

PARISH NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2023

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

8:30 am Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Every 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Sunday)
5:30 pm Holy Eucharist with Sermon (Except 4th Sunday)

TAMIL

10:00 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)

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!

A New Creation

Let's just look at this matter of our "two natures".

The Jews said that inside every one of us, there are two natures. The Yetser Hatoh, the good nature and the Yetser Hara, the evil nature. They said that every person had two angels, a good angel on the right hand pulling him up, and a bad angel on his left hand dragging him down.

Socrates said the soul was like a charioteer with the task of driving two horses, one gentle and tame, the other wild and undisciplined. One represented the passions, the other the reason.

Do you remember the famous chapter in the letter to the Romans where St. Paul talks about the problem of the two natures he felt he had. Listen to him: "What I do is the wrong which is against my will" (Romans 7 : 19)

There is an old and famous story called Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. Do you know it? It's a brilliant effort to show in a dramatic form this strange fact about life.

How can we control the evil side of us and make the good side supreme? St. Paul had no problem with his answer. It was Jesus. That's what he meant when he said that a man who is "in Christ" is a "new creation". Therefore, be a "New Creation" in Christ Jesus.

Pray for my family as we will be travelling to Finland to spend our August vacation with our friends in the Lutheran church.

Fr. Bala will look after the Parish in my absence.

May God bless you all.

Fr. Nihal Fernando

VICAR

**“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;
The old has gone, the new has come!”**

2 Corinthians 5: 17

Vicar

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Special Days in August 2023

1 st	Bible Society Day, 1812
12 th	UN International Youth Day
13 th	Youth Sunday
20 th	Displaced Persons & Migrants Sunday
27 th	World Council of Churches Sunday

PARISH ACTIVITIES

A Time of Church-Family Fellowship: After the 8:30am 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 3rd Sunday after the 5:30 pm* worship service. All are welcome!



TUESDAYS

Elders' Fellowship: Commencing at 10:00 a.m.

The 'senior friends' of our parish meet once a month— every 4th Tuesday —for fun-filled fellowship!



PARISH ACTIVITIES

WEDNESDAYS

Young Adults at 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. via Zoom

Keep in touch with Viranga on 0773891951



THURSDAYS

Bible Studies

Bible studies will be held every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall as well as via Zoom.

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



SCRIPTURE READERS FOR AUGUST 2023

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
AUGUST 6 TH PROPER 13 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 145: 8 – 9, 14 – 21	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 55: 1 – 5	Amala Cumaraswamy
	NT Lesson	Romans 9: 1 – 5	Hemal Peiris
	Gospel	Matthew 14: 13 – 21	Graeme Tissera
AUGUST 13 TH PROPER 14 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 85: 8 – 13	
	OT Lesson	1 Kings 19: 9 – 18	Jacob Curtis
	NT Lesson	Romans 10: 5 – 15	Tabitha Curtis
	Gospel	Matthew 14: 22 – 33	Avanthi Seneviratne
AUGUST 20 TH PROPER 15 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 67	
	OT Lesson	Isaiah 56: 1, 6 – 8	Nilani Seneviratne
	NT Lesson	Romans 11: 1 – 2, 29 – 32	Mallika Dedigama
	Gospel	Matthew 2: 13 – 23	Dharshani De Silva
AUGUST 27 TH PROPER 16 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 138	
	OT Lesson [T]	Isaiah 51: 1 – 6	Fleminia Srikanth
	NT Lesson [S]	Romans 12: 1 – 8	Michelle Ponniah
	Gospel [E]	Matthew 16: 13 – 20	Nevaan Fernando

INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR AUGUST 2023

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
AUGUST 6 TH	Nilani Seneviratne	Geraldine, Pradeep & Gabriel De Silva
AUGUST 13 TH	Redhesh Thevakumar	Dewmini Perera Shevon Ponniah
AUGUST 20 TH	Rohini Rockwood	Mallika Dedigama Rohini Rockwood
AUGUST 27 TH	Sharmila Srikanth [T] Lalith Dassenaik [E]	Tony Curtis & family

WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR AUGUST 2023

DATE	WARDEN	SIDESPERSIONS
1 ST SUNDAY	Lalith Dassenaikē (AM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)	Geetha De Silva (AM) Delani Jayasinghe (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Varunika De Silva (PM)
2 ND SUNDAY	Angie Seneviratne (AM) Lalith Dassenaikē (PM)	Mallika Dedigama (AM) Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Diruni Chanmugam (PM) Mishael Algama (PM)
3 RD SUNDAY	Graeme Tissera (AM) Angie Seneviratne (PM)	Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Mishael Algama (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM) Delani Jayasinghe (PM)
4 TH SUNDAY	Minal Ranatunga (AM)	Geetha De Silva (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM)

**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 Sidespersons on duty (look out for the 'SIDESPERSON' badge), one of our Wardens (just ask for Lalith, Minal, Graeme or Angie), or our Vicar, the Rev. Nihal Fernando. Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.

BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – AUGUST 2023

Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
1	2 nd Aug	Israel Daniel Rajindra Daniel	
	4 th Aug		Deepika & Lalith Dassenaik
2	7 th Aug	Chianna Botejue	Kusum & Frank Wickramaratne
	8 th Aug	Mignon Anandage Amala Cumaraswamy Gishantha Ratnayake	Junita & Sunil De Alwis
	10 th Aug	W J Aruldas Seanan Ponniah Joshua Wickramaratne	
	11 th Aug	Dan Ratnam	
3	17 th Aug	Geraldine De Silva	
	18 th Aug	Suanne Latiff Naomi Ananthasuntharam	Jean & Ernest Daniels
	19 th Aug	Ishan Wijesundera	
4	20 th Aug	Lalith Dassenaik	
	21 st Aug	Elizabeth Chinnakone	Michelle & Thomas Ponniah
	22 nd Aug	Chrishanthi Lewke Rajiva Samarasinha	
	23 rd Aug	Ven. Jayanth Jeyaveerasingan	
5	28 th Aug	Mallika Dedigama Rochelle Tissera	
	29 th Aug	Dharshani De Silva	

For each new morning with its light; For rest and shelter of the night
For health and food; For love and friends
For everything Thy goodness sends
We give thanks to Thee O Lord..!!