



Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Vol 7: No 36

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

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NOARLUNGA DOWNS CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY

Phone: 8382 1717

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian (8382 1717; in emergency - 0452 524 169) Fr Selva Raj (A/Priest - 8382 1717; selvarajpani@gmail.com) Fr Jack Otto (A/Priest - 8382 1717; 0447 469 065; jacksjob@tpg.com.au)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

PARISH NEWSLETTER Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131, paclark@muckra.com.au)

(All items for the newsletter must be received no later than Tuesday evening.)

MASS CENTRES

- · KINGSCOTE: Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Cnr Giles/Todd Sts Sunday - 9.30am
- PARNDANA: Uniting Church, Cook Street 2nd Sunday - 2.30pm
- 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

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159



FIRST READING

Genesis 18:20-32

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' the Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?'

'No,' he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there. Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 137:1-3, 6-8

Lord, on the day I called for help, vou answered me.

SECOND READING

Colossians 2:12-14

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him

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Kangaroo Island Catholic Parish

PARISH NOTICES

Next week: Mass Kingscote 9:30 AM

Penneshaw 1:30 PM

Fr Stan Lim will be here

Parish council meets after Mass today.

Please note the working bee has been postponed to Sunday 11th August.

On the table at the back of the Church there is a list of tasks that need to be done. If you are not able to attend and would like to help out at some other time feel free to put you name against the tasks that you would like to do.

July Priest Roster:

4thAugust 11thAugust 18thAugust 25thAugust

Fr. Stan Lim Fr Jack Fr Sam Fr Josy

Mass Roster:

Today: Next week:

Readers: C Pahl M Slagter. K Wales J Fernandez

Gifts: Mumford Family. Wales Family

Sp. Min. H Mumford A Gibbs. A Clark M Slagter

Cleaning / Coffee: K Brinkley. H Mumford.

Please pray for those who have died......

July anniversaries:

Alma Adams, Eadie Adams, Sid Adams, Peg Anderson, Lill Buick, Phil Connell, John Connell, Henry Dravitzki, Leon Fahey, Paul Glynn, Joyce Grant, Mick Grant, Bill Higgins, Monica Hughes, Barry Jameison, Judith Jeffs, Leigh McDonald, Kym Moses, Cameron Muirhead, Ron Mumford, Alexander Nash, Alice O'Neill, Alice O'Driscoll, Jill Perkins, Charles Reynolds, Nora Ridge, Johnny Tully, John Walsh, Tony Walker, Robyn Williams and all the faithful departed

. Please pray for those who are sick........

Charles Gorman, Maureen Dunn, Fr. Pat O'Keefe, Dalton Baynes, Jimmy Brown, Roy Gatton, Steven Childs.

May all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends know the healing love of Christ through our actions and His healing presence.

Please contact Peter Clark or use the sheet on the table at the back of the Church to have names entered. For privacy reasons permission is required before names are submitted for entry in this bulletin.

You'll Get What You Need

A few years ago, the staff at the school where I worked gathered to pray for the recovery of a teacher with cancer. He recovered dramatically. About a year later, the staff gathered again to pray for another teacher fighting cancer. She died from the disease within the year.

So why did God answer one prayer and not the other? Or, if God answered both prayers, why the different outcomes?

This week's Gospel will help us understand. Jesus says God doesn't always answer our prayers by giving us what we want. First, Jesus compares God to a person who gives his friend what he needs. Then he says God will answer our prayers by giving us the Holy Spirit.

What do you expect from prayer? Most of us pray for things we want, but God often gives us something we need – the courage and commitment to do God's will in tough times. You might want a good test rest result, but what you need are better study habits. So the answer to your prayer might be a teacher challenging you to work harder. You might pray for God to spare a loved one from an illness. God might answer by strengthening you with the Spirit so you can comfort your sick loved one. You might want a better life for the poor. And God might answer your prayer by calling your attention to an opportunity to serve those on the margins in your community.

Sure, our prayers might work miracles for others. But more often our prayers work miracles in us. Here's a challenge: keep track of your prayers in a journal, and also keep track of possible changes you see in yourself or your life. Talk with a friend about your search for answers to prayer. See if God makes changes in the world or in you.

Can you remember a time you were inspired to help someone after praying for him or her?





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.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN "TO BE BORN AGAIN"?

What does it mean to "be born again, to "be born from above"? If you're an Evangelical or Baptist, you've probably already answered that for yourself. However, if you're a Roman Catholic or a mainline Protestant then the phrase probably isn't a normal part of your spiritual vocabulary and, indeed, might connote for you a biblical fundamentalism which confuses you.

What does it mean to "be born again"? The expression appears in John's Gospel in a conversation Jesus has with a man named, Nicodemus. Jesus tells him that he "must be born again from above". Nicodemus takes this literally and protests that it's impossible for a grown man to re-enter his mother's womb so as to be born a second time. So Jesus recasts the phrase metaphorically, telling Nicodemus that one's second birth, unlike the first, is not from the flesh, but "from water and the Spirit". Well ... that doesn't clarify things much for Nicodemus, or for us. What does it mean to be born again from above?

Perhaps there are as many answers to that as there are people in the world. Spiritual birth, unlike physical birth, doesn't mean the same thing for everyone. I have Evangelical friends who share that for them this refers to a particularly powerful affective moment within their lives when, like Mary Magdala in the Garden with Jesus on Easter Sunday, they had a deep personal encounter with Jesus that indelibly affirmed his intimate love for them. In that moment, in their words, "they met Jesus Christ" and "were born again", even though from their very childhood they had always known about Jesus Christ and been Christians.

Most Roman Catholics and mainline Protestants do not identify "knowing

Jesus Christ" with one such personal affective experience. But then they're left wondering what Jesus meant exactly when he challenges us "to be born again, from above".

A priest that I know shares this story regarding his understanding of this. His mother, widowed sometime before his ordination, lived in the same parish where he had been assigned to minister. It was a mixed blessing, nice to see her every day in church but she, widowed and alone, began to lean pretty heavily upon him in terms of wanting his time and he, the dutiful son, now had to spend all his free time with his mother, taking her for meals, taking her for drives, and being her one vital contact with the world outside the narrow confines of the seniors' home within which she lived. During their time together she reminisced a lot and not infrequently complained about being alone and lonely. But one day, on a drive with her, after a period of silence, she said something that surprised him and caught his deeper attention: "I've given up on fear!" she said, "I'm no longer afraid of anything. I've spent my whole life living in fear. But now, I've given up on it because I've nothing to lose! I've already lost everything, my husband, my youthful body, my health, my place in the world, and much of my pride and dignity. Now I'm free! I'm no longer afraid!"

Her son, who had only been half-listening to her for a long time, now began to listen. He began to spend longer hours with her, recognizing that she had something important to teach him. After a couple of more years, she died. But, by then, she had been able to impart to her son some things that helped him understand his life more deeply. "My mother gave me birth twice; once from below, and once from above," he says. He now understands something

that Nicodemus couldn't quite grasp.

We all, no doubt, have our own stories.

And what do the biblical scholars teach about this? The Synoptic Gospels, scholars say, tell us that we can only enter the kingdom of God if we become like little children, meaning that we must, in our very way of living, acknowledge our dependence upon God and others. We are not self-sufficient and that means truly recognizing and living out our human dependence upon the gratuitous providence of God. To do that, is to be born from above.

John's Gospel adds something to this. Raymond E Brown, commenting on John's Gospel, puts it this way: To be born again from above means we must, at some point in our lives, come to understand that our life comes from beyond this world, from a place and source beyond out mother's womb, and that deeper life and deeper meaning lie there. And so we must have two births, one that gives us biological life (births us into this world) and another that gives us eschatological life (births us into the world of faith, soul, love, and spirit). And sometimes, as was the case with my friend, it can be your own birthmother who does the major midwifing in that second birth. Nicodemus couldn't quite get past his instinctual empiricism. In the end, he didn't get it. Do we?

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 How 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 Honeypot Rd and Goldsmith Dve
Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 9.00am
1st Sunday 11am (Spanish Mass)
2nd Sunday 2.00pm (Filipino Mass)
Sunday (Youth Mass) 5.30pm
Monday 9.00am
Tuesday 9.00am
Wednesday 7.30pm
Thursday 8.15am (St Luke's)
Thursday 9.15am (St John's - term time)
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 Sunday 2.30pm

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 9.00am
1st Friday Benediction following Mass

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)

from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins.

He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Rm 8:15

Alleluia, alleluia! You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks

always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

DID YOU KNOW?

- In Jesus' time, there were many teachers offering a spiritual path to their followers—a particular 'way'. Here the disciples ask Jesus to teach them his 'way' to the Father.
- The reluctance of the man in the parable to get up to help his friend may be explained if we understand the houses of the period. Animals often occupied the ground floor at night while the family spread out their sleeping mats on an overhead platform. The door was often difficult to bolt. To get up to assist, this man would have disturbed the entire family and flock.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(29 July - 04 August)

- *Monday, 29:* St Martha (1 Jn 4:7-16; Jn 11:19-27)
- *Tuesday, 30:* Weekday, Ord Time 17 (Ex 33:7-11; 34:5-9, 28; Mt 13:36-43)
- *Wednesday, 31:* St Ignatius of Loyola (Ex 34:29-35; Mt 13:44-46)
- *Thursday, 01:* St Alphonsus Liguori (Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Mt 13:47-53)
- *Friday, 02:* Weekday, Ord Time 17 (Lev 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34-37; Mt 13:54-58)
- *Saturday, 03:* St Dominic (Lev 25:1, 8-17; Mt 14:1-12)
- *Sunday 04:* 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21)

PASTORAL CARE

If you (or someone you know) is house-bound, in hospital or in residential care and would appreciate a visit from a Priest or someone from the Parish, please let us know. Contact: Noarlunga/Seaford (8382 1717), Willunga (0488 287 552), Victor Harbor/Goolwa (8552 1084), Kangaroo Island (0418 819 078).