

PARISH NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2017

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Our Vision

**A growing family of Spirit-filled followers of Jesus Christ,
inspiring all Sri Lankans to find their life-purpose in God.**

WORSHIP SERVICES

ENGLISH

- 6:30 am: Holy Eucharist with Sermon
8:00 am: Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday)
5:30 pm: Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Except 4th Sunday)
7:00 am: Mid-Week Holy Eucharist (Every Wednesday)

TAMIL

- 10:00 am: Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday)

ENGLISH and TAMIL (COMBINED SERVICE)

- 8:00 am: Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 4th Sunday)

Our Mission

**To reach out to all Sri Lankans for Jesus,
confirm their faith in the Trinity,
and nurture them to achieve Christ-like maturity.**

FROM THE DESK OF REV SURESH DIAS BANDARANAIKE

My dear friends,

We welcome the newly elected Board of Wardens and the other Lay Officers, who were elected to hold office in the 150th anniversary year of our parish. Their election took place at the reconvened Annual General Meeting that was held last month.

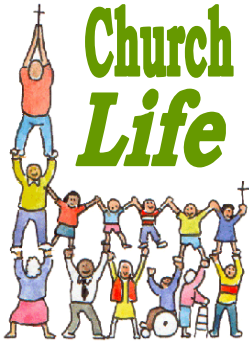
I would like to reflect briefly on the cost of discipleship and our commitment to be servants of our Servant Lord. The call of discipleship is where we are called to leave everything aside and come to follow our Master. A true disciple is one who follows Jesus continuously. As leaders of the Church, our calling is to be a 'Christ model' through our life and example.

We need to remember that the cost of discipleship is a diaconic model—that is, we are called not to be served but to serve. We are all labourers in the Lord's vineyard.

A question that will challenge us as we serve our Master in His vineyard is whether we are with our people in their pain and suffering, in their conflicts and their struggles, and whether we are working to liberate them and to empower them. Have we been a 'Jesus model' and witnessed to our wider community? Have we witnessed and shared the Good News of Jesus in our neighbourhood, and taken the gospel 'beyond borders'? What is our commitment to the Christ of God as well as His Church?

My dear people of God, let us surrender our lives to the One who has called us to follow Him, knowing He will make us useful instruments to accomplish the purpose for which He calls us on earth. May the good Lord use each one of us to transform this world from darkness to Light and Truth, as we continue to serve Him faithfully in His vineyard. May our prayer be to give and not to grudge the cost; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward, knowing that we do His will.

Yours in the service of the Master
Your shepherd and friend
Fr Suresh



The World Council of Churches (WCC)

The World Council of Churches held its first General Assembly on 28th August 1948, in Amsterdam. One of the preachers at this occasion was Rev Dr D T Niles from Sri Lanka. In later years he was appointed President of the WCC.

~ Ecumenical Lectionary 2015-2017

Pray for friends and family to come to know Jesus

Christ as their Saviour:

- ⇒ Ask God to open their spiritual eyes (2 Cor 4:4)
- ⇒ Ask God to give them ears to hear (Matt 13:15)
- ⇒ Ask God to give them faith to believe (Acts 20:21)
- ⇒ Ask God to give them the will to respond to Jesus (Rom 10:9)
- ⇒ Ask God to send people into their lives to witness to them (Matt 9:38)
- ⇒ Ask God for ways to build caring relationships with them (1 Cor 9:22)
- ⇒ Ask God for opportunities to witness to them (Col 4:3)
- ⇒ Ask God for boldness to witness to them (Acts 4:29)
- ⇒ Ask God for an opportunity to invite them to accept Christ as their Saviour (Lk 14:23)
- ⇒ Ask God to set them free from spiritual captivity (2 Tim 2:25-26)

~ <https://www.evangelismcoach.org>



1 st	(Tuesday)	Bible Society Day (1812)
12 th	(Saturday)	UN International Youth Day
13 th	(Sunday)	Displaced Persons and Migrants Sunday
28 th	(Sunday)	World Council of Churches Sunday

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Parish Activities

SUNDAYS

A Time of Church-Family Fellowship: After the 8:00 am service

A cup of tea is served in the Parish Hall, every Sunday. On 4th Sundays, the Mothers' Union hosts a 'Combined Congregations Breakfast'. On other Sundays, you may buy your own breakfast—usually, tasty home-cooked food prepared by Shanthi, our Sexton W J Arul Das' wife. Even if you aren't hungry for grub, come and savour the taste of fellowship, which is truly great when all of us live in unity!



Sunday School: 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Our children are taught God's Word and ways—in a fun, meaningful, and innovative manner—by a group of dedicated teachers.



Youth and Teens Meeting: 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm

The Teens and Youth of the parish meet for a joint programme every 3rd Sunday.



Fellowship Evening: 7:00 pm

A fellowship evening is held every 3rd Sunday after the 5:30pm worship service. All are welcome!



TUESDAYS

Medical Clinic: 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm

A free Medical Clinic is conducted by our Mothers' Union, in the Parish Hall. Pass the good news about this ministry around your home and neighbourhood. Also, come by and lend a helping hand!



Elders' Fellowship: Commencing at 10:00 am

The 'senior friends' of our parish meet twice a month—every 2nd and 4th Wednesday—for fun-filled fellowship!



Parish Activities

THURSDAYS

Life after the Alpha Mission: 6-8 pm—“Come and See!”

We started the Alpha Programme after a hiatus of ten years, with two objectives in mind... a) To **strengthen our church** in our spirituality; and b) Begin to **reach out to the world** to bring others into the Good Shepherd sheepfold and the arms of Jesus the Great Sheep-herd and our Saviour. We continue with our mission in August, meeting every Thursday **in the church—as on Alpha**—to build up a better biblical understanding of how our spiritual gifts can bless others.



SATURDAYS

Mothers' Union: Commencing at 4:30 pm

Meetings of our very active Mothers' Union (MU) are held once a month—every 2nd Saturday. Keep in touch with a member of the MU for updates on their plans and programmes, and join them in their many projects!



Cottage Prayer Meetings: Commencing at 5:30 pm

This is an opportunity for us to pray together in each others' homes. A cottage prayer meeting will be held every 3rd Saturday at 5.30pm at the home of a parishioner. If you would like to open up your home for this meeting, please contact the Worship Team Coordinator Dorothy Phillips (on 0775579967).



SPECIAL EUCHARISTIC SERVICES

If you wish to have a dedicated celebration of Holy Communion on your birthday, or any other anniversary that is special to you and yours, your Vicar is able and willing to arrange a special service—*provided that sufficient notice is given.*

A Very Warm Welcome and a Heartfelt Greeting, in the Glorious Name of Jesus, to all our Visitors!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR PARISH FAMILY, please fill in a *Family Card* and hand it over to any of our Sidespersons on duty (look out for the 'USHER' badge), one of our Wardens (just ask for Thomas, Nalinie, Lalith, Wijith), or our Priest-in-Charge, Rev Suresh Dias Bandaranaike. Family Cards are available with our Sexton, W J Arul Das—the gentleman in white, on duty at the back of the church, after service.

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR AUGUST 2017

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
AUGUST 6TH PROPER 13	Psalm	Psalm 17:1-7, and then v. 15	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 55:1-5	Tamani Weerakoon
	NT Lesson	Romans 9:1-5	Geraldine de Silva
	Gospel	Matthew 14:13-21	Nuala Jesudason
AUGUST 13TH PROPER 14	Psalm	Psalm 85:8-13	
	OT Lesson	1 Kings 19:9-18	Sunday School
	NT Lesson	Romans 10:5-15	Sunday School
	Gospel	Matthew 14:22-33	Sunday School
AUGUST 20TH PROPER 15	Psalm	Psalm 67	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 45:1-15	Angela Seneviratne
	NT Lesson	Romans 8:11-21	Sugandhi Daniel
	Gospel	Matthew 2:13-23	Dhayamani Ashok
AUGUST 27TH PROPER 16	Psalm	Psalm 124	
	OT Lesson [S]	Exodus 1:8—2:10	Kusum Wickremaratne
	NT Lesson [E]	Romans 12:1-8	Dharshani de Silva
	Gospel [T]	Matthew 16:13-20	Alex Joseph

COTTAGE PRAYER MEETING: Saturday @ 6:00pm		
Date	At the home of . . .	Address and Phone Nos.
August 19 th	Delani and Anil Jayasinghe	288/12G, Royal Gardens, Rajagiriya 0778 944 555

INTERCESSORS AND OFFERTORY-BEARERS FOR AUGUST 2017

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY-BEARERS
AUGUST 6 TH	Bihani Welikala	Dhayamani and Surinder Kumar Ashok
AUGUST 13 TH	Sunday School	Sunday School
AUGUST 20 TH	Amala Cumaraswamy	Barbara Wijesinghe and Savitri Jayawardena
AUGUST 27 TH	Thomas Ponniah	Augustine and Roshini Prakash

WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR AUGUST 2017

DATE	WARDEN	SIDESPERSONS
1ST SUNDAY August 6th	Thomas Ponniah	Amala Cumaraswamy Dharshani de Silva
2ND SUNDAY August 13th	Nalinie Wanigasekera	Dorothy Philips Surinder Kumar Ashok
3RD SUNDAY August 20th	Wijith DeChickera	Mallika Dedigama Susheela Gunaratnam
4TH SUNDAY August 27th	Lalith Dassenaiké	Dharshani de Silva Nalin Gunasekera

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE			
REV SURESH DIAS BANDARANAIKE	0112 585 889, 0774 319 531		
	cogslk@slt.net.lk		
<i>Vicar's Warden</i>		<i>Hony. Secretary</i>	
MR THOMAS PONNIAH	0777 530 839	MS SHYAMA THANGIAH	0718 995 221
	thomasp@lankaorix.com		shalomshyama@gmail.com
<i>People's Wardens</i>		<i>Hony. Treasurer</i>	
MRS NALINIE WANIGASEKERA	0773 410 279	MS BIHANI WELIKALA	076 321 0938
	padna183@slt.net.lk		been_welikala111@hotmail.com
MR LALITH DASSENAIKE	0777 845 686		
	lalithdassenaiké@gmail.com		
<i>Hony. Assistant Treasurer</i>			
MR WIJITH DeCHICKERA	0773 502 922	MS TAMANI WEERAKOON	077 728 8005
	wijithdc@slt.net.lk		tamani.dias@sc.com

Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
1	2 nd Aug	Israel Daniel Rajindra Daniel	
	4 th Aug		Deepika and Lalith Dassenaikae
	7 th Aug	Chianna Botejue	Kusum and Frank Wickramaratne
	8 th Aug	Mignon Anandage Amala Cumaraswamy	Junita and Sunil De Alwis
	10 th Aug	W J Arul Das Seanan Ponniah Joshua Wickramaratne	
	11 th Aug	Tania Perera	
	12 th Aug	Bernard Perera	
2	14 th Aug		Navaneetham and Elijah Gnamam
	17 th Aug	Geraldine De Silva	
	18 th Aug	Sueann Latiff Naomi Ananthasuntharam	Jean and Ernest Daniels
	19 th Aug	Ishan Wijesundera	
3	20 th Aug	Lalith Dassenaikae	Angela and Michael Daniels
	21 st Aug	Elizabeth Chinnakone	Michelle and Thomas Ponniah
	22 nd Aug	Sudeshini Fernando Chrisanthi Lewke Rajeeva Samarasinha	Zorina and Thusantha De Alwis
	24 th Aug	Dilly Robinson	
4	28 th Aug	Mallika Dedigama Rochelle Tissera	
	29 th Aug	Dharshani De Silva	