



# **Kangaroo Island Catholic Community**

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

#### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

Vol 8 : No 01

# 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
- PENNESHAW: St Columba's Anglican Church, Cnr North Terrace and Fourth Street 1st 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 2:1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion,

and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

### SECOND READING

#### Romans 13:11-14

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.



#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

#### Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

#### **GOSPEL**

#### Matthew 24:37-44

Jesus said to his disciples, 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away.

It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house.

(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.

Parish Council meets after Mass this morning.

Catholic Ladies Guild Meeting Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>. December @ 9.30 a.m. Mass, followed by a meeting, then Christmas lunch @ Frogs & Roses at 12. Noon. Please place your name on form at the church entrance.

A tip from Father Kevin.

Download "Universalis" to have a combined Sunday and Daily Missal along with the daily prayer of the Church on your phone or tablet.

It's reasonably cheap and allows you not only to follow the Mass better, but to know about all the feasts the Church celebrates.

Advent reflection booklets are available now and can be collected from the church entrance.

Wendy and Paul Bennett invite everyone to their home on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December to spend an evening focussed on the joy, the gift and the glory of Christmas. A flyer with details will be available soon.

#### **December Priest Roster:**

Roster not yet available

Fr. Kevin here till 11<sup>th</sup> December

#### Mass Roster:

Today: Next week:

Readers N Clark S Semler. P Wales J Fernandez.
Gifts: Clark family. A Gorman C Howson.
Sp. Min. H Mumford A Gibbs. L Grant K Hammat.

Cleaning / Coffee: K Williams. K Williams.

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

Sunday 22nd December, will be a great celebration for Eliza Havelberg. Before church she will be making her first Reconciliation. Then during the Mass she will be making her First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Father Josy will be the priest. Please keep her in your prayers as she prepares for this special occasion.

Regards,

Helen Mumford (Sacramental coordinator)

#### **GOSPEL CONNECTIONS**

#### Jump on a Boat This Advent

Several years ago, Hurricane Katrina flooded New Orleans. Hundreds died. Rescuers found hundreds trapped on rooftops. Some argued that many people suffered only because the government authorities weren't prepared for the storm.

As Advent begins this week, Jesus reminds us that people suffered in Noah's time because they weren't prepared. Remember the story? It tells us that sin and injustice – ignored by God's people – caused the world's destruction.

Are we ignoring sin and injustice today? This is a good season to think about that. As you do, prepare yourself for Christ in three ways. First, take time this Advent to read newspapers closely. Look for evidence of injustice: war, poverty, prejudice. Keep your eyes open at school. Keep your eyes open at work. Notice those people ignored by others and notice the bullies who prey on the weak.

Sadly, you'll see that our world is still plagued by sin and injustice.

But remember, Advent is also a season of hope. We light candles to remember that Christ's power seeks to beat back the darkness of injustice every day.

Second, prepare yourself by looking for evidence of grace. To every war, God sends peacemakers. To every kid who feels left out, God sends a friend. Stay awake, Jesus says, and you'll see reasons for hope all over the world.

Third, prepare yourself to be grace and hope this season, the person who shines light by standing for peace, feeding the hungry, forgiving an enemy, or welcoming an outcast.

Sure, sin floods our world, but God sends boats to the rescue. Jump on board this Advent. People stranded by pain and injustice are waiting for you.

Where can you make a difference at home, at school, at work, or in the world this Advent?



### 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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# WHAT CONSTITUTES FIDELITY?

It's becoming increasing difficult in today's world to trust anything or anybody, for good reason. There's little that's stable, safe to lean on, trustworthy. We live in a world where everything is in flux, is flux, where everywhere we see distrust, abandoned values, debunked creeds, people moving on from where they used to be, contradictory information, and dishonesty and lying as socially and morally acceptable. There is little left of trust in our world.

What does this call us to? We're called to many things, but perhaps nothing more important than fidelity, to be honest and persevering in who we are and what we stand for. Here's an illustration

One of our Oblate missionaries shares this story. He was sent to minister to a cluster of small Indigenous communities in Northern Canada. The people were very nice to him but it didn't take him long to notice something. Basically every time he scheduled an appointment the person wouldn't show up. At first, he attributed this to miscommunication, but eventually he realized the pattern was too consistent for this to be an accident and so he approached an Elder in the community for some counsel. "Every time a make an appointment with someone," he told the Elder, "they don't show up." The Elder smiled, knowingly, and replied: "Of course, they won't show up, the last thing they need is to have an outsider like you organizing their lives for them!" So the missionary asked: "What do I do?" The Elder replied: "Well, don't make an appointment, just show up and talk to them! They'll be nice to you. More importantly though, this is what you need to do: Stay here for a long time

and then they will trust you. They want to see whether you're a missionary or a tourist. Why should they trust you? They've been betrayed and lied to by most everyone who's come through here. Stay for a long time and then they'll trust you."

Stay for a long time and then they'll trust you. What does it mean to stay for a long time? We can hang around and not necessarily inspire trust, just as we can move on to other places and still inspire trust. In its essence, staying around for the duration, being faithful, has less to do with never moving from a given location than it has to do with staying worthy of trust, with staying faithful to who we are, to the creed we profess, to the commitments and promises we have made, and to what's truest inside us so that our private lives do not belie our public persona.

The gift of fidelity is the gift of a life lived honestly. Our private honesty blesses the whole community, just as our private dishonesty hurts the whole community. "If you are here faithfully," writes Parker Palmer, "you bring great blessing." Conversely, writes Rumi, "If you are here unfaithfully, you bring great harm." To the degree that we are true to the creed we profess, the family, friends, and communities we've committed to, and to the deepest moral imperatives within our private soul, to that degree we are faithfully with others, and to that degree we are "staying with them for a long time". The reverse is also true, to the degree that we are not true to the creed we profess, to the promises we've made to others, and to the honesty innate in our own soul, we are being unfaithful, moving away from others, being the tourist not the missionary.

In his Epistle to the Galatians, St. Paul tells us what it means to be with

each other, to live with each other. beyond geographical distance and other contingencies in life that separate us. We are with each, faithfully, as brothers and sisters, when we are living in charity, joy, peace, patience, goodness, longsuffering, mildness, perseverance, and chastity. When we are living inside these, then we are "staying with each other" and not moving away, no matter any geographical distance between us. Conversely, when we are living outside of these we are not "staying with each other", even when there is no geographical distance between us. Home, as poets have always told us, is a place inside the heart, not a place on a map. And home, as St. Paul tells us, in living inside the Spirit.

And it is this, I believe, that ultimately defines fidelity and perseverance, separates a moral missionary from a moral tourist, and indicates who's staying and who's moving away.

For each of us to stay faithful, we need each other. It takes more than a village, it takes all of us. One person's fidelity makes everyone's fidelity easier, just as one person's infidelity makes everyone's fidelity more difficult. So, inside a world that's so highly individualistic and bewilderingly transient, when it can feel as if everyone is forever moving away from you, perhaps the greatest gift we can give each other is the gift of our own fidelity, to stay for a long time.

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 11.50am Adoration, 12.00 noon Mass

#### **PENNESHAW**

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

Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'



#### **EXPLORING THE WORD**

Matthew's Gospel is written for a mostly Jewish audience who had converted to Christianity. Because of this Jewish background, Matthew often uses images and incidents from the Hebrew Scriptures or Old Testament, with which his community is very familiar. For Matthew, Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecies of old, and the Messiah who has long been awaited. In this text, Jesus twice uses the title 'Son of Man' to describe himself. It is an ambiguous term because it can simply mean a human being but is also used in the Hebrew Scriptures to refer to the one who will be judge and saviour of all.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- Advent is a four week season of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. The word 'advent' means coming. Advent takes up this theme in looking forward to the coming of Christ at Christmas, and especially in looking towards the future coming of Christ at the end times.
- The early church believed that the second coming of Christ—the Parousia—was imminent. It could happen at any moment.
- The first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the church's liturgical year.
- This is Year A of the liturgical calendar, during which the Lectionary readings come predominantly from the Gospel of Matthew.

#### SHARING THE TRADITION

The celebration of a feast to honour the birth of Jesus did not emerge in the West until the fourth century. Scholars generally note that by ad 336, such a feast was in place and celebrated in Rome on 25 December. This comparatively late development of a feast to celebrate the birth of Christ may seem surprising to contemporary Christians, for whom

Christmas is so central. However, we must remember that the earliest Christians expected the glorious return of Christ in their own lifetimes. It was only with time and an obvious delay to the Second Coming that such a feast could emerge. Furthermore, time provided the opportunity for a greater and more mature theological reflection on the mysteries of the incarnation and the Second Coming.

Advent, as a period of preparation for the feast of Christmas, developed later still. There is no evidence of such a preparatory time in Rome until well into the sixth century. It was Pope Gregory the Great (ad 590–604) who established a four-week liturgical preparation for Christmas, but the eschatological (end-time) themes of the Second Coming were not established until the Middle Ages.

#### SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

Advent has a past, present and future dimension. We look back to the events of Bethlehem when Christ first entered the world; we reflect on Christ's presence today, and we look forward with joy to the future coming of Christ. Today's gospel reminds us that we must be ready for that coming.



#### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(02 - 08 December)

- Monday, 02: Monday 1st week Advent (Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11)
- *Tuesday, 03:* St Francis Xavier (Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24)
- Wednesday, 04: Wednesday 1st week Advent (Is 25:6-10; Mt 15:29-37)
- *Thursday, 05*: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> week Advent (Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27)
- *Friday, 06:* Friday 1<sup>st</sup> week Advent (Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31)
- *Saturday, 07:* St Ambrose (Is 30: 19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 6-8)
- *Sunday 08:* 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY of ADVENT (Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12)

#### **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).