



Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Cluster of Catholic Parishes)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B

Vol 9 : No 02

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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NOARLUNGA DOWNS CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian (8382 1717; in emergency - 0452 524 169) Fr Prathap Katta (A/Priest -8382 1717) Fr Arul Dev (A/Priest - 8382 1717)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE

Mrs Helen Mumford (0408 367 009 or kimumford@bigpond.com)

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131, paclark@muckra.com.au) (All items for the newsletter must be received no later than Tuesday evening.)

SPONSORSHIP

KANGAROO ISLAND TRANSFERS (0427 887 575) generously donate transport for our visiting Priests.

CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

WEEKEND MASSES

This weekend Mass will be held at Kingscote at 9.30am.

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions (1 person per 4 sqm) we are only permitted up to 39 people in our Church.



FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

'Console my people, console them' says your God.

'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him,

his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 84:9-14

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

SECOND READING

2 Peter 3:8-14

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!
Perpare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia! (Continued page 4)

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

December anniversaries: Prudence Brook, Margaret Chapman, Ann Commerford, Ernest Commerford, George Frauley, Annie Griffith, Graham Hammat, Franziska Hilz, Scott Imboden, Geraldine Kent, Nora Kerin RSJ, Eileen Johnson, John Kreffel, Anne Livingstone, Marcellina Mamogay, Frederick Moore, Valma Mumford, Sheila Norman, Denise Pettigrew, Ernie Reynolds, Joel Riley, Vernice Southern, Kevin Steinwedel, Eric Tabor, Mary Tully, John Wallace, Willard Wickham, Veronica Rue, and all the faithful departed.

May all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends know the healing love of Christ through our actions and His healing presence.

Recently deceased: Roy Gaton

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions (max 39 in our Church) there will be a private funeral for Roy at 1.00pm on Friday, December 4. The ceremony will be live streamed for his family and friends in his homeland and those here, who are not able to attend.



ROSTERS

Reader **Prayers** Cleaning 6/12 C Pahl M Glynn A Bevan 13/12 W Bennett M Slagter A Bevan 20/12 P Clark J Fernandez K Brinklev Christmas ---- Volunteers please -27/12 A Gibbs S Semler K Brinkley

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)

6 December Fr Prathap 13 December Fr Josy

20 December Communion Service 24 December Fr Chris Horvat

25 December Fr Chris Horvat 27 December Fr Chris Horvat





CHRISTMAS MASSES

Fr Chris Horvat will be on Kangaroo Island for Masses over Christmas. There won't be a Mass at Penneshaw.

Christmas Eve Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm and Christmas Day at 8.30am - both at Kingscote.

QR CODES FOR ALL PARISH COMMUNITIES

From Tuesday 1 December it is mandatory for all public activities with a Covid-Safe plan to display a QR code.

A QR code is like a barcode, consisting of black and white squares. When you arrive at a venue or business, you will use the COVID SAfe Check-In feature in an app on your smart phone to scan the business' unique QR code instead of signing in manually.

If you do not have a compatible smart phone, a paper record will still be available for you to provide your details.

If you would like more details about the QR code, please go to this link: https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/_0004/329413/20101130-COVID-SAfe-Check-In-FAQs-for-Individuals-final.pdf

"THE SOUTHERN CROSS" CHRISTMAS EDITION

Once again the December issue of "The Southern Cross" will be inserted in "The Advertiser" with additional copies provided to parishes for distribution over the Christmas period (December 12 Advertiser edition).

THEOLOGY STUDY GRANT

The Good Samaritan Sisters are offering some finance (up to \$8000) for women over 30 interested in study in the area of theology and spirituality and are in some form of leadership role.

Criteria

- Catholic women 30 yrs and over
- Interest in both the study and mentoring components of the program;
- Identification of current study being undertaken or a proposed course at a recognised theological institution;
- Evidence of leadership exercised in any context. Leadership experience in a not-for-profit organisation or a faith-based institution will be highly regarded.

Special consideration will be given to women who are experiencing financial hardship or who live in isolated communities. Link to website and application package: https://www.goodsams.org.au/2020/10/20/study-and-mentoring-leadership-program-focuses-on-womens-gifts/

STORY STARTER

When Henry Ford put the Model T on the first assembly line, he boasted that you could have it in any colour you wanted - as long as it was black. Since those early days, imagine how many cars have been built and how many different designs and colours have been offered. Every year car enthusiasts await each new model eagerly.

It is interesting that there is a trend these days to make new cars look vaguely like some classic older models, a "retro" look, it is called. The new Volkswagen Beetle, Chrysler's PT Cruiser, and new Ford Thunderbirds are examples of this trend.

Isaiah bombards our senses with all sorts of images and models: filled valleys, levelled mountains, fiery prophets, gentle shepherds. They are all familiar to us but were new when Isaiah prophesied. At the same time, we are to patiently await the new heaven and earth the Messiah will bring, says Peter, even if it takes a thousand years.

Mark gives us a "retro" prophet, an Old Testament figure to begin his New Testament gospel, a character out of synch with his time.

But isn't that the real message of Advent? What is new is old. God has always loved us. The Messiah is the ultimate sign of that love. And what is old is new. The message of salvation is as fresh today as it was 2000 years ago. God's promise of love remains for us if we remain faithful to God. Advent is what brings the old and new together, like John the Baptiser.

GPBS eNews

- I always take life with a grain of salt. And a slice of lemon. And a shot of tequila.
- Adam and Eve were the first ones to ignore the Apple terms and conditions.

Guys, just to let you know I had the Russian Covid19 vaccination yesterday and can tell you there are absolutely no negative sideffski efectovski secundariosvki Кто может это прочитать Обожаю Владимира Путина!

Ron Rolheiser column

Ronald Rolheiser, a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, is president of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas. He is a community-builder, lecturer and writer. His books are popular throughout the English-speaking world and his weekly column is carried by more than sixty newspapers worldwide.

OUR WOUNDS, OUR GIFTS, AND OUR POWER TO HEAL OTHERS

Nearly fifty years ago Henri Nouwen wrote a book entitled, *The Wounded Healer*. Its reception established his reputation as unique spiritual mentor and he went on to become one of the most influential spiritual writers of the past half-century. What made his writings so powerful? His brilliance? His gift for expression? He was gifted, yes, but so are many others. What set him apart was that he was a deeply wounded man and from that disquieted place inside him issued forth words that were a healing balm to millions.

How does this work? How do our wounds help heal others? They don't. It's not our wounds that help heal others. Rather our wounds can color our gifts and talents in such a way so that they no longer educe resistance and envy in others but instead become what God meant them to be, gifts to grace others.

Sadly, the opposite is often true. Our gifts and talents often become the reason we're disliked and perhaps even hated. There's a curious dynamic here. We don't automatically, nor easily, let the gifts of others grace us. More often, we're reluctant to admit their beauty and power and we resist and envy those who possess them and sometimes even hate them for their gifts. That's one of the reasons we find it hard to simply admire someone.

But this reluctance in us doesn't just say something about us. Often it says something too about the persons who possess those gifts. Talent is an ambiguous thing, it can be used to assert ourselves, to separate ourselves from others, to stand out and to stand above, rather than as a gift to help others. Our talents can be used simply to point to how bright,

talented, good-looking, and successful we are. Then they simply become a strength meant to dwarf others and set ourselves apart.

How can we make our talents a gift for others? How can we be loved for our talents rather than hated for them? Here's the difference: we will be loved and admired for our gifts when our gifts are colored by our wounds so that others do not see them as a threat or as something that sets us apart but rather as something that gifts them in their own shortcomings. When shared in a certain way, our gifts can become gifts for everyone else.

Here's how that algebra works: Our gifts are given us not for ourselves but for others. But, to be that, they need to be colored by compassion. We come to compassion by letting our wounds befriend our gifts. Here are two examples.

When Princess Diana died in 1997 there was a massive outpouring of love for her. Both by temperament and as a Catholic priest, I'm normally not given to grieving over celebrities, yet I felt a deep sorrow and love for this woman. Why? Because she was beautiful and famous? Not that. Many women who are beautiful and famous and are hated for it. Princess Diana was loved by so many because she was a wounded person, someone whose wounds colored her beauty and fame in a way that induced love, not envy.

Henri Nouwen, who popularized the phrase, "the wounded healer" shared a similar trait. He was a brilliant man, the author of more than forty books, one of the most popular religious speakers of his generation, tenured at both Harvard and Yale, a person with friends all over the world; but also a deeply wounded man who, by his own repeated

admission, suffered restlessness, anxiety, jealousies, and obsessions that occasionally landed him in a clinic. As well, by his own repeated admission, amidst this success and popularity, for most of his adult life he struggled to simply accept love. His wounds forever got in the way. And this, his wounded self, colors basically every page of every book he wrote. His brilliance was forever colored by his wounds and that's why it was never self-assertive but always compassionate. No one envied Nouwen's brilliance; he was too wounded to be envied. Instead. his brilliance always touched us in a healing way. He was a wounded healer

Those words, wounded and healer, ordain each other. I'm convinced that God calls each of us to a vocation and to a special work here on earth more on the basis of our wounds than on the basis of our gifts. Our gifts are real and important; but they only grace others when they are shaped into a special kind of compassion by the uniqueness of our own wounds. Our unique, special wounds can help make each of us a unique, special healer.

Our world is full of brilliant, talented, highly-successful, and beautiful people. Those gifts are real, come from God, and should never be denigrated in God's name. However, our gifts don't automatically help others; but they can if they are colored by our wounds so that they flow out as compassion and not as pride.

You can read, or download, Ron Rolheiser's weekly columns from his website at: <u>www.ronrolheiser.com</u>

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

(Current as at 1 December)

- Attendance for Mass is capped at 100 people, whilst maintaining 1:4 sqm.
- Funerals are capped at 150 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- Weddings are capped at 150 people, whilst maintaining 1:2 sqm.
- No beverage or food consumption (ie cup of tea after Mass)
- Singing as a congregation is to be avoided.
- Except for families and household groups, people should socially distance. There should be no physical contact outside one's family or household group.
- There should be no shaking of hands or holding hands during the Mass.
- Every gathering must record contact details either with the QR code for smart phones, or the handwritten log both located at the entrance to the Church.
- Hand sanitizer is to be available at church entrances.
- Offertory procession will be omitted. Communion is given only in hands. Precious Blood will not be distributed
- Collection plates will not be passed around but a single drop point is provided at the churches.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- All surfaces should be cleaned at least daily, with special attention given to frequently touched surfaces.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people should be encouraged not to attend.
- Care should be taking at the dismissal and on leaving the church to minimise social contact.
- The obligation for Sunday Mass for the laity HAS NOT BEEN RE-INVOKED at this stage.



KANGAROO ISLAND PARISH

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NOARLUNGA/SEAFORD PARISH

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WILLUNGA PARISH

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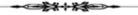
GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the River Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'



DID YOU KNOW?

- John the Baptist is a prominent figure in Mark's Gospel. In Luke's Gospel he is portrayed as a cousin of Jesus, however in the other gospels he seems not to know the identity of Jesus and no family connection is mentioned.
- John's clothing of homespun camel hair tied with a leather thong around the waist is the explicit garb of a prophet.
- God had called the people of Israel out of Egypt and led them across the River Jordan to be a new people.
 God, through John, is now calling for a new people by passing them through the waters of baptism in the same river.

EXPLORING THE WORD

The prophet Isaiah brought a message of hope and comfort to the people of Israel who were in exile in Babylon. Despite their failings, God is merciful and has promised them a new beginning. John the Baptist appears in the line of that great prophet and again promises Israel the chance of a new beginning if they repent and turn again towards God.

The emphasis in Mark's portrait of the Baptist is very much that of the subordinate. John's self-effacing manner makes it clear that he is not the one who is promised, but the one who is to prepare the way. The emphasis in John's preaching is on judgment; for Jesus it is the Reign of God and salvation.

SHARING THE TRADITION

Mark's Gospel was the first to be written down, around the year 70AD. It is generally accepted that Mark wrote for an audience in Rome who were undergoing persecution for their faith. It is the shortest of the four gospels and is told in a lively and straightforward style. Mark seeks to explore the identity of Jesus, to describe the responses of various people to him and to invite us to become disciples.

In this opening verse of his gospel, Mark alerts his readers instantly to the identity of the main character. This work is the Good News about Jesus Christ who is Son of God.



THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(07 - 13 December)

- *Monday, 07:* St Ambrose (Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26)
- *Tuesday, 08:* The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Gen 3:9-15, 20; Rph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38)
- *Wednesday, 09*: Wed of 2nd Week Advent (Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30)
- *Thursday, 10:* Thurs of 2nd Week Advent (Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15)
- *Friday, 11:* Friday of 2nd week of Advent (Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19)
- *Saturday, 12:* Saturday of 2nd week Advent (Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13)
- *Sunday 13:* Third Sunday of Advent (Is 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a Priest for anointing of the sick or last rites contact: Noarlunga/Seaford (8382 1717), Willunga (0488 287 552), Victor Harbor/Goolwa (8552 1084), Kangaroo Island (0418 819 078).