

PARISH NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 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.**

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,

I feel it is important to share a testimony of God's goodness through our recently concluded mission program – "Ignite 2025". While there was much enthusiasm among our parishioners, we were blessed to have 30 people register and participate fully in this revival journey. Truly, this was an encouraging beginning, for the Lord reminds us, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them" (Matthew 18: 20).

We are deeply grateful to our preachers—Rev. Virukshan Perera, his wife Saumya, Pastor Manisha, Bishop Dhilo, and Rev. Suji, who guided by the Holy Spirit, ministered to us with great passion and faith. Their messages challenged, inspired, and reminded us of Christ's call to live transformed lives. As Scripture says, "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord Almighty" (Zechariah 4: 6).

Under the leadership of Ashan and Redesh, our youth from both congregations came together to form a wonderful worship team. The worship during all three days was Spirit-filled and lifted our hearts heavenward. We also express our heartfelt thanks to Fr. Bala, our lay officers, the organizing committee, Tony and Shrieni for their tireless dedication. Their commitment reflects Paul's words: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

This mission was more than just an event—it was the spark of something greater. As Scripture encourages us, "Fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you" (2 Timothy 1:6). Let us now carry that flame forward, reaching out to the unreachable, loving the unloved, and bringing Christ's light into places of darkness. Jesus Himself commanded us: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation" (Mark 16: 15).

May Ignite 2025 not simply be remembered as a program, but as the beginning of a movement of renewal and transformation in our parish family. Let us open our hearts to the Spirit's work, make our parish vibrant, and live as true witnesses of Christ.

"Do not conform to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will" (Romans 12: 2).

Together, let us be transformed and ignited!!

With gratitude and hope,

Fr. Nihal Fernando

VICAR

Vicar

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Special Days in October 2025

- 1st Children's and Elders' Day
- 4th Franciscan Missionaries in Sri Lanka, 1543
- 4th World Animals and Habitat Day
- 5th Education Sunday, Christian Reformed Church Sunday
- 12th Physically and Mentally Challenged Persons Sunday
- 19th Health Care Workers Sunday
- 26th Reformation 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, Anil or Lalith), or our Vicar, the Rev. Nihal Fernando. Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR OCTOBER 2025

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
OCTOBER 5 TH PROPER 22 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 111	
	OT Lesson	Proverbs 4: 7 - 13	Michael Tissera
	NT Lesson	Acts 22: 1 - 5	Nuala Samarasinhe
	Gospel	Luke 4: 31 - 44	Dyan Seneviratne
OCTOBER 12 TH PROPER 23 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 66: 1 - 12	
	OT Lesson	Jeremiah 29: 1, 4 - 7	Amar Gunatilleke
	NT Lesson	2 Timothy 2: 8 - 15	Dirk Jayaratne
	Gospel	Luke 17: 11 - 19	Janaki Fernando
OCTOBER 19 TH PROPER 24 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 121	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 32: 22 - 31	Tatyana Armstrong
	NT Lesson	2 Timothy 3: 14 - 4: 5, 11	Romayne Benedict
	Gospel	Luke 10: 1 - 9	Ruwani Jirasinghe
OCTOBER 26 TH PROPER 25 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 65	
	OT Lesson [T]	Joel 2: 23 - 32	Anesta Niroshini
	NT Lesson [S]	2 Timothy 4: 6 - 8, 16 - 18	Mangalika Hettiarachichi
	Gospel [E]	Luke 18: 9 - 14	Rithmisha Thevakumar

INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR OCTOBER 2025

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
OCTOBER 5 TH	Chintha Fernando	Nilani and Dyan Seneviratne
OCTOBER 12 TH	Angela Seneviratne	Allan Chapman Lalith Dassenaik
OCTOBER 19 TH	Rochelle Gunawardene	Chanies Ratnayake Charmaine Perera
OCTOBER 26 TH	Dhayamani Ashok [E] Nalini Jeyaraj [T]	Sunday School

WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR OCTOBER 2025

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

A Prayer for our Elders

Gracious and Loving God, we lift up to You today all the elderly, whose lives have touched and nurtured us through the years. We ask for Your divine protection over them, shielding them from any harm, exploitation, or neglect. Grant them strength and courage, even in the face of hardship, and bless them with good health, peace, and deep joy in their remaining years.

May they experience the dignity they deserve and find the deep joy of knowing the seeds they have sown continue to bear fruit. Let them be a source of inspiration and encouragement to those around them.

We pray that you would inspire families, caregivers, and communities to act with compassion and wisdom, recognizing and honoring the value of every ageing life. Give voice to the voiceless and provide healing to the wounded.

May all our actions reflect Your love and justice, and may we, in our own lives, be instruments of Your peace and care for our elders.
Amen..!!

BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – OCTOBER 2025

Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
1	1 st Oct	Shyama Thangiah	
	2 nd Oct	Radhika Fernando	Nilani and Dyan Seneviratne Dilly and Chris Robinson
	5 th Oct	Shirel Wickramaratne	
	7 th Oct	Yasmin Dahanayake	
	9 th Oct	Tishan Wijesundera	
2	14 th Oct	Chanies Ratnayake	
	15 th Oct	Amanda Silva Keshini Hapugoda	
	16 th Oct	Sevanjie Dedigama	
3	19 th Oct	Flora Daniel Anitra Ratnayake Raaya Pathirana	Visaka and Rajiva Samarasinha
	20 th Oct	Reshani Fernando Diruni Chanmugam	
	21 st Oct	Chanaka Goonetilleke Shenuki Goonetilleke Tiyana Mather	Anusha and Chanaka Goonetilleke
	23 rd Oct	Allanson Chapman	
	25 th Oct	Geethal Peiris	
4	26 th Oct	Rochelle Hakel-Ranasinghe Bihani Welikala	

Church Events in October 2025

Saturday 4th Pet Blessing

Sunday 5th Special General Meeting

Sunday 26th Thanksgiving Service and Sale