

Our Parish Prayer Log

EVERY POYA DAY, we come together as a family to present our needs as well as those of our families, friends, and nation to God. This **Poya Day Prayer Log** could help remind us to uphold special prayer needs in our personal times of prayer—as well as serve as a journal of how God answers our prayers, so that we can rejoice in His goodness to us... and, also, not neglect to thank Him!

The meeting in October was conducted by the Mother's Union, and was based on **1 Thessalonians 5:12-22**.

Prayer Requests in October 2011	How (and when) God Responded
<p>“Give thanks/rejoice always”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Father Charles and Auntie Monica and their family; and Arul Das and Shanthy and their family • For the Wardens and their dedication to the responsibilities entrusted to them • For the various parish organizations and their commitment to serve 	
<p>“Be at peace among yourselves”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For ever-growing unity in our parish family • For understanding and harmony among members of the parish organizations, despite differences of opinion 	
<p>“Don’t stifle the Spirit”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Church of the Good Shepherd to keep being filled with the Spirit • For Bishops Dhilo and Shanthy and all other church leaders to be led by the Spirit 	
<p>“Pursue what is good”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the leaders of our country • For peace, transparency, justice, and relief for those in difficult life circumstances 	



NOVEMBER 2011

PARISH NEWSLETTER

WORSHIP SERVICES

ENGLISH

- 6:30 am: Holy Eucharist with Sermon
 8:00 am: Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday)
 5:30 pm: Holy Eucharist with Sermon
 7:00 am: Mid-Week Holy Eucharist (Every Wednesday)

TAMIL

- 9:30 am: Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday)

ENGLISH and TAMIL (COMBINED SERVICE)

- 8:30 am: Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 4th Sunday)

SPECIAL DAYS IN NOVEMBER 2011

ALL SAINTS DAY

Tuesday, November 1st

Also known as All Hallow's Eve, the day commemorates the "sanctified ones" (i.e. 'saints') who have lived a good life in faith and confidence in Christ, and have achieved the 'beatific vision' of heaven.

ALL SOULS DAY

Wednesday, November 2nd

Another feast of the Church in the Western Christian tradition, where the "faithful departed" are remembered in prayer and thanksgiving.

FROM THE DESK OF REVD J S CHARLES

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

As November is the month of remembrance, let us focus our minds on the death of common sense...

THE DEATH OF COMMON SENSE

Today, we mourn the passing away of a beloved friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were lost long ago in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, why life isn't always fair, and how maybe it was my fault. Common Sense lived by simple, sound, financial policies ("don't spend more than you earn"), and reliable parenting ("adults, not children in charge"). His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were put in place.

Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teenagers suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and teachers fired for reprimanding unruly students—all these only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job they themselves had failed to do in disciplining children. The situation worsened even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer paracetamol, sun lotion, or a plaster to a pupil; but could not inform parents when a pupil became pregnant and/or wanted to have an abortion!



INTERCESSORS AND OFFERTORY-BEARERS FOR NOVEMBER 2011

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY-BEARERS
NOVEMBER 6TH	Minal Ranatunge	Chandra Rasanayagam Stanley Rasanayagam
NOVEMBER 13TH	Sunday School	Sunday School
NOVEMBER 20TH	Githa Algama	Dorothy Philips Vimala Ganeshanandan
NOVEMBER 27TH	Revd. J. S. Charles	Tamil Congregation

WARDENS AND SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR NOVEMBER 2011

DATE	WARDEN	SIDESPERSONS
1ST SUNDAY November 6th	Michael Tissera	Barbara Wijesinghe Amala Cumaraswamy
2ND SUNDAY November 13th	Lalith Dassenaik	Junita de Alwis Thomas Ponniah
3RD SUNDAY November 20th	Dyan Seneviratne	Mallika Dedigama Dorothy Phillips
4TH SUNDAY November 27th	Githa Algama	Dharshani de Silva Bihani Welikala

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE REVD J. S. Charles 011-2585889			
<i>Vicar's Warden:</i>			
MR DYAN SENEVIRATNE	0777-790147		
<i>People's Wardens:</i>			
MR MICHAEL TISSERA	0779-485782	<i>Hony. Secretary:</i>	
MR LALITH DASSENAIKE	0777-845686	MRS JENNIFER LATIFF	011-2584050
MS GITHANJALI ALGAMA	0777-906146	<i>Hony. Treasurer:</i>	
		MRS NILANI SENEVIRATNE	0777-785167

READERS FOR NOVEMBER 2011

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
NOVEMBER 6TH ALL SAINTS SUNDAY	Lesson	Psalms 34:1-10, 22	Monica Charles
	Epistle	I John 3:1-3	Meara Algama
	Gospel	Matthew 5:1-12	Sunil de Alwis

NOVEMBER 13TH 28TH SUNDAY IN PROPER TIME	Lesson	Judges 4:1-7	Sunday School
	Epistle	I Thess. 5:1-11	Sunday School
	Gospel	Matthew 25:14-30	Sunday School

NOVEMBER 20TH REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY	Lesson	Ezek 34:11-16, 20-24	Emily Amarasekera
	Epistle	Ephesians 1:15-23	Sughandi Daniel
	Gospel	Matthew 25:34-46	Kusum Wickramaratne

NOVEMBER 27TH ADVENT SUNDAY	Lesson (S)	Isaiah 64:1-9	Varunika de Silva
	Epistle (T)	I Corinthians 1:3-9	T. C.
	Gospel (E)	Mark 13:24-37	Chandra de Silva

IMPORTANT: Please inform the Chief Usher, Mrs. Susheela Gunaratnam (2587392), **well in time...** If, for whatever reason, you are unable to be present on the day assigned to you for the duties above.



PLEASE PRAY FOR: This month, in our private and corporate intercessions, we would do well to remember in thanksgiving the many blessings that God has blessed us with... both as individuals as well as members of the Body of Christ that worships and fellowships together at the Church of the Good Shepherd. As we look back on our recently concluded Thanksgiving Service and Sale, no doubt the Holy Spirit will bring to our minds and memories the manifold graces and mercies that the Lord has bestowed on each and every one of us, personally and collectively. Naturally, in addition to thanking Him, we may as well ask God to now bless us each and all as we strive to please Him by using those blessings to bless others and ourselves, for Jesus's sake!

Common Sense lost the will to live, as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses, and criminals received better treatment than their victims!

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from burglars in your own home, but any burglar could sue you for assault if you opted to protect yourself, your loved ones, and things that were precious to you.

Common Sense gave up the will to live after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap and was promptly awarded a large settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents Truth and Trust, his wife Discretion, his daughter Responsibility, and his son Reason. He is survived by three step-brothers: I-Know-My-Rights, Someone-Il-Blame, and I-Am-The-Victim. Not many attended his funeral, because so few realized that he was gone...

If you still remember him, pass this on. Then, join the majority and do nothing.

*God bless you all!
Your friend and priest,
Joseph S Charles*

Volunteers Needed!

For...

- 1) Reading the Scriptures at the Sunday services
- 2) Leading the congregation in intercessory prayer at the Sunday services
- 3) Visiting those who are ill, infirm, and those in need of care
- 4) Undertaking the weekly floral arrangements for the church

To volunteer and for more details, contact one of the Wardens as soon as possible (contact details on page 7)

Parish Activities



A Warm Welcome and a Heartfelt Greeting in the 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 Sidespersons on duty (they are usually the ones taking the Collection), one of our Wardens (ask for Dyan, Michael, Lalith, or Githa), or our Priest-in-Charge: Revd. J. S. Charles. Family Cards are available with our Sexton, W. Arul Das—the smart man in white on duty at the back of the church after service...

After-Service Fellowship: A cup of tea is served in the Parish Hall, every Sunday, after the 8.00 a.m. service of Holy Eucharist in English. In addition, the Mothers' Union hosts a Combined Breakfast after service on the 4th Sunday of every month. On other Sundays, you may buy your own breakfast—usually home-cooked treats prepared by Arul Das's wife, Shanthi. Come and taste, and see that the Lord is good... because it's especially good when His family enjoys fellowship together with each other!



Meet
for
Breakfast



Birthdays and Other Anniversaries: If you wish to have a dedicated celebration of Holy Communion on your birthday, or any other anniversary that is special to you, your Vicar is able and willing to arrange a special service—provided that sufficient notice is given.

Bible Study: Thursdays, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

This month, too, we continue our all-new study on 'Leadership Lessons in Nehemiah'. Our aim will be to go through this book chapter by chapter weekly, devotionally, and mine it for wisdom for our daily lives. The study will be conducted by Wijith DeChickera, in the Parish Hall. Everyone of us is encouraged to make this study a part of our weekly schedule...



Elders' Fellowship: Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, commencing at 10 a.m.
This month, the meetings of the 'senior friends' of our parish will be on 9th and 23rd.

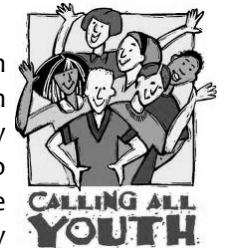
Medical Clinic: Tuesdays, at 4:30 p.m.

This free Medical Clinic is conducted by our Mothers' Union, in the Parish Hall. Pass the good news around. Also, come by and lend a helping hand! They need you...



Mothers' Union: The monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 2nd November, at 4.30 p.m. Please check the day/time/place with an office-bearer of the Mothers' Union—especially as it is All Souls' Day...

Youth Fellowship: The Youth of the English congregation meet after the 8:00 am service on Sundays to discover what God's Word has to say about issues that concern young Christians, and to pray, discuss, and have fellowship and fun. Those between the ages of 19 and 29 are warmly welcome!



Sunday School
is Fun!



Sunday School: Sundays, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Bring along your children to our Sunday School, where they will be taught God's Word by committed teachers—in fun, meaningful, and innovative ways!

Poya Day Prayer: November 10th; 9:00am to 10:00am

This month the meeting will be conducted by the Youth Fellowship, and every parishioner is encouraged to be present.



Prayer, It Works!