



Welcome to

# Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR C**

**Vol 4 : No 8**

## 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](mailto: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  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Youth Mass - 6.00pm
- PARNDANA: Uniting Church, Cook Street  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - 4.00pm
- PENNESHAW: St Columba's Anglican Church, Cnr North Terrace and Fourth Street  
1<sup>st</sup> 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

*Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*

‘Console my people, console them’  
says your God.

‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem  
and call to her that her time of  
service is ended, that her sin is  
atoned for, that she has received  
from the hand of the Lord double  
punishment for her crimes.’

A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the  
wilderness a way for the Lord.  
Make a straight highway for our God  
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in, every  
mountain and hill be laid low.  
Let every cliff become a plain, and  
the ridges a valley; then the glory of  
the Lord shall be revealed and all  
mankind shall see it; for the mouth  
of the Lord has spoken.’

Go up on a high mountain, joyful  
messenger to Zion.

Shout with a loud voice, joyful  
messenger to Jerusalem.

Shout without fear, say to the towns  
of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’

Here is the Lord coming with power,  
his arm subduing all things to him.

The prize of his victory is with him,  
his trophies all go before him.

He is like a shepherd feeding his  
flock, gathering lambs in his arms,  
holding them against his breast  
and leading to their rest the mother  
ewes.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!*

## SECOND READING

*Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7*

God's grace has been revealed, and  
it has made salvation possible for the  
whole human race and taught us that  
what we have to do is to give up  
everything that does not lead to God,  
and all our worldly ambitions; we  
must be self-restrained and live good  
and religious lives here in this  
present world, while we are waiting  
in hope for the blessing which will  
come with the Appearing of the  
glory of our great God and saviour  
Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself  
for us in order to set us free from all  
wickedness and to purify a people so  
that it could be his very own and  
would have no ambition except to do  
good.

When the kindness and love of God  
our saviour for mankind were  
revealed, it was not because he was  
concerned with any righteous actions

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**JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

Eunice Airton, Eileen Bateman, Dorothy Brook, Monica Buick, May Cairney, Dominic Cash, Marlene Cummins, Jim Dodgson, Lucy Edwards, Colin Fahey, Margaret Flemming, Ralph Florance, Catherine Glynn, Alec Goodwin, Edward Hughes, Ida Jackson, Christina James, Jack Kindellan, Ettie McDonald, Irene Northcott, Ottaviano Orsi, Marj Phillips, Una Reynolds, George Rowen. Ann Smith, Sheila Tabor, Lorraine Laher Storfer, Mary Weatherstone,... 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, Pam Elliott, Tony Fisher, Veronica Farnden, Sue and Charles Gorman, 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.

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**MAKING CONNECTIONS**

Encourage each catechumen, along with their sponsor, to visit the baptismal font in the church at some point this week. It may be a good opportunity for sponsors to informally chat about how the journey is progressing

**PARISH NOTICES –10/01/16**

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

.....  
**PRAYER**

Each day this week, take some time alone to pray; listen to the voice from heaven. Use your own name and repeat;  
(Your name) you are my child, my beloved, for favour rests on you.

**SYMBOLS AND IMAGES**

Like Jesus, every Christian enters the waters of baptism, or has it poured over them. The symbolism, especially apparent in the practice of full immersion, is that of the tomb. The person enters into the depths and darkness of the tomb with Jesus and rises to a new life in Christ, symbolized by the white garment worn at baptism



## 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.

### ONLY IN SILENCE

The Belgian spiritual writer, Bieke Vandekerckhove, comes by her wisdom honestly. She didn't learn what she shares from a book or even primarily from the good example of others. She learned what she shares through the crucible of a unique suffering, being hit at the tender age of nineteen with a terminal disease that promised not just an early death but also a complete breakdown and humiliation of her body en route to that death.

Her attempt to cope with her situation drove her in many directions, initially to anger and hopelessness but eventually to monasteries, to the wisdom of monasticism, and, under its direction, into the deep well of silence, that desert that lurks so threateningly inside each of us. Away from all the noises of the world, in the silence of her own soul, inside the chaos of her raging, restless insides she found the wisdom and strength not just to cope with her illness but to also find a deeper meaning and joy in her life.

There are, as John Updike poetically puts it, secrets that are hidden from health, though, as Vandekerckhove makes evident, they can be uncovered in silence. However uncovering the secrets that silence has to teach us is not easy. Silence, until properly befriended, is scary and the process of befriending it is the soul's equivalent of crossing a hot **desert**. Our insides don't easily become calm, restlessness doesn't easily turn into solitude, and the temptation to turn to the outside world for consolation doesn't easily give way to the idea of quiet. But there's a peace and a meaning that can only be found inside the desert of our own chaotic and raging insides. The deep wells of consolation lie at the end of an inner journey through heat, thirst, and dead-ends that must be pushed

through with dogged fidelity. And, as for any epic journey, the task is not for the faint of heart.

Here's how Vandekerckhove describes one aspect of the journey: "Inner noise can be quite exhausting. That's probably why so many flee to the seduction of exterior background noises. They prefer to have the noise just wash over them. But if you want to grow spiritually, you have to stay inside of the room of your spiritual raging and persevere. You have to continue to sit silently and honestly in God's presence until the raging quiets down and your heart gradually becomes cleansed and quieted. Silence forces us to take stock of our actual manner of being human. And then we hit a wall, a dead point. No matter what we do, no matter what we try, something in us continues to feel lost and estranged, despite the myriad ways of society to meet our human needs. Silence confronts us with an unbearable bottomlessness, and there appears no way out. We have no choice but to align ourselves with the religious depth in us."

There's a profound truth: Silence confronts us with an unbearable bottomlessness and we have no choice but to align ourselves with the religious depth inside us. Sadly, for most of us, we will learn this only by bitter conscription when we have to actually face our own death. In the abandonment of dying, stripped of all options and outlets we will, despite struggle and bitterness, have to, in the words of Karl Rahner, *allow ourselves to sink into the incomprehensibility of God*. Moreover, before this surrender is made, our lives will always remain somewhat unstable and confusing and there will always be dark, inner corners of the soul that scare us.

But a journey into silence can take us beyond our dark fears and shine

healing light into our darkest corners. But, as Vandekerckhove and other spiritual writers point out, that peace is usually found only after we have reached an impasse, a "dead point" where the only thing we can do is "to pierce the negative."

In her book, *The Taste of Silence*, Vandekerckhove recounts how an idealistic friend of hers shared his dream of going off by himself into some desert to explore spirituality. Her prompt reaction was not much to his liking: "A person is ready to go to any kind of desert. He's willing to sit anywhere, as long as it's not his own desert." How true. We forever hanker after idealized deserts and avoid our own.

The spiritual journey, the pilgrimage, the Camino, we most need to make doesn't require an airline ticket, though an experienced guide is recommended. The most spiritually rewarding trip we can make is an inner pilgrimage, into the desert of our own silence.

As human beings we are constitutively social. This means, as the bible so bluntly puts it, that it is not good for the human person to be alone. We are meant to be in community with others. Heaven will be a communal experience; but, on the road there, there's a certain deep inner work that can only be done alone, in silence, away from the noise of the world.

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 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  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 11.00am (Spanish Mass)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 2.00pm (Filipino Mass)  
Sunday (Youth Mass) 5.30pm  
Monday 9.00am  
Tuesday 9.00am  
Wednesday 7.00am, 7.30pm  
Thursday 9.00am (St John's School)  
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 6.00pm

## PARNDANA

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 4.00pm

## PENNESHAW

*St Columba, North Terrace  
(shared with Anglicans)*  
1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup>) 9.00am  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday 11.30am

## 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

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we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

**Luke 3:15-16, 21-22**

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

## SHINING STAR OF CHRISTMAS IS NOT A METEOR

A great tragedy of Christmas is that for many, it is a religion of one night, however lovely and shining it may be. The Incarnation of Jesus is reduced to mere sentimentality, tradition or a cultural feast. But Jesus is not a meteor. It is not enough to come to the manger and get stuck there; we must turn from it. And then, accepting what the occupant of the manger means, we must begin to live out that meaning, choosing what may be new directions, challenging previous ways and assumptions, continuing the journey of our life with the knowledge that something has changed. One person has made a huge difference in our life and has

literally changed history.

The theme of Christ's epiphany — of Jesus inaugurating his divine mission on earth — reaches its fulfilment in today's feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The beautiful text from Evening Prayer on the feast of the Epiphany reads: "Three mysteries mark this holy day: today the star leads the Magi to the infant Christ; today water is changed into wine for the wedding feast; today Christ wills to be baptized by John in the river Jordan to bring us salvation." Each event is accompanied by a theophany, by startling evidence of divine intervention: the star, the water into wine, the voice from heaven and the dove. Today we witness the baptism of the Lord, the one into whom we ourselves are baptized.

*Fr Thomas Rosica*

## MISERICORDIAE VULTUS – THE FACE OF MERCY

In 2016, we will share extracts from the document *Misericordiae Vultus* (The Face of Mercy). The bull of indiction focuses on the theme for the Jubilee Year, namely "Merciful Like the Father". In it, Pope Francis reminds that we are each called to a journey of "spiritual conversion."

"Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy... Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in him." (par 1, MV)

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(11 - 17 January)

- **Monday, 11:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20)
- **Tuesday, 12:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28)
- **Wednesday, 13:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39)
- **Thursday, 14:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45)
- **Friday, 15:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 8:4-7, 10-22; Mk 2:1-12)
- **Saturday, 16:** Weekday, Ord Time 1 (1 Sam 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Mk 2:13-17)
- **Sunday, 17:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, Ordinary Time (Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11)