

# PARISH NEWSLETTER



# JULY 2026

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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**

Dear Parishioners,

Every day, we open the news to a world deeply fractured by conflicts, wars, and bitter divisions. From geopolitical crises overseas to the subtle tensions within our own neighborhoods, the cry for harmony has never been more urgent. Yet, global peace can only truly begin when it takes root locally—within our workplaces, inside our homes, and ultimately, within our own hearts. Where peace dwells, God's grace flourishes; without it, our families and communities wither under the heavy weight of discord.

The Bible speaks of peace not merely as the temporary absence of strife, but as a profound divine gift and an active, daily calling. Amidst the chaos of our modern world, Christ Himself leaves us with this beautiful assurance: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." — John 14: 27

As a community of faith, we cannot remain passive bystanders to the world's hostility. Scripture reminds us of our sacred duty to be active agents of healing: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." — Matthew 5: 9

Let us diligently cultivate this grace in every corner of our daily lives, transforming our homes into sanctuaries of love and our troubled world into a beacon of hope.

With Blessings  
Yours in Christ,

***Fr. Nihal Fernando***  
VICAR

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."  
Romans 12: 18

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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Parish Coordinator

**MRS SHRIENI SAMARASENA**  
0778349726

### **Special Days in July 2026**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Salvation Army Founder's Day, 1865
- 5<sup>th</sup> Church of Ceylon Sunday
- 10<sup>th</sup> Theological College of Lanka Foundation Day, 1963
- 12<sup>th</sup> Sea and Air Farers Sunday
- 26<sup>th</sup> National Christian Council of Sri Lanka Sunda

# 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, Rohini or Lalith), or our Vicar, the Rev. Nihal Fernando.

Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.

### SCRIPTURE READERS FOR JULY 2026

| DATE   | READING       | SCRIPTURE PASSAGE           | READER               |
|--|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| JULY 5 <sup>TH</sup><br>PROPER 9<br>SUNDAY   | Psalm         | Psalm 145: 8 - 14           |                      |
|  | OT Lesson     | Zechariah 9: 9 - 12         | Nuala Samarasinhe    |
|  | NT Lesson     | Romans 7: 15 - 25           | Anil Wickramasinghe  |
|  | Gospel        | Matthew 11: 16- 19, 25 - 30 | Harshini Canagasabey |
| JULY 12 <sup>TH</sup><br>PROPER 10<br>SUNDAY | Psalm         | Psalm 119: 105 - 112        |                      |
|  | OT Lesson     | Genesis 25: 19 - 34         | Shevon Ponniah       |
|  | NT Lesson     | Romans 8: 1 - 11            | Rohini Jayaratne     |
|  | Gospel        | Matthew 13: 1 - 9, 18 - 23  | Amar Gunatilleke     |
| JULY 19 <sup>TH</sup><br>PROPER 11<br>SUNDAY | Psalm         | Psalm 139: 1 - 12, 23 - 24  |                      |
|  | OT Lesson     | Genesis 28: 10 - 19         | Chintha Fernando     |
|  | NT Lesson     | Romans 8: 12 - 25           | Nilani Seneviratne   |
|  | Gospel        | Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43    | Amala Cumaraswamy    |
| JULY 26 <sup>TH</sup><br>PROPER 12<br>SUNDAY | Psalm         | Psalm 128                   |                      |
|  | OT Lesson [T] | Genesis 29: 15 - 28         | Anustina Emmanuel    |
|  | NT Lesson [S] | Romans 8: 26 - 39           | Michelle Ponniah     |
|  | Gospel [E]    | Matthew 13: 31-33, 44 - 52  | Aaron Premvarshan    |

### INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR JULY 2026

| DATE                  | INTERCESSOR                               | OFFERTORY BEARERS                      |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| JULY 5 <sup>TH</sup>  | Nalinie Wanigasekera                      | Sharmini and Anil Wickramasinghe       |
| JULY 12 <sup>TH</sup> | Seanan Ponniah                            | Michelle and Shanil Ponniah            |
| JULY 19 <sup>TH</sup> | Angela Seneviratne                        | Rohini Rockwood<br>Kusum Wickramaratne |
| JULY 26 <sup>TH</sup> | Ridesh Thevakumar [E]<br>Jacob Curtis [T] | Sunday School                          |

## WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR JULY 2026

| DATE  | WARDEN   | PARISH STEWARDS   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY<br>JULY 5 <sup>TH</sup>  | Rohini Jayaratne (AM)<br>Ashan Algama (PM)     | Shelley Tissera (AM)<br>Amala Cumaraswamy (AM)<br>Minal Ranatunga (PM)<br>Renuka Amarasekera (PM) |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY<br>JULY 12 <sup>TH</sup> | Nilani Seneviratne (AM)<br>Ashan Algama (PM)   | Christina Paul (AM)<br>Dirk Jayaratne (AM)<br>Aidan Tissera (PM)<br>Diruni Chanmugam (PM)         |
| 3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY<br>JULY 19 <sup>TH</sup> | Lalith Dassenaik (AM)<br>Rohini Jayaratne (PM) | Aidan Tissera (AM)<br>Dhayamani Ashok (AM)<br>Minal Ranatunga (PM)<br>Debika Pathirana (PM)       |
| 4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY<br>JULY 26 <sup>TH</sup> | Lalith Dassenaik (AM)                          | Amala Cumaraswamy (AM)<br>Michelle Ponniah (AM)   |

## BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – JULY 2026

| Week | Date                  | Birthdays                              | Anniversaries                  |
|------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1    | 1 <sup>st</sup> July  | Sriyani Miththapala<br>Rajamani Mather |                                |
| 2    | 11 <sup>th</sup> July | Johann Latiff<br>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<br>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<br>Erin De Silva       |                                |
| 5    | 28 <sup>th</sup> July | Darshan De Silva                       |                                |
|      | 29 <sup>th</sup> July | Shakyna Dassenaik<br>Sarojini Gnaniah  |                                |
|      | 30 <sup>th</sup> July | Roshan Anandage                        |                                |
|      | 31 <sup>st</sup> July | Shanil Ponniah                         |                                |

## Walking in His Light

When morning breaks with gentle grace,  
God's love shines bright in every place  
Each step we take, though small it seems,  
Is held within His perfect dreams.

Through trials deep and joyful days,  
He guides our hearts in countless ways  
His faithful Word, a lamp so true,  
Brings strength and hope in all we do.

Let kindness bloom in all we share,  
With humble hearts and faithful prayer  
For Christ has called us all to be,  
His hands of love for all to see.

May peace abide within our soul,  
As we surrender to His control  
With grateful hearts our voices raise—  
To God alone be all the praise.

*"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." – Psalm 23 : 1*

## Prayer

Lord, keep our faith steadfast and true  
Teach us to love as You have loved us,  
to serve with humility,  
to forgive with compassion,  
and to walk each day in the light of Your Word.

May our church be a beacon of hope,  
our fellowship a source of encouragement,  
and our lives a testimony to Your goodness.  
In Jesus' name, Amen!!