

PARISH NEWSLETTER



JULY 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!

First of all, let me congratulate the lay officers, parish stewards, Diocesan representatives to the council, members of the Diocesan Missionary Council, and members of the Transfer Board who were elected, nominated at the AGM held on Sunday the 25th of June 2023.

They were elected, nominated by the Parishioners of our church to serve God & His people. I believe that it was our God who called them to be servant leaders. As soon as you accept the invitation to walk with God, you begin the life-long journey of becoming a servant leader.

While our culture tends to recognize leaders as those with a particular skill or personality, servant leadership isn't based on talent or position. Rather, it is God's high call on everyone's life who is committed to following Christ Jesus.

Jesus calls his disciples (us) to focus on others first & the unique mission He has created for us. When others see your passion for God and commitment to a cause then they want to get on board.

The servant leader attracts followers to God's character, plans, and purpose, not their own. As a result, visions are realized, and God is glorified.

Servant leaders are not born, they are developed through a willingness to be transformed by internationally living in God's will and being obedient to His Word.

Hence, I pray that all our leaders in the parish will embrace the servant leadership of Christ Jesus.

Yours in Christ

Fr. Nihal Fernando
VICAR

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10: 45

Vicar

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Asst Curate

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Wardens

MRS AMALA

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Parish Coordinator and
Assistant Treasurer

MRS SIMONE BOTEJUE

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Special Days in July 2023

2 nd	Salvation Army Founders Day, 1865
8 th	Church of Ceylon Day
9 th	Sea and Air Farers Sunday
10 th	Theological College of Lanka Foundation Day, 1963
30 th	National Christian Council of Sri Lanka 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 JULY 2023

DATE	READING	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	READER
JULY 2 ND PROPER 8 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 13	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 22: 1 - 14	Dhayamani Ashok
	NT Lesson	Romans 6: 12 - 23	Chintha Fernando
	Gospel	Matthew 10: 40 - 42	Anil Wickramasinghe
JULY 9 TH PROPER 9 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 45: 10 - 17	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 24: 34 - 38, 42-49, 58 - 67	Ethan Lawrence
	NT Lesson	Romans 7: 15 - 25	Dineesha Abeyakoon
	Gospel	Matthew 11: 16-19, 25 - 30	Maneesh Chanmugam
JULY 16 TH PROPER 10 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 119: 105 - 112	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 25: 19 - 34	Michelle Ponniah
	NT Lesson	Romans 8: 1 - 11	Githa Algama
	Gospel	Matthew 13: 1 - 9, 18 - 23	Angela Seneviratne
JULY 23 RD PROPER 11 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 139: 1 - 12, 23 - 24	
	OT Lesson [T]	Genesis 28: 10 - 19	Sunday School
	NT Lesson [S]	Romans 8: 12 - 25	Sunday School
	Gospel [E]	Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43	Sunday School
JULY 30 TH PROPER 12 SUNDAY	Psalm	Psalm 128	
	OT Lesson	Genesis 29: 15 - 28	Sunil De Alwis
	NT Lesson	Romans 8: 26 - 39	Michael Tissera
	Gospel	Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52	Dyan Seneviratne

**Faithful One, so unchanging,
 Ageless One, You're my rock of peace
 Lord of all, I depend on You
 I call out to You, again and again**

**You are my rock, in times of trouble
 You lift me up, when I fall down
 All through the storm, Your love is anchor
 My hope is in You alone....**

INTERCESSORS & OFFERTORY BEARERS FOR JULY 2023

DATE	INTERCESSOR	OFFERTORY BEARERS
JULY 2 ND	Anil Jayasinghe	Sharmini & Anil Wickramasinghe
JULY 9 TH	Seanan Ponniah	Ethan, Aaron & Kieren Lawrence
JULY 16 TH	Nilani Seneviratne	Angela Seneviratne Nilani Seneviratne
JULY 23 RD	Sunday School	Sunday School
JULY 30 TH	Misha-el Algama	Deepika & Lalith Dassenaik

WARDENS & SIDESPERSONS DUTY ROSTER FOR JULY 2023

DATE	WARDEN	SIDESPERSONS	
1 ST SUNDAY	Minal Ranatunga (AM) Upekha Wickramaratne (PM)	Geetha De Silva (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)	
2 ND SUNDAY	Delani Jayasinghe (AM) Upekha Wickramaratne (PM)	Mallika Dedigama (AM) Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Debika Pathirana (PM)	
3 RD SUNDAY	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Delani Jayasinghe (PM)	Geetha De Silva (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Renuka Amarasekera (PM)	
4 TH SUNDAY	Minal Ranatunga (AM)	Amala Cumaraswamy (AM) Michelle Ponniah (AM)	
5 TH SUNDAY	Lalith Dassenaik (AM) Minal Ranatunga (PM)	Mallika Dedigama (AM) Dhayamani Ashok (AM) Debika Pathirana (PM)	

A Daily Prayer

God, our Father, I offer You my day. I offer You my prayers, thoughts, words, actions, joys, and sufferings in union with the Heart of Jesus, who continues to offer Himself in the Eucharist for the salvation of the world.

May the Holy Spirit, Who guided Jesus, be my guide and my strength today, so that I may witness to your love.

In Jesus' precious name, Amen...!!

BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – JULY 2023

Week	Date	Birthdays	Anniversaries
1	1 st July	Sriyani Miththapala Rajamani Mather	
2	11 th July	Johann Latiff Lorette Weeraratne	
3	16 th July		Upekha & Viranga Wickramaratne
	17 th July	Maneesh Chanmugam	
	20 th July	Rev. Suresh Dias Bandaranaike	
	21 st July	Graeme Tissera Romany De Mel	
	22 nd July		Rochelle & Wijith De Chickera
4	23 rd July		Anita & Roshan Anandage
	25 th July	Anil Jayasinghe Erin De Silva	
	28 th July	Darshan De Silva	
	29 th July	Shakyna Dassenaike Sarojini Gnaniah	
	30 th July	Roshan Anandage	Sunethra & Chrisantha De Silva
	31 st July	Shanil Ponniah	

**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 Minal, Upekha, Delani or Lalith), or our Vicar, the Rev. Nihal Fernando. Family Cards are available with our Sexton, Tony Curtis.