

Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR C

Vol 7 : No 28

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

PARISH NEWSLETTER
Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131,
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*(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

Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom of Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 46:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full



knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 28:19, 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of
the world. Alleluia!*

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Kangaroo Island Catholic Parish

PARISH NOTICES

**Mass next week: Kingscote 9:30 AM
Parndana 2:30 PM**

Next Sunday is Pentecost Sunday. There will be an ecumenical service hosted by the Anglican community at 11:00 AM in the Anglican church followed by a shared luncheon.

We are hoping to have a parish gathering after Mass on 30th June. Details later.

Mass Roster:

Today:	Next week: 9th June
Readers: A Clark L Grant.	A Clark L Grant.
Gifts: Clark family.	Mumford family.
Sp. Ministers: K Florence K Hammat.	S Semler G Glynn
Cleaning / Coffee: H Mumford.	Pro. clean

Please pray for those who have died...

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Bill Berden, Mary Bradley, Peter Bradley, Baby Burden, Henry Carslake, Bob Clare, Charles Darcy, Timothy Hamm, Lorraine Holohan, Brian Kildea, Mildred Lashmar, Anthony Lonzar, Peter Lonzar, Dorothy McMahon, John Reynolds, Vikki Reynolds, Fiona Smith, Ann Wallace, Sr. Pauline Wallace, John Williams, Heather Willmott, Ross Wohling and all the faithful departed

And for those who are sick.....

Charles Gorman, Maureen Dunn.

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

The names of people to be prayed for will remain on this list for four weeks only unless we are informed otherwise. (Contact Peter Clark or use the sheet on the table at the back of the Church). For privacy reasons permission is required before names are submitted for entry in this bulletin.

Passing on the Baton

We might compare the Ascension to the passing of a baton from one runner to another in a relay race.

On this day, just over 2000 years ago, Jesus passed the baton of his work to Peter, James, and John. They, in turn, passed it on to the people who came after them. They, in turn, passed it on to us. And now it is our turn to pass it on to others.

Practically speaking, what does this mean? Does it mean going out and preaching about Jesus, as Peter, James, and John did? Does it mean mounting soapboxes in shopping centres and telling everyone about Jesus.

It could mean this for some of us, but for most of us it means something much more basic than this. It means something much more fundamental. It means living out Jesus' teaching in our own personal lives.

The way to begin preaching Jesus to the world is to begin preaching Jesus to ourselves. There's an old Chinese proverb that says:

If there is right in the soul, there will be beauty in the person.

If there is beauty in the person, there will be harmony in the home.

If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation.

If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.

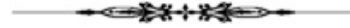
The way to begin preaching Jesus to the world is to begin living Jesus in our own lives. Once we begin to do this, the message of Jesus will begin to ripple out across the world. And if enough Christians do it, that ripple will turn into a tidal wave, and that tidal wave will change the face of the earth in a way we never dreamed possible.

How well are you fulfilling Jesus' command to share the good news with others?



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.



JEAN VANIER (1928-2019)

Our differences are not a threat but a treasure.

Jean Vanier, the Founder of L'Arche, who died in Paris on May 7th wrote those words, but their truth is far from self-evident. One might question whether those words are simply a nice-sounding poetics or whether they contain an actual truth. Our differences, in fact, are often a threat.

Moreover, it's one thing to mouth those words; it's quite another thing to have the moral authority to speak them. Few have that authority. Jean Vanier did. His whole life and work testify to the fact that our differences can indeed be a treasure and can, in the end, be that precise element of community that serves up for us the particular grace we need.

Vanier saw differences, whether of faith, religion, culture, language, gender, ideology, or genetic endowment, as graces to enrich a community rather than as threats to its unity. And while Vanier gave witness to this in all aspects of his life, he was of course best known for how he appropriated that apposite among the differences that have, seemingly since forever, separated people with intellectual disabilities from the rest of the community, isolating them, assigning them second-class status, and depriving the rest of us of the unique grace they bring. Someone once described Vanier as initiating a new Copernican revolution in that, prior to him, we used to think of our service to the poor one-sidedly, we give to them. Now that we recognize our former arrogance and naiveté, the poor bring a great service to us.

One of the persons who gave a powerful personal testimony to that was Henri Nouwen, the renowned

spiritual writer. Tenured at both Yale and Harvard, an immensely respected speaker, and a man loved and adulated by a large public, Nouwen, nursing his own disabilities, was for most of his life unable to healthily absorb very much from that immense amount of love that was being bestowed on him and remained deeply insecure within himself, unsure he was loved, until he went to live in one of Vanier's communities. There, living with men and women who were completely unaware of his achievements and his fame and who offered him no adulation, he began for the first time in his life to finally sense his own worth and to feel himself as loved. That great grace came from living with those who were different. We have Jean Vanier to thank for teaching that to the rest of us as well.

I first heard Vanier speak when I was a twenty-two year-old seminarian. For many of my colleagues, he was a spiritual rock-star, but that idolization was a negative for me. I went to hear him with a certain bias: Nobody can be that good! But he was!

Admittedly that's ambiguous. Talent and charisma can seduce us towards selfishness just as easily as invite us towards nobility of soul. Someone can be a powerful speaker without that charisma witnessing at all to that person's human and moral integrity and without that seductiveness inviting anyone to what's more-noble inside him or her. But Vanier's person, message, and charisma, through all his years, suffered from no such ambiguity. The transparency, simplicity, depth, wisdom, and faith that were contained in his person and his word beckoned us only in one direction, that is, towards all that's one, good, true, and beautiful, which are the properties of God. Meeting him made you want, like the disciples in

the Gospels, to leave your boats and nets behind and set off on a new, more-radical road. Few persons have that power.

Perhaps the best criterion by which to judge Christian discipleship is look at who's moving downwards, who fits this description of Jesus: "Though he was in the form of God, he did not deem equality with God as something to be grasped at. Rather he emptied himself and took the form of a slave." Jean Vanier was born into a world of privilege, blessed with exceptional parents, a gifted intelligence, a handsome body, enviable educational opportunities, financial security, and a famous name. Those are a lot of gifts for a person to carry and that kind of privilege has more often ruined a life than blessed it. For Jean Vanier, however, these gifts were never something to be grasped at. He emptied himself by immersing himself into the lives of the poor, letting his gifts bless them, even as he received a rich blessing in return. He modeled a true discipleship of Jesus, namely, stepping downward into a second-baptism, immersion into the poor, where community and joy are found. And to this he invited us.

In her poem, *The Leaf and the Cloud*, Mary Oliver wrote: "I will sing for the broken doors of the poor, and for the sorrow of the rich, who are mistaken and lonely." Jean Vanier, through all the years of his life, stepped through the broken doors of the poor and found community and joy there. For him, our differences were not a threat but a treasure.

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

2nd 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

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GOSPEL

Luke 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples, 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.'

Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Gospel of Luke opens with Zechariah praying in the temple and closes with the disciples praying in the temple. The temple plays a critical role in Luke's account of the public life of Jesus.
- While the fact of Jesus' ascension to the Father is mentioned several times in the New Testament (Mark 16:19; John 6:62; John 20:17; Ephesians 4:8-10), only Luke describes the event itself, both in his gospel and in the Acts of the Apostles.
- Bethany is a small town not far from Jerusalem, just over the Mount of Olives. It was the home town of Mary, Martha and Lazarus.
- The nine days between the ascension and Pentecost that the disciples spent in praying together gave rise to the 'novena', a devotional practice of praying in a particularly focused way for a special intention over nine consecutive days.

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

Luke's Gospel is sometimes known as 'the gospel of joy'. Joyfulness and rejoicing are constant motifs and familiar reactions to the revelation of

Jesus as the Christ. The extent to which we live in union with Christ allows us to participate already in the joy of heaven that is promised to us.

EXPLORING THE WORD

The reaction of the disciples to the absence of Jesus after his ascension is in stark contrast to the reaction they had to him leaving at his death. After his death on the cross, they shut themselves into the upper room in fear. Now they worship him and go joyfully rejoicing to the temple. Clearly now they have not lost the sense of his presence with them. Something has changed. His return to God opens the way to glory for all who believe, and this is the source of their joy. He is beyond their sight but truly with them, and he has repeated again his promise to send the help they will need to undertake their mission into the world. These final verses of Luke's Gospel introduce what will become the story of his second volume, the Acts of the Apostles: 'repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.' Acts tells the story of the Gospel being taken out to all the nations, a story that continues to this day.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(03 - 09 June)

- **Monday, 03:** Charles Lwanga & companions (Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33)
- **Tuesday, 04:** Tuesday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11)
- **Wednesday, 05:** St Boniface (Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11-19)
- **Thursday, 06:** Thursday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26)
- **Friday, 07:** Friday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 25:13-21; Jn 21:15-19)
- **Saturday, 08:** Saturday, 7th week of Easter (Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25)
- **Sunday 26:** PENTECOST SUNDAY (Acts 2:1-11; Rom 8:8-17; JN 14:15-16, 23-26)

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).