



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

(Part of the Adelaide Cathedral Parish)

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Vol 14 : No 42

KANGAROO ISLAND

CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE

Mrs Helen Mumford (0408 367 009

or kimumford@bigpond.com)

WEEKEND MASSES

Kingscote at 9.30am

CONFESSION

Kingscote at 9.00am (prior to Mass)

INTEGRITY & SAFEGUARDING

We are a safeguarding Organisation.

We believe that all God's children, young people and adults at risk have the right to be healthy and safe, and to have their voice heard, respected, and valued. A safe environment for all.

- Mrs Helen Mumford (KI contact - 0408 367 009)
- Integrity and Safeguarding Dept (8210 8150 - select option 2)

Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide - Our Resources and Fact Sheets
adelaide.catholic.org.au

FIRE SAFETY

In case of a fire, please exit the front or rear door and gather on the lawn area near the Church. At the time, the Commentator will inform you of which door to exit safely.



FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. (R)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. (R)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at

Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R)

SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: *You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet*, and so on, are summed up in this single command: *You must love your neighbour as yourself*. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain

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Bulletin Board

KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Healing list: Brianna Chudlee, Annette Roestenburg, Michelle Glynn, Rebecca Semler, Chris Heath, Josh Semler, MaryAnne Higgs, Peter Barker

September anniversaries: Frank Berden, Mary Bowery, Jimmy Browne, Terrence Browne, Gwen Caldicott, Audrey Carslake, Peg Dow, Thomas Drane, Bernadette Florance, Christopher Glynn, Loretta Hartley, Catherine Hughes, Patrick Hughes, Pearl Malycha, Elvie Meaney, Dean Larcombe, Julia Martienses, Eileen Morris, Reginald Pahl, Maise Rooney, Breton Semler, Vera Shannon, James Smith

Please pray for all the faithful departed and may all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends know the healing love of Christ.

PRIEST ROSTER

Sep 06 Fr Paul Finucane



HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

We will be celebrating Holy Communion and Confirmation on 29 November this year. The Archbishop and Fr Lancy will concelebrate this special occasion.

Please keep Glenna and Collin and their families in your prayers.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

For the care of water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.



THE MESSAGE THAT NEVER GOT SENT

The message was typed. It was angry. Really angry. Someone had said something that hurt. Something that felt unfair. Something that had been repeated to other people before it ever reached the person it was about.

The phone screen was glowing. The message was ready to send. Then came another thought. What if I just talked to them? It was easier to send the message. Easier to tell someone else. Easier to collect a few people who agreed with me. Easier to make the other person the problem. But Jesus had something different in mind.

The next day, there was an awkward conversation. No audience. No group chat. No spectators. Just two people trying to work out what had happened. It was uncomfortable. There were moments of silence. There were things that needed to be said. There were things that needed to be heard. And then something unexpected happened. They discovered that neither person had the whole story.

The hurt was real. The misunderstanding was real. But so was the possibility of starting again. Nothing was magically fixed. There was no perfect ending. But there was a beginning.

That is the challenge of Jesus. When something goes wrong between us, do we make the problem bigger by talking about people, or do we make healing possible by talking with them?

In our schools, families and parishes, we will always have disagreements. People will disappoint us. We will misunderstand each other. Sometimes we will be the ones who cause the hurt.

The Gospel does not ask us to pretend these things do not happen. It asks us what we will do next. Because sometimes the most courageous Christian response is not another message, another conversation or another opinion. Sometimes it is putting the phone down, walking towards the person and saying, "Can we talk?"

GPBS eNews

Happy Father's Day

Sunday 6 September

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.

We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and uncles who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

SEPTEMBER IS CATHOLIC CHARITIES MONTH

The Catholic Charities Appeal is held in September. It supports the following agencies in South Australia: Hutt St Centre, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Centacare Catholic Family Services, Our Lady of La Vang and St Patrick's Special Schools.

WHAT'S ON

Sep Catholic Charities Month
Sep 5-13 Royal Adelaide Show
25 Sep School term 3 ends
26 Sep AFL Grand Final
5 Oct Labour Day
12 Oct School term 4 begins
18 Oct World Mission Month
3 Nov Melbourne Cup
8 Nov Supporting our Clergy Appeal
15 Nov St Vincent de Paul Appeal
11 Dec School term 4 ends
25 Dec Christmas Day



MASS ROSTERS

Date	Readers/Prayers	Special Ministers	Cleaners
06 Sept	P Clark, W Bennett	A Bevan, H Mumford	C Berden
13 Sept	K Hammat, S Semler	P Bennett, L Grant	C Berden
20 Sept	S Heath, P Bennett	S Semler, K Hammat	C Berden
27 Sept	A Clark, M Glynn	M Slagter, H Mumford	C Berden
4 October	M Slagter, W Bennett	K Hammat, S Semler	H Mumford



Ron Rolheiser column

Ronald Rolheiser, a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. 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

TOWARD AN UNDERSTANDING OF SUICIDE

Every year I try to write an article on suicide because it is perhaps the most misunderstood of all deaths and it wreaks a unique havoc among the family and the loved ones left behind.

They are left with a blizzard of ambivalent and conflicting feelings: shame (*What a shameful way to die*); guilt (*Somehow I should have done more*); second-guessing (*Why wasn't I more attentive?*); anger (*This was an act of selfishness*); and anxiety (*How can this person go to heaven?*) Moreover, in effect, this ruins the memory the person who died by suicide.

Throughout my articles on suicide and my book (*Bruised & Wounded: Struggling to Understand Suicide*) I have tried to emphasise that in most cases of suicide:

- We are dealing with an extremely sensitive and wounded person, someone who at one level is too bruised to touch.
- In suicide, a person dies against his or her will, akin to jumping out of a high-rise window because your clothing is on fire.
- A death by suicide is the emotional and psychological equivalent of cancer, stroke, or heart-attack. For this reason we no longer use the verb “committed” suicide since we never say that someone committed cancer, or a stroke, or a heart attack. Suicide, in most cases, is not a voluntary act.
- In many cases too, suicidal depression has a biochemical root.
- We need not worry about that person’s eternal salvation. He or she had a good heart and God reads the heart. Sometimes a person can descend into a state

into which the best of human love, medicine, and psychiatry can no longer reach, but faith assures us that there is no depressive hell that God cannot descend into and breathe out peace.

- We need to give ourselves permission to feel all the ambivalent feelings we will have about our loved one and his or her manner of death. That’s a healthy grieving process that should not be short-circuited. Eventually the memory of our loved one and his or her spirit will come to us in peace and understanding.
- Our task, after our grieving period, is to redeem the memory of our loved one so that our loved one’s life is not seen and judged through the prism of his or her death. Put their photos back up on the walls, no longer speak of them in hushed tones, celebrate their lives, and speak healthily of the special spirit they brought into the world.

Margaret Atwood once said that sometimes things need to be said, and said, and said again, until they don’t need to be said anymore. These points on suicide still need to be said.

Beyond these assertions, let me add two more perspectives on suicide that I have found helpful.

The first one is a lesson from nature. Here’s Elif Shafak, a botanist, reflecting on the suicide of his friend’s mother: “When I was a young botanist, I was asked to diagnose a tree that was not doing well. It seemed to be dying. After many tests, nothing conclusive, I took a shovel and began to dig, and I learned a lesson I have never forgotten, *girdling* was happening below the surface. The tree was being strangled by its own roots. If the encircling roots are not found on time, they start putting pressure on the tree and it just becomes too much to bear. ... Your mother’s death has

nothing to do with the absence of love. She was blooming and thriving with your love, and I’d like to believe with mine too, but underneath something was strangling her: the past, the memories, the roots.”

Sometimes our own roots (complexity, trauma, confusion, frustration, biology) can be so overpowering that they work at killing the body. As James Hillman writes in his book *Suicide and the Soul*, sometimes there are deep things inside us that cannot make themselves heard and their frustration eventually works to strangle the body. Our own roots are sometimes such a complex mixture of soul and biology that we begin to asphyxiate.

The second thought comes from Jeffrey Monroe in his book *Reading Buechner: Exploring the Work of a Master Memoirist, Novelist, Theologian, and Preacher*. Frederick Buechner, a Christian pastor, had to deal with his dad’s suicide. As a son, as man of faith, as a pastor trying to help others understand, he searched for answers vis-à-vis his dad’s suicide. The answers didn’t come easily, or seemingly at all. Eventually, Buechner came to this understanding of his dad’s suicide.

The best pastoral answer in the face of inexplicable tragedy (his dad’s suicide) isn’t an answer at all. *It’s a presence*. On this side of eternity, we won’t get all the answers, not least to the question of suicide. Sometimes there is no satisfactory answer in our darkest moments, like when we lose a loved one to suicide. *What matters most in those dark moments is that we can trust that God did not abandon our loved one. And what we desire more than answers is God.*

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

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

For those of you who wish to make your weekly contributions to the first and second collections by direct debit, these are the banking details for each.

1st Collection (Support for Priests):
Kangaroo Island DPF - CDF Account
14870 S7.65
BSB 066-782
A/c No 100027201
Reference: Your name

2nd Collection (Support for Parish):
Kangaroo Island Parish – CDF Account
1040 S1
BSB 066-782
A/c No 100000067
Reference: Your name

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Priests and Parish Facilities.



Sisters and brothers ... love one another. (Romans 13:8)

Nadia's teacher asked all the kids in class how many brothers and sisters they had. Nadia knew she had one baby sister, but when it was her turn, she didn't know how to answer. Her teacher asked her again, and Nadia said, "I don't know how many I have, but I wish I knew all their names." Her classmates giggled. "What do you mean?" Nadia's teacher asked. Nadia explained, "The Bible says we're ALL brothers and sisters." It's true! We're connected to everyone on earth by God's love. How cool is that?

Jesus, help me share your love.

GPBS eNews



(Continued from page 1)

any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

WHEN RELATIONSHIPS GET MESSY

(Matthew 18:15-20)

If your sister or brother should commit some wrong against you, go and point out the error; but keep it between the two of you. If she or he listens to you, you have won a loved one back; if not, try again, but take one or two others with you, so that every case may stand on the word of two or three witnesses. (Matthew 18:15- 6)

Jesus reminds us that faith is lived in the messy reality of relationships. Jesus knows that people will hurt each other, misunderstand each other and sometimes simply get things wrong. The question is not whether conflict will happen. The question is what we choose to do when it does.

It is tempting to walk away. To shut down. To replay the argument in our head. To tell the family member who will take our side. To bring someone else into the story before we have had the courage to speak directly to the person involved.

Jesus offers another way. It is a way that requires courage, humility and a willingness to listen. It asks us to value the relationship enough to have the conversation. Not to win. Not to prove our point. Not to make the other person feel guilty. But to create a possibility for understanding.

This matters in our families. It matters in our parish communities. It matters wherever people are trying to live,

work, worship and belong together.

Being Christian does not mean avoiding difficult relationships. It means refusing to let resentment have the final word. Sometimes reconciliation begins with a simple decision: I care enough about us to talk about what has happened.

Questions for Reflection

- When relationships become difficult, what is your usual response: confrontation, avoidance, silence or conversation?
- Is there someone in your family or community whose story you need to hear rather than simply assume you know?
- What might become possible if we approached difficult conversations with the goal of understanding rather than winning?

Action Response

Think of one relationship that has become strained, distant or unresolved. You may not be able to fix everything today. But you can choose not to let silence, pride or resentment make the decisions for you. Reach out. Start gently. Listen before defending yourself. Own your part. Make space for the other person. You might be surprised by what becomes possible when someone is brave enough to make the first move.

GPBS eNews

THIS WEEK'S READINGS (07 - 13 September)

- **Monday, 07:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1 Cor 5:1-8; Lk 6:6-11)
- **Tuesday, 08:** The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Micah 5:1-4; Mat 1:1-16, 18-23)
- **Wednesday, 09:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1Cor 7:25-31; Lk 6:20-26)
- **Thursday, 10:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1 Cor 8:1-7, 11-13; Lk 6:27-38)
- **Friday, 11:** Weekday, Ord Time 23(1 Cor 9:16-29, 22-27; Lk 6:39-42)
- **Saturday, 12:** Weekday, Ord Time 23 (1Cor 10:14-22; Lk 6:43-49)
- **Sunday 13:** 24th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Sirach 27:30-28:7; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment, or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8210 8155 or in an emergency 0417 080 955