

PARISH NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2026

118 Jawatte Road, Colombo 5
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www.cogslk.org

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

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)

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 NIHAL FERNANDO

My Dear Parishioners,

As we look at the world around us today, our hearts are heavy with the ongoing pain, destruction, and uncertainty caused by war. It is easy to feel helpless in the face of such global conflict, but as a community of faith, we are never without hope.

Now more than ever, we must stand together in prayer for our world leaders. We pray that God grants them the wisdom to look beyond immediate political gains and to think deeply about the present and the future generations who will inherit the consequences of their choices. May they be guided to establish pathways of lasting peace rather than the destruction of war.

Let us anchor our hearts in the words of Holy Scripture:

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

Matthew 5 : 9

As your shepherd, I encourage each of you to be instruments of peace in your own homes and neighborhoods. Peace on a global scale begins with the love, understanding, and reconciliation we cultivate in our daily lives. Let us remain steadfast in prayer, trusting that the Prince of Peace will guide our world out of darkness.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Nihal Fernando

VICAR

Special Days in August 2026

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1 st | Bible Society Day, 1812 |
| 9 th | International Youth Sunday |
| 12 th | UN International Youth Day |
| 16 th | Displaced Persons and Migrants Sunday |
| 22 nd | World Council of Churches, 1 st General Assembly 1948 |

Vicar

REV NIHAL FERNANDO 0112 585889; 0777461196
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Asst Curate

REV S BALASUNDARAM 0712262030

Vicar's Warden

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People's Wardens

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Wardens

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Parish Coordinator

MRS SHRIENI SAMARASENA
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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 3rd 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 2nd 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 2nd 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 Minal, Lalith, Rohini or Ashan), or our Vicar, the Rev. Nihal Fernando.

Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR AUGUST 2026

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
AUGUST 2 ND PROPER 13 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 17: 1 – 7, 15	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 32: 22 – 31	Eraan Fernando
	NT Lesson	Romans 9: 1 – 5	Nevaan Fernando
	Gospel	Matthew 14: 13– 21	Michael Tissera
AUGUST 9 TH PROPER 14 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 119: 9 – 16	
	OT Lesson	Ecclesiastes 11: 9 – 12: 8	Aneeka De Silva
	NT Lesson	1 Thessalonians 4: 6 – 16	Dirk Jayaratne
	Gospel	Matthew 6: 24 – 34	Janaki Fernando
AUGUST 16 TH PROPER 15 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 133	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 45: 1 – 15	Mothers' Union
	NT Lesson	Romans 11: 1 – 2, 29 – 32	Mothers' Union
	Gospel	Matthew 2: 13 – 23	Mothers' Union
AUGUST 23 RD PROPER 16 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 138	
	OT Lesson [T]	Isaiah 51: 1 – 6	Jeshoniya Fernando
	NT Lesson [S]	Romans 12: 1 – 8	Angel Babaranda Gamage
	Gospel [E]	Matthew 16: 13 – 20	Asher De Rose
AUGUST 30 TH PROPER 17 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 26: 1 – 8	
	OT Lesson	Jeremaiah 15: 15 – 21	Allan Chapman
	NT Lesson	Romans 12: 9 – 21	Amar Gunatilleke
	Gospel	Matthew 16: 21 – 28	Lalith Dassenaik

An Urgent Appeal

The English Sunday School is in need of volunteer teachers to help at our Sunday School, which is held from 10.15 am to 11.30 am on Sundays.

If you are moved to participate in this important ministry, please speak to one of the Wardens.

INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR AUGUST 2026

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
AUGUST 2 ND	Jacob Curtis	Rohini and Neville Jayaratne
AUGUST 9 TH	Chintha Fernando	Githanjali Algama Amala Cumaraswamy
AUGUST 16 TH	Mothers' Union	Mothers' Union
AUGUST 23 RD	Emma De Rose [E] Rithmisha Thevakumar [T]	Sunday School
AUGUST 30 TH	Surinda Kumar Ashok	Rajiva Samarasinha Deepika and Lalith Dassenaik

WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR AUGUST 2026

DATE	WARDEN	PARISH STEWARDS
1 ST SUNDAY AUGUST 2 ND	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Dirk Jayaratne (AM) Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Mishaal Algama (PM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)
2 ND SUNDAY AUGUST 9 TH	Rohini Jayaratne (AM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)	Christina Paul (AM) Dirk Jayaratne (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Diruni Chanmugam (PM)
3 RD SUNDAY AUGUST 16 TH	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Githanjali Algama (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Aidan Tissera (PM) Debika Pathirana (PM)
4 TH SUNDAY AUGUST 23 RD	Minal Ranatunga (AM)	Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM)
5 TH SUNDAY AUGUST 30 TH	Rohini Jayaratne (AM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)	Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Mishaal Algama (AM) Diruni Chanmugam (PM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)

BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – AUGUST 2026

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

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for Your endless love and mercy. Fill our hearts with Your grace, guide our steps with Your wisdom, and strengthen us to do Your will. Help us trust You in every circumstance, and let Your peace and favor rest upon us today and always. May our lives reflect Your goodness and bring glory unto Your name.

In Jesus' mighty name, Amen!!