

WHOEVER IS NOT AGAINST US IS FOR US.

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

Vol 4 : No 45

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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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

Numbers 11:25-29

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The voung man ran to tell this to Moses. 'Look,' he said 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

SECOND READING

James 5:1-6

An answer for the rich. Start

crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word, O Lord, is truth:
make us holy in the truth.

GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop

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SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Frank Berden, Mary Bowery,
Terrence Browne, Gwen Caldicott,
Audrey Carslake, Peg Dow, Thomas
Drane, Christopher Glynn, Loretta
Hartley, Catherine Hughes, Patrick
Hughes, Pearl Malycha, Elvie
Meaney, Dean Larcombe, Julia
Martienses, Eeileen Morris, Reginald
Pahl, Maise Rooney, Vera Shannon,
James Smith and all the faithful
departed.

Prayers for the sick

Please pray for Cath Cantlon, Clarence Cook, Thea & Manning Depold, Thea 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, John Smith, Greg Turner, Karen Williams, Margaret & Harry Rich

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

Making Connections

Identify and root out that which is an obstacle to your faith.

This may not be an easy task.

Pray for help in this

PARISH NOTICES –27/9/2015

- **1.** Thank you to Fr Charles for celebrating Mass with us today
- 2. Next Sunday there will be Mass with Fr Tony
- 3. It is Social Justice Sunday today.

Australian Bishops ask us to re-examine our response to Refugees and Asylum seekers. The Parish has ordered 20 Social Justice Statements "For Those Who've Come Across the Seas".

They will be available for purchase at \$1-00 each at the back of the Church

September is Catholic Charities Month - Some truly wonderful loving and caring is able to be given by the great people who are the hands, hearts and faces of such charities as Caritas, St Vincent de Paul, our hospices, local and overseas aid agencies.

However, smiles and gentle hands are not the only way we need to help the hungry, the dispossessed, orphans, the poor etc, we must also give alms - giving of our substance, not just our excess coins.

Please consider putting aside a meaningful amount each week during September and placing it in the special collection at the end of the month or returning it in the Appeal envelope.

If you have an Appeal envelope please place it in the collection next week if you haven't already done so. Thank You.



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.

THINGS BEYOND OUR IMAGINATION

Recently, at an academic dinner, I was sitting across the table from a nuclear scientist. At one point, I asked him this question: Do you believe that there's human life on other planets? His answer surprised me: "As a scientist, no, I don't believe there's human life on another planet. Scientifically, the odds are strongly against it. But, as a Christian, I believe there's human life on other planets. Why? My logic is this: Why would God chose to have only one child?"

Why would God choose to have only one child? Good logic. Why indeed would an infinite God, capable of creating and loving beyond all imagination, want to do this only once? Why would an infinite God, at a certain point, say: "That's enough. That's my limit. These are all the people I can handle and love! Anything beyond this is too much for me! Now is the time to stop creating and enjoy what I've done."

Put this way, my scientist friend's hunch makes a lot of sense. Given that God is infinite, why would God ever stop doing what God is doing? Why would God favor just us, who have been already been given life, and not give that same gift endlessly to others? By what logic, other than the limits of our own mind, might we posit an end to creation?

We struggle with this because what God has already created, both in terms of the immensity of the universe and the number of people who have been born in history, is already too much for our imagination to grasp. There are billions and billions of planets, with trillions of processes happening on each of these every second. Just on our planet, earth, there are now more than seven billion people living, millions more have lived before us,

and many more are being born every second. And inside of each of these persons there is a unique heart and mind caught-up in an infinite and complex array of joys, heartaches, and moral choices. Moreover, all of these trillions of human and cosmic processes have been going on for millions and billions of years. How can we imagine a heart and a mind somewhere that knows and loves and cares intimately about every individual person, every individual joy, every individual heartache, every individual moral choice, and every individual planet, star, and grain of sand, as if it were an only child?

The answer is clear: It cannot be imagined! To try to imagine this is to end up either in atheism or nursing a false concept of God. Any God worth believing in has to be able to know and love beyond human imagination, otherwise the immensity of our universe and the uniqueness of our lives are not being held inside the loving care of anyone's hand and heart.

But how can God know, love, and care for all of this immensity and complexity? Moreover, how will all these billions and billions of people go to heaven, so that all of us end up in one body of love within which we will be in intimate community with each other? That's beyond all imagination, at least in terms of human capacity, but my hunch is that heaven cannot be imagined not because it is too complex but because it is too simple, namely, simple in the way Scholastic philosophy affirms that God is simple: God so embodies and encompasses all complexity so as to constitute a reality too simple to be imagined.

It seems too that the origins of our

universe are also too simple to be imagined: Our universe, in so far as we know it, had a beginning and scientists believe (The Big Bang Theory) that everything originated from a single cell of energy too tiny to measure or imagine. This single cell exploded with a force and an energy that is still going on today, still expanding outward and creating billions and billions of planets in its wake. And scientists believe that all of this will come back together again, involute, sometime in a future which will take billions of more years to unfold.

So here's my hunch: Maybe the billions and billions of people, living and dead and still to be born, in both their origins and in their eventual destiny, parallel what has happened and is happening in the origin, expansion, and eventual involution of our universe, that is, just as God is creating billions and billions of planets, God is creating billions and billions of people. And, just as our physical universe will one day come back together again into a single unity, so too will all people come together again in a single community within which God's intimate love for each of us will bring us together and hold us together in a unity too simple to be imagined, except that now that union with God and each other will not be unconscious but will be known and felt in a very heightened, self-conscious gratitude and ecstasy.

You can read, or download, Ron Rolheiser's weekly columns from his website at: <u>www.ronrolheiser.com</u>

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 8.00am
Wednesday 7.00am
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)

him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

LAUDATO SI'

Responding to those who argue that a papal encyclical on the environment has no real authority, Pope Francis explicitly states that "Laudato Si" "is now added to the body of the Church's social teaching (No. 15) especially with its emphasis on the 'common good'.

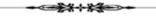
NOTES ON THE TEXT

Today's gospel reading from Mark has a lesson as telling today as it was when Jesus was instructing his disciples. The seriousness that characterises groups upholding a religious tradition often becomes exclusive and intolerant. The Apostle John reports disapprovingly that they had seen a man "casting out devils" in the name of Jesus. How precious in the memory of Christian faith is the Lord's response. Authentic faith and discipleship must reflect the inclusive ways of God, proclaimed by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount: "Love your enemies ... you must set no bounds to your love, just

as your heavenly Father set none to his" (Mt 5:48). "Anyone who is not against us if for us" – words filled with wisdom and generosity. The Lord is at work in every human heart, and who are we to make judgments that may obstruct the mysterious purposes of God?

The rest of the reading provides an important complement to the great lesson concerning outsiders that has just been given. Those who are within the community of faith have a great responsibility to uphold and protect the truth and values of the Gospel – "these little one who have faith" are not the children in the community, but members of the community who may be led astray. What are we to make of Jesus' drastic advice to "cut off" bodily members that may "cause sin?" If they refer to person morality – the more frequently heard interpretation they are a reminder that faithful discipleship may call for heroically painful decisions. (As we know, the Semitic forms of expression used by Jesus are surprisingly strong to our ears.) There is a strong case, however, for an interpretation of these words as following on from reference to the "little ones." In this interpretation they would refer to exclusion from the community, of persons who would corrupt the faith of insecure believers.

Fr John Thornhill sm



THIS WEEK'S READINGS (28 September - 4 October)

- *Monday, 28:* Weekday, Ord Time 26 (Zech 8:1-8; Lk 9:46-50)
- *Tuesday, 29:* Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael (Dan 7:9-10, 13-14; Jn 1:47-51)
- *Wednesday, 30:* St Jerome (Neh 2:1-8; Lk 9:57-62)
- *Thursday, 1:* St Therese of the Child Jesus (Neh 8:1-12; Lk 10:1-12)
- *Friday, 2:* The Holy Guardian Angels (Ex 23:20-23; Mt 18:1-5, 10)
- *Saturday, 3:* Weekday, Ord Time 26 (Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29; Lk 10:17-24)
- *Sunday, 4:* 27th Sunday in Ord Time (Gen 2:18-24; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16)