

PARISH NEWSLETTER



MAY 2026

118 Jawatte Road, Colombo 5
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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.**

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

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Pentecost – The Birthday of the Church

Pentecost marks a defining moment in the life of the Church—the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples, empowering them to proclaim the Gospel boldly. As recorded in Acts 2: 1-4, “All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.” This event is rightly called the “Birthday of the Church,” for it is here that the frightened disciples became a courageous, witnessing community.

The significance of Pentecost lies in the gift of the Holy Spirit—God’s abiding presence with His people. Jesus had promised, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...” (Acts 1: 8). This promise was fulfilled at Pentecost, transforming lives and launching the mission of the Church into the world.

Today, the relevance of Pentecost remains vital. The same Spirit continues to guide, strengthen, and renew the Church. In a world filled with uncertainty and division, the Holy Spirit unites us, equips us with spiritual gifts, and empowers us to live as faithful disciples of Christ.

As St. Paul reminds us, “There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them” (1 Corinthians 12: 4).

May we, as the Church today, be open to the working of the Holy Spirit—allowing Him to renew our hearts, deepen our faith, and send us out in mission, just as on that first Pentecost day.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Nihal Fernando

VICAR

“After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.”

Acts 4: 31

Vicar

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MRS SHRIENI SAMARASENA
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Special Days in May 2026

- 1st May (Workers') Day – Origin in 1890
- 10th Rogation Sunday
- 14th Ascension Day
- 15th International Family Day
- 20th World Displaced Persons Day
- 21st International Tea Day
- 22nd Republic Day / All National Heroes' Day, 1972
- 24th Pentecost Sunday / Whit Sunday
- 27th Presbyterian Heritage Day
- 31st Trinity 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 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 Ashan, Nilani, Rohini or Lalith), or our Vicar, the Rev. Nihal Fernando.

Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR MAY 2026

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
MAY 3 RD 5 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Psalm	Psalm 31: 1 - 5, 15 - 16	
	1 st Lesson	Acts 7: 55 - 60	Anil Wickramasinghe
	2 nd Lesson	1 Peter 2: 2 - 10	Nalinie Wanigasekera
	Gospel	John 14: 1 - 14	Michael Tissera
MAY 10 TH 6 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Psalm	Psalm 66: 8 - 20	
	1 st Lesson	Acts 17: 22 - 31	Amar Gunatilleke
	2 nd Lesson	1 Peter 3: 13 - 22	Avanthi Seneviratne
	Gospel	John 14: 15 - 21	Dirk Jayaratne
MAY 17 TH 7 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Psalm	Psalm 68: 10, 32 - 35, 44	
	1 st Lesson	Acts 1: 6 - 14	Junita De Alwis
	2 nd Lesson	1 Peter 4: 12 - 14, 5: 6 - 11	Amala Cumaraswamy
	Gospel	John 17: 1 - 11	Nilani Seneviratne
MAY 24 TH PENTECOST SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 104: 24 - 34	
	1 st Lesson [T]	Acts 2: 1 - 21	Steffny Jeevan
	2 nd Lesson [S]	1 Corinthians 12: 3 - 13	Mangalika Hettiarachchi
	Gospel [E]	John 20: 19 - 23	Shevon Ponniah
MAY 31 ST TRINITY SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 8	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 1: 1 - 2: 4	Jacob Curtis
	NT Lesson	2 Corinthians 13: 11 - 13	Tony Curtis
	Gospel	Matthew 28: 16 - 20	Dyan Seneviratne

Triune God, we bring our prayers to you today—our joys and our concerns, our sorrows and our rejoicing, our despair and our hopes, trusting that you listen to us and that you care for us. Hear us now, O Lord, as we pray.

We offer to you these prayers today for all your people. We ask, O God, that you would be near to all who are in need this day, whatever their needs might look like. We entrust them to your care. Amen!!

INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR MAY 2026

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
MAY 3 RD	Chintha Fernando	Shamini and Anil Wickramasinghe
MAY 10 TH	Rohini Jayaratne	Rohini and Neville Jayaratne
MAY 17 TH	Githa Algama	Shiranthini De Silva Janaki Fernando
MAY 24 TH	Ridmisha Thevakumar [E] Alex Joseph [T]	Sunday School
MAY 31 ST	Maasiri Dias	Githa Algama Misha-el Algama

WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR MAY 2026

DATE	WARDEN	PARISH STEWARDS
1 ST SUNDAY MAY 3 RD	Nilani Seneviratne (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Michelle Ponniah (AM) Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Minal Ranatunga (PM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)
2 ND SUNDAY MAY 10 TH	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Rohini Jayaratne (PM)	Christina Paul (AM) Dirk Jayaratne (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Diruni Chanmugam (PM)
3 RD SUNDAY MAY 17 TH	Rohini Jayaratne (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Dirk Jayaratne (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Minal Ranatunga (PM) Debika Pathirana (PM)
4 TH SUNDAY MAY 24 TH	Lalith Dassenaik (AM)	Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM)
5 TH SUNDAY MAY 31 ST	Nilani Seneviratne (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Minal Ranatunga (PM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)

“Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a harder battle.”

BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – MAY 2026

Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
1	1 st May	Ashan Algama	
	4 th May		Delani & Anil Jayasinghe
	6 th May	Varunika De Silva	
	7 th May	Anjali Hapugoda	
	8 th May	Nelson Rajaratnam Pulle	
	9 th May		Debika & Ranil Pathirana
2	12 th May	Florence Navamani	
	13 th May	Githa Algama	
	14 th May	Indrani Wijesundera Anaath Jacob Debika Pathirana Norma Ariyasinghe	
	16 th May	Karunya Mather	
3	17 th May	Jennifer Gnaniah	
	18 th May	Chandra Rasanayagam Shevon Ponniah Athaiah Jacob	
	19 th May	Junita De Alwis	
	20 th May	Tatiana Armstrong	
4	25 th May	Shani Abdulhussein	
	26 th May	Avanthi Seneviratne	
	27 th May	Jacob Curtis	
	31 st May	Misha-el Algama	