

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Vol 4: No 38

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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NOARLUNGA DOWNS CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY

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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

FIRST READING

Wisdom 18:6-9

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage.

This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you.

The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 32:1, 12, 18-20, 22Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the



promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

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AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Banner, Joyce Bowbridge, Steven Browne, Terence Browne, David Buick, Irene Darcy, Don Christie, John Commerford, David Cooper, Allan Forst, Paul Glynn Jr, Henry Hughes, Annemie Huys, Mary Kildea, Daniel Lydon, Dot May, John Mertens, Rebecca Murch, Lorna Murphy, Winifred O'Daly, Joseph Ryan, Chris Slattery, Florence Tabor, Bracken Walker, Bill Willson, Owen Willson and all the faithful departed.

Prayers for the sick

Please pray for Sam Baynes, Helen Berden, Cath Cantlon, Denice Carter, Clarence Cook, Joelle Davidson, Thea & Manning Depold, Don Duffy, Fr Peter Dunn, Pam Elliott, Kathleen Feaver, Betty Florance, Veronica Farnden, Sue and Charles Gorman, Tony Hodgens, Narelle Kosmina, Scott McCreary, Leigh and Phillip McDonald, Peter Murray, Elijah Laundy and Family, Fr Pat O'Keeffe, Kate Palmer, Jack Pitcher, Kingsley Pledge, Anne Redden, Bill Roestenburg, Tim Ruge, John Smith, Greg Turner, Peter Weatherstone, 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

At the end of each day, take some time to reflect on how well you lived the gospel. Resolve to be more attentive to preparing for what is to come.

Eight Characteristics of parishes in the process of renewal:

2. Eucharistic liturgies are prayerful with everyone participating

The Second Vatican Council called for active and full participation of men, women and children in our celebrations, including the various lay ministries. In ways that are open to us our actions and language need to reflect the full equality of women and men, young and old.

Inspiring music, times of silent prayer as well as good preaching draws people to Liturgy. Preparation of liturgies is essential as too is prayerful leadership. It may be necessary to limit, rather than simply add on more Masses for our priests.

♦ Share what is important to you from the above.

PARISH NOTICES -07/08/16

- 1. Thank you to Fr Peter for saying Mass for us today.
- 2. Next week there will be Mass with Fr Peter.
- 3. We are running a raffle to raise funds to help some of our youth attend the "Ignite" conference in Brisbane in September this year. Tickets are available at back of the church.
- 4. I will be renewing 'The Prayers for the Sick' soon. Please put names on the sheet at the back of the Church.
- 5. Next week there will be a leaving collection for **Vocations**



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.

OUR FEAR OF HELL

Hell is never a nasty surprise waiting for a basically happy person. Hell can only be the full-flowering of a pride and selfishness that have, through a long time, twisted a heart so thoroughly that it considers happiness as unhappiness and has an arrogant disdain for happy people. If you are essentially warm of heart this side of eternity, you need not fear that a nasty surprise awaits you on the other side because somewhere along the line, unknowingly, you missed the boat and your life went terribly wrong.

Unfortunately for many us, the preaching and catechesis of our youth sometimes schooled us in the idea that you could tragically miss the boat without knowing it and that there was no return. You could live your life sincerely, in essential honesty, relate fairly to others, try your best given your weaknesses, have some bounce and happiness in life, and then die and find that some sin you've committed or mistake you'd made, perhaps even unknowingly, could doom you to hell and there was no further chance for repentance. The second of your death was your last chance to change things, no second chances after death, no matter how badly you might like then to repent. As a tree falls so shall it lie! We were schooled to fear dying and the afterlife.

But, whatever the practical effectiveness of such a concept, because it really could make one hesitate in the face of temptation because of the fear of hell, it is essentially wrong and should not be taught in the name of Christianity. Why? Because it belies the God and the deep truths that Jesus revealed. Jesus did teach that there was a hell and that it was a possibility for everyone. But the hell that Jesus spoke of is not a place or a state where someone is begging for

one last chance, just one more minute of life to make an act of contrition, and God is refusing. The God whom Jesus both incarnates and reveals is a God who is forever open to repentance, forever open to contrition, and forever waiting our return from our prodigal wanderings.

With God we never exhaust our chances. Can you imagine God looking at a repentant man or woman and saying: "Sorry! For you, it's too late! You had your chance! Don't come asking for another chance now!" That could not be the Father of Jesus.

And yet, the Gospels can give us that impression. We have, for example, the famous parable of the rich man who ignores the poor man at his doorstep, dies, and ends up in hell, while the poor man, Lazarus, whom he had ignored, is now in heaven, comforted in the bosom of Abraham. From his torment in hell, the rich man asks Abraham to send Lazarus to him with some water, but Abraham replies that there is an unbridgeable gap between heaven and hell and no one can cross from one side to the other. That text, along with Jesus' warnings about that the doors of the wedding banquet will at a point be irrevocably closed, has led to the common misconception that there is a point of no return, that once in hell, it is too late to repent.

But that's not what this text, nor Jesus' warning on the urgency of repentance, teaches. The "unbridgeable gap" here refers, among other things, to a gap that remains forever unbridged here in this world between the rich and the poor. And it remains unbridged because of our intransigence, our failure to change heart, our lack of contrition, not because God runs out of patience and says: "Enough! No more chances!" It remains unbridged

because, habitually, we become so set in our ways that we are incapable of change and genuine repentance.

Jesus' story of the rich man and Lazarus actually draws upon a more ancient, Jewish, story that illustrates this intransigence: In the parallel Jewish parable, God does hear the rich man's plea from hell for a second chance and grants it to him. The rich man, now full of new resolutions, returns to life, goes immediately to the market, loads his cart with food, and, as he is driving home, meets Lazarus on the road. Lazarus asks for a loaf of bread. The rich man jumps off his cart to give it to him, but, has he pulls a huge loaf of bread from his cart, his old self starts to reassert itself. He begins to think: "This man doesn't need a whole loaf! Why not just give him a part! And why should he have a fresh loaf, I'll give him some of the stale bread!" Immediately he finds himself back in hell! He still cannot bridge the gap.

Kathleen Dowling Singh submits that in making a series of mental contractions we create our own fear of death. That's true too for the afterlife: By making a series of unfortunate theological contractions we create our own fear of hell.

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 ACCLAMATION *Mt 24:42, 44*

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming," and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut

him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

DID YOU KNOW?

- Under Roman custom, a day was reckoned from midnight to midnight and the night divided into four watches. Jewish custom was to reckon a day from sunset to sunset and the night was divided into three watches.
- A Jewish wedding consisted of the groom going in procession to the home of the bride where the wedding took place and a feast was held. After this celebration, the groom returned to his own home with his bride to begin their life together.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS (8 August - 14 August)

- Monday, 8: St Mary of the Cross (1 Kg 17:8-16; Col 3:12-17; Mt 6:25-34)
- Tuesday 9: Weekday Ord Time 19 (Ezek 2:8-3:4; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14)
- Wednesday 10: St Lawrence (2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26)
- **Thursday 11:** St Clare (Ezek 12:1-12; Mt 18:21- 19:1)
- Friday 12: Weekday Ord Time 19 (Ezek 16:1-15, 60, 63; Mt 19:3-12)
- **Saturday 13:** Weekday Ord Time 19 (Ezek 18:1-10, 13, 30-32; Mt 19:13-15)
- **Sunday 14:** Twentieth Sunday in Ord Time (Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53)