



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER) - YEAR C

Vol 7 : No 23

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;
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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

Acts 5:12-16

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 117:2-4, 22-27

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING

Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed

for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One, I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the

(Continued page 4)

Kangaroo Island Catholic Parish

PARISH NOTICES

Mass next week: Kingscote 9:30 AM

Fr Josy here next week

Parish Council next weekend after Mass

Mass Roster 5th May:

Readers: S Semler M Slagter.

Gifts: Clark family.

Sp. Ministers: H Mumford A Gibbs.

Cleaning / Coffee: A Bevan.

Please pray for.....

Monsignor Denis Edwards

And for those who are sick:

Charles Gorman, Maureen Dunn.

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

The names of people to be prayed for will remain on this list for four weeks only unless we are informed otherwise. (Contact Peter Clark or use the sheet on the table at the back of the Church). For privacy reasons permission is required before names are submitted for entry in this bulletin.

Please return your Project Compassion envelopes and boxes as soon as possible if you wish and have not already done so, so that your donation can be forwarded on to Caritas Australia.

Politics in Service of Peace

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has released a statement titled *Politics in the Service of Peace* for the 2019 Federal election. A copy is attached for your information. You can also download it at <https://www.catholic.org.au/acbc-media/media-centre/media-releases-new/2186-election-statement-politics-in-service-of-peace/file>. The bishops call for respect and understanding in the federal election campaign, reminding Australians they all have a part to play in combating "crude tribalism" and promoting peaceful public debate. The statement shares important principles of Catholic social teaching and comments on key policy issues to consider before voting. It is both timely and useful. For further information contact Dr Sandie Cornish, Office for Social Justice Email: sandiec@acsjc.org.au or visit www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

Thomas Is Looking for You

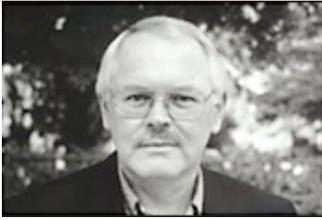
Someone once asked Gandhi, the great Hindu peacemaker, why he had rejected Christianity. Gandhi said he never rejected Jesus. He just couldn't find many Christians that actually lived like Jesus taught.

What would Gandhi say if he visited your church, family, youth group, or school?

This week's Gospel points out an important reality about Jesus' Resurrection. People often need some proof to really believe in it. Thomas was like you and me. He found the disciples' story hard to believe until Jesus appeared and showed him his wounds.

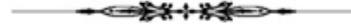
Looking back on my life, I realise I became convinced about Jesus' victory over death because of Catholic heroes. I've come to believe because, like Thomas, I've seen Jesus' wounds in people like Oscar Romero, a Central-American bishop who was martyred because he protested oppression. Romero was canonised by Pope Francis and joined the Communion of Saints in 2018. I see Jesus' wounds in every person who sacrifices time, sweat, or blood to ease suffering or stand for good.

This Easter season ask yourself whether a doubting Thomas could see the resurrected Jesus in your daily life. Could someone come to believe in Christ by watching how you treat family, friends, and classmates? Would someone praise God because of how you sacrifice for the poor? Would someone believe the Gospel's message because of how you take risks to do the right thing?



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.



ASCENDING, DESCENDING, AND JUST KEEPING STEADY

Where should we be casting our eyes? Upward, downward, or just on the road that we're walking?

Well there are different kinds of spiritualities: Spiritualities of the Ascent, Spiritualities of the Descent, and Spiritualities of Maintenance, and each is important.

Spiritualities of the Ascent are spiritualities that invite us to strive always for what's higher, for what's more noble, for what stretches us and takes us (figuratively) upward beyond the humdrum moral and spiritual ruts within which we habitually find ourselves. They tell us that we can be more, that we can transcend the ordinary and break through the old ceilings that have up now constituted our horizon. They tell us that if we stretch ourselves enough we will be able to walk on water, be great saints, be enflamed with the Spirit, and experience already now the deep joys of God's Kingdom. These spiritualities tell us that sanctity lies in the ascent and that we should be habitually stretching ourselves towards higher goals.

These spiritualities have a secular counterpart and that counterpart is what we often hear from academic commencement speakers who are forever challenging those graduating to dream big dreams, to reach for the stars.

There's a lot to be said for this kind of an invitation. Much of Gospels are exactly that kind of a challenge: Keep your eyes trained upward: Think with your big mind; feel with your big heart; imagine yourself as God's child and mirror that greatness; let Jesus' teachings stretch you; let Jesus' spirit fill you; let high ideals enlarge you.

But the Gospels also invite us to a Spirituality of the Descent. They tell us to make friends with the desert, the cross, with ashes, with self-renunciation, with humiliation, with our shadow, and with death itself. They tell us that we grow not just by moving upward but also by descending downward. We grow too by letting the desert work us over, by renouncing cherished dreams to accept the cross, by letting the humiliations that befall us deepen our character, by having the courage to face our own deep chaos, and by making peace with our own mortality. These spiritualities tell us that sometimes our task, spiritual and psychological, is not to raise our eyes to the heavens, but to look down upon the earth, to sit in the ashes of loneliness and humiliation, to stare down the restless desert inside us, and to make peace with our human limits and our mortality.

There aren't a lot of secular counterparts to this spirituality (though you do see this in what's best in psychology and anthropology). The challenge of the descent is not one you will often hear from a commencement speaker.

But there is still another genre of spiritualities, a very important kind, namely, Spiritualities of Maintenance. These spiritualities invite us to proper self-care, to factor in that the journey of discipleship is a marathon, not a sprint, and so to take heed of our limits. We aren't all spiritual athletes and tiredness, depression, loneliness, and fragile health, mental or physical, can, if we are not careful with ourselves, break us. These spiritualities invite us to be cautious about both an over-enthusiastic ascent and a naive descent. They tell us that dullness, boredom, and ennui will meet us along the road and so we should have a glass of wine when needed

and let our weariness dictate that on a given night it might be healthier for us spiritually to watch a mindless sitcom or a sports event than to spend that time watching a religious program. They also tell us to respect the fact that, given our mental fragility at times, there descents that we should stay away from. They don't deny that we need to push ourselves to new heights and that we need to have the courage, at times, to face the chaos and desert inside us; but they caution that we must also always take into account what we can handle at a given time in our lives and what we can't handle just then. Good spiritualities don't put you on a universal conveyor-belt, the same road for everyone, but take into account what you need to do to maintain your energy and sanity on a marathon journey.

Spiritualities of Maintenance have a secular counterpart and we can learn things here from our culture's stress on maintaining one's physical health through proper exercise, proper diet, and proper health habits. Sometimes in our culture this becomes one-sided and obsessive, but it is still something for spiritualities to learn from, namely, that the task in life isn't just to grow and to courageously face your shadow and mortality. Sometimes, many times, the more urgent task is simply to stay healthy, sane, and buoyant.

Different spiritualities stress one or the other of these: the ascent, the descent, or (less commonly) maintenance, but a good spirituality will stress all three: Train your eyes upward, don't forget to look downward, and keep your feet planted firmly on the ground.

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 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)

disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The period of Easter to Pentecost is known as 'the Great Fifty Days' and is an integral part of the Lent–Easter–Pentecost cycle.

- There is an ancient tradition that Thomas preached the Gospel as far east as India.
- The next few weeks feature readings from John's Gospel, the last of the written canonical gospels. While the Synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) are read through the normal three-year cycle, John is featured in particular seasons throughout the normal cycle.

EXPLORING THE WORD

This gospel is one of transformation. The fear of the disciples, locked in their upper room and huddled in upon themselves, is transformed by the gift of peace that Jesus brings and his giving of the Spirit to strengthen them on their way. The doubt of Thomas is transformed by his encounter with the risen Lord. With this transformation, however, comes responsibility. Just as Jesus was sent by the Father, now, too, the disciples are sent into the world to act as Jesus did.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(29 April - 05 May)

- **Monday, 29:** St Catherine of Siena (Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8)
- **Tuesday, 30:** Tuesday, second week of Easter (Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7-15)
- **Wednesday, 01:** Wednesday, second week of Easter (Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21)
- **Thursday, 02:** St Athanasius (Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36)
- **Friday, 03:** Sts Philip and James (1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14)
- **Saturday, 04:** Saturday, second week of Easter (Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21)
- **Sunday 05:** THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER (Acts 5:27-32, 40-41; Apoc 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19)

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).