frustrating to wait in silence not knowing what to expect. Until yesterday morning when mum called and said, “all is well son”. I think I exhausted all telephone numbers trying to reach her. Obviously all power lines and structures were whipped across villages and streets destroying nearly everything across its path.

However my heart still goes out to the rest of the country and according to the latest report, the damage bill from Cyclone Winston in Fiji has already reached \$650 million, with 45,000 people still living in evacuation centres and 44 reported dead. It was the strongest tropical cyclone to make landfall over Fiji on record. I know I personally have experienced few major cyclones over the years in Fiji.

So far packages of assistance and massive efforts have been received from Australia, New Zealand, India, France and many parts of the world and thousands more have pitched in to a little bit for charity nurturing that great sense of belonging to a common humanity.

Despite the social vulnerability and massive rebuilding effort, the people of Fiji are resilient people. They will rise again just like the rest of humanity. History suggests we all have adaptive resilience to natural disasters over time. However, in the lives of people who live through it whether in Syria or Fiji, these disasters could be points of reference by which humanity is judged and hopefully surface a new culture of hope.

Such hope for humanity is expressed by the man who looked after the vineyard to the Owner in today's Gospel, “Sir, leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it” (Luke 13:9).

I sincerely thank you for your prayers and kind thoughts for those who are still sleeping in makeshift shelters, some still nursing injuries and others who are hungry and living a sense of insecurity.

Fr Raass
PP

Daily Readings: starting 29 February 2016

Mon: 2 Kg 5:1-15 Lk 4:24-30
Tues: Dan 3:25,34-43 Mt 18::21-35
Wed: Deut 4:1,5-9 Mt 5:17-19
Thur: Jer 7:23-28 Lk 11:14-23
Fri: Hosea 14:2-10 Mk 12:28-34
Sat: Hosea 5:15-6:6 Lk 18:9-14
Sun: Joshua 5:9-12
2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3,11-32

+ Pray & read your Bible every day +

Please pray for the elderly and those who are sick

Mary Dick, Rose Brand, Colleen Matson, Georgina Gilbert, Kathy Golotta, Gesu Golotta and Eufelia Canta.

May the Lord grant them healing.

World Day of Prayer

This is an annual ecumenical service, in which Christians around the world, come together on the first Friday of March each year, to observe a common day of prayer focusing on one country, their lives and challenges. In central Australia it will be held at **the Lutheran Church 49 Gap Rd Alice Springs on Friday 4th March, 7pm.** This is a time for the world to unite through all our diversity, in the belief that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world. This year's service has been prepared by the Women of The Cuba and all are invited to share with others in more than 170 countries on the same day. Should you require further details, please contact Rita Steller, on 89595397 or 89520868. Thank you.

Mothers Prayers has resumed on **Thursdays at 6.15pm** at the Presbytery. Come join us as we pray for those children in our lives.

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

24 Hours for the Lord

Pope Francis has recommended that every diocese/parish implement the initiative of 24 Hours for the Lord, to be celebrated on the Friday and Saturday preceding the 4th Week of Lent, the **4th and 5th of March** (The Face of Mercy #17). This will involve a 24 hour prayer from 6pm on Friday to 6pm, Saturday. It would consist of the Holy Mass, deep silence, meditation, reflections, scripture readings, exposition, confessions, and concludes with Benediction.

This will be linked, first and foremost, to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and therefore all priests will be available and on call for 24hrs. The priests highly suggest that every Catholic family in Central Australia or individuals choose different time slots from midnight on Friday to Saturday evening.

Please see a Roster and program at the back of the church and make an hour or two with the Lord. You may want to join with other families. Can you imagine yourself/family alone with the exposed Blessed Sacrament?



Year of Mercy Workshop, OLSH Parish

OLSH Parish is blessed to invite one of Australia's leading biblical scholars namely, Sr Veronica Lawson, a Sister of Mercy, to conduct a full-day workshop on **Saturday May 21st**. Her recent book *The Blessing of Mercy* is an ecological exploration of mercy in the Bible, connecting intentionally with Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si* and his proclamation of an Extraordinary Year of Mercy. Mark this date on your diary. More details later.

CAAAPU

The Central Australian Aboriginal Alcohol Programmes Unit (CAAAPU) is a not-for-profit organisation established in 1991 to assist Aboriginal people with alcohol and drug rehabilitation, and to provide ongoing treatment and education. CAAAPU has approached OLSH parish to assist in providing on-going pastoral care for the residents. We have already started. Feel free to come on board if you want to exercise some corporal works of mercy. Call the presbytery.

CARITAS PROJECT COMPASSION 2016

There are few donation envelopes left at the back of the church and put your compassion into action.

New OLSH Parish Media & Social Communications Team

A team is now working on a Social Media Policy, setting up a new OLSH Parish Facebook Page and updating our parish website www.olshparishalicesprings.org.au. This Sunday a representative will speak at post-Communion. Soon OLSH Parish will launch her new Facebook page and a more user-friendly parish website. Meanwhile please subscribe to our Parish Newsletter online through our website and Watch this space!

OLSH Associates are invited for a period of recollection at the OLSH Convent on **Sunday, 6th March, at 2:00 pm**. Please bring along the Lenten Programme 2016 "Mercy" Booklet. Thank you.

Sacramental Programme

for Catholic Children in Government & Non-Catholic Schools

OLSH Catholic Parish will be commencing their Religious Education classes again in mid-March at the St Francis Centre on Adamson Ave. Any parents wanting their children to receive the Sacraments for Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation can contact the Parish Office for further details PH: 89521049 between 9am - 12pm or email: olsh_parity_asp@bigpond.com or PH: Jenny Dietrich 89527010. Please pass this message on.

WELCOME!

OLSH Parish WELCOMES all new parishioners and their families. Please do not hesitate to introduce yourself to any of the priests or members of the Parish Council. We hope you will enjoy your stay with us and contribute to the reign of God. in Central Australia.

1 st & 2 nd Rite Jubilee Penitential Celebrations	
Friday 4 th /Saturday 5 th March (1 st Rite), "24 Hours for the Lord", urged by Pope Francis for the whole world	7:30pm on 4 th March – 5:45pm on 5 th March
Monday 21 st March (2 nd Rite)	7:00pm, OLSH Church

STATIONS OF THE CROSS	
The Face of Christ, the Face of Man	Friday 4 th March, 6:15pm
My Wounded Hands	Friday 11 th March, 6:15pm
Mary's Way of the Cross	Friday 18 th March, 6:15pm

Billy Graham Christian Life & Witness Course at OLSH Church	
In a spirit of good ecumenical relations, OLSH Parish will host a Christian Life & Witness Course at OLSH Church on the 3rd March at 10:00am . This is a basic four-part study that prepares members of participating churches to serve in outreach/mission. All followers of Jesus Christ, I am sure, can benefit from this CLWC. No, you don't have to change your denomination but go and be inspired, renewed and equipped to share your Catholic faith. There are only two sessions left.	
Mar 1, 10am Christian Family Church, 16 Kidman St	7 pm, Baptist Church, 1 Crispe St
Mar 3, 10am Catholic Church, 4 Hartley St	7pm, Desert Life Church, 32 Undoolya Rd

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
If you know any adult man or woman in Central Australia who, after hearing the mystery of Christ proclaimed, consciously and freely seek the living God and enter the Catholic faith, please let them know that we will run the RCIA again in 2016. At the proper time they will receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) and all rites belonging to the Catechumenate. This programme is also for those who want to convert to Catholicism from another Christian denomination. If you know of any adult out there who are seeking to become Christians please request their name and contact number otherwise they may call the presbytery or Sr Helen Kennedy FMM – our parish RCIA Director on 0448856323.

CYAS (Catholic Youth Alice Springs)
A reminder to all young people of the parish that the parish youth is now gathering every Friday from 6:30pm onwards at the presbytery courtyard. Turn off your favourite show and come and enjoy an evening of fun, formation and prayer.

Cleaning: 5 March 2016 Group 1 Sammy Nobleza, Mel & Tinna Buenviaje
Counters: 6 March 2016 Mike & Rita Steller, John Lillecrapp
Last Week's Collections: 1 st Collection: \$1,370.40 (for the presbytery) 2 nd Collection: \$ 3,186.90 (for the parish)
<i>Thank you for your generosity!</i>
<i>Groups please remember to keep the Bulletin team informed if you change your days/times etc.</i>

Lenten Sharing Groups	
(Frs) Raass & Prakash SVD - MERCY	Presbytery, Saturdays @ 9:00am-10:30am, Saturday call 89521049
(Sr) Helen Kennedy FMM - MERCY	St Francis Centre, Mondays @ 7pm-8:30pm call 89524151
Sue Marshall - MERCY	Traegar Campus, Tuesdays 4:45pm or call 0408453061,
**Patrick Monaghan "Prayer & Mysticism"	1 Lakes Court, Wednesdays @7pm-8:30pm, call 8521042
Ruth Sexton - MERCY	Bath Street campus staff room, Thursdays 4:20pm-6:00pm

Ecumenical Lenten Service (Service of the Word with other Christian Churches)	
Uniting Church, Todd Mall	Wednesday 2 nd March, 7pm
Catholic Church, Billy Graham Christian Life Witness Workshop, Catholic Church	*Thursday March 3 rd , 10:00am
**World Day of Prayer, Lutheran Church	Friday 4 th March, 7pm
Anglican Church, Bath St	Wednesday 9 th March, 7pm
Lutheran Church, Gap Road	Wednesday 16 th March, 7pm

Works of Mercy
<i>The Corporal Works of Mercy:</i> Feed the hungry & give drink to the thirsty Clothe the naked & shelter the homeless Visit the sick & imprisonment Bury the dead
<i>The Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> Counsel the doubtful & instruct the ignorant Admonish the sinners & comfort the afflicted Forgive offenses & bear wrongs patiently Pray for the living and dead.

The Social Justice Awareness Group
The SJAG will be holding its regular meeting this Sunday 28th February at 3:30pm at the Parish House. We happily welcome anyone who would like to come along to see what we do at our Meetings and maybe find time to join with us every four weeks throughout the year. - Sr Kathleen Leahy OLSH

Roster for weekend of 05 - 06 March 2016			
	Commentator	Readers	Communion Ministers
Sat 6:00 pm	Brendan Heenan	M McNaught Ruth Sexton	Marian Maddocks Christine Grant Thelma Bowen
Sun 7:30 am	Pat Gallagher	Kath McGargill Mike Steller	Fred Twohig Rita Steller John Lillecrapp
Sun 9:30 am	Virginia Loy	Hilda Reeder Pauline Otieno	Helena Casseeram M Lillecrapp Mark Bensted
Sun 5:30 pm	Miguel Ociones	David Genetti Pat Monaghan	Thomas J John Thampi Joseph Marieta Ives

3rd Sunday of Lent Year C

27th - 28th February 2016

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 24:15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

First Reading:

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you". But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. 'This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you".' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: " the Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you". This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 102:1-4,6-8,11

R/ The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Mt 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. **Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Gospel:

Luke 13:1-9

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."' .

The Gospel of the Lord

Prayers of the Faithful: Lord, hear our prayer

Communion Antiphon:

Ps 83:4-5

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young; by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.