

PARISH NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2026

118 Jawatte Road, Colombo 5
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www.cogslk.org

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,

God's Word and Our Responsibility to Creation

Across our world, we are witnessing the painful effects of a changing climate—melting glaciers in Nepal, devastating floods, prolonged droughts in Sri Lanka, and increasingly unbearable temperatures and weather conditions. These are not merely environmental concerns; they are a spiritual challenge that calls us to reflect on our relationship with God, with one another, and with His creation.

The Bible reminds us, “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.” (Psalm 24: 1). Creation is not ours to exploit but a precious gift entrusted to our care. From the beginning, God placed humanity in the garden “to work it and take care of it” (Genesis 2: 15). Caring for the earth is therefore part of our Christian calling.

As stewards of God’s creation, we are called to live responsibly, reduce waste, protect our natural resources, and show greater respect for the environment. Our small acts of care—saving water, planting trees, reducing unnecessary consumption, and protecting the beauty of creation—can become expressions of our faith.

Let us also remember those who suffer most from floods, droughts, rising temperatures and displacement. May our response be one of compassion and action. As Pope Francis reminds us, “The climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all.”

May God give us wisdom to protect what He has entrusted to us, compassion for those who suffer, and courage to become faithful stewards of His beautiful creation. Let us care for the earth not simply because it is our home, but because it belongs to God.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Nihal Fernando

VICAR

Vicar

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Wardens

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Parish Coordinator

MRS SHRIENI SAMARASENA

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Special Days in September 2026

- 1st World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
- 6th Beginning of Creationtide / Christian Home Sunday
- 14th Holy Cross Day
- 23rd International Day of Sign Languages
- 27th Church of South India Day, 1947

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

Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
SEPTEMBER 6 TH PROPER 18 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 130	
	OT Lesson	Job 37: 14 - 24	Jacob Curtis
	NT Lesson	Revelation 4	Nilani Seneviratne
	Gospel	Matthew 8: 23- 27	Rohini Jayaratne
SEPTEMBER 13 TH PROPER 19 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 139: 1 - 14	
	OT Lesson	Job 38: 1 - 18	Amar Gunatilleke
	NT Lesson	Romans 1: 18 - 25	Avanthi Seneviratne
	Gospel	Matthew 5: 13 - 16	Dirk Jayaratne
SEPTEMBER 20 TH PROPER 20 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 65	
	OT Lesson	Deuteronomy 28: 1 - 14	Chanies Ratnayake
	NT Lesson	2 Corinthians 9: 6 - 15	Chintha Fernando
	Gospel	Luke 12: 16 - 30	Angela Seneviratne
SEPTEMBER 27 TH PROPER 21 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 95	
	OT Lesson [T]	Leviticus 25: 1 - 7	Thabitha Curtis
	NT Lesson [S]	Hebrews 4: 1 - 11	Nevaa Fernando
	Gospel [E]	John 6: 1 - 15	Eraan Fernando

INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
SEPTEMBER 6 TH	Deepika Dassenaik	Janaki Fernando Dhayamani Ashok
SEPTEMBER 13 TH	Shevon Ponniah	Janet and Thabitha Curtis
SEPTEMBER 20 TH	Githanjali Algama	Savithri Jayawardena Pamela Silva
SEPTEMBER 27 TH	Juven Jarald [E] Mythily Jarald [T]	Sunday School

WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

DATE	WARDEN	PARISH STEWARDS
1 ST SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6 TH	Rohini Jayaratne (AM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)	Dirk Jayaratne (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM) Mishaal Algama (PM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)
2 ND SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13 TH	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Christina Paul (AM) Shelley Tissera (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Diruni Chanmugam (PM)
3 RD SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20 TH	Rohini Jayaratne (AM) Ashan Algama (PM)	Githanjali Algama (AM) Dirk Jayaratne (AM) Aidan Tissera (PM) Debika Pathirana (PM)
4 TH SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27 TH	Lalith Dassenaik (AM)	Mishaal Algama (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM)

A Sacred Gift — God's Creation

The earth is a gift from God above,
A world He created with infinite love.
The forests, the oceans, the flowers that grow,
The creatures that wander, the rivers that flow.

He gave us this earth to nurture and care,
A sacred responsibility we share.
Not ours to destroy, consume, or waste,
But a precious gift to cherish and taste.

Let us plant seeds of hope where the earth has been torn,
Restore what is broken and welcome each morn.
With grateful hearts and hands willing to share,
Let us be faithful stewards of all God placed in our care.

For the earth is Your gift, Your wonder, Your grace;
Let us guard its beauty, each creature and place.
With grateful hearts, may our lives now declare:
"We will protect Your creation, because we care."
For caring for creation is a calling we share—
To honour God's gift, with love and care!!

BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – SEPTEMBER 2026

Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
1	1 st Sep	Nashali Goonetilleke	
	5 th Sep	Janaki Fernando	
2	7 th Sep	Dhayamani Ashok	Githanjali and Ranil Algama
	9 th Sep	Kanthi Peiris	
	11 th Sep	Wijith De Chickera	
3	13 th Sep	Angela Seneviratne	
	14 th Sep	Pamela Silva Shania Dedigama	
	15 th Sep	Florence Ratnam Tashia Wijesundera	
	18 th Sep	Suresh Thavarajah Pradeepa De Silva Chris Robinson	
4	21 st Sep	Mirantha Perera	
	22 nd Sep	Dushantha Lewke	
	23 rd Sep	James Kennedy Aruldas	Sharmila and Mirantha Perera
	24 th Sep	Duminda Peiris	
	25 th Sep	Amani Tissera	
	26 th Sep	Seth Devahn Lewke	
5	28 th Sep	Anusha Goonetilleke	
	29 th Sep	Michelle Ponniah Vishan De Silva	
	30 th Sep	Linda Anandage Melissa Sridaran Hidramani Eraan Fernando Nevaam Fernando	

Harvest Festival 2026

Thanksgiving Service and Sale
Sunday 4th October