



Welcome to

Kangaroo Island Catholic Community

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

Vol 9 : No 24

KANGAROO ISLAND

CATHOLIC PARISH

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KINGSCOTE, SA 5223

Phone: 8553 2132

Postal address: PO Box 749,
KINGSCOTE, SA 5223

Email: cphkings@adam.com.au

Web: www.kicatholic.org.au

NOARLUNGA DOWNS

CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY

Phone: 8382 1717

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Josy Sebastian (8382 1717;
in emergency - 0452 524 169)

Fr Prathap Katta (A/Priest -
8382 1717)

Fr Arul Dev (A/Priest - 8382 1717)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mr Peter Clark (8559 5131)

FINANCE

Mrs Helen Mumford (0408 367 009
or kimumford@bigpond.com)

PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

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

SPONSORSHIP

KANGAROO ISLAND

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

CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit 8210 8159

WEEKEND MASSES

This weekend Mass will be held at
Kingscote at 9.30am.

Due to current COVID-19
restrictions (1 person per 2 sqm) we
are only permitted up to 78 people in
our Church.



FIRST READING

Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 21:26-28, 30-32

*I will praise you, Lord,
in the assembly of your people.*

SECOND READING

1 John 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.

(Continued page 4)

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Michelle Glynn, Bill Roestenberg, Carmel Northcott

May anniversaries: Bill Berden, Mary Bradley, Peter Bradley, Baby Burden, Henry Carslake, Bob Clare, Charles Darcy, Timothy Hamm, Lorraine Holohan, Brian Kildea, Mildred Lashmar, Anthony Lonzar, Peter Lonzar, Dorothy McMahon, John Reynolds, Vikki Reynolds, Fiona Smith, Ann Wallace, Sr Pauline Wallace, John Williams, Heather Willmott, Ross Wohling

Please pray for all our faithful departed and may all our sick parishioners, relatives and friends know the healing love of Christ through our actions and His healing presence.

ROSTERS

	Comm	Reader	Cleaning
2/5	J Fernandez	P Clark	K Brinkley
9/5	S Semler	P Bennett	K Brinkley
16/5	A Clark	C Pahl	A Clark
23/5	M Glynn	N Clark	A Clark
30/5	C Pahl	K Hammatt	C Berden

COVID Marshal

2/5	P Bennett
9/5	A Clark
16/5	W Bennett
23/5	J Fernandez
30/5	M Slagter

PRIEST ROSTER

(Often this roster changes if something unforeseen crops up)

2/5	Fr Philip Marshall
9/5	Visiting priest
16/5	Fr Dev
23/5	Fr Josy
30/5	Fr Dev

GET VACCINATED FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available.

More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

MARIAN PROCESSION

The Marian Procession and Peace Rally will be held on Sunday, May 16 at the Adelaide Showgrounds.

The Procession commences at 2.00pm and all are invited to attend with their parish or community under their banner. Group assembling will begin from 1.30pm at the starting point of the procession on the Main Arena. The event is expected to end shortly before 4.00pm.

Please visit trybooking to book your ticket. <https://www.trybooking.com/BPJAN> Remember to wear a hat, and/or bring an umbrella. Should the weather be inclement the event will remain at the Showgrounds but move into the Jubilee Pavilion. For more information please contact Archdiocesan Events (08) 8210 8220 or events@adelaide.catholic.org.au

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Please remember to wear a mask if you would like to join in singing at Mass.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The vineyard was one of the ancient images of the people of Israel, God's chosen people, and God is the vinedresser.
- In John's Gospel, the term 'I am' has a special significance. When Moses encountered God on Mount Sinai, God revealed himself as 'I am who am.' Jesus reveals himself as Son of God in the use of this term and tells something of his mission: I am the Living Water; I am the Good Shepherd; I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; I am the Light of the World; I am the Bread of Life.

EXPLORING THE WORD

Jesus continues to speak to the disciples through imagery that they understood from their everyday experience and with symbols that come from their Jewish tradition. The vine is a staple part of Israel's agricultural life. It carries the idea of the life that flows into the branches from the thick stalk of the vine. Jesus becomes that giver of life and prosperity, but behind his life-giving

presence is the Father. Like the vinedresser, the Father must cut away anything that impedes that life or comes from a source that is not nourished from the 'true vine'. Jesus exists to make the Father known, and so it must be with disciples of Jesus. We must 'remain with' Jesus and thus make the Father known.

SYMBOLS AND IMAGES

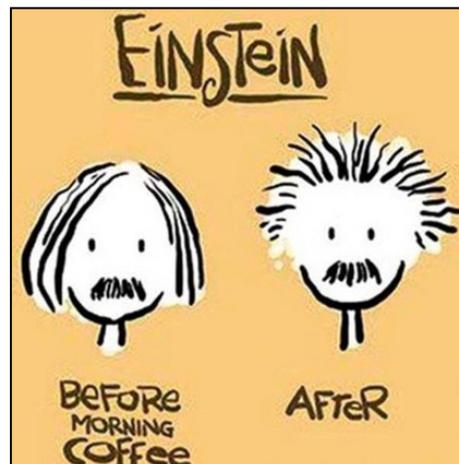
'Make your home in me.' Jesus invites his disciples to place complete trust in him and not be distracted by the cares of the world. Being 'at home' is a powerful image appealing to the desire of all people for acceptance, love and security. Even if our lives are troubled, in Jesus we can always be secure and at peace.

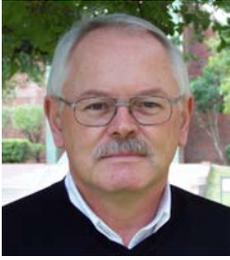
LIVING THE WORD

How is our community a sign of unity between those who are members and the broader community of the Church?

Are there people in our local area with whom we can build better unity? In what ways does our community stand in solidarity with other humans and with the earth?

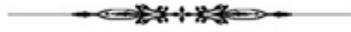
- *I'm not so sure about an inner child, but I have an inner idiot who surfaces every now and then.*
- *Karl Marx is an historically famous philosopher, but no one ever mentions his sister, Onya, the inventor of the starting pistol!*
- *I'm fairly certain the person who put the first "r" in February also decided how to spell Wednesday.*





Ron Rolheiser column

Ronald Rolheiser, a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. 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.



OUR HEART IS STRONGER THAN OUR WOUNDS

Ten years before his death in 1996, Henri Nouwen was beset by a depression that nearly broke him. While in treatment, he wrote a very powerful book, *The Inner Voice of Love*, in which he humbly and candidly shared his struggles and the efforts it took to overcome them. At times, he felt completely overwhelmed by his wounds and obsessions and was on the edge of drowning, of collapse, when the only thing he could do was cry. Eventually though he found again his inner strength and emerged resilient, ready to re-enter his life with renewed energy. Remarking on what he learned from this inner collapse and his eventual return to health, he writes that, in the end, *our hearts are stronger than our wounds*.

That's a powerful affirmation of a hard-earned truth; but is it always true? Are our hearts always stronger than our wounds? Do we always have the resources deep down to overcome our wounds?

Sometimes yes, as in the case of Nouwen; but sometimes no, as we see in the broken lives of so many. Sometimes, it seems wounds overpower the heart. Perhaps one poignant example can serve to illustrate this. There is a sad, tragic, haunting line in the well-known song, *I Dreamed a Dream*, from the popular musical, *Les Miserables*. The story told in *Les Miserables*, as we know, is based on Victor Hugo's classic book by that title which tells a series of stories about how poverty and oppression can break the hearts, backs, and lives of the poor. One of Hugo's characters, Fantine, is a single mother, abandoned by the man she loves and nursing a broken heart. She is also struggling to provide her daughter with the basic

needs of life, struggling with a job and working conditions that are ruining her health, and struggling with sexual harassment from her boss that culminates in her unfair dismissal from her job. At a certain point, it's too much, her health breaks, she collapses, and in her dying farewell sings out a lament that suggests that our hearts aren't always stronger than our wounds; but sometimes *there are storms we cannot weather*. Sometimes the heart cannot weather the storm and collapses under the weight of its wounds.

Who's right – Nouwen or Fantine? I suspect they both are, depending on one's circumstance, inner health, and emotional resources. An old adage says, *whatever doesn't kill you, makes you stronger!* True enough, providing it doesn't kill you. Sadly, sometimes it does. Sometimes what weighs us down does kill us. I suspect that everyone reading this has had a first-hand experience of someone you knew and loved breaking down and dying, either by suicide or some other collapse of this sort, due to a broken life, a broken heart, a broken psyche, a wound that overpowered his or her heart.

Thus, when we look at the truth of Nouwen's affirmation that our hearts are stronger than our wounds and the (seeming) antithetical truth that sometimes our wounds can kill the heart, we need to add a further truth which embraces both sides of this: *God's grace, forgiveness, and love are stronger than our wounds, our collapses, our failures, and seeming despairs*.

Sometimes in our struggles we can access the inner strength buried below our wounds which will enable us to rise above them and walk again in health, strength, and enthusiasm. However, sometimes our wounds so

paralyze the heart that we can no longer access the strength that lies deep within us. In this life, that kind of brokenness can look and feel like a terminal collapse, a sadness for which there is no healing, a despair, a wasted life. However, whenever a collusion of bitter circumstance and mental fragility break someone, when a person's heart is no longer stronger than his or her wounds, we can take refuge in a deeper truth and consolation, namely, the strength that lies within God's heart: *God's grace, understanding, and love are stronger than our wounds, our collapses, our failures, and seeming despairs*.

What sets Christian faith apart from most other religions (as well as from all prosperity gospels) is that Christianity is a religion of grace and not primarily of self-effort (important though that is). As Christians, we don't have to save ourselves, don't have to get our lives right all on our own. Indeed, nobody ever does. As St. Paul says so clearly in his farewell message in Romans 1-8, none of us ever get our lives right on the basis of our own strength. That's also true in terms of overcoming our wounds. All of us are weak and break down sometimes. However, and this is the point, when the storms of life overpower us, when we reach down for strength to withstand the storm only to find out that the storm is stronger than we are, we need then to reach still deeper and there we will find that God's heart is stronger than our brokenness.

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

COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

(May, 2021)

Different rules apply for Churches with fixed or non-fixed seating. Please check with your Church for details on how seating is handled.

- For fixed seating 100% of available seats may be used, provided 100% of attendees wear masks. If 75% of seats are used, masks are not necessary.
- The non-fixed seating capacity is worked on 3:4sqm. No masks are required for this density. Masks are essential for anything more than the capped density.
- Singing as a congregation may recommence, provided masks are worn.
- No beverage or food consumption (ie cup of tea after Mass)
- Social distancing is still recommended.
- There should be no shaking of hands or holding hands during the Mass.
- Every gathering must record contact details - either with the QR code for smart phones, or the handwritten log - both located at the entrance to the Church.
- Hand sanitizer is to be available at church entrances.
- Offertory procession will be omitted. Communion is given only in hands. Precious Blood will not be distributed
- Collection plates will not be passed around but a single drop point is provided at the churches.
- Holy Water is not available at the doors of churches.
- All surfaces should be cleaned at least daily, with special attention given to frequently touched surfaces.
- Sick and high risk/vulnerable people should be encouraged not to attend.
- Care should be taken at the dismissal and on leaving the church to minimise social contact.
- The obligation for Sunday Mass for the laity HAS NOT BEEN RE-INVOKED at this stage.

(Continued from page 1)

Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.’

GOD IS GREATER THAN OUR HEARTS

“He must increase; I must decrease”. John the Baptist once used these words to describe his relationship to Jesus. John, we understand, was a pretty impressive character. He was such a charismatic speaker that multitudes sought his baptism, listened to his levelling criticisms of popular culture and values, and vowed radical changes as a result of encountering him. John was a prophet and guru with his own circle of disciples. When Jesus appeared on the scene, John might have viewed him as a rival.

Instead, John responds with extraordinary humility. He acknowledges that Jesus is greater. And not only greater: John admits that Jesus replaces him altogether. John’s mission is complete the hour Jesus arrives. As Jesus ascends, John will fade away. John doesn’t lament this. He states this fact as obvious and right.

This is the relationship of the vine to the branches. The vine survives the trimming of its branches, but the branches do not survive without the vine. The vine is more enduring, the very source of life. The branches play their part in relationship to the vine. It’s folly for a branch to forget what it is. But in service to the vine, it bears much fruit. *GPBS eNews*

KEEP OUR REACTIONS UNDER CONTROL

Ben was conscientious on the freeway, staying alert, checking his mirrors, and signalling his lane changes. It was the other drivers who were idiots. Their aggression and thoughtlessness

angered him to the end. He was not a man given to vulgarity, but when another driver did something stupid, he’d erupt in swearing and rude gestures. He’d slip into punishment mode and manoeuvre to counter the antics of the morons and even cut them off.

Then one day he found himself so infuriated by what some other driver did that he reached into the bag of groceries on the passenger seat and flung a can of tuna at the offending motorist. He missed but was shaken by his outburst. Later, after telling his wife what happened, she offered this suggestion: “It says in the Bible, ‘Bless those who persecute you’. Maybe you should try it on the road”.

The next day, Ben began his therapy. “God bless that idiot!” he shouted when a guy in a removalist truck swerved in front of him. “O Lord,” he whispered when a speeder approached on the right, “bring peace to that poor man”. And for the driver doing 40 in the fast lane he pleaded, “God, may they be protected from all harm”.

Soon he noticed a big difference. He was more at peace behind the wheel and his reactions more under control. Ben had learned about abiding in the vine and producing fruit. *GPBS eNews*

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

(03 - 09 May)

- **Monday, 03:** Sts Philip and James (1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14)
- **Tuesday, 04:** Tuesday of the 5th week of Easter (Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31)
- **Wednesday, 05:** Wednesday of the 5th week of Easter (Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8)
- **Thursday, 06:** Thursday of the 5th week of Easter (Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11)
- **Friday, 07:** Friday of the 5th week of Easter (Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17)
- **Saturday, 08:** Saturday of the 5th week of Easter (Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21)
- **Sunday 09:** SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a Priest for anointing of the sick or last rites contact: Noarlunga/Seaford (8382 1717), Willunga (0488 287 552), Victor Harbor/Goolwa (8552 1084), Kangaroo Island (0418 819 078).