

# PARISH NEWSLETTER



# AUGUST 2025

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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.**

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### **WORSHIP SERVICES ENGLISH**

8:15 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday)  
5:30 pm Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Except 4th Sunday)

### **TAMIL**

9:45 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday)

### **ENGLISH and TAMIL (COMBINED SERVICE)**

8:15 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 4th Sunday)

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### *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.**

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**FROM THE DESK OF REV NIHAL FERNANDO**

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Embracing the Heart of Christianity

At the very core of our Christian faith lies a simple yet profound calling — to be truly human, as Christ was. Jesus, though divine, humbled Himself and took on our humanity, showing us what it means to live with grace, humility, and love.

To be Christian is not merely to believe, but to become — to become more like Christ in our daily lives. This means choosing to be a blessing — to God and to one another. It means learning to share generously, care compassionately, and act justly.

Let us strive to be Christ-like in word and deed. Let our lives reflect His love through humility, kindness, and fairness. May we not just carry the name of Christ but also His heart — one that embraces all and serves all.

May we all walk this path with courage and compassion, becoming living witnesses of God's love in the world.

Yours in Christ

***Fr. Nihal Fernando***

VICAR

**A Prayer for Resting in God's Love**

God of Goodness, we come into your presence so aware of our human frailty and yet overwhelmed by your love for us.

We thank you that there is no human experience that we might walk through where your love cannot reach us.

If we climb the highest mountain, you are there and yet if we find ourselves in the darkest valley of our lives, you are there.

Teach us today to love you more.

Help us to rest in that love that asks nothing more than the simple trusting heart of a child..... **Amen!!**

Vicar <b>REV NIHAL FERNANDO</b> 0112 585 889; 077 7461196 <a href="mailto:cogslk@sltnet.lk">cogslk@sltnet.lk</a> Asst Curate <b>REV S BALASUNDARAM</b> 0712262030	
Vicar's Warden <b>MR ASHAN ALGAMA</b> <a href="mailto:ashanstc@gmail.com">ashanstc@gmail.com</a> 0779514978  People's Wardens <b>MRS NILANI SENEVIRATNE</b> <a href="mailto:nilani.seneviratne@gmail.com">nilani.seneviratne@gmail.com</a>  0777785167  <b>MR ANIL JAYASINGHE</b> <a href="mailto:aniljayasinghe@yahoo.com">aniljayasinghe@yahoo.com</a> 0777352869  <b>MR LALITH DASSENAIKE</b> <a href="mailto:lalithdassenaike@gmail.com">lalithdassenaike@gmail.com</a> 0777845686	Hony. Treasurer <b>MRS TAMANI DIAS</b> <a href="mailto:tamani.dias@sc.com">tamani.dias@sc.com</a> 0777288005  Secretary to the Board of Wardens <b>MRS AMALA CUMARASWAMY</b> <a href="mailto:amalacum@gmail.com">amalacum@gmail.com</a> 0770229989  Parish Coordinator <b>MRS SHRIENI SAMARASENA</b> 0778349726  Assistant Treasurer <b>MS RUWANI JIRASINGHE</b> 0777560563

### Special Days in August 2025

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bible Society Day, 1812
- 10<sup>th</sup> Youth Sunday
- 17<sup>th</sup> Displaced Persons and Migrants Sunday
- 24<sup>th</sup> World Council of Churches Sunday

# PARISH ACTIVITIES

## ***A Time of Church-Family Fellowship: After the***

***8:15am service.*** A cup of tea is served in the Parish Hall, every Sunday. You may buy your own breakfast. Even if you aren't hungry for a meal, come and savour the taste of fellowship.



## ***A Listening Ear: 9:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.***

Some parishioners have volunteered their time to lend an ear and to pray with those who are facing challenges in life. While you may contact them to set up a mutually convenient time and place to talk/meet, they will also be available on Sundays in the Parish Hall (Meeting Room), from 9:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Please contact Angela Seneviratne, Mobile 077 2516272 for more details.



## ***English Sunday School: 10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.***

Our children are taught God's Word and ways—in a fun, meaningful, and innovative manner—by a group of dedicated teachers. Their parents are, also, most welcome to worship with the rest of our church-family and become more involved in parish activities!



## ***Fellowship Evening: 7:00 p.m.***

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



## WEDNESDAYS

### ***The Young At Heart Group: Commencing at 9:30 a.m.***

The Young At Heart Group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 9.30 a.m. in the Parish Hall for fun filled activities and fellowship. All over 60's are welcome; bring along a friend (non-parishioner) to join in the fun too!!



## WEDNESDAYS

### ***Young Adults at 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall***

Keep in touch with Viranga on 0773891951 for more details.



## THURSDAYS

### ***Bible Studies***

Bible studies will be held every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall. All are welcome and remember to bring a friend.

More details will be shared in the Church WhatsApp group.



## SATURDAYS

### ***Mothers' Union: Commencing at 10:00 a.m.***

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



## SATURDAYS

### ***Youth Ministry: Every Saturday 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m***

The youth (16+ years) of the parish meet regularly for worship, study, and a whole host of other fun-filled activities geared towards spiritual growth and maturity. We ask for your prayers as church leaders who guide and mentor these young people in our parish heed God's voice over this next generation of ours.

Keep in touch with Shakyna 0777158847 or Nikhil on 0721806971



**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 Parish Stewards on duty (look out for the 'PARISH STEWARD' badge), one of our Wardens (just ask for Ashan, Nilani, Anil or Lalith), or our Vicar, the Rev. Nihal Fernando. Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.

### SCRIPTURE READERS FOR AUGUST 2025

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
AUGUST 3 <sup>RD</sup> PROPER 13 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 107: 1 – 9, 43	
	OT Lesson	Hosea 11: 1 – 11	Nalinie Wanigasekera
	NT Lesson	Colossians 3: 1 – 11	Tatiana Armstrong
	Gospel	Luke 12: 13 – 21	Romayne Benedict
AUGUST 10 <sup>TH</sup> PROPER 14 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 50: 1 – 8, 22 – 23	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 1: 1, 10 – 20	Delani Jayasinghe
	NT Lesson	Hebrews 11: 1 – 3, 8 – 16	Varshan Aaron
	Gospel	Luke 12: 32 – 40	Dirk Jayaratne
AUGUST 17 <sup>TH</sup> PROPER 15 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 82	
	OT Lesson	Jeremaiah 23: 23 – 29	Nuala Samarasinhe
	NT Lesson	Hebrews 11: 29 – 12: 2	Shelley Tissera
	Gospel	Luke 12: 49 – 56	Dharshani De Silva
AUGUST 24 <sup>TH</sup> PROPER 16 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 71: 1 – 6	
	OT Lesson [T]	Jeremaiah 1: 4 – 10	Sharmila Srikanth
	NT Lesson [S]	Hebrews 12: 18 – 29	Christina Paul
	Gospel [E]	Luke 13: 10 – 17	Fleminia Srikanth
AUGUST 31 <sup>ST</sup> PROPER 17 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 81: 1, 10 – 16	
	OT Lesson	Jeremaiah 2: 4 – 13	Amar Goonetilleke
	NT Lesson	Hebrews 13: 1 – 8, 15 – 16	Michael Tissera
	Gospel	Luke 14: 1, 7 – 14	Dyan Seneviratne

**Mothers' Union Jumble Sale  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August**

### INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR AUGUST 2025

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
AUGUST 3 <sup>RD</sup>	Tamani Dias	Devika & Maasiri Dias
AUGUST 10 <sup>TH</sup>	Rohini Jayaratne	Michelle Ponniah and family
AUGUST 17 <sup>TH</sup>	Rohini Rockwood	Geraldine & Pradeep De Silva
AUGUST 24 <sup>TH</sup>	Joshua Jerald [E] Mythili Jerald [T]	Sunday School
AUGUST 31 <sup>ST</sup>	Maasiri Dias	Deepika & Lalith Dassenaik

### WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR AUGUST 2025

DATE	WARDEN	PARISH STEWARDS
1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AUGUST 3 <sup>RD</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Michelle Ponniah (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)
2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY AUGUST 10 <sup>TH</sup>	Anil Jayasinghe (AM) Lalith Dassenaik (PM)	Delani Jayasinghe (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Diruni Chanmugam (PM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)
3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AUGUST 17 <sup>TH</sup>	Ashan Algama (AM) Anil Jayasinghe (PM)	Shelley Tissera (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM) Aidan Tissera (PM) Debika Pathirana (PM)
4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AUGUST 24 <sup>TH</sup>	Lalith Dassenaik (AM)	Michelle Ponniah (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM)
5 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AUGUST 31 <sup>ST</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Shelley Tissera (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)

## BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – AUGUST 2025

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Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
1	2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	Israel Daniel Rajindra Daniel	
	4 <sup>th</sup> Aug		Deepika & Lalith Dassenaik
	7 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Chianna Botejue	Kusum & Frank Wickramaratne
	5 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Neville Jayaratne	
	8 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Mignon Anandage Amala Cumaraswamy Gishantha Ratnayake	Junita & Sunil De Alwis
2	10 <sup>th</sup> Aug	W J Aruldas Sean Ponniah Joshua Wickramaratne	
	11 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Dan Ratnam	
3	17 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Geraldine De Silva	
	18 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Suanne Latiff Naomi Ananthasuntharam	Jean & Ernest Daniels
	19 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Ishan Wijesundera	
	20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Lalith Dassenaik	
	21 <sup>st</sup> Aug		Michelle & Thomas Ponniah
	22 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	Chrishanthi Lewke Rajiva Samarasinha	
4	28 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Shelley Tissera	
	29 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Dharshani De Silva	

### God's Grace is Greater than Our Sin

**Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,  
 Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!  
 Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured  
 There the blood of the Lamb was spilt.**

**God's grace.... Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
 God's grace.... Grace that is greater than all our sin!**