



# **Kangaroo Island Catholic Community**

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

#### TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Vol 7 : No 40

# KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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# NOARLUNGA DOWNS CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY

Phone: 8382 1717

### **PARISH TEAM CONTACTS**

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian (8382 1717; in emergency - 0452 524 169) Fr Selva Raj (A/Priest - 8382 1717; selvarajpani@gmail.com) Fr Jack Otto (A/Priest - 8382 1717; 0447 469 065; jacksjob@tpg.com.au)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

PARISH NEWSLETTER Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131, paclark@muckra.com.au)

(All items for the newsletter must be received no later than Tuesday evening.)

#### **MASS CENTRES**

- KINGSCOTE: Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Cnr Giles/Todd Sts Sunday - 9.30am
- PARNDANA: Uniting Church, Cook Street
   2nd Sunday - 2.30pm
- PENNESHAW: St Columba's Anglican Church, Cnr North Terrace and Fourth Street 1st Sunday - 2.00pm

#### **SPONSORSHIP**

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

#### **CHILD PROTECTION**

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 66:18-21

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 116:1-2

Go out to all the world; and tell the Good News.

#### **SECOND READING**

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

#### **GOSPEL**

Luke 13:22-30

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!" (Continued page 4)

## Kangaroo Island Catholic Parish

#### **PARISH NOTICES**

Next week: Mass Kingscote 9:30 AM

Caritas Australia are circulating a petition regarding climate change. You are invited to read and sign this petition which is available at the back of the Church

**September 8 –** Monsignor Ian Dempsey's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination will be celebrated at a Thanksgiving Eucharist held at 1.30pm in St. Joseph's Church, 24 Strathmore Tce, Brighton. Everyone is invited to attend.

#### September Priest Roster:

Not available at this time

#### Mass Roster:

Today: Next week:

Readers: A Gibbs S Semler P Wales M Glynn.

Gifts: Berden family. Brinkley family.

Sp. Min. H Mumford M Slagter. C Berden J Berden.

Cleaning / Coffee: A Clark. C Berden.

#### Please pray for those who have died......

Jimmy Browne, Bernadette Florance.

August anniversaries: Mary Banner, Joyce Bowbridge, Steven Browne, Terence Browne, David Buick, Irene Darcy, Don Christie, John Commerford, David Cooper, Allan Forst, Paul Glynn Jr, Henry Hughes, Annemie Huys, Mary Kildea, Hazel Keitel, Daniel Lydon, Dot May, John Mertens, Rebecca Murch, Lorna Murphy, Winifred O'Daly, Margaret Rich, Joseph Ryan, Simon Slagter, Chris Slattery, Kathy Slotegraaf, Florence Tabor, Bracken Walker, Bill Willson, Owen Willson and all the faithful departed.

#### . Please pray for those who are sick......

Charles Gorman, Maureen Dunn, Fr. Pat O'Keefe, Dalton Baynes, Roy Gatton, Steven Childs.

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

Please contact Peter Clark or use the sheet on the table at the back of the Church to have names entered. For privacy reasons permission is required before names are submitted for entry in this bulletin.

#### Overcomer

#### Faith Film - Crossroad Music Movie Ministry

From the creators of War Room, *Overcomer* will be in cinemas Thursday August 22. Filled with a powerful mix of faith, a twist of humor, and a ton of heart, *Overcomer* is the most anticipated faith film of 2019. Based on the book of Ephesians, its theme is **Identity in Christ**. *Overcomer* dares to leave you filled with hope, inspired to dream and ask the question: What do you allow to define you? For screening information go to www.overcomermovie.com.au.

#### **Remember Your Dinner Partner**

Was Jesus talking about the church car park in today's Gospel? Watch a church car park after Mass. See who lets others go first and who races to be the first out, cutting off other parishioners.

Or maybe Jesus was talking about the sign of peace. I remember one parishioner who refused to offer it to another because he was angry with him.

Or maybe Jesus was talking about who is welcome at church. I remember a parishioner who was angry when her church let homeless people spend the night in a parish building.

I think Jesus was talking about all of the above in this week's Gospel. You see, going to church, where we eat and drink in Jesus' company, is really pretty easy. It takes about an hour. But after the final blessing, some people think they've done their part for the week and don't connect that "meal" with their behavior for the next six days.

But following Jesus requires much more. The challenge we face is letting the Sunday Eucharist shape our lives all week long. How does your weekly meal with Jesus shape how you play sports, treat outsiders, live with family, work at your job, and act at school?

There's another challenge in this reading. We might be surprised, Jesus says, by who we meet at God's banquet in heaven. I've met homeless people who never go to church but are more compassionate than some people I know who go to church daily.

So go to church. Eat and drink in Jesus' company. But remember your dinner partner for the rest of the week. And also remember he dines with a lot of people we'll never see in church.

If you were on trial for being a Christian, would the prosecution find enough evidence if they looked only at the way you live your life Monday through Sunday?

If you have items for this newsletter, please email to paclark@muckra.com.au or text message to 0418 819 078



## 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.

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#### **IMAGINING GRACE**

Imagine this: A man, entirely careless of all moral and spiritual affairs, lives his life in utter selfishness, pleasure his only pursuit. He lives the high life, never prays, never goes to church, has numerous sexual affairs, and has no concern for anyone but himself. After a long life of this, he's diagnosed with a terminal illness and, on his deathbed, tearfully repents, makes a sincere confession, receives the Eucharist, and dies inside the blessing of the church and his friends.

Now, if our reaction is, "Well, the lucky fellow! He got to live a life of selfish pleasure and still gets to go to heaven!", then (according to Piet Fransen, a renowned theologian on Grace) we haven't yet, at all, understood the workings of grace. To the degree that we still envy the amoral and wish to exclude them from God's grace, even as we count ourselves in, we are the "Older Brother" of the Prodigal Son, standing outside the Father's house, heaven, in envy and bitterness.

I teach in a seminary that prepares seminarians for ordination. Recently our professor of Sacramental Theology shared this: He's been teaching a course on the Sacrament of Reconciliation for more than forty years and only in the last few years have the seminarians asked: "When do we have to refuse giving someone absolution in confession?"

What's betrayed in this concern? The seminarians asking the question are, no doubt, sincere; they're not trying to be rigid or hard. Their anxiety is rather about grace and mercy. They're sincerely anxious about perhaps dispensing God's mercy too liberally, too cheaply, too indiscriminately, in essence, too unfairly. Their fear is not so much that God's mercy is limited and that there's only so much grace to go

around. Not that. Their concern is more that by giving out grace so liberally they're being unfair to those who are practicing faithfully and bearing the heat of the day. Their fear is about fairness, justice, and merit.

What's at stake here? That grace is not something we merit. After the rich young man in the Gospels turns down Jesus' invitation to leave everything and follow him. Peter. who watched this encounter and who, unlike the rich young man, hasn't turned down Jesus' invitation and has given up everything to follow him, asks Jesus what those who do give up everything are going to get in return. In response, Jesus tells him the parable of the generous land owner and the vineyard workers who all arrive at different times, wherein some work for many hours and some for virtually no time at all, and yet they all receive the same reward, leaving those who worked the full day and bore the heat of the sun bitter with sense of unfairness. But, the vineyard owner (God) points out that there's no unfairness here since everyone has in fact received an over-generous return.

What's the deep lesson? Whenever we're protesting that it isn't fair that those who aren't as faithful as we but are still receiving the full mercy and grace of God we are some distance from understanding grace and living fully inside it.

My dental hygienist knows I'm a Catholic priest and likes to ask me questions about religion and church. One day she shared this story: Her mother and father had both, as far as she knew, never attended church. They'd been benign enough about religion, but not interested themselves. She, their daughter, had begun practicing as a Methodist, mainly through the influence of friends. Then her mother died and as

they talked about plans for a funeral, her father revealed that her mother had been baptized as a Roman Catholic, though she had not practiced since her middle-school years. He suggested they try to arrange a Roman Catholic funeral for her. Given all those years of absence, it was with some trepidation that they approached a priest at a nearby parish to ask whether they might have a Roman Catholic funeral for her. To their surprise, the priest's response was non-hesitant, warm, and welcoming: "Of course, we can do this! It will be an honor! And I'll arrange for a choir and a reception in the parish hall afterwards."

No price was exacted for her mother's life-long absence from the church. She was buried with the full rites of the Church ... and her father, well, he was so touched by it all, the generosity of the church and the beauty of the liturgy, that he has since decided to become a Roman Catholic.

One wonders what the effect would have been had the priest refused that funeral, asking how they could justify a church funeral when, for all these years, they weren't interested in the church. One wonders too how many people find this story comforting rather than discomforting, given a strong ecclesial ethos today wherein many of us nurse the fear that we are handing out grace and mercy too cheaply.

But grace and mercy are never given out cheaply since love is never merited

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

#### REGULAR MASS TIMES IN OUR CLUSTER CHURCHES ALDINGA

Mary of Galilee, the First Disciple cnr Quinliven and How Roads Saturday 5.30pm Tuesday 9.15am

#### **GOOLWA**

St John the Apostle, 10-14 Gardiner St Sunday 9.00am Wednesday 9.30am

#### **KINGSCOTE**

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, cnr Todd and Giles Streets Sunday 9.30am

#### **NOARLUNGA**

St Luke, the Evangelist,
cnr Honeypot Rd and Goldsmith Dve
Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 9.00am

1st Sunday 11am (Spanish Mass)
2nd Sunday 2.00pm (Filipino Mass)
Sunday (Youth Mass) 5.30pm
Monday 9.00am
Tuesday 9.00am
Wednesday 7.30pm
Thursday 8.15am (St Luke's)
Thursday 9.15am (St John's - term time)
Friday 10.00am

#### **NORMANVILLE**

St Peter, Cape Jervis Road 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays 10.30am 2nd, 4th Sundays 8.30am 1st Friday 6.00pm

#### **PARNDANA**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 2.30pm

#### **PENNESHAW**

St Columba, North Terrace (shared with Anglicans) 1st Sunday 2.00pm

#### **SEAFORD**

Seaford Ecumenical Mission, Grand Bvd Sunday 10.45am Wednesday 9.00am

#### **VICTOR HARBOR**

St Joan of Arc, 30 Seaview Road
Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 11.00am
Tuesday 9.00am
Thursday 9.00am
Friday 9.00am
1st Friday Benediction following Mass

#### **WILLUNGA**

St Joseph, 12 St Judes Street 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays 8.30am 2nd, 4th Sundays 10.30am Wednesday 9.00am Thursday 9.00am Friday 9.00am (Continued from page 1)

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last '

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#### **DID YOU KNOW**

- The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel was made up largely of Gentiles (non-Jews). They are the ones from the 'east and west, north and south' who have come to a place at the feast because they came to faith in the risen Christ.
- This is a text about the universality of God's love and the redemption God offers. It is not limited to a particular group or nationality. It is open to all who respond positively.
- Some Christian denominations have a very exclusive view of salvation and believe that only 'a few' will be saved. This is not the case with the Catholic Church, which sees the salvation offered by Christ as very inclusive—open to all who come to faith.
- In John's Gospel, Jesus refers to himself as the 'gate' through which people must come to be saved.

#### **EXPLORING THE WORD**

As the chosen people, the Jews believed they were in a privileged relationship with God. In this text, Jesus shatters some illusions. There is no privileged or exclusive entry to the kingdom of God by those who see themselves as 'religious insiders'. This is equally directed to the disciples. It is not enough that they have shared a meal with Jesus or have heard his word. They must respond to that word and act on it.

They must enter by the narrow door, and this requires great effort, or else those who thought themselves 'inside' could find themselves 'outside', while others, 'the outsiders', will find their way ahead of them. This radical reversal of values and expectations would have shocked those who thought they were on the 'inside'.

#### **SYMBOLS AND IMAGES**

One of the most common images of the kingdom of God is that of the feast or the banquet. A feast is not simply a meal; it is an abundant celebration of something wonderful, from which people draw nourishment, life and vitality. Such is the kingdom of God.

#### SHARING THE TRADITION

Who will be saved? This is a difficult question. There is no doubt that God wants all people to be saved and that Jesus died to save all people.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, 'Believing in Jesus Christ and in the One who sent him for our salvation is necessary for that salvation'



#### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(26 August - 01 September)

- *Monday, 26:* Weekday, Ord Time 21 (1 Thess 1:1-5, 8-10; Mt 23:13-22)
- *Tuesday, 27:* St Monica (1 Thess 2:10-8; Mt 23:23-26)
- Wednesday, 28: St Augustine (1Thess 2:9-13; Mt 23:27-32)
- *Thursday, 29:* The Passion of St John the Baptist (Jer 1:17-19; Mk 6:17-29)
- *Friday, 30*: Weekday, Ord Time 21 (1Thess 4:1-8; Mt 25:1-13)
- *Saturday, 31:* Weekday, Ord Time 21 (1 Thess 4:9-11; Mt 25:14-30)
- *Sunday 01:* 22<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24; Lk 14:1, 7-14)

#### **PASTORAL CARE**

If you (or someone you know) is house-bound, in hospital or in residential care and would appreciate a visit from a Priest or someone from the Parish, please let us know. Contact: Noarlunga/Seaford (8382 1717), Willunga (0488 287 552), Victor Harbor/Goolwa (8552 1084), Kangaroo Island (0418 819 078).