

# PARISH NEWSLETTER



# DECEMBER 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)  
5:30 pm Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Except 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday)

### **TAMIL**

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

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

8:15 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 4<sup>th</sup> 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,

As we once again enter the blessed season of Christmas, we are reminded that this joyful time is far more than lights, gifts, and celebrations. Christmas is the beautiful revelation of God's love entering our world through the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ. It is the story of Emmanuel—God with us—who stepped into our humanity to bring hope, peace, and salvation to all people.

In the midst of all our preparations, let us pause to remember the true meaning of Christmas: a humble Saviour, born in a manger, inviting us to open our hearts to His transforming love.

The angel declared to the shepherds:

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11) This good news continues to echo through the ages, reminding us that Christ comes to bring light where there is darkness, healing where there is brokenness, and joy where there is sorrow.

As we celebrate, may we do so with hearts overflowing with gratitude—expressed through kindness, forgiveness, generosity, and compassion. Let our homes reflect the spirit of that holy night in Bethlehem: a place where love is shared, differences are set aside, and Christ is welcomed anew.

May this Christmas lead us to rediscover the simple yet profound truth that Christ is the greatest gift of all. And as we gather with family, friends, and our parish community, let us carry the light of Christ into the world, becoming instruments of His peace.

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward all.” (Luke 2:14)

Wishing every member of our parish a blessed and joyful Christmas filled with God's grace and peace.

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!!

Yours in Christ

***Fr. Nihal Fernando***

VICAR

### **Special Days in December 2025**

7 <sup>th</sup>	Bible Sunday
14 <sup>th</sup>	Rejoice / Gaudette Sunday
25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day – The Nativity of our Lord
26 <sup>th</sup>	Tsunami Disaster Remembrance Day, 2004
31 <sup>st</sup>	New Year's Eve (Watchnight)

Vicar

**REV NIHAL FERNANDO** 0112 585889; 077 7461196

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Asst Curate

**REV S BALASUNDARAM** 0712262030

Vicar's Warden

**MR ASHAN ALGAMA**

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People's Wardens

**MRS NILANI SENEVIRATNE**

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Wardens

**MRS AMALA**

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Parish Coordinator

**MRS SHRIENI SAMARASENA**

0778349726

### Special Church Events in December 2025

Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Service and Parish Dinner - 6 p.m.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve Midnight Service – 11.15 p.m.
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day Service – 8.15 a.m.
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	New Year's Eve Midnight Service – 11.15 p.m.
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	
January 2026	New Year Service – 8.15 a.m.

# 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.



## ***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 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. via Zoom***

Keep in touch with Viranga on 0773891951



## THURSDAYS

### ***Bible Studies***

Bible studies will be held every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall as well as via Zoom.

All are welcome and remember to bring a friend.

Bible Studies will not be held in December and resume on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

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, Lalith or Rohini), or our Vicar, the Rev. Nihal Fernando. Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.

### SCRIPTURE READERS FOR DECEMBER 2025

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
DECEMBER 7 <sup>TH</sup> 2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Psalm	Psalm 72: 1 - 7, 18 - 19	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 11: 1 - 10	Jacob Curtis
	NT Lesson	Romans 15: 4 - 13	Ruwani Jirasinghe
	Gospel	Matthew 3: 1 - 12	Nalinie Wanigasekera
DECEMBER 14 <sup>TH</sup> 3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Psalm	Psalm 146: 5 - 10	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 35: 1 - 10	Shevon Ponniah
	NT Lesson	James 5: 7 - 10	Dharshani De Silva
	Gospel	Matthew 11: 2 - 11	Aneeka De Silva
DECEMBER 21 <sup>ST</sup> 4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Psalm	Psalm 80: 1 - 7, 17- 19	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 7: 10 - 16	Dhayamani Ashok
	NT Lesson	Romans 1: 1 - 7	Rohini Rockwood
	Gospel	Matthew 1: 18 - 25	Amala Cumaraswamy
DECEMBER 24 <sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS EVE	Psalm	Psalm 96	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 9: 2 - 7	Eraan Fernando
	NT Lesson	Titus 2: 11 - 14	Lalith Dassenaik
	Gospel	Luke 2: 1 - 14	Dyan Seneviratne
DECEMBER 25 <sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS DAY	Psalm	Psalm 98	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 52: 7 - 10	Amala Cumaraswamy
	NT Lesson	Hebrews 1: 1 - 4	Sunil De Alwis
	Gospel	John 1: 1 - 14	Graeme Tissera
DECEMBER 28 <sup>TH</sup> 1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS	Psalm	Psalm 148	
	OT Lesson [T]	Isaiah 63: 7 - 9	Lagirthika Lenni
	NT Lesson [S]	Hebrews 2: 10 - 18	Michelle Ponniah
	Gospel [E]	Matthew 2: 13 - 23	Aaron Premvarshan
DECEMBER 31 <sup>ST</sup> NEW YEAR'S EVE	Psalm	Psalm 8	
	OT Lesson	Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 13	Michael Tissera
	NT Lesson	Revelation 21: 1 - 6	Nevan Fernando
	Gospel	Matthew 25: 31 - 46	Thomas Ponniah

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
JANUARY 1 <sup>ST</sup> 2026 NEW YEAR	Psalm	Psalm 8	
	OT Lesson	Numbers 6: 22 - 27	Tony Curtis
	NT Lesson	Galatians 4: 4 - 7	Janaki Fernando
	Gospel	Luke 2: 15 - 21	Minal Ranatunga

#### INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR DECEMBER 2025

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
DECEMBER 7 <sup>TH</sup>	Delani Jayasinghe	Devika and Maasiri Dias
DECEMBER 14 <sup>TH</sup>	Seanan Ponniah	Michelle and Thomas Ponniah
DECEMBER 21 <sup>ST</sup>	Chintha Fernando	Rohini, Neville and Dirk Jayaratne
DECEMBER 24 <sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS EVE	Deepika Dassenaik	Deepika, Lalith and Shakyna Dassenaik
DECEMBER 25 <sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS DAY	Dhayamani Ashok	Shelley and Graeme Tissera
DECEMBER 28 <sup>TH</sup>	Jacob Curtis [E] Tabitha Curtis [T]	Sunday School
DECEMBER 31 <sup>ST</sup> NEW YEAR'S EVE	Nilani Seneviratne	Nilani and Dyan Seneviratne
JANUARY 1 <sup>ST</sup> NEW YEAR 2026	Nalinie Wanigasekera	Nalinie Wanigasekera Janaki Fernando

**"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."**

**Isaiah 9 : 6**

## WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR DECEMBER 2025

DATE	WARDEN	PARISH STEWARDS
1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY DECEMBER 7 <sup>TH</sup>	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Dirk Jayaratne (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)
2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 <sup>TH</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne (AM)	Christina Paul (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM)
3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY DECEMBER 21 <sup>ST</sup>	Rohini Jayaratne (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Michelle Ponniah (AM) Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Aidan Tissera (PM) Debika Pathirana (PM)
CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24 <sup>TH</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne (PM)	Dirk Jayaratne (PM) Michelle Ponniah (PM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)
CHRISTMAS DAY DECEMBER 25 <sup>TH</sup>	Ashan Algama (AM)	Aidan Tissera (AM) Amala Cumaraswamy (AM)
4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY DECEMBER 28 <sup>TH</sup>	Lalith Dassenaik (AM)	Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM)
NEW YEAR'S EVE DECEMBER 31 <sup>ST</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne (PM)	Michelle Ponniah (PM) Dhayamani Ashok (PM)
NEW YEAR 2026 JANUARY 1 <sup>ST</sup>	Ashan Algama (AM)	Shelley Tissera (AM) Minal Ranatunga (AM)

## DUTIES ALLOCATED TO WARDENS

Warden	Areas handled
Ashan Algama	Repairs and maintenance
Lalith Dassenaik	Mission and Fellowship
Nilani Seneviratne	Worship and Church Administration
Rohini Jayaratne	Upkeep of church, parish hall and garden



## BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – DECEMBER 2025

Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Ajith Hapugoda	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Gehan Dedigama	
	4 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Romany and Nilane De Mel
	5 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Simone and Varuna Botejue
	6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Anoushka Tissera Tivanka de Silva	
2	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Donovan Sebastian	
	11 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Tania and Allen Direckze
3	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Ranil Algama	
	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Nikiel Daniel Dirk Jayaratne	Charnies and Gishantha Ratnayake Shelley and Graeme Tissera Manique and Susantha Ratnayake
4	22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Prashan de Silva	
	23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Surinder Kumar Ashok	
	26 <sup>th</sup> Dec		Dalrene and Suresh Thavarajah Manori and Chanaka Perera
	28 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Elizabeth Devikaranee Chinnakone	
	29 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Marjorie Joseph	Davyn & Karunya Mather

**"May the light of Christ guide you through the season and into the New Year".**



## A Christmas Prayer

God, our Creator,  
We come to worship with  
a song of thanks in our hearts  
a song of redemption,  
a song of hope and renewal.

We pray for joy in our hearts,  
hope in our God,  
love to forgive,  
and peace upon the earth.

We ask for the salvation of all our family members and friends,  
and we pray your blessings on all people.

May there be bread for the hungry,  
love for the unlovable,  
healing for the sick,  
protection for our children,  
and wisdom for our youth.

We pray for the forgiveness of sins and abundant life in Christ.  
Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your love and power.  
In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen...!!**

