



Welcome to

# Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A**

**Vol 8 : No 04**

## **KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH**

Parish House: 22 Giles Street,  
KINGSCOTE, SA 5223

Phone: 8553 2132

Postal address: PO Box 749,  
KINGSCOTE, SA 5223

Email: [cphkings@adam.com.au](mailto:cphkings@adam.com.au)

Web: [www.kicatholic.org.au](http://www.kicatholic.org.au)

## **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](mailto:selvarajpani@gmail.com))

Fr Jack Otto (A/Priest - 8382 1717;  
0447 469 065; [jacksjob@tpg.com.au](mailto:jacksjob@tpg.com.au))

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

### **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131,  
[paclark@muckra.com.au](mailto: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

### **• PENNESHAW:**

St Columba's Anglican Church,  
Cnr North Terrace and Fourth Street  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - 3.15pm

## **SPONSORSHIP**

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

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159



## **FIRST READING**

*Isaiah 7:10-14*

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said,  
'Ask the Lord your God for a sign  
for yourself coming either from the  
depths of Sheol or from the heights  
above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will  
not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:  
are you not satisfied with trying  
the patience of men without trying  
the patience of God, too?  
The Lord himself, therefore,  
will give you a sign.  
It is this: the maiden is with child  
and will soon give birth to a son  
whom she will call Immanuel,  
a name which means "God-is-  
with-us."'

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*Ps 23:1-6*

*Let the Lord enter;  
he is king of glory.*

## **SECOND READING**

*Romans 1:1-7*

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus  
who has been called to be an apostle,  
and specially chosen to preach the  
Good News that God promised long  
ago through his prophets in the  
scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God  
who, according to the human nature  
he took was a descendant of David:  
it is about Jesus Christ our Lord

who, in the order of the spirit, the  
spirit of holiness that was in him,  
was proclaimed Son of God in all his  
power through his resurrection from  
the dead. Through him we received  
grace and our apostolic mission to  
preach the obedience of faith to all  
pagan nations in honour of his name.  
You are one of these nations, and by  
his call belong to Jesus Christ. To  
you all, then, who are God's beloved  
in Rome, called to be saints, may  
God our Father and the Lord Jesus  
Christ send grace and peace.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Mt 1:23*

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The virgin will give birth to a son;  
his name will be Emmanuel"  
God-is-with-us. Alleluia!*

## **GOSPEL**

*Matthew 1:18-24*

This is how Jesus Christ came to be  
born. His mother Mary was  
betrothed to Joseph; but before they  
came to live together she was found  
to be with child through the Holy  
Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a  
man of honour and wanting to spare  
her publicity, decided to divorce her  
informally. He had made up his mind  
to do this when the angel of the Lord  
appeared to him in a dream and said,  
'Joseph son of David, do not be  
afraid to take Mary home as your  
wife, because she has conceived  
what is in her by the Holy Spirit.

*(Continued page 4)*

# Kangaroo Island Catholic Parish

## PARISH NOTICES

Next week: Mass Kingscote 9:30 AM  
Confession is available every Sunday 30 minutes before Mass.

Please support generously the annual **Christmas Day Appeal** collection for the **Aboriginal Catholic Ministry** (ACM) which will be taken up at all **Christmas Masses**.

Congratulations to Eliza Havelburg who today has received the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation and becomes a full member of the Catholic Church. Please continue to pray for her as she embarks on her lifelong faith journey.

Please remember in your prayers the volunteer fire fighters and the people who have suffered losses of property and stock due to the current fire emergency

*here on KI*  
**Mass Roster:**

**Today: Next week:**

Readers P Bennett L Grant.

Gifts: Clark family.

Sp. Min. M Slagter C Berden.

Cleaning / Coffee: A Bevan.

### **Collections December 1st.**

1<sup>st</sup> (Support of the Priests of the Archdiocese) **\$140.70**

2<sup>nd</sup> (Upkeep of our parish programs & property) **\$149.00**

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Prudence Brook, Margaret Chapman, Ann Commerford, Ernest Commerford, George Frauley, Annie Griffith, Graham Hammat, Franziska Hiltz, 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.

**Please pray for those who are sick.....**Sr. Carmel Clarke, Mei Kuen Sexton, Fr Peter Milburn, Toni Langridge, Damian Baynes, Charles Gorman, Maureen Dunn, Dalton Baynes, Roy Gatton, .....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 to have names entered. For privacy reasons permission is required before names are submitted for entry in this bulletin.*

### **Archdiocesan Events**

*For a full listing of events and activities being held across the Archdiocese, please visit:*

*<http://www.adelaide.catholic.org.au/parishes-and-mass-times/newsletters-from-archbishop-s-office>*

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

**Christmas eve: Penneshaw 4:00 PM**

**Kingscote 7:30 PM**

**Christmas day: Kingscote 8:30AM**

### **Here's a Real Man**

A few years ago, I led a liturgy for a young guy shot in the back by two other young people. Apparently, the two young men who killed Harry thought real men settled arguments by grabbing guns.

How sad, and it seems all too common in our nation. Young men kill each other to prove their "**manliness**". Other men – young and old – abuse women or use them sexually and brag about it later.

Man, does our culture need Saint Joseph as a role model! Here was a real man. His fiancée turned up pregnant, which would have caused him public shame in ancient Israel. Under the law he had the right to avenge that shame by leaving her or even requesting that she be put to death. But the Gospel tells us he instead chose to divorce her quietly.

And the story goes on. He believed God was telling him to accept Mary because she was pregnant by the Holy Spirit. He could have heard and accepted that only if he was a man who prayed regularly and practiced his Jewish faith.

Joseph: a man of peace who respected women in a culture that treated them as property; a man of prayer able to hear and courageously follow God's call – even though he risked public humiliation.

Don't we need more men like that today? How different would our schools, universities and workplaces be if more young men reached out to kids who are put down? What would our community look like if more young men saw dating as a way to make a friend, not to notch a sexual victory? How different would our neighbourhoods be if more young men stood up for themselves without resorting to violence?

If you're a guy, ask Saint Joseph for guidance this Advent. If you're a girl, challenge your male friends to be "**real men**" – like Mary's husband.

**Which men in your life show the qualities Saint Joseph had?**



## 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.*

### DEEP INCARNATION – ANOTHER MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Some years ago at a religious conference a man approached the microphone and after apologizing for what he felt would be an inappropriate question, asked this: “I love my dog. When he dies will he go to heaven? Do animals have eternal life?”

The answer to that might come as a surprise to many of us, but, looked at through the eyes of Christian faith, yes, his dog can go to heaven. It’s one of the meanings of Christmas. God came into the world to save the world, not just the people living in it. The incarnation has meaning for humanity, but also for the cosmos itself. We don’t know exactly what that means, and our imaginations aren’t up to the task of picturing it, but, because of the incarnation, dogs too can go to heaven. Is this fanciful? No, it’s scriptural teaching.

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus and see in his birth the beginning of the mystery of the incarnation unfolding in history, the mystery of God becoming human in physical flesh in order to save the world. What we tend to struggle with though is how we understand what’s meant by Christ saving the world. Most of us take that to mean that Christ came into the world to save the people, those of us with self-awareness and eternal souls.

That’s true, but our faith also asks us to believe that God’s saving activity in the Christ extends to more than only human beings and more than even animals and other living things. God’s saving activity in Christ reaches so deep that it saves creation itself – the oceans, the mountains, the soil that grows our food, the desert sands, and the earth itself. Christ came to save all of those things too, not just us, the people.

Where, you might ask, does scripture teach this? It teaches it most everywhere in implicit ways though it teaches it quite explicitly in a number of different places. For example, in the Epistle to the Romans (8, 19-22) St. Paul writes: I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

This may come as a surprise to us since, until quite recently, our preaching and catechesis has not often made this explicit. However what St. Paul is saying here is that physical creation itself, the cosmic world, will, at the end of time, be transformed in some glorious way and enter into heaven, just as human beings do. He’s also saying that, like us, it too somehow senses its mortality and groans to be set free from its present limits.

We need to ask ourselves this question? What do we believe will happen to physical creation at the end of time? Will it be destroyed, burnt-up, annihilated? Or, will it simply be abandoned and left empty and deserted like a stage after a play has ended, while we go on to life elsewhere? Scripture informs us otherwise, that is, it tells us that physical creation itself, our planet earth, will also be transformed (“liberated from its bondage to decay”) and enter into heaven with us. How will this happen? We can’t imagine it, just as we can’t imagine

our own transformed state. But scripture assures us that it will happen because, like ourselves, our world, physical creation, is also destined to die, and, like us, it intuits its mortality and groans under that sentence, aching to be set free from its limitations and become immortal.

Science agrees. It tells us that physical creation is mortal, that the sun is burning out, that energy is ever-so-slowly decreasing and that the earth as we know it will someday die. The earth is as mortal as we are and so if it’s to have a future it needs to be saved by Something or Someone from outside itself. That Something and Someone are revealed in the mystery of the incarnation within which God takes on physical flesh in Christ in order to save the world – and what he came to save was not just us, the people living on this earth, but rather, “the world”, the planet itself, and everything on it.

Jesus assured us that nothing is ever ultimately lost. No hair falls from someone’s head and no sparrow falls from the sky and simply disappears forever, as if it had never been. God created, loves, cares for, and ultimately resurrects every bit of creation for all eternity – including a beloved dog.

*You can read, or download, Ron Rolheiser’s weekly columns from his website at: [www.ronrolheiser.com](http://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  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 11am (Spanish Mass)  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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*  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays 10.30am  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 8.30am  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday  
11.50am Adoration, 12.00 noon Mass

## PENNESHAW

*St Columba, North Terrace  
(shared with Anglicans)*  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 3.15pm

## SEAFORD

*Seaford Ecumenical Mission,  
Grand Bvd*  
Sunday 10.45am  
Wednesday 9.15am

## VICTOR HARBOR

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

## WILLUNGA

*St Joseph, 12 St Judes Street*  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays 8.30am  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 10.30am  
Wednesday 9.00am  
Thursday 9.00am  
Friday 9.00am

*(Continued from page 1)*

She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us.'

When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

### BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Finally, on this the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel Reading permits us to begin our contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation we celebrate at Christmas: "Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about" (Matthew 1:18).

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective. Today's Gospel passage is the second movement in this story. In the preceding verses of the first chapter of Matthew's Gospel, the Evangelist has listed the genealogy of Jesus, tracing his lineage through King David to Abraham. In the chapter to follow, Matthew tells of the visit from the Magi, the Holy Family's flight into Egypt, and Herod's massacre of the infants in Bethlehem. (The other stories which we associate with Christmas, the Annunciation, the Visitation, the angel and the shepherds, are found in the Gospel of Luke).

We must not gloss over too quickly the difficult circumstances described in today's Gospel. The way that Joseph and Mary face these circumstances tells us much about these holy people and their faith in God. Joseph and Mary are betrothed to be married. This is sometimes described as an engagement period, but it is more than that. Betrothal in first century Jewish culture was in

fact the first part of the marriage contract. A breach of this contract was considered adultery. Mary is found to be with child. If adultery is proven, the punishment might be death. Joseph has rights under Mosaic law, but chooses to act discreetly in his plans to break the marriage contract, so as to protect Mary. Then God intervenes. The message of the angel of the Lord given to Joseph in his dream tells us much about the child that Mary bears and his role in God's plan. He is conceived by the Holy Spirit. His name will be Jesus, which in the Hebrew means "Yahweh saves." He will be the fulfilment of the prophecy heard in today's first reading from Isaiah: "... The virgin shall be with child ... and shall name him Emmanuel (God with us)."

Joseph does as the angel of the Lord directs. He takes Mary to be his wife and accepts the child in her womb as his own. Joseph and Mary are both cooperative with God's plan. They are both models for us of what it means to be faithful servants of God.

*Loyola Press website*

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

*(23 - 29 December)*

- **Monday, 23:** Mon 4<sup>th</sup> week, Advent (Num 24:2-7, 15-17; Mt 21:23-27)
- **Tuesday, 24:** Tue 4<sup>th</sup> week, Advent Morning: (2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Lk 1:67-79) Evening: CHRISTMAS MASS
- **Wednesday, 25:** CHRISTMAS MASS
- **Thursday, 19:** St Stephen (Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)
- **Friday, 20:** St John (1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:2-8)
- **Saturday, 21:** The Holy Innocents (1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18)
- **Sunday 22:** The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Mt 2:13-15, 18-23)

### 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).