

# PARISH NEWSLETTER



# JULY 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,

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.” —

Matthew 5:9

In a world torn apart by conflict, division and hatred, the call to be instruments of peace has never been more urgent. We may pride ourselves on being part of a "civilized" society, yet our actions often betray a thirst not for peace but for power, control and even war. True civilization is not measured by technology or progress, but by the love, justice and reconciliation we embody in our daily lives.

Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, has shown us the way: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives” (John 14: 27). His peace is not superficial—it is deep, healing and transformative. It starts within our hearts and extends outward into our homes, our communities, our nation and the entire world.

The Apostle Paul reminds us, “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone” (Romans 12: 18). Peace is not passive—it is active, it demands courage, sacrifice and humility. It means forgiving those who have hurt us, speaking up against injustice, and refusing to let bitterness take root in our hearts.

As Christians, we are not called to be mere observers but ambassadors of Christ, bringing reconciliation where there is division. In a time when war rages in many corners of the world and hatred threatens to overwhelm love, let us commit ourselves anew to the Gospel path of peace.

Let us begin with ourselves: let there be peace in our hearts. Let it overflow into our families and homes. Let our nation be healed of its wounds. And let the world know that the followers of Christ stand not for violence, but for the sacred dignity of every human life.

Let us work for peace, justice, and reconciliation—not tomorrow, but today. May the Lord bless us with His peace and make us instruments of it.

In Christ’s love and hope,

***Fr. Nihal Fernando***

VICAR

Vicar

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**MRS SHRIENI SAMARASENA**  
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Assistant Treasurer

**MS RUWANI JIRASINGHE**  
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### Special Days in July 2025

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Salvation Army Founders Day, 1865
- 8<sup>th</sup> Church of Ceylon Day
- 10<sup>th</sup> Theological College of Lanka Foundation Day, 1963
- 13<sup>th</sup> Sea and Air Farers' Sunday
- 27<sup>th</sup> National Christian Council 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 Nilani, Anil, Graeme or Angela), or our Vicar, the Rev. Nihal Fernando. Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.

## SCRIPTURE READERS FOR JULY 2025

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
JULY 6 <sup>TH</sup> PROPER 9 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 66: 1 - 9	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 66: 10 - 14	Jacob Curtis
	NT Lesson	Galatians 6: 7 - 16	Nevaen Fernando
	Gospel	Luke 10: 1 - 11, 16 - 20	Eraan Fernando
JULY 13 <sup>TH</sup> PROPER 10 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 82	
	OT Lesson	Amos 7: 7 - 17	Rohini Jayaratne
	NT Lesson	Colossians 1: 1 - 14	Allan Chapman
	Gospel	Luke 10: 25 - 37	Shevon Ponniah
JULY 20 <sup>TH</sup> PROPER 11 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 52	
	OT Lesson	Amos 8: 1 - 12	Kusum Wickramaratne
	NT Lesson	Colossians 1: 15 - 28	Nilani Seneviratne
	Gospel	Luke 10: 38 - 42	Janaki Fernando
JULY 27 <sup>TH</sup> PROPER 12 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 85	
	OT Lesson [T]	Hosea 1: 2 - 10	Lagirthika Lenni
	NT Lesson [S]	Colossians 2: 6 - 15	Mangalika Hettiarachchi
	Gospel [E]	Luke 11: 1 - 13	Aaron Premvarshan

**Come and see what God has done,  
 His awesome deeds for mankind!!  
 He turned the sea into dry land,  
 they passed through the waters on foot—  
 Come, let us rejoice in Him.  
 He rules forever by His power,  
 His eyes watch the nations—  
 let not the rebellious rise up against Him....**

**Praise be to God,  
 who has not rejected our prayers  
 or withheld His love from us!!**

## INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR JULY 2025

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
JULY 6 <sup>TH</sup>	Rochelle Gunawardene	Sharmini and Anil Wickramasinghe
JULY 13 <sup>TH</sup>	Angela Seneviratne	Rohini and Dirk Jayaratne
JULY 20 <sup>TH</sup>	Chintha Fernando	Lorette Weeraratne Nuala Samarasinhe
JULY 27 <sup>TH</sup>	Manuja Jeyaraj [E] Anustina Emmanuel [T]	Sunday School

## WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR JULY 2025

DATE	WARDEN	PARISH STEWARDS
1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY JULY 6 <sup>TH</sup>	Angela Seneviratne (AM) Nilani Seneviratne (PM)	Shelley Tissera (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)
2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY JULY 13 <sup>TH</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne (AM) Angela Seneviratne (PM)	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Aidan Tissera (AM) Diruni Chanmugam (PM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)
3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY JULY 20 <sup>TH</sup>	Angela Seneviratne (AM) Nilani Seneviratne (PM)	Sunil De Alwis (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM) Aidan Tissera (PM) Debika Pathirana (PM)
4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY JULY 27 <sup>TH</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne (AM)	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM)

### **An opportunity to be a part of the church outreach activities**

Every month the church supports Dev Siri Sevana, Retired Clergy, Christ Church Hambantota, The Samaritan Pledge and Board of Social Responsibility of the Diocese among many other ministries work.

If you are moved to contribute towards these outreach ventures, you may do so by marking the specific donations in the collections.

## BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – JULY 2025

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Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
1	1 <sup>st</sup> July	Sriyani Miththapala Rajamani Mather	
2	11 <sup>th</sup> July	Johann Latiff Lorette Weeraratne	
3	16 <sup>th</sup> July		Upekha & Viranga Wickramaratne
	17 <sup>th</sup> July	Maneesh Chanmugam	
4	21 <sup>st</sup> July	Graeme Tissera Romany De Mel	
	22 <sup>nd</sup> July		Rochelle & Wijith De Chickera
	23 <sup>rd</sup> July		Anita & Roshan Anandage
	25 <sup>th</sup> July	Anil Jayasinghe Erin De Silva	
5	28 <sup>th</sup> July	Darshan De Silva	
	29 <sup>th</sup> July	Shakyna Dassenaik Sarojini Gnaniah	
	30 <sup>th</sup> July	Roshan Anandage	
	31 <sup>st</sup> July	Shanil Ponniah	

**Lead us O Lord....**

**Dear Lord,  
Lead us from death to life,  
From falsehood to truth.  
Lead us from despair to hope,  
from fear to trust.**

**Let peace fill our hearts, our world and our universe.  
Let us dream together, pray together and work together  
To build one world of peace and justice for all... Amen..!!**