

# PARISH NEWSLETTER



# JUNE 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,

**Pentecost: The Birthday of the Church and a Call to Renewal**

As we celebrate Pentecost—the glorious coming of the Holy Spirit—we are reminded that this day marks the very birth of the Church. It was on this day that the disciples, once fearful and uncertain, were filled with power from on high and boldly began the mission Christ had entrusted to them.

Today, more than ever, we too need to be filled with that same Spirit. Our Church must be guided, renewed, and empowered by the Holy Spirit if we are to truly be the Body of Christ in the world. This calls for a deep sense of discernment: are we listening to the voice of the Spirit? Are we open to His promptings in our daily lives and in the life of our parish?

The gifts of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord—are not meant to lie dormant. They are given to us for a purpose: to build up the Church, to reach out to the unreachable, and to bring light where there is darkness.

Pentecost is not just a celebration of a past event; it is an invitation to revival. Let us take this opportunity to be renewed from within, to be courageous witnesses of the Gospel, and to allow the Spirit to breathe new life into our parish community.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful—and kindle in us the fire of Your love.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

***Fr. Nihal Fernando***

VICAR

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>MRS NILANI SENEVIRATNE</b> <a href="mailto:nilani.seneviratne@gmail.com">nilani.seneviratne@gmail.com</a> 0777785167	Hony. Treasurer <b>MRS TAMANI DIAS</b> <a href="mailto:tamani.dias@sc.com">tamani.dias@sc.com</a> 0777288005
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<b>MRS ANGELA SENEVIRATNE</b> <a href="mailto:angieseneviratne@gmail.com">angieseneviratne@gmail.com</a> 0772516272	Assistant Treasurer <b>MS RUWANI JIRASINGHE</b> 0777560563

### Special Days in June 2025

1 <sup>st</sup>	Asia Sunday
5 <sup>th</sup>	World Environment Day
6 <sup>th</sup>	Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Foundation Day, 1844
8 <sup>th</sup>	Day of Pentecost / Whit Sunday
12 <sup>th</sup>	International Day against Child Labour
15 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity Sunday / Fathers' Day
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Baptist Women's League Sunday
23 <sup>rd</sup>	UN International Widow's Day
29 <sup>th</sup>	Methodist Day

# 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 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 JUNE 2025

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
JUNE 1 <sup>ST</sup> 7 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER	Psalm	Psalm 97	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson	Acts 16: 16 - 34	Michael Tissera
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson	Revelation 22: 12 - 21	Lalith Dassenaik
	Gospel	John 17: 20 - 26	Nalinie Wanigasekera
JUNE 8 <sup>TH</sup> DAY OF PENTECOST	Psalm	Psalm 104: 24 - 34	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson	Acts 2: 1 - 21	Avanthi Seneviratne
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson	Romans 8: 14 - 17	Anil Wickramasinghe
	Gospel	John 14: 8 - 17	Sharmini Wickramasinghe
JUNE 15 <sup>TH</sup> TRINITY SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 8	
	OT Lesson	Proverbs 8: 1 - 4, 22 - 31	Romayne Benedict
	NT Lesson	Romans 5: 1 - 5	Ruwani Jirasinghe
	Gospel	John 16: 12 - 15	Tatiana Armstrong
JUNE 22 <sup>ND</sup> PROPER 7 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 22: 19 - 28	
	OT Lesson [T]	Isaiah 65: 1 - 9	Jebaseely Srivathanan
	NT Lesson [S]	Galatians 3: 23 - 29	Michelle Ponniah
	Gospel [E]	Luke 8: 26 - 39	Rithmisha Thevakumar
JUNE 29 <sup>TH</sup> PROPER 8 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 16	
	OT Lesson	1 Kings 19: 15 - 16, 19 - 21	Allan Chapman
	NT Lesson	Galatians 5: 1, 13 - 25	Tony Curtis
	Gospel	Luke 9: 51 - 62	Amar Gunatilleke

#### **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.

## INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR JUNE 2025

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
JUNE 1 <sup>ST</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne	Devika and Maasiri Dias
JUNE 8 <sup>TH</sup>	Deepika Dassenaik	Deepika and Lalith Dassenaik
JUNE 15 <sup>TH</sup>	Dhayamani Ashok	Chintha Fernando Ruwani Jirasinghe
JUNE 22 <sup>ND</sup>	Shevon Ponniah [E] Ridesh Thevakumar [T]	Janet and Tabitha Curtis
JUNE 29 <sup>TH</sup>	Maasiri Dias	Junita and Sunil De Alwis

## WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR JUNE 2025

DATE	WARDEN	PARISH STEWARDS
1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY JUNE 1 <sup>ST</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne (AM) Angela Seneviratne (PM)	Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)
2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY JUNE 8 <sup>TH</sup>	Angela Seneviratne (AM) Nilani Seneviratne (PM)	Sunil De Alwis (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Diruni Chanmugam (PM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)
3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY JUNE 15 <sup>TH</sup>	Nilani Seneviratne (AM) Angela Seneviratne (PM)	Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM) Aidan Tissera (PM) Debika Pathirana (PM)
4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY JUNE 22 <sup>ND</sup>	Angela Seneviratne (AM)	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM)
5 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY JUNE 29 <sup>TH</sup>	Anil Jayasinghe (AM) Nilani Seneviratne (PM)	Shelley Tissera (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)

**AGM of the English Congregation  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 10.00 a.m.**

## BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – JUNE 2025

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Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
1	6 <sup>th</sup> June	Francis Anandage	
2	9 <sup>th</sup> June	Maheeka Perera	
	10 <sup>th</sup> June	Jayendra Daniel	
	11 <sup>th</sup> June	Dalrene Thavarajah	
	12 <sup>th</sup> June	Ashvin Ranatunga	
	14 <sup>th</sup> June	Janaki Ananthasuntharam	
3	16 <sup>th</sup> June	Meara Algama	
	17 <sup>th</sup> June	Aaron Thavarajah	
	19 <sup>th</sup> June	Sharmila Perera	
4	22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Dihan Dedigama Kiren Ranatunga	
	25 <sup>th</sup> June	Delani Jayasinghe Ranjan Mather Tabitha Curtis	
	27 <sup>th</sup> June	Pearl Chinnakoon Ayaan Weerakoon	
	29 <sup>th</sup> June		Sevanjie & Dihan Dedigama
	30 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunil De Alwis Rohan Fernando Pradeep De Silva David S Pulle	

### A Prayer for World Environment Day

God of life,  
 we praise you for the beauty of creation, its richness and variety;  
 yet, through greed and ignorance,  
 we scar your world with plastic waste and throw so much away.  
 Make us more like Jesus, treading gently on our common home,  
 and breathe your Spirit on us,  
 that we may care more deeply for your Earth.  
 We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.  
 Amen...!!