



God has revealed to us
through the Spirit.
1Co 2:10

Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

Vol 5 : No 12

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

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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
2nd and 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

Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 11:25

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:17-37

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come



not to abolish but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to

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FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Heather Barrett, Joan Marie Berden, Mary Clark, Phillip Deakin, Alice Ellick, Alfred Gray, Bernadette Hehir, Kenneth Howard, Ron King, Jamie Larcombe, Frank May, Tom Meaney, Allan Moray, Pat Pawelski, Horace Riley, Christopher Riley, Bert Willson And all the faithful departed.

Prayers for the sick

Please pray for Eli Bellamarie, Jimmy Browne, Cath Cantlon, Maureen Dunn, Kathleen Feareer,
Charles and Sue Gorman, Tony Hodgens, Ashtenna Langridge, Elijah Laundry, Howie Laundry, Philip McDonald John Lavers, Peter Murray, Fr Frank Perry, Jack Pitcher, Kingsley Pledge, Margaret Rich, Bill Roestenburg, Eddie Schneemild, Bernie Schulz, John Slagter, Darren Smith, John Smith, and Peter Weatherstone,

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

MAKING CONNECTIONS

This week, be honest and open in your dealings with all the people you encounter

Go further than the basic requirement of good manners.

PRAYER AT HOME

Today's entrance Antiphon makes a suitable prayer for this week:

*Be my protector, O God,
A mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.*

Eight Characteristics of parishes in the process of renewal:

8. Eucharistic communities that are viable will be enabled to continue.

There will be times when there will be a need to discern whether particular communities remain viable. But smaller Eucharistic communities can be closer to the people, and are to be maintained in our new and emerging pastoral structures, as long as they have the capacity, and the ministers, to be a genuine centre of Christian life, to have formation in discipleship, outreach to those in need and life-giving Eucharistic celebrations.

It is important to recognise the value of other forms of prayer in such communities, including Services of the Word, and Liturgies of the Word with Holy Communion.

There is value in keeping local communities in place., and we need to respect the identity, language and culture of such communities.

- ◆ What is important in what you have just read?
 - ◆ How can we keep our own parish community viable?
 - ◆ What are our hopes for the future?
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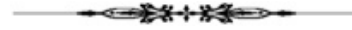
PARISH NOTICES –12/02/17

1. Thank you to Fr Sam for saying Mass for us today.
2. Next week there will be Mass with Mon Bob Rice.
3. Ladies Guild AGM on Monday 27th Feb at 9-30am
Please put this date in your diary.



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.



EMBITTERED MORALIZING

One of the dangers inherent in trying to live out a life of Christian fidelity is that we are prone to become embittered moralizers, older brothers of the prodigal son, angry and jealous at God's over-generous mercy, bitter because persons who wander and stray can so easily access the heavenly banquet table.

But this isn't unique to faithful church-goers. It's part of the universal struggle to age without bitterness and anger. We spend the first-half of our lives wrestling with the sixth commandment and spend the last-half of our lives wrestling with the fifth commandment: *Thou shalt not kill!* Long before anyone is shot by a gun, he is shot by a word, and before he is shot by a word, he is shot by a thought. We all think murderous thoughts: *Who does he think he is?* And it becomes harder and harder not to think them as we age.

Aging without bitterness and anger is in fact our final struggle, psychologically and spiritually. The great Swiss psychologist, Alice Miller, suggests that the primary task of the second-half of life is that of mourning, mourning our wounds so as not to become bitter and angry. We have to mourn, she says, until our very foundations shake otherwise our ungrieved wounds will forever leave us prone to bitterness, anger, and cold judgments.

At the end of the day there is only one remaining spiritual imperative: We are not meant to die in anger and bitterness. And so, as we age, we can progressively slim our spiritual vocabulary down to one word: *Forgive, forgive, forgive.* Only forgiveness can save us from bitterness and anger.

Indeed, there are few Gospel texts as sobering as the Gospel story of the

Prodigal Son. As good commentaries on this text are quick to point out, the central character of this story is not the prodigal son, but the father, and the central message of the text is his over-generous mercy. He is a father who is trying to get his two sons into his house (his house being an image for heaven). But the younger son is, for a long time, out of the house through weakness, while the older son is just as effectively outside the house through a bitterness and an anger that have soured his fidelity. Unlike the father who is grateful and joyous because his wayward son has come home, the older brother is angry and bitter that the father has not withheld his mercy and that his errant brother was not first punished and made to meet certain conditions before he was welcomed back home.

Now there's an older brother of this sort in all of us. We see it, for instance, in the fierce resistance many, wonderfully faithful, church-going, Christians express apposite certain people receiving communion at the Eucharist. Granted, there are legitimate ecclesial issues here, to do with public forum and scandal, which need to be sorted out, as the recent Synod on family life tried to do. But that synod also highlighted the resistance that many feel towards persons that they deem unworthy to receive communion at the Eucharist.

Independent of the ecclesial issues coloring this, those of us who struggle with certain others going to communion should still ask ourselves: Why is this bothering me? Why am I angry about someone else going to communion? What's really the basis for my resistance? What might this be saying about me? Is my heart wide and mellow enough right now to go to heaven, to sit down at the

banquet table with everyone? Do I have the courage and humility to ask myself this question: Am I not akin to the older brother standing outside the house, bitter that someone who seems undeserving is receiving the Father's love and blessing?

But we need to ask ourselves that with sympathy. We aren't bad persons; it's just that a certain bitter moralizing is an occupational hazard for us. Still we need to ask ourselves these hard questions, for our own sake, lest, blind to ourselves, we become the older brother of the prodigal son.

Paradoxical, ironic, strange, but we can be faithful, upright-morally, duty-bound, church-going Christians, preaching the gospel to others and, at the same time, carry inside of ourselves an anger, a bitterness, and an unconscious envy of the amoral which has us standing outside the house of celebration, blocked from entry because we are angry at how wide and indiscriminating is our own God's embrace.

But that weakness and bi-polarity have already been taken into account. The story of the Prodigal Son ends, not with the father's joy at the return of his sinful son, but with the father at the door of the house, gently pleading with his older son to give up his bitterness and enter the dance. We don't know how that story ends, but, given God's jealous love and infinite patience, there's little reason to doubt that eventually the older brother entered the house and sat down at table with his prodigal brother.

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

NOARLUNGA

*St Luke, the Evangelist,
cnr Honeypt 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

2nd, 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

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the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

‘You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

‘It has also been said: *Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal.* But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

‘Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: *You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord.* But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God’s throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is “Yes” if you mean yes, “No” if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.’

ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

On this weekend, following St Bakhita’s day on 8 February, the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life and the Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans call on the Catholic community to raise awareness about human trafficking, particularly trafficking of children.

Bakhita was born in Olgossa in the Darfur region of southern Sudan. At the age of seven she was kidnapped and sold into slavery where she was given the name Bakhita, which means fortunate. As a young girl, she was resold several times, until finally in 1883 she was sold to Callisto Legnani, Italian consul in Khartoum, Sudan. Two years later, he took his slave Bakhita to

Italy and gave her to his friend Augusto Michieli. Bakhita became babysitter to Mimmina Michieli, whom she accompanied to Venice’s Institute of the Catechumens, run by the Canossian Sisters. While Mimmina was being instructed, Bakhita felt drawn to the Catholic Church. She was baptized and confirmed in 1890, taking the name Josephine.

When the Michielis returned from Africa and wanted to take Mimmina and Josephine back with them, Josephine refused to go. During the ensuing court case, the Canossian Sisters and the patriarch of Venice intervened on Josephine’s behalf. The judge concluded that since slavery was illegal in Italy, she had actually been free since 1885. Josephine entered the Institute of St Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later.

She spent the rest of her life living in her religious community engaged in cooking, sewing and kindly welcoming visitors at the door. She soon became well loved by the children attending the sisters’ school and the local citizens. She once said, “Be good, love the Lord, pray for those who do not know God, for what a great grace it is to know God!” Josephine Bakhita died in 1947 and was canonized in 2000. Josephine Bakhita is honoured as the patron saint of Sudan and of all people who have been and are still being trafficked into slavery.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

(13 - 19 February)

- **Monday, 13:** Weekday, Ord Time 6 (Gen 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13)
- **Tuesday 14:** Sts Cyril and Methodius (Gen 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:14-21)
- **Wednesday 15:** Weekday, Ord Time 6 (Gen 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26)
- **Thursday 16:** Weekday, Ord Time 6 (Gen 9:1-13; Mk 8:27-33)
- **Friday 17:** Weekday, Ord Time 6 (Gen 11:1-9; Mk 8:34 - 9:1)
- **Saturday 18:** Weekday, Ord Time 6 (Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13)
- **Sunday 19:** 7th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Lev 19:1-2, 17-18; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48)