

# **Kangaroo Island Catholic Community**

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

# SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - YEAR C

Vol 4 : No 20

# **KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH**

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# **NOARLUNGA DOWNS CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY**

Phone: 8382 1717

#### **PARISH TEAM CONTACTS**

Fr Charles Gauci (Parish Priest phone 8382 1717)

# PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

# **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

Mrs Annette Roestenburg (8553 8281; rostie2@bigpond.com) (All items for the newsletter must be received no later than Wednesday evening.)

#### **MASS CENTRES**

- KINGSCOTE: Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Cnr Giles and **Todd Streets** Sunday - 9.30am 4th Sunday - Youth Mass - 6.00pm
- PARNDANA: Uniting Church, Cook Street 4th Sunday - 4.00pm
- 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 UNIT**

Sally Wellington (Manager)

Phone: 8210 8268



# "Do not doubt but believe."

In 20:27

# FIRST READING

Acts 5:12-16

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits. and all of them were cured.

# **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 117:2-4, 22-27. R.v.1 Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

# **SECOND READING**

Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One, I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia! (Continued page 4)

#### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Josephine Bannan, Elizabeth Black, Wilma Buick, Karen Cairney, Gwen Chalmers, Ambrose Clark, Robert Clark, Francis Clarke, Catherine Commerford, Sarah Cunningham, Jimmy Dow, Tate Furniss, Monika Gibbs, Mary O'Brien, Norah Ridge, Verna Trethewey, Beryl Williams, Albert Willson, Jamie Larcombe, Ray Bannan and all the faithful departed

# **Prayers for the sick**

Please pray for Sam Baynes, Helen Berden,
Cath Cantlon, Clarence Cook, Joelle
Davidson, Thea & Manning Depold, Don
Duffy, Fr Peter Dunn, Pam Elliott, Kathleen
Feaver, Tony Fisher, Veronica Farnden, Sue
and Charles Gorman, Narelle Kosmina, Scott
McCreary, Leigh and Phillip McDonald, Kate
Palmer, Jack Pitcher, Anne Redden, Bill
Roestenburg, Tim Ruge, John Smith, Greg
Turner, Karen Williams, Margaret & Harry
Rich, Simon Slagter, Nicki and Craig Hoar,
Noel Grace,

May they know the healing love of Christ through our actions and His healing presence.

# **MAKING CONNECTIONS**

Look for ways in which a simple gesture of touch can convey friendship, compassion or support this week.

### PARISH NOTICES -03/04/16

- 1. Thank you to Fr Sam for saying Mass for us today.
- 2. Next week there will be Mass with Fr Tony

# PRAYER FOR JUBILEE OF MERCY

Lord Jesus Christ,

you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father.

and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money;

the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things;

made Peter weep after his betrayal,

and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:

"If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father.

of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:

let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness

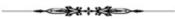
in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error:

let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.



# 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.



### THE TRIUMPH OF GOODNESS

The stone which rolled away from the tomb of Jesus continues to roll away from every sort of grave. Goodness cannot be held, captured, or put to death. It evades its pursuers, escapes capture, slips away, hides out, even leaves the churches sometimes, but forever rises, again and again, all over the world. Such is the meaning of the resurrection.

Goodness cannot be captured or killed. We see this already in the earthly life of Jesus. There are a number of passages in the Gospels which give the impression that Jesus was somehow highly elusive and difficult to capture. It seems that until Jesus consents to his own capture, nobody can lay a hand on him. We see this played out a number of times: Early on in his ministry, when his own townsfolk get upset with his message and lead him to the brow of a hill to hurl him to his death, we are told that "he slipped through the crowd and went away." Later when the authorities try to arrest him we are told simply that "he slipped away". And, in yet another incident when he is in temple area and they try to arrest him, the text simply says that he left the temple area and "no one laid a hand upon him because his hour had not yet come." Why the inability to take him captive? Was Jesus so physically adept and elusive that no one could imprison him?

These stories of his "slipping away" are highly symbolic. The lesson is not that Jesus was physically deft and elusive, but rather that the word of God, the grace of God, the goodness of God, and power of God can never be captured, held captive, or ultimately killed. They are adept. They can never be held captive, can never be killed, and even when seemingly they are killed, the stone that entombs them always eventually

rolls back and releases them. Goodness continues to resurrect from every sort of grave.

And it is this, the constant resurrection of goodness, not that of viciousness and evil, which speaks the deepest truth about our world and our lives. The Jewish-Hungarian writer. Imre Kertesz, who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 2002. gives a poignant testimony of this. He had as a young boy been in a Nazi death camp, but what he remembered most afterwards from this experience was not the injustice, cruelty, and death that he saw there, but rather some acts of goodness, kindness, and altruism he witnessed amidst that evil. After the war, it left him wanting to read the lives of saints rather than biographies of war. The appearance of goodness fascinated him. To his mind, evil is explicable, but goodness? Who can explain it? What is its source? Why does it spring up over and over again all over the earth, and in every kind of situation?

It springs up everywhere because God's goodness and power lie at the source of all being and life. This is what is revealed in the resurrection of Jesus. What the resurrection reveals is that the ultimate source of all that is, of all being and life, is gracious, good, and loving. Moreover it also reveals that graciousness, goodness, and love are the *ultimate power* inside reality. They will have the final word and they will never be captured, derailed, killed, or ultimately ignored. They will break through, ceaselessly, forever. In the end, too, as Imre Kertesz suggests, they are more fascinating than evil.

And so we are in safe hands. No matter how bad the news on a given day, no matter how threatened our lives are on a given day, no matter how intimidating the neighborhood or global bully, not matter how unjust and cruel a situation, and no matter how omnipotent are anger and hatred, love and goodness will reappear and ultimately triumph.

Jesus taught that the source of all life and being is benign and loving. He promised too that our end will be benign and loving. In the resurrection of Jesus, God showed that God has the power to deliver on that promise. Goodness and love will triumph! The ending of our story, both that of our world and that of our individual lives, is already written – and it is a happy ending! We are already saved. Goodness is guaranteed. Kindness will meet us. We only need to live in the face of that wonderful truth.

They couldn't arrest Jesus, until he himself allowed it. They put his dead body in a tomb and sealed it with a stone, but the stone rolled away. His disciples abandoned him in his trials, but they eventually returned more committed than ever. They persecuted and killed his first disciples, but that only served to spread his message. The churches have been unfaithful sometimes, but God just slipped away from those particular temple precincts. God has been declared dead countless time, but yet a billion people just celebrated Easter.

Goodness cannot be killed. Believe it!

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 Howe 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 4th Sunday (Youth Mass) 6.00pm

# **NOARLUNGA**

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

1st Sunday 11.00am (Spanish Mass)
2nd Sunday 2.00pm (Filipino Mass)
Sunday (Youth Mass) 5.30pm
Monday 9.00am
Tuesday (2nd, 4th, 5th week) 9.00am
Tuesday (1st, 3rd week) 9.45am
Wednesday 7.00am, 7.30pm
Thursday 9.00am (St John's School)
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**

4th Sunday 4.00pm

#### **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 (other than 1st) 9.00am
1st Friday 11.30am

### **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)

#### **GOSPEL**

John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

# ONLY FAITH

Jesus spoke in short sentences and summed up a lot of life in a few words. His final beatitude is in the gospel today – Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe. You can unpack that little phrase and in it you realise that faith is about things that cannot be proved, that it is not easy and that it brings a blessedness to life. It also includes ourselves – the ones of this year who still believe.

Something is only by faith when everything else fades off. Our loved ones die and only faith assures us that they are alive with God. Only faith assures us that Jesus is present in the mystery of the bread and wine at our Mass. Only faith assures us that he is with us when two or three gather and only faith assures us that what we do for others we do for him. Faith assures us of some of the best things of life; finally that we come from God and go to God.

Thomas found difficulty with all this. Jesus dealt gently with him, pointing out the wounds of his body and inviting him to touch them. But Thomas never needed to touch the holes in Jesus' hands and feet. He was told that an even better happiness was to believe without touch or sight. He found faith now in the risen Lord, and the faith itself was Jesus7 final gift to Thomas

We need to take time and let faith grow within us. This can be in prayer, in faith-conversation and in allowing ourselves sit quietly and be in the presence of God. In the busy world, this may be difficult, but no day is diminished by time spent in silence and in quiet, knowing we are richly blessed when we grow our faith in God.

Donal Neary SJ

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THIS WEEK'S READINGS
(4 - 10 April)

- *Monday, 4:* The Annunciation of the Lord (Is 7:10-14, 8-10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38)
- *Tuesday, 5:* Tuesday 2nd week of Easter (Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7-15)
- *Wednesday*, 6: Wednesday 2nd week of Easter (Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21)
- *Thursday, 7:* St John Baptist de la Salle (Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36)
- *Friday*, 8: Friday 2nd week of Easter (Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15)
- *Saturday*, *9*: Saturday 2nd week of Easter (Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21)
- *Sunday 10:* Third Sunday of Easter (Acts 5:27-32, 40-41; Apoc 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19)