



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR C

Vol 7 : No 07

KANGAROO ISLAND CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish House: 22 Giles Street,
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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 Roy John (8382 1717)

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 - 1.30pm

SPONSORSHIP

KANGAROO ISLAND
TRANSFERS (0427 887 575)
generously donate transport for our
visiting Priests.

CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159



FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked.

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Kangaroo Island Catholic Parish

Mass Roster

6th Jan:

Readers: C Pahl, P Wales

Gifts: Brinkley family.

Sp. Ministers: S Semler, A Gibbs.

Cleaning / Coffee: C Berden.

Please pray for.....

Josephine Sexton, Skyla Davidson, Noeline Thomas, Charles and Sue Gorman, John Slagter, Cheryl Scopazzi, Pat Hadland, Christian Hadland.

Mei Kuen Sexton and Elizabeth Schoolbread.

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

“Beatitudes of the Politician”

Blessed be the politician with a lofty sense and deep understanding of his role.

Blessed be the politician who personally exemplifies credibility.

Blessed be the politician who works for the common good and not his or her own interest.

Blessed be the politician who remains consistent.

Blessed be the politician who works for unity.

Blessed be the politician who works to accomplish radical change.

Blessed be the politician who is capable of listening.

Blessed be the politician who is without fear.^[5]

PARISH NOTICES

Mass next week :

Kingscote 9:30 AM

Confession available 30 min before mass.

We thank Fr. Roy for his work in our Parish and the wider southern cluster of parishes over the last 12 months, and wish him well as he takes up his new role in the Cathedral Parish.

Frs Selva Raj Leenaiah and Jack Otto SJ have generously accepted their appointments to serve our Parishes under the leadership of Fr. Josy.

A full list of Archdiocesan appointments for 2019 approved by Bishop O’Kelly is available.

Focusing the Gospel

Arriving in Jerusalem, the magi ask a critical question: “Where is the newborn king of the Jews?” This is the burning question that prompted them to follow a distant star to a distant place. What planted this burning question in their hearts surely was some wisdom that their lives were not complete. Their journey to find the Infant was long and convoluted yet guided by heavenly light. We, too, will find Christ if we search. We, too, will be led by God’s light. We, too, will be satisfied with Fullness of life.



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.

SELF-SACRIFICE AND THE EUCHARIST

In 1996, Muslim extremists martyred nearly an entire community of Trappist monks in Atlas, Algeria. Many of us, thanks to the movie, *Of Gods and Men*, are familiar with their story and are familiar too with the extraordinary faith and courage with which these monks, particularly their Abbott, Christian de Cherge, met their deaths. Indeed the last letters of Christian de Cherge reveal a faith and love that is truly extraordinary.

For example, in the months leading up to his death, when he already sensed what was to befall him, he wrote a letter to his family within which he already forgave his killers and hoped that they would later be with him in heaven, with both them and him playing in the sun before God. As well, after his first face-to-face meeting with a terrorist leader, who has just beheaded nine people, he prayed: "Disarm me, disarm them."

In his journals, which are published today, he shares this story: On the morning of his first communion, he told his mother that he really didn't understand what he was doing in receiving the Eucharist. His mother replied, simply: "You will understand later on." His journals then trace how his understanding of the Eucharist deepened during his lifetime, especially in the light of his interrelation with Islam and one extraordinary incident in his life. This was the extraordinary incident:

From July 1959 until January 1961, Christian was an officer serving with the French army in Algeria. While there, he befriended a man named Mohammed, a family man, a simple man, and a devout Muslim. They soon forged a very deep bond. One day, during a military skirmish, Christian was taken captive by the Algerian army. His friend, Mohammed, intervened and convinced his captors that Christian was sympathetic to their cause. Christian was released but, the next day, Mohammed was found murdered, in retaliation for his role in freeing Christian.

This act of selflessness by his Muslim friend, who in effect gave his life for Christian, permanently seared Christian's soul. It was never far from his mind and his decision, as a monk, to return to Algeria and live in solidarity with the Muslim community at Atlas and remain there until he died, was largely a result of that foundational event. But it also deepened his understanding of the Eucharist.

His mother had told him: "You will understand later", and now he did understand: The Eucharist doesn't just make Jesus present; it also makes present his sacrificial death for us. Jesus died for us "and for the many"; but so too did his friend, Mohammed. He also gave his death for another and in that sacrifice both imitated Jesus' death and participated in it. Thus, for Christian, every time he celebrated the Eucharist, he celebrated too the gift of Mohammed's sacrifice for him. His friend, Mohammed, had also shed his blood "for the many".

Mohammed's sacrifice helped Christian to recognize and more deeply appropriate Jesus' sacrifice because he believed that, in the Eucharist, Jesus' sacrifice and his friend's sacrifice were both made real and both rendered present. Christian believed that Christ's sacrifice includes the sacrifice shown in every act of sacrificial love and consequently his friend's sacrifice was part of Christ's sacrifice.

He's right. At every Eucharist we memorialize the gift that Jesus made of his death, but that memorial includes too the sacrificial gift of everyone who has imitated Jesus' selfless love and sacrifice. In the Eucharist, the sacrifice of Christ that we memorialize includes the sacrifice of all who have died, however unconsciously, "for the many".

The Eucharist is a far-reaching mystery with multiple depths and levels of meaning. We don't ever fully grasp it. But we're in good

company: When Jesus instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper the apostles also didn't really understand what he was doing, as is witnessed by Peter's protests when Jesus tries to wash their feet. Peter's protests show clearly that he did not comprehend what Jesus meant in this Eucharistic gesture. And so, Jesus' words to Peter and the apostles are almost identical to those Christian de Cherge's mother spoke to him when he told her that he didn't understand the Eucharist: "Later, you will understand."

When I made my first communion, I had a childlike understanding of the Eucharist. In my seven-year-old, catechized mind, I believed that I was receiving the real body of Jesus and that, at the mass where the Eucharistic hosts were consecrated, we celebrated the sacrifice of Jesus that opened the gates of heaven for us. Numerous theology degrees and sixty years later, I know now that what I understood about the Eucharist as a child was correct; but I also know that when those two things, Christ's real presence and Christ's sacrifice for us, are unpackaged, we find ourselves immersed in an ineffable mystery within which, among other things, all who sacrifice in love for us are also part of the Real Presence.

And so we keep going to Eucharist, knowing that later, we will understand.

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 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 1.30pm

SEAFORD

*Seaford Ecumenical Mission,
Grand Bvd*
Sunday 10.45am
Wednesday 9.15am

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)

'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

NOTES OF TODAY'S GOSPEL

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological

sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a saviour. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

Loyola Press

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(07 - 13 January)

- **Monday, 7:** Weekday of Christmas Time (1 Jn 3:22 - 4:6; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25)
- **Tuesday, 8:** Weekday of Christmas Time (1Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44)
- **Wednesday, 9:** Weekday of Christmas Time (1Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52)
- **Thursday, 10:** Weekday, Christmas Time (1Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22)
- **Friday, 11:** Weekday, Christmas Time (1Jn 5:5-123; Lk 5:12-16)
- **Saturday, 12:** Weekday, Christmas Time (1Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30)
- **Sunday, 13:** The Baptism of the Lord (Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22)

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).