

PARISH NEWSLETTER



JULY 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 in Christ,

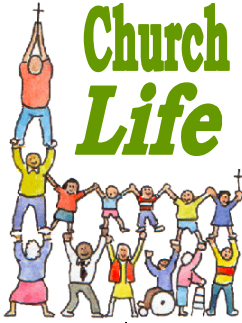
Last month, I was invited by two separate organizations to attend events organized by them. At both gatherings there were representatives of clergy from different faiths. On both occasions I spoke on the importance of religious harmony and shared some thoughts on the prayer of St Francis of Assisi on the theme 'Lord make us instruments of your peace'.

I spoke of the importance of promoting religious harmony and fostering fellowship with one another. Today, very sadly, people create divisions in society in the name of religion, caste, and creed for their own vested interests. Religious intolerance in society has created many problems. Nations around the world are divided along religious lines and create discord in the world.

I believe the good Lord calls upon each one of us to sow love where there is hatred, to bring pardon where there is injury, to bring peace where there is discord, and to bring light to where people are in darkness.

So, my dear people of God, let us pledge to love and respect everyone in the world irrespective of their ethnicity, languages, and other differences.

May God bless us all.
Your pastor and friend
Fr Suresh



Ordinary Time

The Church calendar includes two periods of Ordinary Time: an extended period after Pentecost, and a much shorter time between Candlemas and Ash Wednesday. Ordinary Time allows for a more uninterrupted reading of scripture in sequence, for the exploration of other themes such as creation and the environment, and for creative responses to the Saints' Days that occur at this time.

~ <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship>

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>



2 nd	(Sunday)	Salvation Army Founders Day (1865)
8 th	(Saturday)	Church of Ceylon Day (1886)
9 th	(Sunday)	Sea and Air Farers Sunday
10 th	(Monday)	Theological College of Lanka Foundation Day (1963)
31 st	(Sunday)	National Christian Council of Sri Lanka Sunday

JULY

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

Bible Study Group-led Alpha Mission: 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm

Our vision drives us to reach out to the community around us. The first step we are taking in keeping with this biblical model is to invite others in our 'Jeruselems' and our 'Judeas' (*refer Acts 1:8 cf. Matt. 28:19-20, for Jesus' mandate and mission*).

We ask for your special prayers for everyone following the Alpha Course 'weekend away' (1 & 2 July) — that they would be spiritually revived, and that the Lord God would add numbers and new life to the strength of our church!



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, Delani, Viranga, or Nalin), 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 JULY 2017

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
JULY 2ND PROPER 8	Psalm	Psalm 13	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 22:1-14	Tamani Weerakoon
	NT Lesson	Romans 6:12-23	Graeme Tissera
	Gospel	Matthew 10:40-42	Romany de Silva
JULY 9TH PROPER 9	Psalm	Psalm 45:10-17	
	OT Lesson	Zechariah 9:9-12	Sunday School
	NT Lesson	Romans 7:15-25a	Sunday School
	Gospel	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Sunday School
JULY 16TH PROPER 10	Psalm	Psalm 119:105-112	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 25:19-34	Junita De Alwis
	NT Lesson	Romans 8:1-11	Susheela Gunaratnam
	Gospel	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Dorothy Philips
JULY 23^{RF} PROPER 11	Psalm	Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24	
	OT Lesson [S]	Genesis 28:10-19a	Shanthi Arul Das
	NT Lesson [T]	Romans 8:12-25	Ranjani Edward
	Gospel [E]	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Minal Ranatunga
JULY 30TH PROPER 12	Psalm	Psalm 128	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 29:15-28	Shakyna Dassenaik
	NT Lesson	Romans 8:26-39	Bravo Handy
	Gospel	Matt. 13:31-33, 44-52	Evelyn De Zoysa

“Practise the pause. When in doubt, pause. When angry, pause. When tired, pause. When stressed, pause. And, when you pause, pray.”

INTERCESSORS AND OFFERTORY-BEARERS FOR JULY 2017

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY-BEARERS
JULY 2ND	Rochelle Goonewardene	Angela and Avanthi Seneviratne
JULY 9TH	Sunday School	Sunday School
JULY 16TH	Nilani Seneviratne	Erin De Silva and Githanjali Algama
JULY 23RD	Rev Suresh Dias Bandaranaike	Augustin and Roshinie
JULY 30TH	Varunika de Silva	Thomas and Michelle Ponniah and family

WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR JULY 2017

DATE	WARDEN	SIDESPERSONS
1ST SUNDAY July 2 nd	Thomas Ponniah	Amala Cumaraswamy Surinder Kumar Ashok
2ND SUNDAY July 9 th	Delani Jayasinghe	Dorothy Philips Nalinie Wanigasekera
3RD SUNDAY July 16 th	Nalin Gunasekera	Mallika Dedigama Susheela Gunaratnam
4TH SUNDAY July 23 rd	Viranga Wickramaratne	Dharshani de Silva Maleesha Welikala
5TH SUNDAY July 30 th	Delani Jayasinghe	Dorothy Philips Susheela Gunaratnam

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

REV SURESH DIAS BANDARANAIKE 0112 585 889; 0774 319 531
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Vicar's Warden

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Hony. Secretary

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Hony. Treasurer

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MR VIRANGA WICKRAMARATNE

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Hony. Assistant Treasurer

MR NALIN GUNESEKERA

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MS TAMANI WEERAKOON

077 728 8005
tamani.dias@sc.com



Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
2	1 st July	Sriyani Miththapala	
	11 th July	Johann Latiff Lorette Weeraratna	
	14 th July	Nirmali Totamuna	
	15 th July	Manori Perera	
3	16 th July		Upekha and Viranga Wickramaratne
	20 th July	Suresh Dias Bandaranaike	
	21 st July	Graeme Tissera Romany De Mel	
	22 nd July	Barbara Wijesinghe	Rochelle and Wijith DeChickera
4	23 rd July		Anieta and Roshan Anandage
	24 th July	Adrian Daniels	
	25 th July	Anil Jayasinghe Erin De Silva	
	26 th July	Jeevan Yoganathan	
	28 th July	Darshan De Silva	
	29 th July	Shakyna Dassenaikē Sarojini Gnaniah	
5	30 th July	Roshan Anandage	Sunethra and Chrisantha De Silva
	31 st July	Shanil Ponniah	